

## 6. Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

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Chapter 1, *Executive Summary*, contains Table 1-1, which summarizes the impacts, mitigation measures, and levels of significance before and after mitigation. While mitigation measures would reduce the level of impact, the following impacts would remain significant, unavoidable, and adverse after mitigation measures are applied:

### Air Quality

- **Impact 5.2-2:** Construction activities associated with the proposed General Plan Update would generate short-term emissions in exceedance of SCAQMD'S threshold criteria and cumulatively contribute to the nonattainment designations of the SoCAB. Mitigation Measure 2-1 would reduce criteria air pollutants generated from project-related construction activities. Buildout under the General Plan Update would occur over a period of approximately 20 years or longer. Construction time frames and equipment for individual site-specific projects are not available and there is a potential for multiple developments to be constructed at any one time, resulting in significant construction-related emissions. Therefore, despite adherence to Mitigation Measures 2-1 in addition to the applicable policies and implementation measures of the General Plan Update and Implementation Program, respectively, Impact 5.2-2 would remain **significant and unavoidable**.
- **Impact 5.2-4:** Implementation of the General Plan Update could result in new sources of criteria air pollutant emissions and toxic air contaminants that could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Mitigation Measure 2-1 would reduce the project's regional construction emissions and therefore also reduce the project's localized construction-related criteria air pollutant emissions to the extent feasible. However, because existing sensitive receptors may be close to project-related construction activities, construction emissions generated by individual development projects accommodated by the General Plan Update have the potential to exceed SCAQMD's LSTs. Therefore, Impact 5.2-4 with respect to construction-related LST impacts would remain **significant and unavoidable**.

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- **Impact 5.6-2:** Growth of the City under the General Plan Update would not meet the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions reduction target of Executive Order S-03-05 without additional federal, state, and local GHG reduction measures and plans. Mitigation Measure 6-1 would ensure that the City continues to implement actions that reduce GHG emissions from buildout of the General Plan Update. However, additional federal and state measures would be necessary to reduce GHG emissions to meet the long-term GHG reduction goals under Executive Order S-03-05, which identified a goal to reduce GHG emissions to 80 percent of 1990 levels by 2050. At this time, there is no plan past 2020 that

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achieves the long-term GHG reduction goal established under S-03-05. As identified by the California Council on Science and Technology, the state cannot meet the 2050 goal without major advancements in technology (CCST 2012). Since no additional federal or state measures are currently available that would ensure that the City of Sierra Madre could achieve an interim post-2020 target, Impact 5.6-2 would remain **significant and unavoidable**.

### Noise

- **Impact 5.10-6:** Construction activities associated with buildout of the General Plan Update would substantially elevate noise levels in the vicinity of sensitive land uses. Mitigation Measure 10-1 would reduce noise impacts associated with construction activities to the extent feasible. However, due to the potential for proximity of construction activities to sensitive uses and potential longevity of construction activities, and despite the application of mitigation measures, Impact 5.10-6 would remain **significant and unavoidable**.
- **Impact 5.10-7:** Construction activities associated with buildout of the General Plan Update would expose sensitive uses to strong levels of groundborne vibration. Mitigation Measures 10-2 would reduce vibration impacts associated with construction activities to the extent feasible. However, due to the potential for proximity of construction activities to sensitive uses and potential longevity of construction activities, and despite the application of mitigation measures, Impact 5.10-7 would remain **significant and unavoidable**.

### Utilities and Service Systems

- **Impact 5.13-3:** Implementation of Mitigation Measures USS-1 through USS-12 would help reduce impacts on water supply as a result of future development that would be accommodated by the General Plan Update. However, considering the City's current water supply constraints—including the present serious drought conditions and the City's inability to access its adjudicated ground water in the Eastern Unit of the Raymond Basin due to low groundwater levels—impacts on water supply due to future development that would be accommodated by the General Plan Update are considered **significant and unavoidable**.