

PUBLIC SERVICES, PARKS, AND RECREATION

4.14 PUBLIC SERVICES, PARKS, AND RECREATION

This chapter of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) describes the potential impacts to public services (fire protection, police services, and schools), parks, and recreation associated with the adoption and implementation of the proposed project. This chapter describes the regulatory framework and existing conditions, identifies criteria used to determine impact significance, provides an analysis of the potential impacts to public services, parks, and recreation, and identifies proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions that would minimize any potentially significant impacts.

The analysis in this chapter is based on the *Existing Conditions Report* prepared on behalf of the City of Santa Rosa in December 2020 and updated information from the police and fire department as well as.¹

4.14.1 FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

4.14.1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Framework

State Regulations

California Government Code

Section 65302 of the California Government Code requires General Plans to include a Safety Element, which must include an assessment of wildland and urban fire hazards. The Safety and Resilience Element of the existing General Plan and the proposed General Plan 2050 satisfies this requirement.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is dedicated to the fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's wildlands. The Office of the State Fire Marshal supports CAL FIRE's mission to protect life and property through fire prevention engineering programs, law and code enforcement, and education. In addition to fire-fighting services for land in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs), CAL FIRE staff, or a designee, reviews building permit applications, parcel maps, and use permits for construction or development in SRAs and Local Responsibility Areas (LRA). The City of Santa Rosa is made up of all LRA lands.

California Building Code

The State of California provides a minimum standard for building design through Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), commonly referred to as the California Building Code (CBC). The CBC is in Part 2 of Title 24. The CBC is updated every three years. It is generally adopted on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, subject to further modification based on local conditions. Commercial and residential buildings are

¹ City of Santa Rosa, December 2020, *Existing Conditions Report*, <https://www.santarosafoward.com/ECR>.

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plan-checked by local City building officials for compliance with the CBC. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include the installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings and other facilities; the establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction in high fire hazard severity zones; requirements for smoke-detection systems and exiting requirements; and the clearance of debris.

California Fire Code

The California Fire Code (CFC) incorporates, by adoption, the International Fire Code of the International Code Council. Like the CBC, the CFC is effective statewide, but a local jurisdiction may adopt more restrictive standards based on local conditions. The City of Santa Rosa regularly adopts each new CFC update under SRCC Chapter 18-44, *2022 California Fire Code*. This is the official Fire Code for the State and all political subdivisions. It is found in CCR Title 24, Part 9 and, like the CBC, it is revised and published every three years by the California Building Standards Commission. Also like the CBC, the CFC is effective statewide, but a local jurisdiction may adopt more restrictive standards based on local conditions.

The CFC includes provisions and standards for emergency planning and preparedness, fire service features, fire protection systems, hazardous materials, fire flow requirements, and fire hydrant locations and distribution. Typical fire safety requirements include installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; the establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

The Mello-Roos Communities Facilities Act of 1982

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, Government Code Section 53311 *et seq.*, provides an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services through special taxes. This State law empowers local agencies to establish Community Facilities Districts (CFDs) to levy special taxes for facilities such as fire protection facilities.

Local Regulations

Santa Rosa City Code

The Santa Rosa City Code (SRCC) includes various directives to minimize adverse impacts resulting from fire. The SRCC is organized by title, chapter, and section, and in some cases, articles. Provisions related to fire protection and reducing fire-related impacts are in Title 9, *Health and Safety*; Title 18, *Buildings and Construction*; Title 19, *Subdivisions*; and Title 20, *Development Requirements*, as follows:

- **Chapter 9-08, *Weeds and Rubbish*.** Section 9-08.020, *Nuisance Determination*, requires that all weeds growing upon the streets or sidewalks or upon or in front of private property within the City which bear seeds of a wingy or downy nature, or attain such a large growth as to become a fire menace when dry, or which are otherwise noxious or dangerous, may be declared to be a public nuisance by the City Council and may thereafter be abated as provided by this chapter.

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- **Chapter 18-22, *California Residential Code*.** This chapter establishes guidelines for building improvements and construction in Santa Rosa. Some areas of the chapter that pertain to fire are fire sprinklers, roof covering materials in very high fire hazard severity zones, and fire-retardant shingles and shakes.
- **Chapter 18-44, *California Fire Code*.** The City of Santa Rosa regularly adopts each new CFC update under this chapter of the SRCC. The CFC is a model code that regulates minimum fire safety regulations for new and existing buildings; facilities; storage; processes, including emergency planning and preparedness; fire service features; fire protection systems; hazardous materials; fire flow requirements; and fire hydrant locations and distribution.
- **Chapter 19-60, *Reservations of Land*.** This chapter states as a condition of tentative map approval, the subdivider shall reserve sites, appropriate in area and location, for parks, recreational facilities, fire stations, libraries, or other public uses according to the standards and formula contained in Section 19-60.020, *Standards and formula for reservation*. The reserved area must be of such size and shape as to permit the balance of the property within which the reservation is located to develop in an orderly and efficient manner.
- **Chapter 21-04, *Capital Facilities Fees*.** This chapter creates a capital facilities fee (CFF), which is used to alleviate the cost of certain public infrastructure facilities required to serve new development in the City of Santa Rosa. Out of the five account areas, public safety will have 12.8 percent of the revenue from each CFF.
- **City Charter, Section 22, *Chief of the Fire Department*.** This section of the City Charter establishes appointment proceedings for the Chief of the Santa Rosa Fire Department (SRFD). The Fire Chief has charge and supervision over all matters relating to the prevention and extinction of fires, and of all measures necessary to guard and protect all impaired property.

Emergency Operations Plan

The Santa Rosa Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), adopted June 2017, outlines how the City coordinates their response to major emergencies and disasters.² The EOP identifies operational strategies and plans for managing complex and potentially catastrophic events. It addresses the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The EOP is organized into three parts, along with supporting plans. Part I, *Basic Plan*, presents the planning assumptions, policies, and concept of operations that guide the responsibilities for emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation for the City. Part II, *Hazard Annexes*, and Part III, *Functional Annexes*, provide additional detail and guidance for specific hazards, functions, or operations.

² City of Santa Rosa, June 2017, *City of Santa Rosa Emergency Operations Plan*, <https://www.srcity.org/DocumentCenter/View/16434/Emergency-Operation-Plan>, accessed March 22, 2023.

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Hazard Mitigation Plan

On December 7, 2021, the Santa Rosa City Council adopted the Sonoma County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP), which also provides an update to the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP).³ The MJHMP consists of two volumes. Volume 1 includes all federally required elements of a disaster mitigation plan as they apply to the entirety of Sonoma County. Volume 2 is made up of Annexes (chapters) for each local agency and special district participating in the MJHMP. The City of Santa Rosa Annex, which serves as a five-year update to the LHMP, is found in Volume 2, Chapter 3. The LHMP identifies the natural hazards faced by the city, assesses vulnerabilities to these hazards, and identifies mitigation strategies that can be taken to reduce or alleviate the loss of life, personal injury, and property damage that otherwise might result from said natural hazards. Mitigation actions are suggested and carried out by various City departments. A description of the mitigation actions for wildfires include:

- In accordance with the adaptation strategies of the Climate Action Plans, integrate climate change adaptation into future updates of the Zoning Code, Building Code, General Plan, Urban Water Management Plan, and other related documents.
- Continue to update the City's emergency planning documents every five years to ensure consistency with State and federal law, local conditions, best practices, and the most recent science.
- Prepare a Zoning Code update to identify vegetation management requirements in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) zone for existing and new development.
- Retrofit, replace, or relocate critical facilities that are shown to be vulnerable to damage in natural disasters prioritizing those structures that have experienced repetitive losses and/or are in a high or medium ranked hazard.
- Work with residents and property owners to develop an incentive program to replace shake roofs in the WUI.
- Continue to implement improvements to water flow capacity in the WUI.
- Continue to tie public education on defensible space and a comprehensive defensible space ordinance to a field program of enforcement.
- Pursue Type 1 HazMat Team status.
- Prepare a comprehensive Hazardous Materials Area Response Plan update.
- Conduct microgrid feasibility study.
- Secure redundant power supply for City-owned and leased facilities and infrastructure that lack adequate back-up power.
- Relocate/update emergency operations center (EOC) to City-owned facility that can accommodate use and renovation to permanent warm/hot EOC with appropriate equipment for communication and situational awareness.

³ City of Santa Rosa, 2021, *Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*, <https://www.srcity.org/540/Local-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>, accessed March 9, 2023.

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- Implement actionable items identified within the Santa Rosa Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- Actively participate in the annual maintenance protocols outlined in Volume I of the MJHMP.
- Support the county-wide initiatives identified in Volume I of the MJHMP.
- Integrate the LHMP into other plans, ordinances, and programs that dictate land use decisions in the community, including the General Plan, Specific Plans, and the City Code.
- Develop a plan for expediting the repair and functional restoration of water and wastewater systems through stockpiling of shoring materials, temporary pumps, surface pipelines, portable hydrants, and other supplies, such as those available through the Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN). Communicate that plan to local governments and critical facility operators.
- Explore the feasibility of resilience hubs in the city.

The MJHMP has identified the types and levels of fire responsibility areas for the EIR Study Area, as shown on Figure 4.18-1, *Fire Hazard Severity Zones*, in Chapter 4.18, *Wildfire*, of this Draft EIR.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

This plan was developed for the SRFD and its purpose is to enhance protection of human life safety and reduce the wildfire threat to community assets, such as homes, commercial structures, critical infrastructure, businesses, and natural and historic resources in the city.⁴ The five main goals of the plan are:

- Minimize the wildfire threat to life safety.
- Reduce the wildfire threat to values/assets at risk.
- Develop priorities to mitigate risks and hazards identified.
- Determine potential impacts of climate change on the local fire environment and how these impacts may influence wildfire hazard and risk in the mid-twenty-first century.
- Establish a plan to track and monitor implementation of action items identified in the plan.

Santa Rosa Fire Department Strategic Plan

The Santa Rosa Fire Department developed a community-driven Strategic Plan (2024-2029), identifying the following key goals:

- Revitalize the fire department's workforce through innovative recruitment strategies to maximize organizational effectiveness.
- Improve physical resources to ensure the highest level of safety and service for our community and personnel.
- Enhance the overall technical readiness and communication infrastructure of the fire department to ensure efficient emergency response and personnel safety.

⁴ City of Santa Rosa, 2020, *Community Wildfire Protection Plan*, https://srcity.org/DocumentCenter/View/30136/City-of-Santa-Rosa-Community-Wildfire-Protection-Plan-CWPP_91820, accessed November 8, 2022.

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- Strengthen community engagement, safety, and preparedness through active community collaboration, communication, and outreach to create a more prepared community.

Assembly Bill 337 (Bates Bill)

In response to the Oakland Hills fire of 1991, Assembly Bill (AB) 337, also known as the Bates Bill, was passed in 1992. Pursuant to this law, all new construction that is in any fire hazard zone in Santa Rosa must follow brush clearance requirements and use fire-resistant roof material.

Existing Conditions

Fire services in the EIR Study Area are provided by SRFD and the Sonoma County Fire Protection District (SCFPD). SRFD has primary responsibility for areas within the city limits. Mutual-aid agreements between these agencies allow for joint responses to emergencies that call for additional personnel. Figure 4.14-1, *Fire and Police Stations*, shows the fire station locations in the EIR Study Area.

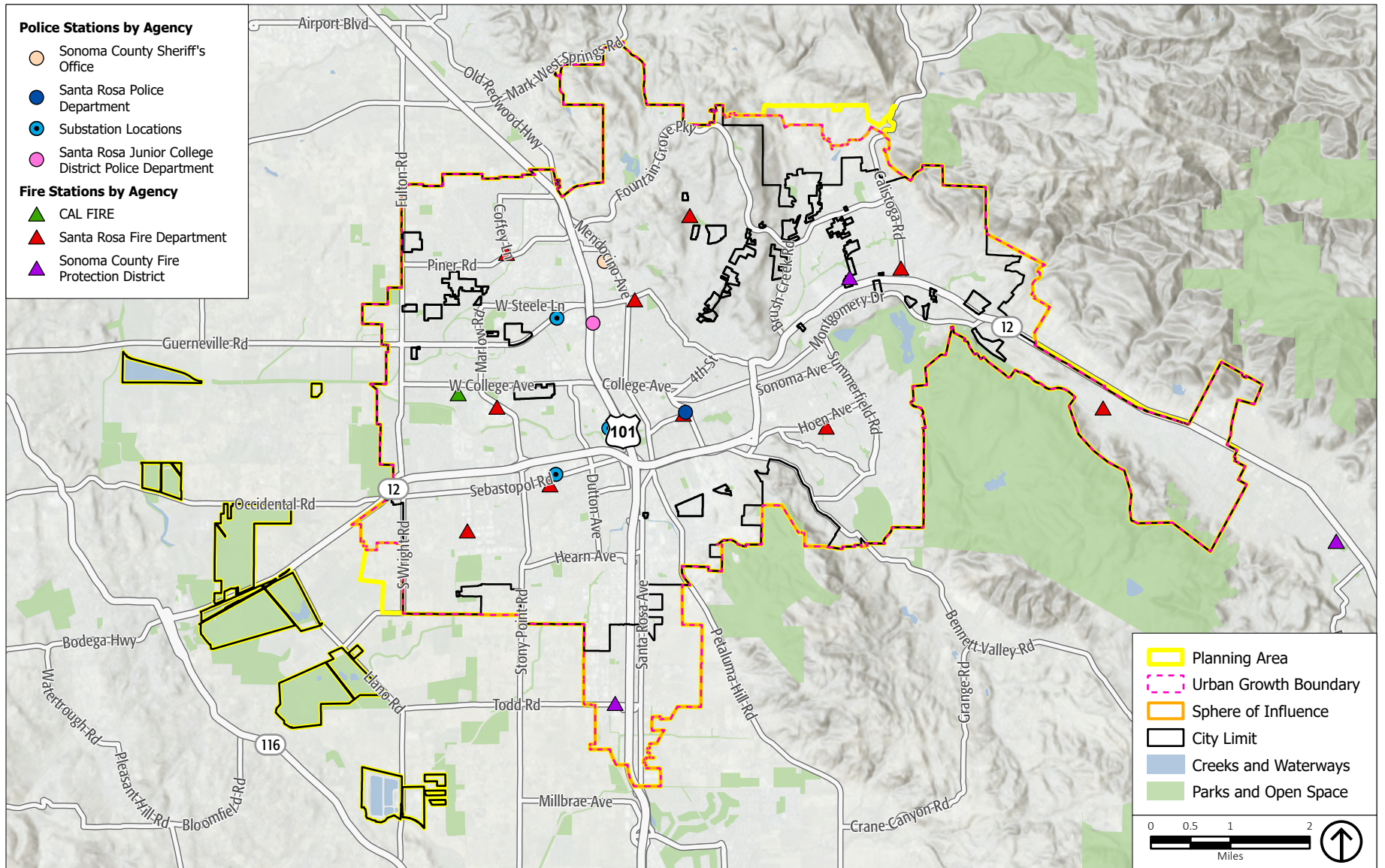
Santa Rosa Fire Department

The City of Santa Rosa provides fire protection services within city boundaries, serving approximately 41 square miles within the service area, which includes a population of 173,628 residents. SRFD serves as an all-risk fire department that responds in a variety of emergency situations, including medical emergencies, physical entrapment, fires, and releases of hazardous materials.

SRFD has 169 employees and is organized into four branches: Operations Bureau, Administration Bureau, Prevention Bureau, and Emergency Management. The Operations Bureau is organized into a Training and Safety Division, a Support Services Division, a Suppression Battalion Division, and an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division. In 2020, SRFD created a Pandemic Response Unit to respond to high-risk calls while minimizing potential COVID-19 exposure to the department and community. The unit is no longer in service. In 2024, the Fire Department staffed new paramedic squads. These are the first new units the SRFD has placed into service full time since 2009.

The Operations Bureau consists of one fire chief, three battalion chiefs, three division chiefs, one training captain, one EMS captain, 36 captains, 42 engineers, and 54 firefighters, as well as a Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT). The HMRT is a State of California Type 2 team consisting of 45 highly trained members who participate in rigorous ongoing training to maintain their HazMat Technician/Specialist certifications. Duties of the HMRT include chemical sampling and identification, spill and leak control, life-saving decontamination, and response to calls for chemical leaks or spills. Based at Fire Station 10, the HMRT is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The EMS Division, also housed within the Operations Bureau, ensures that all SRFD personnel are trained to the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level and each shift has a Field Training Officer (FTO), or experienced personnel, to regularly interface with paramedics.

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Source: City of Santa Rosa, 2020; ESRI, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2024.

Figure 4.14-1
Fire and Police Stations

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The Prevention Bureau reviews, updates, and enforces fire-related codes and ordinances. This branch consists of a fire marshal, three assistant fire marshals, six fire inspectors, one fire plans examiner, two community outreach specialists and administrative personnel. The activities enforced by the Prevention Bureau include code compliance inspections, construction inspections, investigation of fires and environmental crimes, public education programs, regulation of business-related hazardous waste, vegetation management inspections, and enforcement of the weed abatement program.

Facilities and Equipment

The City operates 10 fire stations distributed throughout the city to expedite response times. In addition, SRFD has an automatic-aid agreement with the SCFPD and Sonoma Valley Fire District (SVFD), which integrates their stations into the citywide response matrix. Each SRFD fire station houses an engine company and is staffed 24 hours per day. Additionally, Station 1 and Station 2 each house a truck company. Station 3 and Station 8 house paramedic squads. SRFD administrative headquarters is at 2373 Circadian Way.

Station 8, formerly serving the Roseland Fire Protection District, was annexed into SRFD in 2019 in the southwest Santa Rosa area and is at 830 Burbank Avenue. The City plans to move this station to a new location near Hearn Avenue and Dutton Avenue. In addition, the City plans for several new fire stations in south Santa Rosa and east Santa Rosa, which will further improve coverage and response time in this area.

SRFD has 10 engines, each with a captain, engineer, and firefighter, two truck companies with a captain, two engineers, and a firefighter, and two squads with firefighter paramedics. SRFD also owns and deploys several reserve engines, two ladder trucks, one reserve ladder truck, one water tender, heavy rescue, hazardous materials unit and several command response vehicles as needed.

Response Times and Performance

As of 2023, SRFD responds to approximately 30,000 calls per year for fire, emergency medical, rescue, operations-level hazardous materials response, fire prevention, and life safety services. In 2023, the SRFD responded to 30,035 incidents which is higher than other similar-sized urban fire departments across the nation. In 2016, the City Council set a goal for SRFD to respond to 80 percent of all calls for service within 4 minutes or less, to 90 percent of all calls for service within 5 minutes or less, and to all calls for service within 6 minutes or less. According to SRFD 2016 Strategic Plan, which includes SRFD's goals and strategies to provide fire protection services, SRFD's response times are at 5 minutes 55 seconds, 90 percent of the time. Of all incidents warranting an emergency response from SRFD in 2018, it responded to 90 percent in 6 minutes, 5 seconds or less.

In 2016, SRFD was upgraded from a Class 3 rating to a Class 1 rating by the Insurance Service Office (ISO). The rating, based on local department staffing levels and training, station proximity, water availability, communication system quality, and community outreach, gauges whether fire departments are prepared to put out fires in that community. The ISO evaluates over 40,000 fire departments nationwide, with only 178 earning the Class 1 rating in 2016.

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Funding

The Santa Rosa General Fund supports essential City services, including fire protection. In fiscal year 2020/2021, fire services accounted for roughly one quarter of the City’s General Fund expenditures, which included funding for employee salaries, purchasing of fire suppression equipment, and various other basic needs. In 2024/2025, fire services expenditures are anticipated to be 26.7 percent.

Additional expenses are paid for by Special Revenue Funds, which includes Measure O funds—a 20-year sales tax extension and increase approved by voters in 2004—established for special fire services, SRFD personnel, including paramedic fire operations staff and an EMS battalion chief, construction of existing and future fire stations, and necessary fire apparatus. In addition, the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) provides funds to support long-range capital needs to maintain infrastructure health. In the fiscal year 2020/2021, the CIP supported the rebuild of Fire Station 5, previously demolished in the 2017 Tubbs Fire. In 2024/2025, the CIP includes funds for the Fire Training Center Improvements and a new fire Station in South Santa Rosa.

On July 26, 2022, the City Council unanimously placed a measure on the November 8, 2022, ballot to renew the existing local 1/4 cent sales tax that provides dedicated public safety and violence prevention funding. The measure passed and secured funding.

In 2023, SRFD established an Apparatus Replacement Fund, an ongoing funding source for new apparatus purchases, by budgeting apparatus lease payments into the replacement fund as they expire. The citywide replacement program will aim to replace engines every 12 years and ladder trucks every 15 years by building a fund balance for future purchases.

SRFD charges administrative, operational, and construction permit fees related to development and fire activities, such as fire alarm installation and modification, fire plan check, vegetation management plan review and field inspection, and weed abatement inspection.

Sonoma County Fire District & Sonoma Valley Fire District

Both Districts have stations that provide fire protection, emergency medical services, and hazard mitigation, and each station has at least one staffed engine that is able to respond through automatic and mutual aid to the SRFD.

4.14.1.2 STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Implementation of the proposed project would result in a significant impact related to fire protection services if it would:

1. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
2. In combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative fire protection service impact.

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4.14.1.3 IMPACT DISCUSSION

PS-1	Implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
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New development in the city would be served by the SRFD. A significant impact to the SRFD would result if, in order for the SRFD to adequately serve the area, increased demand in the city limit would require the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, the construction or operation of which would cause significant environmental impacts. The SRFD has a 'Standards of Coverage' that was adopted in 2005. A new plan will be developed and in place by 2025 to aid in the determination of new station and apparatus locations.

Implementation of the proposed project would allow for increased development within the EIR Study Area, which would increase the service population of the SRFD above existing conditions. Potential future development over the buildout horizon of the proposed project would include new housing and nonresidential development, with associated increases to resident and employee population. As discussed in Section 4.14.1.1, *Environmental Setting*, the City is moving Station 8 to a new location on Hearn Avenue near Dutton Avenue. In addition, the City plans for new fire stations in East Santa Rosa and South Santa Rosa which will further improve coverage and response time. The CIP would also continue to provide funds to support long-range capital needs to maintain infrastructure health.

Potential future development that may occur due to implementation of the proposed project would be required to comply with Title 24 of the CCR as adopted in SRCC Chapter 18-44, as outlined in Section 4.14.1.1, *Environmental Setting*. Compliance with the State's Title 24 would ensure any new development proposed in the EIR Study Area meets the most current building and fire codes, thereby increasing safety of the buildings, and reducing the likelihood of a fire emergency, subsequently reducing demand on SRFD fire services. Potential future development under the proposed project would also be required to pay CFFs, as required by SRCC Chapter 21-04. In addition, Chapter 5, *Safety, Climate Resilience, Noise, and Public Services and Facilities*, of proposed General Plan 2050 contains goals, policies, and actions that require local planning and development decisions to consider and mitigate impacts that potential future development could have on fire protection service facilities. The following goal, policy, and actions would serve to reduce impacts to fire protection service facilities and services in the EIR Study Area:

- **Goal 5-11:** Provide efficient and effective police and fire services for all members of the community.
 - **Policy 5-11.1:** Increase investments in community safety.
 - **Action 5-11.1:** Maintain an efficient, well-trained, and adequately equipped police and fire personnel.

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- **Action 5-11.2:** Increase and maintain a staffing model, station construction schedule, and apparatus/equipment purchasing program that enables a ratio of at least 1 career firefighter per 1,000 population per National Fire Protection Association recommendations.
- **Action 5-11.3:** Periodically review and update the Fire Department Strategic Plan and Standards of Coverage, and the Police Department Strategic Plan to address the following needs:
 - Staffing levels
 - Station location/placement
 - Equipment needs
 - Training requirements
 - Response time criteria
 - Areas lacking adequate service
 - Projection of future emergency service needs
- **Action 5-11.4:** Continually update first responder training requirements to meet local, State, and federal standards.
- **Action 5-11.5:** Identify and provide necessary enhancements and/or resource needs to achieve a response time of under six minutes anywhere in the service area.
- **Action 5-11.6:** Pursue infrastructure improvements, including new police and fire stations (outside of high hazard risk areas) and new emergency vehicles and equipment.
- **Action 5-11.7:** Enhance workplace equity and expand the diversity of emergency personnel to better reflect the makeup of the city.
- **Action 5-11.8:** Enhance employee wellness and mental health support to enable better service to the community by all personnel.
- **Action 5-11.9:** Coordinate with Sonoma County on police and fire services to achieve cost-effective improvements to service levels.
- **Action 5-11.10:** Ensure all properties have visible street addresses and signage to ensure effective emergency response activities.

In addition to the goal, policy, and actions listed here, see Chapter 4.18, *Wildfire*, of this Draft EIR, for a complete list of goals, policies, and actions that would minimize risk of wildfire, thereby reducing demand on SRFD fire services.

While the proposed project would increase demand on fire protection services, growth would most likely occur incrementally over the lifetime of the project, and it would be unlikely that the magnitude of increased demands as a result of the full buildout potential of the proposed General Plan 2050 would be placed on facilities within the immediate timeframe or all at once. Individual project plan review by the SRFD, continuation of the CIP, consistency with the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions identified above, and compliance with the regulations described under Section 4.14.1.1, *Environmental Setting*, would ensure that the SRFD is involved as potential future development occurs in the EIR Study Area. Furthermore, future construction of new fire stations would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed and would also

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be subject to the mitigation measures contained throughout this Draft EIR to reduce potential environmental impacts. Therefore, impacts on fire protection facilities would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-2 Implementation of the proposed project would not, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative fire protection services impact.

As discussed in Chapter 4.0, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR takes into account growth from potential future development under the proposed project within the city combined with the estimated growth in the service areas of each service provider. In the case of fire protection, this would be the service area of the SRFD. As discussed in Section 4.14.1.1, *Environmental Setting*, the SRFD has a mutual-aid agreement with SCFPD and SVFD allowing for joint responses to emergencies that call for additional personnel. As described under impact discussion PS-1, the SRFD plans for the relocation and addition of fire stations to provide better coverage or service. As the SRFD requires new equipment or staffing, the funds for such improvements would be provided through the special revenue funds, the annual budget process, and/or would rely on the General Fund. Other funding opportunities, such as State and federal grants, may also be available.

Compliance with State and local regulations described under Section 4.14.1.1, *Environmental Setting*, and the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions identified under impact discussion PS-1, would ensure that fire protection services continue to adequately serve the EIR Study Area. Potential future development that may occur within and adjacent to the EIR Study Area would occur incrementally over the proposed General Plan 2050's approximately 25-year buildout horizon, and therefore is not anticipated to substantially increase the population, thereby avoiding reduction of SRFD, SVFD, and SCFPD's ability to adequately serve residents. Further, because the proposed project is program level, and because potential future development would be required to undergo project review at the time of project application, each potential future development would be assessed for impacts to fire protection services. With adequate planning in place in both the city limit and the unincorporated Sonoma County service area, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact to fire protection services and cumulative impacts would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

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4.14.2 POLICE SERVICES

4.14.2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Framework

State Regulations

The Mello-Roos Communities Facilities Act of 1982

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, Government Code Section 53311 et seq., provides an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services through special taxes. This State law empowers local agencies to establish CFDs to levy special taxes for facilities such as police service facilities.

Local Regulations

Santa Rosa City Code

The SRCC includes various directives around police services. The SRCC is organized by title, chapter, and section, and in some cases, articles. Provisions related to police services are in Title 10, *Public Peace, Morals and Welfare*; Title 11, *Vehicles and Traffic*; and Title 21, *Development Requirements*, as follows:

- **Section 10-38.050, *Police Department enforcement*.** This section outlines how the owner or lessee of any business premises shall submit a written policy governing the grounds for expulsion from the premises before the police department can enforce any laws provided in this chapter.
- **Section 11-08.030, *Police Chief*.** This section establishes the responsibilities of the police chief in terms of traffic regulations and enforcing the California Vehicle Code.
- **Chapter 21-04, *Capital Facilities Fees*.** This chapter creates a CFF, which is used to alleviate the cost of certain public infrastructure facilities required to serve new development in the City of Santa Rosa. Out of the five account areas, public safety will have 12.8 percent of the revenue from each CFF.
- **City Charter, Section 21, *Chief of Police*.** This section of the City Charter establishes appointment proceedings for the Chief of Police of the Santa Rosa Police Department. The Chief of Police acts to preserve the public peace and to suppress riots, tumults, and disturbances.

Emergency Operations Plan

The Santa Rosa EOP, adopted June 2017, outlines how the City coordinates their response to major emergencies and disasters.⁵ The EOP identifies operational strategies and plans for managing complex and potentially catastrophic events. It addresses the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The EOP is organized into three parts, along with

⁵ City of Santa Rosa, June 2017, *City of Santa Rosa Emergency Operations Plan*, <https://www.srcity.org/DocumentCenter/View/16434/Emergency-Operation-Plan>, accessed March 22, 2023.

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supporting plans. Part I, *Basic Plan*, presents the planning assumptions, policies, and concept of operations that guide the responsibilities for emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation for the City. Part II, *Hazard Annexes*, and Part III, *Functional Annexes*, provide additional detail and guidance for specific hazards, functions, or operations.

Existing Conditions

Police services in the EIR Study Area are provided by the SRPD, the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, and the California Highway Patrol. SRPD has primary responsibility for areas within the city limits. The Sonoma County Sheriff's Office provides services to unincorporated areas within the EIR Study Area, and the California Highway Patrol provides traffic enforcement on state and local freeways. Mutual-aid agreements between these agencies allow for joint responses to emergencies that call for additional personnel.

Santa Rosa Police Department

SRPD has 264 employees working within the community to provide public safety services, of which, 184 are sworn officers. SRPD employees work from one headquarters station and three substations, as depicted on Figure 4.14-1. SRPD also has 18 volunteers serving in the Volunteers in Police Services program and five student interns. SRPD currently has 1.05 sworn officers per 1,000 residents. This is well below the state average and lower than the stated needs of SRPD. Increased mandates and workloads have also impacted the ability of the Records and Evidence division to complete work in a timely manner.

Facilities

There is one main SRPD police station, which is at 965 Sonoma Avenue, directly adjacent to SRFD Station 1 and east of Downtown Santa Rosa. Together, this complex is commonly referred to as the Public Safety Building. SRPD has a fleet of 150 vehicles. SRPD reports that the Public Safety Building is aging and in need of extensive repairs and required updates, and it no longer meets SRPD's needs. Based on current conditions and anticipated growth, SRPD has stated its needs for a larger facility with an on-site training center in the next 10 years and two additional substations, one in east Santa Rosa and one in the Roseland neighborhood to replace a temporary substation, to reach SRPD's goal to provide better coverage of the entire city.

Response Times and Call Volumes

In 2023, SRPD processed 234,684 calls, of which, 72,301 were 911 calls. The average response time for emergency calls (Priority 1) was 6:57 minutes, the average response time for urgent calls (Priority 2) was 11:57 minutes, and the average response time for routine calls (Priority 3) was 25:36 minutes. Response time to calls for service from SRPD varies depending on the activity level at the time the call is received. Priority 1 calls require an immediate response because there may be an immediate threat to life. SRPD's goal is a response time of less than six minutes for Priority 1 calls, similar to the average goals of the largest northern and southern California cities of 5.4 minutes and 5.7 minutes, respectively. The increase in calls for service and the reporting/documentation requirements has extended these times. Funding

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The budget for the SRPD for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is \$72,913,865, which includes the addition of two Downtown Enforcement officers and two Field & Evidence Technician positions. Additionally, the Public Safety Prevention Tax Measure H (formerly Measure O) budget was \$7,330,550, which includes the addition of one Sergeant position for the reinstated Gang Crimes Team and \$2.2 million for the purchase of the SRPD Roseland Substation. The budget is used for hiring additional sworn and civilian employees, , training, equipment, supplies, infrastructure, and anything else needed to enhance services to the community. The budget breakdown is shown as follows:

- Field Services: 50 percent
- Special Services: 15 percent
- Administration: 14 percent
- Technical Services: 12 percent
- Public Safety Prevention Tax Measure O/H: 9 percent

Santa Rosa Police Department Strategic Plan

The Santa Rosa Police Department is currently developing a community-driven Strategic Plan (2025-2029), identifying the following key goals:

- Goal 1: Foster Community Safety and Reduce Crime.
- Goal 2: Achieve Organizational Excellence.
- Goal 3: Enhance Technology / Innovation.
- Goal 4: Wellness.
- Goal 5: Facilities and Equipment.
- Goal 6: Community Engagement.

Santa Rosa Junior College District Police

The Santa Rosa Junior College District Police Department provides 24-hour law enforcement protection on all Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) campus sites. As shown on Figure 4.14-1, the headquarters are in Pedroncelli Center at the intersection of Elliott Avenue and Armory Drive in Santa Rosa. The District serves all students, staff, and faculty with 13 sworn police officers, 6 police dispatchers, 6 non-sworn community service officers, and 15 to 30 cadets, depending on the semester. District police officers have full peace officer status and receive the same law enforcement training as police officers employed at other full-service, fully certified, police agencies in California. Officers investigate crimes; respond to reports of burglary; suspicious people and incidents; and answer police, medical, and fire calls on the SRJC campuses.

Sonoma County Sheriff and California Highway Patrol

The Sonoma County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement in unincorporated areas of Sonoma County, apart from traffic enforcement, traffic complaints, vehicular accidents, and auto theft investigations. Traffic and automobile-related incidents are primarily the responsibility of the California Highway Patrol. The Sheriff's Main Office is in Santa Rosa and houses the Sheriff's administrative staff, Investigations Bureau, Civil Bureau, Central Information Bureau, Dispatch Bureau, the Crime Scene Investigation Laboratory, and is where the majority of patrol staff work. The Sheriff's Office provides security for the Superior Courts, the Main Adult Detention Facility, and the North County Detention Facility in Santa Rosa. The County Coroner's Office, under jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Office, is also in Santa Rosa.

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4.14.2.2 STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Implementation of the proposed project would result in a significant impact to police services if it would:

3. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police facilities, need for new or physically altered police facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
4. In combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative police services impact.

4.14.2.3 IMPACT DISCUSSION

PS-3	Implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police facilities, need for new or physically altered police facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
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New development in the city would be served by the SRPD. A significant impact would result if increased demand in the city limits would require the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities for the SRPD to adequately serve the city, the construction or operation of which would cause significant environmental impacts.

Buildout of the proposed project is projected to occur over an approximately 25-year horizon. While an increase in demand for police protection services would be gradual and is in line with incremental population growth, which would occur with or without adoption of the proposed project. As previously described, the SRPD staffing ratios of 1.05 sworn officers to 1,000 residents is below the national staffing average of 2.0 sworn personnel per 1,000 residents. Physical expansion of SRPD facilities may be needed to accommodate increases in staffing.

Potential future development that may occur due to implementation of the proposed project would be required to comply with SRCC Chapter 21-014, which requires new development in Santa Rosa to pay a fee that will be used on certain public infrastructure facilities required to serve the new development. The payment of fees would be based on the fees that are adopted at the time of future project approval for new residential, retail, office, institutional, and industrial development. In addition, Chapter 5, *Safety, Climate Resilience, Noise, and Public Services and Facilities*, of proposed General Plan 2050 contains policies and actions that require local planning and development decisions to consider and mitigate impacts that potential future development could have on police service facilities. In addition to the goal, policies, and actions listed under impact discussion PS-1, the following goal, policy, and actions would also serve to reduce impacts to SRPD facilities and services in the EIR Study Area:

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- **Goal 5-11:** Provide efficient and effective police and fire services for all members of the community.
 - **Policy 5-11.2:** Focus policing efforts on community-based solutions.
 - **Action 5-11.11:** Assist neighborhoods and increase community contact through the Community-Oriented Policing Program.
 - **Action 5-11.12:** Enhance and explore ways to expand mental health support partnerships with police to provide a high level of mental health support to the community.
 - **Action 5-11.13:** Enhance police services using innovative technology and an equitable approach for resource allocation.
 - **Action 5-11.14:** Prioritize violent crime reduction and traffic safety solutions through innovative strategies and partnerships with key stakeholders.

Similar to impact discussion PS-1, while the proposed project would increase demand on police protection services, growth would most likely occur incrementally over the lifetime of the project, and it would be unlikely that the magnitude of increased demands as a result of the full buildout potential of the proposed project would be placed on facilities within the immediate timeframe or all at once. Payment of capital facilities fees, consistency with the proposed General Plan goals, policies, and actions discussed above, and compliance with the regulations described under Section 4.14.2.1, *Environmental Setting*, would ensure that the SRPD is involved as potential future development occurs in the EIR Study Area. Furthermore, future construction of new police stations would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed and would also be subject to the mitigation measures contained throughout this EIR to reduce potential environmental impacts. Therefore, impacts on police service facilities would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-4	Implementation of the proposed project would not, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative police services impact.
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As discussed in Chapter 4.0, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR, this EIR takes into account growth from potential future development under the proposed project in the city combined with the estimated growth in the service areas of each service provider. In the case of police, this would be the service area of the SRPD. As described under impact discussion PS-3, the proposed project encourages efficient and effective police services for all members of the community. This includes the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions, discussed under impact discussion PS-3, for assessing staffing levels, facility, and equipment needs of police services as the city grows; and focusing on community-based solutions. Compliance with State and local regulations described under Section 4.14.2.1, *Environmental Setting*, and the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions, would ensure that police services continue to adequately serve the EIR Study Area.

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Potential future development that may occur within and adjacent to the EIR Study Area would happen incrementally over the General Plan 2050's approximately 25-year buildout horizon, and therefore is not anticipated to substantially increase the population, thereby avoiding reduction of SRPD and Sonoma County Sheriff's Office's ability to adequately serve residents. Further, because the proposed project is program level, and because potential future development would be required to undergo project review at the time of project application, each future development would be assessed for impacts to police services. With adequate planning in place in both the city and the unincorporated Sonoma County service area, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact to police services, and cumulative impacts would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

4.14.3 SCHOOLS

4.14.3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Framework

State Regulations

Senate Bill 50

Senate Bill (SB) 50 (funded by Proposition 1A, approved in 1998) limits the power of cities and counties to require mitigation of school facilities impacts as a condition of approving new development and provides instead for a standardized developer fee. SB 50 generally provides for a 50/50 State and local school facilities funding match. SB 50 also provides for three levels of statutory impact fees. In setting the fees, school districts must prepare nexus studies to demonstrate a reasonable connection between new development and the need for school improvements. The fees may only be used to finance the construction or modernization of school facilities. The application level depends on whether State funding is available, the school district is eligible for State funding, and the school district meets certain additional criteria involving bonding capacity, year-round school, and the percentage of moveable classrooms in use.

California Government Code, Section 65995(b), and Education Code Section 17620

SB 50 amended California Government Code Section 65995, which contains limitations on Education Code Section 17620, the statute that authorizes school districts to assess development fees within school district boundaries. Government Code Section 65995(b)(3) requires the maximum square footage assessment for development to be increased every two years, according to inflation adjustments. According to California Government Code Section 65995(3)(h), the payment of statutory fees is "deemed to be full and complete mitigation of the impacts of any legislative or adjudicative act, or both, involving, but not limited to, the planning, use, or development of real property, or any change in governmental organization or reorganization...on the provision of adequate school facilities." The school district is responsible for implementing the specific methods for mitigating school impacts under the Government Code.

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Mitigation Fee Act (California Government Code Sections 66000-66008)

Enacted as AB 1600, the Mitigation Fee Act requires a local agency establishing, increasing, or imposing an impact fee as a condition of development to identify the purpose of the fee and the use to which the fee is to be put.⁶ The agency must also demonstrate a reasonable relationship between the fee and the purpose for which it is charged, and between the fee and the type of development project on which it is to be levied. This Act became enforceable on January 1, 1989.

Local Regulations

Santa Rosa City Code

The SRCC includes various directives to ensure public schools are adequate to serve school-age children in Santa Rosa. The SRCC is organized by title, chapter, and section, and in some cases, articles. Most provisions related to public schools are included in Title 19, *Subdivisions*, as follows:

- **Chapter 19-72, *School Impact Fees*.** This chapter is enacted to provide a new and improved method of financing for interim school facilities necessitated by new residential development within the city. Section 19-72.050, *Amount of land or fee*, provides that every owner or developer of a residential development situated in or served by an attendance area where conditions of overcrowding exist, shall dedicate land, pay fees in lieu thereof, or a combination of both, for classroom and related facilities for elementary and/or high schools, as a condition to the approval of a residential development.
- **Charter of the City, Section 29, *The Santa Rosa City School Districts*.** This section provides guidance on what types of schools will be offered in the City of Santa Rosa, the boundaries of these school districts, the government structure of the school districts, and of the Board of Education.

Existing Conditions

The EIR Study Area is served by 8 public school districts, 1 community college, and 27 private schools, ranging from nursery/preschool to college (see Figure 4.14-2, *Schools in the EIR Study Area*). The eight public school districts cover the entire EIR Study Area, and private schools are sprinkled throughout the community offering alternative religious, special-needs, and specialized programs. Schools range from nursery/pre-kindergarten through high school in both public-school districts and private schools, and SRJC offers continuing education.

The information in this section is presented in a variety of formats because every school district reports data differently. In particular, information about school capacity, projected enrollment, budget, and facility improvements may be shown by school or by district, depending on each school district's standard.

⁶ California Legislative Information, California Law, Code Section Group, Government Code Sections 66000-66008, https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=5.&article= accessed April 8, 2020.

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Table 4.14-1, *Santa Rosa School District's Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, gives an overview of all the school districts in the EIR Study Area and their enrollment and capacity numbers. Overall, school districts in the area are operating below capacity.

TABLE 4.14-1 SANTA ROSA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

School Districts	Student Enrollment	School Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Bellevue Union School District	1,612	1,875	86%
Bennett Valley School District	1,015	1,040	98%
Kenwood School District	137	160	86%
Piner-Olivet School District	1,265	2,230	57%
Rincon Valley Unified School District	3,075	3,654	84%
Roseland School District	2,915	3,700	79%
Santa Rosa City School District	15,570	18,061	85%
Wright Elementary School District	1,481	2,400	62%
Private Schools	2,155	---	----
Total Students	27,070^a	33,120^a	62%^a

Note:

a. Private schools were not counted in the total due to limited information about student capacity.

Bellevue Union School District

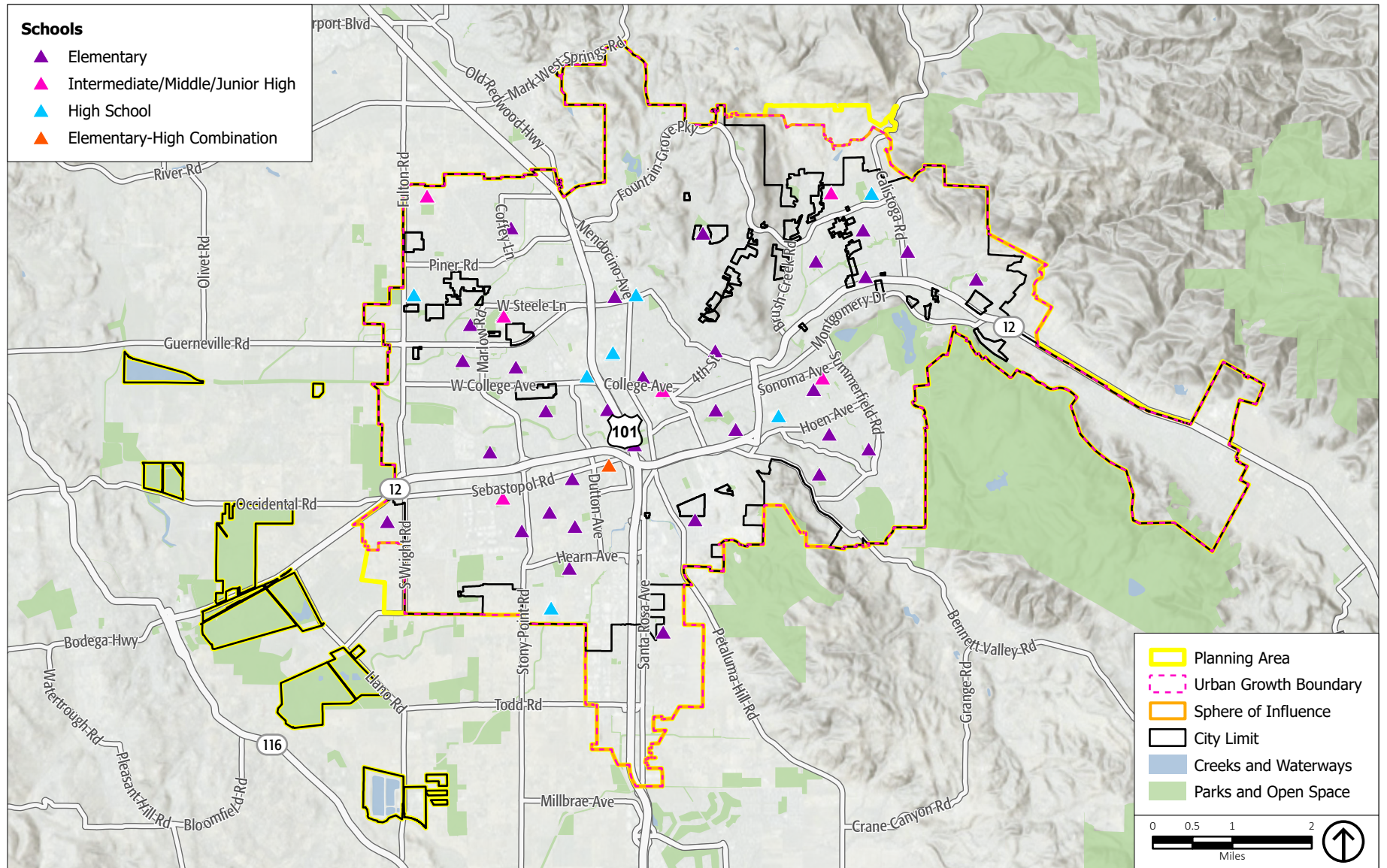
Bellevue Union School District (BUSD) mainly serves students who reside in south Santa Rosa and consists of four elementary schools. Geographically, it is one of the largest elementary school districts in Sonoma County. BUSD reported 1,612 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year. Enrollment and capacity for each school is shown in Table 4.14-2, *Bellevue Union School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*; all schools are currently operating below capacity.

TABLE 4.14-2 BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Bellevue Elementary School (K-6)	3223 Primrose Avenue	426	500	85%
Kawana Elementary School (K-6)	2121 Moraga Drive	334	375	89%
Meadow View Elementary School (K-6)	2665 Dutton Meadow Avenue	411	500	82%
Lorena Falasco Elementary School (K-6)	1210 Bellevue Avenue	441	500	88%
Total Bellevue Union School Students		1,612	1,875	86%

Source: Alexander, David (Superintendent, Bellevue Union School District), 2020, July 27. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

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Source: Cal OES, 2021; ESRI, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2024.

Figure 4.14-2
Schools in the EIR Study Area

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Projected Enrollment

Overall, enrollment in BUSD is projected to slightly decline over the next few years. Given the current uncertainty around what that academic programming will entail and the resulting impacts on enrollment, the BUSD set a continued baseline enrollment decline of 30 students per academic year, continuing prior trends into the 2020/2021 fiscal year. BUSD has approximately 180 employees, which are reportedly adequate to meet the demands for district services. Average daily attendance is also projected to drop in proportion to the projected enrollment decrease. With enrollment projected to minimally decrease for these schools, they will continue to operate below capacity.

Budget

Overall, BUSD reports inadequate funding for provision of district services. Recovery from the pandemic is uncertain at this time, and economic impacts are not fully realized. It is anticipated that school districts and the State will recover in the long-term from this unprecedented setback, and upon analysis of the State's budget revisions, BUSD has opted to hold revenue projections static with regular-year projections while anticipating the need for future adjustments. The most substantial impact to BUSD revenue projections are the deferments in apportionments by the State in subsequent fiscal years. For the 2019/2020 fiscal year, BUSD has anticipated a 20-percent increase in operating expenditures to anticipate costs related to COVID-19. With this adjustment, there is a budget deficit of \$24 million for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

Revenue is anticipated to come from the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), federal revenue, State revenue, and local revenue.⁷ Property tax revenue, enrollment rates, attendance rates, and cost-of-living changes that contribute to these revenue sources are anticipated to be lower for the next few years. BUSD anticipates needing to dip into reserves but presumes full budget recovery within a few years. In addition, BUSD shares a portion of developer fees with Santa Rosa City School District (SRCSD); the developer fee arrangement between the two school districts are currently 70 percent for BUSD and 30 percent for the high school component of SRCSD. Based on this arrangement and the total fees, the developer fee for BUSD is \$2.65 per square feet for residential construction and \$0.43 per square feet for commercial/industrial construction.

Planned Improvements

BUSD does not have plans to construct new school facilities or expand existing facilities, though it reports existing facility deficiencies. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, BUSD had minor improvements planned for each school, including, but not limited to, updates to exterior surfaces for school beautification, complete structural repairs, playground improvements, and landscape irrigation improvements and grass leveling on physical education (PE) fields. In addition, BUSD planned to construct a new kitchen at Kawana

⁷ The LCFF, enacted through legislation in 2013, is California's school funding formula and establishes uniform grade span grants, replacing previous K–12 funding streams. The LCFF source derives approximately 70 percent from local property taxes and 30 percent from State tax revenues. The 30 percent State tax revenues are referred to as State Aid LCFF revenue, which only some districts receive based on whether local property taxes are high enough to meet the State-minimum level of funding for school districts.

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Elementary School. Given the change to the economic outlook, BUSD is currently planning to “do more with less” and has delayed nonessential and discretionary expenditures. BUSD plans to develop a priority “add-back” list as the budget recovers, at which time, the nonessential planned improvements will be revisited.

Bennet Valley School District

Bennett Valley School District (BVSD) serves students who reside in southeast Santa Rosa, nestled in quiet residential neighborhoods. BVSD consists of two elementary schools with a preschool housed within one of the campuses. Table 4.14-3, *Bennett Valley School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each school.

TABLE 4.14-3 BENNETT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Yulupa Elementary School (K-3)	2250 Mesquite Drive	610	620	98%
Strawberry Elementary School (4-6)	2311 Horseshoe Drive	405	420	96%
Total Bennett Valley School Students		1,015	1,040	98%

Source: Field, Sue (Superintendent, Bennett Valley School District), 2020, July 21. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

BVSD reported 1,015 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year. As shown in Table 4.14-3, both schools are currently operating close to full capacity.

Yulupa Elementary serves kindergarten through third grade students and offers an on-site preschool. The preschool has been run by the Community Child Care Council as part of the Bennett Valley Child Development Center. Strawberry Elementary serves fourth through sixth graders. Both schools have on-site childcare run by the YMCA.

Projected Enrollment

About half of the students in BVSD attend using an inter-district transfer. As a result, BVSD maintains stable enrollment, and this is expected to remain the same over time.

Budget

Of all school districts analyzed, BVSD has the lowest total revenue and lowest total expenditures per average daily attendance. BVSD notes that about 30 percent of their students come from low-income and/or non-English-speaking households and/or are in foster care. These students make the school eligible for additional State and federal revenue, but this percentage is relatively low compared to other districts. Therefore, BVSD does not qualify for much in federal income or most grants, which cater to districts with pupils from low-income households.

BVSD has a considerable number of special education students, which are notably the most expensive students to educate. As a basic aid district, BVSD does not receive property tax revenue above its State revenue allocation, unlike other nearby school districts, because BVSD’s local property taxes exceed the

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State-established threshold. Approximately 90 percent of BVSD’s revenue is determined by the State and State revenues are determined by the economy.

Planned Improvements

BVSD does not have plans to construct new school facilities or expand existing facilities.

Kenwood School District

Kenwood School District (KSD) is a one-school district serving Santa Rosa students in kindergarten through sixth grade. There is also an accompanying preschool and after-school center adjacent to the campus. Table 4.14-4, *Kenwood School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of the KSD school.

TABLE 4.14-4 KENWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Kenwood Elementary School (K-6)	230 Randolph Avenue	137	160	86%
<i>Total Kenwood School Students</i>		137	160	86%

Source: Bogart, Suzanne (School Secretary, Kenwood School District), 2020, August 20. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

KSD reported 137 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year. As shown in Table 4.14-4, the school is currently operating below capacity. Each class has one dedicated teacher and an instructional aide to support the teacher during focused instructional time.

Projected Enrollment

Enrollment is anticipated to decline slightly over time due to projected reductions. For the 2020/2021 school year, KSD expects to have one class for each grade level with 140 students total. By the 2023 to 2024 school year, enrollment is anticipated to drop to 138 students. KSD’s projected enrollment is consistent with historic projections over time.

Budget

KSD acknowledges that State revenue has fallen drastically due to shelter-in-place orders, which will likely result in funding cuts to schools across the state. For the 2020/2021 fiscal year, KSD had a budget of \$442,067. As the 2020/2021 fiscal year unfolds, staff will update the budget but KSD’s current revenues and reserves are projected to be sufficient to cover anticipated expenses for the next four fiscal years. KSD no longer collects a mitigation fee for new or expanded construction within school district boundaries like most other school districts. Existing monies in this fund are slated for expansion or improvement of school facilities in the event of increased residential student enrollment.

Planned Improvements

KSD does not have plans to expand or implement major improvements to existing facilities.

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Piner–Olivet School District

Piner–Olivet School District (POSD) serves students who reside in northwest Santa Rosa, south of the Charles M. Schulz–Sonoma County Airport and north of the city limits. POSD consists of three elementary schools and two secondary schools, with all but one elementary school operating as a charter school. Table 4.14-5, *Piner-Olivet School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each school.

TABLE 4.14-5 PINER-OLIVET SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Jack London Elementary School (K-6)	2707 Francisco Avenue	261	400	65%
Olivet Elementary Charter School (K-6 Charter)	1825 Willowside Road	338	470	72%
Schaefer Charter School (K-6, Charter)	1370 San Miguel Avenue	347	600	58%
Northwest Prep Charter School (K-6, Charter)	2590B Piner Road	109	550	20%
Piner-Olivet Charter School (7-8, Charter)	2707 Francisco Avenue	210	210	100%
Total Piner-Olivet School Students		1,265	2,230	57%

Note: Enrollment estimates are for the 2019 to 2020 school year, while capacity estimates were obtained most recently in 2017. Sources: Koha, Felicia (Chief Business Official, Piner-Olivet Union School District), 2020, July 28. Personal communication with PlaceWorks. Piner-Olivet 2017 Facility Master Plan, http://www.pousd.org/uploads/1/2/6/4/12649520/governing_board_packet_for__august_2_2017__2_.pdf, accessed July 23, 2020.

POSD reported 1,265 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year; all schools are currently operating below or near capacity. Existing staff levels are at approximately 135 people and are sufficient to meet current demands.

Projected Enrollment

POSD total enrollment is expected to increase this year and then gradually decline through 2026 due to a low number of births in the district boundaries, student migration patterns, and residential development patterns. Therefore, enrollment is anticipated to decline to 1,415 in the 2026 to 2027 school year. Despite these projected enrollment decreases, POSD schools are generally experiencing capacity deficits. POSD’s 2017 Facility Master Plan identifies solutions to provide appropriate facilities for its students into the future.

Budget

POSD reports a lack of funding to meet annual automatic increases to salaries, benefits, retirement funds and pensions, utility costs, and more. Over the years, POSD reports that their budget has been impacted by increasing costs and declining enrollment resulting in current and projected deficit spending. The economic uncertainty induced by the COVID-19 pandemic will also impact the budget, and \$1.9 million in expenditure cuts over the next three years will balance budget deficits anticipated in the 2020/2021 fiscal year. Reductions have been attained through a targeted hiring freeze; reduced music, PE, after school

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sports, software, and library programs; field trip postponement; supplies reductions; and diversion of fees from the Deferred Maintenance Fund. In addition, POSD reported an unanticipated influx in Basic Aid Supplemental Revenue from the 2019 to 2020 school year, which will help offset expenditure reductions required to align with projected revenues. Therefore, the budget total for the 2020/2021 school year is approximately \$13.6 million, down from the \$14.9 million expended in the 2019 to 2020 school year.

POSD is supported by Measure L as approved by voters in 2010 to issue \$20 million in General Obligation bonds over time. The bond supports academic achievement, General Fund sustainability, and the school sites by improving their appearance and functionality. In addition, POSD collects developer fees to assist in funding facility needs at its sites.

Planned Improvements

Given the current funding constraints exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, POSD does not have near-term plans to expand or implement major improvements to existing facilities. However, the 2017 Facility Master Plan identified the following improvements to meet the needs of twenty-first century curriculum requirements over the next 10 years:

- Replace portable classrooms over 20 years old with permanent structures as funding becomes available.
- Relocate the Piner-Olivet Charter School to create a less-crowded environment on the site currently shared with Jack London Elementary School.
- Consider, develop, and adopt educational specifications for all school sites.
- Explore joint-use projects with community groups and organizations, city government agencies, and other resources.

Rincon Valley Unified School District

The Rincon Valley Unified School District (RVUSD) is in the eastern part of Santa Rosa and is made up of eight elementary schools and one charter school for seventh and eighth grade students housed on two campuses. In the 2019 to 2020 school year, RVUSD had 3,241 students from transitional kindergarten through eighth grade. Table 4.14-6, *Rincon Valley Unified School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each school. As shown, the total enrollment for RVUSD schools that serve Santa Rosa in the 2019 to 2020 school year is 3,075; all schools are currently operating below capacity.

TABLE 4.14-6 RINCON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Austin Creek Elementary School (K-6)	1480 Snowy Egret Drive	379	432	88%
Binkley Elementary Charter School (K-6, Charter)	4965 Canyon Drive	372	432	86%
Madrone Elementary School (K-6)	4550 Rinconada Drive	411	451	91%
Matanzas Elementary Charter School (4-6, Charter)	1687 Yulupa Avenue	191	290	66%
Spring Creek Elementary Charter (K-3, Charter)	4675 Mayette Avenue	258	330	78%

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TABLE 4.14-6 RINCON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Rincon Valley Charter School – Matanzas Campus (7-8, Charter)	1687 Yulupa Avenue	171	180	95%
Rincon Valley Charter School – Sequoia Campus (7-8, Charter)	5305 Dupont Drive	148	180	82%
Sequoia Elementary School (K-6)	5305 Dupont Drive	435	504	86%
Village Elementary Charter (K-6, Charter)	900-1000 Yulupa Avenue	349	430	81%
Douglas L. Whited Elementary Charter (K-6, Charter)	4995 Sonoma Highway	361	425	85%
Total Rincon Valley Unified School District Students		3,075	3,654	84%

Source: Mendenhall, Cindy (Assistant to the Superintendent, Rincon Valley Unified School District), 2020, July 31. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

RVUSD operates 10 school programs on eight campuses, and seven programs are organized as district-operated charter schools. RVUSD has 400 employees and reports that this is adequate. Each school is provided with a site administrator, an office manager, office support staff, a bilingual family liaison, a support coordinator to manage intervention programs, a dedicated counselor, and a counselor intern. In addition to the physical classes, RVUSD offers home school. For the 2020/2021 school year, the enrollment for home school was at capacity at 145 students.

Projected Enrollment

As established in 2016, the elementary school student generation rate for RVUSD is 0.187 students and 0.016 students per housing unit for elementary and secondary schools, respectively. However, devastation from the 2017 Tubbs Fire increased housing prices and instigated a familial migration out of the RVUSD boundaries. Enrollment has decreased by approximately 15 percent from the 2014 to 2015 school year to the 2019 to 2020 school year, and this trend is anticipated to continue.

Budget

The RVUSD adopted budget for the 2019 to 2020 school year is over \$39 million, which provides resources to educate; transport; provide food service, day care, and other ancillary programs; and build new, and maintain and modernize existing, facilities. RVUSD charges a parcel tax, renewed in 2018, of \$99 per parcel with an annual increase of \$3. RVUSD also collects development impact fees, which fund improvements and new facilities to mitigate impacts from new development. RVUSD collects developer fees of \$2.84 per square foot for residential and \$0.46 per square foot for commercial development.

With a trend of declining student enrollment, RVUSD finances are expected to become unsustainable in the short-term future due to losing millions of dollars in State funding. Therefore, RVUSD is identifying feasible options to ensure that solutions to reaching financial stability are implemented in a manner with the least impact to students. Some options include reconfiguration of campuses, as discussed below.

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Planned Improvements

Due to declining school enrollment trends, RVUSD is seeking two potential campus reconfigurations to minimize costs of school programs across various sites while maintaining student quality of life. The potential reconfigurations would either expand Spring Creek Elementary School to accommodate students in grades four through six, or merge the two existing secondary schools into one larger campus. The Matanzas Campus students would be moved to Spring Creek Elementary School, with facility modifications, if the first option is chosen. The Matanzas Campus of Rincon Valley Charter School would be expanded to accommodate Sequoia Campus students if the middle schools were merged. Upon analysis and school reconfiguration, student body transitions would occur gradually over time to ensure the community is preserved and maintained.

In addition, RVUSD recently purchased a parcel of land, termed the Oak Park property, in anticipation of rising land costs and future expansion needs. While RVUSD does not currently need to develop additional sites, purchase of a large land site in 15 to 25 years would be financially infeasible. The Oak Park property will serve as a long-term investment in school district expansion. If enrollment continues to decline over the next decade, RVUSD would consider selling the property rather than develop a new school. There are no plans to construct new school facilities to accommodate additional enrollment at this time.

Roseland School District

Roseland School District (RSD) is in the southwest area of the city in the Roseland neighborhood. This school district consists of six schools, although one was relocated outside school district boundaries in 2017. Table 4.14-7, *Roseland School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each RSD school.

TABLE 4.14-7 ROSELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Roseland Creek Elementary School (K-6)	1683 Burbank Avenue	490 ^a	800	61%
Roseland Elementary School (PK-6)	950 Sebastopol Road	575	850	68%
Sheppard Elementary School (K-6)	1777 West Avenue	600	700	86%
Roseland Accelerated Middle School (7-8, Charter)	1777 West Avenue	360 ¹	360	100%
Roseland Collegiate Preparatory School ^b (7-12, Charter)	90 Ursuline Road	400	500	80%
Roseland University Prep (9-12, Charter)	1931 Biwana Drive	490	490	100%
<i>Total Roseland School District Students</i>		<i>2,915</i>	<i>3,700</i>	<i>79%</i>

Notes:

a. Beginning in September 2020, a new middle school is being constructed on the Roseland Creek Elementary School Campus to house all students currently at Roseland Accelerated Middle School. At full build-out, the Roseland Creek Elementary School/Roseland Accelerated Middle School Campus will have approximately 840 enrolled students, accommodated through new and expanded facilities.

b. This school campus moved to a new location outside the RSD boundaries starting in the 2019 to 2020 school year. This school is still considered part of the district despite relocation, so it is included in the table.

Source: Jones-Kerr, Amy (Superintendent, Roseland School District), 2020, July 27. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

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RSD reported 2,915 students enrolled for the 2020/2021 school year. Most schools are currently operating below capacity; both Roseland Accelerated Middle School and Roseland University Prep are at full capacity.

RSD is currently constructing new facilities at Roseland Creek Elementary School to transition the Roseland Accelerated Middle School students to a new, expanded campus. Roseland University Prep's campus was completed in 2017, and the school has adequate facilities to meet student demand at capacity. RSD reports that Roseland Elementary School and Sheppard Elementary School each have some empty portable classrooms, but the portables are old. The Roseland Collegiate Preparatory School campus, located outside the school district boundary but considered part of RSD, was partially damaged in the 2017 Tubbs Fire, and students were subsequently relocated to a temporary campus. Following renovations, the campus re-opened for the 2019 to 2020 school year.

RSD has a staff of over 250 employees. RSD reports utilizing existing staffing levels to their full capacity, but that it would benefit from more staff to enhance efforts at each school.

Projected Enrollment

RSD has declining enrollment, reflecting the regional trend. However, residential development is being constructed throughout the district, which may affect student enrollment rates in future years. RSD has not completed a demographic study to project enrollment trends in over three years and the most recent study was not indicative of significant trends.

Budget

In the 2018 to 2019 school year, RSD had close to \$35 million in revenue and \$32 million in expenditures. When compared to total enrollment, RSD expends \$23,769 per average daily attendance, which is relatively high per student and indicates that students have more resources for school success. RSD passed Measure D in 2019 to authorize \$9.4 million in bonds for the modernization and renovation of facilities, replacement or repair of roofs, land acquisition, and health and safety improvements. RSD's board is interested in purchasing additional property to plan for potential increased enrollment due to many housing developments under construction nearby. RSD reports many facility needs that will exhaust these funds quickly.

Planned Improvements

In recent years, RSD has constructed a new District Office building; a new award-winning high school facility at Roseland University Prep; a new preschool at Roseland Elementary School; and a relatively new (2012) elementary school, Roseland Creek Elementary. RSD commenced construction on a new facility for Roseland Accelerated Middle School (RAMS) in September 2020. In addition, RSD purchased the former Ursuline High School campus at 80 Ursuline Road to serve as the new Roseland Collegiate Prep campus, but it was severely damaged during the 2017 Tubbs Fire. The school was repaired and reopened for the 2019 to 2020 school year, but it needs additional improvements. RSD needs a second gymnasium for secondary students, reporting that over 1,300 middle school and high school students currently share one gym on the former Ursuline campus as the second gym was destroyed in the 2017 Tubbs Fire. During

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construction of the new secondary school on the Roseland Creek Campus, plans for a new gym were removed due to high construction costs. RSD is in the early stages of siting a large field for physical education and sports. RSD has plans for a new gym and preliminary interest in a new field but does not yet have the funding to carry them out.

Sheppard Elementary School and Roseland Elementary School both have aging portable classrooms. There is not adequate funding currently to replace or rebuild old portables, despite reports of deterioration. While RSD would like to construct additions to existing buildings, rather than repair portables, they are open to the replacement of portables as feasible to accommodate students.

Santa Rosa City School District

SRCS D includes 14 elementary schools, including four charter schools. SRCS D also includes five middle schools, five high schools, and continuing education schools. Table 4.14-8, *Santa Rosa City School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each school.

TABLE 4.14-8 SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Abraham Lincoln Elementary School (K-6)	850 West Ninth Street	299	458	65%
Albert F. Biella Elementary School (K-6)	2140 Jennings Avenue	328	517	63%
Brook Hill Elementary School (K-6)	1850 Vallejo Street	390	525	74%
Helen Lehman Elementary School (K-6)	1700 Jennings Avenue	503	618	81%
Hidden Valley Elementary School (K-6)	3435 Bonita Vista Lane	522	624	84%
James Monroe Elementary School (K-6)	2567 Marlow Road	390	517	75%
Luther Burbank Elementary School (K-6)	203 A Street	311	480	65%
Proctor Terrace Elementary School (K-6)	1711 Bryden Lane	395	506	78%
Steele Lane Elementary School (K-6)	301 Steele Lane	400	541	74%
Herbert Slater Middle School (7-8)	3500 Sonoma Avenue	702	787	89%
Hilliard Comstock Middle School (7-8)	2750 West Steele Lane	402	521	77%
Lawrence Cook Middle School (7-8)	2480 Sebastopol Road	406	659	62%
Rincon Valley Middle School (7-8)	4650 Badger Road	788	921	86%
Santa Rosa Middle School (7-8)	500 E Street	550	741	74%
Elsie Allen High School (9-12)	599 Bellevue Avenue	1,020	1,390	73%
Maria Carrillo High School (9-12)	6975 Montecito Boulevard	1,460	1,540	95%
Montgomery High School (9-12)	1250 Hahman Drive	1,675	1,853	90%
Piner High School (9-12)	1700 Fulton Drive	1,375	1,401	98%
Ridgway High School (Continuation) (9-12)	325 Ridgway Avenue	268	268	100%
Santa Rosa High School (9-12)	1235 Mendocino Avenue	1,900	1,909	100%

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TABLE 4.14-8 SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School (5-6, Charter)	4650 Badger Road	128	128	100%
Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts (K-8, Charter)	2230 Lomitas Avenue	408	448	91%
Santa Rosa French-American Charter School (K-6, Charter)	1350 Sonoma Avenue	489	517	95%
Cesar Chavez Language School (K-1, Charter)	2480 Sebastopol Road	461	492	94%
<i>Total Santa Rosa City School Students</i>		15,570	18,061	85%

Source: Edson, Rick (Deputy Superintendent, Santa Rosa City School District), 2020, July 27. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

In the 2019 to 2020 school year, the elementary schools had a total of 5,024 elementary school students from kindergarten through eighth grade. In the 2019 to 2020 school year, the high schools had a total of 14,323 high school students from ninth to twelfth grade. SRCSD employs approximately 975 certificated employees and 650 classified employees.

Projected Enrollment

SRCSD projects the number of students generated per household at 0.147 students per household for kindergarten through sixth grade and a seventh through twelfth grade rate of 0.148 students per household.

SRCSD updated their Facilities Master Plan (FMP) in 2016, which plans for sufficient facility capacity for projected enrollment through 2025. The FMP anticipated that total SRCSD enrollment would rise from 11,138 in the 2015 to 2016 school year to 11,817 in the 2025 to 2026 school year. However, trends have reversed since 2016, due in part to the 2017 Tubbs Fire and aftermath, and enrollment has reportedly declined. In addition, SRCSD is projecting an additional 2 percent decrease in annual enrollment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the decrease in enrollment, SRCSD reports a need for certificated teaching staff in the areas of math, science, and special education. SRCSD also needs additional technology support personnel, classroom instructional assistants, and childcare workers to anticipate future student needs.

Budget

For the 2020/2021 school year, SRCSD has a budget of \$185 million, which amounts to over \$13,000 per average daily attendance. Approximately 75 percent of revenue comes from LCFF funding. SRCSD receives State aid because the local property taxes are not high enough to meet the State-minimum level of funding for school districts.

In addition, Measure I and L, general obligation bonds passed in 2014, provide supplementary funding primarily focused on providing warm, safe, and dry school facilities and technology for staff and students. These funds cannot be used for adding personnel in other areas of need. SRCSD collects residential

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developer fees for elementary and secondary schools at a rate of \$3.34 per square foot and \$1.87 per square foot, respectively. If the development is in both the elementary and secondary school district boundaries, future residential developers would be subject to the total fee of \$5.21 per square foot. Commercial development is collected at a rate of \$0.51 per square foot. In addition, SRCSD shares development fees with its feeder elementary school districts. The developer fee arrangement between the school districts assigns 30 percent of fees charged to SRCSD. As of 2018, the developer fee for SRCSD is \$1.14 per square foot for residential construction and \$0.18 per square foot for commercial/industrial construction.

In early 2020, SRCSD devised a deficit plan to erase \$13 million over three years through service reductions and job cuts. Long-term financial implications caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in subsequent months have created a greater need for budget cuts for the indefinite future. As of 2020, the SRCSD anticipates maintaining reserves, but borrowing on a line of credit, allowing temporary transfers of cash between funds, and potentially taking out Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes to manage cash flow during the economic downturn.

Planned Improvements

SRCSD plans to construct a new two-story classroom building at Montgomery High School to replace old and failing portable/modular classrooms. All other construction, at this time, will be for maintenance and upkeep (i.e., roofing and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning [HVAC] repairs). Other school sites need replacement of old, failing buildings/classrooms to address long-standing issues, as identified in the 2016 FMP but not necessarily for expansion purposes.

Wright Elementary School District

Wright Elementary School District (WESD) is in southwest Santa Rosa, west of the Roseland neighborhood. WESD consists of three elementary schools and one preschool provided through Sonoma Community Childcare Council. Table 4.14-9, *Wright Elementary School District Student Enrollment and School Capacity*, lists the name, address, grades served, enrollment, and capacity of each school.

TABLE 4.14-9 WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment	Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Wright Charter School (K-8)	4389 Price Avenue	454	600	76%
Robert L. Stevens School (K-6)	2345 Giffen Avenue	526	600	88%
J.X. Wilson Elementary School (K-6)	246 Brittain Lane	463	600	77%
Wright Start Preschool (PK)	950 South Wright Road	38	600	6%
<i>Total Wright Elementary School District Students</i>		1,481	2,400	62%

Source: Landa, Linda (Personnel Coordinator, Wright Elementary School District), 2020, August 3. Personal communication with PlaceWorks.

WESD reported 1,481 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year. As shown in Table 4.14-9, all schools are currently operating below capacity.

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Projected Enrollment

WESD school enrollment declined by 128 students from the 2013 to 2014 school year to the 2019 to 2020 school year. The charter schools experienced a similar decrease of 76 students since the 2016 to 2017 school year.

Budget

WESD had a budget of approximately \$19 million in the 2019 to 2020 school year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WESD budget has been cut to \$17.3 million for the 2020/2021 school year. Despite reductions, the budget deficit for the 2020/2021 school year is projected at \$1.8 million, primarily due to a 10-percent reduction in LCFF revenue to account for the economic downturn and revenue reductions announced in the Governor’s May Revision. The LCFF revenue accounts for 79 percent of total WESD revenue, signaling major impacts to school facilities, staffing, and resources for the foreseeable future. The multi-year projection shows that WESD will not have reserve minimums required through 2023.

Planned Improvements

All schools have received an “exemplary” ranking of school facility conditions, and few repairs or actions for improvement have been identified. WESD reported that Robert L Stevens School needs a new roof and upgraded HVAC system, and Wright Charter School needs HVAC units in 20 classrooms.

Private Schools

As mentioned previously, there are 27 private schools in Santa Rosa ranging from nursery/preschool to high school. A summary of private schools including name, location, grades instructed, and enrollment for the 2019 to 2020 school year, is shown in Table 4.14-10, *Private Schools Student Enrollment and School Capacity*. Due to the limited information on private schools, only 22 schools are listed in Table 4.14-10.

TABLE 4.14-10 PRIVATE SCHOOLS STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment
Anova Center for Education (K-12)	2911 Cleveland Avenue	91
Bethlehem Children’s Center and Kindergarten (PK-K)	1300 Saint Francis Road	103
Brush Creek Montessori (PK-6)	1569 Brush Creek Road	76
Cardinal Newman High School (9-12)	50 Ursuline Road	624
College Oak Montessori School (PK-K)	1925 W College Avenue	101
Discoveries West (PK-K)	28 Maxwell Court	21
Lattice Educational Services (Nursery/PK)	3273 Airway Drive, Suite A	18
Montessori School Bennett Valley (Nursery/PK)	2810 Summerfield Road	55
New Directions School (6-12)	3650 Standish Avenue	26
New Hope Baptist Church (2-9)	3200 Dutton Avenue, Suite 226	8
New Horizon School and Learning Center (6-12)	827 3rd Street	19
North Valley School (4-12)	3164 Condo Court	51
Rhio’s Casa Dei Bambini Montessori School (Nursery/PK)	2427 Professional Drive	33

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TABLE 4.14-10 PRIVATE SCHOOLS STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CAPACITY

Schools	Address	Enrollment
Rincon School (10-12)	429 Speers Road	5
St. Eugene’s Cathedral School (PK-8)	300 Farmers Lane.	329
St. Luke Preschool (Nursery/PK)	905 Mendocino Avenue	45
St. Michael’s Orthodox (1-8)	1545 Rose Avenue	12
Sierra School of Sonoma County (1-12)	4580 Bennett View Drive	41
Sonoma Academy (9-12)	2500 Farmers Lane	330
Stuart Preparatory School (K-9)	431 Humboldt Street	37
Victory Christian Academy (K-12)	4585 Badger Road	82
Woodside West School (PK-K)	2577 Guerneville Road	48
<i>Total Private School Students</i>		2,155

Source: Privateschoolreview.com, accessed July 20, 2020.

Santa Rosa Junior College

SRJC, established in 1918, offers associate degrees in a variety of fields, as well as other academic programming. The college serves approximately 61,997 students with a main campus in central Santa Rosa and satellite campuses in southwest Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Windsor, and Forestville. Classes are held in the day and evening in a variety of formats, including on-campus and online, to accommodate students’ diverse schedules.

The Santa Rosa Campus of SRJC is at 1501 Mendocino Avenue, north of Downtown Santa Rosa. This campus offers general education courses, job training in computer applications, and training for a variety of vocational programs. In addition to its state-of-the art classroom facilities, laboratories, and conference winning athletic programs, the campus houses a Planetarium, an Art Gallery, Summer Repertory Theatre, and the Jesse Peter Native American Museum.

4.14.3.2 STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Implementation of the proposed project would result in a significant schools impact if it would:

5. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered school facilities, need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
6. In combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative schools impact.

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4.14.3.3 IMPACT DISCUSSION

PS-5 Implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered school facilities, need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

A significant impact would result if, in order for the school districts in Santa Rosa to adequately serve residents in the EIR Study Area, increased school enrollment would require the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing schools, the construction or operation of which would cause significant environmental impacts.

Increased growth over the buildout horizon of the proposed project would cause an increase in the student population over the next approximately 25 years. The projected increase in students across the EIR Study Area would likely be gradual for the duration of the proposed project as more housing units are incrementally added to the EIR Study Area. The school districts that serve the EIR Study Area would continue to collect the development impact fees, which each district has adopted, throughout implementation of the proposed project. Therefore, potential future development would incrementally pay for any needed facility upgrades and expansions, which, pursuant to SB 50, has been deemed sufficient to provide full and complete school facilities mitigation for the impacts from the proposed project, regardless of whether the fees are adequate to fully fund the expansion or construction of needed facilities. Additionally, in the case of proposed subdivisions, which tend to generate families with school-aged children, SRCC Chapter 19-72 requires the subdivider to offer a school site or the payment of fees, or a combination of both, for classroom and related facilities for elementary, intermediate, or high school purposes. Any future construction of new schools would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed, and would also be subject to the mitigation measures contained throughout this Draft EIR to reduce potential environmental impacts.

Chapter 5, *Safety, Climate Resilience, Noise, and Public Services and Facilities*, of proposed General Plan 2050 contains goals, policies, and actions that require local planning and development decisions to consider and mitigate impacts that potential future development could have on school service facilities. The following goal, policy, and actions would serve to reduce impacts to schools and education services in the EIR Study Area:

- **Goal 5-10:** Help provide superior and lifelong educational opportunities for all community members.
 - **Policy 5-10.1:** Continue City/school partnerships to support a safe learning environment and high-quality educational opportunities for all members of the community, especially children, youth, and seniors.

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- **Action 5-10.1:** Work with schools to locate sites and facilities to serve all neighborhoods and the educational needs of all sectors of the population, including:
 - Safe pedestrian and bicycle access and traffic-management planning and traffic-calming measures in the vicinity
 - Attractive design that contributes to neighborhood identity and pride
 - Greening to mitigate extreme heat and provide shaded, vegetated areas that facilitate healthy living, learning, and play
- **Action 5-10.2:** Continue cooperation with providers of higher education to improve accessibility and quality of services.
- **Action 5-10.3:** Partner with schools to use school spaces for community uses, such as local sports activities.
- **Action 5-10.4:** Engage school administrators in conversations regarding new development that could substantially impact student enrollment and the need for additional infrastructure.
- **Action 5-10.5:** Work with school administrators to increase and better coordinate school transit options and ensure that all students have access to high-speed internet.

In addition to the mandatory payment of developer impact fees for new development pursuant to SB 50, the proposed General Plan goal, policy, and action listed work to ensure there are adequate school facilities during the buildout horizon of the proposed General Plan 2050. Future construction of new schools would also be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed and would also be subject to the mitigation measures contained throughout this EIR to reduce potential environmental impacts. Accordingly, impacts to the public-school districts that serve the EIR Study Area would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-6	Implementation of the proposed project would not, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative schools impact.
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As discussed in Chapter 4.0, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR, this cumulative analysis takes into account growth from development in the service area of the school districts in the EIR Study Area. As described under impact discussion PS-5, the proposed project would contribute to an increased population that is served by various school districts. Through the proposed General Plan goal, policy, and actions listed under impact discussion PS-5, the payment of school impact fees, and standard environmental review procedures for future school improvement projects, the proposed project would not result in a significant impact to schools. Payment of school fees and project-level review of school projects to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed would similarly

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reduce potential impacts from cumulative development. Therefore, cumulative impacts related to school facilities would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

4.14.4 LIBRARIES

4.14.4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Framework

State Regulations

Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, Government Code Section 53311 et seq., provides an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services through special taxes. This State law empowers local agencies to establish CFDs to levy special taxes for facilities such as libraries.

California Business and Professions Code, Sections 6300–6363

The California Business and Professions Code, Section 6300 et seq. requires each county have a law library, governed by a board of trustees, to provide free access to legal materials to all persons interested in the law. The collection, services, and operation of county law libraries varies by county. Given the general requirement that county libraries provide the public with access to legal materials, interested persons do not need to be a resident of the county to access the library's services. Sonoma County's law library is in Santa Rosa.

Local Regulations

Santa Rosa City Code

The SRCC includes various directives to minimize adverse impacts to library facilities. The SRCC is organized by title, chapter, and section, and in some cases, articles. Provisions related to community services are in Title 19, *Subdivisions*, as follows:

- **Chapter 19-60, *Reservations of Land*.** This chapter states as a condition of tentative map approval, the subdivider shall reserve sites, appropriate in area and location, for parks, recreational facilities, fire stations, libraries, or other public uses according to the standards and formula contained in Section 19-60.020, *Standards and formula for reservation*. The reserved area must be of such size and shape as to permit the balance of the property within which the reservation is located to develop in an orderly and efficient manner.
- **City Charter, Section 33, *Public Library*.** This section establishes the City's right to provide a free public library through a joint-powers agreement with other public entities.

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Existing Conditions

Sonoma County Library

The Sonoma County Library (SCL) consists of the Central Library, which includes 10 branches, 2 rural stations, and 1 temporary site to serve the population of Sonoma County. It also encompasses three special collections: the Sonoma County Wine Library, the History and Genealogy Annex, and the Petaluma History Room. Of these locations, four are in the EIR Study Area: Central Library, Northwest Santa Rosa Library, Rincon Valley Library, and Roseland Community Library. In 2015, SCL served almost two million visitors; circulated more than 3.5 million books, audiobooks, DVDs, and electronic resources; and answered over 250,000 reference questions.

SCL facilities are critical to supporting public education, supplementing local school library resources, and providing access to a digital branch that provides 24-hour access to resources and information with chat, text, and email reference services. SCL provides access to the internet for members of the public, including those who may lack those resources at home. SCL completed a Facilities Master Plan in 2016 that recommends specific projects for each library, prioritizing projects based on the number of improvements needed per facility. Northwest Santa Rosa Library and Roseland Library are both ranked as high-priority locations. Northwest Santa Rosa Library needs to be brought into compliance with current building code and ADA requirements, in addition to needing an interior and exterior library refresh and building system replacements. Roseland Library, which has been operating on a temporary site, is set to be relocated to a permanent space in the same neighborhood in 2021 and will require a renovation to provide adequate services in its new location. Central Library has improvements ranked at a medium priority, but its improvements will require replacing or relocating the existing facility. Rincon Valley Library improvements are identified as a low priority.

The 2015 to 2020 Strategic Plan guides the vision of the SCL system. The five goals of the current Strategic Plan focus on outstanding customer experience, education and discovery, innovation, community engagement, and financial sustainability. SCL's top priority is to meet the needs of all residents with an outstanding, personalized service in a welcoming space.

SCL employs approximately 200 people in public service and support functions across all branches. Staffing levels support current demands for library services. SCL reports that hiring and recruiting new staff is challenging due to the high cost of living and specialized skills required, and they anticipate future hiring and staffing challenges due to demographic shifts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SCL is funded primarily through property taxes, using a formula set in 1978 through Proposition 13 implementation. SCL does not assess developer impact fees. In 2016, a super majority of Sonoma County voters passed Measure Y to provide SCL with an additional funding source by increasing sales taxes by an eighth of a cent. Due to economic impacts from COVID-19, library funding will likely be diminished in the coming years, regardless of consistent operations and maintenance cost increases. Overall, SCL anticipates a 10 to 15 percent reduction in revenue for at least two fiscal years with full recovery long-term. SCL will continue to follow sound financial practices, improve work processes for greater efficiency, and grow community-based fundraising to support ongoing viability – with a goal of addressing the need to restore lost hours and services and prevent further funding cuts.

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Santa Rosa Junior College Library

SRJC offers library services at the Frank P. Doyle Library on its Santa Rosa campus. The four-story facility has amenities including a Media Service, Tutorial Center, the Robert F. Agrella Art Gallery, Research Desk, and Tech Gear Desk. Completed in 2006, the library offers over 99,000 square feet of space with 1,045 seats for students, wireless technology, 280 computer workstations, a laptop checkout program, and other features. While these services are reserved primarily for students, SRJC has a prominent role and impact in the Santa Rosa community, and relatively low barriers to entry to become an SRJC student suggest that many community members can access these resources if so desired.

Sonoma County Law Library

The Sonoma County Law Library (SCLL) is a State government agency, separate from Sonoma County government. Sonoma County is required by statute to provide the law library space, utilities, and maintenance. SCLL is a public library and is mandated to provide public access to legal materials. Under the current 2018 to 2023 Strategic Plan, it is governed by a Board of Trustees, and committed to broadening their staffing, services, and collections to better meet the needs of ethnic minorities, seniors, low-income households, homeless individuals, and other special populations of the community in the coming years.

SCLL estimates that approximately half of library users are not attorneys, as SCLL provides vital resources for county residents seeking legal information. The library offers a collection of over 26,000 books, CDs, and other material with one full-time director and one part-time library technician. Public use of the library currently averages 43 patrons per week, and legal professional use averages 51 patrons per week. Public use of the library has increased since the late 1990s in response to the cost and complexity of legal representation. The library intends to increase visibility in the Santa Rosa community with strategies including hosting a Lawyers in the Library program, partnering with local legal advocacy organizations, expanding outreach to community groups and schools, and providing law library information to SCL, county agencies, local courts, and more.

SCLL is funded mainly through civil filing fees, and it does not receive General Fund revenue from the City or County. The long-term viability of the library is uncertain due to financial constraints. Filing fee revenue is declining statewide due to legal trends, and the State is currently exploring alternative funding sources, such as revenue from criminal cases, small-claims court filings, or property tax revenue.

4.14.4.2 STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Implementation of the proposed project would result in a significant impact to libraries if it would:

7. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered library facilities, need for new or physically altered library facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
8. In combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative libraries impact.

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4.14.4.3 IMPACT DISCUSSION

PS-7 Implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered library facilities, need for new or physically altered library facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

A significant impact would result if, in order for the library system to adequately serve the city, increased demand in the EIR Study Area would require the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing library facilities, the construction or operation of which would cause significant environmental impacts. It is projected that by 2050, the horizon year of the proposed project, 24,090 new housing units would be developed, and the population would increase by 65,760 new residents. New residents would utilize library services, which could impact library facilities.

Chapter 5, *Safety, Climate Resilience, Noise, and Public Services and Facilities*, of proposed General Plan 2050 contains goals, policies, and actions that require local planning and development decisions to consider and mitigate impacts that potential future development could have on library facilities. The following goal, policy, and actions would serve to reduce impacts to library facilities and services in the EIR Study Area:

- **Goal 5-10:** Help provide superior and lifelong educational opportunities for all community members.
 - **Policy 5-10.2:** Support the ability of physical library facilities and online platforms to meet the needs of the community.
 - **Action 5-10.6:** Continue to work with County library officials to provide a wide range of library services through a strong central facility plus local branches that equitably serve a growing and diverse population.
 - **Action 5-10.7:** Support the development of additional library facilities, especially where needed to serve Equity Priority Populations, and assist the library administration in attempts to secure State and federal funds for facilities and services.

Based on the increased projected buildout and population growth of Santa Rosa by 2050, SCL branches located within the EIR Study Area would likely need to expand to accommodate potential new users. As discussed in Section 4.14.4.1, *Environmental Setting*, both Northwest Santa Rosa Library and Roseland Library are ranked as high-priority locations for improvement. Future construction of new libraries would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures as needed and would also be subject to the mitigation measures contained throughout this EIR to reduce potential environmental impacts.

It is expected that new growth under the proposed project would most likely occur incrementally over the next approximately 25 years and not all at once. The potential need for future library facility expansions would be assessed as development occurs. Adherence to the proposed General Plan 2050 goal, policy,

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and actions listed, as well as mitigation measures for potential future development under the proposed project included throughout this EIR, would ensure that there is a *less-than-significant* impact relating to the provision of new or physically altered library facilities.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-8 Implementation of the proposed project would not, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative libraries impact.

As discussed in Chapter 4.0, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR, this EIR takes into account growth from potential future development under the proposed project in the city combined with the estimated growth in the service areas of each service provider. As described in Section 4.14.4.1, *Environmental Setting*, SCL has branches throughout Sonoma County, including four branches in the EIR Study Area. New development in the EIR Study Area would be served by SCL from the existing library services throughout Sonoma County and in Santa Rosa, including online services. Similar to development in Santa Rosa, the Sonoma County General Plan has a number of policies and programs that would help limit potential impacts related to the construction of needed County Library facilities. Similar growth in incorporated cities throughout the county would also be subject to their own local policies for ensuring a reduction of impacts to library facilities. For potential future development in Santa Rosa, compliance with the proposed General Plan 2050 goal, policy, and actions listed under impact discussion PS-7 would ensure that library services are adequate to serve the EIR Study Area. With adequate planning in place in both the city and the unincorporated Sonoma County service area, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact to library services and cumulative impacts would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

4.14.5 PARKS AND RECREATION

4.14.5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Framework

State Regulations

The Quimby Act

The Quimby Act of 1975 authorizes cities and counties to pass ordinances requiring developers of residential projects to set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. The Quimby Act sets a standard park space to population ratio of up to 3 acres of park space per 1,000 persons. Cities with a ratio of higher than 3 acres per 1,000 persons can set a standard of up to 5 acres per 1,000 persons for new development. The calculation of a city's park space to population ratio is based on a comparison of the population count of the last federal census to the amount of City-owned parkland. A 1982 amendment (AB 1600) requires agencies to clearly show a reasonable relationship between the

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public need for a recreation facility or park land, and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed.⁸

Public Resources Code

The State Public Park Preservation Act (Public Resources Code, Sections 5400 to 5409) is the primary instrument for protecting and preserving parkland in California. Under the act, cities and counties may not acquire any real property that is in use as a public park for any nonpark use unless compensation or land or both are provided to replace the parkland. This ensures no net loss of parkland and facilities.

Public Resources Code Section 5076 requires counties and cities to consider trail-oriented recreational use demands in developing specific open space programs during the development of a general plan. Cities are also required to consider the feasibility of integrating their trail routes with appropriate segments of the state system.

Local Regulations

Santa Rosa City Code

The SRCC includes various directives to minimize adverse impacts to parks and recreational facilities. The SRCC is organized by title, chapter, and section, and in some cases, articles. Most provisions of the SRCC related to park and recreational facilities are in Title 11, *Vehicles and Traffic*; Title 13, *Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places*; and Title 19, *Subdivisions*, as follows:

- **Chapter 11-46, *City Parks*.** This chapter outlines park user fees, metered parking, and unlawful meter practices. Section 11-46.030, *Park user fees*, requires City Council to establish park user fees by resolution. Section 11-46.050, *Park user fees and permits*, allows the Director of Recreation and Parks to establish rules and regulations for use of park permits and collect park fees in accordance with the fee schedule established by City Council.
- **Chapter 13-24, *Parks*.** This chapter goes over the regulations that are associated with recreational activities in parks as well as specific motor vehicle regulations and collecting money for Doyle Park. Article I outlines regulations such as using bodies of water in parks, camping, and equestrian uses. Article II goes into depth about the types of motor vehicles allowed into parks. Article III describes how money received by the City from the trustee of the late Frank P. Doyle will only be used for park improvements associated with Doyle Park.
- **Chapter 19-60, *Reservations of Land*.** This chapter states as a condition of tentative map approval, the subdivider shall reserve sites, appropriate in area and location, for parks, recreational facilities, fire stations, libraries, or other public uses according to the standards and formula contained in Section 19-60.020, *Standards and formula for reservation*. The reserved area must be of such size and shape as to permit the balance of the property within which the reservation is located to develop in an orderly and efficient manner.

⁸ State of California, 2022. California Legislative Information, Assembly Bill No. 1191.
https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1191, accessed March 15, 2022.

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- **Chapter 19-70, *Park and Recreation Land and Fees*.** This chapter outlines the requirements for the dedication of land or payment of fees for park and recreational services and land for public right-of-access. Under Section 19-70.030, *Park acreage standard*, the standard of 6.0 acres of property per 1,000 people was set and accounts for park land and park development, usable open space, and school recreational land. Under Section 19-70.090, *Requirement, formula for park impact fees*, a fee shall be paid for park development by the developer of each new dwelling unit irrespective of whether the developer is required to dedicate land or pay fees in lieu of land dedication. This fee shall be used to pay for improvements, including landscaping and installation of recreational facilities. The fee shall be determined by the residential formula listed under Section 19-70.040, *Formula for dedication of land*, which is based on the goal of 6 acres per 1,000 persons. When a fee is to be paid in lieu of land dedication, the amount of the fee shall be based on the fair-market value of the amount of land which would otherwise be required by dedication pursuant to Section 19-70.040, plus 20 percent toward costs of off-site improvements, such as extension of utility lines. The formula is the number of dwelling units multiplied by the population per dwelling units plus 20 percent.

Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks Business and Strategic Action Plan

The 2008 Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks Business and Strategic Action Plan was adopted to identify and assess current and anticipated parks and recreation needs. The plan establishes parkland needs and priorities, provides practical and strategic direction for meeting these needs, and prepares a financial plan for the financing and funding of parks and recreation. This plan outlines several goals that are relevant to the proposed project:

- **Goal 1- Park Development Standards**
 - **Strategy 1.2:** Pursuant to the General Plan, apply the standard of six acres of parkland per 1,000 residents to all development projects and ensure the following allocation is met:
 - 3.5 acres of parkland designated as city parks,
 - 1.4 acres of parkland as accessible school recreational land, and
 - 1.1 acres of public-serving open space.
 - **Strategy 1.3:** Redefine access to park and public spaces for all residents to meet the following:
 - Within 0.25 mile to public plazas and gathering spaces,
 - Within 0.50 mile to neighborhood parks, and
 - Within 1 mile to community parks.
- **Goal 4- Facilities**
 - **Strategy 4.2:** Continue ongoing efforts to locate new facilities throughout the community and not concentrated in one planning area.
 - **Strategy 4.3:** Provide a balance of new facility types in all recreation and park planning areas.
- **Goal 5 - Connectivity**
 - **Strategy 5.1:** Add trails and pathways to connect destinations throughout the city, such as schools, libraries, and parks.
 - **Strategy 5.3:** Integrate corridors and pathways into overall community design, planning, and development decisions.
 - **Strategy 5.4:** Encourage new development to include a system of internal trails and pathways within developments and identify opportunities to connect with established trails and pathways.

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Citywide Creek Master Plan

The Santa Rosa Citywide Creek Master Plan is a blueprint for the restoration, preservation, and improved accessibility for the entirety of the creek trail network. The creek plan includes a set of policies, recommendations, and strategies for site-specific improvements for over 100 miles of creeks. The plan's goals are not only to protect and restore the waterways and riparian habitats along the creeks, but to also develop a network of trails alongside the creeks. The trails are proposed as both an option for active transportation commuting and as a recreational resource.

Measure M

Measure M, approved by Sonoma County voters in 2018, collects a one-eighth-cent sales tax on all sales in Sonoma County. Measure M, commonly known as "Parks for All," provides dedicated funding to regional and city parks until its sunset in 2028. Funds are dedicated to the maintenance, protection, and operation of parks. The City of Santa Rosa will receive an estimated \$1.9 million per year through 2028.

Measure O

Measure O, approved by Santa Rosa voters in 2004, imposed a special transaction and use tax to generate revenue for police, fire, and gang prevention and intervention. Measure O funds are presided over by a Citizens Oversight Committee. A portion of these funds are used for year-round special recreational programming that supports the mission of the gang prevention and intervention program.

Existing Conditions

Parkland

Parkland in Santa Rosa that contribute to the City's parkland standard of 6 acres per 1,000 residents are categorized as neighborhood parks, community parks, trail parks, and open space parks.

- **Neighborhood parks** serve the daily recreational and social needs of people within one-half mile, or a 10-minute walk, and provide a mix of amenities, such as picnic areas, community gardens, exercise equipment, and children's play areas. Neighborhood parks generally support stays of one hour or less, do not typically have restrooms, limit lighting to security lights, and there is no off-street to promote walkable communities.
- **Community parks** are intended to offer a variety of passive and active recreational opportunities that attract users of all ages, especially within one-mile, or a 20-minute walk uninterrupted by barriers to access. They often include fields and courts for organized sports, support programming with community-wide participation, and are venues for cultural and social gatherings including farmer's markets and concerts. These parks are at least 10 acres, but 20-acres or more is preferred, and can accommodate stays of four or more hours, within amenities including parking, restrooms, and lighting for recreation areas, parking areas, and paths. Community parks must also consider bicycle and pedestrian access for nearby neighbors, and public transit access and links to local and regional trail systems for community members living farther away.

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- **Trail parks** vary in scale and acreage but are typically linear parklands used for both active and passive recreation and provide multipurpose, paved paths and minimal amenities generally limited to benches, waste receptacles, wayfinding and interpretive signage, and lighting to support walking, biking, hiking, jogging, and wildlife viewing. They can also be used as a safe, active transportation network that connects people and places locally and regionally and may provide a variety of other benefits, including visual enjoyment, natural resource conservation, water quality protection, flood control, fire management, and transportation corridors.
- **Open space parks** are areas of land that are essentially unimproved and support passive outdoor recreation such as viewing and experiencing natural areas that are always open to the public. While paved trails are not expected, amenities may include benches, trails, shared use paths, waste receptacles, and interpretive signage.

Other parkland offered that do not contribute to the City's parkland standard include recreational center sites, special purpose parks, and civic spaces:

- **Recreation center sites** are buildings and related amenities that provide space for community programs, classes, services, events, and sports. They may include gymnasiums, aquatic centers, community centers, senior centers, or similar facilities.
- **Special purpose parks** are park buildings and associated lands that typically serve a single purpose or specific user group (e.g., golf courses; historic sites; cultural sites; or social sites such as museums, botanical gardens, amphitheaters, performing arts centers, and cemeteries). They include golf courses, historic sites, cultural sites, or social sites such as botanical gardens, museums, amphitheaters, performing arts centers, and cemeteries. Because of their uniqueness, special purpose parks do not share any general characteristics, instead they vary in size and area served, types of amenities, and typical length of stay.
- **Civic spaces** are urban parks, generally less than two acres, that provide flexible, publicly accessible space for a range of cultural and recreational activities to residents living within one-quarter mile. They include multipurpose plazas for community gathering, events, or recreation; rooftop green spaces; and pocket parks.

The Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks Department (SRRPD) manages a total of 1,032.93 acres of parkland.⁹ Of these, approximately 689.93 acres consist of recreation center sites, community parks, and neighborhood parks. The remaining 148 acres belong to open space parks, trail parks, and civic spaces.

Within the EIR Study Area, there are 52 neighborhood parks totaling approximately 157 acres and 12 community parks totaling approximately 488 acres. Table 4.14-11, *Existing Neighborhood and Community Parks and Acreages*, lists each neighborhood and community park and its acreage.

⁹ This parkland total includes proposed parks that are undeveloped but are in the planning process or have been approved. The total represents all acreage that is owned and maintained by SRRPD.

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TABLE 4.14-11 EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARKS AND ACREAGES

Park Name	Acres	Park Name	Acres	Park Name	Acres
A Place to Play Park	77.16	DeMeo Park	0.96	Olive Park	0.87
Doyle Community Park	21.76	DeTurk Park	0.96	Pearblossom Park	3.05
Finley Community Park	12.21	Dutch Flohr Park	2.38	Peter Springs Park	1.24
Franklin Community Park	13.36	Eastside Park	0.40	Peterson Lane Park	3.99
Galvin Community Park	23.37	Finali Park	2.76	Pioneer Park	4.53
Howarth Memorial Park	137.39	Fir Ridge Park	1.06	Prince Gateway Park	0.50
Nagasawa Community Park	33.23	Flat Rock Park	5.42	Rae Street Park	0.83
Northwest Community Park	35.07	Frances Nielsen Ranch Park	6.04	Railroad Depot Park	0.26
Rincon Valley Community Park	18.87	Fremont Park	1.71	Red Hawk Park	0.44
Skyhawk Community Park	20.78	Harvest Park	3.34	Rincon Ridge Park	1.83
Southwest Community Park	19.75	Haydn Village Park	0.11	Rinconada Park	2.17
Youth Community Park	73.80	Hidden Valley Park	8.23	Sonoma Ave Park	1.75
Airfield Park	3.10	Humboldt Park	0.53	South Davis Park	1.34
Bayer Park and Gardens	5.95	Jacobs Park	6.94	Steele Lane Park	2.43
Bellevue Ranch Park	3.51	Jennings Park	6.56	Strawberry Park	5.80
Bicentennial Park	5.34	Juilliard Park	9.09	Tanglewood Park	7.80
Brendon Park	1.40	Live Oak Park	4.86	Trailhead Park	4.21
Brush Creek Park	2.20	Martin Luther King Jr. Park	5.38	Triangle Park	0.11
Coffey Park	5.85	Matanzas Park	1.10	Village Green Park	1.96
Colgan Creek Park	2.77	Mesquite Park	3.96	Westgate Park	2.40
Cook School Park	0.85	North Park	0.96		
Dauenhauer Park	2.52	Oaklake Green Park	3.73		
Total Neighborhood and Community Parks				644.23 Acres	

An additional 6.7 acres are in the planning process to become neighborhood parks, owned and maintained by SRRPD. An additional six neighborhood parks are proposed and in varying stages of the Santa Rosa development review process. These six parks are Jack London Park, Kawana Tokay Park (part of the proposed Kawana Springs Community Park discussed below), Lower Colgan Creek Park, Meadows Park, Piedra Park, and Tenth Street Park.

An additional 39 acres of community parkland are owned and maintained by SRRPD and are in the development review process to become new community parks. The 39 acres are split between two proposed community parks:

- The proposed Kawana Springs Community Park would introduce 19.2 acres of parkland in southeast Santa Rosa, featuring a community garden, multiuse turf area, children’s play area, pump track for biking, dog park, and areas of riparian oak woodland along Kawana Springs Creek.
- The proposed Roseland Creek Community Park would introduce 19.5 acres of parkland in southwest Santa Rosa with a nature center, outdoor classroom, community garden, picnic areas, shade structure, multiuse turf area, play area, sports court, and network of trails.

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Additional parkland in the EIR Study Area includes:

- Nine recreation center sites totaling approximately 15 acres.
- Four special purpose parks totaling approximately 171 acres.
- Thirteen open space parks totaling approximately 115 acres.
- Five civic spaces totaling approximately 9 acres.
- Six trail parks totaling approximately 33 acres.

Using Santa Rosa's existing population of 197,980 residents and approximately 833 acres of existing parkland, the City currently provides 4.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.¹⁰ Factoring in the proposed parks that are undeveloped but are in the planning process or have been approved, the City would provide 5.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.¹¹

Regional Open Space and Trails

Open space areas of various sizes are integrated into many of the city's parks and contribute to the overall preservation of recreational land in the EIR Study Area. Open space parks purposely have minimal improvements to preserve the natural setting. The limited improvements include benches, picnic tables, and garbage cans.

Larger open space areas in the EIR Study Area are generally developed in association with the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District and the Sonoma County Water Agency under joint acquisition and maintenance agreements. These spaces allow some public access for hiking and wildlife viewing.

Spring Lake Regional Park, in northeast Santa Rosa, is operated by Sonoma County Regional Parks. It has 320 acres for walking, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, swimming, boating, fishing, camping, access to picnic areas, and access to the Environmental Discovery Center. Trione-Annadel State Park is operated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. It has 5,000 acres of open space and offers bike trails, hiking trails, horseback riding, fishing, interpretive exhibits, vista points, nature and wildlife viewing, picnic areas, and an environmental learning and visitor center. The park is adjacent to Spring Lake Regional Park and provides connections to the Sonoma County Regional Park system. A third open space area, Taylor Mountain Regional Park and Open Space Preserve, is in the southeast portion of the EIR Study Area and is operated by Sonoma County Regional Parks. The Taylor Mountain Park offers 1,100 acres of grassy hillsides, oak woodlands, and creeks. The park has 5.5 miles of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding as well as an 18-hole disc golf course.

The EIR Study Area has numerous trails. Hiking and walking trails are provided in all regional open space and in many of the community parks. Urban trails consist of separated bike paths or trails that parallel creeks. Two popular paths in central Santa Rosa are the Santa Rosa Creek and the Prince Memorial Greenway trails, which connect to several additional trails on each end. The Santa Rosa Creek trail begins

¹⁰ 197,980 residents/1,000 residents = 197.98; 833.23 acres of parkland / 197.98 = 4.2 acres per 1,000 residents

¹¹ 197,980 residents/1,000 residents = 197.98; 1032.93 acres of parkland (in the proposed parks that are undeveloped but are in the planning process or have been approved) / 197.98 = 5.2 acres per 1,000 residents

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to the west of downtown Santa Rosa and travels west along the Santa Rosa Creek and joins the Prince Memorial Greenway Trail in the downtown. Both trails feature artwork, tree-shaded corridors, and views of Santa Rosa Creek. The Brush Creek Trail in northeast Santa Rosa is a 2.2-mile paved trail that borders Brush Creek and is owned by Sonoma Water. The southern end of the Brush Creek Trail meets Flat Rock Neighborhood Park and extends east along Santa Rosa Creek as Hampton Woods Trail Park. A separated bike path along Fountaingrove Parkway in northeastern Santa Rosa extends from Nagasawa Park to Parker Hill Open Space Park. The Joe Rodota Regional Trail, operated by Sonoma County Regional Parks, is an 8.5-mile, paved, off-road trail that links Sebastopol to downtown Santa Rosa. Trail access is available at several points along the length of the trail. The Joe Rodota Trail terminates at the intersection of the Santa Rosa Creek and the Prince Memorial Greenway trails.

Recreational Programming

The SRRPD manages programming for all ages and hosts special events year-round. Such programming and events include:

- **Active adults programming** is meant for seniors in the community and includes fitness classes, ukulele lessons, crafting, educational courses, language learning classes, photography, games, and book clubs. Activities and classes are offered at two facilities: the Person Senior Wing at the Finley Recreation Complex and the Steele Lane Community Center. A membership program is available for seniors and includes reduced class prices, free legal clinics, free guest speaker series, a newsletter, and free coffee and tea.
- **Aquatic sports** are offered at two year-round swim facilities: the Ridgway Swim Center and Finley Aquatic Center. In addition to recreational swimming, SRRPD offers swim lessons, water fitness classes, safety training, therapeutic classes, a master swim training program, and water polo. Santa Rosa residents are also able to rent the pool for birthday parties and other events.
- **Youth camps** are offered in the winter, spring, and summer and include day camps, specialty camps, art camps, and sports camps for children ages 3.5 to 14.
- **Neighborhood Services** is a division of the SRRPD that provides innovative youth development programming to serve at-risk, low-income, and homeless youth and families. The programs provide safe spaces for young people to participate in recreational, social, and athletic activities without the fear of gangs, drugs, or negative influences. Neighborhood Services additionally assists families in high-need neighborhoods with improving their quality of life by connecting them to available services and fostering a stronger community.
- **Special events** in Santa Rosa include the FairyTale Ball, St. Patrick's Day lunch for seniors, a 5k run, Arbor Day Tree Planting, a Senior Expo, Kids to Parks Day Scavenger Hunt at Howarth Park, Kids Fishing days, Movies in the Park on Friday evenings in the summer, Oktoberfest for seniors, a Bingo Party for seniors, a Floating Pumpkin Patch, Halloween, a Handmade Holiday Crafts Fair, and a Holiday Choral Concert.
- **Recreation programs and events for special populations** are offered year-round to meet the needs of children, teens, adults, and seniors with disabilities. Programs include the Differently Abled Adults Dances and Youth Summer Camps.

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- **Sports programs** serve youth and adults in Santa Rosa. Youth sports include tennis, basketball, soccer, and softball. Adult programs include tennis and softball. Sports courts and fields are also offered for solo use or can be rented for birthday parties or larger events.
- **General adult programs** are offered in arts and crafts, business and technologies, dance, education, fitness and wellness, and gardening.

4.14.5.2 STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Implementation of the proposed project would result in a significant impact to parks and recreation facilities if it would:

9. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks facilities, need for new or physically altered parks facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
10. 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.
11. In combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative impact.

4.14.5.3 IMPACT DISCUSSION

PS-9 Implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks facilities, need for new or physically altered parks facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

As discussed in Section 4.14.5.1, *Environmental Setting*, the City currently provides 4.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which is below the adopted standard of providing 6.0 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. However, if including the proposed parks that are undeveloped but are in the planning process or have been approved, the park acreage standard would be 5.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which is closer to the City's adopted standard. Implementation of the proposed project could introduce up to 65,760 new residents, which would increase the demand for parks and recreational facilities. To meet the standard of 6.0 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, the City would need a total of 1,582 acres of parkland to serve the projected buildout population of 263,740 total residents by 2050.¹² The City currently has approximately 833 acres of developed parkland which means approximately 749 net new acres needed.¹³ The City would need to provide approximately 550 acres in addition to the approximately 200 acres that are undeveloped but are in the planning process or have been approved.

¹² 263,740 residents/1,000 = 263.74; 6 x 263.74 = 1,582.44 acres

¹³ 1,582.44 acres – 833.23 acres = 749.21 acres

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Chapter 3, *Circulation, Open Space, Conservation, and Greenhouse Gas Reduction*, and Chapter 6, *Health, Equity, Environmental Justice, and Parks*, of the proposed General Plan 2050 contain goals, policies, and actions that require local planning and development decisions to consider and mitigate impacts that potential future development could have on available parkland and the quality of facilities. The following goals, policies, and actions would reduce impacts to parks, recreation, and open space in the EIR Study Area:

- **Goal 3-5:** Protect, expand, maintain, and restore natural resources, open space, and the limited remaining agricultural land.
 - **Policy 3-5.1:** Maximize the benefits of open space, including by supporting passive recreation and conservation.
 - **Action 3-5.1:** Give priority to multi-benefit recreational projects that maximize pollution reduction and adaptation, carbon sequestration, heat-island reduction, stormwater capture that increases infiltration, habitat protection and biodiversity, and/or community health improvements.
 - **Action 3-5.2:** Coordinate with public and private entities to locate new shared use paths and public access paths to parks, open spaces, and drainage ways in and near the city
 - **Action 3-5.3:** Coordinate with regional partners to connect the city’s open space system with Sonoma Water access roads and the Bay Area Ridge Trail.
 - **Policy 3-5.8:** Encourage multiple uses of waterways, including:
 - Flood mitigation and storage;
 - Groundwater recharge;
 - Opportunities for restoration and stewardship;
 - Climate adaptation;
 - Wildlife habitats;
 - Passive recreational open space uses;
 - Nature study;
 - Pedestrian and bicycle circulation; and
 - Other compatible outdoor uses.
- **Goal 6-7:** Create a safe, accessible, equitable Recreation and Parks System for all users.
 - **Policy 6-7.1:** Ensure adequate funding to keep parks safe, attractive, and responsive to community needs, including funding for park acquisition, planning, capital improvements, lifecycle replacement of amenities, recreation programming, recreation centers, and maintenance operations.
 - **Action 6-7.1:** Seek ongoing operating funding for recreation and maintenance that keeps pace with population growth.
 - **Action 6-7.2:** Evaluate park development impact fees annually to address projects that that meet the Quimby Act guidelines, as well as those for projects that do not meet Quimby Act guidelines, to ensure sufficient funds for park acquisition, development, and maintenance from developers.
 - **Action 6-7.3:** Use the Parks Condition Assessment and Prioritization Report’s data-driven evaluation of park assets to develop a replacement schedule for park amenities and plan for future budgetary needs.

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- **Action 6-7.4:** Explore funding strategies that go beyond park development impact fees, grants, and tax measures, to support replacement of park amenities and achieve the General Plan Park Standard of 6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, such as public-private partnerships, tax districts, and general obligation bonds.
- **Action 6-7.5:** Adopt protocols to ensure that recreation programming is financially sustainable.
- **Policy 6-7.2:** Provide equitable access to park resources across the city.
 - **Action 6-7.6:** Develop and maintain a five-year capital improvement plan for acquisition, development, and replacement that considers equity by providing opportunities for public input and prioritizing investment in the parks and recreation center sites in areas of the city where need is greatest.
 - **Action 6-7.7:** Invest in recreation centers and provide access to recreational services to all Santa Rosa residents, especially those in Equity Priority Areas and Areas of Change.
- **Policy 6-7.3:** Preserve the basic function of City-owned parks as public open spaces and prevent parkland conversion to other land uses.
 - **Action 6-7.8:** When diversion or disposal of parkland is determined to be in the public interest, acquire additional parklands to replace those lands, preferably within the same quadrant of the city.
- **Policy 6-7.4:** Plan for and provide an equitable supply and variety of parkland to serve the city's current and future residents.
 - **Action 6-7.9:** Develop a Recreation and Parks System Master Plan, to be updated every 10 years, that studies existing parks and recreation assets, resources, and operations and provides a framework to strategically and equitably improve, protect, and expand the City's Recreation and Parks System (to replace the Recreation & Parks Business and Strategic Action Plan).
 - **Action 6-7.10:** Use the Recreation and Parks System Master Plan as the basis for updating the Capital Improvement Program.
 - **Action 6-7.11:** Generate master plans and management plans for parks that lack them, which reflect user group needs, development priorities, development and maintenance costs, program opportunities, financing strategies, and community input.
 - **Action 6-7.12:** Improve parks and recreation center sites in accordance with adopted master plans.
 - **Action 6-7.13:** Continue to implement the general recommendations for each type of park, as defined by the Recreation and Parks System Master Plan.
 - **Action 6-7.14:** Acquire and develop new parkland, and expand existing parks, to achieve the citywide standard of 6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.
 - **Action 6-7.15:** Achieve an equitable distribution of quality parks across the city by prioritizing new park acquisition and development in:

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- More densely populated neighborhoods with limited parkland;
 - Areas that are more than a half mile from a neighborhood or community park;
 - Areas where substantial new housing growth is expected, based on the forecasts of the General Plan; and
 - Areas where social and economic conditions compel a greater investment in parks to improve health, public safety, and community well-being.
- **Action 6-7.16:** Update the City Code to require dedication of new parkland or recreation center sites when redevelopment of a developed site results in increased residential densities that create a need for such facilities.
 - **Action 6-7.17:** Facilitate equitable, authentic community engagement in recreation and parks planning to identify the needs and priorities of all segments of the community, including individuals in Equity Priority Areas and those unable to attend public meetings.

Furthermore, SRCC Section 19-70.090 would continue to require residential subdivisions to either provide parkland or pay in-lieu fees for the City to dedicate parkland elsewhere. This would result in the incremental addition of parkland if a residential subdivision is proposed in the city. Additionally, as described in Section 4.14.5.1, *Environmental Setting*, there are three regional open spaces near the EIR Study Area that contribute to the overall preservation of recreational land.

As indicated above, new residents from potential future development in the EIR Study Area would increase the demand for recreational facilities, and recreational facility standards would require the construction of new or expanded recreation facilities. The estimated timing or location of such facilities or the exact nature of these facilities are not known, so project-specific environmental impacts that would occur from their construction and operation cannot be determined at this time. However, depending on the type, size, and location of new parks, the construction of new parks would be subject to environmental review and the mitigating policies and mitigation measures described in this EIR to ensure impacts from construction would be less than significant. The construction of project-specific parks would require permitting and review in accordance with City standards, which would ensure that any environmental impacts are disclosed and mitigated to the extent possible. Therefore, the impact is considered *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-10	Implementation of the proposed project would not 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.
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Future development in Santa Rosa would result in increased population, which would increase demands for parks and recreational facilities in the EIR Study Area and regional parks in the larger Sonoma County Area, and could cause physical deterioration of park facilities. The proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions identified under impact discussion PS-9 would support parkland goals, and SRCC Section 19-70.090 would continue to require residential subdivisions to either provide parkland or pay in-

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lieu fees for the City to dedicate parkland elsewhere, helping to ensure that individual park and recreation facilities are not overburdened by use. While potential future development under implementation of the proposed project would result in an increased population with an increased demand for parks and recreational facilities, buildout would occur incrementally throughout the next approximately 25 years, and future development would be subject to the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions listed under impact discussion PS-9, as well as SRCC Section 19-70.090; therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

PS-11 Implementation of the proposed project would not, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, result in a cumulative parks and recreation impact.

As discussed in Chapter 4.0, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR, this EIR takes into account growth from potential future development under the proposed project combined with the estimated growth in the service areas of each service provider. Parks and recreation services in the EIR Study Area are provided by the City, and regional parks are provided by the Sonoma County Regional Parks, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District and the Sonoma County Water Agency under joint acquisition and maintenance agreements. Future growth in the EIR Study Area would result in increased demand for park and recreational facilities throughout the city and region. As a result, and as described under impact discussions PS-9 and PS-10, the City would need to expand and construct additional parks and other recreational facilities to meet the increased demand and maintain existing service levels. State law allows jurisdictions to require additional development to fund park improvements, and the City requires new residential development to pay development impact fees to help fund parks and recreation. Proper implementation of the proposed General Plan 2050 goals, policies, and actions listed under impact discussion PS-9 would also help ensure the provision of adequate parklands along with new development. The final location and size of additional facilities would be determined as part of future development activity, and as specific parkland expansion or improvement projects are identified, additional project-specific environmental analysis would be completed. As a result, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact to park and recreational facilities and cumulative impacts would be *less than significant*.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

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