### RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE 2019 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

# ADDENDUM TO THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT No. 521

October 9, 2019

State Clearinghouse No. 200904105

**Lead Agency:** 

County of Riverside Riverside County Planning Department 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, California 92502

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### **RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE 2019**

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### **SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION**

#### 1.1 SUMMARY

**Project Title:** Riverside County Climate Action Plan Update

2019 Project

General Plan Amendment No. GPA 960

**Lead Agency Name and Address:** County of Riverside

Transportation and Land Use Agency (TLMA),

Planning Department

4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, California 92502

**Contact Person and Phone Number:** Phayvanh Nanthavongdouangsy, Principal

Planner, (951) 955-6573

**Project Location:** Throughout County of Riverside (see Figure 1)

**Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** County of Riverside

Transportation and Land Use Agency (TLMA)

Planning Department

4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, California 92502

**General Plan Designation:** Multiple (no change)

**Zoning Designation:** Multiple (no change)

#### 1.2 BACKGROUND

In 2015, the County of Riverside (County) completed a comprehensive update of its General Plan and certified an Environmental Impact Report No. 521 (2015 General Plan Amendment EIR), State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 200904105. The County's General Plan update included a Sustainability and Global Environmental Stewardship vision culminating in the 2015 County of Riverside Climate Action Plan (2015 CAP); this is referred to as the Approved Project. The 2015 CAP established the County's sustainability and conservation measures based on an unincorporated Riverside County baseline inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from 2008 and developed a year 2020 GHG emissions reduction target of 15 percent below 2008 baseline levels in accordance with the State reduction goals in Assembly Bill (AB) 32. The emissions categories included in the 2008 baseline GHG inventory are transportation, energy (electricity and natural gas), area sources, purchased water, solid waste, and agriculture.

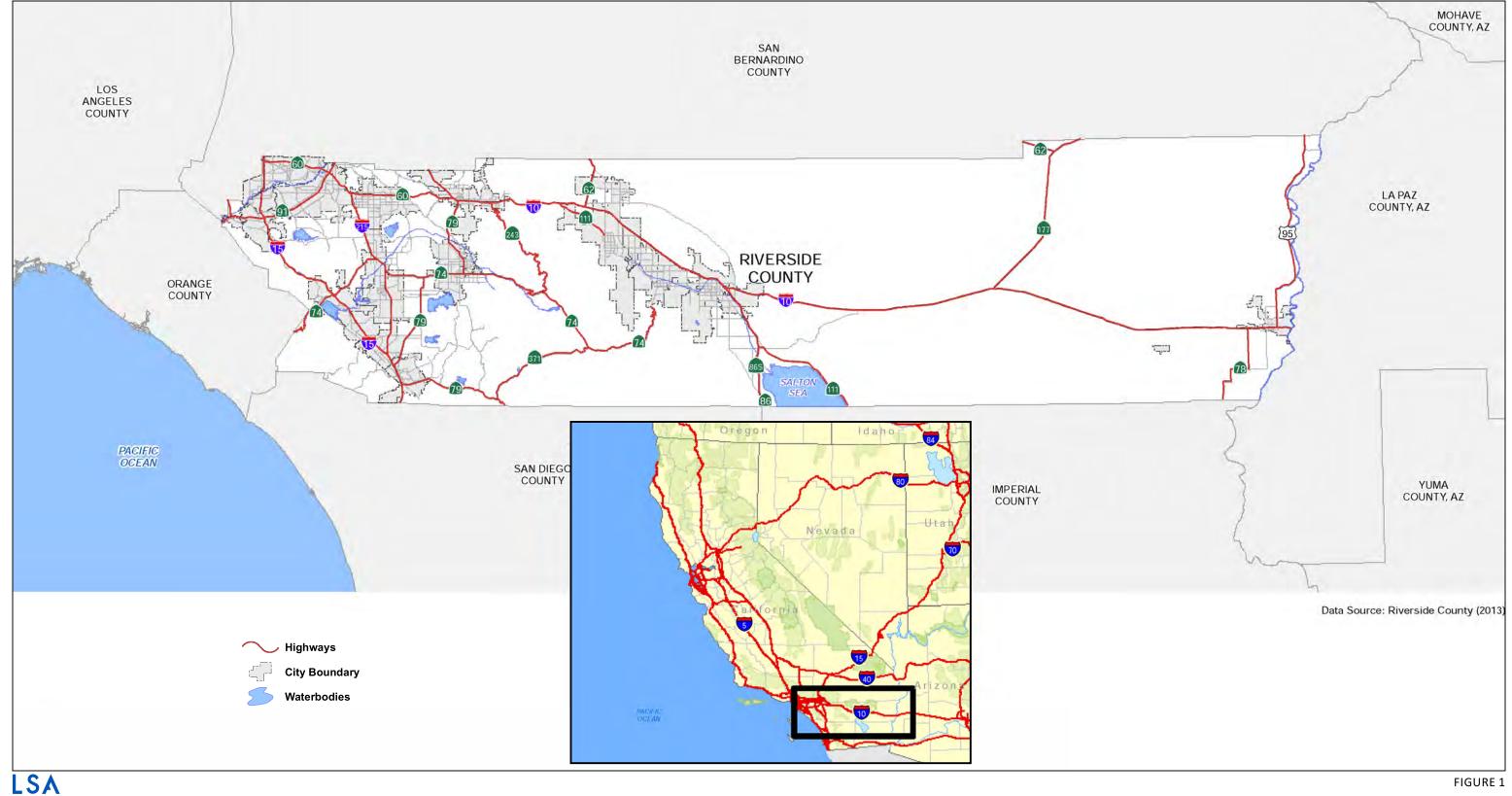
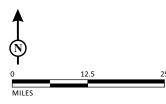


FIGURE 1



Riverside County Climate Action Plan Update 2019 Regional and Project Location

SOURCE: Riverside County Planning Department

In 2016, Petitioners the Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, and San Bernardino Audubon Society challenged particular aspects of the 2015 CAP related to commitments to solar, electric vehicles (EV), energy efficient traffic signals, and future updates of the CAP. In 2017, the County and the Petitioners entered into a Settlement Agreement<sup>1</sup> with commitments to solar, EV chargers, LED traffic signals, and periodic updates that enhance the CAP goals and maintain the County's Land Use authority. In accordance with the Settlement Agreement, the County amended the 2015 CAP in July 2018 to include provisions for onsite renewable energy in the reduction measures and updated CAP Appendix F screening tables.

The County is updating the CAP (2019 CAP Update) to integrate its past and current efforts with future efforts to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and promote sustainability in its operations and growth. To that end, the 2019 CAP Update considers the previous GHG reduction targets identified in the 2015 CAP and proposes new targets that are consistent with updates in State climate change regulations in order to meet the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 32. The CAP Update also takes into consideration the Partial Settlement Agreement, which includes specific considerations for EV charging stations, on-site renewable energy generation, and high efficiency traffic signal lights, as well as a requirement for the County to update the GHG inventory every four years, review the effectiveness of specific measures in the CAP, and revise associated point values in the screening tables according to available evidence. If measures included in the previous CAP are found to be ineffective, they would be removed or revised in the subsequent CAP Update pursuant to the Partial Settlement Agreement.

It is important to note the 2019 CAP Update is not a plan to develop specific projects. Rather, the 2019 CAP Update establishes a framework under which future projects will be designed for the purposes of reducing GHG emissions. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for energy conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities.

The 2019 CAP Update includes an update to the County's GHG inventory for the year 2017 and sets a target to reduce communitywide GHG emissions by 15 percent from 2008 baseline levels by 2020, 49 percent by 2030, and 83 percent by 2050.<sup>2</sup> GHG reduction measures prescribed in the 2019 CAP Update build upon those adopted under the County's 2015 CAP to ensure that the County meets the reduction targets established pursuant to SB 32. The proposed 2019 CAP Update, or Riverside County

Partial Settlement Agreement, 2017. Petitioners: Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, San Bernardino Audubon Society and Respondents: County of Riverside and Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

State goals pursuant to Senate Bill 32 are to achieve 1990 levels of emissions by 2020 (15 percent below 2008 baseline levels), 40 percent below 1990 levels of emissions by 2030 (49 percent below 2008 baseline levels) and 80 percent below 1990 levels of emissions by 2050 (83 percent below 2008 baseline levels).

Climate Action Plan Update Project, constitutes the 2019 CAP Update analyzed in this Addendum.

#### 1.3 BASIS FOR AN ADDENDUM

The proposed changes set forth in the 2019 CAP Update are summarized in Section 2.0. Prior to approval of subsequent actions that constitute a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), such as the 2019 CAP Update, the County is required to determine whether the environmental effects of such actions are within the scope of prior environmental analysis, or whether additional environmental analysis is required. That decision is influenced by whether the subsequent actions result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts.

CEQA requires that the proposed 2019 CAP Update be reviewed to determine the environmental effects that would result if the project is approved and implemented. California Public Resources Code Section 21166 and *CEQA Guidelines* (Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations) Sections 15162 and 15164 set forth the criteria for determining whether a subsequent EIR, subsequent negative declaration, addendum, or no further documentation be prepared in support of further agency action on the project. Pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15162:

- (a) When an EIR has been certified or negative declaration adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:
  - (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;
  - (2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or
  - (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the negative declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:
    - (A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration;
    - (B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;

- (C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
- (D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.
- (b) If changes to a project or its circumstances occur or new information becomes available after adoption of a negative declaration, the lead agency shall prepare a subsequent EIR if required under subdivision (a). Otherwise, the lead agency shall determine whether to prepare a subsequent negative declaration, and addendum, or no further documentation.

In determining whether an Addendum is the appropriate document to analyze the proposed 2019 CAP Update, *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15164 (Addendum to an EIR or Negative Declaration) states:

- a) The lead agency or a responsible agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.
- b) An addendum to an adopted negative declaration may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration have occurred.
- c) An addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final EIR or adopted negative declaration.
- d) The decision-making body shall consider the addendum with the final EIR or adopted negative declaration prior to making a decision on the project.
- e) A brief explanation of the decision not to prepare a subsequent EIR pursuant to Section 15162 should be included in an addendum to an EIR, the lead agency's required findings on the project, or elsewhere in the record. The explanation must be supported by substantial evidence.

The County has evaluated the potential environmental impacts of the proposed 2019 CAP Update as set forth below in Section 4.0. The County, acting as the Lead Agency, has determined that none of the CEQA conditions listed above applies. An Addendum to the prior environmental documentation (2015 General Plan Amendment EIR No. 521, SCH No. 200904105) is appropriate for the proposed 2019 CAP Update, and an Addendum is appropriate for compliance with CEQA as described in the *CEQA Guidelines*. An Addendum does not need to be circulated for public review, but rather

can be attached to the prior environmental documentation [*CEQA Guidelines* §15164(c)]. Prior to initiating the 2019 CAP Update, the County will consider this Addendum together with the previously certified EIR (2015 General Plan Amendment EIR No. 521, SCH No. 200904105) and will make a decision regarding the 2019 CAP Update [*CEQA Guidelines* §15164(d)].

#### SECTION 2.0 2019 CAP UPDATE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### 2.1 LOCATION AND EXISTING USES

The 2019 CAP Update is an update to the County's 2015 CAP for implementation of updated GHG reduction measures throughout the unincorporated portions of Riverside County. No change to the County's existing land uses and zoning are proposed under the 2019 CAP Update.

#### 2.2 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The 2019 CAP Update updates the previous GHG reduction targets identified in the 2015 CAP (i.e., Approved Project) in accordance with State policies in order to meet the requirements of SB 32. Whereas the Approved Project established a year 2020 GHG emissions reduction target of 15 percent below 2008 baseline levels in accordance with the State reduction goals in AB 32, the proposed 2019 CAP Update establishes a target to reduce communitywide GHG emissions by 15 percent from 2008 levels by 2020, 49 percent by 2030, and 83 percent by 2050 in accordance with SB 32.<sup>3</sup> The 2019 CAP Update incorporates the State's GHG reduction measures (R1 Measures) that were included in the 2015 CAP and designed to be implemented statewide.<sup>4</sup> Additionally, the 2019 CAP Update builds upon the countywide GHG reduction measures (R2 and R3 Measures)<sup>5</sup> adopted under the 2015 CAP and proposes new and enhanced measures in order to achieve the updated reduction targets established pursuant to SB 32. Table A compares the 2015 CAP and 2019 CAP Update R1, R2, and R3 Measures as organized by source category (i.e., Transportation, Energy Efficiency, Clean Energy, Advanced Measures, Water, and Solid Waste).

Table A: 2019 CAP Update and 2015 CAP GHG Reduction Measures Comparison

2019 CAP Update	2015 CAP
Transpor	tation [T]
<ul> <li>R2-T1: Alternative Transportation Options</li> <li>All 2015 CAP measures.</li> <li>Reduced parking in transit-serving areas.</li> </ul>	R1-T1: Assembly Bill 1493: Pavley I. R1-T2: Assembly Bill 1493: Pavley II. R1-T3: EO S-1-07 (Low Carbon Fuel Standard). R2-T2: Increased Residential Density. R2-T3: Mixed Use Development. R2-T6: Provide a Comprehensive System of

The post-2030 reduction target identified in the 2019 CAP Update may need adjustments based on State updates and guidance when the State sets new reduction goals as continuing technological change occurs in the fields of energy efficiency, alternative energy generation, vehicles, fuels, methane capture, and other areas. Riverside County would have implemented the first two phases of the 2019 CAP Update by 2030 and would have a better understanding of the effectiveness and efficiency of the CAP's reduction strategies to which adjustments could be considered toward achieving the current 2050 GHG reduction target. The County will then be able to take the local, regional, State, and federal context into account and may consider updating the GHG reduction targets for the period between 2030 and 2050. Note: Per the Partial Settlement Agreement, the County has to reconsider the CAP every four years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> R1 Measures include periodically updated Title 24 Standards, Renewable Portfolio Standards, and Low Carbon Fuel Standards and are accounted for in the Adjusted Business-As-Usual (ABAU) forecasts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> R2 Measures are countywide measures that can be quantified. R3 Measures are countywide measures that support other R2 Measures (such as educational programs or regional coordination), but that are not quantified.

**Table A: 2019 CAP Update and 2015 CAP GHG Reduction Measures Comparison** 

Table A: 2019 CAP Opuate and 2015 CAP GRIG Reduction Measures Companison					
2019 CAP Update	2015 CAP				
	Facilities for Non-Motorized Transportation. R2-T9: Increase Public Transit. R3-T1: Regional Land Use & Transportation Coordination.				
Energy Efficiency	[EE] (Residential)				
R2-EE1: Energy Efficiency Training, Education, and Recognition in the Residential Sector. • All 2015 CAP measures.	R1-E1: California Building Code Title 24. R3-E1: Energy Efficient Development and Renewable Energy Deployment. Facilitation and Streamlining. R3-E2: Energy Efficiency Training and Public Education.				
R2-EE2: Increase Community Participation in Existing Energy Efficiency Programs.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R3-E4: Cross-Jurisdictional Coordination.				
R2-EE3: Home Energy Evaluations.	Not Applicable.				
R2-EE4: Residential Home Energy Renovations.  • All 2015 CAP measures.  • Upgrade online permitting to include renovations.	R1-E4: Electricity Energy Efficiency (AB 32). R1-E5: Natural Gas Energy Efficiency (AB 32). R2-E3: Residential Retrofit Implementation Program. R2-E4: Residential Renewable Energy Retrofits.				
<ul> <li>R2-EE5: Exceed Energy Efficiency Standards in New Residential Units.</li> <li>All 2015 CAP measures.</li> <li>Upgrade online permitting to include new construction energy efficiency programs.</li> </ul>	R2-E1: Residential Energy Efficiency Program. R2-E2: Residential Renewable Energy Program.				
Energy Efficiency [E	E] (Non-Residential)				
R2-EE6: Energy Efficiency Training, Education, and Recognition in Commercial Sector. • All 2015 CAP measures.	R1-E1: California Building Code Title 24. R3-E1: Energy Efficient Development and Renewable Energy Deployment Facilitation and Streamlining. R3-E2: Energy Efficiency Training and Public Education.				
R2-EE7: Increase Business Participation in Existing Energy Efficiency Programs.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R3-E4: Cross-Jurisdictional Coordination.				
R2-EE8: Non-Residential Building Energy Audits.	Not Applicable.				
<ul> <li>R2-EE9: Non-Residential Building Retrofits.</li> <li>All 2015 CAP measures.</li> <li>Upgrade online permitting to include retrofits.</li> </ul>	R1-E4: Electricity Energy Efficiency (AB 32). R1-E5: Natural Gas Energy Efficiency (AB 32). R2-E7: Commercial/Industrial Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Retrofits.				
R2-EE10: Energy Efficiency Enhancement of Existing and New Infrastructure.	R2-E8: Induction Streetlight Retrofits.				

Table A: 2019 CAP Update and 2015 CAP GHG Reduction Measures Comparison

2019 CAP Update and 2015 CAP Grid Reduction Measures Comparison 2019 CAP Update 2015 CAP				
2019 CAP Update	2015 CAP			
All 2015 CAP measures.				
R2-EE11: Exceed Energy Efficiency Standards in New Commercial Units.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R2-E5: Commercial Energy Efficiency Program. R2-E6: Construction Commercial/Industrial			
Upgrade online permitting to include new construction energy efficiency programs.	Renewable Energy Program.			
7 1 3	ergy [CE]			
R2-CE1: Increase Clean Energy Use.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R1-E6 Increased Combined Heat and Power (AB 32).			
<ul> <li>Require solar panel installation on new residential and commercial buildings.</li> <li>Require energy storage system</li> </ul>	R3-E3: Energy Efficiency and Solar Energy Financing.			
installation as feasible				
R2-CE2: Community Choice Aggregation Program.	Not Applicable.			
Advan	ced [L]			
R2-L1: Tree Planting for Shading and Energy Saving.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R3-L1: Expand County Tree Planting.			
R2-L2 Light-Reflecting Surfaces for Energy Saving.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R3-L2: Heat Island Plan.			
Wate	r [W]			
R2-W1: Water Efficiency through Enhanced Implementation of Senate Bill X7-7.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R2-W1: Water Use Reduction Initiative.			
<ul> <li>R2-W2: Exceed Water Efficiency Standards.</li> <li>All 2015 CAP measures.</li> <li>Promote rainwater harvesting</li> </ul>	R2-W1: Water Use Reduction Initiative. R2-W2: Increase Reclaimed Water Use.			
rebates and demonstrations.				
Solid W	aste [S]			
R2-S1: Reduce Waste to Landfills.  • All 2015 CAP measures.	R1-S1: Solid Waste Measures. R2-S1: County Diversion Program. R2-S2: Construction Diversion Program. R3-S2: Waste Education Program. R3-S3: On-Site Diversion and Conversion at County Landfills.			

Sources: County of Riverside Climate Action Plan. Riverside County Planning Department. 2015.

County of Riverside Climate Action Plan Update. Riverside County Planning Department. 2019.

- R1 Measures include periodically updated Title 24 Standards, Renewable Portfolio Standards, and Low Carbon Fuel Standards and are accounted for in the Adjusted Business-As-Usual (ABAU) forecasts.
- R2 Measures are countywide measures that can be quantified.
- R3 Measures are countywide measures that support other R2 Measures (such as educational programs or regional coordination), but that are not quantified.
- Bold indicates new 2019 CAP Update measure previously not prescribed in the 2015 CAP.

As stated previously, the 2019 CAP Update builds upon the countywide GHG reduction measures (R2 and R3 Measures) adopted under the 2015 CAP and proposes new and enhanced measures in order to achieve the updated reduction targets established pursuant to SB 32. Accordingly, implementation of the updated countywide GHG reduction measures (R2 and R3 Measures) associated with the 2019 CAP Update is the primary focus of this Addendum.

#### 2.3 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, PERMITS, AND APPROVALS

The following discretionary approvals from the County will be required for this project:

- Addendum to the previously certified EIR (2015 General Plan Amendment EIR No. 521, SCH No. 200904105) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15164.
- Adoption of the 2019 CAP Update.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** In the following analysis, each environmental topic will be evaluated by first describing the impacts of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR No. 521, SCH No. 200904105 ("*Approved Project Analysis"*) and then an analysis of the proposed changes to the project ("2019 CAP Update Analysis").

### **SECTION 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION**

#### 3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions ☐ Population and Housing	
☐ Agriculture Resources ☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials ☐ Public Services	
☐ Air Quality ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality ☐ Recreation	
☐ Biological Resources ☐ Land Use and Planning ☐ Transportation/Circulation	ı
☐ Cultural Resources ☐ Mineral Resources ☐ Utilities and Service Syste	ms
☐ Geology and Soils ☐ Noise ☐ Mandatory Findings of Sig	nificance
3.2 DETERMINATION	
On the basis of this initial evaluation:	
I find that the Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	
I find that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	
I find that the project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.	
I find that the project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.	
I find that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the project, nothing further is required.	
Signature Date	
Printed Name County of Riverside Agency	_

### SECTION 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

a)	Physically divide an established	New			
	community?	Significant			
		Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.1.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development associated with the 2015 General Plan Amendment has the potential to increase urban uses in Riverside County. However, the changes that would occur are not anticipated to physically divide established communities. State regulations such as planning and zoning codes and the Subdivision Map Act (CGC Section 66410, *et seq.*) dictate how and where development can and cannot occur. Additionally, General Plan Policies LU 1.5, LU 3.1, LU 5.4, LU 7.6, LU 9.1, LU 9.4, LU 21.4, LU 25.2, C 3.17, C 4.6, C 4.8, C 6.3, C 7.3, C 7.6, C 8.7, C 15.3, C 15.4, OS 17.1, OS 17.2, OS 17.3, and OS 18.1 would reduce land use impacts to established communities resulting from division. Implementation of these regulations and policies would protect established communities, prevent disturbance or division, and would ensure associated impacts to established communities remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, nor does it grant any entitlements for development that would have the potential to physically divide an existing community. As indicated in Table A, the 2019 CAP Update would be a policy document that promotes development and redevelopment of underutilized parcels and incorporates measures for enhancing alternative transportation and transit-oriented design features to increase community access to public transit and other forms of alternative transportation (Measure R2-T1). Implementation of General Plan policies would ensure impacts from physical division of established communities would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to physical division of established communities.

b)	Conflict with any applicable land use	New			
	plan, policy or regulation or agency	Significant			
	with jurisdiction over the project	Impact/	New	No New	
	(including, but not limited to, the	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	general plan) adopted for the	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	purpose of avoiding or mitigating an	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	environmental effect?			$\boxtimes$	

**4.1.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Through the process of updating the County General Plan, its implementation would better align with various agency plans to foster orderly development of land uses compatible with surrounding uses. For example, the State Aeronautics Act requires the County to ensure consistency between applicable Airport Land Use Plans (ALUPs) and all discretionary development proposals. Pursuant to County Ordinance No. 448—Airport Approaches Zoning and Ordinance No. 576—Regulating County Airports, implementation of the General Plan would ensure enhanced coordination between future projects in the County and the ALUPs for the Flabob, Blythe, and Riverside Municipal Airports. Furthermore, compliance with General Plan Policies LU 1.8, 5.4, 15.2, 15.8, 31.1 and 31.2, as well as OS 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, and 18.1 would further ensure compatibility among land uses throughout the County.

As indicated in Section 4.7, implementation of the General Plan would be consistent with the Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans, as well as others. Additionally, development and implementation of the 2015 CAP in accordance with the General Plan would ensure compliance with State regulations (e.g., AB 32) designed to reduce GHG emissions. Through compliance with regulatory ordinances and General Plan Policies, impacts related to conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project would be a *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with the County General Plan and all other applicable land use plans, such as the ALUPs and Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land use-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan policies for land use compatibility and to maximize efficient use of resources, maintain a high quality of life, enhance job opportunities, promote sustainability, and facilitate access to transportation facilities. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update would be consistent with the General Plan. In the same manner as the Approved Project, impacts to land use plans, policies, or regulations of agencies with jurisdiction of the project from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be *less-than-significant*, and no mitigation is required.

c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.1.c) Approved Project Analysis.** The Riverside County General Plan does not include changes that would affect the Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) or Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) within Riverside County. Future development and General Plan

implementation would be required to conform to all HCP requirements and develop mitigation for any biological effects before construction of projects. Therefore, the Riverside County General Plan would not conflict with any applicable HCP or NCCP. Impacts would be *less-than-significant* and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** All discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with the County General Plan and all other applicable land use plans, such as the ALUPs and Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. In the same manner as the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update will be subject to existing regulations, as well as applicable policies outlined in the County's General Plan to ensure future development consistent with applicable HCPs and NCCPs. Therefore, impacts related to conflicts with HCPs or NCCPs from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*) and no mitigation is required.

#### 4.2 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

a)	Induce substantial population growth	New			
	in an area, either directly (e.g. by	Significant			
	proposing new homes and businesses)	Impact/	New	No New	
	or indirectly (e.g. through extension of	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	roads or other infrastructure)?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.2.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in reduction in population growth, housing, and jobs both compared to the original General Plan and existing regional plans, including Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The land use changes associated with the Approved Project would limit and slightly reduce the development capacity of the County, yielding 1.4 percent less population growth than previously projected. The dwelling units would decrease by 2 percent and jobs would be reduced by 5.6 percent, which would indirectly limit population growth. Compliance with existing General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, 8.1, and 9.4, C 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 3.16, and 7.9 would further reduce or avoid impacts associated with the implementation of Approved Project. Therefore impacts would be *less-than-significant* and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land use-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, 8.1, and 9.4, C 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 3.16, and 7.9 and for energy conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to

transportation facilities. Moreover, the 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, nor does it propose to grant any entitlements for development that would have a direct effect on population or employment in the County. Accordingly, direct and indirect effects related to population growth and growth inducement from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would occur with or without incorporation of the 2019 CAP Update, and impacts from the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.2.b) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would alter housing capacity and may affect future development through redevelopment of existing uses, particularly in rural and agricultural areas, as well as on underutilized urban and suburban parcels. Countywide, the buildout capacity of the General Plan would accommodate more dwelling units than needed on a demographic level, but its implementation would neither displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or people nor necessitate construction of replacement housing elsewhere because new development would predominantly occur on vacant or sparsely developed land. Compliance with General Plan Policies LU 8.1 and 9.4, and C 2.4 and 7.9 would further reduce or avoid impacts associated with the Approved Project. Therefore, impacts would be *less-than-significant*, and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would not displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or people, nor would it necessitate construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Compliance with General Plan Policies LU 8.1 and 9.4, and C 2.4 and 7.9 would further reduce or avoid impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update.

Since the 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, or grant any entitlements for development that would have a direct effect on population or employment in the County, direct and indirect effects related to displacement of housing or people from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would occur with or without incorporation of the 2019 CAP Update. Therefore, impacts associated with the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

c)	Displace substantial numbers of	New			
	people, necessitating the construction	Significant			
	of replacement housing elsewhere?	Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.2.c) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates that General Plan buildout could result in redevelopment of existing uses, particularly in rural areas (e.g., agricultural lands and large-lot rural residential areas) and on underutilized urban and suburban parcels. However, none of the areas proposed for land use changes contain substantial numbers of existing homes whose loss would displace substantial numbers of residents. Further, compliance with General Plan Policies LU 8.1 and 9.4, and C 2.4 and 7.9 would further reduce or avoid significant impacts associated with the Approved Project. Therefore, impacts would be *less-than-significant*, and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would not displace substantial numbers of people nor necessitate construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Compliance with General Plan Policies LU 8.1 and 9.4, and C 2.4 and 7.9 would further reduce or avoid impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update.

Since the 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, or grant any entitlements for development that would have a direct effect on population or employment in the County, direct and indirect effects related to displacement of housing or people from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would occur with or without incorporation of the 2019 CAP Update. Therefore, impacts associated with the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

#### 4.3 **AESTHETICS**

Would the project:

a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	New Significant Impact/			
		Increased Severity of	New Mitigation is	No New Impact/ No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.3.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Scenic vistas throughout the County generally include publicly accessible views of open space areas, including water bodies, ridgelines, mountaintops, skylines and other natural features. Although development within the County as facilitated under the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR could obstruct views of scenic

vistas, compliance with existing regulations (e.g., the County's Zoning Code, Caltrans Scenic Highway Program, and the County's General Plan) would maintain and enhance scenic vistas in and around the County. This requirement is codified in existing Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR.

A small subset of parcels and policy items arising from the 2015 General Plan Amendment is likely to require additional measures to protect scenic vistas as part of any future development proposals. Accordingly, Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A is supplemented with Mitigation Measure 4.4.A-N1 to ensure adequate legal and physical access, as well as adequate and accessible circulation facilities, is provisioned for future projects to meet the demand of proposed land uses. Through implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1, new development would be subject to restrictions designed to preserve the character of the County's natural open space, considerations for the maintenance of specific view corridors, and standards for hillside development and building heights in order to prevent inappropriate development in scenic areas. Therefore, impacts on scenic vistas would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed 2019 CAP Update does not include any sitespecific designs or proposals, nor does it propose to grant any entitlements for development that would have the potential to degrade the aesthetic quality of the environment or adversely affect visual resources within the County. As indicated in Table A, the 2019 CAP Update would be a policy document that promotes development and redevelopment of underutilized parcels and incorporates alternative transportation and transit-oriented design features to enhance the usage of alternative transportation including public transit (Measure R2-T1). However, select strategies and measures proposed in the 2019 CAP Update (refer to Table A) designed to aid future projects in reducing the County's GHG emissions could result in changes to community aesthetics. For example, requiring solar panels on new residential and commercial buildings (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) could potentially alter scenic views from homes or businesses located behind the rooftop panels. It could also result in energy-efficiency retrofits in existing residential, commercial, and municipal buildings (2019 CAP Update Measures R2-EE4 and R2-EE9) that would potentially alter scenic views throughout the County. However, details of the potential construction activities are unknown, and future development projects will need to comply with CEOA. Furthermore, implementation of solar panels and energy-efficiency retrofits is not expected to be obtrusive so as to significantly affect views from viewsheds located uphill or behind the rooftop panels.

Installation of solar panels is conditioned by the Solar Rights Act, <sup>6</sup> which prohibits homeowners associations (HOAs) and local Governments from broadly banning solar energy systems for aesthetic reasons, whether through an explicit ban or through onerous architectural restrictions that greatly reduce the performance of solar energy systems or increase their costs. Additionally, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would ensure applicable retrofits would be subject to development review to conserve scenic vistas in accordance with County Design Guidelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> California Civil Code Sections 714 and 714.1, California Civil Code Section 801, California Civil Code Section 801.5, California Government Code Section 65850.5, California Health and Safety Code Section 17959.1, California Government Code Section 66475.3 and California Government Code Section 66473.1.

Pursuant to Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A, any future discretionary projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to all applicable State and County regulations, requirements, and General Plan Policies, as well as subject to further CEQA analysis of project- and site-specific impacts, which would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. For parcels at which a project could potentially result in a major visible effect to an existing viewshed or significant aesthetic feature, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4.A-N1 would ensure adequate legal and physical access, as well as adequate and accessible circulation facilities, to meet the demand of proposed land uses while preventing inappropriate development in scenic areas. Implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1, as well as the County's zoning regulations, standard development conditions, and design guidelines, address site and structure design. Pursuant to the Solar Rights Act and Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1 of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not have a significant impact on scenic vistas. Therefore, in the same manner as the Approved Project, impacts to scenic vistas from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

b)	Substantially damage trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.3.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Scenic resources throughout the County generally include individual trees or boulders, outcroppings, undisturbed natural areas (e.g., riparian areas, and oak woodlands), open space, view corridors associated with designated scenic routes, and points of historic or cultural significance. Additionally, scenic resources can comprise the built environment such as windmills, architecturally unique or historic structures, agricultural areas (e.g., vineyards and citrus groves), and other human-made features.

Future discretionary projects would be required to be consistent with the County's Ordinances pertaining to land use, road improvements, design guidelines, and tree preservation; County General Plan Policies OS 9.3, OS 9.4, LU 4.5, and C 20.1 for the preservation of historic buildings and trees/vegetation; and the California Scenic Highway Program. Accordingly, Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would apply to future discretionary projects along scenic highways not only on vacant properties where scenic resources typically remain undisturbed or minimally altered, but also on developed parcels where historic buildings and scenic structures could be subject to impact from development. Compliance with applicable regulatory ordinances, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would ensure development facilitated under the 2015 General Plan Amendment would not adversely affect scenic resources along State scenic highways. Therefore, impacts would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** As codified in Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A, all future discretionary projects that would implement 2019 CAP Update GHG reduction measures would be subject to County's Ordinances pertaining to land use, road improvements, design quidelines, and tree preservation; County General Plan Policies OS 9.3, OS 9.4, LU 4.5, and C 20.1 for the preservation of historical buildings and trees/vegetation; and the California Scenic Highway Program. Furthermore, project-level proposals would be subject to sitespecific CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts. Accordingly, Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would apply to future discretionary projects implementing the 2019 CAP Update along scenic highways not only on vacant properties whereat scenic resources typically remain undisturbed or minimally altered, but also on developed parcels whereat historic buildings and scenic structures could be subject to impact from development. Compliance with applicable regulatory ordinances, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would ensure implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not adversely affect scenic resources along State scenic highways. Therefore, in the same manner as the Approved Project, impacts to scenic resources within a State Scenic Highway from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

c)	Substantially degrade the existing	New			
	visual character or aesthetic quality	Significant			
	of a site and its surroundings?	Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.3.c) Approved Project Analysis.** The County's overall visual character is a mix of urban, suburban, and rural land uses, as large undeveloped parcels are distributed throughout the planning area and contribute to open views toward the surrounding mountains and hillsides. Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would convert open space and agricultural lands into urban landscapes. It is expected that the character of new development facilitated under the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be similar to the existing urban landscape. Nevertheless, a substantial change in the character of the landscape would occur when open space, agricultural, and vacant land is developed into urban land uses.

Although development within the planning area is expected to result in a substantial change in the character of the landscape, compliance with existing regulations (e.g., the County's Zoning Ordinance and Caltrans Scenic Highway Program), as well as implementation of the applicable policies outlined in the County's General Plan would maintain and enhance the quality of the visual character throughout the County. This requirement is codified in existing Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. A small subset of parcels and policy items arising from 2015 General Plan Amendment is likely to require additional measures to protect scenic vistas as part of any future development proposals. Accordingly, Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A is supplemented with Mitigation Measure 4.4.A-N1 to ensure adequate legal and physical access, as well as adequate and accessible circulation facilities are provisioned for future projects to meet the demand of proposed land uses. Through implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1, new

development would be subject to restrictions designed to preserve the character of the County's natural open space, considerations for the maintenance of specific view corridors, and standards for hillside development and building heights in order to prevent inappropriate development in scenic areas. Therefore, impacts on visual character and aesthetic quality would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** In the same manner as the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update will be subject to existing regulations (e.g., the County's Zoning Ordinance and Caltrans Scenic Highway Program), as well as applicable policies outlined in the County's General Plan to maintain and enhance the quality of the visual character throughout the County as future development consistent with the 2019 CAP Update occurs.

As detailed in response to Checklist Question 4.1.a, the 2019 CAP Update would be a policy document that promotes development and redevelopment of underutilized parcels and incorporates alternative transportation and transit-oriented design features to enhance the usage of alternative transportation including public transit (Measure R2-T1). However, select strategies and measures proposed in the 2019 CAP Update (refer to Table A) designed to aid future projects in reducing the County's GHG emissions could result in changes to community aesthetics. For example, requiring solar panels on new residential and commercial buildings (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) and energy-efficiency retrofits in existing residential, commercial, and municipal buildings (2019 CAP Update Measures R2-EE4 and R2-EE9) throughout the County could potentially alter scenic views from homes or businesses located behind the rooftop panels. However, the placement of solar panels for residential use and energy-efficiency retrofits in existing residential, commercial, and municipal buildings is not expected to be obtrusive so as to significantly affect views from viewsheds located uphill or behind the rooftop panels.

Installation of solar panels is conditioned by the Solar Rights Act,<sup>7</sup> which prohibits homeowners associations (HOAs) and local Governments from broadly banning solar energy systems for aesthetic reasons, whether through an explicit ban or through onerous architectural restrictions that greatly reduce the performance of solar energy systems or increase their costs. Additionally, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would ensure applicable retrofits would be subject to development review to conserve visual resources in accordance with County Design Guidelines.

Pursuant to Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A, any future discretionary projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to all applicable State and County regulations, requirements, and General Plan Policies, as well as subject to further CEQA analysis of project- and site-specific impacts, which would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. For parcels at which a project could potentially result in a major effect to visual character, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4.A-N1 would ensure adequate legal and physical access, as well as adequate and accessible circulation facilities, to meet the demand of proposed land uses while preventing inappropriate development in scenic areas. Implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1, as well as the County's zoning regulations, standard

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California Civil Code Sections 714 and 714.1, California Civil Code Section 801, California Civil Code Section 801.5, California Government Code Section 65850.5, California Health and Safety Code Section 17959.1, California Government Code Section 66475.3 and California Government Code Section 66473.1.

development conditions, and design guidelines, address site and structure design. Pursuant to the Solar Rights Act and Mitigation Measures 4.4.1A and 4.4.A-N1 of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not have a significant impact on visual resources. Therefore, in the same manner as the Approved Project, impacts to visual character from the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be reduced to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

d)	Create a new source of substantial	New			
	light or glare, which would adversely	Significant			
	affect daytime or nighttime views in	Impact/	New	No New	
	the area?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.3.d) Approved Project Analysis.** The County comprises a mix of urban, suburban, and rural land uses, as large undeveloped and agricultural parcels are distributed throughout the planning area. Rural land uses contain few major sources of substantial light and glare. However, the existing urban and suburban areas of the County already generate substantial light and glare that affect nighttime views in surrounding suburban and rural areas.

Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase existing levels of light and glare and extend areas affected by nighttime sky glow to include areas currently devoid of significant sources of light and/or glare. However, regulatory County Ordinances designed to implement standards for lighted signage, roadway lighting, light pollution from various land uses, outdoor lighting, and general design guidelines are implemented to reduce light pollution. Additionally, General Plan Policy LU 14.6 prohibits off-site outdoor advertising displays that are visible from designated and eligible scenic highways, and Policy LU 4.1 requires new developments to be located and designed to visually enhance and not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of lighting and other impacts on surrounding properties. In conjunction with regulations and policies, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR adopted Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E to enforce lighting standards for various land uses (4.4.2A), roadways (4.4.2B), for exterior illumination (4.4.2C), and for the protection of the dark sky in consideration of operations at the Palomar Observatory (4.4.2D and 4.4.2E). Through compliance with regulatory ordinances, General Plan Polices, and Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E, impacts from new sources of substantial light or glare would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not result in the development of major light sources. Installation of cool roofs and cool pavement (light-reflecting surfaces pursuant to 2019 CAP Update Measure R2-L2) and solar panels on homes and businesses (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) are encouraged to reduce the urban heat island effect and the County's dependence on energy sources that produce GHGs. Cool roofs and cool pavement are built from materials with high thermal emittance and high solar reflectance—or albedo—to help reflect sunlight (and the associated energy) away from a building or roadway. The cool roofing and paving materials are lighter in color and more

reflective than traditional roofing and paving materials; however, their reflective properties do not produce substantial glare.

Solar panels can reflect sunlight when the sun is at an angle to the solar panel in relationship to the viewer. However, the reflectance would be temporary and not occur at night. Small-scale solar installments would not result in substantial sources of daytime glare. Thus, their placement and orientation on individual properties would not result in a substantial adverse effect on daytime or nighttime views in the area.

Large solar arrays may result in noticeable glare during the day that could affect neighboring land uses and/or motorists. Accordingly, the 2019 CAP Update would be required to incorporate County Ordinances for the implementation of standards for lighted signage, roadway lighting, light pollution from various land uses, outdoor lighting, and general design guidelines to reduce light pollution and glare. Additionally, General Plan Policy LU 4.1 requires new developments to be located and designed to visually enhance and not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of lighting and other impacts on surrounding properties. In conjunction with County regulations and policies, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR's Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E would be incorporated to enforce lighting standards for various land uses (4.4.2A), roadways (4.4.2B), for exterior illumination (4.4.2C), and for the protection of the dark sky in consideration of operations at the Palomar Observatory (4.4.2D and 4.4.2E). Every discretionary project for which the County would be the lead agency would be subject to project- and site-specific CEQA review in the context of these ordinances, policies, and mitigation measures in order to ensure impacts from light and glare are considered and mitigated. Therefore, in the same manner as the Approved Project, impacts from new sources of substantial light or glare from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

e)	Interfere with the nighttime use of	New			
	the Palomar Astronomical	Significant			
	Observatory, as protected through	Impact/	New	No New	
	the Riverside County Ordinance No.	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	665?	Severity of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.3.e) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase existing levels of light and glare and extend areas affected by nighttime sky glow to include areas currently devoid of significant sources of light and/or glare. However, regulatory County Ordinances designed to implement standards for lighted signage, roadway lighting, light pollution from various land uses, outdoor lighting, and general design guidelines are implemented to reduce light pollution. Additionally, General Plan Policy LU 14.6 prohibits off-site outdoor advertising displays that are visible from designated and eligible scenic highways, and Policy LU 4.1 requires new developments to be located and designed to visually enhance and not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of lighting and other impacts on surrounding properties. In conjunction with regulations and policies, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR adopted

Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E to enforce lighting standards for various land uses (4.4.2A), roadways (4.4.2B), for exterior illumination (4.4.2C), and for the protection of the dark sky in consideration of operations at the Palomar Observatory (4.4.2D and 4.4.2E). Through compliance with regulatory ordinances, General Plan Polices, and Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E, interference with the nighttime use of the Palomar Astronomical Observatory would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not result in the development of major light sources. Installation of cool roofs and cool pavement (light-reflecting surfaces pursuant to 2019 CAP Update Measure R2-L2) and solar panels on homes and businesses (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) can reflect sunlight when the sun is at an angle in relationship to the viewer. However, the reflectance would be temporary and not occur at night. Likewise, large solar arrays may result in noticeable glare during the day but would not reflect substantial light at night.

Similar to the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would be required to incorporate County Ordinances for the implementation of standards for lighted signage, roadway lighting, light pollution from various land uses, outdoor lighting, and general design guidelines to reduce light pollution and glare. Additionally, General Plan Policy LU 4.1 requires new developments to be located and designed to visually enhance and not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of lighting and other impacts on surrounding properties. In conjunction with County regulations and policies, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR's Mitigation Measures 4.4.2A through 4.4.2E shall be incorporated to enforce lighting standards for various land uses (4.4.2A), roadways (4.4.2B), for exterior illumination (4.4.2C), and for the protection of the dark sky in consideration of operations at the Palomar Observatory (4.4.2D and 4.4.2E). Every discretionary project for which the County would be the lead agency would be subject to project- and site-specific CEQA review in the context of these ordinances, policies, and mitigation measures in order to ensure interference with the nighttime use of the Palomar Astronomical Observatory would be considered and mitigated. Therefore, in the same manner as the Approved Project, interference with the nighttime use of the Palomar Astronomical Observatory from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

#### 4.4 AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the State's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would t	the pro	iect:
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a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique	New			
	Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide	Significant			
	Importance (Farmland), as shown on	Impact/			
	the maps prepared pursuant to the	Increased	New	No New	
	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	Program of the California Natural	of	is	No	Reduced
	Resources Agency, to non-agricultural	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	use?			$\boxtimes$	

**4.4.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in conversion of approximately 32 acres of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural uses, which is considered a negligible amount of land when considering the 187,800 acres of land under agricultural production countywide. Additionally, approximately 210 acres of Farmland of Local Importance would be converted to non-agricultural uses, while approximately 220 acres of lands, including existing fish farms (aquaculture), would be redesignated as agricultural land uses.

However, the amount of agricultural land currently designated as Prime, Unique, Statewide, and Locally Important Farmland (approximately 336,800 acres) far exceeds the amount of corresponding farmland (approximately 190,000 acres) designated by the General Plan and 2015 General Plan Amendment. Therefore, implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment will likely result in conversion of additional Prime, Unique, Statewide, and Locally Important Farmland to non-agricultural uses. Furthermore, growth facilitated under the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in indirect impacts to farmland through conversion of agricultural uses to urban uses. Although the 2015 General Plan Amendment and 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR detail regulations and policies designed to establish agricultural preserves, collaboration between agencies, preservation incentives, the right to farm, and compatible land uses, impacts to farmland from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Although the Approved Project concluded impacts to farmland from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would remain significant and unavoidable, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update does not change any of the land use designations of the Approved Project that would adversely affect farmland. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update would not result in any new impacts previously not identified under the Approved Project. No mitigation is required.

b)	Conflict with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural use, or with land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve? Cause	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity	New Mitigation	No New Impact/	
	Development of non-agricultural uses	of	is	No	Reduced
	within 300 feet of agriculturally zoned property? Or involve other changes in the existing environment which, due	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	the existing environment which, due				

to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use?

**4.4.b) Approved Project Analysis.** As detailed in response to Checklist Question 4.4.a, land use and policy changes proposed by the 2015 General Plan Amendment could result in conflicts with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural uses, and lands subject to a Williamson Act contract if future development is proposed in proximity to agricultural uses, which could potentially result in urban uses within 300 feet of agriculturally zoned property. The Approved Project's growth could result in development that would convert agricultural lands to urban uses. Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would likely result in significant conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses. Since no feasible mitigation is available to reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level, impacts would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Although the Approved Project concluded impacts to farmland from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would remain significant and unavoidable, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update does not change any of the land use designations of the Approved Project that would adversely affect farmland. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update would not result in any new impacts previously not identified under the Approved Project. No mitigation is required.

c)	Result in the loss of forest land or	New			
	conversion of forest land to non-	Significant			
	forest use? Conflict with existing	Impact/			
	zoning for, or cause rezoning of,	Increased	New	No New	
	forest land, timberland or timberland	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	zoned Timberland Production? Or	of	is	No	Reduced
	involve other changes in the existing	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	environment which, due to their			$\square$	
	location or nature, could result in				Ш
	conversion of forest land to non-				
	forest use?				

**4.4.c) Approved Project Analysis.** The forest lands and commercial/industrial timber utilizations in Riverside County are quite limited. Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would not conflict with forest land zoning, timberland or Timberland Production Zones since they are non-existent in the County. In addition, the Woody Biomass Program operating on the basis of slash and overgrowth removal would not be adversely affected by the 2015 General Plan Amendment.

Future development through implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest uses. Growth accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would indirectly result in additional development that would cause forest land conversion. However, due to the low densities of residential units allowed, it is possible that any timber or tree removal necessary for potential future single-family residential use of the sites with forestry resources could be accomplished under the 3-acre timber clearing exemptions. Therefore, direct impacts associated with these land use changes would be less than significant. To minimize direct or indirect impacts to forestry resources, County ordinances and General Plan policies designed to protect forest land resources, regulate removal of trees, require coordination between agencies, promote conservation and compliance with regulations, and establish natural edge buffers would be implemented to ensure impacts to forest land and timberland remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update does not change any of the land use designations of the Approved Project that would adversely affect forest land and timberland. Consistent with the Approved Project, impacts to forest land and timberland would be *less-than-significant* with the implementation of County ordinances and General Plan policies designed to protect forest land resources, regulate removal of trees, require coordination between agencies, promote conservation and compliance with regulations, and establish natural edge buffers. No mitigation is required.

#### 4.5 AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a)	Conflict with or obstruct	New			
	implementation of the applicable air	Significant			
	quality plan?	Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.5.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR addressed consistency with the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (2007 AQMP) and Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's (MDAQMD) guidelines. Consistency with the AQMP for the Basin means that a project would be consistent with the goals, objectives, and assumptions in the respective plan to achieve the federal and State air quality standards. For a project to be consistent with the AQMP adopted by the SCAQMD, the pollutants emitted from the project should not exceed the SCAQMD daily threshold or cause a significant impact on air quality, or the project must already have been included in the AQMP projections. For a project to be consistent with MDAQMD guidelines, a General Plan Amendment or similar land use plan change should not increase dwelling unit density, vehicle trips, or vehicle miles traveled.

The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concluded that with implementation of and compliance with regulatory programs, Riverside County ordinances, General Plan and General Plan Amendment policies, as well as General Plan Amendment EIR Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1 and 4.7.A-N2, air pollutant emissions from future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would be reduced but still exceed regulatory thresholds. Exceedance of regulatory thresholds would conflict with the implementation of the applicable air quality plans. Implementation of 2015 CAP GHG reduction measures would provide additional reductions in criteria air pollutants; however, it would not reduce criteria pollutant impacts to below regulatory thresholds. The impact was determined to remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The current regional air quality management plan is the Final 2016 AQMP adopted by the SCAQMD on March 10, 2017. The Final 2016 AQMP proposes policies and measures currently contemplated by responsible agencies to achieve federal and State standards for healthful air quality in the Basin and those portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin that are under SCAQMD's jurisdiction. The Basin is currently a federal and State nonattainment area for particulate matter less than 10 microns in size ( $PM_{10}$ ), particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size ( $PM_{2.5}$ ), and ozone ( $O_3$ ).

The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. The new and enhanced GHG reduction measures are expected to result in fewer vehicle miles traveled (VMT), higher energy efficiency, and

correspondingly more reductions in criteria pollutant emissions than originally anticipated in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. However, it would not reduce criteria pollutant impacts to below regulatory thresholds.

Consistent with the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would implement Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1 and 4.7.A-N2, as prescribed in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, to ensure the implementation of GHG reduction measures and help reduce emissions of criteria pollutants from implementation of future development. Therefore, emissions resulting from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves create any significant impact, as implementation of GHG reduction measures identified in the CAP Update would result in reduced impacts on air quality. However, impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

b)	Violate any air quality standard or	New			
	contribute substantially to an existing	Significant			
	or projected air quality violation?	Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.5.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Both short-term impacts caused by construction activities and long-term impacts caused by occupancy and operation of the Approved Project were analyzed in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and are described below.

#### Short-Term Impacts

Implementation of the General Plan Amendment will result in development of new commercial, industrial, and residential land uses and infrastructure improvements, the construction of which would generate emissions of criteria air pollutants. Due to the programmatic nature of the General Plan Amendment, analysis of the Approved Project's criteria pollutant construction emissions generated through its implementation was determined to be speculative but expected to exceed SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds, and mitigation was identified.

Compliance with General Plan and General Plan Amendment Policies and EIR Mitigation Measures 4.6.B-N1, 4.6.B-N2, and 4.6.B-N3, as prescribed in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, would help reduce emissions of criteria pollutants during construction of future projects facilitated through implementation of the General Plan Amendment. However, such emissions were determined to exceed SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds because construction-related emissions would be speculative and the rate of development cannot be anticipated. No additional feasible mitigation was identified and construction-related emissions generated through implementation of the General Plan Amendment would violate air quality standard or contribute substantially to existing or projected air quality violations. The impact was determined to remain *significant and unavoidable*.

#### Long-Term Impacts

Regional area and mobile-source emissions were modeled using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) and based on General Plan land use types and sizes, anticipated increases in trip generation, and default settings and parameters for the analysis period and planning area location. CalEEMod accounts for area-source emissions from the use of natural gas, fireplaces, and consumer products, as well as mobile-source vehicle trip emissions.

Due to the programmatic nature of the General Plan Amendment, analysis of criteria pollutant emissions generated through operation of projects facilitated through implementation of the General Plan Amendment would be speculative. SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds would be exceeded during long-term operation of future land uses consistent with the General Plan Amendment and mitigation was required.

Compliance with General Plan and General Plan Amendment Policies, adherence to SCAQMD and MDAQMD rules and regulations, and implementation of EIR Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1, 4.7.A-N2, 4.6.B-N4, and 4.6.B-N5 would help reduce emissions of criteria pollutants during operation of future projects facilitated through implementation of the General Plan Amendment. However, implementation of the General Plan Amendment would result in emissions of criteria pollutants in excess of SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds, which are designed to be applied to individual projects rather than programmatic activities such as the General Plan Amendment. Although *CEQA Guidelines* require the County to evaluate all future discretionary projects proposed under the General Plan Amendment for emissions of criteria pollutants against applicable SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds, no additional feasible mitigation was identified. The impact was determined to remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update could result in construction of energy-generating facilities such as photovoltaic/solar arrays or installation of cool roofs that would be installed on rooftops of new or existing buildings. It could also result in energy-efficiency retrofits in existing residential, commercial, and municipal buildings throughout the County. These potential construction and retrofit activities would be undertaken per the 2019 CAP Update and be subject to CEQA compliance. However, the potential construction activities associated with the CAP Update as descried above are expected to be minor and unlikely to require use of large construction equipment. Therefore, air quality impacts associated with construction and retrofit activities undertaken as part of 2019 CAP Update would not be significant. However, impacts associated with construction-related emissions generated through implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would still remain *significant and unavoidable*.

The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not add any new vehicle trips or otherwise increase VMT. Compared to the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would further decrease VMT and the associated vehicle emissions from the 2014 General Plan Amendment, thereby improving air quality. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would further reduce reliance on traditional, more-polluting forms of energy by increasing use of cleaner, alternative energy sources. The change in energy sources

would reduce emissions associated with energy production. The 2019 CAP Update would further promote the renovation of existing structures with energy-efficiency retrofits and renewable energy. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update is expected to result in more reductions in criteria pollutant emissions than originally anticipated in the certified 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. However, it would not reduce impacts to regulatory thresholds.

In the same manner as the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would be consistent with General Plan and General Plan Amendment Policies, SCAQMD and MDAQMD rules and regulations, and Mitigation Measures 4.6.B-N1, 4.6.B-N2, 4.6.B-N3, 4.6.B-N4, 4.6.B-N5, 4.7.A-N1, and 4.7.A-N2 to help reduce emissions of criteria pollutants from implementation of future development. Therefore, air quality impacts associated with 2019 CAP Update would not themselves be significant. However, air quality impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

c)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-	New Significant Impact/			
	attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	Increased Severity of	New Mitigation is	No New Impact/ No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.5.c) Approved Project Analysis.** As described in response to Checklist Question 4.5.a and 4.5.b above, General Plan and General Plan Amendment Policies, adherence to SCAQMD rules and regulations, and implementation of existing Mitigation Measures 4.5.1A, 4.5.1B, 4.5.1C, 4.6.B-N1, 4.6.B-N2, 4.6.B-N3, 4.7.A-N1, 4.7.A-N2, 4.6.B-N4 and 4.6.B-N5 would reduce construction and operation-related air quality impacts. However, even with these mitigation measures, future construction and operational emissions would likely exceed SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds. The impact was determined to be *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP, which are expected to result more reductions in criteria pollutant emissions than originally anticipated in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. However, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not reduce cumulative impacts from General Plan buildout to below regulatory thresholds. The 2019 CAP Update would implement existing Mitigation Measures 4.5.1A, 4.5.1B, 4.5.1C, 4.6.B-N1, 4.6.B-N2, 4.6.B-N3, 4.7.A-N1, 4.7.A-N2, 4.6.B-N4 and 4.6.B-N5, as prescribed in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, to ensure the implementation of GHG reduction measures and help reduce emissions of criteria pollutants from implementation of future development. Therefore, cumulative air quality impacts associated with the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves be significant. However, cumulative air quality impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

d)	Expose sensitive receptors to	New			
	substantial pollutant concentrations?	Significant			
		Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\bowtie$

**4.5.d) Approved Project Analysis.** As described in response to Checklist Question 4.5.a and 4.5.b above, the existing ordinances, policies and programs to implement and comply with SCAQMD and MDAQMD rules would reduce construction and operation-related impacts. However, the project would result in the future development of numerous projects each contributing incrementally to air pollutant emissions affecting sensitive receptors. Thus, it is possible that the project would result in cumulatively significant impacts to sensitive receptors, even if individual projects were each less than significant. Exposure of sensitive receptors to emissions of substantial concentrations of criteria air pollutants and precursors would be a significant impact and mitigation was identified.

Compliance with existing regulations, existing and new General Plan policies, and County ordinances would reduce operation-related impacts by reducing air pollutant emissions from stationary and mobile sources. Even with the implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.6.D-N1 and 4.6.D-N2, cumulative operational emissions resulting from future development would likely exceed both the SCAQMD and MDAQMD thresholds. The impact was determined to be *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** As described in response to Checklist Question 4.5.b above, the anticipated construction activities required for additional retrofits and renovations under the 2019 CAP Update would not involve large internal-combustion equipment that would contribute substantial air pollutant emissions that could affect sensitive receptors. Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not add any new vehicle trips or otherwise increase VMT. Compared to the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would further decrease VMT and the associated vehicle emissions from the 2015 General Plan Amendment, thereby improving air quality. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would further reduce reliance on traditional, more-polluting forms of energy by increasing use of cleaner, alternative energy sources. The change in energy sources would reduce emissions associated with energy production. The 2019 CAP Update would further promote the renovation of existing structures with energy-efficiency retrofits and renewable energy. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update would afford more reductions in criteria air pollutants and precursors and more reductions in impacts to sensitive receptors than the Approved Project. However, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not reduce pollutant impacts to sensitive receptors from General Plan buildout to below regulatory thresholds.

The 2019 CAP Update would be consistent with General Plan and General Plan Amendment Policies, SCAQMD and MDAQMD rules and regulations, and Mitigation Measures 4.6.D-N1 and 4.6.D-N2 to help reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants from implementation of future development. Therefore, pollutant impacts to sensitive receptors from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves be significant. However,

pollutant impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a	New			
	substantial number of people?	Significant			
		Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.5.e) Approved Project Analysis.** SCAQMD Rule 402 (Nuisance), Rule 410 (odors from transfer stations and material recovery stations) and Rule 1179 (Public owned treatment works operations) place conditions and compliance measures for odor emissions from the identified sources in order to reduce exposure to the surrounding area. Implementation of and compliance with the regulatory programs, General Plan policies as well as Mitigation Measures 4.6.E-N1, 4.6.E-N2 and 4.6.E-N3, would ensure that future development accommodated by General Plan Amendment would have *less-than-significant* odor impacts.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update does not propose strategies or measures that would directly or indirectly result in the creation of objectionable odors. Implementation of 2019 CAP Update strategies would include construction activities such as installation of renewable energy facilities (i.e., solar panels) and various energy retrofits (e.g., cool roofs, insulation, etc.), all of which would be subject to SCAQMD rules, County Ordinances, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.6.E-N1, 4.6.E-N2 and 4.6.E-N3 to minimize objectionable odors. The 2019 CAP Update does not include projects such as landfills, airports, industrial facilities, agricultural uses, etc. known to generate objectionable odors. Therefore, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not create objectionable odors beyond those that would be anticipated under the Approved Project. Impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*).

#### 4.6 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions,	New			
	either directly or indirectly, that in	Significant			
	conjunction with other global	Impact/	New	No New	
	greenhouse gas emissions may have a	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	substantial adverse physical effect on	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	the environment?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
			$\bowtie$		
				Ш	

**4.6.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated there was no statewide GHG emissions threshold used to determine potential GHG emissions impacts of a project. Senate Bill (SB) 32 requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to reduce statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. As part of this

legislation, CARB was required to prepare a "Scoping Plan" that demonstrates how the State will achieve this goal. The Scoping Plan was adopted in 2011, and in it, local governments were described as "essential partners" in meeting the statewide goal, recommending a GHG reduction level 15 percent below 2005–2008 levels, depending on when a full emissions inventory is available, by 2020. Accordingly, Executive Order S-3-05 establishes a more aggressive emissions reduction goal for the year 2050 of 80 percent below 1990 emissions levels. However, when analyzing long-range plans, such as general plans, the planning horizon will often surpass the 2020 timeframe for implementation of AB 32.

The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that with the implementation of and compliance with the existing regulatory programs, County ordinances, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1, 4.7.A-N2, and 4.7.A-N3, development authorized pursuant to the General Plan Amendment would generate GHG emissions of 6.03 million metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year. In addition, to ensure that GHG emissions continue on a downward trajectory, the County would commence planning for the post-2020 period starting at the approximate midway point between plan implementation and the reduction target and after development of key ordinances and implementation of cost-effective measures. The new plan would include a specific target for GHG reductions for 2035 and 2050. The targets would be consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050. The County would adopt the new plan by January 1, 2020.

Achievement of the 2050 reduction target (80 percent below 1990 levels of emissions by 2050) in Executive Order S-3-05 would require the State and the County to reduce emissions by approximately 95 percent below the 2008 baseline levels of GHG emissions by 2050 while also accommodating considerable population and economic growth within the unincorporated areas. It would require near carbon neutral energy and transportation by 2050. Carbon neutral (no emissions) energy would require significant changes to the electric generating system in the United States where renewable energy and energy storage supply nearly all the electricity in the system and transportation eliminates fossil fueled trucks and passenger vehicles. This future system of carbon neutral energy and transportation sectors was technologically infeasible at the time of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. Therefore, the County provides Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 that allows the County to work in sync with the State in providing post-2020 reductions and reduction targets. Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 requires the County to update the CAP by January 1, 2020, and include in that updated CAP reduction targets for 2035 and 2050, and post-2020 reduction measures designed to achieve the reduction targets and keep the County on the emissions reduction path.

Because achievement of the 2050 reduction target in Executive Order S-3-05 is technologically infeasible to achieve, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concluded that impacts on GHG emissions were considered *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Since the adoption of 2015 CAP and 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, on April 29, 2015, California Governor Jerry Brown announced through EO B-30-15 the GHG emissions target of reducing GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. This emissions reduction target is an interim-year goal to make it possible to reach the ultimate goal of reducing emissions 80 percent under 1990 levels by 2050. The order directs CARB to provide a plan with specific regulations to reduce statewide sources of

GHG emissions. On January 20, 2017, CARB released the 2017 Scoping Plan Update. The 2017 Scoping Plan Update provides strategies for achieving the 2030 target established by EO B-30-15 and codified in SB 32. The 2017 Scoping Plan Update recommends local plan-level GHG emissions reduction goals.

The 2019 CAP Update focuses on the 2030 GHG emissions reduction target and provides a framework for long-term GHG emissions reductions toward the ultimate 2050 goal. Based on the 2019 CAP Update, GHG emissions in the County were 4,905,518 MT  $CO_2e$  in 2017, which was a 30 percent decrease from baseline (2008) emissions of 7,012,938 MT  $CO_2e$ . Unmitigated GHG emissions in the unincorporated portions of the County would total 5,158,305 MT  $CO_2e$  in 2020, a 5 percent increase over 2017 emissions, which would meet the 15 percent below baseline levels reduction target. By 2030, communitywide emissions are expected to increase to 30 percent over 2017 levels to 6,368,781 MT  $CO_2e$ . Consistent with EO B-30-15 and SB 32, the County has identified a 49 percent community reduction target below baseline emissions by 2030. By 2050, communitywide emissions are expected to increase to 130 percent over 2017 levels to 11,305,026 MT  $CO_2e$ . Consistent with AB 32, the County has identified an 83 percent community reduction target below baseline emissions by 2050.

By implementing existing State reduction programs (i.e., Renewable Portfolio Standard [RPS], updates to Title 24 Energy Efficiency Standards, and the implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard [LCFS] and Clean Car Fuel Standard, commonly referred to as the Pavley Standard), the County is projected to reduce emissions to 4,861,256 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2020, which makes emissions in 2020 approximately 1 percent lower than 2017 levels, and to 4,102,109 MT  $CO_2e$  in 2030, which is 16 percent lower than 2017 levels. In the long-term, the existing State reduction programs would reduce GHG emissions to 4,175,146 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2050, which is 15 percent lower than 2017 levels.

Implementation of the GHG emissions reduction measures from the 2019 CAP Update is projected to result in a further emissions reduction of 1,667,460 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2030 and 3,612,416 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2050. Total adjusted community emissions, which include reductions from both the 2019 CAP Update measures and the State and local reduction programs, would be 2,434,649 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2030, which exceeds the 49 percent below 2008 levels reduction target of 3,576,598 MT  $CO_2e$  for 2030, and 562,730 MT  $CO_2e$  by 2050, which exceeds the 83 percent below 2008 levels reduction target of 1,192,199 MT  $CO_2e$  for 2050. Therefore, GHG emissions would meet the applicable AB 32, SB 32, and EO B-30-15 targets.

Proposed 2019 CAP Update measures would achieve these reductions by decreasing energy consumption in existing and new residential and commercial buildings, increasing water efficiency, increasing awareness of sustainability issues, reducing landfilled waste, promoting clean energy use, expanding sustainable transportation options, optimizing vehicular travel, and applying CEQA screening tables on new developments.

Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, the 2019 CAP Update serves as the post-2020 Climate Action Plan update and includes specific targets for GHG reductions for 2030 and 2050 consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050.

Consistent with the Partial Settlement Agreement,<sup>8</sup> the 2019 CAP Update includes specific considerations for EV charging stations, on-site renewable energy generation, and high efficiency traffic signal lights. Additionally, the 2019 CAP Update serves as an update to the County's GHG inventory in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement's four-year (quadrennial) inventory update requirement in order to review the effectiveness of specific measures in the CAP and revise associated point values in the screening tables according to available evidence. If measures included in the prior CAP are found to be ineffective, they are removed or revised in the subsequent CAP Update pursuant to the Partial Settlement Agreement.

Accordingly, the 2019 CAP Update incorporates Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 of the 2015 General Plan Amendment, facilitates County monitoring of CAP reduction measures, and includes provisions for revisions and/or amendments to the CAP as needed based upon the results of monitoring to ensure achievement of the 2030 Reduction Target. Though compliance with the Partial Settlement Agreement's quadrennial GHG inventory update requirement, the CAP will ensure a post-2030 GHG reduction plan commensurate with concurrent technology, regulations, and baseline conditions to establish a specific target for GHG reductions for 2050. The target must be consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets including Executive Order S-3-05 and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050. Through the process of updating the CAP every four years, GHG reduction measures will continue refinement to achieve the 2050 reduction target, and an updated monitoring system will ensure that the updated targets are achieved.

The 2019 CAP Update includes new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP, which would further reduce GHG emissions within unincorporated portions of the County. Because quadrennial updates to the County CAP and refinement of GHG reduction measures are required in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement and Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 prescribed in the 2015 General Plan EIR, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not generate new significant impacts or increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts. However, the 2050 reduction target could not be achieved until the State adopts a plan with regulations geared toward achieving 2050 emissions and the County adopts a subsequent CAP update designed to comply with those regulations. Therefore, GHG impacts from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be less severe than those identified for the Approved Project but still remain *significant and unavoidable*.

b)	Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
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Partial Settlement Agreement, 2017. Petitioners: Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, San Bernardino Audubon Society and Respondents: County of Riverside and Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

**4.6.b) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that, with the implementation of and compliance with the existing regulatory programs, General Plan and General Plan Amendment policies, and 2015 CAP, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1 and 4.7.A-N2, development authorized pursuant to the General Plan Amendment would have less than significant impacts related to reducing GHG emissions to achieve the AB 32 and SB 375 reduction targets. However, implementation of and compliance with the existing regulatory programs, General Plan and General Plan Amendment policies, and the 2015 CAP, as well as new Mitigation Measures 4.7.A-N1 and 4.7.A-N2, would not achieve the 2050 goal in Executive Order S-3-05 and achievement of that goal was technologically infeasible at the time of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 commits the County to developing a post-2020 CAP that demonstrates achievement of 2035 and 2050 reduction targets and that the post-2020 CAP is adopted by January 1, 2020. This allows time for the development of policies and technologies needed to achieve the 2050 goal and the County time to provide a post-2020 CAP in sync with the State goals and reductions.

Because achievement of the 2050 reduction target in Executive Order S-3-05 is technologically infeasible to achieve, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concluded that impacts related to GHG emissions were *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** As described in response to Checklist Question 4.6.a above, consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and the Partial Settlement Agreement, the 2019 CAP Update serves as the post-2020 Climate Action Plan update, facilitates County monitoring of CAP reduction measures, and includes provisions for revisions and/or amendments to the CAP as needed based upon the results of monitoring to ensure achievement of the 2030 Reduction Target. Though compliance with the Partial Settlement Agreement's quadrennial GHG inventory update requirement, the CAP will ensure a post-2030 GHG reduction plan commensurate with concurrent technology, regulations, and baseline conditions to establish a specific target for GHG reductions for 2050. The target must be consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets including Executive Order S-3-05 and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050. Through the process of updating the CAP every four years, GHG reduction measures will continue refinement to achieve the 2050 reduction target, and an updated monitoring system will ensure that the updated targets are achieved.

The 2019 CAP Update includes new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP, which would further reduce GHG emissions within the County and would not conflict with any applicable plans, policies, or regulations. Because quadrennial updates to the County CAP and refinement of GHG reduction measures are required in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement and Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 prescribed in the 2015 General Plan EIR to achieve GHG reduction targets pursuant to SB 32, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not generate new significant impacts or increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts. However, the 2050 reduction target could not be achieved until the State adopts a plan with regulations geared toward achieving 2050 emissions and the County adopts a subsequent CAP update designed to comply with those regulations. Therefore, GHG impacts from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be less severe than those identified for the Approved Project but still remain *significant and unavoidable*.

#### 4.7 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

a)	Have a substantial adverse effect,	New			
	either directly or through habitat	Significant			
	modifications, on any species identified	Impact/			
	as a candidate, sensitive, or special	Increased	New	No New	
	status species in local or regional	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	plans, policies, or regulations, or by	of	is	No	Reduced
	the California Department of Fish and	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife			$\square$	
	Service?				

**4.7.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase developed uses in Riverside County, affecting riparian or other sensitive habitats in various areas. Western Riverside County has nine sensitive habitat types. Seven of the nine sensitive habitats, totaling approximately 7 percent of western Riverside County's sensitive habitat, have the potential to be affected by development. There are eight major natural communities within areas not subject to habitat conservation plans (the eastern third of the County), of which three have the potential to be impacted. Collectively, potential impacts could occur to grasslands, playas, riparian scrub, woodlands and forests, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub communities, and aquatic habitats (water) if development is not implemented in accordance with regulatory policies, General Plan Policies, and mitigation measures.

Compliance with existing regulatory policies, which include Sections 401, 402 and 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 1600 *et seq.* of the California Fish and Game Code, and the multiple-species habitat conservation plans for western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley, would reduce impacts to habitats from development. Additionally, General Plan policies (LU 7.7, 9.1, 9.2, C 20.9, OS 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5, 5.6, 6.1, 6.2, 9.3, 9.4, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.3, 18.4, and 20.2) and Mitigation Measures 4.8.A-N1 and 4.8.A-N2 require site-specific evaluations of future projects implemented under the General Plan. In accordance with these policies and mitigation measures, projects found to impact riparian habitats and sensitive natural communities must incorporate project- and site-specific mitigation measures to reduce impacts pursuant to CEQA. Through compliance with applicable regulatory policy, habitat conservation plans, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.A-N1 and 4.8.A-N2, impacts on riparian habitats and sensitive natural communities would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with all applicable regulatory policies, habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans), General Plan policies, and mitigation measures designed to protect riparian habitats and sensitive natural communities with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land use-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to

the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan policies for habitat conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities.

If future projects facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update occur on sites containing riparian habitats and sensitive natural communities, project- and site-specific assessments would be required in accordance with Mitigation Measures 4.8.A-N1 and 4.8.A-N2 to ensure appropriate project-level mitigation is implemented as necessary. Therefore, future development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) identified under the Approved Project regarding riparian habitats and sensitive natural communities.

b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
		П		⊠	

**4.7.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase developed uses in Riverside County, which could affect endangered, candidate, and/or special-status species protected under federal, State, and local laws. Grading and other land-disturbing activities from implementation of the General Plan would cause direct impacts to these species. Indirect impacts such as disturbed breeding, feeding, nesting, or foraging behaviors; loss of foraging habitat; loss of food sources; loss of burrows; and loss of nesting or roosting habitat would also occur due to construction.

The Federal and California Endangered Species Acts (FESA and CESA), Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), California Fish and Game Code, Native Plant Protection Act, and the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat) are regulatory policies designed to protect candidate, sensitive, and special-status species.

There are 349 species in Riverside County of special or sensitive status under FESA, CESA, and/or California Native Plant Society (CNPS) designation. Species that are listed as endangered or threatened under FESA and species proposed or candidates for listing under CESA are also considered. Species that are covered by regional habitat conservation plans within Riverside County are also included. Of the 349 protected species, 146 species are addressed under the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan for western Riverside County and 27 under the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan for Coachella Valley. Through implementation of these plans, impacts to covered species would be less than significant.

Future projects would be required to be consistent with applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as General Plan Policies C 20.9, OS 5.1, 5.6, 6.2, 9.3, 9.4, 20.2, 5.3, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, and 18.3. Additionally, Mitigation Measure 4.8.B-N1 requires site-specific evaluations of future projects implemented under the General Plan. With implementation of and compliance with applicable regulations, habitat conservation plans, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measure 4.8.B-N1, impacts to endangered, candidate, and/or special-status species would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with all applicable regulatory policies, habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans), General Plan policies, and mitigation measures designed to protect endangered, candidate, and/or special-status species with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan policies for species protection while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities.

If future projects facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update occur on sites containing endangered, candidate, and/or special-status species, project- and site-specific assessments would be required in accordance with Mitigation Measure 4.8.B-N1 to ensure appropriate project-level mitigation is implemented as necessary. Therefore, future development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) identified under the Approved Project regarding endangered, candidate, and/or special status-species.

c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as	New Significant			
	defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.)	Impact/ Increased Severity	New Mitigation	No New Impact/	
	through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other	of Impact	is Required	No Impact	Reduced Impact
	means?				

**4.7.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase urban uses in Riverside County, affecting federally protected wetlands through removal, filling, and hydrological interruption. These effects can occur during construction activities such as clearing and grubbing, grading, paving, and building for new development, redevelopment and construction of roads, flood control projects, and other infrastructure.

Unincorporated areas of Riverside County comprise approximately 471,400 acres of wetlands. Implementation of the General Plan would affect approximately 5,000 acres of these wetlands through future development near or within the watershed of any of these

areas. Impacts to wetlands would be addressed through federal, State, and County regulations, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley, General Plan Policies (LU 7.7, 9.1, 9.2, OS 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 6.1, 6.2, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.3, and 18.4), and Mitigation Measures 4.8.C-N1 and 4.8.C-N2. In accordance with these regulations, policies, and mitigation measures, project- and site-specific evaluations of riparian/riverine areas and federally-protected wetlands would be required and appropriate mitigation prescribed (up to and including permitting pursuant to Sections 404 and 401 of the CWA and Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code) where impacts would be determined to be significant. Compliance with the CWA, California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 through 1603, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.C-N1 and 4.8.C-N2 would reduce impacts to riparian/riverine areas and federally-protected wetlands to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with all applicable regulatory policies, habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans), General Plan policies, and mitigation measures designed to protect riparian/riverine areas and federally-protected wetlands with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for riparian/riverine/wetlands protection while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities.

If future projects facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update occur on sites containing riparian/riverine areas and federally-protected wetlands, project- and site-specific assessments would be required in accordance with Mitigation Measures 4.8.C-N1 and 4.8.C-N2 to ensure appropriate project-level mitigation is implemented as necessary up to and including permitting pursuant to Sections 404 and 401 of the CWA and Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code. Therefore, future development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) identified under the Approved Project regarding riparian/riverine areas and federally-protected wetlands.

d)	Interfere substantially with the	New			
	movement of any native resident or	Significant			
	migratory fish or wildlife species or	Impact/			
	with established native resident or	Increased	New	No New	
	migratory wildlife corridors, or impede	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.7.d) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase urban uses in the County, affecting the movement and migration of wildlife species, as well as wildlife corridors and the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Impacts to wildlife movement and migration would be mitigated with corridors and linkages established through project-specific compliance with Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, Coachella Valley, and the Stephens' kangaroo rat. Within the conservation plan areas, development would result in lower densities, so no significant interference with wildlife movement, corridors, or nursery sites would occur in areas not subject to habitat conservation plans.

The Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan includes 20 core areas and 10 noncontiguous habitat blocks linked together by 19 linkages and 29 constrained linkages. Development within these areas has the potential for direct and indirect impacts. Direct impacts to wildlife corridors occur from blockage of linkages that affects movement and results in loss of visual continuity within a linkage or corridor. Programs are in place within both Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans (for Western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley) that prevent adverse effects on wildlife movement and corridors. With the conservation measures incorporated for corridors, the two conservation plans ensure protection so that future development within the County would not substantially interfere with wildlife movement or corridors.

Direct impacts to nursery sites would include removal of habitat to accommodate land development and infrastructure. Indirect impacts may result from noise, lighting, and changes in drainage patterns, introduction of pests or domestic animals, and other edge effects. The Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley are designed by State and federal permitting authorities to require adequate buffer zones and implementation of site design principles to minimize indirect impacts that could result from noise, lighting, and changes in drainage patterns, and/or introduction of pests or domestic animals.

Impacts to movement and migration of wildlife species, wildlife corridors, and the use of native wildlife nursery sites would be addressed through federal, State, and County regulations, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.B-N1 and 4.8.D-N1. In accordance with these regulations, policies, and mitigation measures, project- and site-specific evaluations of movement and migration of wildlife species, wildlife corridors, and the use of native wildlife nursery sites would be required and appropriate mitigation prescribed where impacts would be determined to be significant. Compliance with the FESA,

MBTA, CESA, CWA, California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 through 1603, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat, General Plan Policies (LU 7.7, 9.1, 9.2, OS 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 6.1, 6.2, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.3 and 18.4), and Mitigation Measures 4.8.B-N1 and 4.8.D-N1 would reduce impacts to movement and migration of wildlife species, wildlife corridors, and the use of native wildlife nursery sites to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with all applicable regulatory policies, habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans), General Plan policies, and mitigation measures designed to protect movement and migration of wildlife species, wildlife corridors, and the use of native wildlife nursery sites with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for protection of wildlife migration, corridor, and nursery sites while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities.

If future projects facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update occur on sites containing wildlife migration, corridor, and nursery sites, project- and site-specific assessments would be required in accordance with Mitigation Measures 4.8.B-N1 and 4.8.D-N1 to ensure appropriate project-level mitigation is implemented as necessary up to and including provision of buffer zones and implementation of site design principles to minimize direct and indirect effects. Therefore, future development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) identified under the Approved Project regarding wildlife migration, corridor, and nursery sites.

e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.7.e) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase urban uses in Riverside County. There is a potential for development to conflict with local policies protecting biological resources, such as Riverside County's Oak Tree Management Guidelines. Development could affect approximately 5,300 acres of oak woodlands. Impacts to oak trees would occur mainly within land administered by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, comprising approximately 8 percent of the total oak habitat within the County. Accordingly, the Riverside County's Oak Tree Management

Guidelines would be implemented within the oak resource areas. Additionally, Riverside County Ordinance No. 559, which regulates tree removal, would further ensure the preservation of Riverside County's timberlands. Compliance with the Riverside County Oak Tree Management Guidelines, Riverside County Ordinance No. 559, and General Plan Policies OS 9.3 and 9.4 would ensure conflicts with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation is required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with applicable habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans) designed to protect biological resources with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development.

All future projects facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to compliance with Riverside County's Oak Tree Management Guidelines and Ordinance No. 559 for the preservation of the County's timberlands on which projects would be conditioned for approval. Additionally, any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with the Western Riverside County and/or Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for protection of biological resources while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities. Therefore, future development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those (i.e., *less-than-significant*) identified under the Approved Project regarding biological resources protected under local regulations. No mitigation was identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, and no mitigation is required for the proposed 2019 CAP Update.

f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of	New Mitigation is	No New Impact/ No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.7.f) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase urban uses in areas covered by the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat. These habitat conservation plans are part of Riverside County's General Plan Open Space and Conservation Element. Policies within the General Plan (i.e., C 20.9, OS 5.1, 5.3, 5.6, 6.2, 9.3, 9.4, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.3, and 20.2) require consistency with habitat conservation plans to ensure no conflicts occur between proposed development and measures to protect biological resources. Implementation of the General Plan does not affect or make any changes to the County's habitat conservation plans or to how they are implemented.

Furthermore, compliance with the County's habitat conservation plans is mandatory through Riverside County-required conditions of approval for all discretionary projects. Therefore, development in accordance with the County General Plan inherently is consistent with the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat. Impacts would be *less-than-significant* and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** All discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with the County General Plan and Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. In the same manner as the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update will be subject to existing regulations, as well as applicable policies outlined in the County's General Plan to ensure future development consistent with applicable habitat conservation plans and natural community conservation plans. Compliance with the County's habitat conservation plans is mandatory through Riverside County-required conditions of approval for all discretionary projects. Therefore, impacts to conflicts with habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*) and no mitigation is required.

#### 4.8 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of historical resources as defined in CCR §15064.5?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.8.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment has the potential to affect four known historical resources as defined in §15064.5 of the CEOA Guidelines, as well as possibly several currently unknown historical resources throughout unincorporated portions of Riverside County. As future development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment occurs, projects would be subject to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), actions by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Appendix C of Title 33 CFR Section 325), Traditional Tribal Cultural Places Act (Government Code Section 65352.3), Public Resources Code Section 5097, CEQA, and Riverside County Ordinance No. 578 – Historic Preservation Districts in order to ensure that substantial adverse changes in the significance of historical resources would be less than significant, Additionally, General Plan Policies OS 19.2 through 19.5 and LU 4.5 will require projects to undergo site and plan check review by the County Planning Department to ensure protection for sensitive historical resources through the development process of each project. Finally, Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B prescribes provisions for avoidance of cultural resources where feasible. Through adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and

Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B, impacts to historical resources from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be reduced to *less-than-significant* levels.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update could result in changes that affect historic structures or the historic character of neighborhoods or districts. Actions that could directly affect historical structures include energy retrofits (2019 CAP Update Measures R2-EE4 for residential and R2-EE9 and R2-EE11 for non-residential facilities) on existing historic structures and other buildings located within the setting and context of historic districts. Additionally, the required installation of solar panels on new residential and commercial buildings (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) could potentially alter the integrity of a historic building or district's setting, design, materials, workmanship, or other physical identity that conveys the values that render a cultural resource significant under CEQA. However, details of the potential construction activities are unknown and the CEQA Guidelines require a project that would have potentially adverse impacts on historical resources to conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Future development projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would require permits from the County, which would include a development review process to preserve the historic integrity of significant cultural resources in accordance with County Design Guidelines. This requirement is codified in General Plan Policies OS 19.2 through 19.5 and LU 4.5 and would ensure solar panels and energy retrofits prescribed under the 2019 CAP Update would be reviewed on a project- and site-specific basis in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B, to reduce impacts on historical resources. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CCR §15064.5?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.8.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment has the potential to affect several known and unknown archaeological resources throughout unincorporated portions of Riverside County. As future development in accordance with the General Plan occurs, projects would be subject to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA), actions by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Appendix C of Title 33 CFR Section 325), Traditional Tribal Cultural Places Act (Government Code Section 65352.3), Public Resources Code Section 5097, CEQA, and Riverside County Ordinance No. 578 – Historic Preservation Districts in order to ensure that substantial adverse changes in the significance of archaeological resources would be less than significant. Additionally, General Plan Policies

OS 19.2 through 19.5 and LU 4.5 will require projects to undergo site and plan check review by the County Planning Department to ensure protection for sensitive archaeological resources through the development process of each project. Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B prescribes provisions for avoidance of cultural resources where feasible. Where avoidance is determined infeasible, Mitigation Measure 4.9.B-N1 is prescribed to ensure cultural resources are managed through consultation with Native American tribal (or other appropriate ethnic/cultural group) representative(s), the Riverside County Archaeologist, the Planning Director, and project applicant prior to commencement of further ground disturbance in the immediate vicinity. Through adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.7.1B and 4.9.B-N1, impacts to archaeological resources from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be reduced to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would result in ground-disturbing activities that could affect archaeological resources. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so ground-disturbing activities of future development projects would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Actions that could directly affect archaeological resources include grading, excavation, or other ground-disturbing activities.

Future development projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would require permits from the County, which would include a development review process to consider archaeological resources that may be encountered during project construction. This requirement is codified in General Plan Policies OS 19.2 through 19.5 and LU 4.5 and would ensure unanticipated encounters with archaeological resources are managed pursuant to applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.7.1B and 4.9.B-N1 on a project- and site-specific basis to reduce impacts on archaeological resources. Additionally, consultation with interested Native American tribes would be required pursuant to California Public Resources Code 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 for projects so defined under California Public Resources Code § 21065. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of	New Mitigation is	No New Impact/ No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.8.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would not directly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature, but future development projects facilitated under the 2015 General Plan Amendment as proposed could result in ground-disturbing activities that affect paleontological resources or unique geologic features. Actions that could directly affect

paleontological resources or unique geologic features include grading, excavation, or other ground-disturbing activities.

As future development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment occurs, projects would be subject to compliance with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (PRPA), actions by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Appendix C of Title 33 CFR Section 325), Public Resources Code Section 5097, and CEQA in order to ensure that impacts to unique paleontological resources and geological features would be less than significant. Additionally, General Plan Policies OS 19.6 through 19.9 will require projects to undergo site and plan check review by the County Planning Department to ensure protection for paleontological resources through the development process of each project. Through adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, and General Plan Policies, impacts to paleontological resources or unique geologic features from implementation of the General Plan would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation is required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would result in ground-disturbing activities that could affect paleontological resources. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so ground-disturbing activities of future development projects would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Actions that could directly affect paleontological resources include grading, excavation, or other ground-disturbing activities.

Future development projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would require permits from the County, which would include a development review process to consider paleontological resources that may be encountered during project construction. This requirement is codified in General Plan Policies OS 19.6 through 19.9 and would ensure unanticipated encounters with paleontological resources are managed pursuant to applicable federal, State, and local regulations on a project- and site-specific basis to reduce impacts on paleontological resources. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update regarding paleontological resources.

d)	Disturb any hum those interred cemeteries?	•	_	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity	New Mitigation	No New Impact/	Dadward
				of Impact	is Required	No Impact	Reduced Impact
						$\boxtimes$	

**4.8.d) Approved Project Analysis.** The County is home to multiple Native American tribes, who had inhabited the area for many hundreds, if not thousands, of years. Development proposed under the County General Plan could result in major earthmoving

activities in previously undisturbed areas or in areas known to contain archaeological resources and possible human remains.

As future development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment occurs, projects would be subject to compliance with the NHPA, NAGPRA, actions by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Appendix C of Title 33 CFR Section 325), Traditional Tribal Cultural Places Act (Government Code Section 65352.3), Public Resources Code Section 5097, CEQA, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, and California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 in order to ensure that any encounters with human remains and/or burial goods are managed with dignity and respect. Additionally, General Plan Policies OS 19.2 through 19.5 will require projects to undergo site and plan check review by the County Planning Department to ensure protection for burials and associated grave goods through the development process of each project. Mitigation Measure 4.7.1A requires compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 in order to ensure appropriate lineal descendants are engaged for the respectful and dignified handling of human remains and associated grave goods. Additionally, Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B prescribes provisions for avoidance of cultural resources where feasible. Through adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.7.1A and 4.7.1B, impacts to human remains from implementation of the General Plan would be reduced to less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would result in ground-disturbing activities that could affect human remains and associated grave goods. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so ground-disturbing activities of future development projects would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Actions that could directly affect human remains and associated grave goods include grading, excavation, or other ground-disturbing activities.

Future development projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would require permits from the County, which would include a development review process to ensure protection for burials and associated grave goods that may be encountered during project construction. This requirement is codified in General Plan Policies OS 19.2 through 19.5 and would ensure unanticipated encounters with human remains are managed pursuant to applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.7.1A and 4.7.1B on a project- and site-specific basis to reduce impacts on human remains. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

#### 4.9 ENERGY RESOURCES

Would the project:

a)	Require or result in substantial	New			
	adverse physical impacts associated	Significant			
	with the provision of new or	Impact/			
	physically altered utilities, such as	Increased	New	No New	
	electricity production or	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	transmission facilities, the need for	of	is	No	Reduced
	new or physically altered facilities,	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	the construction of which could			$\square$	
	cause significant environmental				
	impacts, in order to maintain				
	acceptable service ratios or other				
	performance objectives?				

**4.9.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, future land use and policy changes associated with 2015 General Plan Amendment buildout would result in less intense development than planned by the original General Plan. Therefore, the Approved Project would not result in an increased demand for electricity over current plans. The site-specific land use changes proposed under the Approved Project may introduce new development or intensify existing development on vacant or less developed lands, but the increase in demand for provision of utilities would be minimal and insignificant. The Approved Project would not trigger the need for new or altered facilities or result in any substantial impacts due to construction of new facilities.

Compliance with applicable State and County regulations (e.g., Compliance with Title 24 Energy Efficiency and other energy efficiency and conservation standards), energy conservation measures identified in the County's 2015 CAP, General Plan Policies OS 10.1, 10.2, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 12.1 through 12.4, and 16.1 through 16.13, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 5.2 through 5.4, 20.10 through 20.12, 20.18 through 20.21, and 20.8, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.1A and 4.8.1B would reduce impacts to electricity resources and infrastructure arising out of increased energy demands to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts associated with increased demands for electricity. The 2019 CAP Update identifies the GHG reduction measures related to energy efficiency. The R1 and R2 energy efficiency measures (refer to Table A) require project developers in both residential and commercial sectors to comply with the latest federal, State, and County energy efficiency and conservation regulations and standards. The R2 energy efficiency measures also provide strategies for reduction of energy consumption, as well as energy efficiency enhancements at the local level. Therefore, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update GHG reduction measures and compliance with relevant State and County regulations, General Plan Policies OS 10.1, 10.2, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 12.1 through 12.4 and 16.1 through 16.13, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 5.2 through 5.4, 20.10 through 20.12, 20.18 through 20.21, and 20.8, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.1A and 4.8.1B would reduce impacts to electricity resources and infrastructure arising out of increased energy demands to *less-than-significant with mitigation* 

*incorporated.* Therefore, impacts on demand and consumption of electricity, as well as on the infrastructure and facilities that supply the electricity, associated with the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

b)	Require or result in substantial	New			
	adverse physical impacts associated	Significant			
	with the provision of new or physically	Impact/			
	altered utilities, such as natural gas	Increased	New	No New	
	production or transmission facilities,	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	the need for new or physically altered	of	is	No	Reduced
	facilities, the construction of which	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	could cause significant environmental			$\square$	
	impacts, in order to maintain				
	acceptable service ratios or other				
	performance objectives?				

**4.9.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, future land use and policy changes associated with 2015 General Plan Amendment buildout would result in less intense development than planned by the original General Plan. Therefore, the Approved Project would not result in an increased demand for natural gas over current plans. The site-specific land use changes proposed under the Approved Project may introduce new development or intensify existing development on vacant or less developed lands, but these demands would lead to minimal and insignificant increase in demand for natural gas supplies. The Approved Project would not trigger the need for new or altered facilities or result in any substantial impacts due to construction of new facilities.

Compliance with various State and County regulations (e.g., Compliance with Title 24 Energy Efficiency and other energy efficiency and conservation standards), energy conservation measures identified in the County's 2015 CAP, General Plan Policies OS 5.2 through 5.4, 12.1 through 12.4, 16.1, 16.2, 16.4 through 16.7, 16.10 through 16.12, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 18.3 through 18.5, 20.11, 20.12, 20.21, and 20.28, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.1A and 4.8.1B would reduce impacts associated with demands and consumption of natural gas to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts on demand for and consumption of natural gas, as well as on the infrastructure and facilities that supply the gas. The 2019 CAP Update identifies GHG Reduction Measures related to energy efficiency. The R1 and R2 energy efficiency measures (refer to Table A) require the project developers in both residential and commercial sectors to comply with the latest federal, State, and County energy efficiency and conservation regulations and standards. The R2 energy efficiency measures also provide local strategies for energy conservation. Therefore, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update GHG reduction measures and compliance with applicable State and County regulations, General Plan Policies OS 5.2 through 5.4, 12.1 through 12.4, 16.1, 16.2, 16.4 through 16.7, 16.10 through 16.12, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 18.3 through 18.5, 20.11, 20.12, 20.21, and 20.28, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.1A and 4.8.1B would reduce impacts associated with demands and consumption of natural gas to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*. Therefore, impacts arising

from increased demands of natural gas and services associated with the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

c)	Result in an inefficient, wasteful or	New			
	unnecessary consumption of energy?	Significant			
		Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.9.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in less intense future development, leading to no relative increase in energy demands. The Approved Project would comply with policies and programs directly targeting energy efficiency and conservation in order to reduce GHG emissions by roughly 30 percent. Implementation of these policies and measures would ensure development associated with 2015 General Plan Amendment buildout would be more energy efficient.

Compliance with applicable State and County regulations (e.g., Compliance with Title 24 Energy Efficiency and other energy efficiency and conservation standards), General Plan Policies OS 11.1 through 11.4, 12.1 through 12.4, 16.1 through 16.13, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 5.2 through 5.4, 13.1, 18.3 through 18.5, 20.10 through 20.12, 20.18, 20.19, 20.21, 20.27, and 20.28, and Mitigation Measure 4.8.1B, which requires all development projects to implement current Title 24 Standards, would ensure impacts related to the usage of energy, energy efficiency, and energy conservation are reduced to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would have similar, less than significant impacts related to the usage of energy, energy efficiency, and energy conservation. The 2019 CAP Update proposes R1 and R2 GHG reduction measures (refer to Table A), which require the project developers in both residential and commercial sectors to comply with the latest federal, State, and County energy efficiency and conservation regulations and standards. The R2 energy efficiency reduction measures also provide strategies for local energy efficiency and conservation enhancements. Therefore, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update GHG Reduction Measures and compliance with applicable State and County regulations, General Plan Policies OS 11.1 through 11.4, 12.1 through 12.4 and 16.1 through 16.13, AQ 4.2 through 4.4, 5.2 through 5.4, 13.1, 18.3 through 18.5, 20.10 through 20.12, 20.18, 20.19, 20.21, 20.27, and 20.28, and Mitigation Measure 4.8.1B, which requires all development projects to implement current Title 24 Standards, would ensure impacts related to the usage of energy, energy efficiency, and energy conservation associated with the 2019 CAP Update are the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated).

#### 4.10 FLOOD AND DAM INUNDATION EFFORTS

Would the project:

a)	Place housing within a 100-year flood	New			
	hazard area as mapped on a federal	Significant			
	Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood	Impact/			
	Insurance Rate Map or other flood	Increased	New	No New	
	hazard delineation map?	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.10.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates future development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment could introduce people, property, homes, public facilities, roads, and other infrastructure to areas of mapped 100-year floods and other delineated flood hazard areas. These areas are extensively regulated pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Act, National Flood Insurance Reform Act, Cobey-Alquist Floodplain Management Act, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Mapping Program, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 458, 348, 457, and 659, General Plan Policies S 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, and 4.18, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.2A, 4.9.2B, 4.9.2C, and 4.9.2D. Compliance with these regulations and mitigation measures would aid in reducing flood hazard impacts and ensure that people and property would not be exposed to significant 100-year flood hazards. Through compliance with the above-listed regulations, General Plan policies, and mitigation measures, impacts from flood hazards from implementation of the General Plan would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would have impacts similar to those identified for the Approved Project regarding exposure of people, property, homes, public facilities, roads, and other infrastructure to areas of mapped 100-year floods and other delineated flood hazard areas. Consistent with the Approved Project, compliance with applicable federal, State, and County regulations, and implementation of General Plan policies and Mitigation Measures 4.9.2A, 4.9.2B, 4.9.2C, and 4.9.2D would ensure that people and property would not be exposed to significant 100-year flood hazards. Therefore, impacts resulting from housing development within flood hazard areas associated with the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

b)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard	New			
	area structures which would impede	Significant			
	or redirect flood flows?	Impact/			
		Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.10.b) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would potentially result in development in 100-year flood hazard areas. Flooding may occur that could inundate and cause water damage to structures. Impacts related to flooding may include the loss of life and/or property; health and safety hazards; disruption of commerce, water, power, and telecommunications services; loss of agricultural lands; and infrastructure damage. Without compliance with regulations and requirements to prevent improper development, this impact could be potentially significant. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR finds that compliance with existing regulations, including National Flood Insurance Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 458 and 461, General Plan Policies S 4.2 through 4.9 and 4.18, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1A, 4.9.1B, 4.9.1C, and 4.9.1D would ensure proper development standards in flood hazard areas to reduce impacts to *less-than-significant* levels.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update may result in placement of structures within 100-year flood hazard areas, creating the potential for impeding or redirecting flood flows. As a result, people, structures, and property could be exposed to increased flooding risks. Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of applicable federal, State, and County regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1A, 4.9.1B, 4.9.1C, and 4.9.1D would ensure that development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would implement proper development standards in flood hazard areas to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Therefore, impacts from impediment of flows resulting from development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update within flood hazard areas would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

c)	Expose people or structures to a	New			
	significant risk of loss, injury or death	Significant			
	involving flooding, including flooding	Impact/	New	No New	
	as a result of the failure of a levee or	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	dam?	Severity of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.10.c) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would potentially result in placement of structures, including residential properties, within dam inundation zones, alluvial fan

flooding zones, and other areas of potential flood hazard. Such development would be at greater risk of flood hazards should a dam, levee, debris basin, or other critical flood control structure fail. As a result, people, structures, and property could be exposed to increased flooding risks due to failure of flood control structures. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR further finds that compliance with relevant federal, State, and County regulations, including National Flood Insurance Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 458, 348, 457, 659, and 461, and General Plan Policy S 4.2 would ensure potential impacts from levee or dam failure remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update may expose people or structures to significant risk or loss due to flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. Compliance with relevant federal, State, and County regulations and General Plan Policy S 4.2 would ensure adverse effects associated with dam inundation remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no mitigation is required for the proposed 2019 CAP Update.

d)	Substantially alter the existing	New			
	drainage pattern of a site or area,	Significant			
	including through the alteration of the	Impact/			
	course of a stream or river, or	Increased	New	No New	
	substantially increase the rate or	Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
	amount of surface runoff in a manner	of	is	No	Reduced
	which would result in flooding on- or	Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	off-site?				

**4.10.d) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in alteration of drainage patterns, streams, and river courses. There could also be increases in surface runoff through the introduction of impermeable surfaces (roofs, pavements, roads, etc.). This may cause hydrological changes that could expose people, structures, and property to increased flooding risks. Compliance with the CWA, NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 457, 458, 461, and 754, and General Plan Policies S 4.4, 4.5, and 4.7 through 4.10 would ensure impacts associated with alteration of drainage patterns or substantial increases in surface runoff would remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update may result in alteration of drainage patterns or substantial increases in surface runoff, which may result in hydrological changes that could expose people, structures, and property to increased flooding risks. Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of relevant federal, State, and County regulations and General Plan policies would ensure adverse effects associated with alteration of drainage patterns or substantial increases in surface runoff remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no mitigation is required for the proposed 2019 CAP Update.

e)	Result in or expose people or	New			
	structures to a significant risk of	Significant			
	inundation due to seiche, tsunami or	Impact/			
	mudflow?	Increased	New	No New	
		Severity	Mitigation	Impact/	
		of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.10.e) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment in areas subject to seiche (a standing wave in a completely or partially enclosed body of water) can in certain circumstances result in inundation of areas located along shorelines of lakes or reservoirs, which could threaten people, structures, and property. Two waterbodies in Riverside County, Lake Perris and Lake Elsinore, may have the potential for seismically-induced seiches based on their morphology and hydrology. These lakes have been engineered to prevent seiche risks and are buffered by public lands and beaches along their shores, adding a further layer of protection from localized flooding. Setbacks and flood hazard regulations would be sufficient to protect against significant risks.

There are no tsunami risks in Riverside County due to its inland location. Mudflow or debris flow can occur in areas with steep slopes, particularly areas with loose soils and/or denuded of vegetation when exposed to large amounts of precipitation. Narrow canyons, arroyos and desert channels are also susceptible to flash floods, which can cause flooding damage directly or indirectly through mudflows. Human activity can also induce a slide, such as when soil becomes saturated from a broken water pipe or improper diversion of runoff from a developed area. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR finds that proper soil engineering, site design, and maintenance would reduce impacts from mudflows to less than significant levels.

Compliance with applicable federal, State, and County regulations, General Plan Policy S 4.5, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1A, 4.9.1B, 4.9.1C, and 4.9.1D would reduce impacts from exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of inundation due to seiche, tsunami, or mudflow to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update may result in or expose people to seiche or mudflow risks. When addressed through proper soil engineering, site design, and maintenance, these risks would be reduced to *less-than-significant* levels. Consistent with the Approved Project, compliance with relevant regulations including NPDES, CWA, County Ordinances, General Plan Policy S 4.5, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1A, 4.9.1B, 4.9.1C, and 4.9.1D would reduce impacts from exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of inundation due to seiche, tsunami, or mudflow from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

#### 4.11 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:								
a)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact			
b)	Strong seismic ground shaking?			$\boxtimes$				
c)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			$\boxtimes$				
d)	Landslides?			$\boxtimes$				

**4.11.a—d) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would incrementally increase rural, suburban, and urban uses in localized areas throughout the unincorporated portions of the County. Property loss, injury, or death may increase due to future development where it occurs on known or unknown fault zones within the unincorporated portions of Riverside County. These faults are the main factors related to seismic exposure of the regional planning area.

Future land uses consistent with the 2015 General Plan Amendment could expose people or structures to seismic and geological hazards. There are roughly 150,000 acres of "very high" and 123,500 acres of "high" liquefaction susceptibility within unincorporated portions of Riverside County as a whole. Moderately to steeply inclined slopes around mountainous areas, especially on loose soil, are highly susceptible to landslide activity. These landslide hazards have a high potential around select areas in the unincorporated portions of the County.

Future development consistent with the 2015 General Plan Amendment could expose people or new structures to hazards associated with fault rupture, strong seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and possible landslides. However, General Plan policies include a variety of actions aimed at protecting people and structures from geologic hazards (Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Hazards System, California Building Standards Codes, and the Riverside County Code). Implementation of General Plan policies requires compliance with existing State and local laws and regulations, as well as performance of State-licensed surveys of soil and geologic conditions in areas subject to seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslide hazards, and mitigation for any potential hazards. Mitigation Measures 4.10.1A, 4.10.2A, 4.10.2B, 4.10.2C, 4.10.3A, and 4.10.3B would also ensure that significant impacts from seismic hazards, liquefaction, and landslides are avoided or reduced to less than significant levels.

Therefore, impacts related to fault rupture, strong seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and possible landslides would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update could potentially expose people or structures to seismic hazards associated with fault rupture, strong seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslides. Mitigation measures and General Plan policies requiring compliance with State and local laws and regulations related to geologic conditions from seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslide hazards that apply to development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment also apply to development that would implement the reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update. Consistent with the Approved Project, impacts related to fault rupture, strong seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and possible landslides from or to development that would implement the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

e)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the	New			
	loss of topsoil?	Significant			
		Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.11.e) Approved Project Analysis.** Exposure of soils from future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment may cause soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Erosion effects are also caused by wind, water, and human activities that remove vegetation. Several areas within the County are at risk of erosion due to wind and windblown sand. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR identified risk of wind erosion for approximately 21,700 acres at "very high" and 840,000 acres at "high," while a large portion of the unincorporated areas of the County is at "moderate" and "low" risk of wind erosion. General Plan policies include a variety of actions such as compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program and Best Management Practices (BMPs) aimed at reducing soil erosion and loss of topsoil. General Plan Policies S 3.5, 3.6, 3.11, 3.13, and 3.14, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.10.8A, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, and 4.10.9C would further prevent significant impacts and reduce erosion effects to less than significant levels. Implementation of the regulations and General Plan policies would ensure that impacts related to soil erosion and loss of topsoil, including wind erosion, are reduced and mitigated to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update could result in soil erosion or loss of topsoil. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so ground-disturbing activities of future development projects that could cause soil erosion or loss of topsoil would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update.

General Plan Policies that apply to development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment and require compliance with the NPDES and Mitigation Measures 4.10.8A, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, and 4.10.9C for potential soil erosion and loss of topsoil also would apply

to development that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update. Consistent with the Approved Project, impacts related to soil erosion and loss of topsoil, including wind erosion, from development that would implement the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

f) Be located on a geologic unit or soil	New			
that is unstable, or that would becor	me Significant			
unstable as a result of the project,	Impact/	New	No New	
and potentially result in on- or off-si	te Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
landslide, lateral spreading,	Severity	is	No	Reduced
subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
			$\boxtimes$	

**4.11.f) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment could be subject to geologic unit that is unstable. Human activities increase the potential for persons and property to be subject to geologic instability through development that was improperly located or constructed. As a result, these actions have an increased potential for exposure to ground or soil failures such as landslides, liquefaction, and lateral spreading.

Compliance with State regulations and General Plan policies would avoid or reduce potential significant impacts resulting from future development on unstable geological units and soils. The California Building Standards Code addresses construction in areas subject to subsidence and lateral spreading. On unstable soils, geotechnical certification must occur for project approval to ensure that impacts from geological hazards are reduced to less than significant levels. General Plan Policies S 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, and 7.7 and revised Policies S 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 would ensure future development is protected from unstable geology and soils such as landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, and/or collapse. Compliance with State regulations and General Plan policies would ensure impacts related to future development on unstable soil remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the approved project, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update could be subject to geological instability. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so future development that could be located in proximity to unstable geological conditions would be subject to such risks with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update.

Implementation of General Plan Policies S 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, and 7.7 and revised Policies S 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4, including compliance with the California Building Standards Code, would apply to development implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update. Consistent with the Approved Project, impacts related to geological instability from development that would implement the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

g)	Be located on expansive soil, as	New			
	defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform	Significant			
	Building Code (1994), creating	Impact/	New	No New	
	substantial risks to life or property?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.11.g) Approved Project Analysis.** Expansive soil tends to contain clay particles prone to large volume changes (i.e., swelling and shrinkage) due to changes in water content. When swelling occurs, the change in volume applies heavy pressures on objects that are placed on them. Expansive soils are generally distributed around Riverside County and could be exposed in hillside areas as well as alluvial bases. Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment could potentially occur in areas associated with expansive soils, which would result in structural damage.

California Building Standards Code provisions are considered suitable for design at sites with expansive soils. Therefore, designs should include proper characterization of expansive soil hazards through soils investigations that incorporate compliance measures in accordance with the California Building Standards Code, as codified in Mitigation Measure 4.10.7A. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.10.7A would ensure that impacts associated with expansive soils are reduced to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update could result in development on expansive soils. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so future development that could be located on expansive soils would be subject to such risks with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Compliance with the California Building Standards Code and Mitigation Measure 4.10.7A would mitigate potential impacts from expansive soil to less than significant levels. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (*less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

h)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for disposal of wastewater?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.11.h) Approved Project Analysis.** Some Riverside County properties rely on septic systems or alternative wastewater disposal systems, and select future land uses envisioned in the 2015 General Plan Amendment could use septic systems for sewage disposal. Septic systems within the County must comply with the California Building Standards Code (CCR Title 24, Part 2). In order for a future project to incorporate a septic system in the project design, a geotechnical study for the site would be required to determine if the on-site soil conditions are appropriate for septic disposal.

Future developments proposing septic systems must meet the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan, the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health's Technical Guidance Manual, and Riverside County ordinances. If these requirements cannot be met, a permit would not be issued for projects in areas where soils are not suitable for septic systems.

Implementation of existing federal, State, and local laws and regulations concerning septic permitting, including Riverside County Health Department septic permit requirements, would ensure program-level impacts related to septic suitability of soils would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation is required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** New septic tanks and alternative wastewater treatment disposal systems would not be allowed in unincorporated portions of the County except as permitted by law, in which case they would require a permit from the California State Water Board to construct and maintain. Regulations require compliance with water quality standards and preclude development lacking adequate utility capacity, including wastewater treatment. The County and the applicable wastewater providers would review individual developments to determine if sufficient sewer capacity exists to serve the specific development regardless if the development would implement the 2019 CAP Update. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater.

#### 4.12 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Every home, business, and industry uses or produces, to some extent, flammable, hazardous, or toxic materials. Some of the proposed Land Use Designation (LUD) changes in the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be from planned developed uses to open space. Potential impacts would be minimal for these areas, as they would not result in additional buildings, residents, or employees. However, the LUD changes that convert vacant or agricultural uses to developed use (residential, commercial, etc.) would result in a small increase in the potential for humans and developed facilities to be exposed to hazardous materials. Similar conditions would occur from proposed changes within Policy Areas and Overlays, additional trails, new roads, and the incidental rural commercial policy areas.

The 2015 General Plan Amendment would incrementally increase potential hazardous material impacts in this regard over existing conditions and those conditions anticipated under the approved General Plan. However, the use, storage, and manufacture of hazardous materials are highly regulated by the State and federal governments, as well as by the Riverside County Environmental Health Department (RCDEH) and fire departments. Compliance with the existing regulations including Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Hazardous Waste Control Law (HWCL), CCR Title 22 and 26, County Ordinance No. 615, 651, 718, and 348, and General Plan Policies S. 7.3, S 6.1, S 7.1, and LU 7.9 would ensure that impacts related to the routine handling of hazardous materials associated with future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would have a *less-than-significant* impact. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not change the LUD or result in the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Construction activities associated with retrofit and renovation projects or new mixed-use or transit-oriented development projects that would be recommended by the 2019 CAP Update may require use of common but potentially hazardous construction materials, including vehicle fuels, paints, cleaning materials, and caustic construction compounds. If incorrectly transported, handled, or disposed of, these substances could pose a potential health risk to construction workers and to the general public. However, the transport and handling of these common, potentially hazardous materials would occur in accordance with California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal OSHA) guidelines. Further, such materials would be disposed of in accordance with California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and County regulations. Consistent with the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would comply with the existing regulations, programs, and policies. Impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., less-thansignificant). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to transport, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials. The 2019 CAP Update would have a *less-than-significant* impact.

b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce various future land uses throughout the County, which may be affected by accidental releases of hazardous materials or hazardous wastes at some time. A hazardous material spill or release can pose a risk to life, health, or property. An incident can result in the evacuation of a few people, a section of a facility, or an entire neighborhood. There is also the potential for previously unknown hazardous materials contamination from historical use of a property, including currently vacant properties, being

released during future development activities (grading, remodeling, remediation, etc.). In case a release occurs, existing federal, State, and local policies and procedures require action from the applicable enforcement agency. It is unlikely that any such activities would be extensive and beyond the capacities of typical containment or safe remediation. Furthermore, such risks are no different than those for existing uses. Compliance would be required with the existing regulations, programs, and policies discussed above in Section 4.12.a, including federal laws such as Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) addressing Superfund sites, RCRA and HMTA for hazardous waste disposal, tracking and transportation, OSHA, TSCA, and also the Federal Clean Air Act. Implementation of and compliance with CCR Titles 22, 26 and 27, as well as Riverside County Ordinances No. 615, 617, 651, 718, and 348 would ensure that impacts related to the accidental release of hazardous materials as a result of future development consistent with the 2015 General Plan Amendment would have a *less-than-significant* impact. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would likely result in the renovation of older residential and commercial structures within unincorporated portions of the County. Structures built prior to 1978 may include asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) and lead-based paint (LBP). If not properly handled, release of ACMs and LBP into the environment in large enough quantities could pose a threat to construction workers and public safety. However, demolition and construction activities involving hazardous materials removal are heavily regulated and construction workers must comply with applicable federal and State safety regulations.

Consistent with the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would comply with the existing regulations, programs, and policies. Compliance with regulations would reduce the risk on the surrounding environment and worker health, and the impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

c)	Cause hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce various developed land uses throughout the County that could be proximate to one or more existing or future schools. Therefore, there is a potential that schools could be affected by hazardous materials related to future development. However, federal, State, and local school district policies and procedures would be sufficient to minimize risks to school facilities, students, and faculty, as well as to the general public. Compliance with the existing regulations, programs, and policies, including CERCLA, RCRA, HMTA, HWCL and CCR Titles 22 and 26, as well as Ordinance No.

617, would ensure that hazardous material risks to schools from implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** As discussed in response to Checklist Questions 4.12.a and 4.12.b, any future development projects that would implement 2019 CAP Update measures would be subject to federal, State, and local regulations regarding the use and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes. Therefore, indirect effects associated with the 2019 CAP Update, including sites within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school, would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to hazardous materials within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school site.

d)	Be located on a site which is included	New			
	on a list of hazardous materials	Significant			
	compiled pursuant to California	Impact/	New	No New	
	Government Code section 65962.5	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	and, as a result, would create a	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	significant hazard to the public or the	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	environment?				

**4.12.d) Approved Project Analysis.** The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) identifies sites within the planning area included on the Cortese List compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Past and/or current activities at these sites may have resulted in contamination of soil and groundwater. During construction and demolition of projects proposed under the 2015 General Plan Amendment, workers could come into contact with, and be exposed to, hazardous materials present in soil or groundwater. Further, the presence of contamination in soils or groundwater could create an environmental or health hazard if left in place.

The five hazardous materials sites on the Cortese List (March Air Reserve Base; Foster-Gardner, Lockheed Beaumont No. 2, Temecula Target #107, and Torney Hospital) are proximate to proposed trail segments proposed within the 2015 General Plan Amendment but not located directly within any proposed trail segment. Similar to the impacts identified and analyzed in response to Checklist Questions 4.12.a, 4.12.b, and 4.12.c, there is a potential that new or revised trail alignments or segments proposed under the 2015 General Plan Amendment could be affected by existing hazardous materials sites. However, existing federal, State, and local regulations and policies would reduce the risks. Compliance with the existing regulations and policies, including CERCLA, RCRA, HMTA, HWCL, and Titles 22 and 26, would ensure risk of development on or in proximity to sites included on a list compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5 from implementation of the County General Plan would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development projects that would implement 2019 CAP Update measures could expose people to hazardous materials from sites included on a list compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5, and hazardous materials could create an environmental or health hazard if left in place. However, any future development projects that would

implement 2019 CAP Update measures would be subject to environmental review, which would include determination of whether the proposed site is on the Cortese list and whether further evaluation or cleanup action is required or if the case has received regulatory closure and no further action is required. If located on a Cortese list site, the proposed project would be required to comply with applicable federal, State, and local regulations related to hazardous materials, which would ensure there would be minimal risk of significant hazard to the public or the environment. Therefore, this impact would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to sites included on the Cortese List pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

e)	Result in a safety hazard for people	New			
	residing or working in the project	Significant			
	area within an airport land use plan	Impact/	New	No New	
	or, where such a plan has not been	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	adopted, within two miles of a public	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	airport or public use airport?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.e) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment includes a variety of specific LUD changes to land surrounding three airports: Flabob, Riverside Municipal, and Blythe Airports. These changes are designed to ensure any future development occurring in proximity to these airports is consistent with the applicable General Plan Airport Influence Area (AIA) and applicable Airport Land Use Plans (ALUPs). Such proposals are also reviewed by the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for consistency. Other areas in the AIA in the County are either already deemed consistent with ALUC plans or would require future consistency determinations (outside the scope of 2015 General Plan Amendment). In addition, future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce various land uses to locations across the County, including some that may be affected by activities at airport or air facilities, as well as accidents involving aircraft. The potential risk of death or injury from aircraft accidents could rise to unacceptable levels if land uses surrounding an airport introduce large numbers of residents to the area, allow businesses to introduce large numbers of workers, or permit buildings that are too tall or too close to primary air hazard zones (e.g., landing and takeoff areas at either end of a runway) or secondary air hazard zones (areas adjacent to a runway or directly under approach zones for landing or takeoff). The 2015 General Plan Amendment does not directly propose these sorts of land uses, and compliance with existing County Ordinance Nos. 448, 576, and 269, General Plan Policies LU 1.8, 15.1, 15.2, 15.7, 15.8, 15.9, and 31.2, and revised General Plan Policies LU 15.3, 15.4, 15.5, and 15.6 would ensure that impacts related to public airport and safety hazards as a result of future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would be less-thansignificant. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update could result in construction of energy-generating facilities such as solar panels and photovoltaic arrays that would primarily be installed on rooftops of new or existing buildings. These energy-generating rooftop structures could introduce substantial new sources of glare and could

also increase the overall height of buildings, which may have an impact on existing airports. However, the ALUPs include review procedures and restrictions for projects located within AIAs. If any project under the 2019 CAP Update is determined to present a safety hazard from increased glare or height, appropriate mitigation measures would be required on a project level to reduce or avoid the safety hazard to the satisfaction of the Riverside County ALUC. Additionally, as described in response to Checklist Question 4.3.a, Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A shall be implemented for all discretionary projects under the 2019 CAP Update to ensure compliance with all applicable County regulations, requirements, and General Plan policies.

In addition to adherence to all local, regional, State, and federal regulations and compliance with the guidelines of the ALUPs, implementation of existing Mitigation Measure 4.4.1A would ensure impacts of glare from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to airport hazards.

f)	Result in a safety hazard for people	New			
	residing or working in the project area	Significant			
	for a project within the vicinity of a	Impact/	New	No New	
	private airstrip or heliport?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.f) Approved Project Analysis.** Please refer to response to Checklist Question 4.12.e.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Please refer to response to Checklist Question 4.12.e.

g)	Impair implementation of, or	New			
	physically interfere with, an adopted	Significant			
	emergency response plan or	Impact/	New	No New	
	emergency evacuation plan?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.12.g) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development consistent with 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce various land uses throughout the County and may require existing emergency response and evacuation plans to be updated, as inadequate infrastructure and access could result in the loss of life, property, and County resources. The 2015 General Plan Amendment does not directly propose any changes or updates to existing emergency response or evacuation plans; however, the 2015 General Plan Amendment would actually lessen the amount of future development allowed within unincorporated portions of the County compared to existing allowable development levels. Therefore, conflicts with existing emergency response and evacuation plans are not anticipated.

Future development projects would be required to be reviewed for adequate infrastructure and access as well as consistency with Riverside County emergency and evacuation plans in addition to many other environmental issues in order to ensure the safety of the County residents and the physical environment. Furthermore, various elements within the General Plan contain policies that relate to emergency response and evacuation plans, which would further reduce potential impacts of development on safety plans. Compliance with the existing regulations, including California Codes PRC Sections 4290-4299, GC Section 51178, California Emergency Services Act, Statewide Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), County regulations including Riverside County Fire Department Fire Protection Emergency Medical Services Strategic Master Plan, Ordinance No. 787, and existing and revised General Plan Policies S 5.12 and S 5.14, would ensure that impacts related to emergency response and evacuation plans as a result of future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update would encourage more efficient land use and transit-oriented development compared to the 2015 CAP, so it is possible that future projects that implement the strategies of the 2019 CAP Update could require temporary road closures during their construction, which could adversely affect evacuation during an emergency event or emergency response. However, any closures would be short term and alternate routes would be provided as necessary. It is unlikely that these actions would significantly interfere with adopted emergency response or evacuation plans. Furthermore, all future projects would be subject to further CEQA analysis of project- and site-specific impacts. Consistent with the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would comply with the existing regulations, programs, and policies. Impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

h)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.12.h) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce various developed uses throughout the County that may be affected by fire or the potential risk of fire. The risk of death, injury, or property damage from fire may rise to unacceptable levels if select land uses are allowed in areas of high or unacceptable risk without proper planning or protection, or if roads are inadequate for fire access and evacuation.

Specifically, land use changes associated with 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in future development that encroaches into or intermingles with wildlands where fire hazard risks are high to very high. However, none of these proposed changes would result in

significant impacts related to wildland fires as long as new development is reviewed by the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) as appropriate, and "fire safe" design consistent with Riverside County requirements and the Uniform Fire Code are used to plan and construct property improvements.

There are proposed trail segments in all fire hazard zones, and many, if not most, in the flatter areas are in non-hazardous zones. Due to the nature of trails (e.g., temporary occupancy, lack of permanent infrastructure, and highly mobile users), there would be no adverse impacts that require mitigation for any of these locations. In addition, trails actually provide minor fire or fuel breaks and routes for firefighters to access areas subject to wildland fires. Therefore, these improvements may be beneficial in limiting wildland fire damage.

The locations for the proposed roads or road segments in very high or high fire hazard zones vary, and in the flatter unincorporated areas of the County, most are in non-hazardous zones. Due to the relatively fireproof nature of roads, there would be no adverse impacts that require mitigation for any of these locations. In addition, roads provide fire or fuel breaks and routes for firefighters to access areas with wildland fires. Therefore, these improvements would be beneficial to reducing wildland fire hazards.

There are proposed commercial land use designations in all fire hazard zones, which vary by slope and vegetation characteristics. Future development of these sites would not result in significant wildland fires risks as long as the new proposed development meets RCFD and CalFire standards, as applicable, and is constructed with "fire safe" design, consistent with the Fire Code.

Overall, implementation of existing regulations and policies, including standards for roadways and access, development siting, and ignition-resistant building materials would ensure that impacts related to wildland fire risks as a result of future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Any future development projects that would implement 2019 CAP Update measures and actions would be subject to all applicable County regulations and policies, as well as further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts, which would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Consistent with the Approved Project, the 2019 CAP Update would comply with the County's existing regulations, programs, and policies. Impacts related to wildland fire hazards would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to wildland fire hazards.

#### 4.13 MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

a)	Result in the loss of availability of a	New			
	locally important mineral resource	Significant			
	recovery site delineated on a local	Impact/	New	No New	
	general plan, specific plan or other	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	land use plan?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.13.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicates the County does not contain any "locally important mineral resource recovery sites." Therefore, the Approved Project would not have an effect on this type of resource.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update as proposed under the 2019 CAP Update would not result in a loss of locally important mineral resources because no such resources are designated in the Riverside County General Plan. No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to locally important mineral resources.

b)	Result in the loss of availability of a	New			
	known mineral resource that would be	Significant			
	of value to the region and the	Impact/	New	No New	
	residents of the State of California?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.13.b) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR states land use and related policy changes would alter the potential range of development throughout the County. Direct impacts to State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB)-designated "regionally significant" land known to contain mineral resources and land designated MRZ-2 would be less than significant because residential development surrounding these areas precludes future mining activities on these lands, rendering them incompatible with mining activities. Additional areas, particularly in the easternmost third of the County, are known to contain regionally significant mineral resources with enough land to accommodate development of a non-mining nature without adversely affecting the total availability of economically viable mineral resources in the region. Although future development accommodated by the Approved Project could also directly affect mineral availability on previously unstudied lands designated MRZ-3 or MRZ-4, these lands remain unstudied for the presence and extent of important mineral resources. Therefore, their development as non-mining uses cannot result in impacts to any "known mineral resources."

Indirect impacts could also occur where MRZ-2 lands are used for inconsistent uses. These uses include residences, other uses and where development is adjacent to MRZ-2 sites that would be used for mining. Furthermore, incremental development facilitated through

implementation of the General Plan could result in cumulatively considerable loss of lands containing mineral resources that would otherwise contribute to meeting the region's projected demand. However, future development on MRZ-2 zones accommodated by the Approved Project are expected to occur over the course of at least 50 years and would be negligible when compared to the total amount of resources available regionally. To minimize direct and indirect impacts to mineral resources, several General Plan policies (LU 9.6, LU 9.7, LU 27.1, LU 27.2, LU 27.3, LU 27.4, LU 27.5, OS 14.1, OS 14.2, OS 14.3, OS 14.4, and OS 14.5) are implemented to ensure that future development would not cause an impact to mineral resources. These General Plan policies would ensure existing mines and future mineral extraction activities are carried out in a manner that does not harm the environment or adjacent sensitive uses and resources, prevent loss of potential mineral resources by protecting them from encroachment or preclusion by incompatible uses, ensure mineral resource conservation, and prevent loss of potential mineral resources by protecting them from encroachment or preclusion by incompatible uses through requirements for buffer zones, screening, etc.

Implementation of the above regulations and General Plan policies would ensure that impacts related to mining activities and mineral resources, regionally and statewide, are avoided or reduced to a *less-than-significant* level. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not result in the loss of regionally important mineral resources because future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update does not change any of the General Plan land use designations of the Approved Project that would adversely affect compatibility of various land uses with mining activities.

With the implementation of the programs and policies of the County General Plan, impacts on known mineral resources, including mineral resource availability, under the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation measures were identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no new mitigation measures are required for the 2019 CAP Update with regard to regionally important mineral resources.

#### **4.14 NOISE**

Would the project:

a)	Generate or expose persons to noise	New			
	levels in excess of standards	Significant			
	established in the General Plan or	Impact/	New	No New	
	noise ordinance, or applicable	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	standards of other agencies?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.14.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would incrementally increase rural, suburban, and urban uses in localized areas throughout the County. In some locations, this would result in the introduction of new noise-sensitive land uses into areas of existing excess noise or areas in

which County growth would eventually lead to excess noise levels. In addition, future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would contribute incrementally to increased traffic volumes on County roads, resulting in noise increases affecting sensitive land uses along existing and future roads. As a result, new development, particularly residential uses along and adjacent to major transit corridors, could be exposed to noise levels that exceed the County's noise standards. Existing sensitive uses would also be subject to these higher noise levels.

Compliance with the existing federal, State, and County regulations, including the Federal Noise Control Act of 1972, California Building Standards Code, California Noise Insulation Standards, Ordinance No. 847, existing General Plan Policies N 1.1, 1.2, 14.2, N 1.7, 2.2, 3.2, 3.5 4.4, 6.4, 9.3, 9.7, 11.5, LU 32.10, LU 15.1, 15.2, 16.9, 16.10, 29.6, 30.6, and 31.3, revised General Plan Policies N 7.3, LU 4.1, and OS 14.5, and Mitigation Measures 4.13.2A, 4.13.2B, 4.13.2C, 4.13.2D, 4.13.3A, 4.13.3B, and 4.13.3C, would ensure potentially adverse impacts related to noise generation and noise exposure associated with future new development accommodated by General Plan Amendment would be less than significant. Existing sensitive uses, particularly residences, however, would also be subject to project-related traffic noise increases. Many of the mitigation measures would not be feasible for reducing widespread noise exposure to existing uses, particularly from roadway noise or other noise generated outside of a new development site. Therefore, noise impact was determined to remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. The 2019 CAP Update encourages mixed-use development, which would potentially locate sensitive receptors closer to traffic noise. However, mixed-use development would reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and thus decrease traffic noise. In addition, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would further reduce VMT, thus reducing total vehicular noise in the County. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would not add vehicle trips. Implementation of the GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would augment existing County programs and policies with regard to transit-oriented development. Energy retrofits would likely reduce impacts from vehicular noise to occupants of the particular buildings, since increased insulation and double- or triple-paned windows also would act to buffer exterior noise levels. Therefore, noise impacts associated with the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves be significant. However, noise impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

b)	Result in the exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.14.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment, and its associated infrastructure and support uses, would require construction activities that could cause temporary, short-term vibrations. These vibrations

would be disruptive if located near sensitive receptors. Also, future development of new vibration-sensitive land uses could occur within areas subject to existing sources of vibration (e.g., railroads).

Compliance with the existing and revised General Plan policies, including Policy N 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, and 15.2, and Mitigation Measure 4.15.B-N1 would ensure that potentially adverse impacts related to groundborne noise and vibration generation and exposure associated with future new development accommodated by General Plan Amendment would be less than significant. Existing sensitive uses would also be subject to potential project-related construction vibrations. In some cases, vibration levels would exist even with reduction measures incorporated, particularly for sensitive uses within 100 to 150 feet of the vibration source. In these cases, however, the temporary nature of the construction activity ensures that the vibration impacts, while possibly annoying, would not be significant. Therefore, impacts from vibration were determined to be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not result in vibration-generating facilities. The 2019 CAP Update promotes the use of transit, but would not facilitate increased development of mass transit facilities. Construction vibration that could occur during energy-efficiency retrofit or installation of photovoltaic arrays would not be substantial. If these activities were to occur on or near fragile buildings, all appropriate measures would be required pursuant to Mitigation Measure 4.15.B-N1 as well as policies outlined in the General Plan to control vibration from sources adjacent to residential, institutional, and other sensitive receptors and ensure that future developments will be constructed to minimize interior and exterior noise/vibration levels. Renewable energygenerating structures such as solar arrays do not produce substantial vibration and would be located on rooftops of existing or new structures. If such facilities were to be proposed for fragile buildings or areas of sensitive receptors, appropriate mitigation or design revision would be required either through the County's design review or plan check process to ensure that the structures would not generate excessive groundborne vibration or noise during operation. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated).

c)	Result in a substantial permanent	New			
	increase in ambient noise levels in the	Significant			
	project vicinity above levels existing	Impact/	New	No New	
	without the project?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.14.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Refer to response to Checklist Question 4.14.a.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Refer to response to Checklist Question 4.14.a.

d)	Result in a substantial temporary or	New			
	periodic increase in ambient noise	Significant			
	levels in the project vicinity above	Impact/	New	No New	
	levels existing without the project?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.14.d) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment would necessitate construction activities that could temporarily exceed applicable County standards at nearby noise-sensitive receptors. In many cases, the peak sound levels would be extremely brief and overall ambient noise levels would remain within acceptable limits. In addition, compliance with existing laws, regulatory programs, General Plan policies and mitigation measures, would also help reduce potential short-term noise impacts. However, in some cases, particularly where existing noise-sensitive land uses occur within 100 to 150 feet of certain construction activities (pile driving, demolition, etc.), it may not be possible to reduce construction noise levels to less than significant levels. In these locations, impacts may be significant if the construction-associated noise levels exceed regulatory limits and/or exceed "temporary" duration. In these cases, significant construction impacts would result that cannot be reduced to less than significant levels. Therefore, impacts were determined to remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Potential construction activities from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would include energy retrofits on existing residential and commercial buildings, and installation of renewable energy facilities such as photovoltaic arrays. These construction activities may result in temporary increases in noise; however, it is anticipated that such activities would not require large construction equipment that would result in substantial noise. Additionally, each specific development project would undergo evaluation through a site-specific noise study and be subject to mitigation measures if noise levels are found to exceed normally acceptable levels defined in the General Plan policies and standards. However, because it is not possible at the programmatic level to anticipate where development facilitated under the 2019 CAP Update would be proposed in proximity to noise-sensitive land uses, impacts from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *significant and unavoidable*).

e)	Result in the exposure of people	New			
	residing or working in the project area	Significant			
	to excessive noise levels for a project	Impact/	New	No New	
	located within an airport land use plan	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	or, where such a plan has not been	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	adopted, within two miles of a public	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	airport, public use airport or private			$\bowtie$	
	airport/private airstrip?				

**4.14.e) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development accommodated by the 2015 General Plan Amendment may result in the exposure of new noise-sensitive land uses to noise from operations at public and private airports, airstrips and helipads. Around larger public airports, noise levels can exceed acceptable standards (e.g., 60 dBA) in certain areas.

The Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) adopted by the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) addresses noise-related land use constraints for the various zones surrounding the County's airports. All future development proposed would be required to comply with applicable ALUC policies, as well as State and County regulations and policies, regarding site design and building construction to achieve acceptable interior and exterior noise exposure levels for habitable structures. Implementation of, and compliance with, the existing regulatory programs, including Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Standards, California Noise Insulation Standards, Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans, existing General Plan Policies N 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, LU 1.8, 15.1, and 15.2, and Mitigation Measures 4.13.2A, 4.13.2B, 4.13.2C, and 4.13.2D, would ensure that adverse airport noise impacts on new development accommodated by General Plan Amendment would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was identified.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update would not include strategies associated with airports, and would not result in a significant impact on future air traffic operations. Therefore, airport noise impacts generated from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

#### 4.15 RECREATION

Would the project:

a)	Cause growth that increases the use	New			
	of existing neighborhood parks,	Significant			
	regional parks or other recreational	Impact/	New	No New	
	facilities resulting in or accelerating	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	substantial physical deterioration of	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	the facility?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.15.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the County General Plan would increase population growth, which would increase the number of residents using existing neighborhoods, regional parks, and recreational facilities, such as trails and bikeways in local areas. Compliance with the Quimby Act and General Plan Policies OS 20.3, OS 20.5, OS 20.6, and LU 25.2 will ensure impacts from increased use of park and recreational activities from implementation of the County General Plan will be less than significant. Furthermore, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR does not indicate any increase in the use of recreational parks or facilities due to the implementation of the 2015 CAP. In this regard, *no impact* would occur and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not include any site-specific designs or proposals, grant any entitlements for development, or propose to change existing land use designations or zoning. Therefore, it would not change resident population or total jobs in the County or increase demand for parks and recreational facilities. Since implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not result in physical deterioration of recreational facilities, no impact would occur. In the same manner as the Approved Project, *no impact* to recreational facilities would occur from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update and no mitigation is required.

b)	Trigger growth that results in the	New			
	need for new or physically altered	Significant			
	park or recreation facilities, the	Impact/	New	No New	
	construction of which could cause	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	significant environmental impacts, in	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	order to maintain acceptable service	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	ratios or other performance			$\square$	
	objectives?				

**4.15.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Please refer to response to Checklist Question 4.15.a. Population growth anticipated through implementation of the County General Plan could result in the need for new parks, trails, or other recreational facilities. Compliance with the Quimby Act and General Plan Policies OS 20.3, OS 20.5, OS 20.6, and LU 25.2 will ensure impacts from construction of new park and recreational facilities remain *less than significant.* No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Please refer to response to Checklist Question 4.15.a. Since implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not change resident population or total jobs in the County or increase demand for parks and recreational facilities, the 2019 CAP Update would not result in construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. In the same manner as the Approved Project, *no impact* to recreational facilities would occur from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update, and no mitigation is required.

c)	Trigger the need for construction or expansion of recreational facilities or uses that would have a significant adverse physical effect on the environment due to their provision?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.15.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Please refer to response to Checklist Question 4.15.b. Implementation of the County General Plan would increase population and therefore demand for parks and recreation facilities in the County. Compliance with General Plan Policy LU 9.2 requires new development, including any recreational facility construction, to comply with the Multipurpose Open Space Element of the General Plan, as well as federal and State regulations such as CEQA, NEPA, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act, in order to protect environmental resources and reduce impacts from the construction of recreational facilities to less than significant levels. Furthermore, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR does not indicate any trigger for construction of recreational parks or facilities due to the implementation of the 2015 CAP. In this regard, *no impact* would occur and no mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** As indicated in response to Checklist Question 4.15.b, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not change resident population or total jobs in the County or increase demand for parks and recreational facilities. Therefore, the 2019 CAP Update would not trigger construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might

have an adverse physical effect on the environment. In the same manner as the Approved Project, *no impact* to the environment from construction of recreational facilities would occur from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update and no mitigation is required.

#### 4.16 PUBLIC FACILITIES

Would the project:

**4.16.a) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in localized new development that would require additional fire response and emergency response services in specific areas. However, the demand would be small at the Area Plan level. Future development would trigger the need for 6.8 additional fire stations spread throughout Riverside County. Sufficient vacant land exists in the areas where new fire stations would be needed, so siting for new fire stations could be achieved in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR finds that compliance with regulations and policies, including the California Building Standards Code, Riverside County Fire Department Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Strategic Master Plan, County Ordinance Nos. 787 and 659 (mitigation fee), and General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, 7.8, and 10.1, S 5.1 through 5.9, and 5.11 through 5.21, would ensure impacts remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Increases in demand for fire protection services would occur through buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. The 2019 CAP Update does not propose any changes in land use that could result in an understatement of anticipated fire protection services through 2015 General Plan Amendment buildout. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not result in any additional or more severe impacts than those associated with the Approved Project from increased demand for fire protection services.

Compliance with regulations and policies, including the California Building Standards Code, Riverside County Fire Department Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Strategic Master Plan, County Ordinance Nos. 787 and 659 (mitigation fee), and General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, 7.8, and 10.1, S 5.1 through 5.9, and 5.11 through 5.21, would ensure fire protection impacts of the proposed 2019 CAP Update are the same as those for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation was identified in the 2015

General Plan Amendment EIR and no mitigation is required for the proposed 2019 CAP Update.

b)	Result in substantial adverse physical	New			
	impacts associated with the provision	Significant			
	of new or physically altered law	Impact/	New	No New	
	enforcement facilities? Or, would it	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	result in the need for new or	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	physically altered law enforcement	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	facilities, the construction of which			$\square$	
	could cause significant environmental				
	impacts, in order to maintain				
	acceptable service ratios, response				
	times or other performance objectives				
	for any law enforcement services?				

**4.16.b) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would introduce additional people and property to the County, which would increase demand on law enforcement and emergency response services. The additional personnel (officers, supervisors, and support staff), equipment, and vehicles necessary to meet the increased demand could be accommodated at existing facilities through compliance with General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, and 10.1 and Mitigation Measures 4.15.2A, 4.15.2B, 4.15.2C, and 4.15.2D. Therefore, impacts from increased demand for law enforcement services through implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would be reduced to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Increases in demand for law enforcement services would occur through buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update encourages denser residential development through GHG reduction measure R2-T1 (refer to Table A), it does not propose any changes in land use that could result in an understatement of anticipated law enforcement services through 2015 General Plan Amendment buildout. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not result in any additional or more severe impacts than those associated with the Approved Project from increased demand for law enforcement services. Implementation of General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, and 10.1 and Mitigation Measures 4.15.2A, 4.15.2B, 4.15.2C, and 4.15.2D prescribed for the Approved Project would be required for the 2019 CAP Update to reduce impacts to *less-thansignificant with mitigation incorporated*.

c-1) Be served by a landfill with sufficient	New			
permitted capacity to accommodate	Significant			
the project's solid waste disposal	Impact/	New	No New	
needs?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
			$\boxtimes$	

**4.16.c-1) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase the total amount of solid waste by roughly 9,000 tons per year over the next 50 years. This increase is based on the conservative State-mandated solid waste diversion rate of 50 percent (not the 75 percent) by 2020. Compared to existing and projected capacities at Riverside County landfills, this amount would incrementally increase the County fill rate by roughly 0.6 percent overall (even conservatively assuming no additional diversion or recycling reductions). In terms of actual changes from baseline conditions, this 0.6 percent increase due to project-related waste generation would occur in small increments throughout Riverside County over a roughly 50-year period.

According to projections, there would be sufficient landfill capacity to accommodate the project's future solid waste disposal needs. Compliance with federal, State, and County regulations, including California and Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Rate (RCRA) requirements, Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP), AB 341, Riverside County Waste Management Department's (RCWMD) Design Guidelines for Recyclables Collections and Loading Areas, and the County's Waste Recycling Plan, would reduce impacts from the anticipated increase in solid waste generation. Additionally, General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, and 31.2, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.15.3A through 4.15.3F would further reduce the already insignificant impacts. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR finds the anticipated increase in solid waste generation represents an insignificant incremental increase, so the impact on landfill capacity would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would have less than significant impacts associated with an increase in solid waste generation exceeding the capacity of regional landfills. The 2019 CAP Update incorporates GHG reduction measure R2-S1, which carries over the solid waste diversion programs first introduced in the 2015 CAP (refer to Table A) to reduce generation of solid waste. Accordingly, projects developed consistent with the 2019 CAP Update must incorporate solid waste reduction measures in their designs. Further, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to the same regulatory compliance, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.15.3A through 4.15.3F prescribed for the Approved Project that would further reduce impacts. Therefore, impacts on landfill capacity associated with the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

c-2)	Impede or prevent compliance with	New			
	federal, State, and local statutes and	Significant			
	regulations related to solid wastes,	Impact/	New	No New	
	including the Countywide Integrated	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	Waste Management Plan (CIWMP)?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\bowtie$	

**4.16.c-2) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase the residential and non-

residential rural, suburban, and urban uses in localized areas throughout the County. These increases, to some extent, would be offset by reductions in land use density in other parts of the County. Over the period of roughly 50 years, waste generation associated with General Plan buildout would increase incrementally throughout the County, and development of future land uses would be required to comply with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations and statutes related to solid waste. The Riverside Department of Environmental Health (RDEH) and RCWMD both have the responsibility for reviewing all development applications within unincorporated areas of Riverside County. Project conditions of approval are prescribed by these departments as deemed appropriate for implementation of and compliance with the various County solid waste regulations and programs, including the CIWMP.

Any future development under the General Plan would be required to comply with the CIWMP as part of standard project conditions of approval. Also, the General Plan does not propose any land use changes within existing or proposed Riverside County landfills. Compliance with applicable regulations, including California and federal RCRA requirements, CIWMP, the AB 341 target of diverting no less than 75 percent of solid waste from landfill disposal by 2020, RCWMD's Design Guidelines for Recyclables Collections and Loading Areas, and Waste Recycling Plan submission for each proposed building are required compliance measures as a matter of regulatory policy. Additionally, General Plan Policies LU 5.1, 5.2, and 31.2, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.15.3A through 4.15.3F would further ensure compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements for solid waste management. Therefore, the Approved Project's effects on compliance with federal, State and local statutes and regulations for solid waste management would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would occur in accordance with all applicable regulations, including the CIWMP, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.15.3A through 4.15.3F designed to reduce solid waste. The 2019 CAP Update incorporates GHG reduction measure R2-S1, which carries over the solid waste diversion programs first introduced in the 2015 CAP (refer to Table A) to reduce generation of solid waste. Accordingly, projects developed consistent with the 2019 CAP Update must incorporate solid waste reduction measures in their designs. GHG reduction measure R2-S1 would further reduce the already insignificant impact associated with compliance with solid waste regulations. Therefore, impacts for the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

d)	Result in substantial adverse physical	New			
	impacts associated with the provision	Significant			
	of new or physically altered schools?	Impact/	New	No New	
	Or, would it result in the need for	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	new or physically altered schools, the	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	construction of which could cause	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	significant environmental impacts, in			$\bowtie$	
	order to maintain acceptable service		Ш		
	ratios or other performance				

objectives for any schools?

**4.16.d) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase student populations and demand on school services. The localized development increases would incrementally generate additional students, creating demand for additional school facilities, services, and personnel in specific areas, particularly within the Palm Springs School District, Palo Verde Unified School District, and Perris Union High School District.

None of the project-related population increases would trigger the need for new or improved facilities at other school districts, and the additional students generated over the next 50 years could readily be accommodated at existing facilities. For the three adversely affected districts (Palm Springs School District, Palo Verde Unified School District, and Perris Union High School District), however, compliance with existing regulations, including the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act (SB 50) and compliance with existing General Plan Policy LU 5.2 would provide full mitigation for the anticipated increase in demand. Through compliance with SB 50 and General Plan Policy LU 5.2, impacts to the environment from increased demand on school facilities would be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update would not include any site-specific designs or proposals, grant any entitlements for development, or propose to change existing land use designations or zoning, so it would not change resident population or total jobs in the County. Demand for school services is based on service population, which is a total of resident population and jobs. Thus, the nature of the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not affect the demand for school services when compared to the Approved Project. Compliance with SB 50 and General Plan Policy LU 5.2 would be sufficient to ensure the impacts would be less than significant. Therefore, impacts of the proposed 2019 CAP Update are the same as those for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation was identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR and no mitigation is required for the proposed 2019 CAP Update.

e)	Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered library facilities? Or, would it result in the need for new or physically altered library facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives for any	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/No Impact	Reduced Impact
	other performance objectives for any library services?				

**4.16.e) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase the County's population by roughly 13,000, which will be incrementally spread out throughout the County. This increase would require an estimated 6,500 additional square feet of library floor space and

roughly 35,500 additional volumes. The demand for the additional space and volumes, however, will be incremental and not uniform across the County, as some areas of the County will experience a population decrease while others will experience a population increase. The three areas covered by the Elsinore, Jurupa, and Palo Verde Valley Area Plans would need additional library services and volumes to continue to provide adequate levels of service within their respective communities.

Buildout of the General Plan would take approximately 50 years, which would provide ample time for long-range planning and provision of additional services as needs arise. According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, compliance with the Riverside County Ordinance No. 659, General Plan Policy LU 5.1, and Mitigation Measure 4.15.6A would reduce any impacts associated with the need for additional library services to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update would not include any site-specific designs or proposals, grant any entitlements for development, or propose to change existing land use designations or zoning, so it would not change resident population or total jobs in the County. Demand for library services is based on service population, which is a total of resident population and jobs. Thus, the nature of the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not affect the demand for library services when compared to the Approved Project. Compliance with Riverside County Ordinance No. 659, General Plan Policy LU 5.1, and Mitigation Measure 4.15.6A would reduce impacts associated with the need for additional library services. Therefore, impacts of the proposed 2019 CAP Update are the same as those for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

f)	Result in substantial adverse physical	New			
	impacts associated with the provision	Significant			
	of new or physically altered medical	Impact/	New	No New	
	facilities? Or, would it result in the	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	need for new or physically altered	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	medical facilities, the construction of	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any medical facilities?				

**4.16.f) Approved Project Analysis.** According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would contribute incrementally (by about 6.5 percent) to the need for an additional community clinic and generate roughly 13,500 medical encounters. However, since the population increase would be spread throughout the County and occur over 50 years, associated impacts to medical facilities and services would be negligible. At General Plan buildout, the Approved Project would result in a net decrease of roughly 143,700 Riverside County residents. Thus, for long-range provision of needed medical facilities and services, the project would slightly lower (by roughly 8 percent) the expected increase in demand for new or expanded medical facilities and services over time. According to the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, compliance with General Plan Policy LU 5.1 and Mitigation Measures 4.15.17A and 4.15.7B would further

reduce the impacts associated with General Plan buildout to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update would not include any site-specific designs or proposals, grant any entitlements for development, or propose to change existing land use designations or zoning, so it would not change resident population or total jobs in the County. Demand for medical services is based on service population, which is a total of resident population and jobs. Thus, the nature of the proposed 2019 CAP Update would not affect the demand for medical services when compared to the Approved Project. Compliance with the General Plan Policy LU 5.1 and Mitigation Measures 4.15.17A and 4.15.7B consistent with the Approved Project would reduce any impacts associated with the need for additional medical facilities to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

#### 4.17 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the project:

a)	Conflict with an applicable plan,	New			
	ordinance or policy establishing a	Significant			
	measure of effectiveness for the	Impact/	New	No New	
	performance of the circulation	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	system, taking into account all modes	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	of transportation, including mass	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	transit and non-motorized travel and				$\boxtimes$
	relevant components of the				
	circulation system, including, but not				
	limited to intersections, streets,				
	highways and freeways, pedestrian				
	and bicycle paths and mass transit?				

**4.17.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the Approved Project, per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, would generally improve traffic conditions throughout the County compared to the buildout of the General Plan. This is due to the decreased population estimates, decreased employment estimates, a refined roadway network and implementation of revised policies that provide more realistic parameters for mobility planning. However, the buildout of General Plan would still result in increased traffic levels in the future that would contribute to deficient operations within its proposed circulation network. The proposed policies incorporated in General Plan Circulation and Land Use Elements, and Mitigation Measures 4.16.1A, 4.16.1B, and 4.16.1C would partially address these deficient conditions. However, these policies and mitigation measures would not fully address the deficiencies, nor would the proposed revisions to the Riverside County Circulation Element fully mitigate these impacts. Therefore, the impacts to Riverside County roadways were determined to be *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. The measures include further increasing the availability of transit service, adding additional bicycle infrastructure, and further discouraging single-occupancy vehicle use. The implementation of each of these new and enhanced measures would result in a reduction in traffic loads, which would reduce the number of vehicle trips, volume to capacity ratio, and intersection congestion within the County. Furthermore, none of the new or enhanced measures would directly increase traffic in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the system. Therefore, impacts would be reduced compared to those identified for the Approved Project but still remain *significant and unavoidable*.

b)	Conflict with an applicable congestion	New			
	management program, including, but	Significant			
	not limited to level of service targets	Impact/	New	No New	
	and travel demand measures, or other	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	targets established by the County	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	congestion management agency for	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	designated roads or highways?				$\boxtimes$

**4.17.b) Approved Project Analysis.** With the implementation of Approved Project, per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, many freeway and expressway lane miles would operate at Level of Service (LOS) E or F. The General Plan policies and the revised General Plan Amendment policies would partially address these deficient conditions. However, these policies would not fully address these deficiencies and additional implementation actions may be needed once these conditions actually manifest. The Congestion Management Program (CMP) requires the development of deficiency plans to address actual operating deficiencies. The General Plan would not adversely affect the local CMP and does, in fact, include policies to support the goals and objectives of the CMP. Therefore, the impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) CMP designates State Route (SR) 74 and SR 79 as CMP facilities, and the CMP designates a minimum acceptable LOS of E on CMP facilities. Because the County's standard LOS requirement is LOS D, compared to a less stringent standard of LOS E for roadways that are part of the CMP, the 2015 General Plan EIR did not include a separate analysis of CMP facilities.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Refer to response to Checklist Question 4.17.a. The new and enhanced measures proposed in the 2019 CAP Update would have a beneficial effect in alleviating congestion by reducing VMT and facilitating alternative modes of transportation. Therefore, impacts would be reduced from those identified for the Approved Project and be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation is required.

c)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.17.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the Approved Project, per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, would not affect air travel or air facilities. Therefore, the impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Neither the 2015 CAP nor the 2019 CAP Update includes any GHG reduction measures related to air travel or air facilities. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*).

d)	Alter waterborne or rail traffic?	New			
		Significant			
		Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity of	is	No	Reduced
		Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.17.d Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the Approved Project, per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, would not adversely affect waterborne and rail travel and does, in fact, encourage future improvement of rail systems. Therefore, the impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Neither the 2015 CAP nor the 2019 CAP Update includes any GHG reduction measures related to waterborne travel. The 2019 CAP Update includes strategies to encourage the use of rail and transit. However, the increased number of passengers would not adversely affect rail traffic, as rail systems would be consistently monitored by responsible agencies for continued improvement as buildout of the General Plan occurs. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

e)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible	New Significant			
	uses?	Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.17.e) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the Approved Project, per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, would not adversely affect transportation safety. Policies C 3.4, C 3.23, and C 6.5 proposed as part of General Plan encourage the use of design features to enhance public safety. Therefore, the impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Neither the 2015 CAP nor the 2019 CAP Update includes any facilities that would substantially increase hazards or the construction of incompatible uses. Furthermore, any future development projects that would implement 2019 CAP Update GHG reduction measures would be subject to all applicable County regulations and requirements, as well as subsequent CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts, which would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. The County's zoning regulations, standard development conditions, and design guidelines address site and building design. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

f)	Cause an effect upon or a need for	New			
	new or altered maintenance of	Significant			
	roads?	Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.17.f) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that although the General Plan identifies the ultimate roadway network for the County, actual construction of roads that would be accepted into the maintained system undergo a

review process that identifies the timing of when roads are actually needed. This also includes ensuring that proper road maintenance is supported by the demand levels that contribute to maintenance revenue. This impact was, therefore, determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would further reduce VMT, thus reducing maintenance rate on roadways in the County. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would not add vehicle trips or change the vehicle trips distribution among County roadways. Therefore, impacts would be reduced compared to those identified for the Approved Project and remain *less-than-significant*. No mitigation is required.

g)	Result in circulation impacts during	New			
	construction?	Significant			
		Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.17.g) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that the General Plan Amendment includes adequate policies, including Policies C 8.4, C 20.6, and C 20.15 to ensure construction-related impacts are reduced so that traffic circulation is maintained. This impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Potential construction activities from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would include energy retrofits on existing residential and commercial buildings, and installation of renewable energy facilities such as photovoltaic arrays. These construction activities may result in temporary increases in traffic; however, it is anticipated that such activities would be minor and would not require large quantities of construction equipment or construction crews that would result in substantial traffic. Additionally, each specific development project would require a traffic study and would be required to comply with mitigation measures for consistency with General Plan policies and standards. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant*). No mitigation is required.

h)	Result in inadequate emergency vehicle access?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.17.h) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that the General Plan Amendment incorporates Policy C 3.24, which would ensure adequate

emergency vehicle access. Therefore, this impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to the 2015 CAP. The 2019 CAP Update would encourage more efficient land use and transit-oriented development, so it is possible that future projects or actions could require temporary road closures during their construction, which could adversely affect evacuation during an emergency event or emergency response. However, any closures would be short-term and alternate routes would be provided as necessary. It is unlikely that these actions would significantly interfere with adopted emergency response or evacuation plans. Furthermore, all future proposed projects would be subject to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts. Therefore, impacts would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-thansignificant*).

i)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans	New			
-	or programs regarding public transit,	Significant			
	bikeways or pedestrian facilities, or	Impact/	New	No New	
	otherwise substantially decrease the	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	performance or safety of such	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	facilities?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.17.i) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated that the General Plan incorporates policies to ensure adequate transit (Policies C 1.2 and C 1.3), bicycle (Policies C 16.1, C 16.2, and C 17.1), and pedestrian (Policies C 4.1, C 4.2, and C 4.6) facilities. Therefore, this impact was determined to be *less-than-significant*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP. The 2019 CAP Update would further encourage alternative methods of transportation, such as public transit and bicycle facilities, which would be consistent with the General Plan policies and the intent of regional plans that seek to improve subregional and regional transportation. Therefore, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans or programs, or decrease the performance or safety of any public transit, bikeways, or pedestrian facilities. Impacts would be reduced from those identified for the Approved Project and remain *less-than-significant*.

#### 4.18 WATER RESOURCES

Would the project:

a)	Result in water supplies insufficient or	New			
	unavailable to serve the project from	Significant			
	existing entitlements and resources, or	Impact/	New	No New	
	result in the need for new or	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	expanded entitlements?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.18.a) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR discusses the impacts of development projects on water supplies and concludes that future development in the County consistent with the land use policies in the General Plan has the potential to increase demand for water supplies, which could be insufficient or unavailable from existing entitlement and resources. This might necessitate new or expanded water infrastructure in order to adequately serve future development. The adequate water supplies for all future development cannot be assured due to the unavailability of potable water in some areas, variability and predictability of supply adequacy in light of future growth, and environmental and regulatory constraints. Therefore, within certain areas of the County where the water supply is not sufficient or cannot be assured into future, impacts could be significant and unavoidable.

The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR further states that compliance with relevant federal, State, and County regulations, General Plan policies, and proposed mitigation measures would reduce or minimize potential impacts to water supply associated with future development accommodated by 2015 General Plan Amendment. The federal and State regulations, including the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, California Safe Water Drinking Act, CCR Title 22 Recycled Water Quality Standards, Water Conservation Act (SBX 7-7), and Senate Bill 221, would contribute toward reducing potential impacts to water supply. The existing Riverside County regulations include Ordinance Nos. 458, 592, 617, 650, 682, 856, 859, and 871. The existing General Plan includes Policies OS 1.1, 1.3, 2.2, and 2.5, and LU 5.3, 21.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6. The proposed new or revised General Plan Policies OS 1.4, 2.3, and 2.4, New Policies OS 2.1 and 18.1-18.6, and New Policy LU 22.2 also would help minimize potential impacts to water supply.

The Mitigation Measures that directly address water supplies include Mitigation Measures 4.17.1C, 4.17.1D, and 4.17.1E. Additionally, Mitigation Measures 4.17.2A and 4.17.3A aid in reducing indirect impacts to water supplies.

The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concludes that the above regulations, policies, and mitigation measures do not fully mitigate potential significant impacts that would arise from project-driven future increases in demand for and use of water. Nor do they provide the means to ensure water supplies are secured for the proposed areas. Therefore, even with the above measures, impacts to water supply would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update consists of R2 Water Efficiency measures that contribute to further enhancing the water conservation beyond the State regulations (refer to Table A). These R2 measures also support the implementation of General Plan Policies related to Water Conservation, including LU 4.1, C 5.2, OS 1.4, OS 2.1 through 2.5, and AQ 20.13 through 20.17. Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would help reduce or minimize the potential impacts to water supplies. However, it will not fully mitigate potential significant impacts that would arise from project-driven future increases in demand for and use of water, nor does the 2019 CAP Update provide the means to ensure water supplies are secured for the proposed areas. Therefore, even with the above measures, impacts to water supply would be reduced from the Approved Project but still remain *significant and unavoidable*.

b)	Substantially deplete groundwater	New			
	supplies or interfere substantially with	Significant			
	groundwater recharge such that there	Impact/	New	No New	
	would be a net deficit in aquifer	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	volume or a lowering of the local	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	groundwater table level (e.g., the	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	production rate of pre-existing nearby				$\bowtie$
	wells would drop to a level which			Ш	
	would not support existing land uses				
	or planned uses for which permits				
	have been granted)?				

**4.18.b) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR specifies that the future land use development and population growth under the 2015 General Plan Amendment would trigger increased water demands on areas relying on groundwater supplies. New and increased uses may also conflict with groundwater management plans and monitoring programs, may lead to groundwater extractions that exceed the groundwater basins' safe yields, or may cause a net deficit in the aquifer volume or reduction in the local water table level. In addition, there is the potential for future development accommodated by buildout of the General Plan to occur in vacant areas that are currently available for groundwater recharge. Development of such areas would reduce the area available for aquifer recharge and could substantially interfere with the process of groundwater recharge. In addition, an assessment of future water supply adequacy beyond the year 2035 (including groundwater) is speculative. Since at present roughly one-third of Riverside County's water demand is met by groundwater, this unpredictability and variability indicates significant impacts associated with project buildout over the next 50-plus years are possible.

Compliance with applicable federal and State regulations, including the Federal Clean Water Act, Federal Safe Water Drinking Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, CCR Title 22-Recycled Water, Water Conservation Act (SB X7-7), California Urban Water Management Planning Act, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (which consists of three separate bills [AB 1739, SB 1168, and SB 1319]), Senate Bill 610, and Senate Bill 221, would reduce impacts to groundwater supplies. Riverside County regulations, including Ordinance No. 682, Ordinance No. 856, and Ordinance No. 871 also would reduce impacts to groundwater supplies. Additionally, General Plan Policies OS 1.1, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2 through

2.5, 3.4 through 3.7, 4.1 through 4.7, 4.8, and OS 18.1 through 18.6, Policies LU 5.3, 21.2, 22.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6 would contribute to the reduction of impacts to groundwater. Finally, Mitigation Measures 4.17.2A, 4.17.3A, 4.17.1C, 4.17.1D, and 4.17.1E would aid in reducing impacts to groundwater supplies. However, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concludes that the above regulations, policies, and mitigation measures do not address specific groundwater basin usage or site-specific groundwater recharge impacts that would result indirectly from implementation of the Approved Project. Further, such onsite mitigation may not be feasible or sufficient to offset impacts to groundwater. Therefore, impacts to groundwater and groundwater recharge would be *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, implementation of 2019 CAP Update per the 2019 CAP Update would result in significant and unavoidable impacts on groundwater and groundwater recharge. The 2019 CAP Update provides measures (R2 Water Efficiency Measures R2-W1 and R2-W2), which are new and enhanced water conservation measures that build upon measures prescribed in the 2015 CAP and are geared toward conserving water through enhanced implementation of SB X7-7, AB 1739, SB 1168, SB 1319, and exceeding water efficiency standards. Although future development that implements the reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update will also be required to adhere to the applicable federal and State regulations, General Plan policies, and mitigation measures identified in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concerning groundwater recharge and groundwater supplies, groundwater basin usage and site-specific groundwater recharge impacts would continue to occur through buildout of the General Plan with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Therefore, even with the above measures, impacts to groundwater recharge and groundwater supplies would be reduced from the Approved Project through implementation of the 2019 CAP Update but still remain significant and unavoidable.

c)	Substantially degrade water quality?	New			
		Significant			
		Impact/	New	No New	
		Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.18.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, future land use and policy changes associated with the implementation of Approved Project would result in an increased reliance on lower-quality water sources either from the Colorado River or marginal groundwater sources and would contribute to increased levels of pollutants in local/regional groundwater reserves and local/regional surface waters. These conditions would contribute to the deterioration of the quality of drinking water in Riverside County. The adverse effects on water quality would be reduced through compliance with applicable federal and State regulations, including the CWA, Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970 and California Safe Drinking Water Act, and California Code of Regulations Title 22-Recycled Water. Existing Riverside County regulations, including Ordinance Nos. 427, 457, 458, 592, 617, 629, 650, 682, 754, 830, 843, 856, and 871, as well as General Plan Policies OS 3.1 through 3.3, 6.1, 6.3, 3.4 through 3.7, and LU 9.1, 9.2, and 9.4, would also reduce impacts to water quality.

Mitigation Measures 4.17.5C and 4.17.5D were prescribed in the General Plan EIR to further reduce impacts to water quality, and Mitigation Measures 4.17.5A, 4.17.5B, and 4.17.5E would aid in reducing impacts to water quality. Through compliance with the above-listed regulations, General Plan policies, and existing Mitigation Measures, implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment, impacts related to water quality regarding compliance with the water quality standards and waste discharge requirements would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would affect water quality. Future population growth in the region would result in an increase in the amount wastewater generated, decrease the quality of treated wastewater (where wastewater is not fully processed), and increase the need for effluent disposal. The effluent, when discharged into a stream or other surface water body, has the potential to degrade the quality of the water in the receiving water body. Additionally, storm water runoff from urban areas contains a variety of organic and inorganic substances that may reduce the quality of groundwater when introduced into their aquifers.

Although the 2019 CAP Update provides measures (R2 Water Efficiency Measures R2-W1 and R2-W2) geared toward conserving water through enhanced implementation of SB X7-7 and exceeding water efficiency standards, the 2019 CAP Update is not designed to regulate storm water discharges or wastewater treatment. Buildout of the General Plan would result in an increased reliance on lower-quality water sources either from the Colorado River or marginal groundwater sources and would contribute to increased levels of pollutants in local/regional groundwater reserves and local/regional surface waters with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Nevertheless, implementation of the GHG reduction measures detailed in the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to the same General Plan policies and programs and compliance with existing federal, State, and local laws and regulations and Mitigation Measures 4.17.5A, 4.17.5B, 4.17.5C, and 4.17.5D prescribed for the Approved Project. Therefore, impacts on water quality associated with the 2019 CAP Update would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

d)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact

**4.18.d) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, future development accommodated by the Approved Project would result in changes to existing hydrology and increases in impervious surfaces and surface water flows due to urban runoff. If the watershed is not managed properly, urbanization may change stream hydrology and increase pollutant discharge into receiving waters. Several federal and State laws, including CWA, NPDES, Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, and California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, are enacted to reduce impacts to water quality.

Additionally, Riverside County regulations such as Ordinance Nos. 457, 458, 592, 617, 629, 650, 682, 754, 843, 856, and 871, and program funding from taxes, fees, and revenue would support water quality protection programs to further reduce impacts. General Plan Policies OS 3.1 through 3.7, 6.1, and 6.3, LU 9.1, 9.2, and 9.4, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.17.5A, 4.17.5B, 4.17.5C, and 4.17.5D would directly aid in reducing water quality and wastewater impacts. Finally, existing Mitigation Measures 4.17.5E and 4.10.9A would help reduce water quality impacts indirectly. With the implementation of above-listed regulations, policies, and mitigation measures, implementation of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would occur in compliance with applicable water quality standards and waste discharge requirements to ensure impacts on water quality would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*. No mitigation was required.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would be subject to the same federal, State, and local regulations, as well as General Plan policies and Mitigation Measures 4.17.5A, 4.17.5B, 4.17.5C, 4.17.5D, 4.17.5E, and 4.10.9A to ensure compliance with applicable water quality standards and waste discharge requirements. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts as the Approved Project on water quality (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

e)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)?	New Significant Impact/ Increased Severity of Impact	New Mitigation is Required	No New Impact/ No Impact	Reduced Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.18.e) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated future development in the County has the potential to increase the amount of generated wastewater. Wastewater when discharged into the receiving waters could cause pollution by elevating pollutant levels or introducing pathogens. Receiving waters are protected through the County's compliance with and enforcement of its NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permits, as well as other permits required for a wide variety of activities with potential to discharge wastes into Waters of the State or U.S. These include construction and operational activities, operation of MS4s, and industries that produce wastewater. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has also established standards governing the placement of septic systems in the proximity of water supply wells.

Compliance with the CWA, NPDES, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, CCR Title 22-Recycled Water, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 457, 458, 461, 592, 617, 650, 754, 843, 856, and 871, General Plan Policies OS 3.1 through 3.7, LU 5.3, 21.2, 22.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6, Mitigation Measures 4.15.4A, 4.17.5A, 4.10.9A, 4.17.5E, and 4.19.E-N1 would ensure buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would not exceed RWQCB wastewater treatment requirements. Impacts would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would result in an increase in the amount of generated wastewater and therefore would be subject to the same federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.154A, 4.17.5A, 4.10.9A, 4.17.5E, and 4.19.E-N1 to ensure future development consistent with the 2019 CAP Update would not exceed RWQCB wastewater treatment requirements. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts as the Approved Project on wastewater treatment (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

f)	Result in a determination by a	New			
	wastewater treatment provider which	Significant			
	serves or may serve the project that it	Impact/	New	No New	
	would not have adequate capacity to	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	serve the project's projected demand	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	in addition to the provider's existing	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	commitments?				

**4.18.f) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated future development associated with Approved Project would contribute to increased generation of wastewater requiring treatment, and therefore could result in exceedances of treatment facility capacities. Septic systems may also be necessary where sanitary sewer connections and treatment are not available. The proliferation of septic systems in rural communities may potentially contaminate groundwater with nitrates, ammonia, salts, metals, organic solvents, grease and oil, and other substances, impairing the beneficial uses of local water supplies.

Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, including the CWA, Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, CCR Title 22-Recycled Water, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 458, 592,650,754, 843, 856, and 871, General Plan Policies OS 3.1 through 3.3, LU 5.3, 21.2, 22.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1C, 4.10.9A, 4.15.4A, 4.17.5D, and 4.17.5E, would ensure adequate treatment capacity of wastewater facilities serving the County. Therefore, impacts would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, future development with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would increase demand on wastewater treatment facilities and septic systems. The same federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1C, 4.10.9A, 4.15.4A, 4.17.5D, and 4.17.5E applicable to the Approved Project would apply to the proposed 2019 CAP Update to ensure adequate treatment capacity of wastewater facilities serving the County. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) as the Approved Project on treatment capacity of wastewater facilities serving the County.

g)	Require or result in the construction of	New			
	new water or wastewater facilities or	Significant			
	expansion of existing facilities, the	Impact/	New	No New	
	construction of which could cause	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	significant environmental effects?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
				$\boxtimes$	

**4.18.g) Approved Project Analysis.** The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR indicated future development pursuant to the Approved Project would result in an increased demand for water supply, wastewater treatment, and infrastructure to supply these services. The increased demand would require new or expanded water and wastewater treatment facilities, which would be subject to CEQA review on a project- and site-specific basis and would not necessarily result in significant impacts to environmentally-sensitive areas. Through CEQA review of each project, the locations of these future facilities could be sited to minimize any potential environmental impacts.

Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, including the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, CCR Title 22-Recycled Water, Water Conservation Act (SB X7-7), Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 592, 650, 682, and 843, General Plan Policies OS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 3.1, 3.3, 18.1 through 18.6, LU 5.3, 21.2, 22.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6, and Mitigation Measures 4.17.1C, 4.17.1D, and 4.17.5A, would ensure construction of water and wastewater facilities would be evaluated on a project- and site-specific basis to reduce impacts to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Consistent with the Approved Project, development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would create a need for new or expanded water and wastewater facilities. Impacts associated with building new facilities or expanding existing facilities would be minimized through compliance with federal, State, and local laws and regulations governing water, wastewater, and infrastructure development, as well as implementation of General Plan Policies and Mitigation Measures 4.17.1C, 4.17.1D, and 4.17.5A to ensure project-and site-specific CEQA review for each discretionary project. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) as the Approved Project on construction of new water or wastewater facilities or expansion of existing facilities serving the County.

h)	Substantially alter the existing	New			
	drainage pattern of the site or area,	Significant			
	including through the alteration of the	Impact/	New	No New	
	course of a stream or river, in a	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	manner which would result in	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	substantial erosion or siltation on- or	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
	off-site?				

**4.18.h) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would increase erosion, sedimentation, and siltation of surface water. This may occur due to the short-term disturbance of large

quantities of earth during construction, as well as from increased erosion potential in areas of new construction. Development would also reduce the distribution and extent of permeable surfaces suitable for groundwater recharge and may also increase runoff and subsequent flow in streams, which could increase the amount of non-point source pollutants that enter watercourses and recharge areas. Development activities may also alter or eliminate features essential to local or regional hydrologic systems.

Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, including the CWA, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 457, 458, 461, 659, 754, and 859, General Plan Policies OS 1.4, 2.1 through 2.5, 3.1 through 3.7, 4.4 through 4.6, 4.8, 6.1, 6.3, 18.1 through 18.6, and LU 9.1, 9.2, and 9.4, and Mitigation Measures 4.17.4A, 4.17.4B, 4.17.4C, 4.9.1C, 4.9.2C, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, and 4.10.9C, would reduce impacts from alteration of drainage patterns leading to erosion, sedimentation and siltation to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would result in similar impacts as the Approved Project on existing drainage patterns, erosion, sedimentation and siltation. Consistent with the Approved Project, compliance with federal, State, and County regulations, and implementation of General Plan Policies and Mitigation Measures 4.17.4A, 4.17.4B, 4.17.4C, 4.9.1C, 4.9.2C, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, and 4.10.9C would reduce impacts from the proposed 2019 CAP Update related to alteration of drainage patterns leading to erosion, sedimentation and siltation to the same as the Approved Project (i.e. *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*).

i) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of	New Significant			
existing or planned storm water	Impact/	New	No New	
drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of	Increased Severity	Mitigation is	Impact/ No	Reduced
polluted runoff?	of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
			$\boxtimes$	

**4.18.i) Approved Project Analysis.** Per the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, buildout of the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in the development of vacant lands and increase impermeable surfaces, which would limit the amount of groundwater infiltration during storm events. The passage of storm flows over impermeable surfaces would increase the volume and rate of storm runoff. Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, including the CWA, NPDES MS4 permit, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act of 1970, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 457, 461, 592, 650, 659, 754, 843, and 859, General Plan Policies OS 1.4, 2.1 through 2.5, 3.1 through 3.7, 4.4 through 4.6, 4.8, 6.1, 6.3, 18.1 through 18.6, LU 5.3, 9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 21.2, 22.2, 28.3, 29.7, 30.7, 31.4, and 32.6, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1C, 4.9.2D, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, 4.10.9C, and 4.17.5E, would reduce runoff from development accommodated by the Approved Project and ensure compliance with applicable water quality standards. Impacts would be *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Future development with the implementation of 2019 CAP Update would result in impermeable surfaces that would increase runoff exceeding storm

water drainage system capacity. Consistent with the Approved Project, all future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would be required to comply with applicable federal, State, and County regulations, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.9.1C, 4.9.2D, 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, 4.10.9C, and 4.17.5E to ensure runoff does not exceed infrastructure capacity or generate substantial additional sources of pollution. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) as the Approved Project on storm water pollution and infrastructure.

j)	Require or result in the construction	New			
	of new storm water drainage facilities	Significant			
	or expansion of existing facilities, the	Impact/	New	No New	
	construction of which could cause	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	significant environmental effects?	Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact

**4.18.j) Approved Project Analysis.** Future development in accordance with the 2015 General Plan Amendment would result in an increase in residential and non-residential structures and associated facilities (e.g., roads), increasing the amount of unincorporated land covered in impermeable surfaces, thereby limiting the amount of ground infiltration during storm events. The passage of storm flows over impermeable surfaces would increase the volume and rate of storm runoff throughout Riverside County. Existing drainage facilities may not be sufficient to accommodate the increase in some areas. Compliance with the CWA, California Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1970, Riverside County Ordinance Nos. 457, 458, 461, 592, 650, 659, 754, and 843, General Plan Policies OS 1.4, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.4 through 3.7, 6.1, 6.3, 18.1 through 18.6, and LU 9.1, 9.3, and 9.4, and Mitigation Measures 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, 4.10.9C, 4.17.4A, 4.17.4B, 4.17.4C, 4.17.5D, and 4.17.5E would ensure construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities would be subject to project- and site-specific CEQA review to reduce impacts to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would increase impermeable surfaces and therefore increase demand on storm water drainage facilities. Any new construction or expansion of existing facilities to accommodate growth that occurs pursuant to the 2019 CAP would be subject to the same federal, State, and County regulations, General Plan Policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.10.9A, 4.10.9B, 4.10.9C, 4.17.4A, 4.17.4B, 4.17.4C, 4.17.5D, and 4.17.5E to ensure project- and site-specific CEQA review to reduce impacts. Therefore, the proposed 2019 CAP Update would have similar impacts (i.e., *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*) as the Approved Project from construction of storm water drainage facilities.

#### 4.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a)	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of	New Significant			
	the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species,	Impact/ Increased	New Mitigation	No New Impact/	
	cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels,	Severity of Impact	is Required	No Impact	Reduced Impact
	threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				

**4.19.a) Approved Project Analysis.** Implementation of the General Plan would increase developed uses in Riverside County, which would affect sensitive habitats, plant and animal communities, and migratory wildlife corridors in various areas throughout the County. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR determined adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan Policies, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for western Riverside County, the Coachella Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.A-N1, 4.8.A-N2, 4.8.B-N1, 4.8.C-N1, 4.8.C-N2, and 4.8.D-N1 would reduce impacts to biological resources to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

Buildout of the General Plan has the potential to affect four known historical resources as defined in §15064.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines*, as well as possibly several known and unknown archaeological and paleontological resources throughout unincorporated portions of Riverside County. The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR determined adherence to federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, and Mitigation Measures 4.7.1A, 4.7.1B, and 4.9.B-N1 would reduce impacts to historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources to *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** The 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or sitespecific developments, and discretionary projects in the County must be developed consistent with all applicable regulatory policies, habitat conservation plans (e.g., Western Riverside County and Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans), General Plan policies, and mitigation measures designed to protect biological resources with or without development and implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for habitat conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities. Consistent with the Approved Project, future development in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update would comply with federal, State, and local regulations, General Plan policies, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans for Western Riverside County, the Coachella

Valley, and Stephens' kangaroo rat, and Mitigation Measures 4.8.A-N1, 4.8.A-N2, 4.8.B-N1, 4.8.C-N1, 4.8.C-N2, and 4.8.D-N1 to ensure potential impacts to biological resources remain *less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated.* No new impacts or intensification of previously identified impacts would occur with the 2019 CAP Update.

Actions implemented in accordance with the 2019 CAP Update that could directly affect historical structures include energy retrofits (2019 CAP Update Measures R2-EE4 for residential and R2-EE9 and R2-EE10 for non-residential facilities) on existing historic structures and other buildings located within the setting and context of historic districts. Additionally, the required installation of solar panels on new residential and commercial buildings (2019 CAP Update Measure R2-CE1) could potentially alter the integrity of a historic building or district's setting, design, materials, workmanship, or other physical identity that conveys the values that render a cultural resource significant under CEOA. However, details of the potential construction activities are unknown, and the CEQA Guidelines require a project that would have potentially adverse impacts on historical resources to conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Future development projects that would implement the GHG reduction measures outlined in the 2019 CAP Update would require permits from the County, which would include a development review process to preserve the historic integrity of significant cultural resources in accordance with County Design Guidelines and ensure solar panels and energy retrofits prescribed under the 2019 CAP Update would be reviewed on a project- and site-specific basis in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as Mitigation Measure 4.7.1B, to reduce impacts on historical resources. Therefore, impacts to historical resources would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated).

Consistent with the Approved Project, future development that would implement GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would result in ground-disturbing activities that could affect archaeological resources. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not propose project- or site-specific developments, so ground-disturbing activities of future development projects would occur with or without implementation of the 2019 CAP Update. Actions that could directly affect archaeological resources include grading, excavation, or other ground-disturbing activities. Accordingly, unanticipated encounters with archaeological resources would be managed pursuant to applicable federal, State, and local regulations, as well as Mitigation Measures 4.7.1A, 4.7.1B, and 4.9.B-N1 on a project- and site-specific basis. Additionally, consultation with interested Native American tribes would be required pursuant to California Public Resources Code 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 for projects so defined under California Public Resources Code §21065. Therefore, impacts to archaeological and paleontological resources would be the same as those identified for the Approved Project (i.e., less-than-significant with mitigation incorporated).

b)	Does the project have impacts that	New			
	are individually limited, but	Significant			
	cumulatively considerable?	Impact/	New	No New	
	("Cumulatively considerable" means	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
	that the incremental effects of a	Severity	is	No	Reduced
	project are considerable when viewed	of Impact	Required	Impact	<b>Impact</b>
	in connection with the effects of past	П	П		$\boxtimes$
	projects, the effects of other current	_			
	projects, and the effects of probable				
	future projects.)				

**4.19.b) Approved Project Analysis.** Even with compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, and implementation of General Plan policies and mitigation measures identified throughout this Addendum, the 2015 General Plan Addendum EIR determined buildout of the General Plan would have cumulatively significant impacts related to the following environmental factors:

- Population and Housing;
- Aesthetic and Visual Resources;
- · Agricultural and Forestry Resources;
- Air Quality;
- Greenhouse Gases;
- · Cultural and Paleontological Resources;
- Energy Resources;
- · Geology and Soils;
- Hazardous Materials and Safety;
- Noise;
- Parks and Recreation;
- Public Facilities;
- Transportation and Traffic; and
- Water Resources.

General Plan buildout would generate substantial population growth, which would trigger not only direct impacts related to growth inducement (i.e., required housing and employment), but also indirect impacts related to the infrastructure (e.g., roadways, storm drains, water reservoirs, pipelines, transmission lines, and other utilities) required to accommodate the increase in population throughout the County. Accordingly, development projects implemented to build out the County pursuant to the General Plan inherently would be growth-inducing and growth-accommodating (cumulative impacts to Population and Housing). These projects would convert open space to more urban types of uses (cumulative impacts to Aesthetic and Visual Resources and Cultural and Paleontological Resources), generate additional emissions of criteria pollutants and GHGs (cumulative impacts to Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases), and demand additional output (e.g., electricity and natural gas) from utility providers (cumulative impacts to Energy Resources). Additionally, the growth inducing nature of the General Plan would expose additional people to risks associated with seismic activity, unstable geologic conditions, and wildfire hazards (cumulative impacts to Geology and Soils and Hazardous Materials and Safety). Additional urban activity would also increase the overall ambient noise levels in areas comprising sensitive receptors (cumulative impacts to Noise). Increases in population would advance

the deterioration of existing parks and recreation facilities (cumulative impacts to Parks and Recreation); increase demand for fire protection and law enforcement services, schools, libraries, and medical services (cumulative impacts to Public Facilities); and increase traffic levels throughout the County such that level of service standards could not be maintained and consistency with applicable congestion management plans would not be feasible (cumulative impacts to Transportation and Traffic). Finally, increases in population and development of required infrastructure to support it would incrementally increase demand on water supply and groundwater usage and its recharge; change existing drainage patterns, erosion, sedimentation and siltation; and increase runoff due to development of additional impervious surfaces (cumulative impacts to Water Resources).

The 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR concluded no additional feasible regulations, General Plan Policies, or Mitigation Measures are available to reduce the inherent growth-inducing and growth-accommodating nature of General Plan implementation. Therefore, cumulative impacts to the environmental factors listed above would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

**2019 CAP Update Analysis.** Although the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for land-based policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for energy conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, nor does it propose to grant any entitlements for development that would have a direct effect on population or employment in the County. Accordingly, direct and indirect cumulative effects related to population growth and growth inducement from implementation of the General Plan would occur with or without incorporation of the 2019 CAP Update, and impacts from the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be the same as the Approved Project (i.e., significant and unavoidable). Environmental factors for which implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would foreseeably reduce cumulatively significant impacts include Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases, Noise, and Transportation and Traffic.

The 2019 CAP Update includes new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP (refer to Table A), which are expected to result in reduced VMT, higher energy efficiency, and correspondingly more reductions in criteria pollutant emissions than originally anticipated in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. However, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update through buildout of the General Plan would not reduce criteria pollutant impacts to below regulatory thresholds. Therefore, although cumulative air quality impacts from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not be significant, cumulative air quality impacts associated with implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, the 2019 CAP Update serves as the post-2020 Climate Action Plan update and includes specific targets for GHG reductions for 2030 and 2050 consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050.

Consistent with the Partial Settlement Agreement,<sup>9</sup> the 2019 CAP Update includes specific considerations for EV charging stations, on-site renewable energy generation, and high efficiency traffic signal lights. Additionally, the 2019 CAP Update serves as an update to the County's GHG inventory in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement's four-year (quadrennial) inventory update requirement in order to review the effectiveness of specific measures in the CAP and revise associated point values in the screening tables according to available evidence. If measures included in the prior CAP are found to be ineffective, they are removed or revised in the subsequent CAP Update pursuant to the Partial Settlement Agreement.

Accordingly, the 2019 CAP Update incorporates Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 of the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, facilitates County monitoring of CAP reduction measures, and includes provisions for revisions and/or amendments to the CAP as needed based upon the results of monitoring to ensure achievement of the 2030 Reduction Target. Though compliance with the Partial Settlement Agreement's quadrennial GHG inventory update requirement, the CAP will ensure a post-2030 GHG reduction plan commensurate with concurrent technology, regulations, and baseline conditions to establish a specific target for GHG reductions for 2050. The target must be consistent with broader State and federal reduction targets including Executive Order S-3-05 and with the scientific understanding of the needed reductions by 2050. Through the process of updating the CAP every four years, GHG reduction measures will continue refinement to achieve the 2050 reduction target, and an updated monitoring system will ensure that the updated targets are achieved.

The 2019 CAP Update includes new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP, which would further reduce GHG emissions within unincorporated portions of the County. Because quadrennial updates to the County CAP and refinement of GHG reduction measures are required in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement and Mitigation Measure 4.7.A-N3 prescribed in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would not generate new significant impacts or increase the severity of previously identified significant impacts. However, the 2050 reduction target could not be achieved until the State adopts a plan with regulations geared toward achieving 2050 emissions and the County adopts a subsequent CAP update designed to comply with those regulations. Therefore, cumulative GHG impacts from implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would be less severe than those identified for the Approved Project but still remain significant and unavoidable.

The 2019 CAP Update encourages mixed-use development, which would potentially increase localized ambient noise levels in proximity to such uses and locate sensitive receptors closer to traffic noise. However, mixed-use development would reduce VMT and thus decrease traffic noise. In addition, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would further reduce VMT, thus reducing overall ambient noise in the County from mobile sources. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would not add vehicle trips. Implementation of the GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would augment existing County programs and policies with regard to transit-oriented development. Energy retrofits would likely reduce impacts

Partial Settlement Agreement, 2017. Petitioners: Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, San Bernardino Audubon Society and Respondents: County of Riverside and Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

from vehicular noise to occupants of the subject buildings since increased insulation and double- or triple-paned windows would act to buffer exterior noise levels. Therefore, through reduction in overall VMT and implementation of building retrofits, ambient noise levels under the proposed 2019 CAP Update would be reduced and would not themselves result in a significant impact. However, ambient noise impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

The proposed changes in the 2019 CAP Update include new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP to further increase the availability of transit service and bicycle infrastructure, and further discourage single-occupancy vehicle use. The implementation of each of these new and enhanced measures (refer to Table A) would result in a reduction in traffic loads, which would reduce the number of vehicle trips, volume to capacity ratio, and intersection congestion within the County. Furthermore, none of the new or enhanced measures would directly increase traffic in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the system. Therefore, cumulatively considerable transportation and traffic impacts associated with the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves be significant. However, cumulatively considerable transportation impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain significant and unavoidable.

c)	Does the project have environmental	New			
	effects that will cause substantial	Significant			
	adverse effects on human beings,	Impact/	New	No New	
	either directly or indirectly?	Increased	Mitigation	Impact/	
		Severity	is	No	Reduced
		of Impact	Required	Impact	Impact
					$\boxtimes$

**4.19.c) Approved Project Analysis.** Even with compliance with federal, State, and local regulations, and implementation of General Plan policies and mitigation measures identified throughout this Addendum, the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR determined buildout of the General Plan would have significant effects on humans for the following environmental factors:

- Air Quality;
- Geology and Soils;
- Hazardous Materials and Safety; and
- Noise.

Proximity of a human to a source of pollutants exceeding regulatory standards, for example from a construction site or an industrial operation, could result in a significant impact to the human. For example, construction activities generating particulate matter less than 10 microns in size ( $PM_{10}$ ) would need to be a minimum of 50 meters from the nearest sensitive receptor in order to be less than significant. For future development sites where this distance cannot be achieved, a significant impact would result. Since the exact location, timing, and level of future development activities from General Plan buildout is speculative, specific impacts to sensitive receptors cannot be quantified, and implementation of Mitigation Measures cannot guarantee pollutant levels would be reduced to below applicable

agency thresholds. Increased densities proposed for various land uses throughout the County and development of residential land uses in proximity to both transit and commercial centers is expected to expose sensitive receptors to pollutants from construction activities and operation of commercial and industrial uses. Therefore, impacts associated with exposure of sensitive receptors to air pollutants would be *significant and unavoidable*.

As stated previously, General Plan buildout would generate substantial population growth, which would trigger not only direct impacts related to growth inducement (i.e., required housing and employment), but also indirect impacts related to the infrastructure (e.g., roadways, storm drains, water reservoirs, pipelines, transmission lines, and other utilities) required to accommodate the increase in population throughout the County. Accordingly, the growth-inducing nature of the General Plan would expand and intensify human occupation of lands throughout the County and expose additional people to risks associated with seismic activity, unstable geologic conditions such as landslides, and wildfire hazards. Although these risks can be mitigated for new development, the anticipated increase in population would result in occupation of previously-developed structures and infrastructure that may no longer conform to the most-current regulatory standards. Therefore, impacts associated with exposure of humans to seismic activity, unstable geologic conditions such as landslides, and wildfire hazards would be *significant and unavoidable*.

Additional urban activity would increase the overall ambient noise levels in areas comprising sensitive receptors. The source of these substantial noise effects on humans would be either construction or traffic activities. Impacts on humans would be *significant and unavoidable* where construction activities or traffic volumes would expose sensitive receptors to excessive noise because mitigation of these incremental and widespread noise impacts is infeasible.

2019 CAP Update Analysis. As stated previously, the 2019 CAP Update is designed as a stand-alone GHG policy document, but it would be utilized as a companion document to the County General Plan to provide a more comprehensive and detailed framework for landbased policy decisions to reduce GHG emissions from existing and future development. Any future projects proposed pursuant to the 2019 CAP Update would be developed in accordance with General Plan Policies for energy conservation while maximizing efficient use of resources, maintaining a high quality of life, enhancing job opportunities, promoting sustainability, and facilitating access to transportation facilities. However, the 2019 CAP Update does not include any site-specific designs or proposals, nor does it propose to grant any entitlements for development that would have a direct effect on population or employment in the County. Accordingly, direct and indirect effects on human beings due to population growth and growth inducement from implementation of the General Plan would occur with or without incorporation of the 2019 CAP Update, and impacts from the proposed 2019 CAP Update regarding exposure of humans to seismic activity, unstable geologic conditions such as landslides, and wildfire hazards would be the same as the Approved Project (i.e., significant and unavoidable). Environmental factors for which implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would foreseeably reduce adverse effects on human beings include air quality and noise.

The 2019 CAP Update includes new and enhanced GHG reduction measures compared to 2015 CAP (refer to Table A), which are expected to result in reduced VMT, higher energy efficiency, and correspondingly more reductions in criteria pollutant emissions than originally

anticipated in the 2015 General Plan Amendment EIR. Pollutant emissions attributed directly to the 2019 CAP Update would not themselves result in significant impacts. However, due to the speculative nature of land use development through General Plan buildout, there is no way to guarantee implementation of the 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with the Approved Project would reduce criteria pollutant emissions to below regulatory thresholds. Therefore, air quality impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain *significant and unavoidable*.

The 2019 CAP Update encourages mixed-use development, which would increase the density and intensity of land uses on specific parcels in the County and therefore expose sensitive receptors to intensified construction and traffic noise. However, mixed-use development would reduce VMT and thus decrease traffic noise. In addition, implementation of the 2019 CAP Update would further reduce VMT, thus reducing overall ambient noise in the County from mobile sources. The 2019 CAP Update implementation would not add vehicle trips. Implementation of the GHG reduction measures of the 2019 CAP Update would augment existing County programs and policies with regard to transit-oriented development. Energy retrofits would likely reduce impacts from vehicular noise to occupants of the subject buildings since increased insulation and double- or triple-paned windows would act to buffer exterior noise levels. Therefore, noise impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update would not be significant, as implementation of GHG reduction measures identified in the CAP Update would result in overall VMT reduction, enhanced energy efficiency from building retrofits, and reduced impacts from exposure of sensitive receptors to increased noise levels. However, noise impacts associated with implementation of 2019 CAP Update in conjunction with buildout of the County General Plan would remain significant and unavoidable.

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SECTION 6.0	REFERENCES
Riverside, County of	County of Riverside General Plan. Adopted December 8, 2015.
	County of Riverside <i>Draft</i> 2019 Climate Action Plan Update. October 2019.
	County of Riverside Climate Action Plan. Adopted December 2015, as amended through July 2018.
	County of Riverside Environmental Impact Report No. 521. Certified December 8, 2015.