DRAFT

INITIAL STUDY/
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN 2026

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

LSA

September 2026

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LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN 2026

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Submitted to:

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September 2026

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AB	Assembly Bill
ABAG	Association of Bay Area Governments
ACCWP	Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program
ACTC	Alameda County Transportation Commission
AIA	Airport Influence Area
Air District	Bay Area Air District
ATP	Active Transportation Plan
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan
BMP	best management practices
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Cal Water	California Water Service
CALGreen Code	California Green Building Standards Code
California Register	California Register of Historical Resources
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CBC	California Building Code
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CGS	California Geological Survey
CH_4	methane
City	City of Livermore
Clean Air Plan	Bay Area 2017 Clean Air Plan
CO	carbon monoxide
CO_2	carbon dioxide
CO_2e	carbon dioxide equivalent
Construction General Permit	SWRCB NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities
County	County of Alameda

CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel(s)
dBA	A-weighted decibel(s)
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EACCS	East Alameda County Conservation Strategy
EBRPD	East Bay Regional Park District
EFZ	Earthquake Fault Zones
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
ESS	Extended Student Services
FHSZs	Fire Hazard Severity Zones
FMMP	Farmland Mapping Monitoring Program
GHG	greenhouse gases
GWP	global warming potential
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HFCs	hydrofluorocarbons
IS	Initial Study
LARPD	Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District
L_{dn}	day-night average level
L_{eq}	equivalent continuous sound level
LID	low impact development
L_{max}	maximum instantaneous noise level
LRA	Local Responsibility Area
LVJUSD	Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
MMI	Modified Mercalli Intensity
MRP	Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zones
MTC	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
N_2O	nitrous oxide

NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plans
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NO_x	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PBO	programmatic biological opinion
PFCs	perfluorocarbons
$PM_{2.5}$	particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in diameter
PM_{10}	particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter
PPV	peak particle velocity
PRC	California Public Resources Code
proposed Plan	Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026
RMS	root-mean-square
ROG	reactive organic gas
San Francisco Bay RWQCB	San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
SF_6	sulfur hexafluoride
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SO_2	sulfur dioxide
SRA	State Responsibility Area
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TACs	toxic air contaminants
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
WRP	City of Livermore Water Reclamation Plant
Zone 7	Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7

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1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **Project Title:**

   Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan 2026

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**

   Livermore Area Recreation and Park District
   4444 East Avenue
   Livermore, CA 94550

3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:**

   David Weisgerber, Communications and Planning Manager
   925-373-5765
   dweisgerber@larpd.org

4. **Project Location:**

   The project area is within a 243.5-square-mile area in the Livermore Valley including the city of Livermore and unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County. The project area is bounded by Contra Costa County to the north, San Joaquin County to the east, Santa Clara County to the south, and the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin to the west.

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**

   Livermore Area Recreation and Park District
   4444 East Avenue
   Livermore, CA 94550

6. **General Plan Designation:**

   The project area includes various General Plan land use designations.

7. **Zoning:**

   The project area includes various zoning districts.

8. **Description of Project:**

   The Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District (LARPD) proposes to adopt the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan 2026 (proposed Plan), which is a comprehensive update to the 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan. The proposed Plan is intended to guide the development, enhancement, and management of parks, trails, recreation facilities, open space, and programs within LARPD's jurisdiction (proposed Plan area or project area) over the next 10 years. Please see Section 2.0, Project Description, for a more detailed description of the proposed Plan.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

As previously described, the proposed Plan area encompasses the Livermore Valley, which includes Livermore and unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County. The proposed Plan area is bounded by Contra Costa County to the north, San Joaquin County to the east, Santa Clara County to the south, and the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin to the west. As a result, it includes a variety of land uses, including developed urban areas, agriculture and undeveloped open space.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required (e.g., permits, financial approval, or participation agreements):

None

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resource Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

Native American consultation was conducted pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1. On September 3, 2026, the LARPD sent invitations to Native American tribes who had been identified as traditionally or culturally affiliated with the proposed Plan area. See Section 4.18, Tribal Cultural Resources, for details regarding the tribal consultation process.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following describes the proposed Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan 2026 (proposed Plan), which establishes a long-range planning framework for parks, recreation, and trails within LARPD's service area, and is the subject of this Initial Study prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District (LARPD) is the lead agency for review of the proposed project under CEQA.

As described further in Section 2.4, this Initial Study provides a programmatic environmental analysis to support LARPD's adoption of the proposed Master Plan. Adoption of the Master Plan does not approve or authorize construction of individual projects. As future projects are developed, they will undergo project-specific environmental review, as appropriate, and may rely on this programmatic environmental analysis to the extent permitted by the *State CEQA Guidelines.*

2.1 PROJECT SITE

The following describes the proposed Plan area location, existing conditions, surrounding land uses, and regulatory setting.

2.1.1 Project Location

The proposed Plan area is an approximately 243.5-square-mile area in the Livermore Valley including Livermore and unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County. The proposed Plan area is bounded by Contra Costa County to the north, San Joaquin County to the east, Santa Clara County to the south, and Pleasanton and Dublin to the west. **Figure 2-1** shows the regional location of the proposed Plan area. **Figure 2-2** shows the proposed Plan area boundary and LARPD's sphere of influence.

2.1.2 Existing Conditions

LARPD currently manages approximately 51 parks, open space areas, recreation and support facilities, Extended Student Services sites, and special use facilities, totaling 1,978 acres. This is equivalent to 21 acres per 1,000 residents. LARPD classifies parks and public land into categories based on their size, function, and character. These categories are:

- **Neighborhood Parks (Up to 15 acres).** Designed to serve nearby residents and provide convenient access to recreation opportunities within walking distance of surrounding neighborhoods. Typical amenities may include playgrounds, open turf areas, picnic areas, shade structures, sports courts, walking paths, landscaping, and other neighborhood-serving recreation amenities. LARPD currently manages 27 neighborhood parks, totaling 142 acres.

- **Community Parks (11+ acres).** Designed to serve residents throughout the LARPD and provide a variety of recreation opportunities, gathering spaces, and community serving amenities. Typical amenities may include athletic fields, sports courts, aquatic facilities, community centers, dog parks, community gardens, picnic areas, open turf areas, parking lots, restrooms, playgrounds,

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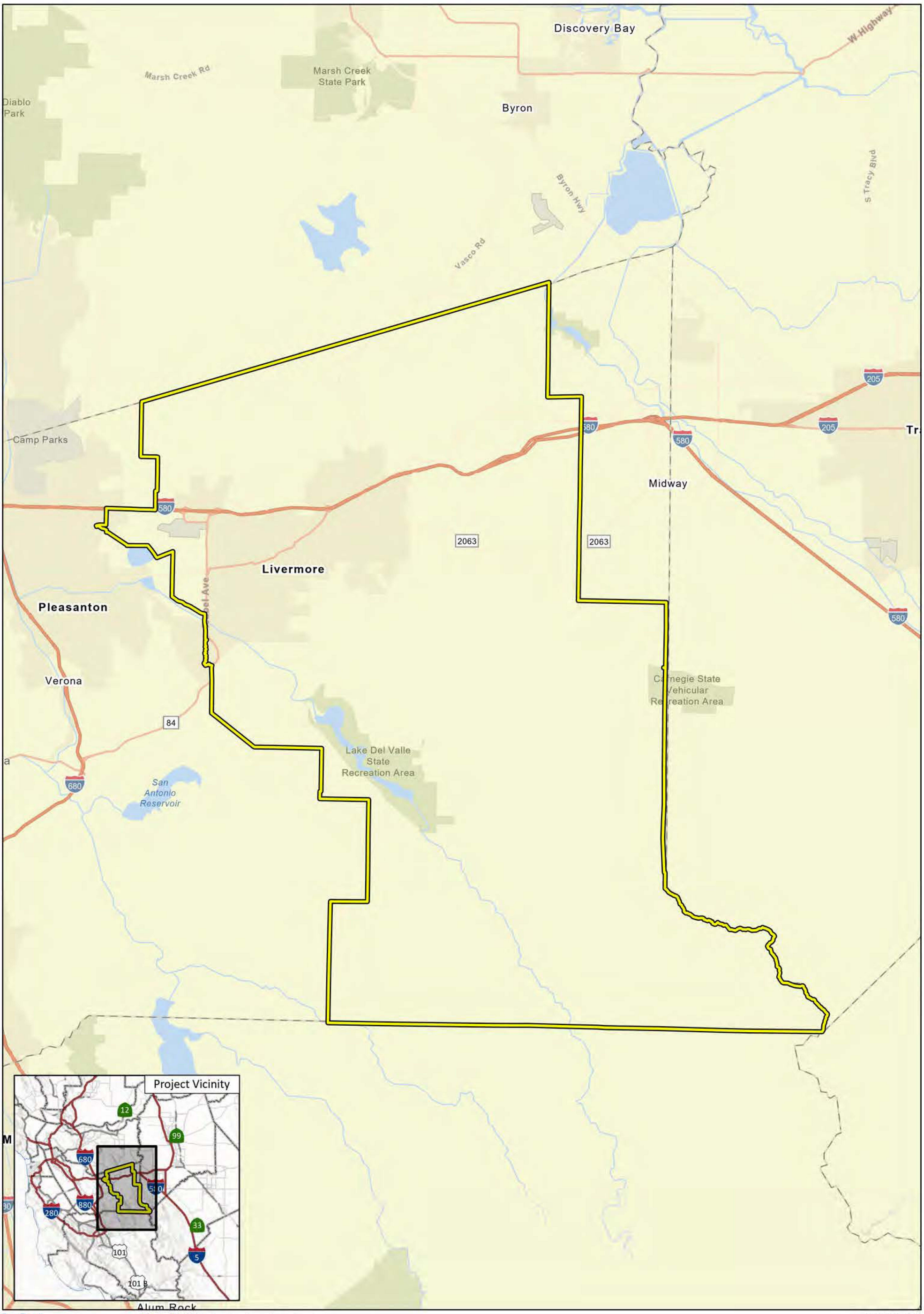

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LARPD Service Area Boundary

FIGURE 2-1

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FEET

SOURCE: Esri World Street Map (2024)

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Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026

Regional Location

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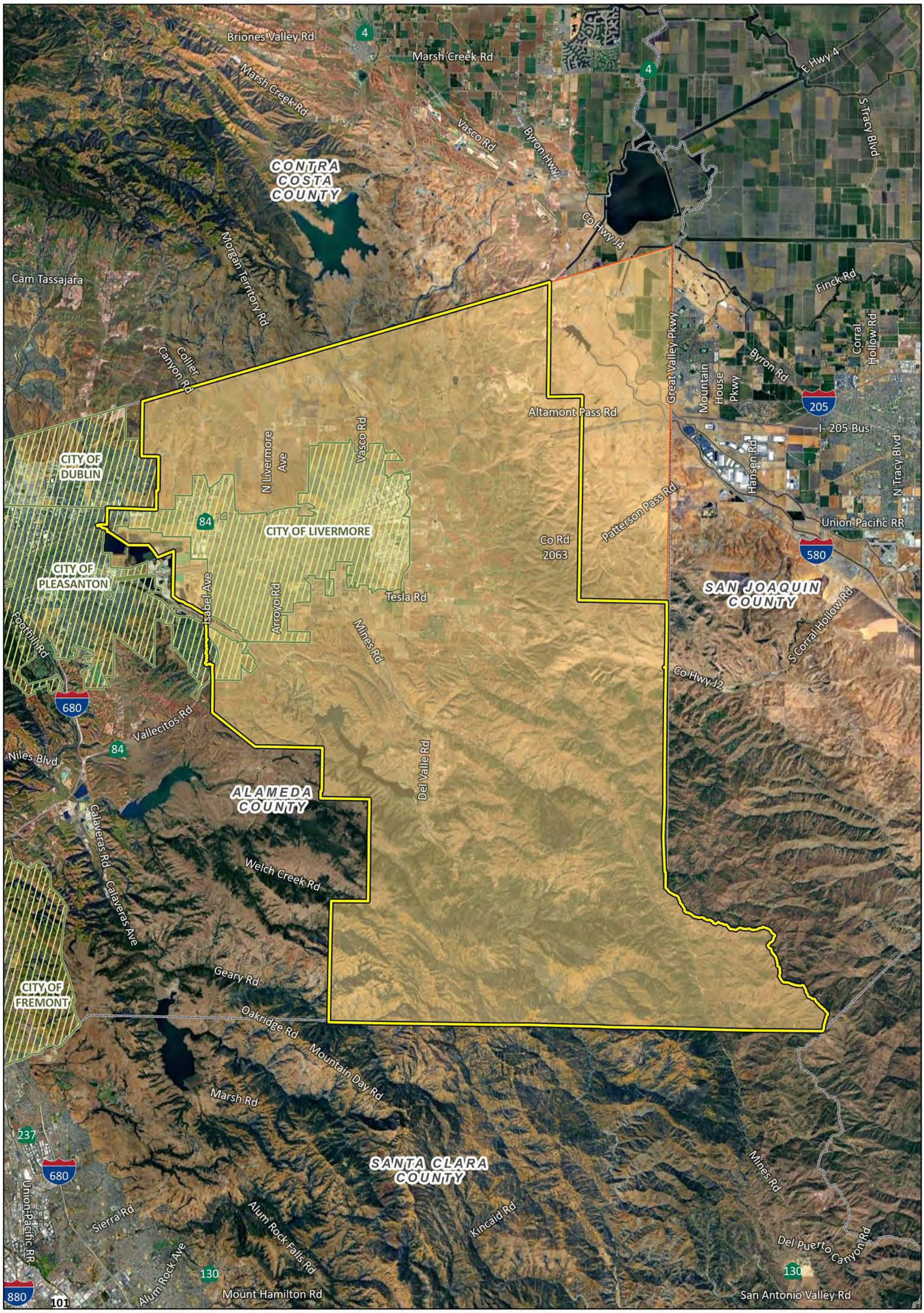

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FIGURE 2-2

SOURCE: Google Maps (2024)

I:\2025\20252546\GIS\Pro\Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026\Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026.aprx (Fig 2-2 - Plan Area and LARPD Sphere of Influence)
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Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026

Plan Area and LARPD Sphere of Influence

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event spaces, and other recreation facilities. LARPD currently manages nine community parks, totaling 328 acres.

- **Special Use Facilities.** Sites that support a specialized recreational, cultural, historic, environmental, or community function. Examples may include skate parks, sports complexes, historic sites, cultural facilities, interpretive areas, event venues, and other specialized recreation amenities. LARPD currently manages nine special use facilities, totaling 63 acres.

- **Open Space Areas.** Lands managed for outdoor recreation, resource protection, environmental education, and preservation of natural and cultural resources. Typical amenities may include trails, trailheads, staging areas, interpretive facilities, overlooks, picnic areas, habitat restoration areas, educational facilities, and other improvements that support public access and stewardship. LARPD currently manages six open space areas totaling 1,445 acres.

- **Recreation and Support Facilities.** These include indoor recreation, aquatic, community, cultural, educational, and administrative facilities that support LARPD programs, services, and operations. Typical facilities may include community centers, aquatic facilities, preschools, program spaces, maintenance facilities, administrative offices, and other support buildings. LARPD currently manages nine recreation and support facilities.

- **Extended Student Services (ESS) Sites.** Sites provide facilities that support before-school, after-school, seasonal, educational, and youth development programs in partnership with local schools. Typical facilities may include classrooms, portable buildings, outdoor activity areas, storage facilities, administrative spaces, and other program-support amenities. LARPD currently manages eight ESS Sites.

Figure 2-3 shows existing LARPD parks and facilities. **Figure 2-4** shows existing and proposed trails within the Plan area**.**

2.1.3 Surrounding Land Uses

Policies and goals of the proposed Plan apply to the entire LARPD service area; consequently, the project area or setting includes the entirety of Livermore and parks and open space areas outside of the city limits within the LARPD service area, the boundaries of which are concurrent with the proposed Plan area.

2.1.4 Regulatory Setting

LARPD uses park, recreation, and open space standards to help guide long-range planning, evaluate service needs, and support balanced investment throughout the service area. The LARPD standards are shown in Table 2.A.

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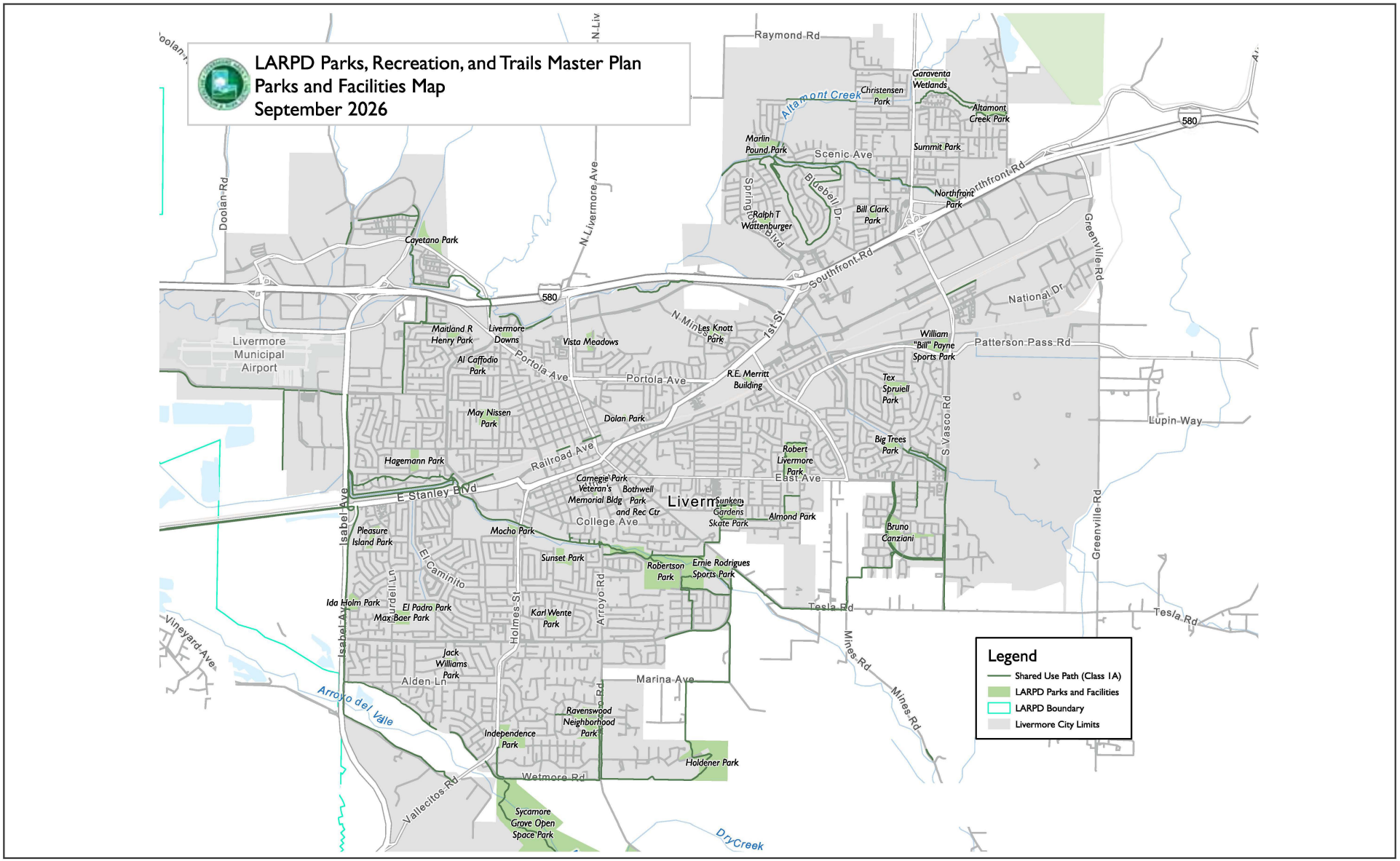

FIGURE 2-3

SOURCE: Livermore Parks and Recreation Area (Sept 2026)

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Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026

Existing Parks and Facilities Map

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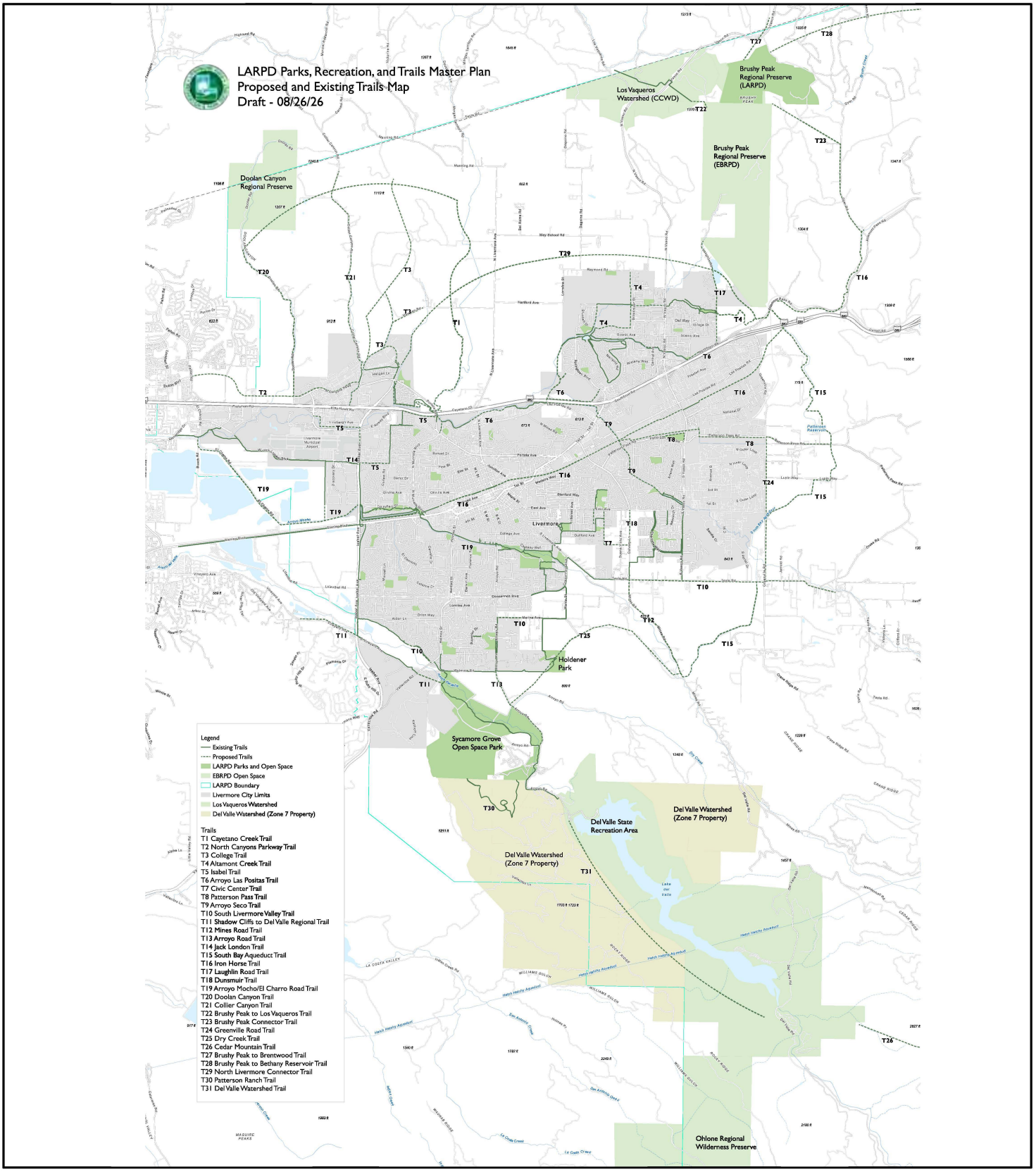

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FIGURE 2-4

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SOURCE: Livermore Parks and Recreation Area (8/26/2026)

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Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026

Existing and Proposed Trails

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Table 2.A: LARPD Park and Open Space Standards

Facility Type	Standard
Local Park Standards	
Community Parks	3.5 acres/1,000 residents
Neighborhood Parks	1.5 acres/1,000 residents
Special Use Facilities	1 acre/1,000 residents
Total	**6 acres/1,000 residents**
Open Space Standard	
Open Space[1]	200 acres/1,000 residents

Source: Master Plan 2026 (2026).

[1] The Open Space standard includes publicly accessible regional open space, trails, and natural areas throughout the LARPD service area, regardless of ownership or management agency.

LARPD = Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District

In addition to these acreage standards, LARPD also considers access to parks and open space as part of its planning framework, with a goal of ensuring that all neighborhoods are within 0.5 mile of a neighborhood park or 1.0 mile of a community park or open space and in denser specific plan areas (average of 20 dwelling units per acre or greater), that all units are within 0.25 mile of a park or open space. LARPD also prioritizes trail gap closures and trail connections to denser neighborhoods to facilitate non-motorized access to parks and open space. LARPD monitors how facilities are used to determine when additional investment, operational changes, or expanded capacity may be warranted.

2.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The proposed Plan builds upon other planning documents undertaken by LARPD, including the 2024 LARPD Strategic Plan, the 2017 LARPD Asset Management Plan and the 2016 LARPD Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. LARPD's 2024 Strategic Plan identified the need to proactively plan for changing community needs, aging infrastructure, future facility demands, and long-term funding strategies. the proposed Plan expands upon that direction by establishing a long-range framework for parks, recreation, trails, facilities, and open space over the next decade.

The proposed Plan includes input from the community and facility users to identify interests, needs, improvements, and satisfaction with LARPD programming and facilities. As part of the planning process, LARPD conducted a statistically valid survey, community outreach and stakeholder engagement In order to assess community expectations, facility requirements, and recreation demand.

In addition, the proposed Plan is influenced by the City of Livermore (City) and other agency planning efforts, including the City of Livermore Active Transportation Plan and the East Bay Regional Park District Master Plan Update, which seek to improve parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities within and adjacent to the Plan area. Furthermore, the proposed Plan supports other City and County planning efforts, including the City of Livermore General Plan 2045 and the East County Area Plan. These related planning documents are described briefly below.

In 2018, the City of Livermore adopted the Active Transportation Plan (ATP), which includes a set of goals, policies, and implementation programs for improving Livermore's bicycle and pedestrian network, and related capital projects to help accomplish the ATP's objectives. The ATP proposes a variety of bicycle and pedestrian facilities including network improvements for shared path and bikeway facility projects, crossing improvements, and citywide projects.

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Master Plan was used in the formation of trail connections for the LARPD trail system included in the proposed Plan.

The City of Livermore General Plan 2045 and the East County Area Plan require coordination between City, County, LARPD, and EBRPD for the preservation of natural resources and development and maintenance of recreational facilities and programs.

2.3 PROPOSED PROJECT

The LARPD proposes to adopt the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan 2026, which is a comprehensive update to the 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan. The proposed Plan is intended to guide the development, enhancement, and management of parks, trails, recreation facilities, open space, and programs within LARPD's jurisdiction over the next 10 years. The proposed Plan establishes a framework for future decision-making through adopted policies, service standards, priorities, and implementation tools to address the growing and changing population and physical environment, existing infrastructure deficiencies and the associated demands for new and/or improved community recreation facilities and programs. The proposed Plan reflects community priorities, Board policy direction, system assessments, and planning analysis. Rather than serving as a fixed list of projects, the proposed Plan provides a flexible roadmap for maintaining existing assets, expanding recreation opportunities, improving connectivity, and supporting long-term stewardship of public resources.

The proposed Plan is organized around three main themes, which emerged through the community engagement process, system assessment, planning context analysis, and Board policy discussions. These themes are (1) Expanding LARPD's Role in Regional Open Space, (2) Adapting to Future Growth, and (3) Sustaining and Reinvesting in Existing Assets. These themes establish the framework for the goals, policies, priorities, and recommendations contained throughout the proposed Plan.

2.3.1 Master Plan 2026 Goals

Chapter 3, Goals and Policies, of the proposed Plan, includes over 50 policies to achieve the following system-wide goals, as listed below. Appendix A lists all of the policies and actions included in the proposed Plan.

2.3.1.1 Planning

Planning decisions should guide long-term investment, improve access and connectivity, protect community and environmental resources, and provide sustainable delivery of parks, trails, facilities, programs, and services. This section establishes the broader framework for evaluating partnerships, capital investments, open space priorities, and community needs.

- **Goal P.1. System Planning.** Plan and deliver a coordinated system of parks, trails, open space, and facilities that reflect community needs, address service gaps, and pursue LARPD priorities.

- **Goal P.2 Resource Stewardship.** Plan, develop, and manage facilities and open space in a manner that protects resources, respects surrounding uses, and supports environmental stewardship.

- **Goal P.3 Planning Documents and Standards.** Maintain current and adaptable planning tools that support effective, efficient project development, long-term financial sustainability, operational readiness, and responsible asset management.

- **Goal P.4 Future Growth and Development Coordination.** As the Livermore Area continues to evolve, development in the Midtown area, the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan area, and future development areas will create new needs related to parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space connections. LARPD will continue coordinating with the City of Livermore and other partners to plan for recreation and trail needs associated with growth and planning efforts.

2.3.1.2 Regional Coordination and Partnerships

Coordinate with partners throughout the region to facilitate resource protection and efficiently deliver access to a wide range of facilities, trails, and programs.

- **Goal R.1 Partnerships and Regional Coordination.** Utilize partnerships and regional coordination to improve efficiency, expand access, and advance projects and services that would be difficult to achieve independently.

2.3.1.3 Design, Infrastructure, and Asset Management

LARPD's parks, facilities, trails, and infrastructure represent a significant public investment. Planning, routine maintenance, lifecycle replacement, and thoughtful design help protect these assets, support reliable service, and provide safe, accessible, and high-quality facilities for the community.

- **Goal D.1 High Quality, Functional, and Accessible Facilities.** Plan, design, and improve parks, trails, facilities, open space areas, and infrastructure that are safe, attractive, durable, accessible, functional, and responsive to community needs.

- **Goal D.2 Sustainable Infrastructure and Asset Management.** Manage facilities, infrastructure, and open space assets in a manner that provides long-term operational sustainability, responsible investment, and effective stewardship of public resources.

- **Goal D.3 Environmental Stewardship and Resource Efficiency.** Design and manage parks, open space areas, facilities, and infrastructure to protect significant natural resources, support environmental stewardship, and promote efficient use of public resources.

2.3.1.4 Finance and Implementation Strategy

Maintain financial sustainability through responsible planning, balanced cost recovery, strategic partnerships, and diversified funding approaches that align with LARPD priorities, operational capacity, and community benefit.

- **Goal F.1 Financial Sustainability and Project Readiness.** Evaluate operational, maintenance, and funding impacts when considering new facilities, capital projects, service expansions, and major investments.
- **Goal F.2 Balanced Cost Recovery and Community Access.** Provide a mix of fee-supported and subsidized programs, services, and facilities that balance financial sustainability with community benefit and community access.
- **Goal F.3 Diversified Funding and Revenue Strategies.** Pursue diverse and sustainable funding approaches that support LARPD priorities, capital improvements, maintenance obligations, and community services.

2.3.1.5 Historic and Cultural Resource Stewardship

Historic and cultural resources contribute to community identity, educational opportunities, and the long-term character of the LARPD's parks, facilities, and open space areas.

- **Goal HC.1 Preserve and Steward Historic and Cultural Resources.** Support preservation, stewardship, and appropriate use of historic facilities, cultural resources, and historically significant sites owned or operated by the LARPD.
- **Goal HC.2 Support Community Heritage and Cultural Traditions.** Support community traditions, cultural events, and longstanding community partnerships that contribute to Livermore's identity and heritage.

2.3.1.6 Programs, Services, and Community Access

Provide recreation programs, services, community engagement opportunities, and open space experiences that support wellness, learning, stewardship, and quality of life for the Livermore Area.

- **Goal PS.1 Responsive and Community-Focused Recreation Opportunities.** Provide recreation opportunities, programs, and services that respond to community needs and support wellness, enrichment, social connection, and quality of life.
- **Goal PS.2 Community Access and Participation.** Support access to LARPD programs, services, facilities, and community engagement opportunities.
- **Goal PS.3 Environmental and Educational Programming.** Provide recreation, educational, and interpretive opportunities that connect the community to parks, trails, open space, and the natural environment.

2.3.1.7 Organizational Capacity and Governance

Maintain organizational practices, workforce capacity, and operational coordination that support delivery of LARPD services, stewardship responsibilities, and implementation of Master Plan priorities.

- **Goal OG.1 Organizational Readiness and Workforce Development.** Support organizational practices and workforce development efforts that enable the LARPD to adapt to changing community needs, operational responsibilities, and long-term service expectations.

- **Goal OG.2 Transparent and Responsible Governance.** Support transparent decision-making, public accountability, and responsible governance practices that maintain community trust and support LARPD stewardship.

- **Goal OG.3 Emergency Preparedness and Operational Coordination.** Maintain coordination and preparedness efforts that support continuity of operations, public safety, and LARPD response capabilities during emergencies and major disruptions.

2.3.2 Master Plan 2026 Priorities

Chapter 5, Implementation Plan, of the proposed Plan, provides a framework for maintaining existing assets, expanding parks, recreation, trails, and open space opportunities, and guiding future investments across the LARPD system and identifies potential priorities for investment. However, recognizing that community needs, funding opportunities, partnerships, and implementation conditions will continue to evolve over time, recommendations identified in the proposed Plan are intended to provide flexible guidance rather than a fixed list of projects. Key recommendations identified in the proposed Plan are described further below and shown on **Figure 2-5.**

2.3.2.1 Priority Reinvestment Projects

These projects support LARPD's goal to prioritize reinvestment in aging facilities and infrastructure. The following priorities provide guidance for long-term investments; health and safety issues would be addressed immediately as they arise.

- **Playground Replacement Program.** Continue implementing the LARPD's Playground Replacement Program to systematically replace aging playgrounds and related amenities as they reach the end of their useful life. Regular replacement helps maintain safety, accessibility, and quality recreation experiences throughout the park system. The following playgrounds have been identified for replacement:

    - Al Caffodio Park
    - Almond Park
    - Altamont Creek Park
    - Christensen Park
    - El Padro Park
    - Hagemann Park
    - Lester J. Knott Park

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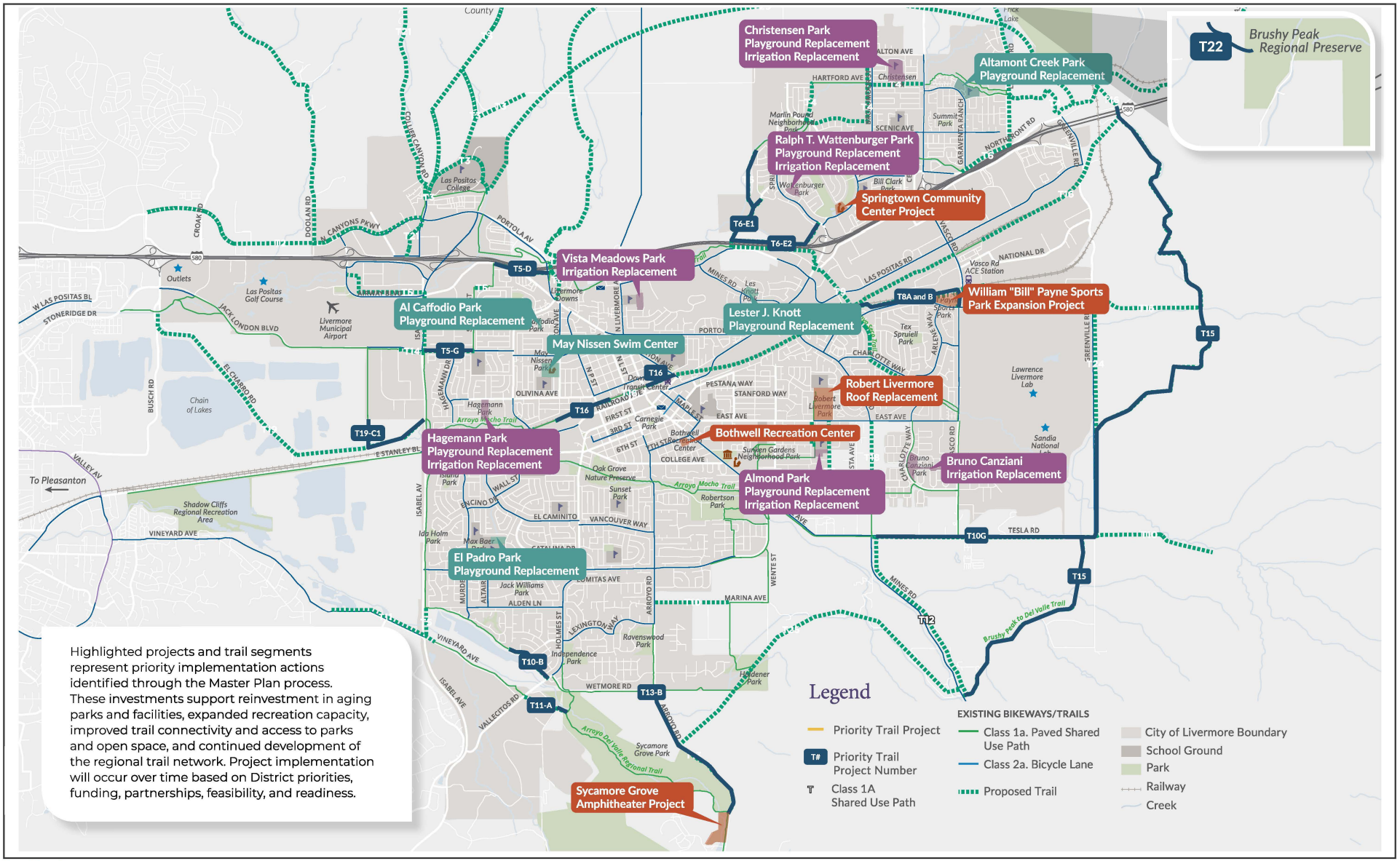

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FIGURE 2-5

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan 2026

Priority Projects

SOURCE: Livermore Parks and Recreation Area (Aug 2026)

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- Ralph T. Wattenburger Park

- **Irrigation Replacement Program.** Develop and implement districtwide irrigation replacement program to systematically identify, prioritize, and replace aging irrigation infrastructure. Strategic reinvestment in irrigation systems can improve reliability, support landscape health, improve water efficiency, and reduce overall lifecycle costs. The following parks have been identified for irrigation replacement:

  - Almond Park
  - Bruno Canziani Park
  - Christensen Park
  - Hagemann Park
  - Ralph T. Wattenburger Park
  - Vista Meadows Park

- **Robert Livermore Community Center Roof.** Replace the aging roof at the Robert Livermore Community Center to protect a critical community facility and support the continued delivery of recreation programs and services.

- **Bothwell Recreation Center.** Conduct a comprehensive facility planning study for the Bothwell Recreation Center to evaluate facility condition, operational needs, community demand, and reinvestment options. The study will identify the long-term role of the facility and develop an implementation strategy for future capital investment and improvements.

- **May Nissen Swim Center.** Conduct a comprehensive facility planning study for the May Nissen Swim Center in coordination with the City of Livermore to evaluate facility condition, operational needs, community demand, and reinvestment options. The study will identify long-term reinvestment priorities and develop an implementation strategy that maintains community access to aquatic recreation while guiding future capital investment and facility improvements.

2.3.2.2 Priority Expansion Projects

Community input, facility assessments, and Board direction identified several implementation actions for projects to expand recreation access, improve regional trail connectivity, address facility capacity constraints, and strengthen LARPD's role in open space stewardship. The following priorities represent opportunities to address these needs over the life of the proposed Plan.

- **Priority Trail Projects** listed below and shown on **Figure 2-5.**

  - T5-D and G: Isabel Trail
  - T6-E1 and E2: Arroyo Las Positas Trail
  - T8-A and B: Patterson Pass Trail (Note alternate alignment to T16)
  - T10-B and G: South Livermore Valley Trail
  - T11-A: Shadow Cliffs to Del Valle Trail
  - T13-B: Arroyo Road Trail
  - T15: South Bay Aqueduct Trail

- T16: Iron Horse Trail
- T19-C1: El Charro/Arroyo Mocho Trail
- T22: Brushy Peak to Los Vaqueros Trail

- **Recreation and Facility Expansion Priorities.** Additional recreation and facilities expansion priorities include:

  - **Master Joint Use Agreement with Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD).** Implement the Master Joint Use Agreement with the LVJUSD to expand community access to existing gymnasiums, aquatic facilities, athletic fields, and dedicated space for ESS programs. Expanded use of existing public facilities represents one of the most immediate opportunities to address identified recreation capacity constraints while maximizing community use of public resources. In addition to supporting ESS programming, shared-use facilities may provide future opportunities to expand recreation programs, community education, enrichment activities, and other community-serving programs as needs evolve.

  - **Springtown Community Center.** Advance planning for the next phase of Springtown Community Park through development of the Springtown Community Center. As funding and project readiness allow, the facility will expand recreation programming, provide community gathering space, and improve access to LARPD services in northwest Livermore.

  - **William "Bill" Payne Sports Park.** Advance implementation of the adopted 2018 William "Bill" Payne Sports Park Master Plan as funding, partnerships, and project readiness allow.

  - **Sycamore Grove Amphitheater.** Advance development of the Sycamore Grove Amphitheater to expand opportunities for community events, educational programming, performances, and nature-based recreation experiences.

  - **Future Open Space Opportunities.** Consistent with Board direction, LARPD should continue evaluating opportunities for open space stewardship, public access, conservation partnerships, easements, and acquisitions as opportunities arise. Implementation will remain flexible because many of these efforts depend on willing landowners, partnerships, grant funding, and conservation opportunities.

2.4 APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

As a policy document, the proposed Plan does not authorize any physical development or improvements; instead, it is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the LARPD service area. Specific improvements would be constructed incrementally over the life span of the Draft Master Plan. Therefore, consistent with Section 15168(c)(1) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, this Initial Study evaluates the potential environmental effects of implementing the proposed Plan. Given that detailed design and siting information for individual projects identified in the proposed Plan are not known at this time, this Initial Study provides overall guidance for development of these individual facilities/improvements when funding becomes available.

To provide for a comprehensive analysis of the proposed Plan, potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed Plan are analyzed at a "program" level within this Initial Study. Future proposed physical improvements that are subject to discretionary approval would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Prior to implementation of specific improvements, LARPD staff will review recommended projects within the proposed Plan on a case-by-case basis to determine if any supplemental review under CEQA would be required to address potentially adverse project-specific impacts that are not mitigated through the recommended design guidelines and mitigation measures identified in this Initial Study.

2.5 DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS

The LARPD is the CEQA Lead Agency for the proposed project and will be responsible for adopting the proposed Plan and the CEQA document. As described above, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Therefore, additional permits or approvals would be required for adoption of the proposed Plan.

As individual projects are implemented, other agencies may have discretionary authority related to those individual projects or serve as a responsible and/or trustee agency in connection to those individual projects. A list of these agencies and potential permits and approvals that may be required for individual projects is provided in Table 2.B.

Table 2.B: Potential Permits and Approvals

Agencies/Entities	Permits/Approvals
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	● Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
United States Army Corps of Engineers	● Section 404 Permit
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	● National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Wastewater Permit ● Section 401 Water Quality Certification
City of Livermore	● Project Approval ● Encroachment Permit
Alameda County	● Project Approval ● Encroachment Permit

Source: Compiled by LSA (2026).

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3.0 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 in Chapter 3.0.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology/Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population/Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

3.1 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed 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 proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed 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 proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature _____ Date _____

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4.0 CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

4.1 AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☒	☐	☐

a. Would the project have a substantial effect on a scenic vista?

Less Than Significant Impact. Scenic vistas are viewpoints that provide expansive views of a highly valued landscape for the public's benefit. Aesthetic components of a scenic vista include (1) scenic quality, (2) sensitivity level, and (3) view access. A scenic vista can be impacted in two ways: a development project can have visual impacts by either directly diminishing the scenic quality of the vista or by blocking the view corridors or "vista" of the scenic resource. Important factors in determining whether a proposed project would block scenic vistas include the project's proposed height, mass, and location relative to surrounding land uses and travel corridors.

The City of Livermore General Plan 2045[1] identifies a variety of scenic features in the Plan area including the rolling hills, ridgelines, prominent peaks, and other natural features that form the backdrop to the Livermore Valley. Hill and ridgeline views including Mount Diablo, Brushy Peak, ridgelines along the San Antonio Reservoir, Delle Valle Regional Park, and Cedar, Bald, and Eagle Mountains, and the Pleasanton Ridge. Interstate (I-)580, State Route (SR-) 84, and many of Livermore's other transportation corridors, including trails, provide some of the best views of Livermore's setting within the surrounding hillsides and ridgelines. Scenic vantage corridors within the city include I-580, SR-84, West Jack London Boulevard, Doolan Road, Collier Canyon Road, Isabel Avenue, East Stanley Boulevard, Holmes Street, Arroyo Road, Concannon Boulevard, Patterson Pass Road, North Livermore Avenue, North Vasco Road, Laughlin Road, and Greenville Road.[2]

[1] City of Livermore. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.
[2] City of Livermore. 2026b. Figure CI-1, Livermore Scenic Resources and Vantage Corridors. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

Future physical park, open space, and trail improvements envisioned in the proposed Plan are anticipated to enhance the existing visual character of the Plan area through the provision of new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging playgrounds, replacement of irrigation systems, improvements to existing facilities (e.g., Robert Livermore Community Center, Bothwell Recreation Center, and May Nissen Swim Center), new trail connections, and new park and open space facilities (e.g., William "Bill" Payne Sports Park, Sycamore Grove Amphitheater). Replacement or enhancement of existing facilities would not impact scenic vistas as these facilities already exist and proposed improvements would be of a scale that would not obstruct scenic views or have other impacts on scenic vistas within the Plan area. Future trail extensions would largely connect to existing trails, enhancing appreciation of the scenic views within the Plan area. In addition, trail extensions would generally be at-grade and are not expected to impair surrounding views. Acquisition and provision of public access to new open space areas would also provide greater opportunities for the public to access scenic viewing areas. Furthermore, the proposed Plan goals, policies and actions require the preservation of scenic resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to scenic vistas.

b. Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Less Than Significant Impact. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Landscape Architecture Program administers the Scenic Highway Program, as codified in Sections 260 through 284 of the California Streets and Highways Code.[3] I-580 runs through the Plan area and physically divides the LARPD into northern and southern areas. According to the Caltrans Scenic Highway Mapping Program, I-580 within the Plan area is identified as an Eligible State Scenic Highway, but is not considered an Officially Designated Scenic Highway.[4] Because no Officially Designated State Scenic Highways are within the Plan area, the proposed project would not substantially damage scenic resources within a State Scenic Highway.

In addition, as described above, Figure CI-1, Livermore Scenic Resources and Vantage Corridors, in Livermore General Plan 2045 designates a number of scenic vantage corridors within the Plan area. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. These recommended improvements are anticipated to enhance the existing visual character of the Plan area. Consistent with the goals, policies and actions identified in the proposed Plan, proposed improvements are not anticipated to be of a scale or type to substantially damage scenic resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would have a **less than significant** impact with respect to substantially damaging any rock outcroppings, historic buildings, or other scenic resources within view of a State Scenic Highway.

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3 State of California. Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 2, Sections 260-284: State Scenic Highways. Website: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=SHC&division=1.&title=&part=&chapter=2.&article=2.5 (accessed August 13, 2025).

4 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). n.d. California State Scenic Highway System Map. Website: https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa (accessed August 19, 2026).

c. In non-urbanized areas, would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Plan area primarily includes the urbanized areas of Livermore as well as the non-urbanized areas associated with the unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County. As described in *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15387 and defined by the United States Census Bureau, an "urbanized area" is a central city or a group of contiguous cities with a population of 50,000 or more people, together with adjacent densely populated areas having a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile.[5] As described in the Livermore General Plan 2045 Environmental Impact Report, Livermore is considered an urban area under CEQA Statute Section 21071 because its population, combined with the populations of the two contiguous cities (Pleasanton and Dublin) exceeds 100,000.[6] Therefore, the Plan area is considered an urban area under CEQA Statute Section 21071 and is analyzed as such in this impact discussion. Future projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be subject to this standard as well.

Future physical park, open space, and trail improvements envisioned in the proposed Plan are anticipated to enhance the existing visual character of the Plan area through the provision of new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging playgrounds, replacement of irrigation systems, improvements to existing facilities (e.g., Robert Livermore Community Center, Bothwell Recreation Center, and May Nissen Swim Center), new trail connections, and new park and open space facilities (e.g., William "Bill" Payne Sports Park, Sycamore Grove Amphitheater). In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals, policies, and actions to guide the development of new recreation facilities to ensure that the design of these facilities fit the existing site character and is compatibility with adjacent uses. In addition, future projects would be required to undergo Site Plan and Design Review as part of the City of Livermore or County of Alameda permitting process to ensure compatibility and compliance with requirements governing scenic quality.

Although implementation of the priorities identified in the proposed Plan could alter the visual character of certain parts of the Plan area through the provision of new recreation facilities, implementation of the proposed Plan is anticipated to overall have a beneficial effect on the visual character in these areas by incorporating aesthetic-enhancing design features, replacing/renovating existing aging facilities, and preserving natural scenic resources. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not conflict with

[5] United States Census Bureau. 2022. Urban Area Criteria for the 2020 Census – Final Criteria. March 24. Website: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/03/24/2022-06180/urban-area-criteria-for-the-2020-census-final-criteria (accessed November 4, 2025).

[6] PlaceWorks. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality and impacts would be **less than significant.**

d. Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The impact of nighttime lighting depends on the type of use affected, the proximity to the affected use, the intensity of specific lighting, and the background or ambient level of the combined nighttime lighting. Nighttime ambient light levels may vary considerably depending on the age, condition, and abundance of point-of-light sources present in a particular view. The use of exterior lighting for security and aesthetic illumination of architectural features may contribute to ambient nighttime lighting conditions.

The spillover of light onto adjacent properties has the potential to interfere with certain activities, including vision, sleep, privacy, and general enjoyment of the natural nighttime condition. Light-sensitive uses include residential, some commercial and institutional uses, and, in some situations, natural areas. Changes in nighttime lighting may become significant if a proposed project substantially increases ambient lighting conditions beyond its property lines or if the project lighting routinely spills over into adjacent light-sensitive land use areas.

Reflected light (glare) is caused by sunlight or artificial light reflecting from finished surfaces (e.g., window glass) or other reflective materials. Glass and other materials can have many different reflectivity characteristics. Buildings constructed of highly reflective materials from which the sun reflects at a low angle commonly cause adverse glare. Reflective light is common in urban areas. Glare generally does not result in the illumination of off-site locations but does result in a visible source of light viewable from a distance.

The proposed Plan area includes both urban areas with a variety of land uses, as well as undeveloped open space areas in unincorporated Alameda County. Existing sources of light and glare are typical of urbanized areas and include streetlights and headlights on area roadways, building façade and interior lighting, and pole-mounted lighting in pedestrian and parking areas of developed areas.

Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would introduce new sources of light to the Plan area that are typical of parks and recreational facilities (e.g., facility and security lighting, pedestrian-scale lighting along trail corridors). In general, lighting would be installed within fully urbanized neighborhoods of commercial or residential land uses, and therefore lighting would not substantially degrade nighttime views; however, trail improvements and new open space facilities could include installation of pedestrian-scale lighting in more rural areas that would introduce new sources of light and glare.

Future projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with County and/or City lighting standards. The Alameda County General Ordinance Code includes requirements for parking areas and performance standards for new buildings and uses. The City's Design Standards and Guidelines provide lighting standards for different types of uses. Proposed lighting would be designed to be directed downward and lights would be located so as to minimize the impact of

lighting and glare to adjacent land uses, especially in residential areas. To ensure any such improvements would not result in would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area, the following mitigation measure would be implemented.

Mitigation Measure AES-1

Lighting Plan. All future facilities proposed as part of implementation of the proposed Plan that include new lighting shall follow the design standards and guidelines of the Alameda County General Ordinance Code and City of Livermore Design Standards and Guidelines, which require shielded and directed lighting to reduce and above light spillover. In addition, during the design phase for specific facilities requiring lighting, Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District (LARPD) shall prepare a lighting plan to control light energy and ensure that exterior lighting is directed downward and away from adjacent streets and land uses in a manner designed to minimize off-site light spillage. The lighting plan shall also include installation of automatic shut-off timers to shut off lights at pre-determined times or when fields/facilities are not in use.

Prior to the approval of a lighting plan, a photometric analysis of the proposed lighting plan shall be prepared and reviewed by the LARPD. This analysis shall include an assessment of potential lighting impacts based on the height, location, light fixtures, direction and illumination intensity and hours of operation. This analysis shall demonstrate compliance with applicable City or County lighting standards.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-1 would ensure that a comprehensive lighting plan would be prepared during the design phase for specific projects where lighting is proposed, that proposed facilities comply with the requirements of the City and County lighting standards and guidelines, and that no light spillover to adjacent land uses would occur. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-1 potential impacts related to light and glare would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated**.

4.2 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 Dept. 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 the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to mapping prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Department of Conservation, a majority of the land within the Plan area is classified as Urban Built-Up and Grazing Land. However, multiple areas within the Plan area are classified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide Importance. [7] A majority of the FMMP classified farmland is within the southern part of Livermore and within unincorporated Alameda County. Prime Farmland is identified as having the best

[7] California Department of Conservation. 2022. California Important Farmland Finder. Website: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/ (accessed August 26, 2026).

combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term agricultural production. Farmland of Statewide Importance is similar to Prime Farmland but the soils are of lesser quality or the slopes are greater. Unique Farmland consists of lesser quality soils used for the production of the State's leading agricultural crops.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would include provision of new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging playgrounds and irrigation systems, improvements to existing recreation facilities), and construction of new trail connections and new park and open space facilities. The majority of these improvements would primarily be within the urbanized area of Livermore and within existing parks/recreation facilities or areas designated for recreational uses. However, several of the priority trail connections (e.g., T-11-A, T-13-B, T-10G and T15) would connect to existing trails within the rural areas, including areas designated as Important Farmland. In addition, future open space projects envisioned as part of the proposed Plan could include acquisition of undeveloped land for open space use and construction of trails and other small-scale open space amenities (e.g., parking, trailheads, restroom facilities) in areas designated as Important Farmland. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project could result in the conversion of this Important Farmland.

Although implementation of the proposed Plan would result in the conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, impacts would be relatively small (e.g., 10-foot wide trail alignments), occur in a linear strip, limited to the width of the trail, and would not likely affect existing agricultural operations. Agricultural production could presumably still occur on the properties where proposed trail connections would be implemented, as well as on agricultural lands surrounding those improvements. In general, implementation of the proposed Plan would not convert large areas of agricultural land and would not prevent agricultural production from occurring on agricultural lands where proposed trail connections or other small-scale improvements might be located, as well as on agricultural lands surrounding those facilities, implementation of the proposed Plan is not expected to result in significant impacts related to agricultural resources. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park, trail, facility and open space improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific farmland and agricultural resource impacts and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts on farmland and agricultural resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to the conversion of farmland.

b. Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the City of Livermore General Plan 2045 and East County Area Plan, the Plan area contains lands zoned for agricultural use including lands zoned as Agriculture (OS-A), Planned Development/Agriculture (PD-AG) and South Livermore Valley/Agriculture (SLV-AG) in Livermore and lands zoned Agriculture (A) in unincorporated Alameda County. In general, these zoning designations are intended to preserve and promote agriculture and viticulture uses in locations suitable for cultivated agriculture and to protect sensitive or unique

environmental or land characteristics, including the area's rural character and/or open space. As described further in Section 4.11, Land Use and Planning, recreation facilities can be a permitted use within all of these zoning districts; therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would be compatible with existing agricultural zoning, is not anticipated to require any parcels to be re-zoned and would not directly conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use.

In addition, according to the California Department of Conservation Williamson Act Enrollment Finder,[8] the Plan area also contains lands currently under Williamson Act contract as Prime Agricultural Land and Non-Prime Agricultural Land, including areas in southern Livermore where trail connections are proposed. Land currently under Williamson Act contract would be subject to the Alameda County Agricultural Preserve Program and contracts would be automatically renewed unless a landowner files a Notice of Non-Renewal and would be required to wait for a period of 10 years before converting the land to non-agricultural uses. As discussed above, although implementation of the proposed Plan could result in the conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, impacts would be relatively small, be in a linear strip, limited to the width of the trail, and would not likely affect existing agricultural operations.

If agricultural production can continue on the properties where proposed facilities (e.g., trail connections) are located, the proposed Plan would not directly conflict with a Williamson Act contract. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, impacts to conflicting with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract would be **less than significant.**

c. Would the project 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. The Plan area does not contain any lands zoned for 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)). Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production. **No impact** would occur.

[8] California Department of Conservation. n.d. Williamson Act Enrollment Finder. Website: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/WilliamsonAct/App/#data_s=id%3Awidget_22_output_config_default_geocode_0_0%3A0 (accessed December 2025).

d. Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?

No Impact. Refer to Section 4.2.c. Implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use. **No impact** would occur.

e. Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. Refer to Sections 4.2.a. 4.2.c, above. Implementation of the proposed Plan may result in the conversion of Farmland to a non-agricultural use; however, impacts would primarily be in a linear strip and are not likely to significantly affect the agricultural production or viability of the existing agricultural operations due to the limited amount of land that would be converted. In addition, implementation of the proposed Plan would not convert forest land to a non-forest use. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not involve other changes in the physical 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. This impact would be **less than significant.**

4.3 AIR QUALITY

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Plan area is in Alameda County, California, and is within the jurisdiction of the Bay Area Air District (Air District), which regulates air quality in the San Francisco Bay Area and Alameda County. Air quality conditions in the Bay Area have improved significantly since the Air District's creation in 1955. Ambient concentrations of air pollutants and the number of days during which the region exceeds air quality standards have fallen dramatically. In Alameda County and the rest of the air basin, exceedances of air quality standards occur primarily during meteorological conditions conducive to high pollution levels, such as cold, windless winter nights or hot, sunny summer afternoons.

Within the Air District, ambient air quality standards (AAQS) for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), particulate matter less than 10 microns and 2.5 microns in size (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$, respectively), and lead have been set by both the State of California and the federal government. The State has also set standards for sulfate and visibility. The Air District is under State non-attainment status for ozone and particulate matter standards. The Air District is classified as non-attainment for the federal ozone 8-hour standard and non-attainment for the federal $PM_{2.5}$ 24-hour standard.

a. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The applicable air quality plan is the Bay Area 2017 Clean Air Plan (Clean Air Plan),[9] which was adopted on April 19, 2017. The Clean Air Plan is a comprehensive plan to improve Bay Area air quality and protect public health. The Clean Air Plan defines control strategies to reduce emissions and ambient concentrations of air pollutants; safeguard public health by reducing exposure to air pollutants that pose the greatest heath risk, with an emphasis on protecting the communities most heavily affected by air pollution; and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG)

[9] Bay Area Air District. 2017. Clean Air Plan. April 19.

emissions to protect the climate. Consistency with the Clean Air Plan can be determined if the project (1) supports the goals of the Clean Air Plan, (2) includes applicable control measures from the Clean Air Plan, and (3) would not disrupt or hinder implementation of any control measures from the Clean Air Plan.

Clean Air Plan Goals. The primary goals of the Clean Air Plan are to (1) attain air quality standards, (2) reduce population exposure and protect public health in the Bay Area, and (3) reduce GHG emissions and protect the climate.

The Air District has established significance thresholds for project construction and operational impacts at a level at which the cumulative impact of exceeding these thresholds would have an adverse impact on the region's attainment of air quality standards. The health and hazard thresholds were established to help protect public health. As the proposed Plan does not authorize development or changes to land use and zoning, implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in construction or operational impacts. Therefore, the project would not conflict with the Clean Air Plan goals.

Clean Air Plan Control Measures. The control strategies of the Clean Air Plan include control measures in the following categories: Stationary Source, Transportation, Energy, Building, Agriculture, Natural and Working Lands, Waste Management, Water, and Super GHGs.

- **Stationary Source Control Measures:** The Stationary Source Measures, which are designed to reduce emissions from stationary sources such as metal melting facilities, cement kilns, refineries, and glass furnaces, are incorporated into rules adopted by the Air District and then enforced by Air District's Permit and Inspection programs. Since the proposed Plan does not envision development of any stationary sources, the Stationary Source Measures of the Clean Air Plan are not applicable to the proposed Plan.

- **Transportation Control Measures:** The Air District identifies Transportation Control Measures as part of the Clean Air Plan to decrease emissions of criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants (TACs), and GHGs by reducing demand for motor vehicle travel, promoting efficient vehicles and transit service, decarbonizing transportation fuels, and electrifying motor vehicles and equipment. Implementation of the proposed Plan would improve the multi-modal environment, including increasing overall bicycle and pedestrian connectivity by realizing important trail connections and providing recreation amenities within 0.5- to 0.25-mile of existing neighborhoods. An increase in walking and bicycling as an alternative to use of the automobile would thereby reduce overall vehicular emissions in the Plan area and improve regional air quality. As such, the proposed Plan would support the ability to use alternative modes of transportation and would promote initiatives to reduce vehicle trips and VMT. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to result in a significant increase in the generation of vehicle trips or VMT. As such, the proposed Plan would promote the Air District's initiatives to reduce vehicle trips and VMT and would increase the use of alternate means of transportation.

- **Energy Control Measures:** The Clean Air Plan also includes Energy Control Measures that are designed to reduce emissions of criteria air pollutants, TACs, and GHGs by decreasing the amount of electricity consumed in the Bay Area, as well as by decreasing the carbon intensity of

the electricity used by switching to less-GHG-intensive fuel sources for electricity generation. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with current California Energy Code and California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code) standards regarding energy conservation and green building standards. As such, the proposed Plan would not conflict with the Energy Control Measures of the Clean Air Plan.

- **Building Control Measures:** The Air District has authority to regulate emissions from certain sources in buildings such as boilers and water heaters but has limited authority to regulate buildings themselves. Therefore, the strategies in the control measures for this sector focus on working with local governments that have authority over local building codes to facilitate adoption of best GHG control practices and policies. As identified above, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with current Energy Code and CALGreen Code standards. Therefore, the proposed Plan would not conflict with the Building Control Measures of the Clean Air Plan.

- **Agriculture Control Measures:** The Agriculture Control Measures are designed to primarily reduce emissions of methane. Since the proposed Plan does not include any agricultural activities, the Agriculture Control Measures of the Clean Air Plan are not applicable to the proposed Plan.

- **Natural and Working Lands Control Measures:** The Natural and Working Lands Control Measures focus on increasing carbon sequestration on rangelands and wetlands, as well as encouraging local governments to enact ordinances that promote urban tree plantings. Since implementation of the proposed Plan does not include the disturbance of any rangelands or wetlands, the Natural and Working Lands Control Measures of the Clean Air Plan are not applicable to the proposed Plan.

- **Waste Management Control Measures:** The Waste Management Control Measures focus on reducing or capturing methane emissions from landfills and composting facilities, diverting organic materials away from landfills, and increasing waste diversion rates through efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would comply with local requirements for waste management (e.g., recycling and composting services). Therefore, the proposed Plan would be consistent with the Waste Management Control Measures of the Clean Air Plan.

- **Water Control Measures:** The Water Control Measures focus on reducing emissions of criteria pollutants, TACs, and GHGs by encouraging water conservation, limiting GHG emissions from Publicly Owned Treatment Works, and promoting the use of biogas recovery systems. Because future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with the latest CALGreen Code standards, which includes a variety of different measures, including reduction of wastewater and water use, the proposed Plan would not conflict with the Water Control Measures.

- **Super-GHG Control Measures:** The Super-GHG Control Measures are designed to facilitate the adoption of best GHG control practices and policies through the Air District and local

government agencies. Since these measures do not apply to individual projects, the Super-GHG Control Measures are not applicable to the proposed Plan.

Clean Air Plan Implementation. As discussed above, the proposed project would generally implement the applicable measures outlined in the Clean Air Plan, including Transportation Control Measures. Therefore, the project would not disrupt or hinder implementation of a control measure from the Clean Air Plan, and this impact would be **less than significant.**

b. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The Air District is currently designated as a nonattainment area for State and national ozone standards and national particulate matter AAQS. The Air District's nonattainment status is attributed to the region's development history. Past, present, and future development projects contribute to the region's adverse air quality impacts on a cumulative basis. By its very nature, air pollution is largely a cumulative impact. No single project is sufficient in size to, by itself, result in nonattainment of AAQS. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulatively significant adverse air quality impacts. If a project's contribution to the cumulative impact is considerable, then the project's impact on air quality would be considered significant.

In developing thresholds of significance for air pollutants, the Air District considered the emission levels for which a project's individual emissions would be cumulatively considerable. If a project exceeds the identified significance thresholds, its emissions would be cumulatively considerable, resulting in significant adverse air quality impacts to the region's existing air quality conditions. The following sections describe the proposed project's construction- and operation-related air quality impacts and CO impacts for the proposed project.

Construction-Related Air Quality Emissions. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan, including but not limited to planned improvements at the Robert Livermore Community Center, Bothwell Recreation Center, May Nissen Swim Center, and Sycamore Grove, replacement of playgrounds and irrigation systems, and the construction of new recreation facilities and trails, would include a variety of grading, construction and demolition activities, and could thereby result in the generation of short-term construction emissions. As described in Chapter 2.0 Project Description, the proposed Plan is a programmatic planning document covering an approximately 243.5-square-mile area and does not approve or authorize any specific development project. Accordingly, the specific project construction characteristics of future improvements are not yet known.

During construction, short-term degradation of air quality may occur due to the release of particulate matter emissions (i.e., fugitive dust) generated by demolition, grading, hauling, and other activities. Emissions from construction equipment are also anticipated and would include CO, nitrogen oxides (NO_X), reactive organic gas (ROG), directly emitted particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}), and TACs. Construction-related effects on air quality from the proposed project would be greatest during the grading and site preparation phase due to the disturbance of soils. If not properly controlled, these activities would temporarily generate particulate emissions. Sources of fugitive

dust would include disturbed soils at the construction site. Unless properly controlled, vehicles leaving the site would deposit dirt and mud on local streets, which could be an additional source of airborne dust after it dries. PM_{10} emissions would vary from day to day, depending on the nature and magnitude of construction activity and local weather conditions. PM_{10} emissions would depend on soil moisture, silt content of soil, wind speed, and the amount of operating equipment. Larger dust particles would settle near the source, while fine particles would be dispersed over greater distances from the construction site.

In addition to dust-related PM_{10} emissions, heavy trucks and construction equipment powered by gasoline and diesel engines would generate CO, SO_2, NO_X, ROGs, and some soot particulate ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}) in exhaust emissions. If construction activities were to increase traffic congestion in the area, CO and other emissions from traffic would increase slightly while those vehicles are delayed. These emissions would be temporary and limited to the immediate area surrounding the construction site.

Water or other soil stabilizers can be used to control dust, resulting in emission reductions of 50 percent or more. The Air District requires the implementation of Basic Best Management Practices (BMPs) to ensure that fugitive dust ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}) emissions are reduced to a less than significant level. With the implementation of these Basic Best Management Practices (BMPs), fugitive dust emissions from construction activities would not result in adverse air quality impacts.

The Air District CEQA Guidelines provide screening criteria that can be used to identify projects that would have a less-than-significant impact related to construction air pollutant emissions. For neighborhood recreational facilities and city parks, projects at or below the applicable screening size of 10 acres are generally considered unlikely to exceed the Air District's construction-related criteria pollutant thresholds, provided that standard construction BMPs are implemented and the project does not involve unusual construction characteristics, such as extensive earthmoving or substantial material import/export activities. Future improvements contemplated under the proposed Plan are anticipated to consist primarily of individual park, trail, recreation facility, and infrastructure projects that would occur incrementally throughout the Plan area and would be subject to separate discretionary review and project-specific environmental evaluation prior to approval.

Consistent with Air District requirements, Mitigation Measure AIR-1 requires implementation of BMPs to control fugitive dust emissions during construction. These measures are recognized by the Air District as effective methods for reducing construction-generated particulate matter emissions, and include the following:

Mitigation Measure AIR-1 **Basic Best Management Practices.** In order to meet the Bay Area Air District (Air District) fugitive dust threshold, the following Basic Best Management Practices shall be implemented:

- All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.

- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off site shall be covered.
- All visible mud or dirt tracked out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour.
- All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 miles per hour.
- All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off prior to leaving the site.
- Unpaved roads providing access to sites 100 feet or farther from a paved road shall be treated with a 6- to 12-inch layer of compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.
- Publicly visible signs shall be posted with the telephone number and name of the person to contact the County of Alameda and the City of Livermore the regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's General Air Pollution Complaints number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

The proposed Plan is a programmatic document intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area. Because the proposed Plan does not authorize specific construction projects, and because future individual projects would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine consistency with Air District screening criteria and applicable significance thresholds, implementation of Mitigation Measure AIR-1 would ensure that construction-related air quality impacts are minimized. In addition, any future project determined to exceed the Air District's screening criteria, including the 10-acre construction screening size for recreational land uses, would require project-specific analysis and, if necessary, additional mitigation at the time of discretionary approval. Therefore, construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants for which the region is in nonattainment, and impacts would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated**.

Operational Air Quality Emissions. Future park and recreation improvements envisioned under the proposed Plan could generate long-term air pollutant emissions. However, the proposed Plan is

intended to expand and enhance recreational amenities throughout the Livermore Valley, including parks, trails, open space facilities, and community-serving recreation areas that encourage walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transportation. As a result, many future improvements would be expected to promote non-automobile travel and provide recreational opportunities closer to residents, which could reduce the need for vehicle trips to more distant facilities.

The Air District has developed screening criteria to provide lead agencies with a conservative indication of whether a proposed project would result in potentially significant air quality impacts. If all of the screening criteria are met by a proposed project, then the lead agency would not need to perform a detailed air quality assessment of the proposed project's emissions. These screening levels are generally representative without any form of mitigation measures taken into consideration. In addition, the screening criteria do not account for project design features, attributes, or local development requirements that could also result in lower emissions.

For recreational city park land uses, the Air District's operational screening size is 175 acres. While the proposed Plan encompasses an approximately 243.5-square-mile planning area, it does not authorize specific development projects, establish final project designs, or approve physical improvements. Rather, the Plan is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area. Because the operational characteristics of future projects are not currently known, a quantitative emissions analysis is not warranted at this programmatic level. Nevertheless, future park and recreation improvements would generally consist of community-serving recreational facilities that are not typically associated with substantial operational emissions. Furthermore, consistent with the Air District's screening criteria, individual projects that fall under the 175-acre screening size threshold are not anticipated to exceed established criteria pollutant significance thresholds. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines* and would be evaluated for consistency with applicable Air District screening criteria and operational significance thresholds. Where necessary, additional project-specific analysis and mitigation measures would be required to ensure that operational air quality impacts are appropriately addressed.

Accordingly, implementation of the proposed Plan would not be expected to result in a considerable net increase of criteria pollutant emissions, either individually or cumulatively. Given the programmatic nature of the Plan and the anticipated future projects, the potential for increased walkability and bicycle connectivity, and the requirement for subsequent project-level environmental review, operational criteria pollutant impacts would be **less than significant**.

c. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. Sensitive receptors are defined as people that have an increased sensitivity to air pollution or environmental contaminants. Sensitive receptor locations include schools, parks and playgrounds, daycare centers, nursing homes, hospitals, and residential dwelling units. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would include a variety of grading, construction, and demolition activities, that would generate temporary emissions of fugitive dust, diesel exhaust, and other construction-related TACs. Because the proposed Plan is a programmatic document covering an approximately 243.5-square-mile

planning area, the specific locations, construction characteristics, and distances between future projects and nearby sensitive receptors are not currently known. However, because future improvements may occur within or adjacent to existing developed communities, it is anticipated that residential land uses could be located near some future project sites.

Construction activities can expose sensitive receptors to airborne particulates and fugitive dust as well as a small quantity of construction equipment pollutants (i.e., diesel-fueled vehicles and equipment). These emissions are short-term in nature, limited to the duration of active construction, and would cease upon completion of construction activities. In addition, construction contractors would be required to implement Mitigation Measure AIR-1, including dust suppression measures and other controls designed to reduce construction-related emissions. Implementation of these measures would substantially reduce temporary emissions and associated exposure risks during construction activities. Therefore, because construction-related emissions would be localized, temporary, and subject to implementation of Mitigation Measure AIR-1, future development projects under the proposed Plan would not result in significant health risk impacts to nearby sensitive receptors.

Furthermore, land uses that have the potential to expose sensitive receptors to TACs include distribution centers, rail yards, ports, refineries, chrome plating facilities, dry cleaners, and large gas dispensing facilities. In addition, various commercial and industrial processes have the potential to emit TACs associated with the use of diesel-fueled trucks or equipment. The proposed Plan does not include any uses that would generate a substantial amount of diesel particulate matter emissions from off-road equipment use or truck idling that would result in the generation of a substantial amount of TACs. Anticipated future projects would primarily consist of community-serving recreational facilities, open space enhancements, trail improvements, and supporting amenities that generally generate limited operational emissions. Although the precise location of future projects and nearby sensitive receptors is not known at this time, implementation of the proposed Plan would not be expected to introduce substantial new sources of TAC emissions or expose sensitive receptors to significant levels of TACs. Thus, operation of the proposed project is not expected to have a significant impact on sensitive receptors. As such, once operational, the proposed Plan would not be a source of substantial emissions and would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial levels of TACs.

The proposed Plan is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include preparation of a Health Risk Assessment, if applicable, to assess the potential for exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. As described above, implementation of Mitigation Measure AIR-1 would substantially reduce construction-related emissions and associated exposure risks. Additionally, parks and recreation facilities do not contribute substantially to operational TAC emissions, as these facilities are meant to encourage alternative modes of transportation (i.e., walking and biking) and serve the populations within walking and biking distance of these facilities. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not be expected to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or TAC

emissions. Accordingly, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated** related to the exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

d. Would the project result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact. Implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people because it does not establish new land uses that would have the potential to generate significant odors. While some objectionable odors could be generated from the operation of diesel-powered construction equipment during construction of proposed improvements identified in the proposed Plan, these odors would be short-term in nature and would not result in permanent impacts to surrounding land uses, including sensitive receptors.

Implementation of the proposed project would improve existing LARPD facilities (e.g., playgrounds, irrigation systems, and recreation facilities) and provide additional recreation facilities including parks, recreation programs and facilities, trails, and open space areas. These priority projects would not introduce any new permanent sources of odor and are not anticipated to result in objectionable odors. Further, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to other emissions (such as those leading to odors).

4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The majority of the Plan area consists of undeveloped open space with grasslands, rolling hills, scattered trees, stream channels, and wetlands, which provide habitat for special-status plants and wildlife; the remainder of the Plan area consists of highly developed urban area. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would primarily occur within the urban and currently developed portions of Livermore where existing facilities are located and recreation users are concentrated. However, some of the priority trail projects (e.g., T22, T15, T11-A, T13-B) are proposed in these undeveloped hillside areas. In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals, policies and actions to explore opportunities for acquisition and development of new open space areas that would increase public access to these areas; although, the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time.

The Plan area lies within the boundary of the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy (EACCS). The purpose of the EACCS is to preserve endangered species by developing a shared vision for long-term habitat protection. Although the LARPD is not, both the City of Livermore and the County of Alameda are signatory members of the EACCS. The EACCS establishes avoidance, minimization, and

mitigation measures that implement the conservation strategy and provides a blueprint for all mitigation and conservation in the EACCS area.

a. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Special-status species known to occur in the Plan area include vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*; Federally Threatened), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*; Federally Endangered), callippe silverspot butterfly (*Speyeria callippe callippe*; Federally Endangered), monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*; Proposed Federally Threatened), Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*; Candidate State Endangered), western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*; Candidate State Endangered), Central California coast steelhead Distinct Population Segment (DPS) (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*; Federally Threatened), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*; Federally and State Threatened), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*; Federally Threatened; California Species of Special Concern), foothill yellow-legged frog central coast DPS (*Rana boylii*; Federally Threatened, State Endangered), western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*; Proposed Federally Threatened; Candidate State Endangered; California Species of Special Concern), Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*; Federally and State Threatened), San Joaquin coachwhip (*Masticophis piceus ruddocki*; California Species of Special Concern), northern legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra*; California Species of Special Concern), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*; California Species of Special Concern), northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*; Proposed Federally Threatened; California Species of Special Concern), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*; California Fully Protected), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*; State Endangered; California Fully Protected), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*; State Threatened), northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*; California Species of Special Concern), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; Candidate State Endangered; California Species of Special Concern), tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*; State Threatened; California Species of Special Concern), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*; California Species of Special Concern), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*; California Fully Protected), grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*; California Species of Special Concern), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*; California Species of Special Concern), special-status bats, numerous special-status plant species, and possibly San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*; Federally Endangered and State Threatened; considered extremely rare in County). Additionally, designated Critical Habitat for California red-legged frog and vernal pool crustaceans and vernal pool plants occurs within the Plan area.

Construction activities (e.g., construction of new trails through or along critical habitat areas) associated with Plan implementation could directly or indirectly impact these and other special-status species or adversely modify critical habitat that would occur in these areas. The aforementioned federally listed species are addressed in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) programmatic biological opinion (PBO) for the EACCS for projects in which a United States

Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit is issued.[10] Many of the non-federally listed special-status species listed above are also covered under the EACCS.[11]

The sensitive habitats of greatest concern are the seasonal wetlands, creeks and drainage channels, riparian woodland, native and non-native grasslands, scrub/chaparral, and upland California tiger salamander habitat (e.g., grasslands within 2,200 feet of breeding ponds). Construction, operation, and maintenance of new trails and other recreation facilities in or adjacent to sensitive habitats could result in direct impacts to wildlife and the loss of vegetation and subsequent degradation of habitat functions and values. Although the majority of the individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be within existing parks, at existing recreation facilities or along existing public right-of-way, any vegetation loss in sensitive habitats would constitute a significant impact to wildlife resources that depend on the area for shelter, foraging, and breeding. Impacts to special-status plant and animal species could also occur through the loss or degradation of vegetation in sensitive habitats, and this effect would be considered a significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would reduce potential impacts to special-status species to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 Prior to construction activities in previously undisturbed areas and/or adjacent to creeks and drainage channels, a qualified biologist shall conduct a biological site assessment to identify site-specific sensitive habitats and special-status species that may be present on site. If a site is developed and primarily covered with impervious surfaces, then no site-specific biological assessment shall be required. If sensitive habitats are determined to be present on site, the biologist shall then develop specific avoidance or mitigation measures that shall be required to avoid or compensate identified potential impacts. Revegetation and/or enhancement shall be implemented where sensitive habitat or special-status species habitat has been impacted or disturbed. Sensitive habitat revegetation programs shall be designed by a qualified biologist, submitted to the appropriate regulatory agency for approval, and implemented concurrently with or within the next planting season after the impact. At a minimum, the revegetation program shall include a description of project impacts, mitigation calculations, the mitigation site, revegetation techniques, maintenance measures, a long-term monitoring program, and contingency measures.

Special-Status Plants. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan may impact special-status plants, if present. Some special-status plants, such as the San Joaquin spearscale (*Extriplex joaquinana*), big tarplant (*Blepharizonia plumosa*), Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp.

[10] United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2012. *Programmatic Biological Opinion for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permitted Projects Utilizing the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy that May Affect Federally Listed Species in East Alameda County, California*. May 31.

[11] ICF International. 2010. *Final Draft East Alameda County Conservation Strategy*. Prepared for the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy Steering Committee, Livermore, California. October.

congdonii), palmate-bracted bird's-beak (*Chloropyron palmatum*), Livermore Valley tarplant (*Deinandra bacigalupii*), and recurved larkspur (*Delphinium recurvatum*), are covered within the EACCS. Palmate-bracted bird's-beak is a federally endangered species included in the USFWS PBO for the EACCS.[12] Other special-status plant species, such as alkali milkvetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *tener*), brittlescale (*Atriplex depressa*), Diablo helianthella (*Helianthella castanea*), Brewer's western flax (*Hesperolinon breweri*), big-scale balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza macrolepis*), caper-fruited tropidocarpum (*Tropidocarpum capparideum*), chaparral harebell (*Ravenella exigua*), and chaparral ragwort (*Senecio aphanactis*), among others, have been recorded within the Plan area. Implementation Mitigation Measure BIO-2, which requires surveys to be conducted in accordance with CDFW's *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities,*[13] would reduce potential impacts to special-status plants to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 Prior to the initiation of construction in previously undisturbed areas, a qualified botanist will conduct a focused survey for special-status plants within the construction footprint during the appropriate blooming period for the target species. Surveys for plant species covered in the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy (EACCS) shall be surveyed and mitigated according to the EACCS. Surveys for other special-status plants potentially occurring at the sites shall be conducted in accordance with California Department of Fish and Wildlife *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities.* If special-status plants not covered by the EACCS are observed and cannot be avoided during construction, special-status plants shall be mitigated at a minimum 2:1 ratio. Mitigation would require special-status plants to be seeded or salvaged and relocated to a protected mitigation area suitable for the plant species. During the plant surveys, the project site shall also be surveyed for milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), which is the host plant for the monarch butterfly.

Special-Status Wildlife Species Covered under the EACCS. Special-status wildlife species covered under the EACCS consist of vernal pool and longhorn fairy shrimp, callippe silverspot butterfly, Central California coast steelhead, California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, golden eagle, tricolored blackbird, western burrowing owl, American badger, and San Joaquin kit fox. Although future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would primarily be within the urban and currently developed portions of Livermore,

[12] United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2012. *Programmatic Biological Opinion for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permitted Projects Utilizing the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy that May Affect Federally Listed Species in East Alameda County, California*. May 31.

[13] California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2018. *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities*. March 20.

these species are known to occur in the Plan area and implementation of the proposed Plan could result in direct or indirect impacts to these species and/or their habitat.

Vernal pool and longhorn fairy shrimp inhabit seasonal wetland and vernal pools. Central California coast steelhead, California red-legged frog, and foothill yellow-legged frog occur in stream channels. Alameda whipsnakes occur in scrub and chaparral and may forage in other adjacent habitat. Golden eagles nest in large trees. Tricolored blackbirds nest in wetland vegetation, shrubs, or thickets, such as blackberry (*Rubus* spp.) and thistles. Western burrowing owl, American badger, and San Joaquin kit fox forage and den/burrow in grassland habitat. Callippe silverspot butterfly occur in grasslands where its host plant, Johnny jump-up (*Viola pedunculata*) are present. California tiger salamanders breed in seasonal ponds and vernal pools and occur in grasslands with burrows within 2,200 feet from the breeding ponds. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-3 would reduce impacts to special-status wildlife species covered under the EACCS to less-than-significant levels.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 If the biological site assessments (see Mitigation Measure BIO-1) determine that one or more of the special-status species covered under the EACCS would occur within the project site, focused surveys, avoidance measures, minimization measures, and compensation measures specified in the EACCS shall be implemented. Additionally, if the site assessments determine that one or more of the above federally listed species would occur at the site, focused surveys, avoidance measures, and mitigation shall be implemented according to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service programmatic biological opinion for the EACCS.

Northwestern Pond Turtle and Special-Status Amphibians and Reptiles not Covered by the EACCS. Although future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would primarily be within the urban and currently developed portions of Livermore, northwestern pond turtles may be present within the Plan area where suitable breeding or aquatic habitat is present, such as stream channels and ponds. Other special-status amphibians and reptiles not covered by the EACCS, such as western spadefoot, Alameda whipsnake, San Joaquin coachwhip, northern legless lizard, and coast horned lizard may also occur in the Plan area. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would reduce impacts to the northwestern pond turtle to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4a Prior to construction adjacent to or within suitable aquatic and adjacent upland habitat for northwestern pond turtles, the area shall be surveyed. A qualified biologist shall survey the in-water work areas where suitable aquatic habitat has been identified within 48 hours prior the initiation of construction activities. If northwestern pond turtles are found, construction work shall halt until the turtles move out of the construction zone or the biologist shall contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to determine if moving them is appropriate. If the CDFW approves relocation, the qualified biologist shall move them to a CDFW approved site prior to the initiation of construction. The biologist shall maintain detailed records of any individuals that are moved

(e.g., size, coloration, any distinguishing features, photos) to assist in determining whether translocated animals are returning to their original point of capture.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4b Prior to construction adjacent to or within suitable habitat for western spadefoot, Alameda whipsnake, San Joaquin coachwhip, northern legless lizard, and coast horned lizard, the area shall be surveyed. A qualified biologist shall survey the in-water work areas where suitable aquatic habitat has been identified within 48 hours prior the initiation of construction activities. If these special-status species are found, construction work shall halt until these species move out of the construction zone or the biologist shall contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to determine if moving them is appropriate. If the CDFW approves relocation, the qualified biologist shall move them to a CDFW-approved site prior to the initiation of construction. The biologist shall maintain detailed records of any individuals that are moved (e.g., size, coloration, any distinguishing features, photos) to assist in determining whether translocated animals are returning to their original point of capture.

Nesting Birds. The nests of tricolored blackbirds, loggerhead shrikes, white-tailed kites, and other special-status and native birds are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code. If construction of individual projects as part of Plan implementation results in the removal or disturbance of trees, shrubs, vegetation, or suitable nesting habitat and occurs during the nesting season (February 1 to September 15), project activities would directly impact nesting birds by removing vegetation that supports active nests. Construction-related disturbance (e.g., noise, vehicle traffic, personnel working adjacent to suitable nesting habitat) would also indirectly impact nesting birds by causing adults to abandon nests in nearby trees or other habitat, resulting in nest failure and reduced reproductive potential. If trees and vegetation or other suitable nesting habitat is impacted during the nesting season, implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-5 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 If project activities including tree removal, demolition, or construction take place during nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist shall conduct focused surveys for active nests within 5 days prior to the initiation of project-related activities. Surveys shall be conducted in all potential habitat on and adjacent to the project site. If a lapse in project-related activities of 7 days or longer occurs, another focused survey will be required before project activities can resume. If an active nest is found, the biologist shall consult with CDFW regarding appropriate action to comply with the Fish and Game Code of California.

The qualified biologist shall observe any identified active nests prior to the start of any construction-related activities to establish a behavioral baseline of adults and any nestlings. Once work

commences, all active nests should be continuously monitored for a minimum of three consecutive workdays by the biologist to detect any signs of disturbance and behavioral changes as a result of project activities. In addition to direct impacts, such as nest destruction, nesting birds might be affected by noise, vibration, odors and movement of workers or equipment. If signs of disturbance and behavioral changes are observed at any time, the biologist shall cease work causing that behavioral change and shall contact the CDFW for guidance.

Active nest sites and protective buffer zones shall be designated as "Environmentally Sensitive Areas" where no project-related activities or personnel may enter until the biologist determines that the young have fully fledged and will no longer be adversely affected by the project. These designated areas shall be protected during project activities by surrounding the nest site with a wildlife-safe fence or flagging barrier. The Qualified Biologist and/or Biological Monitor shall determine the necessary buffer distance to protect nesting birds based on existing site conditions (such as construction activity and line of sight). Buffer distance shall be increased to provide sufficient protection of nesting birds and their natural behaviors, as needed.

Roosting Bats. Special-status bats, such as the pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*; California Species of Special Concern) and other common bat species could roost in trees or snags with large hollows or cavities or within structures that provide suitable roosting habitat. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-6 would reduce potential impacts to special-status bats to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-6

Pre-construction surveys for roosting pallid bats and other bat species shall be conducted prior to removal of large trees or snags with suitable cavities/hollows or demolition or modification of structures that provide suitable roosting habitat. The surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 15 days prior to removal of suitable roosting trees or demolition or modification of impacted buildings. Pre-construction surveys shall be repeated if demolition or construction activities are delayed more than 30 days. If a bat roost is found and the roost will be impacted by the project, the species of bat using the roost shall be identified and methods to encourage the bats to leave the roost or to prevent them from returning to the roost shall be implemented prior to roost removal. A mitigation plan shall be developed to specify the methods to be used and the timing of the activities. The mitigation plan shall be submitted to the City of Livermore (City) and/or Alameda County, as applicable, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for approval. If maternity roosts are found, the tree or structure with

the maternity roost shall be avoided and bat relocation efforts postponed until the offspring have fledged. Removal of maternity roosts shall take place during the periods of September 1 to October 15 or February 15 to April 15. Activity in these periods will typically avoid impacts to young bats that are incapable of flying; and bats that are torpid or that have formed maternity roosts, respectively.

Western Bumble Bee and Crotch's Bumble Bee. Western bumble bee and Crotch's bumble bee were once common bumble bees. However, the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation now considers the species in steep decline. In 2018, the California Fish and Game Commission advanced the western and Crotch's bumble bees to Candidate status. This was challenged in court, but a California court of appeals ultimately upheld the Commission's determination, and Candidacy was reinstated on September 30, 2022. As Candidate species, the western and Crotch's bumble bee receive the same legal protection afforded to Endangered or Threatened species.[14] The proposed project could result in a substantial adverse effect on special-status bee species, if present during project construction. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-7 would reduce potential impacts to special-status bumble bees to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-7 A qualified biologist shall conduct a focused survey for the western and Crotch's bumble bees where they have the potential to be impacted by project activities (e.g., nesting impacts to potential nest habitat). If a State-listed special-status bumble bee is discovered at any time within the project site and staging areas, project activities shall not resume until CDFW has been notified and the City can demonstrate compliance with the California Endangered Species Act to CDFW's satisfaction. If take of listed bumble bee species is expected to occur as a result of project-related activities, the City may obtain an Incidental Take Permit from CDFW to avoid disruptions to project activities. All bumble bees documented by the qualified biologist shall be photographed to the extent feasible and sent via e-mail to CDFW.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 through BIO-7 would reduce potential impacts to special-status species. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific biological resources and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to protect those resources from both direct and indirect impacts. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or USFWS. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

[14] California Fish and Game Code Sections 2074.2 & 2085 (2023).

b. Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The California Natural Diversity Database identified two sensitive natural communities in the vicinity of Livermore: Sycamore Alluvial Woodland and Valley Sink Scrub.[15] Additionally, riparian habitat occurs along portions of the creeks and seasonal wetlands, and vernal pools occur in the Plan area. Sensitive plant communities in California are those that are of limited extent or have experienced loss or degradation as a result of historical and current urban and agricultural development. The CDFW monitors these communities. The CDFW also considers seasonal wetlands to be sensitive natural communities.

Construction that results in impacts to riparian trees would be a regulated activity under a Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement. CDFW jurisdiction typically extends beyond the streambed/banks to the limits of riparian vegetation associated with streams, rivers, or lakes. Although the majority of the individual project contemplated under the proposed Plan would be within existing parks, at existing recreation facilities or along existing public right-of-way, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan (e.g., trail bridges, new recreation and open space facilities) could result in impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-8a and Mitigation Measure BIO-8b would reduce potential impacts to riparian woodland/riparian canopy and other sensitive natural communities to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-8a Removal of or impacts to trees and roots of trees within riparian habitat shall be avoided to the extent practicable. When removal or impacts to riparian habitat are necessary, all riparian trees and shrubs within the disturbance area shall be inventoried prior to removal or construction in these areas. The species of tree, general condition (i.e., vigor), and diameter at breast height shall be collected for all inventoried trees. Standardized recommendations provided by a qualified arborist for tree and root pruning shall be followed as needed. Removal of riparian habitat shall be mitigated at a minimum ratio of 3:1 trees to compensate for the loss of wildlife and plant habitat. Mitigation for riparian canopy may occur on site, off site, or through the purchase of mitigation credits. Trees planted on or off site shall be irrigated for at least 2 years to increase the chances of survival. Trees shall be of local stock and be native species like those removed or impacted. Planted trees shall be monitored for a period of at least 5 years with annual reports provided to CDFW.

Mitigation Measure BIO-8b Impacted sensitive plant communities covered under the EACCS, such as grassland, chaparral and scrub, oak woodland, and conifer

[15] California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2026. California Natural Diversity Database. Sacramento, CA. Accessed September.

woodland, shall be mitigated according to the EACCS, whereas impacts to other sensitive plant communities shall be mitigated by restoring the sensitive plant community at a minimum 2:1 ratio. Restoration of these areas shall be performed with native seed mix or plant stock from local seed sources. Before impacts to sensitive plant communities, a management and monitoring plan, including quantitative success criteria, shall be prepared for the restoration site. This management and monitoring plan shall be reviewed and approved by the City, and/or County, as applicable. Success criteria for the restoration shall include providing equivalent or greater overall (rather than species specific) cover of the special-status plant as is found in the sensitive plant community that will be lost to development. If the restoration does not meet the success criteria, restoration shall be remedied (e.g., replanting) or restoration attempted on a new, more suitable site.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-8a and BIO-8b would reduce potential impacts to riparian habitat and other sensitive communities to a less than significant level. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific biological resources and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to protect those resources from both direct and indirect impacts. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not 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 CDFW or the USFWS. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

c. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. According to the City of Livermore General Plan 2045, the Livermore area supports several different types of wetlands including freshwater marsh, freshwater seep, northern claypan vernal pool, and alkali meadow/ alkali sink scrub. The various types of wetlands are present in natural areas such as along creeks and rivers within the proposed Plan area.

Although the majority of the individual project contemplated under the proposed Plan would be within existing parks, at existing recreation facilities or along existing public right-of-way, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan (e.g., trail bridges, new recreation and open space facilities) could impact federally protected wetlands, creeks, ponds, and other features as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. These features are more likely to be present in the open space areas and their presence would be addressed in the individual site assessments required under Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

Sedimentation of these features during and after construction would result in water quality impacts associated with stockpiling of soil during construction, exposure of unvegetated or unstable cut banks following construction, and the subsequent erosion of this exposed soil during rainfall. Individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan should be designed to avoid direct and indirect impacts to jurisdictional features. Potential indirect impacts associated with construction activities include increased sedimentation, erosion, and inadvertent release of pollutants into the creeks and seasonal wetlands/vernal pools. However, these impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of standard erosion control BMPs included within a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-9 and Mitigation Measure BIO-10 would reduce potential impacts to federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure BIO-9

If the project directly impacts or affects unpaved surfaces located within or adjacent to a potentially jurisdictional drainage or wetland feature, a qualified biologist shall conduct a survey to identify the precise locations of jurisdictional features. Avoidance measures to reduce indirect impacts shall include the following:

- Construction activities shall be timed to avoid impact to sensitive biological resources and protect water quality. To the extent possible, construction activities shall occur during the dry season, between April 15 and October 15, or as otherwise determined by permitting agencies, and in compliance with Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act.

- Locate equipment maintenance, refueling, and staging areas at least 100 feet from creeks or other aquatic habitat. Conduct refueling behind a containment barrier that prevents spilled or leaked fuel from entering the aquatic habitat. All equipment servicing shall be conducted within designated areas with appropriate setbacks from the aquatic features. All motorized equipment used during construction shall be inspected for oil, fuel, and coolant leaks prior to initiating work.

- Best management practices (BMPs) shall be implemented during all construction activities to control erosion, sediment, and contaminants into wetlands, drainages, and creeks. These BMPs shall be described in a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Implement a SWPPP as part of the project, to ensure that sediment and contaminants from construction areas do not enter creek channels or other aquatic habitat.

- To minimize the expansion of exotic plants, only native plant species shall be used for reseeding and re-planting. Mitigation plants should be implemented in accordance with applicable regulatory agency permit requirements.

Mitigation Measure BIO-10 Construction work within aquatic features under the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), CDFW, and/or Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) would be a regulated activity that would require permits from the USACE (Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 404), RWQCB (CWA Section 401), and/or CDFW (Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement). Removal or fill of USACE and/or RWQCB jurisdictional features will be mitigated at a minimum ratio of 1:1 (no net loss). Prior to construction, the impact to jurisdictional waters at the project site shall be determined and mitigation at a minimum ratio of 1:1 shall be required for fill of jurisdictional areas. Mitigation for jurisdictional features shall occur onsite, offsite, or through the purchase of mitigation credits. A mitigation and monitoring plan shall be developed outlining performance standards to be assessed annually and contingency measures should those standards not be met. Performance criteria shall include percent plant cover, native to non-native plant ratios, evidence of hydrology, and presence of hydric soils and hydric vegetation. Wetlands and drainages created for mitigation shall be monitored for a period of at least five years with annual reports provided to the USACE, the RWQCB, and/or the CDFW.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-9 and BIO-10 would reduce potential impacts to federally protected wetlands to a less than significant level. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific biological resources and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to protect those resources from both direct and indirect impacts. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

d. Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

The developed and urbanized portions of the Plan area generally support wildlife that has adapted to an urban environment, are tolerant of human disturbance, and can move through developed areas easily. In open spaces wildlife movement corridors or wildlife nursery sites are more common

and typically more defined, such as heron rookeries. The open space areas of the Plan area may provide wildlife movement, especially within creek channels and riparian corridors, and nursery sites. However, since the scale of the majority of individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan is not substantial (e.g., trail connections), construction of the new facilities and trails would not substantially interfere with the movement of established, native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species. The site assessments required in Mitigation Measures BIO-1 would include the potential need for surveys for wildlife nursery sites. Generally, the wildlife species that currently occur within the area have adapted to disturbed conditions and adverse effects from construction activities associated with trails and other recreation facilities or the use of trails on movement corridors would be less than significant.

Although the majority of the individual project contemplated under the proposed Plan would be within existing parks, at existing recreation facilities or along existing public right-of-way, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan (e.g., trail bridges, new recreation and open space facilities), the Plan area does support suitable nesting habitat for migratory birds and raptors protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code. These species may nest in the trees and shrubs with the area. Impacts to nesting birds would occur in the form of direct mortality, particularly from the destruction of nests and mortality of young if construction takes place during the breeding season, or from habitat loss. In addition, indirect impacts may occur as a result of noise and increased human activity in the area. However, if construction activities for the project are scheduled during the breeding season, pre-construction nesting bird surveys would be required to prevent impacts to nesting birds, as specified in Mitigation Measure BIO-5. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-5, potential construction-related impacts to nesting birds would be reduced to a less than significant level.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific biological resources and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to protect those resources from both direct and indirect impacts. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

e. Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Less Than Significant Impact. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan may require the removal or disturbance of trees within Livermore and unincorporated areas of Alameda County. Any trees removed or disturbed within the city limits would be required to comply with Chapter 12.20, Street Trees and Tree Preservation Ordinance within the City of Livermore's (City) Municipal Code, which establishes policies, regulations, and standards for the protection of trees on any parcel of land within Livermore. Under the City's ordinance, mitigation for removed trees includes planting of replacement trees on or off-site and/or by payment into the urban forestry maintenance fund. Any trees removed or disturbed within the unincorporated areas in Alameda County would be

required to comply with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance, Ordinance No. 0-2004-23, which requires a tree permit for any planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree within County right-of-way and replacement of removed trees consistent with the requirements of the Alameda County Code. Compliance with these ordinances would ensure that adoption of the proposed Plan would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. This impact would be **less than significant.**

f. Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. The Plan area is within the EACCS[16] area, and although the EACCS is not considered a formal Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), a PBO has been issued to the USACE for projects that impact USACE jurisdiction in the EACCS area. The purpose of the EACCS is to develop an approach that will support conservation and/or recovery of listed species and streamline state and federal permitting by providing guidance on avoidance, minimization, and mitigation for projects proposed within the area. Therefore, future project-specific environmental documents prepared under CEQA should be consistent with the EACCS for species covered in that document.

No HCP or Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCP) are in operation within the Plan area. The closest HCP/NCCP is the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, which is a joint venture between the cities of Brentwood, Clayton, Oakley, and Pittsburg and the County of Contra Costa. Since no HCPs or NCCPs currently operate in the Plan area, the proposed Plan is not subject to and would not conflict with an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan. **No impact** would occur.

[16] ICF International. 2010. *Final Draft East Alameda County Conservation Strategy*. Prepared for the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy Steering Committee, Livermore, California. October.

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

CEQA defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources;
- Listed in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5020.1(k);
- Identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC; or
- Determined to be a historical resource by a project's lead agency (PRC Section 21084.1 and *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[a]).

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria: (1) associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns or local or regional history of the cultural heritage of California or the United States; (2) associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history; (3) embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values; or (4) has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation. Under CEQA, historical resources can include precontact (i.e., Native American) archaeological deposits, historic-period archaeological deposits, historic buildings, and historic districts.

LARPD owns and/or maintains several historic resources, including the Ravenswood Historic Site and the Carnegie Library in Livermore. In addition, a number of significant and potentially significant

historical resources have been identified within Livermore[17] and other potential historical resources may be present within the Plan area that have not yet been identified.

Although the priority projects identified in the proposed Plan do not include modifications to any identified historic properties and the goals, policies and actions included in the proposed Plan establish priorities for the protection and preservation of historical resources (Goal HC.1, Policy HC.1.1, Action HC.1-A, Action HC.1-B), future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could be on parcels containing previously-recorded historic-period buildings whose historic significance could be impacted by proposed development. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could also occur on parcels containing resources whose historic significance has not yet been determined.

Any structure that may meet at least one of the CRHR's significance criteria and would be impacted as a result of future development would require project-specific evaluation per CEQA to determine whether avoidance or mitigation is appropriate. Anticipated steps for addressing historic-period built environment resources include, but may not be limited to, determining whether the historic-period building still stands on the parcel, completing a historic resources evaluation (including a property-specific research and an intensive-level architectural field survey) to determine the property's eligibility for listing in the California Register and qualification as a "historical resource" per CEQA, and determining whether avoidance or mitigation is appropriate for the property. To avoid significant impacts or substantial changes to a historical resource, the project design would need to adhere to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. In general, projects that are consistent with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are considered to have a less than significant impact on cultural resources for purposes of CEQA (California Code of Regulations 15064.5(b)(3)). Demolition of a building determined to be a historical resource under CEQA is generally considered a significant and unavoidable impact.

In addition, portions of the Plan area have been determined to have moderate and high sensitivity for prehistoric archaeological resources, including areas along creeks and waterways[18] where some of the priority trail connections are proposed. Although most of the future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be within previously disturbed areas (e.g., existing LARPD recreation facilities and parks), ground disturbance associated with future construction under the proposed Plan, particularly in previously undisturbed areas or in areas with moderate to high sensitivity for archaeological resources, has the potential to unearth previously unrecorded precontact and historic-era archaeological deposits. Should archaeological deposits be encountered during project ground disturbance, a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource would occur from its demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of the resource would be materially impaired (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(b)(1)).

Implementation of the following mitigation measures, which require preparation of a Phase I archaeological study for projects in undeveloped or archeologically sensitive areas, evaluation of

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17 PlaceWorks. 2026b. Figure 3.5-1, Historical Resources, *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

18 PlaceWorks. 2026c. Figure 3.5-2, Prehistoric Period Archaeological Sensitivity Map, *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

sites against the CRHR criteria, and implementation of appropriate measures to address potential resources, would ensure that potential impacts to historical resources would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure CULT-1 **Phase I Archaeological Study.** Prior to development of specific projects within undeveloped or archeologically sensitive areas, LARPD shall retain a qualified archaeologist to conduct a Phase I archaeological study to incorporate up-to-date record search and field survey results. Each project-specific Phase I archaeological study would be conducted to (1) identify archaeological deposits that may be impacted by the proposed project, (2) assess the potential for human remains, and (3) recommend procedures for avoiding or mitigating impacts to such deposits or remains, if warranted. Such procedures might include, but are not limited to, modification of the trail alignment/project design to avoid sensitive resources, monitoring by a qualified archaeologist (meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology) during ground-disturbing activities, consultation with the appropriate Native American Tribes, documenting resources on State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 forms, recording the archaeological deposit, data recovery and analysis, and public outreach. Upon completion of the selected mitigations, a report documenting methods, findings, and recommendations shall be prepared by the qualified archaeologist and submitted to LARPD for review, and the final report shall be submitted to the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University.

Mitigation Measure CULT-2 **Historical Resource Evaluation.** Prior to development of any project on a parcel containing historic-period buildings (e.g., buildings over 50 years old), LARPD shall complete a historic resources evaluation (including property-specific research and an intensive-level architectural field survey) to determine the property's eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources and qualification as a "historical resource" per CEQA. If the resource is found to be significant (i.e., eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources), the project shall be designed to avoid the subject parcel entirely or to eliminate aspects of the project that might impair the historic significance of the resource. An architectural historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 61) in Architectural History shall review the proposed project design to assess the design's conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards). Should the findings indicate that the design does not adhere to the Standards, the architectural historian shall work with LARPD, and appropriate

historical societies (if warranted) to redesign the proposed project to reduce any significant impacts to the character defining elements of the historical resource. The results of the review and coordination shall be documented in a brief memorandum and submitted to the Northwest Information Center.

Mitigation Measure CULT-3 **Unanticipated Discovery.** Should an archaeological resource be encountered during project construction activities, the construction contractor shall halt construction within 50 feet of the find and immediately notify the City. Construction activities shall be redirected and an SOI-qualified archaeologist, in consultation with the appropriate local jurisdiction and Native American Tribes, shall (1) evaluate the archaeological deposit to determine if it meets the CEQA definition of a historical or unique archaeological resource and (2) make recommendations about the treatment of the deposit, as warranted. If the deposit does meet the CEQA definition of a historical or unique archaeological resource then it shall be avoided to the extent feasible by project construction activities. If avoidance is not feasible, then adverse effects to the deposit shall be mitigated as specified in *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4(b) (for historic resources) or CEQA Section 21083.2 (for unique archaeological resources). This mitigation may include, but is not limited to, a thorough recording of the resource on Department of Parks and Recreation Form 523 records, or archaeological data recovery excavation. If data recovery excavation is warranted, CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C), which requires a data recovery plan prior to data recovery excavation, shall be followed. If the significant identified resources are unique archaeological resources, mitigation of these resources shall be subject to the limitations on mitigation measures for archaeological resources identified in CEQA Sections 21083.2(c) through 21083.2(f).

Implementation of Mitigation Measures CULT-1 through CULT-3 would ensure that (1) potential impacts to built environment resources would be avoided; (2) archaeological deposits that may be impacted by the proposed project will be identified prior to project construction; (2) the trail alignment/project design would be modified to avoid sensitive resources, if feasible; (3) if archaeological cultural resources are identified during excavation, these would be evaluated, documented, and studied in accordance with standard archaeological practice, and (4) archaeological deposits and would be treated in accordance with appropriate State codes and regulations.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include evaluation of site-specific historic and archaeological resources and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to

historic resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. According to the *State CEQA Guidelines*, "When a project will impact an archaeological site, a lead agency shall first determine whether the site is an historical resource" (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(c)(1)). Those archaeological sites that do not qualify as historical resources shall be assessed to determine if these qualify as "unique archaeological resources" (California PRC Section 21083.2).

As described above, it is possible that archaeological resources, as defined by CEQA section 21083.2(g) could be encountered during construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed Plan. Archaeological deposits identified during construction of specific projects shall be treated by LARPD—in consultation with a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeology—in accordance with Mitigation Measures CULT-1 and CULT-3.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include evaluation of site-specific archaeological resources and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to these resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

c. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less Than Significant Impact. The potential to uncover human remains exists in locations throughout California, even in urbanized areas. Although not anticipated in the near-surface areas that could be disturbed as part of implementation of the proposed Plan, human remains could be identified during site-preparation or grading activities that could result in a significant impact to human remains. If human remains are encountered at the project site, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(e)(1) state that no further disturbance shall occur to the area of the find until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition of the human bone pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately and shall make a determination within two working days of being notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the County Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by phone within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall then immediately determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment of the remains within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD's recommendations may include

scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials, preservation of Native American human remains and associated items in place, relinquishment of Native American human remains and associated items to the descendants for treatment, or any other culturally appropriate treatment.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include evaluation of site-specific archaeological resources and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to these resources. Any future projects envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 regarding the treatment of human remains. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not disturb any humans remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. This impact would be **less than significant.**

4.6 ENERGY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction or operation?

Less Than Significant Impact. The following section describes the proposed Plan's construction and operational related energy impacts.

Construction-Period Energy Use. Construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed Plan would require grading, site preparation, building, paving, and architectural coating activities. Construction of future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would require energy for the manufacture and transportation of construction materials, preparation of the site for grading activities, and construction of new facilities (e.g., paved trails, parking areas, recreation facilities). Petroleum fuels (e.g., diesel and gasoline) would be the primary sources of energy for these activities. To increase energy efficiency during construction, the idling times for construction vehicles would be restricted to 5 minutes or less and construction workers would be required to shut off idle equipment, as required by Mitigation Measure AIR-1. In addition, construction activities are not anticipated to result in an inefficient use of energy, as gasoline and diesel fuel would be supplied by construction contractors who would conserve the use of their supplies to minimize their costs on the project. Energy usage during construction of individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan would be temporary in nature and is anticipated to be relatively small in comparison to the State's available energy sources.

Operation-Period Energy Use. Operational energy demand is typically associated with lighting, routine maintenance activities, landscaping, turf, and vehicle travel. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. In general, parks and recreation facilities result in a minimal increase in electricity and fuel demand, as these facilities are meant to encourage alternative modes of transportation (walking, biking) and serve populations within walking/biking distance of these facilities. In addition, the proposed Plan includes policies and actions to promote the efficient use of energy as part of Plan implementation, including Goal D.2 Sustainable Infrastructure and Asset Management and Goal D.3 Environmental Stewardship and Resource Efficiency of the Master Plan 2026 Goals.

Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to adhere to all federal, State, and local requirements for energy efficiency, including the latest Energy Code (Building Energy Efficiency Standards, in Part 6 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations). The Energy Code establishes minimum energy and water efficiency requirements for new buildings and additions or alterations to existing buildings.

Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include evaluation of impacts to energy resources and identification of appropriate mitigation, as necessary to address impacts related to energy resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources.

b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

Less Than Significant Impact. In 2002, the State Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 1389, which requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop an integrated energy plan every 2 years for electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels for the California Energy Policy Report. The plan calls for the State to assist in the transformation of the transportation system to improve air quality, reduce congestion, and increase the efficient use of fuel supplies with the least environmental and energy costs. To further this policy, the plan identifies a number of strategies, including assistance to public agencies and fleet operators in implementing incentive programs for zero-emission vehicles and their infrastructure needs, and encouragement of urban designs that reduce VMT and accommodate pedestrian and bicycle access.

The most recently adopted CEC energy report is the *2025 Integrated Energy Policy Report.*[19] The *2025 Integrated Energy Policy Report* provides the results of the CEC's assessments of a variety of energy issues facing California. Many of these issues will require action if the State is to meet its climate, energy, air quality, and other environmental goals while maintaining energy reliability and controlling costs. The *2025 Integrated Energy Policy Report* covers a broad range of topics, including implementation of SB 350 (Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015), integrated resource planning, distributed energy resources, transportation electrification, solutions to increase resiliency in the electricity sector, energy efficiency barriers faced by disadvantaged communities, demand response, transmission and landscape-scale planning, the California Energy Demand Preliminary Forecast, the preliminary transportation energy demand forecast, renewable gas (in response to SB 1383), updates on electricity reliability, the natural gas outlook, and climate adaptation and resiliency.

As indicated above, energy usage associated with construction activities would be temporary in nature. In addition, it is anticipated that energy usage associated with future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be relatively small in comparison to the State's available energy sources, and energy impacts would be negligible at the regional level. However, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*,

[19] California Energy Commission. 2025. 2025 Integrated Energy Policy Report. Docket Number 25-IEPR-01.

which would include evaluation of impacts to energy resources and identification of appropriate mitigation, as necessary to address impacts related to energy resources. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not conflict with or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency, and this impact would be **less than significant.**

4.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. 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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☒	☐	☐
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☒	☐	☐
iv. Landslides?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐

a. Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i. 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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Less Than Significant Impact. The State of California enacted the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act in 1972, requiring the State Geologist to delineate Earthquake Fault Zones (EFZ) along known active faults that have high potential for fault rupture. Active faults are defined as a fault that has surface displacement within the last 11,000 years.[20] State regulations prohibit habitable structures from being sited within 50 feet of an active fault. As described in the City of Livermore General Plan 2045,[21] the Plan area is within a seismically active region. Two fault zones are within

[20] California Department of Conservation. 2026. Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones. Website: www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/alquist-priolo (accessed August 26, 2026).

[21] City of Livermore. 2026. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

the Plan area, including the Greenville Fault EFZ, which extends from Alameda County into Contra Costa County, and the Las Positas EFZ, which trends northeast to southwest approximately 2.5 miles to the southeast of downtown Livermore.[22]

Implementation of the proposed Plan would improve existing recreation facilities and provide additional facilities including recreation facilities, trails, and open space areas. As shown in Figure 2-4, the existing Brushy Park Regional Preserve and Open Space Preserve are within the northeastern portion of the Plan area, which is within the Greenville Fault Zone. Priority trail project T22 is proposed in this area. Brushy Peak is an existing open space area, intended for the preservation of natural resources and habitat; therefore, no active recreation uses are proposed for this area. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be strictly for recreation use. Consistent with the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Zoning Act (1972), no habitable structures would be constructed as part of proposed Plan implementation. Future individual projects envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with current building codes. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** associated with the risk of loss, injury or death involving the rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map.

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The Plan area and the entire San Francisco Bay Area are in a seismically active region subject to strong seismic ground shaking. Ground shaking is a general term referring to all aspects of motion of the earth's surface resulting from an earthquake and is normally the major cause of damage in seismic events. The extent of ground-shaking is controlled by the magnitude and intensity of the earthquake, distance from the epicenter, and local geologic conditions. The magnitude of a seismic event is a measure of the energy released by an earthquake; it is assessed by seismographs that measure the amplitude of seismic waves. The intensity of an earthquake is a subjective measure of the perceptible effects of a seismic event at a given point. The Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) scale is the most commonly used scale to measure the subjective effects of earthquake intensity. It uses values ranging from I to XII.[23] Major active faults in the region that could cause ground shaking at the project site include the Greenville, Las Positas, Pleasanton, Calaveras, and Hayward faults.[24]

Mapping has been compiled by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) for the likely shaking intensities in the Bay Area that would have a 10 percent chance of occurring in any 50-year period. A large earthquake (magnitude

22 California Geological Survey. n.d. California Earthquake Hazards Zone Application. Website: maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/ (accessed August 26, 2026).

23 United States Geological Survey. n.d. The Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale. Website: https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards/modified-mercalli-intensity-scale (accessed August 26, 2026).

24 City of Livermore. 2026. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

6.7 or greater) on one of the major active faults in the region would generate severe (MMI 8) and very strong (MMI 7) ground shaking in the Plan area.[25]

The most significant adverse impact associated with strong seismic shaking is potential damage to structures and improvements. No habitable structures would be constructed as part of Plan implementation; however, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could increase the use of existing and proposed facilities and result in the construction of improvements in areas subject to seismic shaking.

The adverse impacts of seismically-generated ground shaking on infrastructure, structures and people can be reduced to acceptable levels by incorporating appropriate seismic design standards and conforming to current best standards for earthquake resistant construction per the California Building Code (CBC), Alameda County Code and City of Livermore Municipal Code. Appropriate grading and design plans prepared by a Certified Engineering Geologist would also help to reduce potential impacts to areas that are prone to secondary effects of ground shaking, such as differential settlement or liquefaction.

Future development associated with implementation of the proposed Plan would include construction of improvements in areas with potentially adverse geological conditions, including expansive soils, slope instability, liquefaction, and areas subject to seismic shaking. These improvements could include paved areas, parking areas, trails, and other recreation facilities (e.g., swim center, amphitheater, community center). The potential for severe damage to improvements related to soil movement (resulting from expansive soils, seismic shaking, and or landslide), and the potential for injury of facility users (mostly related to trips and falls from uneven surfaces) would be a significant impact.

Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the Draft Plan Update would be evaluated for site-specific impacts to geological resources and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to strong seismic ground shaking. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would ensure that potential impacts associated with seismic hazards would be less than significant, by requiring preparation and implementation of a design-level geotechnical report.

Mitigation Measure GEO-1 Prior to grading, excavation, and construction of any improvements under the proposed Plan, a design-level geotechnical report shall be prepared by a licensed professional and submitted to LARPD staff for review and approval. The geotechnical review shall specifically address potential adverse geological conditions at the specific site, including but not limited to expansive soils, slope instability, liquefaction, and seismic shaking and verify that the project plans

[25] Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments. 2022a. Probabilistic Earthquake Shaking Hazard Map. Website: https://mtc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4a6f3f1259df42eab29b35dfcd086fc8 (accessed August 26, 2026).

are in conformance with current best practice standards for earthquake resistant construction in accordance with the California Building Code (Seismic Zone 4), applicable County and City codes, and other applicable design standards. All design measures, recommendations, design criteria, and specifications set forth in the design-level geotechnical review shall be implemented as a condition of project approval.

With implementation of Mitigation GEO-1, impacts related to ground shaking would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Liquefaction is the transformation of loose, fine-grained sediment to a fluid-like state similar to quicksand. This phenomenon occurs due to strong seismic activity and lessens the soil's ability to support a structural foundation. The primary factors affecting the possibility of liquefaction in soil are: (1) intensity and duration of earthquake shaking; (2) soil type and relative density; (3) overburden pressures; and (4) depth to groundwater. Soil most susceptible to liquefaction is clean, loose, fine-grained sands and non-plastic silts that are saturated.

The California Geological Survey (CGS) has mapped Seismic Hazard Zones that delineate areas susceptible to liquefaction and/or landslides that require proposed new developments in these areas to conduct additional investigation to determine the extent and magnitude of potential ground failure. According to mapping by CGS,[26] portions of the Plan area are mapped as liquefaction zones. Mapping performed by MTC/ABAG[27] indicates that most of the Plan area is underlain by materials that have very low to moderate liquefaction potential. However, liquefaction potential increases in the vicinity of major drainage channels, including the Arroyo las Positas, Arroyo Mocho, and Arroyo del Valle. The potential for liquefaction also depends on soil conditions and groundwater levels.

Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific impacts to geological resources, including potential settlement associated with seismic induced liquefaction. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, is considered to be a less than significant impact with implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1, which requires preparation and implementation of a design-level Geotechnical Investigation. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

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26 California Geological Survey. n.d. California Earthquake Hazards Zone Application. Website: maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/ (accessed August 26, 2026).

27 Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments. 2022b. Earthquake Liquefaction Susceptibility Map. Website: https://mtc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4a6f3f1259df42eab29b35dfcd086fc8 (accessed August 26, 2026).

iv. Landslides?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. According to Figure S-7, Landslide Susceptibility Area, of the City of Livermore General Plan 2045, upland areas in the northwest, northeast and southern portions of the Plan area are susceptible to landslides, with the majority of slopes designated with a landslide susceptibility between 7 and 10 (more susceptible). Areas with relatively gentle slopes are not prone to landslides. As shown in Figure 2-5, the majority of the priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be within the developed areas of Livermore; however, some of the priority trail projects are proposed in open space areas that could be susceptible to slope failure. In addition, the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1, described above, which requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific geotechnical investigation for individual projects to be implemented under the proposed Plan, would ensure that impacts associated with landslides would be reduced to a less than significant level. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

b. Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less Than Significant Impact. The potential for soil erosion exists during the period of earthwork activities and between the time when earthwork is completed and new vegetation is established or hardscape is installed. Initial construction activities, such as demolition of existing facilities, grading, excavation, and removal of vegetation cover associated with construction activities, have the potential to result in erosion, runoff, and sedimentation. The increased erosion potential could result in short-term water quality impacts as identified in Section 4.10, Hydrology and Water Quality. Under the Construction General Permit, all projects that will disturb or alter more than 1 acre in the area must prepare a SWPPP prior to any ground-disturbing activities. The SWPPP would provide the details of the erosion control measures to be applied on the project site during the construction period, including BMPs for erosion control that are recognized by the RWQCB. Compliance with State and local regulations regarding stormwater during construction, including preparation and implementation of a SWPPP would ensure that the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts related to erosion during construction.

Exposed soils could be subject to erosion during construction of future development envisions in the proposed Plan. The potential for soil erosion exists during the period of earthwork activities and between the time when earthwork is completed and new vegetation is established or hardscape is installed. Initial construction activities, such as demolition, grading, excavation, and removal of vegetation cover associated with construction activities, have the potential to result in erosion, runoff, and sedimentation. The increased erosion potential could result in short-term water quality impacts as identified in Section 4.10, Hydrology and Water Quality. Under the Construction General Permit, all projects that will disturb or alter more than 1 acre in the area must prepare a SWPPP prior to any ground disturbance activities. The SWPPP would provide the details of the erosion control measures to be applied on the project site during the construction period, including BMPs for erosion control that are recognized by the RWQCB. Although designed primarily to protect storm water quality, the SWPPP would incorporate BMPs to minimize erosion. Additional details regarding

the SWPPP are provided in 4.10, Hydrology and Water Quality. Preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, required by existing regulations, would reduce any potential soil erosion impacts to a **less than significant** level.

c. Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Please refer to Section 4.7.a. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be designed and constructed in accordance with the CBC; however, some of the priority projects identified in the proposed Project are located in areas that could be subject to geologic hazards, including landslide and liquefaction. In addition, the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1, which would require preparation of a site-specific geotechnical evaluation and implementation of proposed geotechnical recommendations, would ensure that any individual projects developed as part of Plan implementation would not result in a geologic hazard from landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**.

d. Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Expansive soils are characterized by the potential for shrinking and swelling as the moisture content of the soil decreases and increases, respectively. Shrink-swell potential is influenced by the amount and type of clay minerals present and can be measured by the percentage of change in the soil volume. Areas with expansive soil must often implement special building and structure design that can withstand such a fluctuation in soil. There are clay deposits dispersed in alluvial materials throughout the Plan area that are known to swell and contract during moisture events.[28] Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1, described above, which requires preparation of a design-level geotechnical report that includes an evaluation of the potential for expansive soils to be present at the project site, and implementation of geotechnical recommendations to address expansive soil, would ensure that potential impacts related to expansive soil would be less than significant. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**.

[28] PlaceWorks. 2022. Livermore General Plan Update Existing Conditions Report, Chapter 11 – Geology and Soils. Website: https://imaginelivermore2045.org/documents/#docaccess-9c800e051c6d69713503ffa260c69e06 (accessed August 26, 2026).

e. Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

No Impact. It is anticipated that future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would not require the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater treatment disposal systems. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would result in no impact associated with soils incapable of supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As described in the Livermore General Plan 2045 Environmental Impact Report, the Livermore Valley is underlain with a thick layer of alluvial sediments that are drained from other locations in the surrounding region and deposited into low-lying lands. The alluvial deposits in the Livermore Valley have been recorded to contain several megafauna vertebrate fossils, extracted from Pleistocene-age alluvium and it is anticipated that there may be significant paleontological resources that have not been unearthed.[29] Construction activities associated with future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could uncover subsurface paleontological resources. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific impacts to paleontological resources. To ensure that potential impacts to undiscovered paleontological resources remain less than significant, Mitigation Measure GEO-2 is proposed as outlined below.

Mitigation Measure GEO-2 If paleontological resources are encountered during site preparation or grading activities, all work within 25 feet of the discovery shall be redirected until a qualified paleontologist has assessed the discoveries and made recommendations. Paleontological resources include fossil plants and animals, and evidence of past life such as trace fossils and tracks.

If the paleontological resources are found to be significant, adverse effects to such resources shall be avoided by project activities to the extent feasible. If project activities cannot avoid the resources, the adverse effects shall be mitigated. In accordance with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4(b)(3), mitigation may include data recovery and analysis, preparation of a final report, and the formal transmission or delivery of any fossil material recovered to a paleontological repository, such as the University of California Museum of Paleontology. Upon completion of project activities, the final report shall document methods and findings of the mitigation

[29] PlaceWorks. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

and be submitted to the LARPD and a suitable paleontological repository.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-2 would reduce the level of the potential impact through the identification of paleontological resources during construction, the evaluation of unanticipated discoveries, and the recovery of significant paleontological data from those resources that warrant such investigation. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-2, this impact would be **less than significant with mitigation**.

4.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural sources, or form from secondary reactions taking place in the atmosphere. The gases that are widely seen as the principal contributors to human-induced global climate change are:

- Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
- Methane (CH_4)
- Nitrous oxide (N_2O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6)

Over the last 200 years, humans have caused substantial quantities of GHGs to be released into the atmosphere. These extra emissions are increasing GHG concentrations in the atmosphere and enhancing the natural greenhouse effect, believed to be causing global warming. Although manmade GHGs include naturally-occurring GHGs such as CO_2, methane, and N_2O, some gases, like HFCs, PFCs, and SF_6, are completely new to the atmosphere.

Certain gases, such as water vapor, are short-lived in the atmosphere. Others remain in the atmosphere for significant periods of time, contributing to climate change in the long-term. Water vapor is excluded from the list of GHGs above because it is short-lived in the atmosphere and its atmospheric concentrations are largely determined by natural processes, such as oceanic evaporation.

These gases vary considerably in terms of global warming potential (GWP), a concept developed to compare the ability of each GHG to trap heat in the atmosphere relative to another gas. The GWP is based on several factors, including the relative effectiveness of a gas to absorb infrared radiation and length of time that the gas remains in the atmosphere ("atmospheric lifetime"). The GWP of each gas is measured relative to CO_2, the most abundant GHG. The definition of GWP for a particular GHG is the ratio of heat trapped by one unit mass of the GHG to the ratio of heat trapped by one unit mass of CO_2 over a specified time period. GHG emissions are typically measured in terms of pounds or tons of "CO_2 equivalents" (CO_2e).

Section 15064.4 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* states that: "A lead agency should make a good-faith effort, based to the extent possible on scientific and factual data, to describe, calculate or estimate the amount of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project." In performing that analysis, the lead agency has discretion to determine whether to use a model or methodology to quantify GHG emissions or to rely on a qualitative analysis or performance-based standards. In making a determination as to the significance of potential impacts, the lead agency then considers the extent to which the project may increase or reduce GHG emissions as compared to the existing environmental setting, whether the project emissions exceed a threshold of significance that the lead agency determines applies to the project, and the extent to which the project complies with regulations or requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional, or local plan for the reduction or mitigation of GHG emissions.

The City of Livermore adopted its first Climate Action Plan (CAP) in 2012, which established a goal of reducing GHG emissions by 15 percent by 2020. The City's updated its CAP, the 2022 CAP, on November 28, 2022.[30] The 2022 CAP establishes new GHG reduction goals consistent with current State legislation and establishes a pathway to carbon neutrality by 2045. Additionally, the 2022 CAP meets the Air District's requirements for a Qualified GHG Reduction Strategy and is designed to streamline environmental review of future development projects in Livermore consistent with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15183.5(b) and the Air District's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines.

Similarly, the County of Alameda (County) adopted its current CAP in May 2023,[31] which sets a target for County services and operations that exceeds its earlier 2050 target and aligns with California's target of carbon neutrality by 2045. The County CAP also meets the Air District's requirements for a Qualified GHG Reduction Strategy and is designed to streamline environmental review of future development projects in Alameda County consistent with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15183.5(b) and the Air District's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. Therefore, a project's GHG emissions would not be considered a significant impact if the project is consistent with the City and County CAPs.

a. Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact. The following section describes the proposed Plan's construction and operational related GHG emissions and contribution to global climate change.

Construction Emissions. Construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed Plan would produce combustion emissions from various sources. During construction of individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan, GHGs would be emitted through the operation of construction equipment and from worker and builder supply vendor vehicles, which typically use fossil-based fuels to operate. The combustion of fossil-based fuels creates GHGs such as CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O. Furthermore, CH_4 is emitted during the fueling of heavy equipment. Exhaust emissions from on-site construction activities would vary daily as construction activity levels change. GHG emissions generated during construction of the proposed project would be short term in nature,

30 City of Livermore. 2022. City of Livermore Climate Action Plan. November 28.

31 Alameda County Sustainability. 2023. *Alameda County Climate Action Plan for Government Services and Operations Through 2026.* May.

lasting only for the duration of the construction period, and would not represent a long-term source of GHG emissions.

The Air District does not have an adopted threshold of significance for construction-related GHG emissions. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AIR-1, as discussed in Section 4.3.b, would reduce construction GHG emissions by limiting construction idling emissions. GHG emissions generated during construction of the proposed project would be short term in nature, lasting only for the duration of the construction period, and would not represent a long-term source of GHG emissions. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include quantification and disclosure of construction-generated emissions. Therefore, construction emissions would be considered less than significant.

Operation Emissions. Long-term GHG emissions are typically generated from mobile sources (e.g., vehicle trips), area sources (e.g., maintenance activities and landscaping), indirect emissions from sources associated with energy consumption, waste sources (landfilling and waste disposal), and water sources (water supply and conveyance, treatment, and distribution). Mobile-source GHG emissions would include vehicle trips generated by future development associated with Plan implementation. Area-source emissions would be associated with activities such as landscaping and maintenance. Energy-source emissions would be generated at off-site utility providers as a result of increased electricity demand. Waste-source emissions include energy generated by landfilling and other methods of disposal related to transporting and managing waste generated by future development associated with Plan implementation. In addition, water-source emissions are generated by water supply and conveyance, water treatment, water distribution, and wastewater treatment.

The proposed Plan encompasses an approximately 243.5-square-mile planning area and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area. Parks, trails, open space areas, and recreation facilities generally are not substantial sources of GHG emissions and are intended to serve nearby residents while promoting walking, bicycling, and other forms of active transportation. Once implemented, the proposed Plan is not anticipated to substantially increase GHG emissions associated with vehicle trips, electricity, water usage, or activities such as routine maintenance and landscaping. Further, the project would improve stormwater management and drainage infrastructure.

Additionally, the proposed Plan would generally support the goals and strategies of both the City of Livermore CAP and the Alameda County CAP, each of which seeks to reduce communitywide GHG emissions through a combination of land use planning, transportation improvements, resource conservation, and sustainability measures. The City of Livermore's 2022 CAP establishes a pathway toward carbon neutrality by 2045 and includes strategies focused on transportation and land use, active transportation, climate resilience, habitat conservation, and community sustainability. The Alameda County CAP similarly promotes GHG reductions through transportation and land use planning, sustainable materials management, green infrastructure, and climate resilience initiatives. Both plans emphasize the importance of reducing vehicle dependence, improving opportunities for walking and bicycling, preserving and enhancing open space resources, and creating healthy, resilient communities.

Consistent with these objectives, the proposed Plan would support the expansion and improvement of community parks, trails, open space amenities, and recreational facilities throughout the Plan area. These improvements would enhance access to recreation opportunities, improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, promote active transportation, and encourage residents to utilize local recreational amenities closer to their homes. In addition, preservation and enhancement of parks, open space areas, and urban landscaping can provide ancillary climate benefits, including support for urban greening, carbon sequestration, and community resilience. As such, implementation of the proposed Plan would generally be consistent with the transportation, land use, open space, sustainability, and climate resilience objectives identified in the Livermore and Alameda County CAPs.

Because the proposed Plan is a programmatic planning document and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements, the specific design and operational characteristics of future projects are not currently known. Any future park or facility improvements implemented under the proposed Plan would be subject to project-specific environmental review in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, including evaluation of GHG emissions and consistency with applicable climate action plans and GHG reduction policies, as appropriate. Therefore, the proposed Plan would not conflict with the Livermore CAP and Alameda CAP goals and policies adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions and would result in a less than significant impact associated with GHG emissions.

b. Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described above, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for consistency with regulations adopted to reduce GHG emissions, including the City CAP and the County CAP. Both CAPs support the reduction of vehicle travel, expansion of active transportation opportunities, preservation and enhancement of open space resources, and development of healthy, sustainable communities. Consistent with these objectives, the proposed Plan would facilitate improvements to parks, trails, open space areas, and recreational facilities that enhance opportunities for walking, bicycling, and other forms of active recreation while improving access to community-serving recreational amenities.

The proposed Plan would also support the State's broader climate goals as established through Executive Order (EO) B-30-15, Senate Bill (SB) 32, Assembly Bill (AB) 197, AB 1279, and the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) 2022 Scoping Plan. EO B-30-15 established the statewide target of reducing GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, which was subsequently codified by SB 32. AB 197 provides additional direction regarding implementation of GHG reduction strategies and emphasizes transparency, accountability, and the protection of public health. More recently, AB 1279 codified the State's goal of achieving carbon neutrality no later than 2045 and maintaining net-negative emissions thereafter. The 2022 Scoping Plan builds upon these legislative and executive actions by identifying a framework for achieving the State's 2030 emissions reduction targets while establishing a pathway to carbon neutrality through expanded transportation efficiency, transportation electrification, energy conservation, renewable energy deployment, climate-resilient land use planning, and preservation of natural and working lands.

The proposed Plan is consistent with the direction and objectives of the State's climate framework because it promotes recreational and open space improvements that can enhance walkability, bicycle connectivity, and access to community amenities, thereby supporting reductions in vehicle travel and associated emissions. In addition, parks, trails, urban landscaping, and open space resources may provide ancillary climate benefits through urban greening, carbon sequestration, heat island reduction, and improved community resilience to climate-related impacts. While future implementation projects may generate GHG emissions from construction activities and ongoing operations, such emissions would generally be limited in scale and would be subject to applicable State regulations, local CAP requirements, and project-specific environmental review.

The proposed Plan is a programmatic planning document and does not directly authorize any physical development or construction activities. Accordingly, any future park, trail, or facility improvements implemented under the proposed Plan would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. Such review would evaluate project-specific GHG emissions, consistency with applicable CAP measures and State climate policies, and identify mitigation where necessary. Through compliance with existing State regulations, implementation of applicable Livermore and Alameda County CAP measures, and subsequent project-level review, the proposed Plan would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

Therefore, adoption and implementation of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to the generation of GHG emissions and consistency with applicable plans, policies, and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

4.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Less Than Significant Impact. Hazardous substances include chemicals regulated under both the United States Department of Transportation[32] and the United States Environmental Protection Agency[33] "Hazardous Materials" regulations. Hazardous waste requires specific handling and disposal procedures because of potential damage to public health and the environment.

Although small quantities of commercially available hazardous materials would be used during construction activities associated with the proposed Plan (e.g., oil, gasoline, paint) and for operation and maintenance (e.g., pesticides or herbicides, paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals) of new and improved recreation facilities, these materials would not be used in sufficient quantities to pose a

[32] United States Department of Transportation. 2017. Hazardous Materials Regulations. Website: www.phmsa.dot.gov/standards-rulemaking/hazmat/hazardous-materials-regulations (accessed August 27, 2026).

[33] United States Environmental Protection Agency. 2026. Hazardous Waste Website: https://www.epa.gov/hw (accessed August 27, 2026).

threat to human or environmental health. Any activities involving hazardous materials and hazardous waste would be conducted in accordance with health and safety standards mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and other federal, State, and local regulations, thereby reducing potential hazards to workers, the public and the environment from the use, transport, and disposal of those materials and wastes. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, improvements associated with the implementation of the proposed Plan would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, and impacts associated with these activities would be **less than significant.**

b. Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. In general, improvements associated with the implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in significant hazards related to emissions of hazardous materials or the regular handling of hazardous waste because the individual improvements contemplated would generally require small amounts of ground disturbance such that no large-scale release of contaminated soils or groundwater would occur. As described above, small quantities of common hazardous materials would be used during construction of individual projects contemplated in the proposed Plan and during long-term operation and maintenance of new and renovated recreation facilities, similar to those used for existing LARPD facilities. Improper use, storage, or handling could result in a release of hazardous materials into the environment that could pose a risk to construction workers and the public. However, LARPD would be required to comply with existing government regulations in the use and disposal of these materials, and such materials would not be used in sufficient strength or quantity to create a substantial risk to human or environmental health. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. This impact would be **less than significant.**

c. Would the project 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. Please refer to Section 4.9.1.b. The use of hazardous materials such as commercially-available pesticides, fuels, and paint during construction of projects envisioned under the proposed Plan would not create conditions such that hazardous emissions would be created or such hazardous materials would be handled within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school. This impact would be **less than significant.**

d. Would the project 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. There are more than 150 sites listed throughout the Plan area on the RWQCB GeoTracker website[34] and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor website,[35] two of the component databases that comprise the State Cortese List of known hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The majority of these sites are designated as "Completed—Case Closed." A closed site indicates that regulatory requirements for response actions, such as site assessment and remediation, have either been completed or were not necessary and therefore potential migration of residual contaminants in groundwater beneath the project site (if any) does not likely pose a risk to human health and the environment.

It is unlikely that future development envisioned in the proposed Plan would be located on a known hazardous material site; however, individual projects may involve ground-disturbing activities within a site that contains hazardous soils or groundwater resulting from nearby hazardous material releases. Individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific impacts associated with hazards and hazardous materials. Depending on the locations of such future projects and the extent of soil disturbing activities, LARPD may need to retain the services of a qualified professional to prepare a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to determine the potential for site contamination and level of exposure risk associated with the project. Based on that information, soil and/or groundwater sampling and analysis may also be required. If hazardous materials are determined to be present in excess of state or federal standards, a site mitigation plan would be required to remediate any site contamination. Because any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to known hazardous materials listed on sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5

e. Would the project be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

Less Than Significant Impact. Livermore Municipal Airport is approximately 3 miles northwest of downtown Livermore within the Plan area. In 2012, the Alameda County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) adopted the Livermore Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, which is intended to promote compatibility between the airport and its environs and protect the general welfare of the public within the Airport Influence Area (AIA). The AIA for the Livermore Municipal Airport includes portions of the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin, and unincorporated areas of Alameda County. Individual projects that would be constructed within the AIA would be required to comply with the compatibility criteria set forth in the Compatibility Plan and undergo

[34] State Water Resources Control Board. 2026. GeoTracker. Website: https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=Alameda+County (accessed August 27, 2026).

[35] Department of Toxic Substances Control. 2026. EnviroStor. Website: https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Livermore%2C+CA (accessed August 27, 2026).

ALUC review and approval. Compliance with the Livermore Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan would ensure that implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Plan area. This impact would be **less than significant.**

f. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The County of Alameda adopted the Countywide Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in December 2012.[36] The EOP does not designate specific roadways as evacuation routes and instead empowers law enforcement resources to designate evacuation scheduling and routes in the event of an emergency. Similarly, the Livermore EOP[37] establishes policy direction for emergency planning, mitigation, response, and recovery activities.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would include replacement/reconstruction of existing facilities (e.g., playgrounds, irrigation systems), construction of improvement to existing facilities and development of new trails, recreation facilities and open space areas to serve existing and future users. It is not anticipated that implementation of these projects would require closure of or significant modifications to local roadways or result in substantial temporary traffic delays. Individual projects would be reviewed for consistency with the Alameda County EOP, the Livermore EOP, and other adopted emergency response and evacuation plans. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* In addition, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific impacts associated with the impairment or interference with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

g. Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

Less Than Significant Impact. A wildland fire is a fire occurring in a suburban or rural area that contains uncultivated land, timber, range, brush, or grasslands. Wildland fires are primarily a concern in areas where there is a mix of developed and undeveloped lands.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has mapped areas of significant wildfire risk in the State through its Fire and Resources Assessment Program. These maps place areas of California into different Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs), based on a hazard scoring system using subjective criteria for fuels, fire history, terrain influences, housing densities, and occurrence of severe fire weather where urban conflagration could result in catastrophic losses. As part of this

[36] Alameda County Sheriff's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. 2012. *Alameda County Emergency Operations Plan.* December.

[37] City of Livermore. 2018. *Emergency Operations Plan.* January. Website: https://www.livermoreca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/11721/638579319829670000 (accessed August 26, 2026).

mapping system, CAL FIRE is responsible for wildland fire protection for land areas that are generally unincorporated, classifying these areas as State Responsibility Areas (SRAs). In areas where local fire protection agencies are responsible for wildfire protection, the lands are classified as Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs).

The FHSZs include Moderate, High, and Very High classifications. According to CAL FIRE, the majority of the Plan area, which consists of undeveloped land in unincorporated Alameda County, is within an SRA, whereas the urban area of Livermore is within an LRA. Areas closest to the city limits are designated as being in a Moderate FHSZ, whereas areas farther north and south are designated as being in a High or Very High FHSZ.[38]

As shown in Figure 2-5, the majority of the priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be within the developed areas of Livermore; however, some of the priority trail projects (e.g., T22, T15, T11-A, T13-B) are proposed in the hilly, open space areas with the potential for wildland fire hazard. Construction of proposed trail connections would take place on slopes that include grassy areas and other potentially flammable vegetation, increasing fire hazard risk. In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals, policies and actions to explore opportunities for acquisition and development of new open space areas that would increase public access to these areas; although the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would not involve construction of residential or commercial structures. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would largely focus within and near Livermore, where residents are concentrated and the wildfire risk is low.

Development of new trails, trail connections and open space areas would increase public access to undeveloped hillsides and woodlands, which would increase the risk of human-caused wildland fire. However, people would use these areas for a limited duration of time and would not expose a substantial number of people for an extended period of time to wildland fire hazards compared to other types of development. The increased risk of human-caused wildland fire associated with recreation users would not be significant and would not change the existing identified wildfire hazard levels. Individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan would be required to comply with the California Fire Code, which requires the installation, maintenance, and ongoing inspection of fire protection systems under the direction of the local Fire Chief. In addition, the California Fire Code authorizes the Fire Chief to specify water supply and road design standards.

Future development projects would also be subject to requirements in Section 13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, the CBC, and California Fire Code, which include regulations concerning building standards for fire protection; fire protection and notification systems (e.g., extinguishers and smoke alarms); safety for firefighters and emergency responders during emergency operations; minimum standards for hazardous vegetation and fuel management, defensible space, and building construction; and minimum standards for emergency access and water supply for fire response.

[38] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. n.d. Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer. Website: https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/ (accessed August 31, 2026).

Construction of facilities in these areas would use construction equipment that could generate sparks and storage and use of flammable/combustible materials (e.g., fuel) that would temporarily increase fire risks. During project construction, the most likely source of ignition would be from mechanical activities such as operation of backhoes, mini excavators, or rolled compactors. The California Public Resources Code includes fire safety regulations that restrict the use of equipment that may produce a spark, flame, or fire; require the use of spark arrestors on construction equipment that use an internal combustion engine; specify requirements for the safe use of gasoline-powered tools in fire hazard areas; and specify fire suppression equipment that must be provided onsite for various types of work in fire-prone areas.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would have a **less than significant impact** on wildland fire risks.

4.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	☐	☐	☒	☐
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii. 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; or	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine RWQCBs regulate the quality of surface water and groundwater bodies throughout California. In unincorporated Alameda County and the city of Livermore, water quality is under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay RWQCB) and the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program (ACCWP), of which the City of Livermore and the County of Alameda are participants.

Runoff water quality is regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program (established through the federal Clean Water Act [CWA]). The NPDES program objective is to control and reduce pollutant discharges to surface water bodies. Compliance with NPDES permits is mandated by State and federal statutes and regulations. Locally, the NPDES Program is administered by the San Francisco Bay RWQCB. The ACCWP is a group of local government agencies that operate under one common NPDES Municipal Regional Stormwater Discharge Permit.

Construction. Pollutants of concern during construction of individual projects contemplated in the proposed Plan include sediments, trash, petroleum products, concrete waste (dry and wet), sanitary waste, and chemicals. During construction activities, excavated soil would be exposed, and there would be an increased potential for soil erosion and transport of sediment downstream compared to existing conditions. During a storm event, soil erosion could occur at an accelerated rate. In addition, construction-related pollutants such as chemicals, liquid and petroleum products (e.g., paints, solvents, and fuels), and concrete-related waste could be spilled, leaked, or transported via storm runoff into adjacent drainages and into downstream receiving waters. Any of these pollutants has the potential to be transported via stormwater runoff into receiving waters. Construction activities associated with the proposed project (trail grading, drainage crossing improvements) would disturb soils and could cause erosion and sedimentation if not properly managed.

Construction activities are subject to the SWRCB NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Construction General Permit), Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002.[39] Any construction activity, including grading, that would result in the disturbance of 1 acre or more must comply with SWRCB's Construction General Permit, which requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, and implementation of construction BMPs during the construction phase. Construction BMPs would include, but not be limited to, erosion and sediment control, designed to minimize erosion and retain sediment on site, and good housekeeping practices to prevent spills, leaks, and discharge of construction debris and waste into receiving waters. Any groundwater dewatering activities during excavation would be required to comply with the appropriate NPDES waste discharge requirements permit, which requires testing and treatment (as necessary) of groundwater encountered during dewatering prior to its release. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

Compliance with the Construction General Permit and other permits, as applicable, would ensure that construction impacts related to water quality standards, waste discharge requirements, and water quality for both surface and groundwater would be less than significant.

Operation. Operation of individual projects under the proposed Plan would be subject to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit, Order No. R2-2022-0018, as amended by Order No. R2-2023-0019, NPDES Permit No. CAS612008 (Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit [MRP]). The MRP prohibits discharges, sets limits on pollutants being discharged into receiving waters, and requires implementation of technology-based standards. The MRP requires co-permittees, which include the City of Livermore and Alameda County, to develop and implement standard design and post-development BMP guidance to guide application of low impact development (LID) BMPs to the maximum extent practicable.

MRP Provision C.3 addresses post-construction stormwater management requirements for regulated projects. Regulated projects include new development and redevelopment projects that create or

[39] NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002)

replace 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface, and special land use categories that create or replace 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface. Provision C.3 requires regulated projects to implement LID source control, site design, and stormwater treatment. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features and minimizing impervious surfaces to create functional and appealing site drainage that treats stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product. Practices used to adhere to these LID principles include measures such as rain barrels and cisterns, green roofs, permeable pavement, preserving undeveloped open space, and biotreatment through rain gardens, bioretention areas, bioswales, and planter/tree boxes.

MRP Provision C.3.g pertains to hydromodification management, which requires certain regulated projects to ensure that stormwater discharges from the project site do not cause an increase in the erosion potential of the receiving stream over the existing condition. Provision C.3.g provides various exceptions from hydromodification management requirements, including if the post-project impervious surface area is less than or the same as the pre-project impervious surface area or is less than 1 acre.

In general, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would consist largely of turf (artificial and natural) and/or other permeable surfaces (e.g., unpaved, single-track) trails that would not increase impervious surfaces in the Plan area; however, some individual projects (e.g., multi-use trails, recreation facilities, amphitheater) could increase impervious surfaces at specific sites within the Plan area. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Individual projects would incorporate design features, as applicable, to manage stormwater runoff in compliance with existing NPDES regulations.

Overall, because future development envisioned in the proposed Plan would be required to comply with existing regulations including the Construction General Permit and the MRP, adoption of the proposed Plan would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality. Impacts would be **less than significant.**

b. Would the project substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), a portion of the Plan area is within the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin.[40] The Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin extends from the Pleasanton Ridge east to the Altamont Hills (about 14 miles) and from the Livermore Upland north to the Orinda Upland (about 3 miles). Surface drainage features include Arroyo Valle, Arroyo Mocho, and Arroyo las Positas as principal streams, with Alamo Creek, South San Ramon Creek, and Tassajara Creek as minor streams. Average annual precipitation

[40] California Department of Water Resources (DWR) n.d. *SGMA Data Viewer* Website: https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#boundaries (accessed August 27, 2026).

in the basin ranges from 16 inches on the valley floor to more than 20 inches along the southeast and northwest basin margins.[41]

The Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin is managed by the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7 (Zone 7) and is designated as a Moderate Priority basin pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Available data indicate that groundwater levels have remained stable or increased over the past 10 years and have recovered from previous drought conditions.[42]

Implementation of improvements associated with the proposed Plan would not require the direct use or extraction of groundwater. However, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could result in impacts to groundwater supplies if the development of these facilities would require dewatering, result in groundwater drawdown, or substantially reduce infiltration by introducing new impervious surfaces. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Analysis will consider the location of development, depth of potential groundwater and the type of construction being proposed. Specific projects would be required to comply with existing regulations, including the MRP, and incorporate project design features, as applicable, to ensure that proposed improvements would not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to depletion of groundwater supplies or interference with groundwater recharge.

c. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

Less Than Significant Impact. Several creeks and arroyos cross the Livermore Valley, including Arroyo Las Positas, Cayetano Creek, Arroyo del Valle, Arroyo Mocho, and Arroyo Seco. Most of these waterways flow from east to west. Arroyo Las Positas generally flows along I-580 through Livermore. The major tributaries to Arroyo Las Positas include Arroyo Seco, Altamont Creek, Cayetano Creek, Collier Canyon Creek, and Cottonwood Creek.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in direct erosion effects or alter the course of streams or rivers. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could slightly change drainage patterns at specific locations (e.g., through changes in impervious surfaces or construction activities); however, these alterations would be minor and would not change the course of a stream or river, or otherwise cause changes in the drainage pattern such that substantial on- or off-site erosion/siltation would occur. As described above, future projects implemented as part of the

41 State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Water Rights. 2006. *Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin Bulletin 118*. January 20.

42 Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7. 2021. *Alternative Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin*. December.

proposed Plan would be required to comply with regulations related to runoff and grading, including the NPDES Construction General Permit. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site. Impacts would be **less than significant.**

ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;

Less Than Significant Impact. Refer to Section 4.9.c.i. As described above, future projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan would comply with regulations related to runoff and grading, including the NPDES Construction General Permit and MRP. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or offsite. Impacts would be **less than significant**

iii. 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; or

Less Than Significant Impact. Refer to Section 4.9.a and 4.9.c.i. As described above, future projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan would comply with regulations related to runoff and grading, including the NPDES Construction General Permit and the MRP, which would require individual projects to manage post-construction stormwater runoff. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not contribute to an exceedance of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or contribute additional sources of polluted runoff, and impacts would be **less than significant.**

iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the majority of the Plan area is designated as subject to minimal flooding. However, 100-year flood zones are located along Arroyo del Valle in the southwest portion of the Plan area, along Altamont Creek between Broadmoor Street and Springtown Road, along Las Positas Creek from I-580 to El Charro Road, along Arroyo Mocho from Wente Street to Stanley Boulevard, and 0.5 mile west of Isabel Parkway to El Charro Road. Areas of minimum flooding also occur along Arroyo Seco and the triangular area that is generally bounded by Arroyo Seco to the east, State Route 84 to the north, and a line extending approximately 0.5 miles to the north of East Avenue on the south.[43] Zone 7 owns and maintains approximately 40 miles of flood control channels, including portions of Arroyo Las Positas, Arroyo Seco, and Altamont Creek.

Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan may be within these flood hazard areas. Specifically, as shown in Figure 2-5, priority trail segments (T19-C1, T10-B, T11-A), the Sycamore Grove Amphitheater Project and the Altamont Creek Park Playground Replacement Project may all be within these flood hazard areas. Development within these areas would expose people and structures to risks from a 100-year flood event or greater. In general, proposed improvements are anticipated to be at grade such that they would not present an obstacle that would impede flood flows or raise the flood elevation. However, individual projects may include structures (e.g., Class I

[43] City of Livermore. 2026c. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

trail pedestrian bridges) that could be placed at an elevation that may block channel flow during intense runoff events or impede/redirect flood flows. Future projects envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with Livermore Municipal Code Chapter 16.12, Flood Control Regulations, Zone 7 requirements, and the FEMA FIRM flood zone requirements to address impacts associated with flooding. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would have a **less than significant impact** related to impeding or redirecting flood flows.

d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, would the project risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

Less Than Significant Impact. The potential for Plan implementation to result in the release of pollutants due to inundation related to flood hazard, tsunami, seiche or dam inundation is described below.

Flooding. As discussed above, the majority of the Plan area is designated as subject to minimal flooding. However, 100-year flood zones are within the Plan area and future development envisioned under the proposed Plan may be within these flood hazard areas. Future projects envisioned under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with Livermore Municipal Code Chapter 16.12, Flood Control Regulations, Zone 7 requirements, and FEMA FIRM flood zone requirements to address impacts associated with flooding. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, impacts associated with the release of pollutants resulting from inundation due to flooding would be less than significant.

Tsunami and Seiche. The Plan area is approximately 18 miles from San Francisco Bay and is not susceptible to inundation by tsunamis or other coastal hazards. Based on the distance from the Pacific Ocean, the project site is not in a tsunami hazard zone and would not result in the release of pollutants due to inundation caused by a tsunami. Furthermore, there are no large bodies of water in the Plan area that could trigger a seiche. Therefore, the proposed Plan would not result in the release of pollutants due to tsunami or seiche.

Dam Inundation. Portions of the Plan area are within the dam failure inundation hazard areas for Del Valle Dam and Patterson Dam.[44] Patterson Dam is east of Greenville Road and north of Patterson Pass Road and impounds the 100-acre-foot Patterson Reservoir. Del Valle Dam is at the northern end of Lake Del Valle and impounds an average of 44,000 acre-feet in the reservoir. Both of these dams are under the jurisdiction of the DWR Division of Safety of Dams. Del Valle Dam is classified as an extremely high hazard dam. Patterson Dam is classified as a high hazard dam.[45]

Future development envisioned in the proposed Plan could be within these flood hazard areas. No State or local regulations restrict development within dam failure inundation areas. The Emergency

[44] City of Livermore. 2026c. Figure S-9 Dam Inundation Areas, *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.
[45] City of Livermore. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

Services Act requires that cities and counties prepare emergency evacuation plans for areas that could be inundated in the event of a dam failure. Alameda County's emergency notification procedures are included in the Tri-Valley Local Hazard Mitigation Plan,[46] which also includes hazard mitigation alternatives to help reduce the risk of damage or injury from dam failure hazards. Although development of individual projects associated with the proposed Plan could result in an increase in recreation use within the Plan area, the proposed Plan would not directly or indirectly induce population growth within the Plan area. Therefore, the proposed Plan would not result in an increase in the number of people or structures exposed to flooding risks as a result of a failure of a levee or dam, and this impact would be less than significant.

For the reasons outlined above, adoption of the proposed Plan would not result in the release of pollutants from a flood, dam inundation, tsunami, or seiche greater than existing conditions. Impacts would be **less than significant.**

e. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project is within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay RWQCB. The San Francisco Bay RWQCB adopted a Water Quality Control Plan (i.e., Basin Plan) (amended December 29, 2025)[47] that designates beneficial uses for all surface and groundwater within its jurisdiction and establishes the water quality objectives and standards necessary to protect those beneficial uses. As previously discussed, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would comply with existing NPDES permit requirements, including the Construction General Permit and MRP, and would implement construction and operational BMPs to reduce pollutants of concern in stormwater runoff. Compliance with these regulatory requirements would ensure that individual projects would not degrade or alter water quality, which would cause the receiving waters to exceed the water quality objectives, or impair the beneficial use of receiving waters. As such, adoption of the proposed Plan would not result in water quality impacts that would conflict with the Basin Plan. Construction and operational impacts related to a conflict with the Basin Plan would be less than significant.

SGMA was enacted in September 2014. SGMA requires governments and water agencies located within high- and medium-priority groundwater basins to halt overdraft of the basins. SGMA requires the formation of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, which are required to adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plans to manage the sustainability of the groundwater basins. As previously discussed, the project site is within the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin.[48] The Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin is managed by Zone 7 and is designated as a Moderate Priority basin pursuant to SGMA. In accordance with the SGMA, Zone 7 has prepared an *Alternative*

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46 TetraTech. 2024. *Tri-Valley Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Volume I Planning Area-Wide Elements.* January.

47 San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. 2025. *Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the San Francisco Bay Basin*. December 29. Website: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/basin_planning.html (accessed August 27, 2026).

48 California Department of Water Resources. n.d. *SGMA Data Viewer* Website: https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#boundaries (accessed August 27, 2026).

Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin, which has been approved by the Department of Water Resources.[49]

As previously discussed, implementation of individual projects under the proposed Plan would not require the direct use or extraction of groundwater. However, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could result in impacts to groundwater supplies if the development of these facilities would require dewatering or result in groundwater drawdown or substantially reduce infiltration by introducing new impervious surfaces. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Analysis will consider the location of development, depth of potential groundwater and the type of construction being proposed. Specific projects would be required to comply with existing regulations, including applicable NPDES permits and incorporate project design features, as applicable, to ensure that proposed improvements would not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge.

Therefore, impacts related to conflict with, or obstruction of, implementation of water quality control plans or sustainable groundwater management plans would be **less than significant.**

[49] Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7. 2021. *Alternative Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin*. December.

4.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The physical division of an established community typically refers to the construction of a physical feature (such as an Interstate highway or railroad tracks) or removal of a means of access (such as a local road or bridge) that would impair mobility within an existing community, or between a community and outlying areas. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be primarily at existing sites, in areas proposed for new development, or within areas designated for recreational uses. Proposed trail connections would provide connectivity through the residential areas and would encourage non-motorized transportation. Overall, implementation of the proposed Plan would not result in the division of an established community and would benefit the community at large. **No impact** would occur.

b. Would the project cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described in Section 2.2, Project Background, the proposed Plan builds upon other planning documents undertaken by LARPD, including the 2024 LARPD Strategic Plan, the 2017 LARPD Asset Management Plan, and the 2016 LARPD Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. In addition, the proposed Plan is influenced by other agency planning efforts, including the City of Livermore Active Transportation Plan and the East Bay Regional Park District Master Plan Update, which seeks to improve parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities within and adjacent to the Plan area. Furthermore, the proposed Plan supports other City and County planning efforts, including the City of Livermore General Plan 2024 and the East County Area Plan. In addition, goals, policies, and actions in the proposed Plan encourage coordination with affected agencies and applicable plans to ensure that the goals between agencies are consistent. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. This impact would be **less than significant.**

4.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

a. Would the project 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. In 1975, the California Legislature enacted the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, which, among other things, provided guidelines for the classification and designation of mineral lands. Areas are classified on the basis of geologic factors without regard to existing land use and land ownership. The areas are categorized into four Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs):

- **MRZ-1:** An area where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence.
- **MRZ-2:** An area where adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that a high likelihood exists for their presence.
- **MRZ-3:** An area containing mineral deposits, the significance of which cannot be evaluated.
- **MRZ-4:** An area where available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ zone.

Of the four categories, lands classified as 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 designated by the State of California Mining and Geology Board as being "regionally significant," and require that a Lead Agency's land use decisions involving MRZ-2 areas are to be made in accordance with its mineral resource management policies, 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.

Most of the central and western portions of the Plan area have been classified as MRZ-2, where the land is underlain by demonstrated mineral resources considered important to the region or the State as a whole. Other areas have been classified as MRZ-3, areas of undetermined mineral resource significance. Small areas northeast and southeast of the city limits have been classified as MRZ-4,

areas of unknown mineral resource.[50] In addition, three regionally significant construction aggregate resource areas have been identified in the Plan area, with Sectors A and B designated along Livermore's western boundary and Sector C designated south of the city along Mines Road. These sectors have been generally classified as MRZ-2.[51]

Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be primarily at existing sites, in areas proposed for new development, or within areas designated for recreational uses; therefore, implementation of these priority projects would not 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.

Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would not be within active mineral extraction sites and would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource, as there would be no change in land uses within the Plan area. Further, because the proposed Plan is a policy document and does not approve construction of any physical improvements, no impacts related to mineral resources would occur with its adoption. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in **no impact** to mineral resources.

b. Would the project 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. Refer to Section 4.12.a. Adoption of the proposed Plan would not 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** would occur.

50 PlaceWorks. 2026d. Figure 3.12-1 Mineral Resource Zones. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

51 PlaceWorks. 2026e. Figure 3.12-2 Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resource Areas. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

4.13 NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Noise is usually defined as unwanted sound and consists of any sound that may produce physiological or psychological damage and/or interfere with communication, work, rest, recreation, or sleep. Several noise measurement scales exist that are used to describe noise in a particular location. A decibel (dB) is a unit of measurement that indicates the relative intensity of a sound. Sound levels in dB are calculated on a logarithmic basis. An increase of 10 dB represents a 10-fold increase in acoustic energy, while 20 dB is 100 times more intense, and 30 dB is 1,000 times more intense. Each 10 dB increase in sound level is perceived as approximately a doubling of loudness; and similarly, each 10 dB decrease in sound level is perceived as half as loud. Sound intensity is normally measured through the A-weighted decibel (dBA) sound level. This scale gives greater weight to the frequencies of sound to which the human ear is most sensitive. The A-weighted sound level is the basis for 24-hour sound measurements that better represent human sensitivity to sound at night.

As noise spreads from a source, it loses energy so that the farther away the noise receiver is from the noise source, the lower the perceived noise level would be. Geometric spreading causes the sound level to attenuate or be reduced, resulting in a 6 dB reduction in the noise level for each doubling of distance from a single point source of noise to the noise sensitive receptor of concern.

There are many ways to rate noise for various time periods, but an appropriate rating of ambient noise affecting humans also accounts for the annoying effects of sound. Equivalent continuous sound level (L_{eq}) is the total sound energy of time varying noise over a sample period. However, the predominant rating scales for human communities in the State of California are the L_{eq}, the community noise equivalent level (CNEL), and the day-night average level (L_{dn}) based on dBA. CNEL is the time varying noise over a 24-hour period, with a 5 dBA weighting factor applied to the hourly L_{eq} for noises occurring from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. (defined as relaxation hours) and 10 dBA weighting factor applied to noise occurring from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (defined as sleeping hours). L_{dn} is similar to the CNEL scale, but without the adjustment for events occurring during the evening relaxation hours. CNEL and L_{dn} are within one dBA of each other and are normally exchangeable. The noise adjustments are added to the noise events occurring during the more sensitive hours.

A project would have a significant noise effect if it would substantially increase the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas or conflict with adopted environmental plans and goals of applicable regulatory agencies, including, as appropriate, the City of Livermore and the County of Alameda.

The City of Livermore General Plan 2045 Noise Element[52] quantifies current and projected noise levels from a variety of sources, explains impacts associated with noise, and establishes policies to inform land use decision making to address current and foreseeable noise impacts. The General Plan also includes noise and land use compatibility standards. In addition, Chapter 9.36 Noise, of the Livermore Municipal Code provides guidelines for noise generated near sensitive receptors, loading and unloading activities, and construction activities. Section 9.36.080 of the City of Livermore Municipal Code prohibits the operation of construction and demolition equipment between the hours of 6:00 p.m. on Saturday to 7:00 a.m. on Monday; 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays; 8:00 p.m. Friday to 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, and on all City-observed holidays.[53]

The County of Alameda sets noise and land use compatibility standards in the General Plan. The Countywide Noise Element[54] does not explicitly state what the acceptable outdoor noise level is for recreational parks, but it references noise and land use compatibility standards developed by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), which identified a Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) of 65 dBA or less as a basis for finding little noise impact on residential land uses, 65 to 70 dBA as a moderate impact, and any level above 70 dBA as a significant impact.

In addition, the County regulates noise in the its Noise Ordinance,[55] including the number of cumulative minutes that a particular external noise level is permitted for receiving sensitive land uses such as single- or multi- family residential, school, hospital, church or public library properties. The County Noise Ordinance also restricts the operation and use of electric and gas-powered tools in residential areas and authorizes the imposition of more stringent noise limits on activities subject to a conditional use permit. The Noise Ordinance does not apply to noise associated with construction if such activities take place between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays or between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekends.

Certain land uses are considered more sensitive to noise than others. Examples of these land uses include residential areas, educational facilities, hospitals, childcare facilities, and senior housing. The Plan area encompasses Livermore, which includes a mix of uses associated with urban areas. In addition, individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan within the unincorporated areas could be located adjacent to sensitive receptors such as residential uses and schools.

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52 City of Livermore. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045.* February.

53 City of Livermore. 2026d. Livermore Municipal Code, Section 9.36.080. Website: https://ecode360.com/47403656#47403667 (accessed August 31, 2026).

54 Alameda County Planning Commission. 1975. *Noise Element of the Alameda County General Plan.* September 29.

55 County of Alameda. 2026. Alameda County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6.60 – Noise. August 28. Website: https://library.municode.com/ca/alameda_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT6HESA_CH6.60NO (accessed August 31, 2026).

a. Would the project result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Less Than Significant Impact. The following section describes how the short-term construction and long-term operational noise impacts of the proposed Plan would be less than significant.

Short-Term (Construction) Noise Impacts. Construction of recommended projects would result in short-term noise impacts on adjacent land uses. Maximum construction noise would be short-term, generally intermittent depending on the construction phase, and variable depending on receiver distance from the active construction zone. The duration of noise impacts generally would be from 1 day to several days depending on the phase of construction. The levels and types of noise impacts that would occur during construction are described below.

Short-term noise impacts would occur during grading and site preparation activities. Table 4.A lists typical construction equipment noise levels (maximum instantaneous noise level [L_{max}}) recommended for noise impact assessments, based on a distance of 50 feet between the equipment and a noise receptor, obtained from the Federal Highway Administration Roadway Construction Noise Model. Construction-related short-term noise levels would be higher than existing ambient noise levels in those areas where specific projects are proposed but would no longer occur once construction is completed.

Two types of short-term noise impacts would occur during construction of recommended projects. The first type involves construction crew commutes and the transport of construction equipment and materials to the sites, which would incrementally increase noise levels on roads leading to the sites. As shown in Table 4.A, there would be a relatively high single-event noise exposure potential at a maximum level of 75 dBA L_{max} with pickup trucks passing at 50 feet.

The second type of short-term noise impact is related to noise generated during excavation, grading, and construction on project sites. Construction is performed in discrete steps, or phases, each with its own mix of equipment and, consequently, its own noise characteristics. These various sequential phases would change the character of the noise generated on site. Therefore, the noise levels vary as construction progresses. Despite the variety in the type and size of construction equipment, similarities in the dominant noise sources and patterns of operation allow construction-related noise ranges to be categorized by work phase.

Table 4.A: Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Equipment Description	Acoustical Usage Factor (%)[1]	Maximum Noise Level (L_{max}) at 50 Ft[2]
Auger Drill Rig	20	84
Backhoes	40	80
Compactor (ground)	20	80
Compressor	40	80
Cranes	16	85
Dozers	40	85
Dump Trucks	40	84

Excavators	40	85
Flat Bed Trucks	40	84
Forklift	20	85
Front-end Loaders	40	80
Graders	40	85
Impact Pile Drivers	20	95
Jackhammers	20	85
Paver	50	77
Pickup Truck	40	55
Pneumatic Tools	50	85
Pumps	50	77
Rock Drills	20	85
Rollers	20	85
Scrapers	40	85
Tractors	40	84
Trencher	50	80
Welder	40	73

Source: *FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model User's Guide,* Table 1 (FHWA 2006).
Note: Noise levels reported in this table are rounded to the nearest whole number.
[1] Usage factor is the percentage of time during a construction noise operation that a piece of construction equipment is operating at full power.
[2] Maximum noise levels were developed based on Specification 721.560 from the Central Artery/Tunnel program to be consistent with the City of Boston's Noise Code for the "Big Dig" project.
FHWA = Federal Highway Administration
ft = foot/feet
L_{max} = maximum instantaneous sound level

The site preparation phase, including excavation and grading of a site, tends to generate the highest noise levels because earthmoving machinery is the noisiest construction equipment. Earthmoving equipment includes excavating machinery such as backfillers, bulldozers, draglines, and front loaders. Earthmoving and compacting equipment includes compactors, scrapers, and graders. Typical operating cycles for these types of construction equipment may involve 1 or 2 minutes of full-power operation followed by 3 or 4 minutes at lower power settings. As shown in Table 4.A, typical maximum noise levels range up to 85 dBA L_{max} at 50 feet during the noisiest construction phases such as the use of a grapple on a backhoe during site preparation.

Construction of individual projects associated with the proposed Plan would include improvements to existing parks and recreation facilities and development of new facilities, including trails and recreation facilities. Construction activities for these projects would increase ambient noise levels during the construction period. However, the increased noise level would be temporary and would cease once construction is completed. In addition, construction activities must comply with City and County noise standards, which would ensure that construction is limited to the daytime hours and does not exceed established thresholds.

Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan Area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Therefore, it is not possible to quantify the estimated construction noise levels at specific sensitive receptors due to a given project. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-

specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an assessment of construction period noise impacts and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to an increase in noise levels.

Operational Noise Impacts. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Future development envisioned under the proposed plan could result in an increase in ambient noise levels associated with increased vehicle trips on surrounding roadways (traffic noise), outdoor play, amplified sound, parking lot noise, and mechanical equipment for proposed facilities (stationary sources). As stated previously, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an assessment of operational noise impacts and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to an increase in noise levels. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to exposing people to or generating excess noise levels.

b. Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Vibration refers to ground-borne noise and perceptible motion. Ground-borne vibration is almost exclusively a concern inside buildings and is rarely perceived as a problem outdoors, where the motion may not be discernible. Typically, there is more adverse reaction to effects associated with the shaking of a building. Vibration energy propagates from a source through intervening soil and rock layers to the foundations of nearby buildings. The vibration then propagates from the foundation throughout the remainder of the structure. Building vibration may be perceived by occupants as the motion of building surfaces, the rattling of items on shelves or hanging on walls, or a low-frequency rumbling noise. The rumbling noise is caused by the vibration of walls, floors, and ceilings that radiate sound waves. Annoyance from vibration often occurs when the vibration exceeds the threshold of perception by 10 dB or less. This is an order of magnitude below the damage threshold for normal buildings.

Typical sources of ground-borne vibration are construction activities (e.g., blasting, pile driving, and operating heavy-duty earthmoving equipment), steel-wheeled trains, and occasional traffic on rough roads. Problems with both ground-borne vibration and noise from these sources are usually localized to areas within approximately 100 feet from the vibration source, although there are examples of ground-borne vibration causing interference to distances greater than 200 feet.[56] When roadways are smooth, vibration from traffic, even heavy trucks, is rarely perceptible. It is assumed for most projects that the roadway surface will be smooth enough that ground-borne vibration from street traffic will not exceed the impact criteria; however, construction of the project could result in ground-borne vibration that may be damaging.

[56] California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2013. *Caltrans Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual*. September.

Ground-borne vibration has the potential to damage buildings. Although it is very rare for typical construction activities to cause even cosmetic building damage, it is not uncommon for construction processes such as blasting and pile driving to cause vibration of sufficient amplitudes to damage nearby buildings. Ground-borne vibration is usually measured in terms of vibration velocity, either the root-mean-square (RMS) velocity or peak particle velocity (PPV). The PPV is used to characterize potential for damage and RMS is used for annoyance potential.

Construction of individual projects associated with Plan implementation would require some excavation and earthwork activities. In addition, some project locations would be adjacent to residential areas. Although construction activities would result in the temporary generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise, this noise would not be sustained and would occur only during construction. It is anticipated that future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would not require pile driving or other construction activity that would generate excessive ground-borne vibration and, as described above, construction activities would comply with the City and County noise standards for construction activities, which would ensure that construction would be limited to the daytime hours. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an assessment of potential ground-borne vibration impacts and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels.

c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described in Section 4.9.e., Livermore Municipal Airport is approximately 3 miles northwest of downtown Livermore within the Plan area. In 2012, the ALUC adopted the Livermore Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, which is intended to promote compatibility between the airport and its environs and protect the general welfare of the public within the Airport Influence Area (AIA). The AIA for the Livermore Municipal Airport includes portions of the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin, and unincorporated areas of Alameda County. Any specific projects identified in the proposed Plan that would be constructed within the AIA would be required to comply with the compatibility criteria set forth in the Compatibility Plan and undergo ALUC review and approval. Compliance with the Livermore Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan would ensure that implementation of the proposed Plan would not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to excessive noise levels.

4.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

a. Would the project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Future development envisioned in the proposed Plan is intended to address existing and future recreation needs of residents within the area based upon projected future development, consistent with the City of Livermore General Plan 2045 and the East County Area Plan. Therefore, the proposed Plan is responding to the needs of the existing and future population by planning for additional recreation and trail facilities; it is not inducing population growth by providing these facilities. In addition, the proposed Plan establishes a standard to place updated and new facilities within or near either existing housing areas or within planned new housing areas in order to promote access to recreation facilities. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in **no impact** related to substantial unplanned population growth.

b. Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be within existing facilities, within existing neighborhoods, along existing right-of-way or on currently undeveloped land. Although future development may involve the dedication of easements and/or land as part of future development projects, no existing housing would be removed or displaced and construction of replacement housing would not be required. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not remove or displace any existing housing necessitating the construction of housing elsewhere. **No impacts** associated with displacement of housing would occur.

4.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i. Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii. Police protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii. Schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv. Parks?	☐	☐	☒	☐
v. Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

i. Fire protection?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department provides fire suppression and emergency medical services to the City of Livermore and City of Pleasanton. The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department operates 10 fire stations and a fire headquarters and training center. The Alameda County Fire Department serves the unincorporated areas of Alameda County. The Alameda County Fire Department serves an approximately 508-square-mile area with a population of approximately 394,000.

As stated in Section 4.14, Population and Housing, implementation of the proposed Draft Master Plan would not induce population growth within the area. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan is intended to address existing and future recreation needs of residents within the area based upon projected future development. Individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan may result in a marginal, cumulative increase in demand on City services, including fire protection. However, future projects would be required to comply with all fire department access requirements and the California Fire Code (Fire Code), which would ensure adequate access for emergency response vehicles and maintain average emergency response times in the area, and the Plan area would continue to be served by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and the Alameda County Fire Department. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the region and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis,

in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to the provision of fire protection services or the construction of new or physically altered facilities.

ii. Police protection?

Less Than Significant Impact. The City of Livermore Police Department provides general-service law enforcement throughout Livermore. The Alameda County Sheriff's Department provides general law enforcement throughout the unincorporated areas of Alameda County.

As stated in Section 4.14, Population and Housing, implementation of the proposed Draft Master Plan would not induce population growth within the area. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan is intended to address existing and future recreation needs of residents within the area based upon projected future development. Individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan may result in a marginal, cumulative increase in demand on City services, including police protection. However, it is anticipated that any increase in demand could be accommodated by existing personnel and Police Department facilities as implementation of the proposed Plan would not induce population growth within the Plan area, and the Plan area would continue to be served by the Livermore Police Department and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. Furthermore, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the region and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to the provision of police protection services or the construction of new or physically altered facilities.

iii. Schools?

Less Than Significant Impact. As noted above in Section 4.14, Population and Housing, implementation of the proposed Plan would not involve the construction of housing or employment-generating facilities. LARPD has established an agreement with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) that allows LARPD to use school campuses and allows the LVJUSD to use LARPD facilities. As described in Section 2.3.2.2, Priority Expansion Projects, future projects contemplated under the proposed Plan could include expansion of this agreement to additional sites, hours, and uses. However, any shared use of school facilities would be implemented in coordination with the LVJUSD. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an evaluation of impacts to public services and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to schools. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to schools.

iv. Parks?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Plan evaluates the condition and capacity of the LARPD's existing parks and facilities, develops a strategy for maintaining these facilities, and considers how new parks, trails, recreational facilities and open space areas should be provided in the future. Chapter 5 of the proposed Plan provides a framework for maintaining existing assets, expanding parks, recreation, trails, and open space opportunities, and guiding future investments across the LARPD system and identifies potential priorities for investment. As stated in Section 4.14, Population and Housing, implementation of the proposed Plan would not induce population growth within the Plan area. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities for existing and future populations. The individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would benefit the community by creating greater capacity through the provision of new recreation facilities, helping to accommodate future demand and reduce pressure on existing facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines.* Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to parks.

v. Other public facilities?

Less Than Significant Impact. Because the proposed Plan is intended to serve the parks and recreation needs of the existing community, it would not result in a direct increase in population and would therefore not result in the need to provide additional public facilities, such as expanding or building new libraries, whose construction would result in an environmental impact. Additionally, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan could result in an increase in the use of other public facilities such as roadways, bike lanes, sidewalks, and other urban paths; however, the increased use of sustainable transportation infrastructure is consistent with the City's General Plan and Active Transportation Plan and the East County Area Plan. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, that would include an evaluation of impacts to public services and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to other public facilities, including libraries and roadways. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** associated with the provision of new or altered government facilities.

4.16 RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No Impact. The purpose of the proposed Plan is to provide the people of the Livermore area with high-quality recreation programs and a connected system of parks, trails, recreation areas and facilities for now and into the future. The proposed Plan is intended to enhance the management and development of recreation facilities, including renovation and/or replacement of existing recreation facilities that are in need of repair. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan is intended to meet the existing and future needs of the community and would not be growth-inducing. As future development contemplated under the proposed Plan would create new and/or improved recreational facilities, demand on existing parks and recreational facilities would decrease, which would limit the extent of on-going physical deterioration on the existing facilities. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not result in an increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. **No impact** would occur.

b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Plan evaluates the condition and capacity of the LARPD's existing parks and facilities, develops a strategy for maintaining these facilities, and considers how new parks, trails, recreational facilities and open space areas should be provided in the future. Chapter 5 of the proposed Plan provides a framework for maintaining existing assets, expanding parks, recreation, trails, and open space opportunities, and guiding future investments across the LARPD system and identifies potential priorities for investment. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an evaluation of site-specific impacts to recreational facilities and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to construction, improvement, or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

4.17 TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines §15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described in Section 2.2, Project Background, the proposed Plan builds upon other planning documents undertaken by LARPD, including the 2024 LARPD Strategic Plan, the 2017 LARPD Asset Management Plan and the 2016 LARPD Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. In addition, the proposed Plan is influenced by other agency planning efforts, including the City of Livermore Active Transportation Plan, which includes various programs, policies, and network recommendations pertaining to the development of pedestrian and bicycle facilities and paths, and the East Bay Regional Park District Master Plan Update which seeks to improve parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities within and adjacent to the Plan area. Furthermore, the proposed Plan supports other City and County planning efforts, including the City of Livermore General Plan 2024 and the East County Area Plan. The proposed Plan includes goals and policies that seeks to increase sustainable access to parks and recreation facilities, including providing a park within walking distance (0.25 to 1.0 mile) of every neighborhood, making park locations accessible by foot and bicycle, providing multi-modal access to parks and recreational facilities, and evaluating the potential for interconnected paths throughout the Plan area. Because goals and policies of the proposed Plan are consistent with City and County policies and regulations and support implementation of the City's Active Transportation Plan, the proposed Plan would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant** impact related to conflicts with a plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system.

b. Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines §15064.3, subdivision (b)?

Less Than Significant Impact. *State CEQA Guidelines* §15064.3, subdivision (b) seeks to evaluate a project's potential impact related to its vehicle miles traveled (VMT). VMT is a measure of the total

amount of vehicle travel occurring on a given roadway system. VMT is a metric that accounts for the number of vehicle trips generated and the length or distance of those trips. VMT does not directly measure traffic operations; instead, VMT is a measure of transportation network use and efficiency, especially when expressed as a function of population (i.e., VMT per capita). Although the City of Livermore has not adopted VMT procedures or standards, methodology and implementation guidelines were adopted by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) in July 2020.

The ACTC guidelines include a screening process that describes five scenarios in which a project would be exempted from a VMT analysis requirement, including small projects and local serving projects, which would include neighborhood parks without sports fields and similar recreation facilities. Because the proposed Plan is a policy document and does not authorize construction of any physical improvements, its adoption would not result in impacts associated with VMT. In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals and polices that seek to reduce VMT in the Plan area including providing a park within walking distance (0.25 to 1.0 mile) of every neighborhood, providing multi-modal access to parks and recreational facilities, and implementing an interconnected network of parks, trails and recreation facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an evaluation of potential VMT generated by proposed improvements. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to conflicts with *State CEQA Guidelines* §15064.3, subdivision (b).

c. Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Less Than Significant Impact. Because the proposed Plan is a policy document and does not authorize construction of any physical improvements, its adoption would not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible use. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would generally be developed within existing LARPD facilities or on lands designated for parks, public facilities, or open space uses. New recreation facilities would need to adhere to the established LARPD design guidelines, which encourage linking parks to the multi-use trail system to facilitate safe, non-vehicular access, and designing parks so they are easily accessible from the adjacent neighborhoods. The design standards for multi-use trails would encourage sufficient right-of-way width to allow separation of varied uses and for signalized and/or signed crossings when appropriate. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to an increase in hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible use, and no mitigation is required.

d. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

Less Than Significant Impact. Because the proposed Plan is a policy document and does not authorize construction of any physical improvements, its adoption would not result in inadequate emergency access. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would include replacement/reconstruction of existing facilities (e.g., playgrounds, irrigation systems), construction

of improvement to existing facilities and development of new trails, recreation facilities and open space areas to serve existing and future users. It is not anticipated that construction of specific improvements would require closure of local roadways or result in substantial temporary traffic delays. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an examination of any alteration of vehicle access. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to inadequate emergency access.

4.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)? Or	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1? In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☒	☐	☐

a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)? Or

ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1? In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Assembly Bill (AB) 52, which became law on January 1, 2015, provides for consultation with California Native American tribes during the CEQA environmental review process and equates significant impacts to "tribal cultural resources" with significant environmental impacts. Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21074 states that "tribal cultural resources" are:

> Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe and are one of the following:

- Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
- Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of PRC Section 5020.1.
- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

A "historical resource" (PRC Section 21084.1), a "unique archaeological resource" (PRC Section 21083.2(g)), or a "nonunique archaeological resource" (PRC Section 21083.2 (h)) may also be a tribal cultural resource if it is included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register.

The consultation provisions of the law require that a public agency consult with local Native American tribes that have requested placement on that agency's notification list for CEQA projects. Within 14 days of determining that a project application is complete, or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency must notify tribes of the opportunity to consult on the project, should a tribe have previously requested to be on the agency's notification list. California Native American tribes must be recognized by the California Native American Heritage Commission as traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project site and must have previously requested that the lead agency notify them of projects. Tribes have 30 days following notification of a project to request consultation with the lead agency.

The purpose of consultation is to inform the lead agency in its identification and determination of the significance of tribal cultural resources. If a project is determined to result in a significant impact on an identified tribal cultural resource, the consultation process must occur and conclude prior to adoption of a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration, or certification of an Environmental Impact Report (PRC Sections 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3).

As described in Section 1.0, Project Information, on September 3, 2026, LARPD sent letters describing the proposed Plan and a map depicting the Plan area to all tribal representatives identified by the Native American Heritage Commission. To date, LARPD has received consultation requests from the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe and the Confederated Villages of Lisjan, and consultation is ongoing pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1.

The proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. However, as discussed in Section 4.5, Cultural Resources, portions of the Plan area have been determined to have moderate and high sensitivity for prehistoric archaeological resources, including areas along creeks and waterways[57] where some of the priority

[57] PlaceWorks. 2026c. Figure 3.5-2, Prehistoric Period Archaeological Sensitivity Map, *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

trail connections are proposed. Although most of the future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would occur within previously disturbed areas (e.g., existing LARPD recreation facilities and parks), ground disturbance associated with Plan implementation has the potential to affect known or previously unidentified tribal cultural resources.

Future projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be required to comply with AB 52, as applicable. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which would include an evaluation of potential site-specific impacts to tribal cultural resources and identification of appropriate mitigation as necessary to address impacts related to any known tribal cultural resources that have been listed or been found eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5024.1.

Although future development would be required to comply with existing federal, State, and local laws and regulations, the following mitigation measure would be implemented to ensure that impacts to tribal cultural resources from future development would be reduced to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure TCR-1

Prior to the commencement of construction, LARPD shall consult with interested and locally knowledgeable Native Americans concerning significant or potentially significant Native American resources. In coordination with the tribe(s), LARPD shall implement measures to ensure that resources are properly identified and protected during construction activities. These measures could include cultural resources and tribal cultural resources sensitivity Worker Environmental Awareness Program [WEAP] training for construction personnel, and monitoring by tribal or other qualified cultural resource monitors during ground disturbing activities.

If any tribal cultural resources are discovered during construction, the construction contractor shall stop operations within a 50-foot radius of the find. The contractor shall notify the LARPD and the LARPD shall consult with the appropriate tribe(s) to determine significance and appropriate treatment measures. Documentation of consultations, treatment measures, and resource protection actions shall be maintained in the project record. Work may proceed on other parts of the project site while mitigation for tribal cultural resources is being carried out.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure TCR-1, this impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated**.

4.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

A variety of local and regional purveyors in this area provide and maintain utility and service system facilities associated with electricity, water, stormwater, wastewater, solid waste, and communications within the Plan area. These existing services and potential impacts to these services are discussed below.

Wastewater. The City of Livermore owns and operates its municipal wastewater collection system, which contains more than 250 miles of sewer lines ranging in size from 6 to 48 inches in diameter. Wastewater is collected and transported via underground sewer lines to the City of Livermore Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) at 101 West Jack London Boulevard. Currently, the WRP has a design capacity to treat 8.5 million gallons per day.[58]

Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Multi-use trails and trail connections would not generate wastewater; however, the provision of new facilities (e.g., restrooms, community centers) would generate wastewater that would need treatment at a wastewater treatment facility.

[58] City of Livermore. 2017. Sewer Master Plan-Final Report. Website: https://www.livermoreca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/7540/637744925442970000 (accessed February 25, 2025).

As described above, the WRP has a design capacity of 8.5 million gallons per day and currently processes more than 6 million gallons of wastewater each day from the Livermore area. The WRP has been designed to treat typical wastewater flows from different land uses within the City. Wastewater generated by future development under the proposed Plan would be typical of other existing parks and recreational uses in the Plan area. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not produce wastewater atypical of flows received at the WRP. Wastewater generated by implementation of the proposed Plan would not require or result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of potential wastewater generation to ensure that wastewater generated during operation can be treated by existing facilities.

Water. Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District supplies treated water to retail water agencies (e.g., the City of Livermore, City of Pleasanton, California Water Service [Cal Water], and the Dublin San Ramon Services District) for municipal and industrial use. Water for the City of Livermore is provided by both Cal Water and Livermore Municipal Water. Cal Water supplies the downtown area and southern portion of the city, and Livermore Municipal Water serves the northwest, northeast, and eastern portions of the city. The sources of water supply for the Cal Water Livermore District include treated water purchased from Zone 7 and groundwater pumped by the Cal Water Livermore District.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park, and open space facilities.

Water would be used during construction to reduce fugitive dust; however, the amount of water used during construction would be minimal and would cease when construction is complete. Operation of individual projects under the proposed Plan would generate an increased demand in water through operational activities and landscape irrigation. However, landscape irrigation included as part of the proposed recommendations would comply with the pertinent City and County guidelines. Depending on their locations, new facilities would be served by the California Water Service or the City of Livermore. It is anticipated that utility connections to the existing system could be made to serve future facilities and implementation of the proposed Plan would not require or result in the construction of new water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of potential water demand to ensure that any increase in water demand can be served by existing facilities.

Stormwater. Refer to Section 4.10.a. Grading and construction activities associated with implementation of individual projects under the proposed Plan would disturb soils. All future development projects that would disturb more than 1 acre of soil must comply with the Construction General Permit, which requires the preparation of a SWPPP to identify construction BMPs to be implemented during construction in order to reduce impacts to water quality, including those impacts associated with soil erosion, siltation, spills, and increased runoff. In addition, future

development projects must comply with the MRP, which requires implementation of site design measures to reduce stormwater runoff in accordance with the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of proposed stormwater facilities.

Electricity and Natural Gas. Electric power and natural gas for future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be provided by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. It is anticipated that individual projects would connect directly to existing infrastructure and therefore would not require any new or expanded facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of proposed utility facilities.

For the reasons outlined above, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** associated with the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, storm drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities.

b. Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

As noted above, both Cal Water and Livermore Municipal Water provide water for Livermore. Both of these entities have prepared Urban Water Management Plans that describe the existing and planned sources of water available in the water system service area over a 20-year planning period and have determined that there will be sufficient supplies to meet existing and future demands through 2045 for all hydrologic conditions, including a 5-year drought period and the impacts of climate change. In addition, Zone 7, which is a wholesale water purveyor that provides treated potable water to Cal Water and Livermore Municipal Water as well as Pleasanton, Dublin, and a portion of San Ramon, has also determined that it will be able to meet the water demands of all of the water purveyors within its service area, including demands during a 5-year drought period, with a surplus of water supplies.[59]

Implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Water would be used during construction to reduce fugitive dust; however, the amount of water used during construction would be minimal and would cease when construction is complete. Operation of individual projects under the proposed Plan would generate an increased demand in water through operational activities and landscape irrigation, typical of recreation facilities. It is anticipated that existing water service providers would have sufficient water supplies available to serve individual projects implemented under the proposed Plan. In addition, the design of future projects would be required to adhere to California Building Code standards for water conservation (e.g., low-flow plumbing fixtures) as well as City and

[59] PlaceWorks. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

County water conservation guidelines for landscaping. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of potential water demand to ensure that any increase in water demand can be served by existing facilities. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to water supply.

c. Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

As described in Section 4.19.a., implementation of the proposed Plan would provide new and upgraded recreational facilities and programs, including replacement of aging facilities, improvements to existing facilities and installation of new trails, park and open space facilities. Multi-use trails and trail connections would not generate wastewater; however, the provision of new facilities (e.g., restrooms, community centers) would generate additional wastewater flows that would need treatment at the WRP. However, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be consistent with existing land use and zoning designations. As such, future development would be consistent with what is anticipated for buildout under the City's General Plan and would have been included in the capacity project's calculations for the wastewater treatment plant. The WRP has a design capacity of 8.5 million gallons per day and currently processes more than 6 million gallons of wastewater each day from the Livermore area. The WRP has been designed to treat typical wastewater flows from different land uses within Livermore. Wastewater generated by future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be typical of other existing parks and recreational uses in the Plan area. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Plan would not produce wastewater atypical of flows received at the WRP. It is anticipated that wastewater generated by implementation of the proposed Plan would not require or result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an assessment of potential wastewater generation to ensure that wastewater generated during operation can be treated by existing facilities. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to wastewater treatment capacity.

d. Would the project generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

Less Than Significant Impact. Waste Management provides solid waste and recycling pickup and disposal in Livermore. Waste Management transports solid waste from Livermore to the Republic Services' Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill for disposal. Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill (01-AA-0010) is a Class II and III facility with a remaining capacity of 11,560,000 cubic yards and a permitted throughput of 2,518 tons per day. The current anticipated closure date of the landfill is December

31, 2051.[60] In addition, the Altamont Landfill accepts waste for disposal from Alameda County. Altamont Landfill (01-AA-0009) is a Class II and III facility with a remaining capacity of 52,300,000 cubic yards and a permitted throughput of 11,150 tons per day. The current anticipated closure date of the landfill is December 1, 2060.[61] In Alameda County, the Vasco Road Landfill and other county landfills such as the Altamont Landfill collectively provide sufficient capacity to satisfy the county's AB 939 15-year capacity requirement.[62]

Construction activities associated with future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would generate construction and demolition waste such as concrete, asphalt, dirt, and waste; however, the generation of construction and demolition waste would be temporary and would cease when construction is complete. In addition, California requires at least 65 percent of all construction and demolition debris must be diverted from disposal and 100 percent of inert materials such as concrete, asphalt, bricks and uncontaminated soil must be recycled or reused in compliance with CALGreen standards.

Waste generated during the operation of future recreation facilities developed as part of Plan implementation would be typical of waste generated by existing recreation uses (e.g., trash receptacles along trails) and would not be substantial. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the Draft Plan Update would be evaluated for site-specific impacts to utilities and service systems and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary to reduce a project's waste disposal needs. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to federal, State, and local solid waste standards or generation of solid waste in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure.

e. Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Less Than Significant Impact. Refer to Section 4.19.d. Future development envisioned in the proposed Plan would comply with existing or future statutes and regulations, including waste diversion programs mandated by federal, State, County, and City law. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes.

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60 California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). n.d.-a. Solid Waste Information System (SWIS). Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill (01-AA-0010). Website: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/SiteActivity/Details/9?siteID=8 (accessed August 31, 2026).

61 CalRecycle. n.d.-b. Solid Waste Information System (SWIS). Altamont Landfill & Resource Recovery (01-AA-0009). Website: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/SiteActivity/Details/7?siteID=7 (accessed August 31, 2026).

62 PlaceWorks. 2026a. *Livermore General Plan 2045 Draft Environmental Impact Report. State Clearinghouse No. 2023030225*. March.

4.20 WILDFIRE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☒	☐

a. Would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. As previously discussed in Section 4.9.f., implementation of the proposed Plan would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would include replacement/reconstruction of existing facilities (e.g., playgrounds, irrigation systems), construction of improvement to existing facilities and development of new trails, recreation facilities and open space areas to serve existing and future users. It is not anticipated that implementation of these projects would require closure of or significant modifications to local roadways or result in substantial temporary traffic delays. Individual projects would be reviewed for consistency with the Alameda County EOP, Livermore EOP, and other adopted emergency response and evacuation plans. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an evaluation of potential impacts associated with the impairment or interference with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to impairments associated with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

b. Would the project, due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described in Section 4.9, the majority of the Plan area, which consists of undeveloped land in unincorporated Alameda County, is within an SRA, whereas the

urban area of Livermore is within an LRA. Areas closest to the city limits are designated as being in a Moderate FHSZ, whereas areas farther north and south are designated as being in a High or Very High FHSZ.[63] The topography of the Plan area varies widely from the relatively level, flat land within the Livermore Valley floor to the steeply sloped, hillsides to the north, south, and east of the city limits. The prevailing wind is primarily from the west from February to November and from the north from November to February.[64]

As shown in Figure 2-5, the majority of the priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be within the developed areas of Livermore; however, some of the priority trail projects (e.g., T22, T15, T11-A, T13-B) are proposed in the hilly, open space areas with the potential for wildland fire hazard. In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals, policies and actions to explore opportunities for acquisition and development of new open space areas that would increase public access to these areas; although the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time.

Implementation of the proposed Plan would not involve construction of residential or commercial structures. Future development envisioned under the proposed Plan would be largely focused within and near Livermore, where residents are concentrated and the wildfire risk is low. Development of new trails, trail connections and open space areas would increase public access to undeveloped hillsides and woodlands, which would increase the risk of human-caused wildland fire. However, people would use these areas for a limited duration of time and would not expose a substantial number of people for an extended period of time to wildland fire hazards, compared to other types of development. The increased risk of human-caused wildland fire associated with recreation users would not be significant and would not change the existing identified wildfire hazard levels.

Individual projects implemented as part of the proposed Plan would be required to comply with the California Fire Code, which requires the installation, maintenance, and ongoing inspection of fire protection systems under the direction of the local Fire Chief. In addition, the California Fire Code authorizes the Fire Chief to specify water supply and road design standards. Future development projects would also be subject to requirements in Section 13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, the California Building Code (CBC), and California Fire Code, which include regulations concerning building standards for fire protection; fire protection and notification systems (e.g., extinguishers and smoke alarms); safety for firefighters and emergency responders during emergency operations; minimum standards for hazardous vegetation and fuel management, defensible space, and building construction; and minimum standards for emergency access and water supply for fire response.

Construction of facilities in these areas would use construction equipment that could generate sparks and storage and use of flammable/combustible materials (e.g., fuel) that would temporarily increase fire risks. During project construction, the most likely source of ignition would be from mechanical activities such as operation of backhoes, mini excavators, or rolled compactors. The

63 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). n.d. Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer. Website: https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/ (accessed August 31, 2026).

64 Weatherspark. n.d. Climate and Average Weather Year Round in Livermore Website: https://weatherspark.com/y/1084/Average-Weather-in-Livermore-California-United-States-Year-Round (accessed August 31, 2026).

California Public Resources Code includes fire safety regulations that restrict the use of equipment that may produce a spark, flame, or fire; require the use of spark arrestors on construction equipment that use an internal combustion engine; specify requirements for the safe use of gasoline-powered tools in fire hazard areas; and specify fire suppression equipment that must be provided on site for various types of work in fire-prone areas.

Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Compliance with existing regulatory requirements and site-specific CEQA review, as applicable, would ensure that adoption of the proposed Plan would not exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. Impacts would be **less than significant.**

c. Would the project require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact. As shown in Figure 2-5, the majority of the priority projects identified in the proposed Plan would be within existing parks, recreation facilities and public right-of-way within the developed areas of Livermore; however, some of the priority trail projects (e.g., T22, T15, T11-A, T13-B) are proposed in the hilly, open space areas with the potential for wildland fire hazard. In addition, the proposed Plan includes goals, policies and actions to explore opportunities for acquisition and development of new open space areas that would increase public access to these areas; although the exact locations of future facilities are not known at this time. Although unlikely, some of these future projects may include the installation of roads or other utilities. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, which include an evaluation of any potential temporary or ongoing environmental impacts resulting from the installation of any wildland protection features, if required. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact.**

d. Would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

Less Than Significant Impact. As described above, future development envisioned under the proposed Plan could occur within undeveloped hillside areas, which would increase public access to these areas. These areas could be susceptible to downslope or downstream flooding or landslides. However, due to the nature of proposed improvements, people would use these areas for a limited duration of time and would not expose a substantial number of people for an extended period of time to wildland fire hazards, compared to other types of development.

Construction of individual projects would be required to obtain coverage under the Construction General Permit, which requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP that specifies BMPs and erosion control measures to be used during construction to manage runoff flows. Additionally, individual projects would be required to comply with the MRP and implement appropriate design

features to ensure that new facilities would not significantly alter drainage patterns compared to existing conditions. In addition, implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1, which requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific geotechnical investigation for individual development projects, would ensure that potential impacts associated with landslides would be less than significant. Furthermore, any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact.**

4.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐

a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, 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?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed Plan is intended to provide the people of the Livermore area with high-quality recreation programs and a connected system of parks, trails, recreation areas and facilities for now and into the future. The goals, policies, and actions included in the proposed Plan promote the preservation of biological, cultural, and historical resources within the Plan area. As described in Section 4.4, Biological Resources, Section 4.5, Cultural Resources, and Section 4.18, Tribal Cultural Resources, implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-10, CULT-1 through CULT-3, and TCR-1 would ensure that potential impacts related to biological and cultural resources would be reduced to less than significant levels.

Further, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines*. In addition, individual projects contemplated under the proposed Plan would be evaluated for site-specific impacts to biological, cultural, and tribal cultural resources, and would include appropriate mitigation as necessary. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment; reduce the habitat, population, or range of a plant or animal species; or eliminate important examples of

California history or prehistory. This impact would be **less than significant with mitigation incorporated.**

b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Less Than Significant Impact. The impacts of the proposed Plan would generally be individually limited and not cumulatively considerable. Most of the environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed Plan would result from construction-period activities for individual projects and would be temporary. As presented in this Initial Study, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an evaluation of cumulatively considerable impacts. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** in regard to cumulatively considerable impacts.

c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Plan is intended to provide the people of the Livermore area with high-quality recreation programs and a connected system of parks, trails, recreation areas and facilities for now and into the future, and would not create significant, adverse impacts on humans, either directly or indirectly. As presented in this Initial Study, the proposed Plan is a programmatic document and is intended to guide development of future parks and recreation projects within the Plan area and does not directly authorize any physical development or improvements. Any future physical park and facility improvements would be subject to separate environmental review on a project-specific basis, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and the *State CEQA Guidelines,* which would include an evaluation of direct and indirect effects on human beings. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Plan would result in a **less than significant impact** related to effects on human beings.

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APPENDIX A

MASTER PLAN 2026 GOALS, POLICIES AND ACTIONS

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A.1 MASTER PLAN 2026 GOALS, POLICIES AND ACTIONS

A.1.1 Planning

Planning decisions should guide long-term investment, improve access and connectivity, protect community and environmental resources, and provide sustainable delivery of parks, trails, facilities, programs, and services. This section establishes the broader framework for evaluating partnerships, capital investments, open space priorities, and community needs.

- **Goal P.1. System Planning.** Plan and deliver a coordinated system of parks, trails, open space, and facilities that reflect community needs, address service gaps, and pursue LARPD priorities.
    - *Policy P.1.1— Compliance with Applicable Law.* Planning, design, construction, and maintenance of all LARPD facilities and projects shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws, regulations, accessibility requirements, environmental requirements, and safety standards.
    - *Policy P.1.2 — Prioritize Investments Based on Need and Impact.* Direct planning and capital investment toward areas of highest community benefit, including underserved areas, system gaps, and opportunities to improve access and connectivity.
    - *Policy P.1.3 — Advance a Connected Parks, Trails, and Open Space System.* Plan for a cohesive and connected network that links neighborhoods to parks, schools, community destinations, open space areas, and regional systems.
    - *Policy P.1.4 — Use Data and Community Input to Guide Planning Decisions.* Use community input, demographic trends, participation and planned use patterns, system usage, and other relevant data to guide planning and investment decisions.
    - *Policy P.1.5 — Pursue Strategic Land and Access Opportunities.* Pursue acquisition, easements, dedications, and partnership opportunities that expand recreation access, improve connectivity, protect significant resources, or address identified service gaps.
    - *Policy P.1.6 — Use Park and Open Space Standards to Guide Long-Range Planning.* Use adopted park, recreation, and open space standards to evaluate future needs, service gaps, land acquisition opportunities, and investment decisions.
        - Action P.1-A: Periodically review systemwide facility and service needs.
        - Action P.1-B: Evaluate opportunities to close gaps in trail connectivity and park access.
        - Action P.1-C: Maintain and periodically update priority project and corridor lists outside of this document.
        - Action P.1-D: Conduct statistically valid community surveys at least every five years to evaluate community needs and recreation priorities.

- **Goal P.2 Resource Stewardship.** Plan, develop, and manage facilities and open space in a manner that protects resources, respects surrounding uses, and supports environmental stewardship.
    - *Policy P.2.1 - Balance Access, Recreation, and Resource Protection.* Provide public access and recreational opportunities while preserving natural, scenic, cultural, and environmentally sensitive resources.
    - *Policy P.2.2 – Support Stewardship of Open Space and Natural Resources.* Support acquisition and stewardship practices that protect habitat, scenic resources, grazing lands, waterways, and natural resources within the LARPD.
        - Action P.2-A: Coordinate with resource agencies and conservation partners during planning and development.
        - Action P-2-B: Incorporate feasible mitigation measures into project planning and environmental review processes.
        - Action P.2-C: Evaluate trail alignments and facility designs that reduce environmental impacts while providing public access and environmental education.
- **Goal P.3 Planning Documents and Standards.** Maintain current and adaptable planning tools that support effective, efficient project development, long-term financial sustainability, operational readiness, and responsible asset management.
    - *Policy P.3.1 — Maintain Flexible and Current Planning Documents.* Periodically update the Master Plan and supporting planning documents to reflect changing priorities, community needs, funding conditions, and operational realities.
        - Action P.3-A: Conduct major Master Plan updates at least every ten years
        - Action P.3-B: Periodically review planning priorities as funding, partnerships, and community needs evolve
- **Goal P.4 Future Growth and Development Coordination.** As the Livermore Area continues to evolve, development in the Midtown area, the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan area, and future development areas will create new needs related to parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space connections. LARPD will continue coordinating with the City of Livermore and other partners to plan for recreation and trail needs associated with growth and planning efforts.
    - *Policy P.4.1 — Coordinate Recreation Planning with Future Growth.* Coordinate with the City of Livermore on future planning efforts, including the Midtown Specific Plan, to identify park, recreation, and trail needs associated with future growth areas.

- *Policy P.4.2 — Monitor Community Needs and Trends.* Monitor development, demographic trends, participation patterns, and system usage to ensure facilities and services remain aligned with current and future community needs.

- *Policy P.4.3 — Plan for Future Recreation and Trail Opportunities.* Evaluate opportunities for future neighborhood parks, community parks, recreation amenities, and trail connections in developing areas of the community.

- *Policy P.4.4 — Integrate Recreation Planning into Major Planning Initiatives.* Continue coordinating park and trail planning alongside major development, transportation, and infrastructure planning initiatives.

  - Action P.4-A: Coordinate with the City of Livermore to ensure the future Midtown Specific Plan adequately addresses parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space planning.

  - Action P.4-B: Identify opportunities for future park and trail connections associated with major development areas, including Midtown and Isabel.

A.1.2 Regional Coordination and Partnerships

Coordinate with partners throughout the region to facilitate resource protection and efficiently deliver access to a wide range of facilities, trails, and programs.

- **Goal R.1 Partnerships and Regional Coordination.** Utilize partnerships and regional coordination to improve efficiency, expand access, and advance projects and services that would be difficult to achieve independently.

  - *Policy R.1.1 — Coordinate Planning and Investment with Partner Agencies.* Coordinate planning and investment with partner agencies, by both leading the development of projects and strategic initiatives involving other agencies and by cooperating where projects initiated by other agencies address LARPD priorities.

  - *Policy R.1.2 — Advance Regional Connectivity, Open Space, and Stewardship Opportunities.* Take an active LARPD role in regional connectivity, open space preservation, environmental stewardship, and appropriate public access opportunities.

  - *Policy R.1.3 — Evaluate Partnerships Based on Long-Term Community Benefit.* Evaluate partnership and joint-use opportunities based on community benefit, financial impacts, implementation feasibility, and operational sustainability.

  - *Policy R.1.4 — Grant Coordination.* Coordinate with local agencies, special LARPDs, nonprofit organizations, and other partners on grants for projects, open space opportunities, and trail development.

- *Policy R.1.5 — Utilize Partnerships with Community Organizations.* Utilize partnerships with community organizations, nonprofits, foundations, public agencies, and private contributors to pursue implementation of LARPD priorities and projects.
- *Policy R.1.6 — Coordinate Asset Management Efforts.* Coordinate maintenance, infrastructure, and operational efforts with partner agencies to improve efficiency, service delivery, or asset management outcomes.
- *Policy R.1.7 — Coordinate Management of Shared Assets.* Coordinate capital planning and major maintenance with the City of Livermore for City-owned, LARPD-operated parks and facilities consistent with the Master Property Agreement.
  - Action R.1-A: Coordinate regularly with agencies, including the City of Livermore, Alameda County, LVJUSD, Zone 7, EBRPD, and other partners on joint development and use opportunities.
  - Action R.1-B: Pursue joint funding and grant partnership opportunities.
  - Action R.1-C: Participate in regional planning and interagency coordination discussions.
  - Action R.1-D: Coordinate with partner agencies on access to and management of regionally significant open space areas such as the Alameda-Tesla Property and Doolan Canyon.
  - Action R.1-E: Coordinate with the City of Livermore on implementation of the Open Space Conservation Program to identify opportunities that support regional connectivity, resource conservation, public access, and LARPD priorities.
  - Action R.1-F: Periodically review Master Property Agreements, Joint Use Agreements and similar partnership agreements to ensure consistency with evolving circumstances.
  - Action R.1-G: Participate in the City of Livermore's Capital Improvement Program to prioritize improvements on city-owned and LARPD maintained parks and facilities.
  - Action R.1-H: Address responsibilities and funding for the provision of regional open space with East Bay Regional Park District.

A.1.3 Design, Infrastructure, and Asset Management

LARPD's parks, facilities, trails, and infrastructure represent a significant public investment. Planning, routine maintenance, lifecycle replacement, and thoughtful design help protect these assets, support reliable service, and provide safe, accessible, and high-quality facilities for the community.

- **Goal D.1 High Quality, Functional, and Accessible Facilities.** Plan, design, and improve parks, trails, facilities, open space areas, and infrastructure that are safe, attractive, durable, accessible, functional, and responsive to community needs.

- *Policy D.1.1 — Design Facilities for Long-Term Community Use.* Design and improve facilities and infrastructure to ensure long-term usability, operational efficiency, flexibility, accessibility, and positive user experiences.
- *Policy D.1.2 — Design Facilities That Fit the Character and Use of the Site.* Design facilities and improvements in a way that reflects the intended use of the site, surrounding environment, operational needs, and nearby neighborhoods.
- *Policy D.1.3 — Improve Trail and System Connectivity.* Support projects and planning efforts that improve trail connectivity, close key gaps, expand access to underserved areas, and advance opportunities that are feasible to implement and maintain.
- *Policy D.1.4— Consider Compatibility with Adjacent Uses.* Consider surrounding neighborhoods, adjacent land uses, operational impacts, and stakeholder input when planning or substantially modifying LARPD facilities and properties.
  - Action D.1-A: Periodically review facility and site design practices to reflect evolving community needs and operational considerations.
  - Action D.1-B: Update and maintain a comprehensive set of LARPD construction standards and details for typical district improvements.
  - Action D.1-C: Coordinate with partner agencies and jurisdictions on trail and connectivity planning.
  - Action D.1-D: Develop and periodically update project review criteria that evaluate accessibility, durability, maintenance needs, and operational impacts.
  - Action D.1-E: Evaluate opportunities to improve connections between parks, trails, neighborhoods, and community destinations through future development and capital projects.

- **Goal D.2 Sustainable Infrastructure and Asset Management.** Manage facilities, infrastructure, and open space assets in a manner that provides long-term operational sustainability, responsible investment, and effective stewardship of public resources.
  - *Policy D.2.1 — Preventive Maintenance and Asset Stewardship.* Use preventive maintenance, rehabilitation, reinvestment, and operational planning strategies to maintain facilities consistent with the LARPD's adopted Condition Standards and reduce deferred maintenance.
  - *Policy D.2.2 — Align Infrastructure Investments with Operational Capacity.* Evaluate staffing, maintenance capacity, operational impacts, and funding considerations when planning improvements, expansions, or new facilities.
    - Action D.2-A: Incorporate operational, maintenance, and replacement cost reviews into major capital project planning and design.

- Action D.2-B: Use facility condition assessments and lifecycle planning tools to prioritize maintenance, rehabilitation, replacement and capital investments.
- Action D.2-C: Periodically evaluate infrastructure conditions, maintenance needs, and replacement priorities.
- Action D.2-D: Conduct preventive maintenance and asset management practices to support facility sustainability.

- **Goal D.3 Environmental Stewardship and Resource Efficiency.** Design and manage parks, open space areas, facilities, and infrastructure to protect significant natural resources, support environmental stewardship, and promote efficient use of public resources.
  - *Policy D.3.1 – Balance Resource Protection and Public Access.* Protect natural resources, habitat areas, waterways, scenic resources, and environmentally sensitive areas while supporting appropriate public access and recreation opportunities, including coordination related to regionally significant open space areas such as the Alameda-Tesla Property.
  - *Policy D.3.2 — Minimize Environmental Impacts Through Planning and Design.* Incorporate feasible planning, design, and mitigation measures that minimize environmental impacts and reduce potential conflicts with surrounding uses.
  - *Policy D.3.3 — Use Resource Management Planning Tools.* Develop, maintain, and implement Resource Management Plans or similar planning tools for significant open space properties and environmentally sensitive areas.
    - Action D.3-A: Coordinate with partner agencies and resource organizations during planning and project development.
    - Action D.3-B: Consider habitat protection, scenic views, trail connections, grazing practices, and public access when evaluating open space priorities.
    - Action D.3-C: Develop landscaping and infrastructure standards appropriate to different park, open space, and facility types.
    - Action D.3-D: Incorporate practical measures to reduce environmental impacts and minimize conflicts with surrounding uses.
    - Action D.3-E: Maintain and periodically update Resource Management Plans and Habitat Restoration Plans.
    - Action D.3-F: Manage efficient use of water, energy, and other public resources where practical and cost-effective.

A.1.4 Finance and Implementation Strategy

Maintain financial sustainability through responsible planning, balanced cost recovery, strategic partnerships, and diversified funding approaches that align with LARPD priorities, operational capacity, and community benefit.

- **Goal F.1 Financial Sustainability and Project Readiness.** Evaluate operational, maintenance, and funding impacts when considering new facilities, capital projects, service expansions, and major investments.
    - *Policy F.1.1 — Compliance with Applicable Law and Best Practices.* LARPD financial practices, purchasing procedures, grant administration, and public works processes shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations as well as governmental best practices.
    - *Policy F.1.2 — Incorporate Lifecycle Planning into Facility and Capital Decisions.* Incorporate lifecycle planning into facility and capital investment decisions to better understand long-term maintenance, replacement, operational, and funding obligations.
    - *Policy F.1.3 — Align Capital Planning with Operational Capacity.* Consider staffing, maintenance capacity, operational impacts, and ongoing funding needs when planning new or expanded facilities and infrastructure.
        - Action F.1-A: Incorporate lifecycle cost considerations into capital planning, funding discussions, and project evaluation.
        - Action F.1-B: Apply Project Readiness Framework to guide implementation timing based on LARPD priorities, funding, and site control.
        - Action F.1-C: Identify potential funding and operational strategies early in project development.
        - Action F.1-D: Coordinate with partner agencies, developers, and funding entities to support financial sustainability.
        - Action F.1-E: Utilize the LARPD's adopted Fund Balance Reserve Policy and other available funding strategies to address lifecycle replacement, deferred maintenance, and asset stewardship needs identified through lifecycle planning analysis.
- **Goal F.2 Balanced Cost Recovery and Community Access.** Provide a mix of fee-supported and subsidized programs, services, and facilities that balance financial sustainability with community benefit and community access.
    - *Policy F.2.1— Determine the Full Cost of Providing Program Services and Facilities.* Determine the full cost of providing programs, services, and facilities, including direct program costs, administrative overhead, and facility lifecycle costs.

- *Policy F.2.2 — Implement a Balanced Cost Recovery Approach.* Maintain a cost-recovery approach that accounts for varying levels of individual and community benefits when determining fees, subsidies, and funding priorities based on the full cost of providing the program, service, or facility.
- *Policy F.2.3 — Support Community Access.* Support programs, services, and financial assistance opportunities that reduce barriers to participation and maintain access for a broad range of community members.
- *Policy F.2.4 — Maintain Cost Recovery Policies and Funding Guidelines.* Use cost recovery policies and funding guidelines to ensure transparent, consistent, and sustainable financial decision-making.
  - Action F.2-A: Develop full lifecycle costs for each facility that LARPD owns or operates.
  - Action F.2-B: Develop a program to assign appropriate administrative overhead costs to programs, services and facilities that LARPD provides.
  - Action F.2-C: Periodically review cost recovery approaches and funding strategies.
  - Action F.2-D: Develop guidelines that reflect differing levels of individual and community benefit.

- **Goal F.3 Diversified Funding and Revenue Strategies.** Pursue diverse and sustainable funding approaches that support LARPD priorities, capital improvements, maintenance obligations, and community services.
  - *Policy F.3.1 — Pursue Diverse Funding Opportunities.* Actively pursue grants, donations, sponsorships, matching funds, and other opportunities that support LARPD projects, programs, facilities, and funding goals.
  - *Policy F.3.2 — Pursue Revenue Opportunities that Support LARPD Services and Facilities.* Consider revenue-generating opportunities that offset operating costs, maintain facilities and infrastructure, support capital improvements, and reduce long-term financial pressures on the LARPD.
    - Action F.3-A: Pursue grant funding opportunities from federal, state, regional, local, nonprofit, and private sources.
    - Action F.3-B: Coordinate with organizations such as the LARPD Foundation, community groups, and partner agencies on funding and implementation opportunities.
    - Action F.3-C: Consider sponsorships, donations, memorial contributions, matching funds, and similar partnership opportunities.

- Action F.3-D: Evaluate revenue opportunities in consideration of operational impacts, maintenance obligations, and community priorities.

- Action F.3-E: Match funding strategies to project type and readiness, including development impact fees, General Fund resources, reserve funds, grants, partnerships, donations, and other available funding sources.

A.1.5 Historic and Cultural Resource Stewardship

Historic and cultural resources contribute to community identity, educational opportunities, and the long-term character of the LARPD's parks, facilities, and open space areas.

- **Goal HC.1 Preserve and Steward Historic and Cultural Resources.** Support preservation, stewardship, and appropriate use of historic facilities, cultural resources, and historically significant sites owned or operated by the LARPD.

  - *Policy HC.1.1 — Support Preservation of Historic and Cultural Resources.* Support preservation, rehabilitation, maintenance, and appropriate use of historic facilities, structures, cultural resources, and historically significant sites owned or operated by the LARPD.

  - *Policy HC.1.2 — Pursue Partnerships and Funding Opportunities to Support Preservation Efforts*. Pursue partnerships, grants, funding opportunities, and coordination efforts that support preservation, maintenance, restoration, educational use, and stewardship of historic and cultural resources.

  - *Policy HC.1.3 — Support Educational and Community Use of Historic Resources.* Support educational, interpretive, recreational, and community uses of historic facilities and cultural resources when compatible with preservation and stewardship goals.

    - Action HC.1-A: Collaborate with historical organizations, nonprofit partners, and community stakeholders on stewardship and preservation efforts.`

    - Action HC.1-B: Consider preservation and stewardship needs when planning improvements or renovations to historic facilities, including sites such as Ravenswood Historic Site.

    - Action HC.1-C: Support educational and interpretive opportunities connected to historic and cultural resources.

    - Action HC.1-D: Pursue funding opportunities and partnerships that support preservation, maintenance, and stewardship efforts.

- **Goal HC.2 Support Community Heritage and Cultural Traditions.** Support community traditions, cultural events, and longstanding community partnerships that contribute to Livermore's identity and heritage.

- *Policy HC.2.1 — Support Community Heritage and Cultural Events.* Support cultural traditions, heritage events, and community activities that reflect the Livermore Area's history, identity, and longstanding community connections.

- *Policy HC.2.2 — Coordinate with Community Partners on Heritage Facilities and Events*. Coordinate with community organizations and partners associated with heritage facilities, historic uses, and longstanding community events.

  - Action HC.2-A: Maintain coordination with community organizations associated with historic and cultural events, including the Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association (LSRA).

  - Action HC.2-B: Consider maintenance, operational needs, and stewardship responsibilities associated with heritage facilities and community traditions, including the Livermore Rodeo.

  - Action HC.2-C: Periodically review partnership and operational strategies to support community benefit and stewardship goals.

A.1.6 Programs, Services, and Community Access

Provide recreation programs, services, community engagement opportunities, and open space experiences that support wellness, learning, stewardship, and quality of life for the Livermore Area.

- **Goal PS.1 Responsive and Community-Focused Recreation Opportunities.** Provide recreation opportunities, programs, and services that respond to community needs and support wellness, enrichment, social connection, and quality of life.

  - *Policy PS.1.1 — Provide Community-Serving Recreation Opportunities.* Provide recreation opportunities and services that reflect the interests, needs, and diversity of the community and support participation across a broad range of ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

  - *Policy PS.1.2 — Support Wellness, Learning, and Community Connection.* Support programs, services, and activities that encourage healthy lifestyles, lifelong learning, community connection, and improving quality of life.

  - *Policy PS.1.3 — Maintain Flexibility to Respond to Changing Community Needs.* Periodically evaluate recreation trends, participation patterns, community interests, and operational considerations to shape future programming and service priorities.

  - *Policy PS.1.4 — Support Arts, Cultural, and Community Enrichment Opportunities*. Support arts, cultural, and community enrichment opportunities primarily through recreation-based programs, classes, events, and community activities.

    - Action PS.1-A: Incorporate community input, participation trends, and operational considerations to guide programming priorities.

- Action PS.1-B: Conduct community outreach and statistically valid surveys at least every five years to evaluate evolving community needs, recreation interests, and service priorities.
- Action PS.1-C: Consider opportunities to provide programs and services across a variety of facilities, parks, schools, open space areas, and community spaces.
- Action PS.1-D: Periodically re-evaluate programming approaches and service delivery methods as community interests and participation trends change.
- Action PS.1-E: Work with schools, nonprofits, arts organizations, and community partners to support recreation, enrichment, and cultural opportunities.
- Action PS.1-F: Prioritize use of facilities for arts, cultural, and recreation classes that support youth and adult appreciation for the arts.

- **Goal PS.2 Community Access and Participation.** Support access to LARPD programs, services, facilities, and community engagement opportunities.
  - *Policy PS.2.1 — Support Community Access.* Support programs, services, facilities, and engagement opportunities that are accessible, welcoming, and responsive to a broad range of community members.
  - *Policy PS.2.2 — Reduce Barriers to Participation.* Support financial assistance, scholarships, outreach efforts, and other strategies that reduce barriers to participation.
  - *Policy PS.2.3 — Use Outreach and Engagement to Support Community.* Participation Use communication, outreach, and engagement efforts that help residents understand and access LARPD programs, services, facilities, and planning efforts.
  - *Policy PS.2.4 — Support Volunteer and Community Stewardship Opportunities.* Support volunteer opportunities that strengthen community involvement, stewardship, educational programming, events, and LARPD operations.
    - Action PS.2-A: Conduct outreach and engagement approaches that improve awareness of LARPD programs, services, facilities, and planning efforts.
    - Action PS.2-B: Support scholarship programs, subsidies, partnerships, and financial assistance opportunities.
    - Action PS.2-C: Consider accessibility, affordability, and participation barriers when evaluating programs and services.
    - Action PS.2-D: Support volunteer opportunities related to recreation programs, open space stewardship, events, educational programming, and community initiatives.

    - Action PS.2-E: Work with schools, nonprofits, and community organizations to expand outreach and participation opportunities.

- **Goal PS.3 Environmental and Educational Programming.** Provide recreation, educational, and interpretive opportunities that connect the community to parks, trails, open space, and the natural environment.
    - *Policy PS.3.1 — Support Interpretive and Environmental Education Opportunities.* Support interpretive, educational, and recreational opportunities that connect community members to the natural environment, local history, and cultural resources.
    - *Policy PS.3.2 — Provide Recreation Opportunities in Natural Settings.* Support recreational and educational opportunities within parks, trails, and open space areas that encourage appreciation, stewardship, and responsible use of natural resources.
    - *Policy PS.3.3 — Coordinate Educational and Interpretive Partnerships*. Coordinate with schools, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and community partners to support educational, recreational, and stewardship opportunities.
        - Action PS.3-A: Support environmental recreation, educational programming, and interpretive opportunities.
        - Action PS.3-B: Coordinate with schools, community organizations, and partner agencies on outdoor education and stewardship initiatives.
        - Action PS.3-C: Use parks, trails, open space areas, and natural resources to support community learning and recreation experiences.
        - Action PS.3-D: Adapt interpretive and educational programming based on community interest and operational considerations.

A.1.7 Organizational Capacity and Governance

Maintain organizational practices, workforce capacity, and operational coordination that support delivery of LARPD services, stewardship responsibilities, and implementation of Master Plan priorities.

- **Goal OG.1 Organizational Readiness and Workforce Development.** Support organizational practices and workforce development efforts that enable the LARPD to adapt to changing community needs, operational responsibilities, and long-term service expectations.
    - *Policy OG.1.1 — Support Workforce Development and Organizational Readiness.* Support staff development, training, leadership growth, and organizational knowledge-sharing efforts that strengthen the LARPD's ability to deliver services, manage facilities, and implement its priorities.

- *Policy OG.1.2 — Maintain Organizational Flexibility and Adaptability*. Maintain organizational practices that allow the LARPD to adapt to changing community needs, operational challenges, workforce considerations, and emerging priorities.
  - Action OG.1-A: Support professional development and training opportunities.
  - Action OG.1-B: Encourage organizational coordination, knowledge-sharing, and cross-department collaboration.
  - Action OG.1-C: Adjust organizational and operational approaches to respond to changing service demands and workforce needs.
  - Action OG.1-D: Evaluate workforce capacity and operational readiness when implementing new facilities, programs, and initiatives.

- **Goal OG.2 Transparent and Responsible Governance.** Support transparent decision-making, public accountability, and responsible governance practices that maintain community trust and support LARPD stewardship.
  - *Policy OG.2.1 — Support Transparent and Responsible Decision-Making*. Support governance, planning, and operational practices that encourage transparency, accountability, public awareness, and informed decision-making.
  - *Policy OG.2.2 — Maintain Community and Partner Coordination.* Maintain coordination with community organizations, partner agencies, stakeholders, and the public to support collaboration, responsiveness, and implementation of LARPD priorities.
    - Action OG.2-A: Utilize public engagement and communication efforts, such as public meetings, surveys, community outreach events, website communications, and social media to support awareness of LARPD projects, priorities, and planning efforts.
    - Action OG.2-B: Coordinate with partner agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders.
    - Action OG.2-C: Periodically review governance and operational practices to support responsiveness and organizational effectiveness.

- **Goal OG.3 Emergency Preparedness and Operational Coordination.** Maintain coordination and preparedness efforts that support continuity of operations, public safety, and LARPD response capabilities during emergencies and major disruptions.
  - *Policy OG.3.1 — Coordinate Emergency Preparedness Efforts.* Coordinate with local agencies, schools, emergency response organizations, and partner entities to support emergency preparedness, continuity planning, and operational coordination.

- *Policy OG.3.2 — Maintain Operational Readiness During Emergencies*. Support organizational practices and facility readiness efforts that maintain continuity of operations and community services during emergencies and major disruptions where feasible.
  - Action OG.3-A: Coordinate with local and regional emergency preparedness partners.
  - Action OG.3-B: Support staff training and operational readiness efforts related to emergency response and continuity planning.
  - Action OG.3-C: Consider emergency access, operational continuity, and community support functions when planning facilities and infrastructure improvements.