Initial Study/ Mitigated Declaration

Fairmount Park Improvements

Prepared for

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

December 2009

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES

+ Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department

Environmental Initial Study

WARD: #1

AGENDA ITEM NO.: _____

1. **Project Title:** **Fairmount Park Improvements**

2. **Lead Agency:** City of Riverside
   3900 Main Street
   Riverside, CA 92522

3. **Contact Person:** Mr. Andrew Emery, Senior Park Planner
   Phone Number: (951) 826-2000

4. **Project Location:** The project site encompasses nine acres within the larger approximately 210 acre Fairmount Park. The proposed park improvements will be located in the southern portion of Fairmount Park, south of Fairmount Lake in the Fairmount Park Historic Core Area. Fairmount Park is located in the north-western portion of the City of Riverside (City) and is bounded on the north and east by Market Street, the south by residences along Banks Drive, and the west by open space and the Santa Ana River (refer to **Figure 1, Vicinity Map and Figure 2, Aerial Photography**).

5. **Project Applicant/Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**
   Riverside Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department
   3900 Main Street
   Riverside, CA 92522

6. **General Plan Designation:** City of Riverside General Plan 2025 land use designation for Fairmount Park is Public Park (P).

7. **Zoning:** As shown on the City of Riverside Zoning Map, Fairmount Park is zoned Public Facilities (PF).

8. **Description of Project:** In order to address the issues of parkland shortage, overuse of facilities, deferred maintenance, and negative public perceptions, the "City of Riverside Parks and Recreation Master Plan" (Parks Master Plan) identifies the need to upgrade and revitalize Fairmount Park. Fairmount Park has always been one of the City's most important parks and receives the highest amount of visitation of any park in the City. Due to its age and heavy use levels, Fairmount Park is in need of improvements to certain facilities as evidenced by a steady decline in park usage when compared to state averages as indicated in the Parks Master Plan. As the City's most well-known and most heavily used park, changes and improvements to Fairmount Park will have a dramatic impact on the perception that City residents have of the City park system. One objective of the proposed improvements to existing facilities at Fairmount Park is to increase the public perception of one of the City's oldest and largest parks.

   The Fairmount Park Improvements project evaluated in this Initial Study (collectively referred to as the "project") consists of three improvements within the Fairmount Park Historic Core/Amphitheatre Area: 1) a new access road, 2) new amphitheater-style seating and rehabilitation of the existing Bandshell area, and 3) lake edge vista seating area; in addition to grading and drainage, and all other associated work including, but not limited to, paving, electrical installation, irrigation, and landscape improvements as further discussed in

the following paragraph. The general location of the project facilities is shown in **Figure 3, Fairmount Park Improvements.**

The new asphalt paved access road will be 26-feet wide and include adjoining sidewalks, curb and gutter, lighting, and storm drain facilities. This proposed road will provide access from the main parking lot on Fairmount Court (located east off of Locust Street) to Parking Lot #8 (the parking lot to the west side of the project site) as shown on **Figure 3, Fairmount Park Improvements**. The new access road will only be utilized for public vehicular traffic during special events to provide access to the Stewarts Boathouse to facilitate loading and unloading. The access road will not be open to public vehicular traffic and will be gated and locked when not in use. Storm drainage from the access road will be collected in the curbs and gutters and conveyed via a series of grassy swales and riprap, which will treat the stormwater, prior to its discharge into Lake Evans.

The proposed amphitheater-style seating will be located at the existing Bandshell area, and will provide seating area for up to approximately 2,500 people (**Figure 3**). The existing concrete slab in front of the Bandshell will be removed and replaced with a sloped turf grass lawn area and concrete walkways for wheelchair accessibility. Proposed improvements around the Bandshell area include architectural features, vendor staging, and new restrooms.

The proposed lake vista seating area is located at the south edge of Fairmount Lake and east of the Stewarts Boathouse. Proposed improvements in this area include a new walkway, staircase, a retaining wall, benches and pedestrian and wheelchair ramp leading to the fenced vista seating area. Decking at the water's edge on either side of the boat house is proposed to provide a lake viewing area and connection to the existing trail around Lake Evans.

Construction and installation of the Fairmount Park Improvement project will require site preparation and grading for the access road, new amphitheater-style seating, and drainage facilities. Preliminary earthwork quantities for the proposed project are estimated not to exceed 5,000 cubic yards (CY) for cut and fill. The proposed street improvements will include asphalt concrete paving, construction of curb and gutter, sidewalks and wheelchair ramps from s Court (the main parking lot located east off of Locust Street and Parking Lot #8). The proposed stormwater facilities will include installing reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) and catch basins to connect storm drain generated from access road runoff to the Lake Evans natural drainage system.

9. **Existing Land Use and Setting**

The project site encompasses approximately nine acres, within Fairmount Park. Fairmount Park is a fully developed City park and includes lighted tennis courts, two playgrounds, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, barbeques, covered picnic areas, Stewarts Boathouse, Izaak Walton Building, Bandshell, nine-hole golf course, 50 acre lake system, fishing and boat launch, rose garden, basketball court, hiking and walking trails, restrooms and lawn bowling. The Bandshell and Montezuma Bald Cypress trees within the park are locally significant and individually designated as City historic landmarks.

With respect to biological features, the project site is either paved or covered with exotic (i.e. non-native) or disturbed vegetation.

The City of Riverside General Plan 2025 land use designation for the proposed project site is Public Park (P).

10. **Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:**

All work proposed by the Fairmount Park Improvements project is within the Fairmount Park boundary located south of Fairmount Lake and north of Banks Drive.

Adjacent Existing Land Use:

Adjacent existing land use designations surrounding the proposed improvement project is Public Park (P) to the north, Medium Density Residential (MDR) to the south and west and Downtown Specific Plan to the east.

Adjacent zoning:

Existing zoning designations surrounding the proposed improvement project is Public Facilities (PF) to the north and west, and Single Family Residential (R-1-7000) to the south and east.

11. **Other Public Agencies whose Approval is Required (e.g.: permits, financial approval or participation agreement):**

    a. State Water Resources Control Board - NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit ("General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity – Order No. 99-08-DWQ").

    b. Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District - encroachment permit to connect to existing storm drain facilities.

12. **Other Environmental Reviews Referenced in this Review:**

    a. City of Riverside General Plan 2025
    b. City of Riverside General Plan 2025 FPEIR
    c. Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Integrated Master Plan
    d. South Coast Air Quality Management District's 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)
    e. Webb 2009 Air Analysis (included as Appendix A)
    f. Western Riverside County Multi-Species Conservation Plan (MSHCP)
    g. City of Riverside Urban Forest Tree Policy Manual
    h. Riverside Municipal Code
    i. C.H.J. Inc., Geotechnical Investigation for the Proposed Fairmount Park Improvements
    j. Brian F. Smith & Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmount Park (included as Appendix B)
    k. Thomas Guide 2008
    l. Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)
    m. California Integrated Waste Management Board 2002 Landfill Facility Compliance Study
    n. Caltrans Scenic Highway System
    o. Albert A. Webb Associates Geographic Information System (WEBB GIS)

13. **Acronyms**

ALUCP	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
APWA	American Public Works Association
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
bgs	below ground surface
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
CBC	California Building Code
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FPEIR	Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Report
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GP 2025	General Plan 2025
LST	Localized Significance Threshold
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
MSHCP	Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan
NCCP -	Natural Communities Conservation Plan
NPC	Neighborhood Policing Centers

NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
POC	Pollutants of Concern
RCALUC	Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission
RCALUCP	Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
RCFC&WCD	Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
RFD	Riverside Fire Department
RMC	Riverside Municipal Code
RPD	Riverside Police Department
RPU	Riverside Public Utilities
RPW	Riverside Public Works
RTA	Riverside Transit Agency
RWCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
RWCP	Regional Water Quality Control Plant
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SKR-HCP	Stephens' Kangaroo Rat - Habitat Conservation Plan
SRA	Source Receptor Area
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USGS	United States Geologic Survey
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES

Figure 1
Vicinity Map

G:\2008\08-0147\Gis\vicinity.mxd

Sources: Digital Globe, March 2008;
Riverside County, 2009.
Scale: 1" = 300'

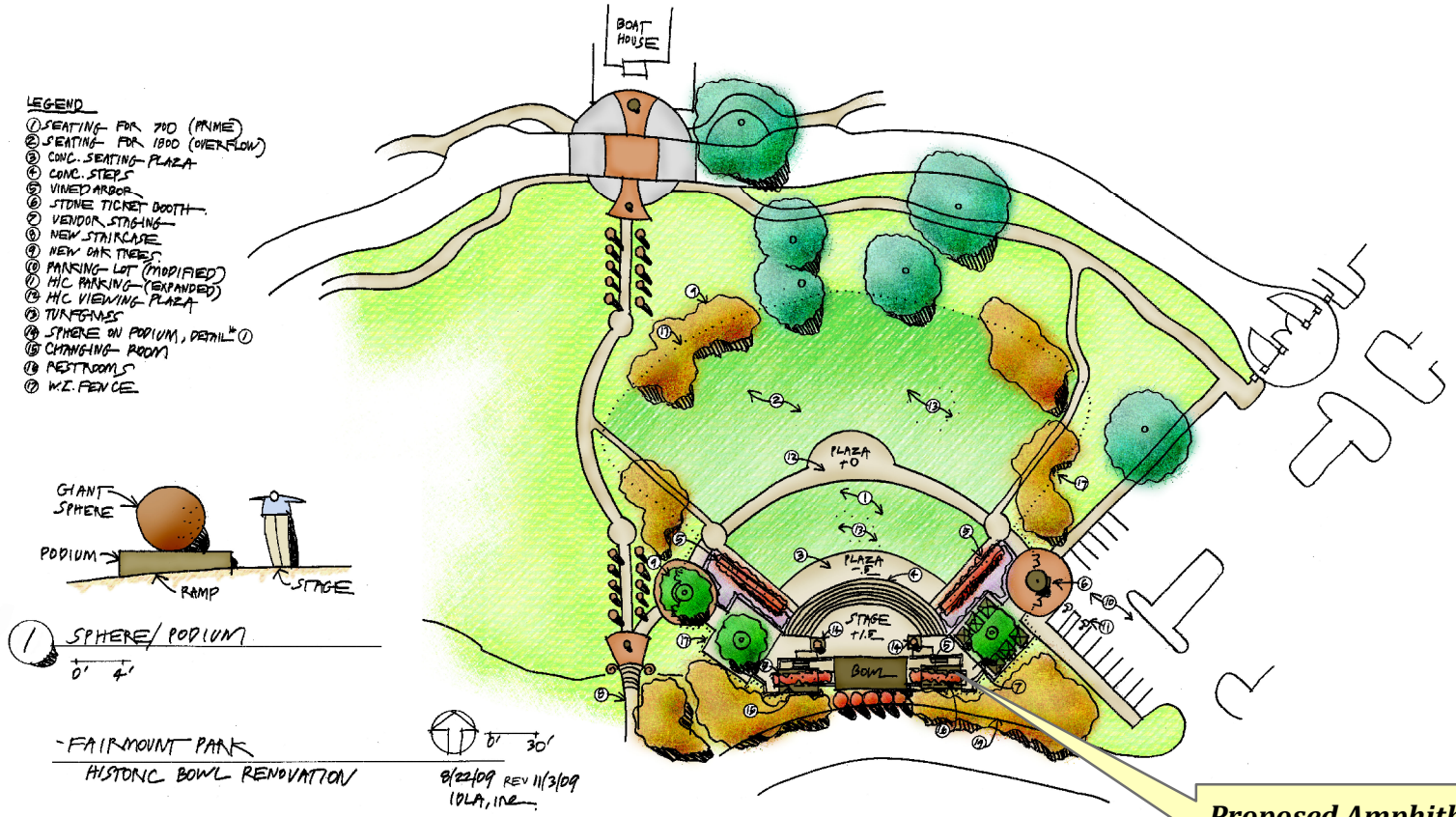
ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES

N
W E
S

0 300 600 Feet

Figure 2
Aerial Photograph

G:\2008\08-0147\Gis\aerial.mxd



Proposed Amphitheater-Style Seating and Rehabilitation of Existing Bandshell

Source: IDLA, July 2009
Not to Scale

Figure 3

Fairmount Park Improvements

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES

G:\2008\08-0147\Gis\improvements.mxd;

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

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

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology/Soils
☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning
☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise	☐ Population/Housing
☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation/Traffic
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance	

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation which reflects the independent judgment of the City of Riverside, it is recommended that:

The City of Riverside finds that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. ☐

The City of Riverside finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. ☒

The City of Riverside finds that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required. ☐

The City of Riverside finds that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed. ☐

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

Signature _____ Date 12/10/09

Printed Name & Title Ralph J Nunez, Director
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department

For City of Riverside

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

   a. **Earlier Analysis Used.** Identify and state where they are available for review.

   b. **Impacts Adequately Addressed.** Identify which effects from the above checklist were with in the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

   c. **Mitigation Measures.** For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references the information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) The explanation of each issue should identify:

   a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and

   b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. **AESTHETICS** Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐

1a. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure CCM-4, General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.1-1, Table 5.1-A, and Table 5.1-B)***

The proposed project would not affect a scenic vista. The project site is within Fairmount Park and is developed with park amenities. The proposed project includes installation of seating and decking around Fairmount Lake, which will facilitate park users' view of the lake. Therefore, the proposed project would not obstruct any scenic views and potential impacts are less than significant.

b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐

1b. Response: ***(Sources: Caltrans, General Plan 2025 Figure CCM-4, General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.1-1, Table 5.1-A, and Table 5.1-B)***

The project site does not have any rock outcroppings. There are trees in the vicinity of the proposed access road and amphitheater improvements, which will be removed and replaced at a 1:1 ratio as part of the project. The proposed project includes improvements in the vicinity of Stewarts Boathouse, however, the boathouse itself will not be altered. The Caltrans Scenic Highway System does not identify any highways in the vicinity of the project as scenic highways. The City's General Plan (GP 2025) identifies Market Street, which is approximately 1,000 feet west of the project site, as a scenic boulevard. The amphitheater improvements may be visible to vehicles traveling on Market Street; however, any view of the amphitheater improvements would be brief lasting only a few seconds and the improvements will be complementary to the park. Since the project will not damage scenic resources and potential views of project facilities from the only scenic road would be brief, impacts are considered less than significant.

c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☒	☐

1c. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, General Plan 2025, General Plan 2025 FPEIR, and WEBB GIS)***

The proposed project consists of improvements to the Fairmount Park Historic Core Area including: a new access road, Fairmount Court with adjoining sidewalks and lighting connecting the main parking lot located east off of Locust Street and parking lot #8 (the parking lot to the west side of the project); new amphitheater-style seating at the existing Bandshell, which will seat approximately 2,500 people; and lake edge treatment providing pedestrian access and seating. The proposed park improvements will be designed to complement and enhance the existing park setting, and as such will not degrade the visual character or quality of Fairmount Park; thus, impacts in this regard will be less than significant.

d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☒	☐	☐

1d. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)***

The lighting proposed for this project includes street lighting along the alignment of the access road, at the amphitheater and the lake edge vista seating area. However, all proposed lighting shall be of low wattage (250 watt is typical) and shielded, directing light downwards and on to the property. With the implementation of **MM Aes 1**, all new lighting will have a less than significant impact to day or nighttime views.

MM Aes 1: All outside lighting shall be of low wattage (250 watt or less) and shielded, directing light downward and onto the property. (Note: this is identical to **MM Bio 4**)

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
2. **AGRICULTURE RESOURCES**				
In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997), prepared by the California Department of Conservation, as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

2a. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 – Figure OS-2)***

The proposed project site is within Fairmount Park and is not located on Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance; therefore, no impacts will occur.

b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒

2b. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 – Figure OS-3 - Williamson Act Preserves, General Plan 2025 FPEIR – Figure 5.2-4 – Proposed Zones Permitting Agricultural Uses, and Title 19)***

The proposed project site, which is within Fairmount Park, is currently zoned as Public Facilities (PF) and is not under a Williamson Act contract; therefore, no impacts will occur.

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

2c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 – Figure OS-2 – Agricultural Suitability, and Figure OS-3 - Williamson Act Preserves)***

The project site is within Fairmount Park and the park is surrounded by existing residential and commercial uses. There are no agricultural uses within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, implementation of the project would not result in a direct or indirect conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.

3. **AIR QUALITY**				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

3a. Response: ***(Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District's 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)***

The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) sets forth a comprehensive program that will lead the SCAB into compliance with all federal and state air quality standards. The AQMP's control measures and related emission reduction estimates are based upon emissions projections for a future development scenario derived from land use, population and employment characteristics defined in consultation with local governments. Accordingly, conformance with the AQMP for development projects is determined by demonstrating compliance with local land use plans and/or population projections.

The project site is within Fairmount Park, which is designated as Public Park in GP 2025. Since the proposed project

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
involves improvements to Fairmount Park, which is the planned land use in the GP 2025, the proposed project is deemed to be in compliance with the AQMP. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated**.**				
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation, or contribute substantially to an increase in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions?	☐	☐	☒	☐

3b. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR and South Coast Air Quality Management District's 2007 AQMP, Webb 2009 Air Analysis)***

Short-term Regional Construction Emissions

Emissions were evaluated using the URBEMIS 2007 version 9.2.4 for Windows computer program. The model evaluated emissions resulting from fugitive dust as well as exhaust emissions generated by demolition and earthmoving activities, construction, and paving.

Table 1: Estimated Daily Construction Emissions

Activity/Year	Peak Daily Emissions (lb/day)					
	VOC	NO_X	CO	SO_2	PM-10	PM-2.5
SCAQMD Daily Construction Thresholds	**75**	**100**	**550**	**150**	**150**	**55**
2010						
Grading	3.04	25.05	13.50	0.00	30.11	7.18
Paving	6.34	55.46	25.80	0.00	2.92	2.67
Demolition of Bandshell Seating	1.17	7.74	5.73	0.00	0.60	0.54
Construction	3.83	17.40	15.72	0.01	1.26	1.14
Maximum [1]	**6.34**	**55.46**	**25.80**	**0.01**	**30.11**	**7.18**
Exceeds Threshold?	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**
2011						
Construction	3.54	16.44	15.03	0.01	1.20	1.09
Exceeds Threshold?	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

[1] Maximum is the highest value for each construction phase.

The emissions from the construction of the project are within SCAQMD Daily Regional Construction Thresholds for all of the criteria pollutants listed in the table above.

Long-term Operational Analysis

Long-term emissions are evaluated at build-out for the completed project at the end of construction (2011). Operational emissions refer to on-road motor vehicle emissions from project build-out. Area source emissions include stationary combustion emissions of natural gas used for space and water heating, yard and landscape maintenance (assumed to occur throughout the year in Southern California), and an average building square footage to be repainted each year. URBEMIS 2007 computes area source emissions based upon default factors and land use assumptions for the project. Separate emissions were computed for both summer and winter, and the maximum emissions are 1.43 lbs/day for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), 1.78 lbs/day for nitrogen dioxide (NO_x), 10.27 lbs/day for carbon monoxide (CO), 0.01 lbs/day for

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

sulfur dioxide (SO_2), 0.10 lbs/day for suspended particulates of 10 microns (PM-10), and 0.07 lbs/day for suspended particulates of 2.5 microns (PM-2.5). All criteria pollutant emissions from operation of this project are below the SCAQMD regional daily thresholds.

Regional Significance Conclusion

Based on the regional significance threshold analysis for the proposed project, neither the short-term construction nor the long-term operational emissions will exceed the daily regional thresholds set by SCAQMD for criteria pollutants. Additionally, there will be no increase in traffic and traffic-related emissions due to project-related park improvements

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The recently updated URBEMIS model calculates carbon dioxide emissions from fuel usage by construction equipment and construction-related activities, like worker trips, for the project in tons per year (one ton equals 2,000 pounds). The URBEMIS estimate does not analyze emissions from construction-related electricity or natural gas. Construction-related electricity and natural gas emissions vary based on the amount of electric power used during construction and other unknown factors which make them too speculative to quantify. Life-cycle emissions associated with the manufacture of building materials are also not quantified in this analysis although they undoubtedly exist. Quantification was not attempted because of the large spatio-temporal variation in sources for building products used to construct the project and the consequent large uncertainty associated with the resulting emissions. For this reason, to attempt to quantify life-cycle emissions of materials would be speculative. This conclusion is consistent with recent guidance on quantification of emissions for commercial projects presented by the California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA) guidance on CEQA and Climate Change.

The following table summarizes the output results and presents the emissions estimates in metric tonnes (Mt) of CO_2 (one metric tonne equals approximately 2,205 pounds) from construction of the project.

Table 2: Project Construction Equipment CO_2 Emissions[1]

Year	Total tons CO_2	Maximum Mt CO_2/year
2010	379.21	344.01
2011	55.54	50.39

[1] calculations based on URBEMIS output.

Evaluation of the table above indicates that an estimated maximum of 344 $MtCO_2$/year will occur from project construction equipment over the course of the estimated construction period of approximately one year. The draft GHG threshold from CARB has yet to identify a performance standard for construction-related emissions for industrial or commercial projects.

With respect to GHG emissions associated with project operations; the project has the potential to emit 79.5 $MtCO_2$/year for natural gas usage, 0.46 $MtCO_2$/year for landscape equipment emissions, and 145.88 $MtCO_2$/year for vehicle emissions associated with the project's land use. The total operational emissions are 225.8 $MtCO_2$/year. When compared to the draft SCAQMD thresholds, both construction and operational GHG emissions are below the recommended threshold of 3,000 $MtCO_2$/year for residential/commercial projects (Webb 2009). Therefore the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation, or contribute substantially to an increase in GHG emissions; and the impact is considered less than significant.

c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which	☐	☐	☒	☐

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				

3c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR and South Coast Air Quality Management District's 2007 AQMP)***

As discussed in the response to Items 3a.and 3.b. above, project-related emissions are below SCAQMD's regional thresholds; therefore, the project's potential to contribute to a cumulative increase of criteria pollutants (i.e., carbon monoxide, ground-level ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in size), including those that are considered to be in non-attainment, is considered less than significant.

d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐

3d. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description and General Plan 2025 FPEIR)***

Recently, as part of the SCAQMD's environmental justice program, attention has been focused on localized effects of air quality. Staff at SCAQMD have developed localized significance threshold (LST) methodology that can be used by public agencies to determine whether or not a project may generate significant adverse localized air quality impacts (both short-term and long-term). LSTs represent the maximum emissions from a project that will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the most stringent applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard, and are developed based on the ambient concentrations of that pollutant for each source receptor area (SRA). Fairmount Park is located within SRA 23.

Short-Term LST Analysis

According to the LST methodology, only on-site emissions need to be analyzed. SCAQMD has provided LST lookup tables and sample construction scenarios (available on the internet at http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/LST/LST.html) to allow users to readily determine if the daily emissions for proposed construction or operational activities could result in significant localized air quality impacts for projects five acres or smaller. To estimate the worst-case scenario, the URBEMIS data for the project shows that a total of 2.25 acres could be disturbed per day, so the 3-acre LST lookup table was utilized to estimate the construction emissions.

The LST thresholds are estimated using the maximum daily disturbed area (in acres) and the distance of the project to the nearest sensitive receptors (in meters). The closest sensitive receptor is a residence across the street approximately 25 meters from the project area boundary. To ensure a worse-case analysis, the nearest sensitive receptor position of 25 meters together with the LST threshold for two acres were used. Comparing the results to the two-acre threshold is more conservative than the three-acre threshold). It is assumed that only one crew will be exposing one receptor location to construction related emissions. Therefore, the equipment used in the LST analysis is on a per crew basis. The results are summarized in **Table 3** on the following page.

Table 3: LST Results for Daily Construction Emissions

Pollutant	NO_X (lbs/day)	CO (lbs/day)	PM-10 (lbs/day)	PM-2.5 (lbs/day)
LST Threshold for 2 acres at 25 meters	**213**	**883**	**7**	**4**
Demolition	16.5	9.6	2.3	1.3
Grading	32.2	15.3	6.6	2.5
Building	26.8	12.2	1.5	1.4
Paving	34.4	18.9	2.5	2.3
Exceeds Threshold?	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

As indicated in **Table 3**, even using the more stringent two-acre threshold, project-related construction emissions will be below the LST thresholds established by SCAQMD for the project.

Long-Term LST Analysis

According to the SCAQMD's LST methodology, the operational emissions to be analyzed are from on-site stationary sources and on-site mobile source emissions. Off-site mobile source emissions should not be included in the analysis. Since the project consists of improvements to Fairmount Park, the only operational emissions would be from infrequent visits by vehicles for park maintenance and special occasions taking place at the amphitheater or Stewarts Boathouse has been rented out. The operational emissions would be negligible; therefore, no long-term LST analysis is required.

As the project's emissions are less than the SCAQMD's LSTs, the project's potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations is considered less than significant.

e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

3e. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description and General Plan 2025 FPEIR)***

The project presents the potential for generation of objectionable odors in the form of diesel exhaust during construction in the immediate vicinity of the project site. Recognizing the short-term duration of construction and the fact that the LST analysis shows construction emissions are below SCAQMD thresholds, the proposed project will not expose substantial numbers of people to objectionable odors, and impacts are considered less than significant.

4. **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES** Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐

4a. Response: ***(Sources: Western Riverside MSHCP 2003, Brian F. Smith and Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmount Park)***

Brian F. Smith and Associates conducted a habitat assessment (Habitat Assessment) for the Fairmount Park Improvements project on February 18, 2009. The intent of the assessment was to identify the presence or absence of suitable habitat for those species addressed by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB). The Habitat Assessment included a review of the MSHCP Conservation Summary Report for the project site. The Conservation Summary Report identifies the Western Burrowing Owl, San Diego Ambrosia, Brand's Phacelia, and San Miguel Savory as potentially occurring on the project site. The CNDDB search identified 13 additional state and federally listed species as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the proposed park improvements. Of these 13 species identified by the CNDDB search, only one species, the Dwarf Burr Ambrosia, has a low to moderate potential to occur on portions of the project site due to the suitable habitat along the lakeshore and in other wet areas; there is not suitable habitat on the project site to support the other 12 species. Construction of the Lake Edge Vista portion of the project has the potential to impact habitat suitable for the Dwarf Burr Ambrosia. Therefore, in order to mitigate potential impacts to the Dwarf Burr Ambrosia to a less than significant, mitigation measure **MM Bio 1** shall be implemented.

MM Bio 1: Due to the low to moderate potential for Dwarf Burr Ambrosia to occur on parts of the project site, a focused survey for Dwarf Burr Ambrosia shall be conducted in all suitable habitat affected by the proposed project (i.e. the lakeshore) if construction occurs during the flowering season (April-October). If Dwarf Burr Ambrosia is encountered at anytime during construction and cannot be avoided, a qualified biologist shall be consulted to recommend steps to lessen the

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
impact.[1]				
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4b. Response: ***(Sources: Western Riverside MSHCP 2003, Brian F. Smith and Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmount Park)***

Per the MSHCP, riparian/riverine areas are lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent vegetation, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to, or which depend upon, soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year.

Riparian/riverine areas exist along the shoreline of Fairmount Lake. As stated in the Habitat Assessment, riparian/riverine habitat is not present at the project site. In addition, the species listed in Section 6.1.2[1] of the MSHCP, which are species associated with riparian/riverine areas and vernal pools are not likely to occur on or near the project site and will not be affected by the proposed project. Since there are no riparian/riverine areas or species associated with those areas on the project site; there will be no impacts in this regard.

c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 – Figure OS-6 – Stephen's Kangaroo Rat (SKR) Core Reserve and Other Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP), Figure OS-8, General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.4-2, Figure 5.4-4, Figure 5.4-6, Figure 5.4-7, and Figure 5.4-8, MSHCP, and Brian F. Smith and Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmount Park)***

Per the MSHCP, vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have indicators of all three wetland parameters (hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and wetland hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetland indicators of wetland hydrology and/or hydrophytic vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season.

Wetland hydrology and hydric soils are present along the banks of Fairmount Lake in the vicinity of the project site. However, the shoreline of Fairmount Lake does not meet Federal wetlands criteria. Additionally, the proposed park improvements are restricted to the upland adjacent to Fairmount Lake and would not intrude along the shoreline. Vernal pools are not present on or near the project site. Since there are no federally protected wetlands or vernal pools on the project site; there would be no impacts in this regard.

d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☒	☐

[1] The Section 6.1.2 species list is included as Appendix D of the Habitat Assessment, which is included as Appendix B of this Initial Study.

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

4d. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, MSHCP, and General Plan 2025 –Figure OS-7)***

The MSHCP designates linkages, which are open space areas established to provide habitat connectivity to facilitate the movement of species. Fairmount Park is not within an MSHCP designated linkage. The project site is located within Fairmount Park, which is a developed public park surrounded by substantial urban (residential and commercial) development. Fairmount Park is not an important location relative to regional wildlife movement; therefore, implementation of the project is not expected to have any substantial effect on local or regional wildlife movement and impacts are considered less than significant.

e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐

4e. Response: ***(Source: City of Riverside Urban Forestry Policy Manual)***

Construction of the access road and amphitheater will require removal of certain trees, some of which are native live Oak Trees. A total of 12 oak trees, as summarized in Table 4 below, may need to be removed and/or relocated to facilitate the construction of the amphitheater or access road, and four oak trees have the potential to be impacted by the placement of the roadway within their drip lines.

Table 4: Oak Trees Potentially Impacted by the Roadway

Size of Oak Tree To Be Removed/Relocated (Diameter of Trunk in Inches)	Number of Trees	Size of Oak Tree with Potentially Impacted Drip Line (Diameter of Trunk in Inches)	Number of Trees
1	2	24	1
1 ½	1	32	1
8	1	40	1
9	1	48	1
15	1		
20	2		
24	1		
27	1		
30	2		

The Urban Forestry Policy Manual[2] documents the guidelines for planting, pruning, preservation, and removal of all trees in City rights-of way and recreational facilities. Project-related tree removal and/or relocation will reference the process and procedures identified in the Urban Forestry Policy Manual. The Urban Forestry Policy Manual has developed the following guidelines to protect trees on City property during construction projects:

- A root protection zones shall be defined by a minimum 42-inch high barrier constructed around any potentially impacted tree. This barrier shall be at the drip line or at a distance from the trunk equal to 6 inches for each inch of trunk diameter 4.5 feet above the ground if this method defines a larger area.
- Should it be necessary to install irrigation lines within this area, the line shall be located by boring, or an

[2] The City's Urban Forestry Policy Manual is included as Appendix C of the Habitat Assessment, which is included as Appendix B of this Initial Study.

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

alternate location for the trench is to be established. The minimum clearance between an open trench and a street tree shall be one (1) foot, or six (6) inches for each inch of trunk diameter measured at 4.5 feet above existing grade if this method defines a larger distance. The maximum clearance shall be ten (10) feet. The contractor shall conform to these provisions unless otherwise directed by the City.

- At no time shall any equipment, materials, supplies, or fill be allowed within the prescribed root protection zone unless otherwise directed by the City. The root protection zone is defined as the larger of the drip line of 1) the tree or 2) the distance from the trunk equal to six (6) inches for each inch of trunk diameter measured at 4.5 feet above existing grade.
- It is recognized that failure to abide by these provisions will result in substantial root damage to trees that may not be immediately apparent. The City will therefore assess damages according to the International Society of Arboriculture standards and bill the responsible party.

The Urban Forestry Policy Manual has also developed the following guidelines to protect trees during infrastructure improvements:

- Whenever sidewalk, curb, gutter, or driveway replacement occurs within four (4) feet of a tree, the Public Works Urban Forestry Department will inspect the site for tree impact assessment. Root pruning may be performed on any tree that the Public Works Department determines can be safely performed without jeopardizing the life of the tree.
- All roots greater than two (2) inches in diameter must be cleanly cut to encourage good callus tissue. It is recommended that roots be pruned back to the next root node.

Impacts associated with project-related tree removal will be mitigated to less than significant with adherence to guidelines of the City's Urban Forestry Policy Manual and the implementation of mitigation measure **MM Bio 2**.

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department will continue with the park's reforestation program through the planting of young trees throughout the project site.

The Urban Forestry Policy Manual has the following guidelines pertaining to construction impacts to trees:

- In order for construction work that will impact a tree to begin, a signed release form must be issued by the Public Works Department. This release shall be based on the condition of the tree and an assessment of the impact of the proposed construction. Mitigation measures necessary to protect the tree will also be stated.
- In the event a tree must be removed, the Public Works Department will issue a Tree Removal Permit.

MM Bio 2: All mitigation measures identified in connection with the project-related Tree Removal Permit shall be incorporated into the project and any trees removed shall be replaced and or relocated at a 1:1 ratio. Any project-related actions in connection with trees on the project site shall be conducted with reference to the City's Urban Forestry Policy Manual as a guide.

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

4f. Responses: ***(Brian F. Smith and Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmount Park)***

The proposed project is entirely within the boundaries of the MSHCP and is required to be in compliance with all MSHCP guidelines. The project site is within the Cities of Riverside and Norco Area Plan as defined in the MSHCP, but is not in a subunit. The project site is in an independent Cell Group, but is not part of a Cell and therefore not subject to Cell Criteria.

The Habitat Assessment (Appendix B) analyzes the proposed project's compliance with the MSHCP and provides

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

recommendations to ensure compliance. These recommendations are included in mitigation measures **MM Bio 3**, **MM Bio 4,** and **MM Bio 5** and shall be incorporated into the project plans and specifications in to order comply with the provisions and guidelines within the MSHCP. With implementation of mitigation measures MM Bio 3, MM Bio 4, and MM Bio 5, impacts with respect to compliance with the MSHCP will be less than significant.

MM Bio 3: When designing, installing, and maintaining landscaping, none of the invasive species listed in Table 6.2, Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP shall be used. This condition and the aforementioned Table 6.2 shall be incorporated into landscape plans prepared for the project.

MM Bio 4: All outside lighting shall be of low wattage (250 watt or less) and shielded, directing light downward and onto the property. (Note: this is identical to **MM Aes 1**)

MM Bio 5: In order to prevent accidental intrusion by grading or other development into sensitive areas such as the lakeshore, prior to any ground disturbing activities in sensitive areas, the limits of construction shall be fenced with orange vinyl barrier material or orange silt fencing. Placement of fencing shall be under the direction of a qualified biologist and shall remain in place until all construction is completed. During construction, the fence shall be regularly inspected by the project biologist to insure its integrity.

5. **CULTURAL RESOURCES** Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐

5a. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Table 5.5-A Historical Districts and Neighborhood Conservation Areas & Appendix D, and Title 20 of the Riverside Municipal Code, Project Description)***

Fairmount Park and the Fairmount Park Bandshell are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database. However, project-related architectural improvements occurring within the Bandshell area will not alter the Bandshell in any way and will be designed by an architect, sensitive to historical resources. Therefore, the project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource and the impact is considered less than significant.

b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐

5b. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.5-1 - Archaeological Sensitivity, and Appendix D – Cultural Resources Study)***

According to Figure 5.5-1 of the GP 2025 FPEIR, the archaeological sensitivity of the project site is listed as "unknown." Due to the existing developed and disturbed nature of the site (e.g. previous grading, paving, and landscaping), and the limited grading and site preparation needed for the project, it is not anticipated that archaeological resources will be disturbed during project construction or operation. Nonetheless, the potential exists for archaeological resources to be uncovered during construction. Adherence to mitigation measure **MM Cultural 1,** which requires work to be stopped and any finds evaluated, will reduce potential impacts to archaeological resources to below the level of significance.

MM Cultural 1: Should any cultural and/or archaeological resources be accidentally discovered during construction, construction activities in the vicinity of the find shall be halted and construction shall be moved to other parts of the project site until a qualified archaeologist (or cultural resources professional approved by the City Historic Preservation Officer) retained by the City (or its designee) determines the significance of these resources. If the find is determined to be a historical or unique archaeological resource, as defined in Section 15064.5 of the California Code of Regulations (State CEQA Guidelines), avoidance or other appropriate measures shall be implemented; as recommended by the archaeologist (or cultural resources professional).

c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

5c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure 5.5-2 – Prehistoric Cultural Resources Sensitivity, and Appendix D – Cultural Resources Study)***

Paleontological resources include fossils of plant and animal remains from prehistoric eras. According to Figure 5.5-2 of the General Plan 2025 FPEIR, the prehistoric sensitivity of the project site is listed as "medium." However, due to the existing developed and disturbed nature of the site, the potential for prehistoric or paleontological resources to occur on-site during grading activities are not anticipated and considered to be less than significant. In the unlikely event that paleontological resources are unearthed during grading of the access road and amphitheater seating area, implementation of mitigation measure **MM Cultural 2** will reduce potential impacts to unknown resources to below the level of significance.

MM Cultural 2: Should construction activities uncover paleontological resources, work in the vicinity of the find shall be halted and construction shall be moved to other parts of the project site until a qualified paleontologist retained by the City (or its designee) determine the significance of these resources. If the find is determined to be significant, avoidance or other appropriate measures shall be implemented. Appropriate measures would include that a qualified paleontologist be permitted to recover, evaluate, and curate the find(s) in accordance with current standards and guidelines.

d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

5d. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.5-1 - Archaeological Sensitivity, and Figure 5.5-2 - Prehistoric Cultural Resources Sensitivity)***

See response to Items 5a, 5b and 5c above. The proposed project is not expected to disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. The nearest cemetery, Evergreen Memorial Park, located at 4414 14th St, is over one mile southwest of the project site. Due to the previously disturbed condition of the project sites, the discovery of human remains is extremely unlikely. Therefore, impacts to human remains are less than significant and mitigation is not necessary. In the event that human remains are discovered, compliance with California Public Resources Code (CA PRC) Section 5097.98 is required.

6. **GEOLOGY AND SOILS** Would the project:				
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to the Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐

6i. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-1)***

According to the GP 2025, Figure PS-1, the proposed project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone or within one-half mile of any known fault. No active faults are shown on or in the immediate vicinity of the site on published geologic maps. The main trace of the San Andreas Fault is located approximately 5 miles east of the project site, and is the closest known active fault to the site.

The proposed project improvements will be constructed to meet current California Building Code (CBC) seismic standards. The proposed park improvements do not include residences or offices. Due to the distance of the project site from active earthquake faults and the type of improvements proposed by the project, potential impacts to people and structures from rupture of known earthquake faults are less than significant.

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐

6ii. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-1)***

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
See response to Item 6.a.i above.				
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefication?	☐	☒	☐	☐

6iii. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-1 – Regional Fault Zones, Figure PS-2 – Liquefaction Zones, and C.H.J., Inc. Geotechnical Investigation for Fairmount Park Improvements)***

Liquefaction is a process by which water-saturated materials lose strength and fail during strong ground shaking. Typically, liquefaction is a concern in areas of shallow groundwater. Liquefaction occurs primarily in saturated, loose, and fine to medium-grained soils in areas where the groundwater table is within approximately 50 feet of the surface. The site is located within an area of historically shallow groundwater. The Santa Ana River is located approximately one-half mile west of the project site. Additionally, the site is located within an area identified in the GP 2025 as having medium to high liquefaction susceptibility. As discussed in the C.H.J, Inc. Geological Investigation[3] (the Geotechnical Investigation), groundwater was encountered at depths ranging from 7.5 to 11.5 feet; therefore, implementation of mitigation measure **MM Geo 1** is required to reduce potential impacts to less than significant.

MM Geo 1: Site grading, preparation of fill and footing areas, and other subsurface structures shall be performed, at a minimum, in accordance with the C.H.J. Inc., Geotechnical Investigation recommendations and applicable portions of the CBC. Within areas to be graded for pavement, all undocumented fill shall be completely removed and cleaned of significant deleterious materials. To assist in the identification, removal, and densification of the undocumented fill and/or loose native soil, a mandatory minimum depth of 24 inches of existing soils below ground surface (bgs) shall be performed. In the event high moisture content is encountered at the subgrade, the project geotechnical engineer and City shall make a determination if soil stabilization is necessary. Stabilization methods may include, but not be limited to, the use of crushed aggregate, geogrid material, or a combination of both. Any soil stabilization shall be approved by the project geotechnical engineer and the City (or its designee) prior to implementation.

iv. Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐

6iv. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.6-1 – Areas Underlain by Steep Slope, and C.H.J., Inc. Geotechnical Investigation for Fairmount Park Improvements)***

The term "landslide," describes a wide variety of processes that result in the downward and outward movement of slope-forming materials including rock, soil, artificial fill, or a combination of these. The materials may move down slopes by falling, toppling, sliding, spreading, or flowing.

"Deep-seated landslides" refer to slope failures greater than approximately 10 feet in depth, and extending through the upper surficial soils into the underlying bedrock material. As indicated in the GP 2025 FPEIR, Figure 5.6-1, slopes in the surrounding project area is relatively flat, ranging from 0% to 10%. Furthermore, the Geotechnical Investigation states that the site is relatively flat and planar and slope stability is not considered to pose a hazard at this site. Therefore, landslide impacts associated with the project are considered less than significant.

b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐

6b. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.6-1 – Areas Underlain by Steep Slope, and C.H.J. Limited Geotechnical Investigation for Fairmount Park Improvements)***

Construction of the proposed project could result in soil erosion and/or the loss of topsoil. As required by the Clean Water Act, this project will have to obtain permit coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit (State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 99-08-DWQ) and implement an effective Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). With implementation of a SWPPP that incorporates sediment control and erosion control measures, impacts from soil erosion and topsoil loss during construction are considered less than significant.

[3] The Geotechnical Investigation is included as Appendix D to this Initial Study.

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Once operational the graded site areas will be landscaped and water will not be allowed to flow over so as to cause erosion. Because the surface of the site will be stabilized, substantial soil erosion or loss of top soil is not expected. Potential impacts are less than significant.				
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☒	☐	☐

6c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-1 – Regional Fault Zones, Figure PS-2 – Liquefaction Zones, General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure PS-3 – Soils with High Shrink-Swell Potential, Figure 5.6-1 - Areas Underlain by Steep Slope, and C.H.J. Limited Geotechnical Investigation for Fairmount Park Improvements)***

See Response to Items 6a.iii and 6a.iv above, for a discussion on liquefaction and landslides.

Lateral spreading refers to landslides that commonly form on gentle slopes, and that have rapid fluid-like flow movement, like water. Lateral spreads are distinctive because they usually occur on very gentle slopes or flat terrain. The dominant mode of movement is lateral extension accompanied by shear or tensile fractures. The failure in a lateral spread event is caused by liquefaction, the process whereby saturated, loose, and cohesionless sediments (usually sands and silts) are transformed from a solid into a liquefied state. Failure is usually triggered by rapid ground motion, such as that experienced during an earthquake, but can also be artificially induced. Due to the shallow groundwater observed at the project site, implementation of mitigation measure **MM Geo 1** is required to ensure impacts related to lateral spreading are reduced to less than significant.

Ground subsidence is a process characterized by downward displacement of surface material caused by natural phenomena such as removal of underground fluids, natural consolidation, dissolution of underground minerals, or by man-made phenomena such as underground mining. Ground subsidence is typically a gradual settling or sinking of the ground surface with little or no horizontal movement, although fissures (cracks and separations) are common. Subsidence can range from small or local collapses to broad regional lowering of the earth's surface. While subsidence typically occurs throughout a susceptible valley, additional displacement and fissures occur at or near the valley margin, where fault boundaries occur. Susceptible valleys are predominantly filled with unconsolidated sand and silty sand that include thin layers of silt and clayey silt. Fine-grained alluvium and organic matter often underlie the fissure areas.

The soils situated on the project site are observed to be undocumented fill comprised of silty sands, with minor amounts of clay in areas. The soils tested indicated a low shrink-swell potential characteristic; However, due to the shallow groundwater table and high moisture content encountered, subsidence could potentially occur. Therefore, implementation of mitigation measure **MM Geo 1** is required to ensure impacts related to ground subsidence are reduced to less than significant.

d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐

6d. Response: ***(Source: Table 5.6-B – Soil Types, Figure 5.6-5 – Soils with High Shrink-Swell Potential, and C.H.J. Limited Geotechnical Investigation for Fairmount Park Improvements)***

Expansive soils by definition contain significant amounts of clay which take in water causing them to shrink or swell depending on the soil moisture content. During soil investigation, materials observed were generally granular and are considered to be non-critically expansive. The results of the expansion index testing of on-site soils conducted in accordance with ASTM D 4829 standards by C.H.J. Inc., indicated no potential for expansion. Therefore, the potential for the project to create substantial risk to life or property from the project being located on an expansive soil is less than significant.

e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems	☐	☐	☐	☒

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				

6e. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)***

Fairmount Park is connected to the City's existing sewer system and the restroom proposed as part of the park improvements will connect to the City sewer. Since the proposed project will not include the construction or need for septic tanks for alternative waste water disposal systems; there are no impacts in this regard.

7. **HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐

7a. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)***

Maintenance operations at Fairmount Park entail the use of ordinary amounts of hazardous materials including fuel and herbicides. These materials are used and stored in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations and all applicable federal, state, and local regulations; therefore, use of these materials does not present a significant hazard to the public or the environment. The proposed park improvements will not increase the frequency or quantity of hazardous materials used for park maintenance; therefore impacts with respect to the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials will be less than significant.

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

7b. Response: ***(Source: EDR)***

As discussed in the response to Item 7a. above, the project does not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the use or transport of hazardous materials. Therefore, project-related operations would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. To evaluate the potential for the project site to contain hazardous materials or to be located on a hazardous materials site, a search of databases that contain information regarding hazardous materials, like those referred to in Government Code Section 65962.5 was conducted for the project site and a one-mile radius around Fairmount Park by Environmental Data Resources (EDR). The results of this search are documented in the EDR Radius Map Report (EDR Report), which is included as Appendix E to this Initial Study. The EDR Report did not identify any hazardous sites on the project site. The project is unlikely to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment and the impact is considered less than significant.

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

7c. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description and Thomas Guide)***

The proposed project is not within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. The nearest school is Bryant Elementary School, which is located approximately 2,300 feet southwest of the proposed project. Additionally, the proposed project does not include the use of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

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

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

7d. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-5, EDR)***

According to the GP 2025 Figure PS-5, the proposed project site is located within one-quarter mile of the Snyder Trust Property, which is on the Envirostor hazardous sites list. According to the EDR Report, which presents the results of a search of available environmental records for documented hazardous material sites (like those referred to in Government Code Section 65962.5), there are four sites within one-quarter mile of the proposed project. **Table 5: Hazardous Materials Sites Within One-Quarter Mile of the Project** indicates the site identified in the EDR Report as having the most likely potential of having impacts on the proposed project.

Table 5: Hazardous Materials Sites Within One-Quarter Mile of the Project

Site Address	Database Lists	Description	Facility in Vicinity
Orgn. Maint. Shop #4/ Military Department 2501 Fairmount Ct. Riverside, CA 92501	HIST UST, UST	This site is classified as an underground storage tank and was installed in 1964. The tank is used for unleaded fuel.	Nearest facility is the proposed access road located within Fairmount Park.
Fairmount Park Golf Course 2681 Dexter Dr. Riverside, CA 92501	LUST	This site is classified as a leaking underground storage tank. The substance leaking was found to be gasoline and since, has been closed and action is completed.	Nearest facility is the proposed lake vista plaza located south of Fairmount Lake.
OMS#4 2501 Fairmount Blvd. Riverside, CA 92501	RCRA-SQG, FINDS, HAZNET	This site is listed as having a small quantity generator. However, no waste has been recorded and no violations were found.	Nearest facility is the proposed access road located within Fairmount Park.
Hodges E E MRS 2544 Market St. Riverside, CA 92501	EDR Historical Cleaners	This site is listed as a historical drycleaners in 1930. However, no hazards have been recorded and no violations were found. In addition, the site is no longer in operation.	Nearest facility is the proposed access road located within Fairmount Park.
FPC Graphics Incorporated 2682 Market St. Riverside, CA 92501	RCRA-SQG, FINDS, LUST	This site is classified as a leaking underground storage tank and as having a small quantity generator.	Nearest facility is the proposed access road located within Fairmount Park.
Federal Records: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act – Small or Large Quantity Generators (RCRA-S or LQG), Facility Index System (FINDS). State and Local Records: Leaking Underground Storage Tank incident reports (LUST), Underground Storage Tank database (UST), Historical UST Registered Database (HIST UST), Hazardous waste manifests (HAZNET),			

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
However, none of the sites mentioned in **Table 4** are within the project footprint, and the sites closest to the project area are at elevations lower than the project site which would direct any possible contaminants away from the project area. Therefore, the project is not located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites and the impact is considered less than significant.				
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
7e. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-6 – Airport Safety Zones and Influence Areas, and Riverside County ALUCP West County Airports Background Data Exhibits FL-8 and Fl-9)*** According to the Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP), the proposed project is not located in an airport land use plan and in an area which would result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
7f. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-6 – Airport Safety Zones and Influence Areas)*** The proposed project is not in the vicinity of a private airstrip; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
7g. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Chapter 7.5.7 – Hazards & Hazardous Materials)*** Any potential hazard in the City resulting from a manmade or natural disaster may result in the need for the evacuation of a few or thousands of citizens in the City. The Emergency Management Office, within the Riverside Fire Department, coordinates emergency response, disaster preparedness, and disaster recovery, by activating the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The Office prepares an Emergency Operations Plan, essential to the coordination of efforts in response to a major disaster. The SEMS creates a system where City, County, and State emergency services work in a coordinated approach to respond to any disaster. The proposed project, which consists of improvements to Fairmount Park, will not impair or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated in this regard.				
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☐	☒
7h. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-7 – Fire Hazard Areas)*** The proposed park improvements are not located within a designated hazardous fire area. The project site is within Fairmount Park, which is surrounded primarily by urbanized and residential areas to the south and east and by Fairmount Lake and Santa Ana River to the north and west. Therefore, the proposed project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires and no impacts are anticipated.				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
8. **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☒	☐

8a. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, and SWRCB Order 99-08)***

Construction of the proposed park improvements has the potential to result in discharges from soil disturbance. However, the project will be required to comply with the NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit ("General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity – Order No. 99-08-DWQ") requirements, including the preparation of a SWPPP, which implements Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent storm water pollution. Through compliance with the regulatory requirements of the NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit and on-site drainage facilities, the project is not expected to violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements during construction.

After construction, stormwater may convey pollutants from the access road downstream to the lake waters. However, the proposed project includes a series of grassy swales and riprap to treat the stormwater from pollutants of concern (POC) and to slow down runoff prior to discharging into Fairmount Lake. Additionally, a project-specific WQMP shall be prepared and Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD) must review and approve the Final project-specific WQMP. The final project-specific WQMP is required to contain measures that will effectively treat all POC's and hydrologic conditions of concern, which are consistent with the approved WQMP, developed in compliance with their MS4 permit. Therefore, with implementation of the items discussed above, the project's potential to violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements is considered to be less than significant.

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

8b. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Table PF-1 – RPU Projected Domestic Water Supply (AC-FT/YR), Table PF-2 – RPU Projected Water Demand, RPU Map of the Water Supply Basins, and the RPU Urban Water Management Plan)***

Domestic water for the City of Riverside area is mostly supplied from local groundwater. Approximately 97% of the water supplied by the City of Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) is supplied from Bunker Hill, Riverside North and South, and the Gage Exchange groundwater basins. According to the GP 2025 FEIR, future water supply includes additional groundwater pumping and treatment, additional exchange with the Gage Canal Company, additional potable water made available through increased recycled water use, additional supply made available through the Seven Oaks Dam Conservation Storage Project, and increased imported water from WMWD.

Because safe yield will be maintained in the groundwater basins and none of the basins are overdrafted (nor are they projected to become so), other forms of conservation such as recycled water will be developed, and because the project will not require significant additional demand of water from groundwater supply, the project will not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level; therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

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

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
8c. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The proposed project does not include any streams or rivers on-site. Development of the proposed project will alter the current drainage of the project site by replacing landscaped areas with an asphalt concrete paved access road and by replacing the concrete slab in front of the Bandhsell with a sloped turf grass lawn area with concrete walkways. Because the project incorporates drainage features such as grassy swales, riprap and through site design, will incorporate source control and treatment BMP's for construction and operation, the park improvements are not expected to result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off- site or have a substantial adverse effect on infiltration of rainfall which would result in an increase in stormwater runoff rates or volumes. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in substantial erosion and impacts are considered less than significant.				
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
8d. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** See Response to Item 8c. above.				
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
8e. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** Project-related runoff will either infiltrate into the surface in the grassy areas of the project site or discharge to Fairmount Lake natural drainage system. Areas with impervious surfaces including the access road and scenic viewpoint along Fairmount Lake will contribute runoff water to the Fairmount Lake natural drainage system. The proposed project also includes a series of grassy swales and riprap to treat the stormwater from POCs and to slow down runoff prior to discharging into Fairmount Lake. A project-specific WQMP will be prepared and RCFC&WCD must review and approve the Final project-specific WQMP. The Final project-specific WQMP is required to contain measures that will effectively treat all POC's and hydrologic conditions of concern, which are consistent with the approved WQMP, developed in compliance with their MS4 permit. Therefore, with implementation of the items discussed above, the project's potential to violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements are considered to be less than significant. The construction of the proposed project may have the potential to result in stormwater discharge from the construction area. However, the project will be required to comply with the NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit ("General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity – Order No. 99-08-DWQ") requirements, including preparation of a SWPPP, which implements BMPs to prevent stormwater pollution. Through compliance with the regulatory requirements of the NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit and De Minimus permit, implementation of the project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Impacts are considered less than significant.				
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
8f. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, and SWRCB Order 99-08)*** Through compliance with the regulatory requirements of the NPDES Statewide General Construction Permit, the project is not expected to violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements during construction. Stormwater may convey pollutants from the site downstream to Fairmount Lake. However, implementation of the proposed project, which through site design, will satisfy the RWQCB requirements, through use of BMP's which will be identified in the project-specific WQMP and SWPPP. Additionally, the proposed project includes a series of grassy swales and riprap to treat the stormwater from POCs and to slow down runoff. Therefore, the project's potential to substantially degrade water quality is considered to be less than significant.				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒
8g. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-4 – Flood Hazard Areas)*** The proposed project does not include the construction of houses. Additionally, the project site is not within a 100-year flood hazard zone; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
8h. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-4 – Flood Hazard Areas)*** The proposed project is not in a 100-year flood hazard area; thus, there are no potential impacts to structures which would impede or redirect flood flows and are less than significant.				
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
8i. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-4 – Flood Hazard Areas)*** The proposed project is not within a 100-year flood hazard area, nor is it near a levee or dam. Additionally, the proposed project does not include structures that would expose people or structures to a significant loss, injury, or death involving flooding and there is no impact.				
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☒	☐
8j. Response: ***(Source: Thomas Guide 2008))*** The physical conditions associated with inundation by seiche or tsunami are not present in the project vicinity. Slopes located south of the amphitheater, adjacent to the proposed project site will not be disturbed due to development of this project and will remain stable. Therefore, potential for seiche, tsunami or mudflow is less than significant.				
9. **LAND USE AND PLANNING** Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
9a. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description and General Plan 2025 Land Use)*** The proposed project site is located within Fairmount Park, which has been at its current site since the 1870s. The project consists of improvements to Fairmount Park and does not entail any land uses changes. For these reasons, the project will not divide an established community and there are no impacts in this regard.				
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒
9b. Response: ***(Sources: Riverside Municipal Code, General Plan 2025, General Plan 2025 Figure LU-10 – Land Use Policy Map, Table LU-5 – Zoning/General Plan Consistency Matrix, Figure LU-7 – Redevelopment Areas, Title 19 – Zoning Code, Title 18 – Subdivision Code, Title 7 – Noise Code, Title 17 – Grading Code, Title 20 – Cultural Resources Code, Title 16 – Buildings and Construction and the Citywide Design and Sign Guidelines)*** The project site is within Fairmount Park, which is designated as Public Park in GP 2025 and zoned as Public Facilities in				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
the City's Zoning Code; therefore, the proposed project is consistent with the Land Use Plan and Zoning Code. Construction and operation of the park improvements will be in compliance with all applicable codes, requirements, and standards as outlined in the Riverside Municipal Code. For these reasons, the proposed project will not conflict with GP 2025 or the Riverside Municipal Code and there are not impacts in this regard.				
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☒	☐	☐
9c. Response: ***(Sources: Brian F. Smith and Associates, Habitat Assessment for Fairmont Park)*** See Response to Item 4f above.				
10. **MINERAL RESOURCES** Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☒	☐
10a. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure – OS-1 – Mineral Resources, and Project Description)*** According to the GP 2025, Figure OS-1 entitled "Mineral Resources", a portion of the project site is within an area designated as Mineral Resource Zone 4 (MRZ-4) for rock products. The MRZ-4 designation means there is not enough information available to determine the presence or absence of mineral deposits. Given the small size of the project site, the location of the project site within Fairmount Park and existing urban development surrounding Fairmount Park, it is highly unlikely that any surface mining or mineral recovery operation could feasibility take place on the project site; therefore, impacts are considered less than significant in this regard.				
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
10b. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure – OS-1)*** The project site is not located within an area of locally-important mineral resource recovery. In addition, due to existing urban development surrounding the project area, there is limited opportunity for locally-important mineral resources that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
11. **NOISE** Would the project result in:				
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐
11a. Response: ***(Source: Project Description, Riverside Municipal Code)*** Construction noise is exempt from the regulations set forth in Title 7, Section 7.35.010 of the Riverside Municipal Code, as long as all construction, repair, drilling, alteration, grading, or demolition is undertaken between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, except on weekends and federal holidays. Construction of the proposed project may involve large construction equipment that could exceed noise levels of 65 decibels in the short term. Due to the short term duration of the project construction, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant. Events and activities currently take place at Fairmount Park that includes the use of amplified sound. For non-City events, either a Special Event Permit (if street closure is required) or a Park Permit (if no street closure is required) must be issued by the City. The City reviews each permit application and depending upon the size of the event, places conditions upon the permit with respect to the use of amplified sound, including compliance with Title 7 of the Riverside Municipal Code. Once				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

operational, the Amphitheater is anticipated to increase events at the park from an average of approximately one event per month to two events per month. Although the frequency of events will increase, the proposed project does not include improvements to increase park capacity (e.g. no increase in the amount of parking spaces, no increase in usable park area). Therefore, noise levels at each event are expected to be consistent with pre-project conditions. Since events will be required to obtain a permit from the City that will identify conditions relative to the use of amplified sound and the type of events held at the park is not anticipated to change as a result of project implementation, impacts with respect to the exposure of sensitive receptors to excessive noise generation are considered less than significant.

b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

11b. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure N-1 – 2003 Roadway Noise, Figure N-2 – 2003 Freeway Noise, Figure N-3 – 2003 Railway Noise, Figure N-4 – 2025 Roadway Noise, Figure N-6 – 2025 Freeway Noise, Figure N-7 – 2025 Railroad Noise, Figure N-8 – Riverside and Flabob Airport Noise Contours, FPEIR Table 5.11-G – Vibration Source Levels For Construction Equipment, Appendix G – Noise Existing Conditions Report)***

As discussed in the Response to Item 11a, the Amphitheater is anticipated to increase events at the park from approximately one event per month to two events per month. However, implementation of the project is not anticipated to introduce any new sources of groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels that were not recognized previously. There are no existing sources located within the project area that would expose people to excessive groundborne vibrations or noise, such as trains. Groundborne vibrations may be generated infrequently by the use of heavy construction machinery during the grading and preparation of the site. However, this type of noise would be temporary and infrequent, and would be considered a less than significant impact.

c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐

11c. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure N-1 – 2003 Roadway Noise, Figure N-2 – 2003 Freeway Noise, Figure N-3 – 2003 Railway Noise, Figure N-4 – 2025 Roadway Noise, Figure N-6 – 2025 Freeway Noise, Figure N-7 – 2025 Railroad Noise, Figure N-8 – Riverside and Flabob Airport Noise Contours, FPEIR Table 5.11-G – Vibration Source Levels For Construction Equipment, Appendix G – Noise Existing Conditions Report)***

Once operational, the Amphitheater is anticipated to increase events at the park from approximately one event per month to two events per month. However, as stated in the Response to Item 11. a., either a Special Event Permit or a Park Permit. Both of which are issued by the City with conditions attached thereto, is required for any event that would use amplified sound.

The anticipated addition of one event per month at Fairmount Park does not constitute a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels and impacts are considered less than significant.

d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐

11d. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan Figure N-1 – 2003 Roadway Noise, Figure N-2 – 2003 Freeway Noise, Figure N-3 – 2003 Railway Noise, Figure N-4 – 2025 Roadway Noise, Figure N-6 – 2025 Freeway Noise, Figure N-7 – 2025 Railroad Noise, Figure N-8 – Riverside and Flabob Airport Noise Contours, FPEIR Table 5.11-G – Vibration Source Levels For Construction Equipment, and Appendix G – Noise Existing Conditions Report)***

During project construction, the project will comply with Title 7, Section 7.35.010 of the Riverside Municipal Code, which places time restrictions on construction activities involving heavy equipment in order to protect the public from construction noise impacts. Therefore, the project's temporary noise impacts from construction are considered less than significant through compliance with Title 7, Section 7.35.010 of the Riverside Municipal Code.

As discussed in the Responses to Items 11a, 11b, and 11c, once operational, the Amphitheater is anticipated to increase events at the park from approximately one event per month to two events per month. However, as previously discussed,

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
these events will be permitted either by a Special Use Permit or Park Permit issued by the City with conditions attached relative to the use of amplified music, including compliance with Title 7 of the Riverside Municipal Code. Since any special event using amplified sound will be permitted by the City, potential impacts resulting from a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels are considered less than significant.				
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
11e. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The closest airport to the project site is the Flabob Airport, approximately two miles southwest of Fairmount Park. However, the proposed project does not include uses that would expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
11f. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** Fairmount Park is not in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
12. **POPULATION AND HOUSING** Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
12a. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description and General Plan 2025)*** Implementation of the proposed project will not directly induce substantial population growth, as it does not include the construction of homes and businesses. The proposed project entails improvements to existing park facilities to serve existing residences. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated with respect to population growth.				
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
12b. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** Construction of improvements within Fairmount Park will not require the removal or demolition of housing. The nature of this project will not necessitate the construction of replacement housing; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
12c. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** See Response to Item 12b. above.				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
13. **PUBLIC SERVICES**				
Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a. Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

13a. Response: ***(Sources: FPEIR Table 5.13-B – Fire Station Locations, Table 5.13-C – Riverside Fire Department Statistics and Ordinance 5948 § 1)***

The City Fire Department (RFD) takes proactive and preventative measures to provide fire suppression and emergency response services for all private, institutional, and public facilities within the City. There are 14 total fire stations located throughout the City. The fire station closest to the project is Station #1 located 1 ½ miles east of the project site at 3420 Mission Inn Avenue. RFD maintains a 5 minute response time. Additionally, the RFD policy states that units will be located and staffed such that an effective response force of 4 units with 12 personnel minimum shall be available to all areas of the City within a maximum of 10 minutes (total response time).

Fairmout Park is already being served by RFD. Construction and operation of the proposed Amphitheater may result in the need for additional services from RFD since it is anticipated that after the Amphitheater is operational, additional events per month may take place. This increased use will not result in the need for additional fire protection, nor will the project impact service ratios, response times or other performance objectives. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

b. Police protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

13b. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 Figure PS-8 – Neighborhood Policing Centers)***

The City of Riverside Police Department (RPD) operates from three major facilities to deliver services to community residents, based on four geographical service areas called Neighborhood Policing Centers (NPCs). The NPC model was created to provide equitable and responsive services across the current and future City. The NPC model assigns officers to certain areas of the City, enabling officers to gain a better understanding of that segment of the community and for the community to become more familiar with the officers assigned to them.

Fairmount Park is already served by RPD, who regularly patrol the park in addition to responding to emergency calls. The construction of an Amphitheater is anticipated to result in one additional event per month. Events at the park require either a Special Event Permit or a Park Permit. Any event with live music or any event at which more than 100 people are anticipated require the event organizers to retain a private security guard. Additionally, it is anticipated that the park improvements will revitalize the public perception of Fairmount Park and decrease the number of vagrants, loiterers and homeless around the Fairmount Park area; thus, leading to a decrease in the need for police protection around the area. Since private security is required at large events or events with live music and the police currently patrol Fairmount Park, impacts related to police protection would be less than significant.

c. Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒

13c. Response: ***(Source: General Plan 2025 FPEIR Figure 5.13-2)***

The nature of this project will not necessitate the construction of new facilities or increase the demand on schools as the proposed project includes only improvements to Fairmount Park and will not result in an increase in the number of school-age children. Therefore, no impacts are expected.

d. Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒

13d. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure PR-1 – Parks, Open Spaces and Trails, Table PR-4 – Park and Recreation Facilities, Parks Master Plan 2003, GP 2025 FPEIR Table 5.14-A – Park and Recreation Facility***

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Types, and Table 5.14-C – Park and Recreation Facilities Funded in the Riverside Renaissance Initiative) The proposed project is improvements to Fairmount Park; thus any impacts to parks would be beneficial.				
e. Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
13e. Response: ***(Sources: General Plan 2025 Figure LU-8 – Community Facilities, FPEIR Figure 5.13-5 - Library Facilities, Figure 5.13-6 - Community Centers, Table 5.3-F – Riverside Community Centers, Parks Master Plan 2003, and Table 5.13-H – Riverside Public Library Service Standards)*** The proposed project is improvements to Fairmount Park and will not lead to an increase in population that would create a demand on public facilities or services; thus there will be no impacts in this regard.				
14. **RECREATION**				
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☒	☐
14a. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description, and General Plan 2025 Figure PR-1 – Parks, Open Spaces and Trails)*** One of the goals of the proposed improvements to Fairmount Park is to revitalize and rejuvenate the park to make it more attractive and accessible to park users. There are no facilities proposed that would increase the capacity of the park. The Amphitheater improvements are anticipated to result in an increase of the number of events at the Bandshell Area from one event per month to two events per month. Fairmount Park is currently being maintained by the City and any additional maintenance or use resulting from the proposed improvements would be less than significant.				
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
14b. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The proposed project includes improvements to Fairmount Park. However, upon analysis of the physical effects on the environment associated with the proposed park improvements, discussed throughout this Initial Study, the proposed park improvements will have a less than significant impact on the environment.				
15. **TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC** Would the project:				
a. Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
15a. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The proposed project includes the construction of a new gated access road from Fairmount Court located east off of Locust Street to Parking Lot #8 (the parking lot to the west side of the project). However, the development of the proposed access road will not increase traffic volumes on area roads and the City's street systems as the new access road will be gated and only used during special events to provide access to Stewarts Boathouse. During all other times, the access road will remain closed. Due to the proposed access road being specific to Fairmount Park and only operable during special events, and the fact it will not provide an additional access road in or through the park, impacts associated with traffic volumes is considered to be less than significant. The Amphitheater is anticipated to increase events at the park from approximately one event per month to two events per month. Although the frequency of events will increase, the proposed project does not include improvements that increase				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
park capacity (e.g. no new parking, no increase in usable park area), therefore no substantial increase in the amount of traffic associated with any given event is anticipated. Given that special events generally take place during non-peak hours and no substantial increases in the amount of traffic is anticipated as a result of the proposed park improvements, impacts are considered less than significant in this regard.				
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐
15b. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** See Response to 15a above.				
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
15c. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The closest airport to the project site is the Flabob Airport, approximately two miles southwest of the site. The proposed project does not contain any components that could alter air traffic patterns or increase air traffic; thus, no impacts are anticipated in this regard.				
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
15d. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description)*** Implementation of the proposed project will not change current roadway configurations, change road design features, or introduce incompatible uses. The access road will not contain any hazards due to a design feature; thus, no impacts are anticipated in this regard.				
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
15e. Response: ***(Project Description)*** The project will not reconfigure current roadways that would result in inadequate emergency access. In the event of an emergency, the proposed access road will provide additional emergency access by connecting the parking lot at Fairmount Court to Parking Lot #8 on the western portion of Fairmount Park. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.				
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	☐	☐	☒	☐
15f. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)*** The proposed project shall connect two existing parking lots (Fairmount Park parking lot and Parking Lot #8) via the proposed access road; which will result in a loss of approximately 11 parking spaces. However, the total number of parking spaces within the Fairmount Court parking lots is approximately 180, thus creating a loss of 3.8%. Additional parking is also provided by multiple existing parking lots within Fairmount Park. Therefore, the parking capacity will be adequate and the loss of 11 parking spaces is considered to be a less than significant impact.				
g. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
15g. Response: ***(Sources: Project Description)*** All proposed project improvements are within Fairmount Park and will not affect any alternative transportation; thus there will be no impacts in this regard.				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
16. **UTILITIES AND SYSTEM SERVICES** Would the project:				
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☒	☐

16a. Response: ***(Sources: City of Riverside Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Integrated Master Plan Phoenix Trunk System, General Plan 2025 Figure PF-2 – Sewer Facilities Map, FPEIR Figure 5.16-5 – Sewer Service Areas, and Table 5.16-K - Estimated Future Wastewater Generation for the City of Riverside's Sewer Service Area)***

The Riverside Water Quality Control Plant serves the existing park with wastewater treatment facilities. Based on the City of Riverside Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Integrated Master Plan, wastewater generation from land use designated as recreational parks is considered to be minimal. Additionally, the proposed project is not expected to result in additional or the exceedence of wastewater treatment requirements as the proposed project only serves to improve existing recreational park facilities; therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐

16b. Response: ***(Sources: City of Riverside Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Integrated Master Plan Phoenix Trunk System, General Plan 2025 Figure PF-2 – Sewer Facilities Map, FPEIR Figure 5.16-5 – Sewer Service Areas, and Table 5.16-K - Estimated Future Wastewater Generation for the City of Riverside's Sewer Service Area)***

The Riverside Water Quality Control Plant serves the existing park with wastewater treatment facilities. Based on the City of Riverside Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Integrated Master Plan, wastewater generation from land use designated as recreational parks is considered to be minimal. Additionally, the proposed project is not expected to result in additional or the exceedence of wastewater treatment requirements as the proposed project only serves to improve existing recreational park facilities. The proposed project may include an addition of one restroom; however, generation of water and wastewater from one new restroom is considered negligible with respect to the ultimate wastewater generation of Fairmount Park; therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐

16c. Response: ***(Source: Project Description)***

See response to 8e. above.

The nature of the proposed project will necessitate the construction of stormwater drainage facilities for the proposed access road, which will discharge to Fairmount Lake. Storm drain features in connection with the access road include curb and gutter, to convey stormwater to a grassy swale prior to discharge into Fairmount Lake. Although implementation of the proposed project will require the construction of drainage facilities, potential impacts from construction are analyzed as part of the proposed project and are less than significant as placement of said facilities will occur within Fairmount Park. No off-site drainage facilities are required.

d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☒	☐

16d. Response: ***(Source: City of Riverside General Plan EIR Section 5.16 – Utilities and Service Systems)***

According to the RPU Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), projected domestic water demand is expected to increase

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
from 77,767 acre-feet per year in 2005 to 99,835 acre-feet per year in 2025 in normal water years. The projected water demand (99,835 acre-feet) under the typical build-out scenario of the General Plan is below the water supply anticipated to be available to the RPU in that year (112,671 acre-feet). Therefore, water supply for the proposed project is expected to be sufficient and will not require new or expanded entitlements. In addition, water demand is not expected to be substantial with implementation of the proposed project, as the project only serves to improve on existing park facilities. Impacts are considered less than significant.				
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
16e. Response: ***(Source: City of Riverside General Plan EIR Section 5.16 – Utilities and Service Systems)*** The wastewater generated from activities at Fairmount Park is tributary to the Riverside Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP). The RWQCP has a maximum capacity of 40 million gallons per day (MGD) and the City is currently proposing to upgrade the RWCQP to 52.2 MGD. This upgrade will serve the needs of the areas within the City's sewer service area, over the 20-year build-out period evaluated in the GP 2025 FPEIR. Since the proposed park improvements will not increase population, the additional wastewater demand associated with the proposed park improvements is negligible and there is adequate capacity to serve the projected buildout of the City per GP 2025. The proposed project will not result in a determination that inadequate capacity exists to serve the project's projected demand and impacts are less than significant in this regard.				
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☒	☐
16f. Response: ***(Sources: City of Riverside General Plan EIR Section 5.16 – Utilities and Service Systems, and California Integrated Waste Management Board)*** Solid waste services will be managed by the Riverside County Waste Management Department. All non-hazardous solid waste collected is taken to the Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station, which is owned by the County of Riverside and operated under a 20-year franchise by a private company. Waste is then transferred to the Badlands Landfill for disposal. However, local trash haulers may dispose of collected waste at other County landfills in the area, such as the Lamb Canyon Landfill and El Sobrante Landfill. All Riverside County landfills are Class III disposal sites permitted to receive non-hazardous municipal solid waste. Construction of the Amphitheater will require the demolition of the concrete slab in the Bandshell area. Demolition waste has been targeted by the state for diversion from the waste stream. Demolition waste will be disposed of or transported offsite and recycled for reuse in accordance with applicable federal, and local laws. Solid waste generated by activities and events at Fairmount Park, is designated as "other sources" in the Riverside County Waste Management Department. Other sources of solid waste generators are state and national parks, recreation areas, and self-haul vehicles. The proposed project includes improvements to Fairmount Park, which are consistent with the Parks Master Plan, GP 2025, and the waste management plan. Therefore, the proposed park improvements will be served with sufficient permitted capacity for solid waste and impacts are considered negligible.				
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒
16g. Response: ***(Source: California Integrated Waste Management Board 2002 Landfill Facility Compliance Study)*** The City is currently achieving a 60% diversion rate, well above state requirements. The City remains committed to continuing its existing waste reduction and minimization efforts with the programs that are available through the City. Implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with any Federal, State, or Local regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated in this regard.				

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
17. **MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**				
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or an endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐

17a. Response: ***(Sources: Above Checklist)***

Potential to Degrade Quality of the Environment

The proposed project would not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment. As indicated in the foregoing analysis, either no impacts, less than significant impacts, or less than significant impacts with mitigation incorporated would occur with respect to each of the environmental issues analyzed in this Initial Study.

Potential to Impact Biological Resources

Implementation of the proposed project would not:

- substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species;
- cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels;
- threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community; or
- reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species.

A biological resources assessment was conducted for the project site. Due, in part, to the highly disturbed nature of the site, which is within Fairmount Park, the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species. The biological resources assessment indicated that the Dwarf Burr Ambrosia (USFWS endangered) has a low to moderate potential to occur on portions of the project site due to suitable habitat along the lake shore and in other wetland areas. With implementation of **MM Bio 1**, which requires a focused survey to be conducted if construction takes place during the flowering season (April-October) and a qualified biologist determine the appropriate disposition of any specimens that may be disturbed by project construction, potential impacts to the Dwarf Burr Ambrosia will be less than significant.

Oak Trees are present on the project site and will require removal. However, **MM Bio 2** requires that any tree removed due to the construction of the proposed project shall be relocated or replaced at a 1:1 ratio. With implementation of **MM Bio 2,** potential impacts to Oak Trees will be less than significant.

Potential to Eliminate Important Periods of California History or Prehistory

According to the Historical Records Search prepared for the project, Fairmount Park and the Fairmount Park Bandshell are listed in the NRHP; however, project-related architectural improvements occurring within the Bandshell area will not alter the Bandshell in any way and will be designed by an architect, sensitive to historical resources. In the event that historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources are unearthed during grading and excavation, implementation of mitigation measures **MM Cultural 1 and MM Cultural 2** will ensure potential impacts to historical resources remain below the level of significance.

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

ISSUES (AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION SOURCES):	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
17b. Response: ***(Sources: Above Checklist)*** As the project is below SCAQMD's regional thresholds (see Response to Item 3a.), the project's potential to contribute to a cumulative increase of criteria pollutants (i.e., carbon monoxide, ground-level ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in size) including those that are considered to be in non-attainment is considered less than significant. With respect to GHG, Table 2 in Response to Item 3b indicates that an estimated maximum of 344.01 Mt CO_2/year and 50.39 Mt CO_2/year will occur from project construction equipment in 2010 and 2011, respectively. The draft GHG threshold from CARB has yet to identify a performance standard for construction-related emissions for industrial or commercial projects. When compared to the draft SCAQMD thresholds, construction is below the recommended threshold of 3,000 MtCO_2 /year for residential/commercial projects. Therefore, the cumulative impact from GHG emissions is considered less than significant.				
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐
17c. Response: ***(Sources: City of Riverside General Plan 2025 EIR, and Above Checklist)*** Adherence to the mitigation measures identified herein will ensure that there will be no direct or indirect substantial adverse impacts to human beings.				

Note: Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21082.1, 21083, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21151, Public Resources Code; Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino, 202 Cal.App.3d 296 (1988); Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors, 222 Cal.App.3d 1337 (19

APPENDIX A

Air Quality Analysis Supporting Information

APPENDIX B

Biological Survey Report

APPENDIX C

Cultural Resources Database Search Results

APPENDIX D

Geotechnical Investigation

APPENDIX E

Hazards