8. Impacts Found Not to Be Significant

California Public Resources Code Section 21003 (f) states: "…it is the policy of the state that…[a]ll persons and public agencies involved in the environmental review process be responsible for carrying out the process in the most efficient, expeditious manner in order to conserve the available financial, governmental, physical, and social resources with the objective that those resources may be better applied toward the mitigation of actual significant effects on the environment." This policy is reflected in the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Guidelines) Section 15126.2(a), which states that "[a]n EIR [Environmental Impact Report] shall identify and focus on the significant environmental impacts of the proposed project" and Section 15143, which states that "[t]he EIR shall focus on the significant effects on the environment."

This chapter includes an environmental analysis and finding of no impact or less than significant impact for the topics precluded from detailed discussion in Chapter 5, *Environmental Analysis*, of this DEIR.

8.1 AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency to non-agricultural use?

No Impact. CEQA considers impacts to three categories of important farmland: Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland. According to the California Department of Conservation Important Farmland Finder, there are no important farmlands in Sierra Madre (DOC 2014). There are also currently no agricultural uses in Sierra Madre. Additionally, as shown in Figures 3-2, *Current General Plan Land Use Plan*, and 3-6, *Proposed General Plan Land Use Plan*, the current and proposed land use plans do not have any land designated as agriculture. Furthermore, the City does not have any zoning designations for agricultural uses. Therefore, development in accordance with the General Plan Update and any land use changes proposed under the General Plan Update would have no impact on important farmlands nor convert any farmland to non-agricultural use.

B. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No Impact. The California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection maintains updated maps showing lands bearing Williamson Act contracts. According to the State of California Williamson Act Contract Land map (dated 2013) there are no lands within Sierra Madre under Williamson Act contracts (DLRP 2013). Additionally, the City does not have any zoning designations for agricultural uses.

8. Impacts Found Not to Be Significant

Therefore, development in accordance with the General Plan Update any land use changes proposed under the General Plan Update would not impact any Williamson Act lands or conflict with agricultural zoning.

C. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

No Impact. As shown in Figures 3-2, *Current General Plan Land Use Plan*, and 3-6, *Proposed General Plan Land Use Plan*, the current and proposed land use plans do not have any land designated as forest land, timberland, or timberland production. Sierra Madre's zoning map also does not zone any land for forest land, timberland, or timberland production. Additionally, as shown in Figure 3-6, the hillside areas in the northern portion of the project site, which consist of wilderness areas within the San Gabriel Mountains, would be designated as Natural Open Space, thereby ensuring that this area of the City remains in its existing condition.

It should also be noted that the hillside areas of the City do not consist of forest land or timberland. Forest land is defined as "land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits" (California Public Resources Code Section 12220[g]). Timberland is defined as "land…which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees" (California Public Resources Code Section 4526).

Furthermore, as stated in Section 3.2, *Statement of Objectives*, of Chapter 3, *Project Description*, one of the key objectives of General Plan Update is to protect and be responsible stewards of the neighboring San Gabriel Mountain foothill's wildlife, forest, open space, watershed and all other natural resources.

Therefore, development in accordance with the General Plan Update and any land use changes proposed under the General Plan Update would not impact forestry resources or timberland.

D. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. See response to section 8.1(c), above.

E. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. See response to sections 8.2(a), (b), and (c), above.

8.2 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. New development, redevelopment, and demolition activities permitted under the General Plan Update would involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. For example, commercial use operations would involve the use of hazardous materials including solvents, cleaning agents, paints, and pesticides. However, these would generally be materials that, when used correctly, would not result in a significant hazard to residents in Sierra Madre. Industrial-grade chemicals would also be transported, used, and disposed of consistent with current industrial operations in the City. In general, implementation of the General Plan Update would nominally increase the number of businesses and residents in the City, thereby also slightly increasing the potential amount of hazardous materials being transported, stored, and manufactured, and the amount of people being exposed to these materials. While businesses or users are required by federal, state, and local regulations to properly transport, use, and dispose of hazardous material within the City, it is possible that upset or accidental conditions may arise that result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

Existing regulations with respect to hazardous materials transportation, management, and disposal are designed to be protective of human health. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 regulates the generation, management, transportation, and disposal of hazardous waste. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) helps local communities protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards by requiring businesses to report the locations and quantities of chemicals stored onsite to state and local agencies to adequately inform communities and citizens of chemical hazards in their areas. Further, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Regulation 29 CFR Standard 1926.62 regulates the demolition, renovation, or construction of buildings involving lead materials, and requires the safe removal and disposal of lead and the safe demolition of buildings containing lead-based paint or other lead materials. Additional state regulations include the California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.95 and 19 California Code of Regulations Section 2729, which set out the minimum requirements for business emergency plans and chemical inventory reporting. These regulations require businesses to provide emergency response plans and procedures, training program information, and a hazardous material chemical inventory disclosing hazardous materials stored, used, or handled on site. Further, regulatory agencies including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, and California Department of Toxic Substances Control all regulate and protect people from exposure to hazardous wastes.

In addition to hazardous materials transported and used by residential and local businesses, hazardous materials may be transported through the community to and from locations outside the City as well. However, according to the National Hazardous Materials Route Registry maintained by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (a division of the U.S. Department of Transportation), roadways and state

routes near the Sierra Madre area are not prescribed to carry hazardous materials (FMCSA 2014). Therefore, roadways in Sierra Madre do not pose a potential for spills or leaks from non-stationary (mobile) sources. In addition, existing regulations exist to address the transport of hazardous materials. Vehicles carrying hazardous materials are required to have placards that indicate at a glance the chemicals being carried, and whether or not they are corrosive, flammable, or explosive. The conductors are required to carry detailed "material data sheets" for each of the substances on board. These documents are designed to help emergency response personnel assess the situation immediately upon arrival at the scene of an accident, and take the appropriate precautionary and mitigation measures. The California Highway Patrol is in charge of spills that occur in or along freeways, with Caltrans, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division, and local sheriffs providing additional resources as needed.

Given the various federal, state, and local regulations governing the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, overall impacts would be less than significant.

B. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to Section 8.2(a), above.

C. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to section 8.2(a), above.

There are a number of private and public schools within the City of Sierra Madre. However, like all areas of the City, the use of hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of these schools would continue to be regulated by the federal, state and local regulations, and impacts to schools would be less than significant.

D. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to section 8.2(a), above.

The EnviroStor database, maintained by the Department of Toxic Substance Control, identifies sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to investigate further. The database includes federal Superfund sites (National Priorities List); state response sites, voluntary cleanup sites; school investigation and cleanup sites; corrective action sites; and tiered California permit sites. It also includes sites that are being investigated for suspected but unconfirmed contamination. A search of this database for the City of Sierra Madre, found zero contaminated sites within the City (DTSC 2015).

The GeoTracker database, maintained by the State Water Regional Control Board, lists a range of types of hazardous materials sites that could affect groundwater quality, including leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites, cleanup program sites, land disposal sites, and military sites. A search of the Geotracker Database for Sierra Madre found four completed, case closed sites (two leaking underground storage tanks [LUST] and two cleanup program sites), and two open LUST cleanup sites at 621 Sierra Madre Boulevard and 50 Baldwin Avenue (Sierra Madre Ultramar) (Geotracker 2014). However, the two open LUST sites are required to undergo remediation and cleanup pursuant to regulations under the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) before future construction activities can begin. Furthermore, if any future specific project were to exceed regulatory action contamination levels, the project developer would be required to undertake remediation procedures under the supervision of the County Environmental Health Division, County Department of Toxic Substances Control, or LARWQCB, depending on the nature of the identified contaminants.

Additional federal and state regulations also exist that prevent or reduce hazards to the public and environment from existing hazardous materials sites. These include, but are not limited to: 1) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), which regulates closed and abandoned hazardous waste sites; 2) Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs), which establishes tools for evaluating and cleaning up contaminated sites; 3) Cortese List, which provides information about the location of hazardous materials release sites; and 4) California Human Health Screening Levels (CHHSLs), which evaluates sites with potential human health concerns.

Therefore, impacts associated with hazardous materials site listings would be less than significant.

E. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles or a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The closest airport to Sierra Madre is the El Monte Airport, which is approximately 4.6 miles south of Sierra Madre. The El Monte Airport does not have an airport land use plan and is located far enough from Sierra Madre to not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the City. Therefore, no impact would occur.

F. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. There are no private airstrips within or near the City of Sierra Madre (AirNav 2015). Therefore, implementation of the General Plan Update would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in Sierra Madre. Therefore, no impact would occur.

8. Impacts Found Not to Be Significant

G. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. Future development in accordance with the General Plan Update would involve minor alteration, intensification, and redistribution of land uses in Sierra Madre. However, the City is almost entirely built out, and the proposed land use changes would not result in substantial changes to the circulation patterns or emergency access routes. Therefore, impacts to emergency response plans would be less than significant.

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?

Less Than Significant Impact. Future development that would be accommodated under the General Plan Update would not alter the physical landscape of the City very much due to the built out nature of Sierra Madre. Most of the proposed land use changes are for specific parcels located primarily in the central area of the City (see Figure 3-5*, Infill Opportunity Sites*), which is located quite a distance for the City's vegetated hillside areas.

Additionally, the provisions of Chapter 17.52 (Hillside Management Zone) of the City's Municipal Code have and would continue to not only protect the natural environment of the City's hillside areas from change, but to protect the hillside areas from hazards such as fires. Any development that would occur in the City's hillside areas would be required to adhere to the provisions of Chapter 17.52. For example, as stated in Chapter 17.52, some of the purposes of this chapter include:

- Ensure that development in the hillside areas is located so as to result in the least environmental impact.
- Correlate intensity of development to steepness of terrain to minimize grading, removal of natural vegetation; and to prevent the creation of land instability or fire hazards.

Furthermore, Section 17.52.170 (Fire Prevention and Landscaping Standards) of the City's Municipal Code applies to development that would occur on properties within the Hillside Management (R-H) zoning district.

Therefore, impacts related to hazards from wildland fires would be less than significant.

8.3 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

A. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Less Than Significant Impact. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes national water quality standards. Pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, the EPA has also established regulations under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program to control direct stormwater discharges. In Sierra Madre, LARWQCB administers NPDES permitting programs and is responsible for developing wastewater discharge requirements. Construction and operation of planned development per the General Plan Update has the potential to discharge sediment and pollutants to storm drains and receiving waters.

The Construction General Permit (CGP; Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), effective July 17, 2012, regulates construction activities for construction projects of one acre or more to minimize water pollution, including sediment and pollutants. The CGP requires the development and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which would identify point and non-point sources of pollutant discharge during the construction phase that could adversely affect water quality of the City's receiving waters. The SWPPP also designates project-specific best management practices (BMPs) that would be appropriate for achieving minimal pollutant discharge during construction. Each applicant under the CPG must ensure that a SWPPP is prepared prior to grading and is implemented during the construction phase. The SWPPP must list BMPs implemented on the construction site to reduce stormwater runoff and must contain a visual monitoring program; a chemical monitoring program for "non-visible" pollutants to be implemented if there is a failure of BMPs; and a monitoring plan if the site discharges directly to a water body listed on the state's 303(d) list of impaired waters. By implementing the BMPs, development projects would be able to minimize construction impacts on the water quality of the City's receiving waters.

In December 2012, LARWQCB reissued the "Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County, Except Those Discharges Originating from the City of Long Beach MS4" as Order No. R4-2012-0175 (NPDES Permit No. CAS004001) to the County of Los Angeles, the 84 incorporated cities within Los Angeles County (including Sierra Madre), and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Pursuant to the MS4 Permit, the permittees are required to submit Reports of Waste Discharge (ROWD) to apply for renewal of their waste discharge requirements that serve as an NPDES permit to discharge storm water. In addition, the Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Water Permit (Order No. 96-054; NPDES Permit No. CAS61001) issued by LARWQC requires the City of Sierra Madre to adopt and implement applicable parts of the Countywide Storm Water Management Plan (CSWMP). Per Section 7.04.080 (Los Angeles County Model Programs Made Applicable) of the City's Municipal Code, the City of Sierra Madre has adopted and will implement within its jurisdiction the Storm Water Management Program and those of the CSWMP that have been developed and approved by the LAWQCB and pursuant Order No. 96-054.

8. Impacts Found Not to Be Significant

Further, under Chapter 15.58 (Low Impact Development Plan) of the City's Municipal Code, all applicable development projects are required to comply with the current municipal NPDES permit by preparing a low impact development (LID) plan to lessen water quality impacts of development and integrate LID design principles to mimic pre-development hydrology through infiltration, evapotranspiration and rainfall harvest and use. Applicable development projects are defined under Section 15.58.040 (Applicability) of the City's Municipal Code.

With compliance of the applicable regulations, future development in accordance with the General Plan Update would result in a less than significant impact related to water quality standards and waste discharge requirements.

B. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

Less Than Significant Impact.

Groundwater Supplies

Impacts on groundwater supplies are discussed in Section 5.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*. Refer to Section 5.13 for more information and a detailed discussion regarding water supply, including groundwater, and the potential impacts to groundwater supplies as a result of future development that would be accommodated by the General Plan Update.

Groundwater Recharge

Buildout of the City was determined by identifying infill opportunity sites (see Figure 3-5, *Infill Opportunity Sites*), which include some vacant but mostly underutilized parcels, likely to redevelop under the General Plan Update. Future development that would occur on the infill opportunity sites would have a minimal effect (if any) on usable groundwater reserves because they are located in largely developed areas of the City, and are not used for groundwater recharge.

Recharge water is percolated into the Eastern Unit at the city's spreading basins located on East Grandview Avenue, between Sycamore Place and Oak View Lane (eastern end of the city; land use designation area shown as Municipal in Figure 3-6, *Proposed Land Use Plan*). Future development in accordance with the General Plan Update would not impact the city's spreading basins, as no parcels within or near the spreading basins were identified as infill opportunity sites (see Figure 3-5, *Infill Opportunity Sites*), which are the sites where potential growth could occur under the General Plan Update. Groundwater recharge at the city's spreading ground occurs quite a ways from any of the identified infill opportunity sites. Additionally, the sources of the water used for groundwater recharge are Sierra Madre Creek, Santa Anita Canyon, and storm

runoff collected off of East Grandview at Sycamore Place; the source for groundwater recharge does not include percolation within individual development sites through the City.

Therefore, implementation of the General Plan Update would not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge and impacts would be less than significant.

C. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site?

Less Than Significant Impact. Stormwater drainage around the City could change due to site-specific grading and construction of impervious surfaces that would occur on the infill opportunity sites (see Figure 3-5, *Infill Opportunity Sites*), that is, structures and other hardscape improvements. Increasing impervious surfaces would increase stormwater runoff into the City's drainage system, local streams, and regional rivers. However, all new developments under the General Plan Update, if on sites larger than an acre, are required to comply with NPDES program and its CGP requirements, which include development and implementation of an SWPPP. The SWPPP would include measures to minimize pollutant discharge from project sites through BMPs that emphasize erosion prevention through sediment control, stabilizing slopes, and minimizing soil disturbance during both construction and operation phases. In addition, the City's LID plan requirements under Chapter 15.58 (Low Impact Development Plan) of the City's Municipal Code requires all planning priority projects to be designed to control pollutants, pollutant loads, and runoff volume to the maximum extent feasible by minimizing impervious surface area an controlling runoff from impervious surfaces through biofiltration, bioretention, bioswales, green roofs, infiltration, rainfall harvest and use, and any other appropriate LID BMPs. Given these federal and local regulations, impacts on existing drainage patterns and potential soil erosion would be less than significant.

D. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to section 8.3(c), above.

The SWPPP, required under the NPDES program and Construction General Permit requirements, must contain site maps showing the construction site perimeter, existing and proposed buildings, lots, roadways, stormwater collection and discharge points, general topography (before and after construction), and drainage patterns across the project. Additionally, all planning priority projects that add more than five hundred square feet or more of impervious surface area are required to implement appropriate LID BMPs to protect against excessive stormwater runoff. More specifically related to potential flooding on- or offsite, BMPs could include permeable/pervious concrete pavement, porous landscaping, bioretention (rain gardens), dry detention basins, infiltration basins, grassed swales, green roofs, etc. (EPA 2012). These design features would be specific to each new development in accordance with the General Plan Update. Therefore, impacts on existing drainage patterns and potential flooding would be less than significant.

E. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

Less Than Significant Impact. See responses to section 8.3(a), (c), and (d), above.

F. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. See response to section 8.3(a), above.

G. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No Impact. Flooding due to stormwater runoff poses little risk to residents or property in Sierra Madre given the well-controlled dams, basins, and flood control channels in the area (Sierra Madre 2012). Minor floods from primarily flash floods and/or flooding as a result of debris flows clogging the public drainage system have occurred in the past. However, the City is not located within a 100-year flood zone as indicated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) covering the City (FIRM Map Number 06037C1400F, effective September 26, 2008). The FIRM for Sierra Madre designates the majority of Sierra Madre as Flood Zone X, indicating that it is out of 100- and 500-year flood zones. A small northern portion of the City that comprises the foothills and a small segment centered along the Little Santa Anita Creek channel are classified as Zone D, indicating an area in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible (Sierra Madre 2012). Given that the entire City is not within any 100- or 500-year flood zones, the General Plan Update would not place any housing within a flood hazard area. Therefore, no impact as a result of a flood hazard area would occur.

H. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. See response to section 8.3(g), above. Given that the entire City is not within any 100- or 500-year flood zones, the General Plan Update would not place any structures within a flood hazard area. Therefore, no impact would occur.

I. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

Less Than Significant Impact. While dams have proven to be effective flood control tools, these structures also pose additional flood risks. Flooding that results from a structural failure, known as dam inundation, is the main risk associated with dams. An additional hazard posed is known as overtopping. Overtopping

describes situations where water escapes over the top of a dam without structural failure. Both overtopping and inundation can occur as the result of seismic activity.

The major dam that could have a significant impact on the City in the event of overtopping or dam failure is the Little Santa Anita Dam, also known as Sierra Madre Dam. A good portion of the City is within the inundation area of the Sierra Madre Dam, as mapped by the California Office of Emergency Services (OES 2007). However, the probability of a catastrophic failure of these dams during an earthquake or other natural disaster is very low, and emergency evacuation procedures are in place in the event of dam failure. Due to the method of construction of this dam, it has performed well in earthquakes, and failure is not expected to occur. In the event of a dam failure, the City would coordinate with its Community Emergency Response Team and the Sierra Madre Fire and Police Department's to ensure that all emergency measures and response systems are implemented to the fullest during such a disaster.

Additionally, as stated in the City's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Sierra Madre Dam is considered a "dry" dam and functions solely as a flood control device, only containing water during rainy seasons (Sierra Madre 2008). Furthermore, the dam is required by Division 3 of the California Water Code to be monitored periodically for structural safety. Surveillance measurements of dams in California are the responsibility of the owner and are subject to supervision by the Department of Water Resources, as specified in the California Water Code.

Therefore, impacts from potential dam failure would be less than significant.

J. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

Less Than Significant Impact. The following describes potential impacts to people and structures from seiches, tsunamis, and mudflows as a result of implementation of the General Plan Update. As demonstrated below, the General Plan Update would not expose people or structures to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Seiche

A seiche is a surface wave created when a body of water is shaken, usually by earthquake activity. Seiches are of concern relative to water storage facilities, because inundation from a seiche can occur if the wave overflows a containment wall, such as the wall of a reservoir, water storage tank, dam, or other artificial body of water. Although there are no large water tanks in the area that could impact Sierra Madre, there is the Little Santa Anita Dam located to the northeast of the City that could create flooding impacts. However, as stated above, the Little Santa Anita Dam is considered a "dry" dam and functions solely as a flood control device and only contains water during rainy seasons. Failure of the Little Santa Anita Dam is very unlikely.

Tsunami

A tsunami is a series of ocean waves caused by a sudden displacement of the ocean floor, most often due to earthquakes, but can also occur due to a landslide, volcanic eruption, or even by a large meteor hitting the

ocean. An event such as an earthquake creates a large displacement of water resulting in a rise or mounding at the ocean surface that moves away from this center as a sea wave. Tsunamis generally affect coastal communities and low-lying (low-elevation) river valleys in the vicinity of the coast. Buildings closest to the ocean and near sea level are most at jeopardy from a tsunami. The City is approximately 25 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. Therefore, no impacts from a tsunami would occur.

Mudflow

Mudflows (or debris flows) are fluid mass of rock, earth, and other debris saturated with water and with the consistency of wet cement. Mudflows are characteristic of steep, scantily vegetated slopes under heavy rainfall. They develop when water rapidly accumulates in the ground, such as during heavy rainfall or rapid snowmelt, changing the earth into a flowing river or slurry of mud. Mudflows can move rapidly down slopes or through channels and can strike with little or no warning at avalanche speeds.

The vast majority of the City is relatively level, with minimal changes in elevation; however, the hillside areas in the northern portion of the City have significant slopes that could result in mudflow impacts to adjacent and surrounding land uses. A heavy downpour of rain could make the mostly undeveloped hillsides susceptible to mudflows, thereby potentially impacting residences and businesses within the City that are located at the foot of the hillsides, as well as the residences that are located in various areas of the hillsides. However, rainwater that flows across the surface of the undeveloped portions of the hills are captured in and distributed through the major drainages that exist throughout the various areas of the hillsides and along the foot of the hillsides. Many of the existing development and improvements along these hillsides include paved roads and drainage features, including man-made and natural channels. Additionally, the soils and vegetation that are found on the undeveloped portions of the hillsides help slow down runoff and provide for ground infiltration; thereby, reducing the amount of rainwater that sheet flows off the hillsides. Furthermore, as a standard requirement, any development that would occur along the hillsides would require submittal of drainage and grading plans to the City for review and approval.

8.4 MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact. Sierra Madre does not contain any nonfuel mineral resources of statewide or regional importance. The California Geological Survey (CGS) classifies the regional significance of mineral resources in accordance with the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) of 1975. The State Geologist is responsible for classifying areas within California that are subject to urban expansion or other irreversible land uses. The State Geologist is also responsible for classifying Mineral Resource Zones (MRZ) to record the presence or absence of significant mineral resources in the state based on CGS data.

Lands designated MRZ-2 are of the greatest importance. Such areas are underlain by demonstrated mineral resources or are located where geologic data indicate that significant measured or indicated resources are present. MRZ-2 areas are "regionally significant." This requires that a lead agency's land use decisions involving designated areas be made in accordance with its mineral resource management policies (if any exist) and that it consider the importance of the mineral resource to the region or the state as a whole, not just to the lead agency's jurisdiction. The MRZ-1 zones are areas where adequate geologic information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence. MRZ-3 indicates areas of undetermined mineral resource significance. MRZ-4 indicates areas where available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ zone.

The MRZ classification areas in Sierra Madre are shown in the CGS mineral resources map, "Generalized Mineral Land Classification of Los Angeles County – South Half" (CGS 1994). Per the CGS mineral resources map, the City falls within the MRZ-3 and MRZ-4 zones. No areas are designated MRZ-2. Therefore, development in accordance with the General Plan Update would not impact any areas of known mineral resources.

B. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact. See response to Section 8.1(a), above. There are no locally important mineral resource recovery sites in the City. Therefore, future development in accordance with the General Plan Update would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource, and impacts relating to mineral resources recovery sites would be less than significant.

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8. Impacts Found Not to Be Significant

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