Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

City of Baldwin Park

Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project

1561 E. Orangethorpe Avenue, Suite 240
Fullerton, California 92831
TEL (714) 526-7500 | FAX (714) 526-7004
www.cwecorp.com

Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project

Prepared for:

City of Baldwin Park
14403 E. Pacific Ave.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
TEL (626) 960-4011

Prepared by:

1561 E. Orangethorpe Avenue, Suite 240
Fullerton, California, 92831

TEL (714) 526-7500 | FAX (714) 526-7004 | www.cwecorp.com

August 2022

Table of Contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

Acronyms

AF	Acre-feet
AQCRs	Air Quality Control Regions
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGP	Construction General Permit
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CRHR	California Register of Historic Resources
dBA	Maximum A-Weighted Decibels
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
IPaC	Information for Planning and Conservation
IS/MND	Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
LACFCD	Los Angeles County Flood Control District
LACPW	Los Angeles County Public Works
LID	Low Impact Development
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
MT	Metric Tons
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	National American Heritage Commission
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEIR	Program Environmental Impact Report
PM	Particulate Matter
PPV	Peak Particle Velocity
PRIMP	Paleontological Resources Impact Mitigation Program
RAA	Reasonable Assurance Analysis
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCIC	South Central Coastal Information Center
SCWP	Safe, Clean Water Program
SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	Unites States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Services
USGR	Upper San Gabriel River

1. Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared on behalf of the City of Baldwin Park (City) to identify potential site-specific environmental constraints associated with the Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project (Project), located near the Interstate 605 (I-605) and Interstate 10 (I-10) interchange and along Patritti Avenue at Barnes Park (3251 Patritti Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706). This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.), and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 et seq).

This IS/MND is an information documentation intended for use by the City of Baldwin Park and members of the general public as a preliminary analysis to determine if there is substantial evidence that the Project may have significant effects on the environment. If site-specific environmental constraints are found to potentially have a significant effect on the environment, with mitigation, a site-specific Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should be prepared; otherwise, the lead agency may adopt a negative declaration or MND. This IS/MND was compiled for the City with the assistance of CWE. The City is serving as the Lead Agency for the proposed Project pursuant to CEQA §21067 and CEQA Guidelines Article 4 and §15367. "Lead Agency" refers to the public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a Project.

1.1 Purpose and Document Organization

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project. Mitigation measures, if required, have been incorporated into the Project to eliminate potential significant impacts or reduce them to a less-than-significant level.

This IS/MND is organized as follows:

- Section 1 – Introduction
- Section 2 – Project Description
- Section 3 – Initial Study/Environmental Checklist
- Section 4 – References

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) Enhanced Watershed Management Program's (EWMPs) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was used to tier off, evaluate and determine the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

1.2 Summary of Findings

The CEQA Appendix G Environmental (Initial Study) Checklist is included in **Section 3**. The Initial Study Checklist identifies potential environmental impacts, by sections, and provides a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed Project. Each response checked in the environmental checklist is discussed and supported with sufficient data and analysis as necessary. As appropriate, each section has discussion that describes and identifies specific impacts anticipated with project implementation.

2. Project Description

The City of Baldwin Park is proposing to construct the Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project (Project), located at Barnes Park (3251 Patritti Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706). The Project will expand the park onto a vacant lot to the north and improve recreational opportunities onsite. The whole park, excluding the existing building, splash pad, and part of the parking lot, will be demolished and reconstructed. The Project will include a stormwater capture system with Best Management Practices (BMPs) to capture, treat, and infiltrate runoff from a 443-acre catchment. Improvements will also be made near the intersections of Auckland Street and Barnes Avenue, and Syracuse Avenue and Finchley Street to address perceived surface flooding/ponding. Improvements will include modified grading and new catch basins that tie into the City's storm drain system.

The Project was included in the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) Plan prepared in June 2015 (revised January 2016). Barnes Park was identified as one of eight regional projects included in the USGR EWMP, based on an extensive Reasonable Assurance Analysis (RAA) and screening process. Additionally, the Project was included in the revised USGR EWMP and RAA, submitted to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board on June 2021, in response to the State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2020-0038, but has not yet been approved. A Feasibility Study was performed for the Project, in conjunction with the other projects identified in the USGR EWMP, to confirm they would be beneficial and to develop preliminary plans. The City used the Feasibility Study to support the development and submission of a grant application through the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's (LACFCD) Safe, Clean Water Program's (SCWP) Regional Infrastructure Program, which was reviewed and ultimately selected through the USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee. Overall, the Project will assist both the City and the USGR EWMP Group in addressing applicable Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and water quality priorities.

The Project will achieve a pollutant load reduction to downstream water bodies by capturing wet- and dry-weather runoff. Captured runoff will be discharged into a subsurface storage system that will facilitate infiltration and groundwater recharge. In addition to water quality benefits, the Project will have additional benefits including increased water conservation through groundwater recharge, community enhancements through a park expansion and amenity improvements, and public outreach and education. **Figure 2-1** illustrates the general concept of the project.

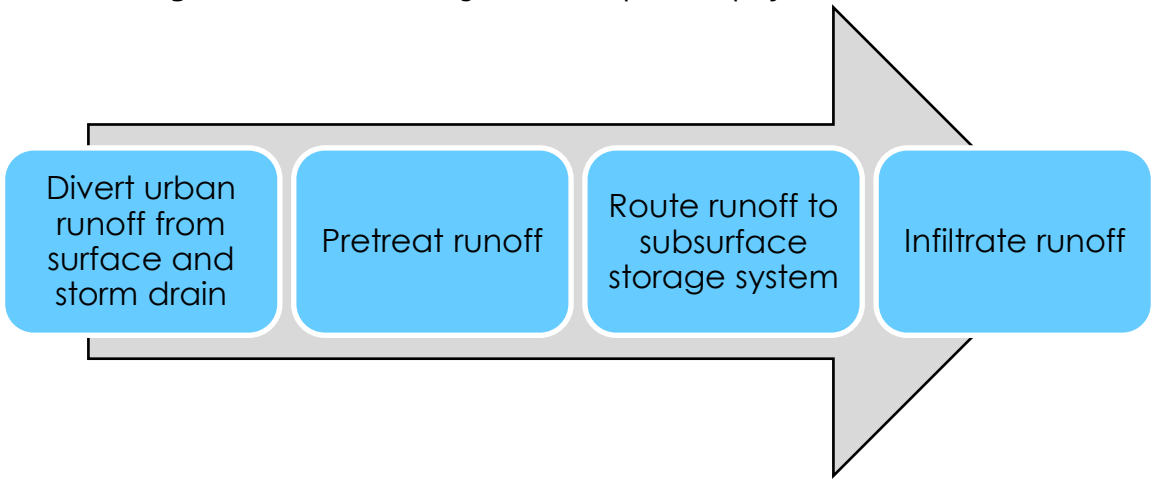

Figure 2-1 General Project Concept

Project goals are summarized as follows:

- Enhance water quality locally and in downstream water bodies (San Gabriel River)
- Reduce local dependency on imported water through groundwater recharge
- Educate local communities through education and outreach
- Reduce localized flooding in the Project drainage area
- Expand the park to provide increased green space available and public amenities
- Improve the park to include accessible features and new amenities
- Provide community enhancements through surface restoration and improvements

Subsurface improvements include the installation of a storage system with an approximate footprint of 0.5 acre and a dead storage capacity of up to 4 acre-feet, as well as a diversion pipeline and pretreatment unit. The main diversion pipeline will extend from the existing 81-inch diameter LACFCD Storm Drain (BI 9705) on Bess Avenue at Patritti Avenue to just south of the parking lot at Barnes Park to a subsurface infiltration system within the park. A second diversion system originates south of the park and includes a series of water quality inlets (or catch basin diversions) on Patritti Avenue and Syracuse Avenue at the southern limit of the neighborhood. Diversion piping will be installed along Patritti Avenue from the cul-de-sac to the park, just north of Torch Street. Diversion piping will also be installed along Syracuse Avenue from Garvey Avenue to Torch Street and then along Torch Street to the park, as is illustrated at the end of this section. A pretreatment system will be installed along each diversion system (one from the north and one from the south). The pretreatment systems will be capable of capturing and retaining trash, sediment, and debris. During the design storm event, the Project will be able to capture over 16 acre-feet (over 5 million gallons) of runoff for groundwater recharge, accounting for both infiltration and storage.

The Project involves a proposed connection to the existing LACFCD Storm Drain – BI 9705, which will require a connection flood permit with LACFCD. Work on the storm drain will be performed outside of the storm season (between April 16 and October 14), with the drain's full capacity and functionality restored prior to the storm season. The diversion connection will be designed to prevent stagnant water in order to prevent vector control issues. Furthermore, all of the proposed inlets will follow the LACFCD's storm drain transfer process, and will meet LACFCD standards.

The City also received Proposition 68 funding, allowing for additional park improvements. Surface improvements to the existing park include increasing the size of Barnes Park with development planned for two vacant parcels north of the existing park boundary. The existing park will be almost fully demolished, except for the existing building, splash pad area, and a portion of the parking lot, and replaced with new and enhanced features. Park improvements will include the following:

- Additional parking through an expanded parking lot and new street-side diagonal parking along Patritti Avenue south of the existing parking lot
- Modified and new trails around the park
- Two new basketball courts north of the existing building (replacing the one basketball court that existing under existing conditions)
- Grass/turf improvements and space for two soccer fields

- New futsal court in the expanded park area with seating for spectators
- Drought-tolerant landscaping, trees, and new irrigation system
- Surface swales with pedestrian bridges, especially on the north side of the park
- New dog park area on the south side of the existing park with fences and monument signs to create both a small dog area and an area for dogs of any size
- Play lots will be replaced with new equipment, new shade structures, and a larger playground that will feature big and small kid play areas, tables, benches, and an exercise equipment area
- New and improved shade shelters with tables, grills, and other amenities
- Space for movies and shows in the park (allow for equipment to be temporarily used)
- New staff restroom attached to the existing building
- Water features near the recreational building
- Fencing/wall enhancements around the park and along the expanded perimeter
- Improved lighting throughout the park, including pathway and sports lighting

Overall, development of the Project will involve demolition of most of the existing park and a portion of parking lot improvements; excavation for and installation of the subsurface storage system, pretreatment unit, and diversion pipelines; construction of park improvements and amenities; and installation of new wet and dry utilities, landscaping, and lighting.

2.1 Project Location

The proposed Project will be constructed in the City of Baldwin Park in Los Angeles County, California. The City of Baldwin Park, as shown in **Figure 2-2**, is in the eastern part of Los Angeles County, between the Cities of El Monte to the west, West Covina to the east, and Irwindale to the north. The Project site is located on the existing Barnes Park (3251 Patritti Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706), that is bound by the I-605 to the west and Patritti Avenue to the east. As shown in **Figure 2-3**, the proposed infiltration system will be located underneath Barnes Park. Diversion pipes and associated infrastructure will extend to multiple local streets, including: Patritti Avenue, Barnes Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Aukland Street, and Finchley Street. Some of these streets will be retrofitted with new catch basin inlets to alleviate local flooding problems.

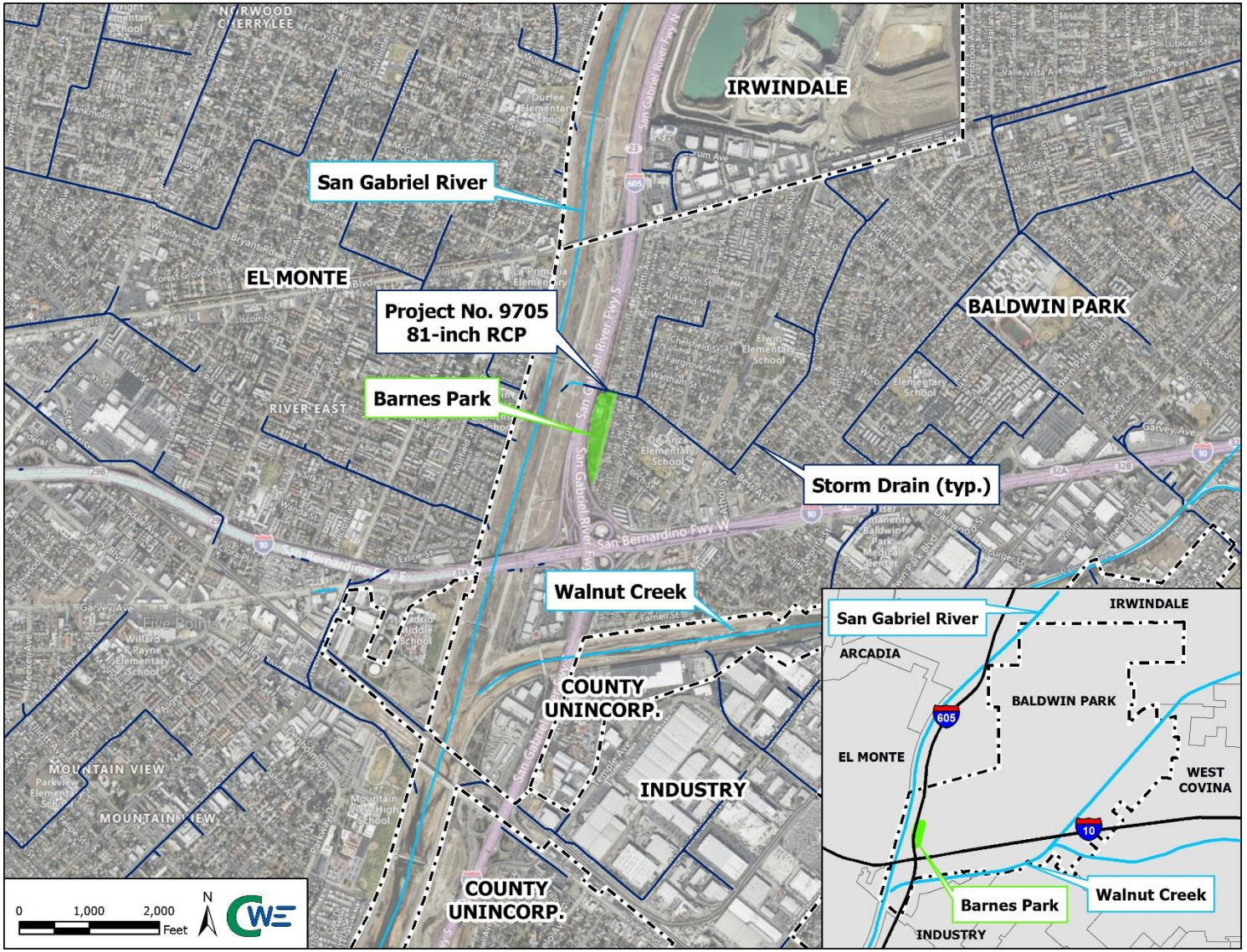

Figure 2-2 Project Location

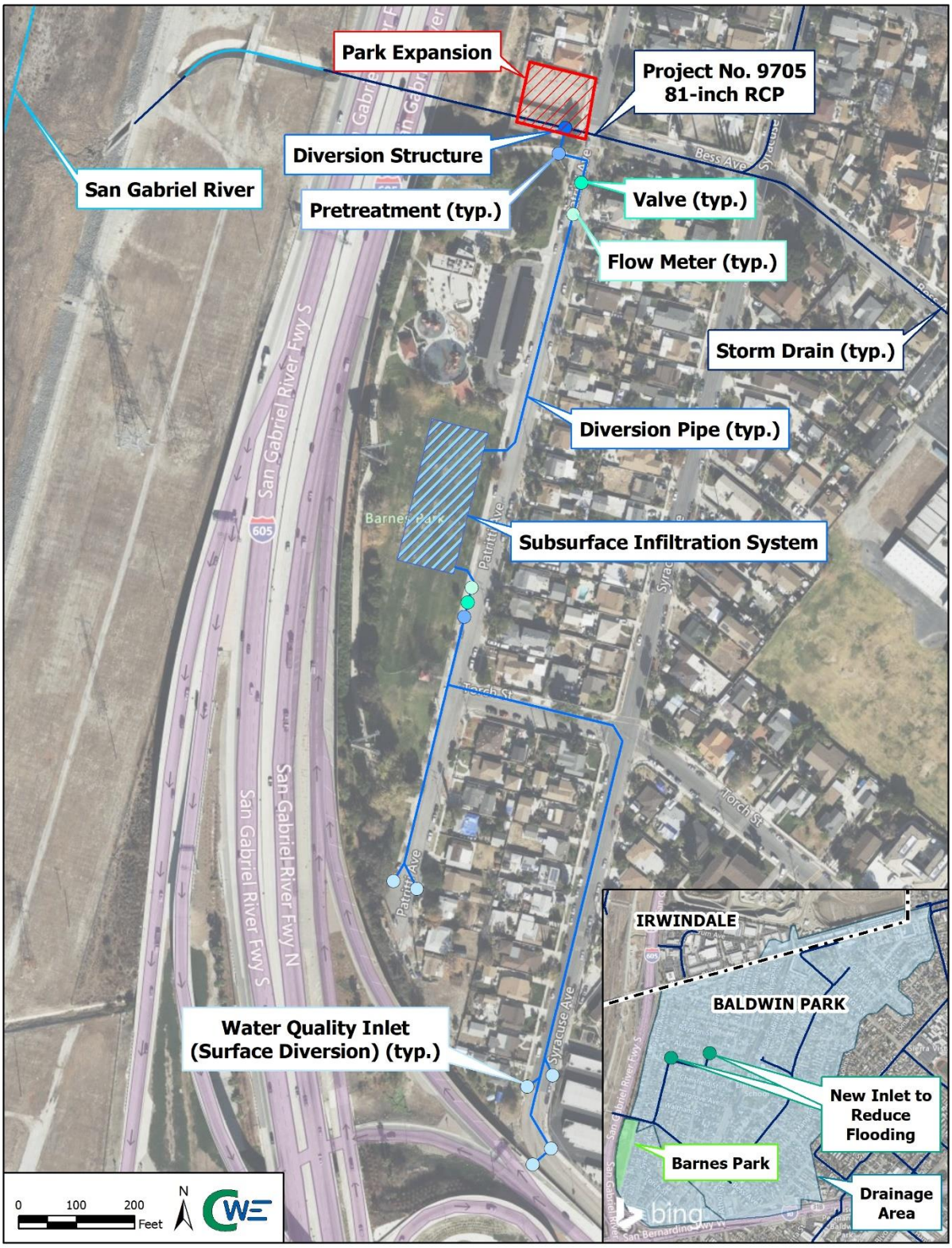

Figure 2-3 Barnes Park Subsurface Concept

3. Initial Study/Environmental Checklist

Environmental Checklist Form		
1.	**Project Title:**	Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project
2.	**Lead Agency Name and Address:**	City of Baldwin Park 14403 E. Pacific Avenue, Baldwin Park, CA 91706
3.	**Contact Person and Phone Number:**	David Lopez (626) 813-5255 ext. 458
4.	**Project Location:**	Barnes Park (3251 Patritti Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706) with expansion on the northern vacant lot (**see Figure 2-3**). Diversion piping and infrastructure will be along Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Aukland Street, Barnes Avenue, and Finchley Street
5.	**Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**	City of Baldwin Park 14403 E. Pacific Avenue, Baldwin Park, CA 91706
6.	**General Plan Designation:**	Public Streets and Residential
7.	**Zoning:**	Open Space, Single Family Residential
8.	**Description of Project:**	The City of Baldwin Park is proposing to construct and install a diversion, pretreatment, and underground infiltration system; construct and install catch basins along local streets; expand the park onto a City-owned vacant lot; and install various surface amenities to the park, such as new recreational fields and drought tolerant landscaping.
9.	**Surrounding land uses and setting:**	Single Family Residential, Interstate
10.	**Other public agencies whose approval is required:**	Los Angeles County Flood Control District
11.	**Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun?[a]**	On October 18, 2021, the City of Baldwin Park sent notification letters to the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, the Gabrielino Tongva Tribe, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Missions, pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 and Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1. The City did not receive responses from any of the tribes within 60 days; therefore, no consultations on the Project were conducted.

[a.] Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

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

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

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

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

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

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

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier 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

10.5.22
Date

3.1 Aesthetics

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The City's General Plan does not designate any scenic vistas within the City. However, the City is located near the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains, which are considered a scenic vista. The Project site is already developed and is located in an urbanized area. Intermittent long-range views of the San Gabriel Mountains can be seen across the Project area in between residential buildings, park infrastructure, and trees. However, the majority of the views area already obstructed due to the relatively flat topography of the area. Construction of the Project would require temporary ground disturbance activities. The presence of construction equipment and materials would be visible from public vantage points, but would not affect any scenic views or vistas after construction of the Project is complete. Therefore, the Project does not anticipate having a substantial adverse impact on a scenic vista, and impacts would considered to be less than significant.

b) The Project is located in a highly urbanized area of the City and is currently already developed as a public park. The Project is not located within the vicinity of a designated scenic highway. According to the California Department of Transportation's Scenic Highways Program Database, the nearest scenic highway is State Route 2 (SR-2), which is located in the San Gabriel Mountains. The Project does not contain any rock outcroppings, nor are there any historic buildings on-site. No trees will be removed as part of the project. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts to scenic resources.

c) The Project Site is located in a highly urbanized area of the City and is currently already developed. Construction activities associated with the Project would require the use of construction equipment and storage of materials on-site, thus introducing contrasting features into the visual landscape that affect the visual quality of the Project Site and the immediate vicinity. Contrasting features would include demolition materials, excavated areas, stockpiled soils, and other materials generated and stored on-site during construction. However, adverse effects to visual character associated with Project construction would be temporary. The Project will include surface improvements, such as planting of drought-tolerant vegetation, and expansion of the existing Barnes Park into a City-owned, vacant lot, which will enhance the aesthetics of the area. Because impacts to visual character will only occur during the construction phase of the Project, impacts will be less than significant.

a) The Project site is already located in a highly urbanized area, and is predominately surrounded by residential and interstate land uses. The Project site already has existing sources of light from the parking lot and the park itself. The only new sources of light or glare in the park will be installed lamp posts throughout the park to light up any new pedestrian pathways during night-time, and enhanced lighting systems for the recreational fields (i.e. soccer fields and basketball courts). Since Barnes Park exists currently with night-time lighting, any additional lighting added would be minimal and would be less than significant.

3.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 (FMMP) of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X

Discussion:

a) According to the State of California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), the Project site is not located in an area designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, there is no impact to farmland or agricultural resources.

b) The project site is not zoned for agricultural use and is not under a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, there are no impacts.

c) The Project location is located in residential and open space land uses. The project will not conflict with existing zoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production because none of those land uses exist within the Project site or the City of Baldwin Park itself. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

d) As discussed above, the City of Baldwin Park has no designated forest land or timberland within City boundaries. The site is currently zoned as residential and open space; therefore, there are no impacts to forest lands.

e) The Project site is not on land designated for agricultural land use and will not result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

3.3 Air Quality

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The City of Baldwin Park is located in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9. These agencies are county or regional governing authorities that have primary responsibility for controlling air pollution from stationary sources.

USEPA established primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 50, which specifies air quality standards of six criteria pollutants: particulate matter (measured as both particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter [PM_{10}] and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter [$PM_{2.5}$]), sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), ozone, and lead.

Federal regulations designate air quality control regions (AQCRs) in violation of the NAAQS as nonattainment areas. Federal regulations designate AQCRs with levels below the NAAQS as attainment areas. Maintenance areas are AQCRs that have previously been designated as nonattainment and have been redesignated to attainment for a probationary period through implementation of maintenance plans.

USEPA has designated the portion of Los Angeles County where the action is located as a nonattainment area for lead (through December 31, 2015), $PM_{2.5}$, and ozone, and as a maintenance area for PM_{10}, carbon monoxide and NO_2.

Applicable air quality plans include:

- 2016 Air Quality Management Plan
- Clean Communities Plan
- Air Quality Monitoring Network Plan
- 2012 Annual $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS Plan
- 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS
- 2006 24-Hour $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS
- 1997 Ozone NAAQS (80 ppb)
- 1979 1-hour Ozone NAAQS (120 ppb)
- 2012 Los Angeles County Lead Attainment State Implementation Plan

Since the proposed project will not generate air pollutants in excess of the SCAQMD's regional significance threshold, the proposed project will not cause of substantially contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, would not result in a cumulatively increase of any criteria pollutant, and will not impact air quality long term. Therefore, the project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan and are considered less than significant.

b) The Project is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which is a non-attainment area for respirable particulate matter (PM_{10}), fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), and Ozone. The SCAB is a designated attainment area for all other criteria pollutants. The SCAQMD has established Regional Significance Thresholds for each criteria pollutant. Potential air emissions were calculated using the CalEEMod, Version 2020.4.0, a model used to quantify air impacts from land use projects located throughout California. The following table shows the daily emissions rate for unmitigated construction during the duration of the construction of the Project, in comparison to the Regional Significance Thresholds

Pollutant	**NOx**	**PM_{10}**	**$PM_{2.5}$**	**SOx**	**CO**
Maximum Emissions rate (lbs/day)	87.66	8.52[a]	4.63[b]	0.20[c]	98.54
Mass Daily Thresholds (lbs/day)	100	150	55	150	550
Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No

[a] PM_{10} total modeled emissions
[b] $PM_{2.5}$ total modeled emissions
[c] SO_2 modeled emissions

The Project is not expected to result in a measurable long-term increase in air pollutant emissions. After construction, the Project will have minimal vehicle trips to the sites for inspection and maintenance procedures. Therefore, impacts would be considered less than significant.

c) Certain residents, such as the very young, the elderly, and those suffering from certain illnesses or disabilities, are particularly sensitive to air pollution and are considered sensitive receptors. The sensitive receptors of concern are De Anza Elementary School, located approximately 0.20 miles to the east, Twin Lakes Elementary School is located 0.25 miles to the west in the City of El Monte, and residents residing on Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue. However, the proposed project will not exceed the Regional Significance

Threshold of criteria pollutants; therefore, the proposed project will have a less than significant impact on nearby sensitive receptors with mitigation measure **AIR-1** and **AIR-2**.

d) Project construction equipment and activities, including diesel exhaust emissions, could generate odors. There may be situations where construction activity odors would be noticeable by persons working at or visiting nearby facilities, but these odors would not be unfamiliar or objectionable. In addition, these odors would be temporary and would dissipate rapidly from the source with an increase in distance. There are no long-term odors anticipated from the construction of the Project. Because there may be short-term odors as a result from the temporary construction of the Project, impacts will be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

AIR-1 – Pursuant to Rule 403 of the SCAQMD, the following dust minimizing measures shall be implemented:

- City of Baldwin Park and its designees shall comply with all applicable SCAQMD Rules and Regulations, including Rule 403 ensuring the cleanup of construction-related dirt on approach routes to the site. Rule 403 prohibits the release of fugitive dust emissions from any active operation, open storage pile or disturbed surface area visible beyond the property line of the emission source.
- City of Baldwin Park and its designees shall comply with all SCAQMD established minimum requirements for construction activities to reduce fugitive dust and PM_{10} emissions.
- City of Baldwin Park will encourage contractors to use low-emission equipment meeting Tier II emissions standards at a minimum, and Tier III and IV emissions standards, where available, as CARB-required emissions technologies become readily available to contractors in the region.
- Adequate water techniques shall be employed to mitigate the impact of construction-related dust particulates. Portions of the site that are undergoing surface earth moving operations shall be watered to mitigate blowing dust, and to ensure visible emissions do not exceed 100 feet in any direction. Areas with surface earth moving operations should then watered again at the end of each day.
- Grading operations shall be suspended during first stage ozone episodes or when winds exceed 25 mph. A high wind response plan shall be formulated for enhanced dust control if winds are forecast to exceed 25 mph in any upcoming 24-hour period.
- Any construction equipment using direct internal combustion engines shall use a diesel fuel with a maximum of 0.05 percent sulfur and four-degree retard.
- Construction operations affecting roadways within the project area including detour routes, shall be scheduled by implementing traffic hours and shall minimize obstruction of through traffic lanes.
- The engines of idling trucks or heavy equipment shall be turned off if the expected duration of idling exceeds five minutes.
- On-site heavy equipment used during grading and construction shall be equipped with diesel particulate filters unless it is demonstrated that such equipment is not available, or its use is not cost-competitive.
- All haul trucks leaving or entering the site shall be covered or have at least two feet of freeboard.

- Any on-site stockpiles of debris, dirt or other dusty material shall be covered or watered twice daily.
- Any site access points within 30 minutes of any visible dirt deposition on any public right of way shall be mechanically or manually swept.

3.4 Biological Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			X	
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?		X		
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
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?				X

Discussion:

a) The Project is located in a highly urbanized area of the City, predominantly surrounded by residential and interstate land uses. The Project site is currently developed as a park with playing areas, lawns, and a parking lot. According to a report generated through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), four federally listed species have the potential of occurring in the area: Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Vireo, Southwestern

Willow Flycatcher, and Monarch Butterfly, but lists no critical habitat in the Project Area. The Project is located in a highly urbanized area; the western and southern border of the park is adjacent to the I-605 / I-10 Interchange, while single family residential land uses are predominantly to the east. Because the I-605 is between Barnes Park and the San Gabriel River, it is unlikely suitable habitat exists for any of the species listed under the USFWS IPaC. Indirect impacts, such as percussive construction noise and vibration could interfere with roosting, nesting, and foraging activities in nearby ornamental trees; however, there is significant ambient noise generated from the nearby I-605 freeway already. Implementation of various mitigation measures will be required, including conducting pre-construction species surveys and carrying out protective measures in the event that special status species are found during construction. However, with the implementation mitigation measure **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, there will be a less than significant impact to sensitive, special status, or listed species.

b) According to the National Wetlands Inventory mapped by the USFWS, the San Gabriel River, which is on the opposite side of the I-605 freeway and west of the Project site, is designated as Riverine, Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland and Freshwater Emergent Wetland. However, there will be no work within the San Gabriel River, nor will the Project impact riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities. As a result, there would be no impact.

c) According to the National Wetlands Inventory mapped by the USFWS, the San Gabriel River, which is on the opposite side of the I-605 freeway and west of the Project site, is designated as Riverine, Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland and Freshwater Emergent Wetland. However, there will be no direct removal, filling, or hydrological interruption in the San Gabriel River due to the Project. Flows will be intercepted at Bess Avenue, Patritti Avenue, and at Syracuse Avenue; these flows will be redirected to a subsurface infiltration system. During dry-weather, flows are anticipated to be minimal and will not have a substantial effect on the San Gabriel River, as the river is dry during the dry-weather season. During wet-weather, flows from the project will not have a significant hydrological impact. Therefore, there will be no adverse effect on federally protected wetlands.

d) Flows will be intercepted at Bess Avenue and Patritti Avenue and at Syracuse Avenue will be redirected to a subsurface infiltration system. During dry-weather, because flows are anticipated to be minimal, and because the San Gabriel River is typically dry between April and October (according to the LACFCD's PEIR), there will be no impact to the movement or the habitats of wildlife. During wet-weather, the San Gabriel River already conveys a significant amount of flow, and flows directed to the subsurface infiltration system from the Project will not be significant enough to additionally impede the movement of wildlife in the San Gabriel River. Additionally, according to the LACFCD PEIR, Section 3.8, structural BMPs being designed to address MS4 permit requirements, such as the subject project, will minimize off-site discharge of urban runoff pollutants, including silt and sediment, such that the Project will not alter existing drainage patterns or alter the course of a stream or river. Should the Project divert or obstruct the *natural* flow of the San Gabriel River, the Project will provide written notification to CDFW pursuant to section 1600 *et seq*. of the Fish and Game Code.

Because the Project is located in a heavily urbanized area, and includes several ornamental trees, there is potential that these trees may provide habitat for nesting birds. Construction activities could indirectly disturb nesting bird habitat; therefore, with the incorporation of Mitigation measure **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, impacts from the Project would be less than significant. Therefore, impacts from the Project would be less than significant.

e) The Project will not conflict with the City's Tree Protection and Preservation Ordinance. Ornamental trees are located throughout the Park; however, none will be disturbed or removed as part of the Project. Therefore, there will be no anticipated impact.

f) The Project will not conflict with any adopted conservation plan, nor is the Project located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or an approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, there will be no anticipated impact.

Mitigation Measures:

BIO-1 – Prior to ground-disturbing activities in areas that could support sensitive biological resources, a habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine the potential for special-status wildlife species to occur within affected areas, including areas directly or indirectly impacted by construction or operation of the BMPs. If a special-status wildlife species is found, pre-construction surveys of proposed work zones should be conducted 14 days prior to construction. Areas, including construction areas, staging areas, and right-of-ways, should be staked, flagged, fenced, or otherwise clearly delineated to restrict the limits of construction to the minimum necessary near areas that may support special-status wildlife species with special-status wildlife species; if avoidance is not possible, the City of Baldwin Park should consult with the appropriate regulating agency (USACE/USFWS/CDFW) to determine a strategy for compliance with the Endangered Species Act, California Fish and Wildlife Code, or other regulations supporting special-status species. The City of Baldwin Park will work together with those regulating agencies to determine appropriate impact minimization measures and compensation for any permanent impacts due to the Project.

BIO-2 – To protect nesting birds that may occur on site or adjacent to the Project boundary, no construction shall occur from February 1 through September 15, as early as January 1 for some raptors, unless a qualified biologist completes a survey for nesting bird activity within a 500-foot radius of the construction site. The nesting bird surveys shall be conducted at appropriate nesting times and concentrate on potential roosting or perch sites. The City of Baldwin Park should require surveys be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 7 days prior to the beginning of any Project-related activity likely to impact raptors and migratory songbirds, for the entire Project site. If Project activities are delayed or suspended for more than 7 days during the breeding season, the surveys shall be repeated. If nesting raptors and migratory songbirds are identified, the following minimum no-disturbance buffers shall be implemented: 300 feet around active passerine (perching birds and songbirds) nests, 500 feet around active non-listed raptor nests, and 0.5 mile around active listed bird nests. These buffers shall be maintained until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. Any sensitive and special status species data documented by the Project shall be submitted to the California Natural Diversity Database with all applicable data fields filled out. The City of Baldwin Park and/or a designee will notify the CDFW once submitted.

BIO-3 – The Project shall implement BMPs to prevent erosion and the discharge of sediment and pollutants into drainages during Project activities. BMPs shall be monitored and repaired, as necessary, to ensure maximum erosion, sediment, and pollution control. The Project proponent shall prohibit the use of erosion control materials potentially harmful to fish and wildlife species, such as mono-filament netting (erosion control matting) or similar material. All fiber rolls, straw wattles, and/or hay bales utilized within and adjacent to the Project site shall be free of nonnative plant materials. Fiber rolls or erosion control mesh shall be made of loose-weave mesh that is not fused at the intersections of the weave, such as jute, or coconut (coir) fiber, or other products without welded weaves.

3.5 Cultural Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		X		
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?		X		

Discussion:

a) The Project includes the expansion of a park that includes the construction and installation of a subsurface infiltration system, piping, and appurtenances, which could potentially cause impacts on cultural resources during the construction phase of the Project. A Cultural Resources Assessment was conducted by LSA Associates, which included a Sacred Land Files Search, and a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC).

Data from the records search at SCCIC indicated that there have been 36 previous studies within a mile of the Project, one of which included a portion of the Project's area. Although there were no resources documented within or adjacent to the Project area, 30 historic-period resources, including two archaeological sites, are within a mile of the Project. The nearest is a historic period power transmission line, approximately 250 feet west of the Project area. No prehistoric resources were documented within a mile of the Project.

In June 2021, a Sacred Lands File search was requested from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The Sacred Land Files search came back as negative. Additionally, the City reached out to the Gabrieleno Band of Misison Indians – Kizh Nation, the Gabrieleno Tongva Tribe, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians on October 18, 2021, to pursue consultation on the Project. The City did not receive any responses within 60 days.

b) See discussion above in part a). However, if during construction any archaeological remains are found, all construction will cease until qualified personnel can identify the remains and mitigate the findings. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**.

c) No formal cemeteries are on or near the Project site. Most Native American human remains are found in association with prehistoric archaeological sites. The Cultural Resources Assessment indicated that no prehistoric resources were found within a mile of the Project's area. There is low

potential for the project to encounter human remains during ground-disturbing activities. However, if during construction, any remains are found, all construction will cease until qualified personnel can identify the remains and mitigate the findings. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**.

Mitigation Measures:

CUL-1 - If previously unidentified cultural resources and/or tribal cultural resources are unearthed during ground activity, all work shall immediately be suspended within 100 feet of the discovery and the City shall be immediately notified. A qualified archaeologist and a Native American monitor shall assess the significance of the find and determine if it is a California Register of Historic Resource (CRHR)-eligible archaeological resource and/or tribal cultural resource. If the qualified archaeologist determines that adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources or significant archaeological resources could occur during the Project, then the resources shall be avoided from direct Project impacts by Project redesign, if feasible. If the resource cannot be avoided, then an archaeological treatment plan shall be developed and implemented.

CUL-2 - In compliance with Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are encountered, all ground disturbing activities shall be immediately suspended within 100 feet of the discovery, and the Los Angeles County Coroner should be notified immediately. If the Coroner determines the remains are Native American in origin, they must notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours of such identification so that the Native American Heritage Commission can contact the Most Likely Descendant (MLD). The MLD shall be provided access to the discovery and will provide recommendations for treatment of the remains within 48 hours of accessing the discovery site. Disposition of human remains and any associated grave goods, if encountered, shall be treated in accordance with procedures and requirements set forth in Sections 5097.94 and 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code; Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.

3.6 Energy

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The Project would result in consumption of energy resources during construction and operation. During construction, the Project would use heavy construction equipment and require worker, vendor, and hauling trips to install the proposed underground stormwater and drainage facilities, landscape improvements, and improved park amenities and recreational features. The Project would require construction contractors and vehicle operators to comply with applicable state regulations governing heavy duty diesel on- and off-road equipment to minimize transportation fuel consumption, as noted in **Section 3.3**. During operation of the Project, it is assumed that there would not be a substantial increase in mobile trips, as the Project would only require periodic inspection and maintenance. The new infrastructure and improved park amenities would not result in a substantial increase in electricity usage and the Project site would be restored to near existing conditions after Project completion. Therefore, the Project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, and would not increase the need for new energy infrastructure. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) The Project will be designed in a manner consistent with relevant energy conservation plans, including the City's General Plan. The City's General Plan has a section on Health and Sustainability. The goal of the section is to encourage conservation activities and programs throughout the City. The Project would not conflict or obstruct any local or state plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency; therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

3.7 Geology and Soils

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
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?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?			X	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		X		

Discussion:

a)

i) The Project site is located in Southern California, which is a seismically active area. According to the Geotechnical Report prepared in September 2021 by Terracon, which evaluated nearby faults by using data from the California Department of Conservation's Division of Mines and Geology, the Project is not located within a known earthquake fault zone delineated on an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

ii) The Project site is located in Southern California, which is a seismically active area. However, the potential for hazards associated with strong seismic ground shaking, such as ground surface rupture, is considered low. The proposed Project would be designed and constructed in accordance with the federal, state, and municipal building codes relative to seismic criteria, including the 2019 California Building Code, which enacts seismic safety standards for structural construction. Therefore, the impact from strong seismic ground shaking would be considered less than significant.

iii) According to the California Geological Survey, the Project is located in a Liquefaction Zone as shown on the Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation: Baldwin Park Quadrangle, 1999 Map. Terracon performed a Geotechnical Study in September 2021 for the Project, and based on their findings, although the Project is located in a Liquefaction Zone, liquefaction hazard potential at the site is considered low based on the anticipated depth to groundwater. Other geologic hazards risks related to liquefaction, such as the potential of lateral spreading, are also considered low. Therefore, impacts from seismic-related ground failure are considered less than significant.

iv) Earthquake-induced landslides often occur in areas where previous landslides have moved and in areas where the topographic, geologic, geotechnical, and subsurface groundwater conditions are conductive to ground displacement. The Project site is located in a relatively flat and highly urbanized area of the City. According to the Geotechnical Report, the Project is not situated in an area considered to be susceptible to seismic-induced landslides. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

b) Construction of the Project would result in ground surface disruption during excavation, grading, and trenching activities, which would create the potential for erosion to occur. Wind erosion will be minimized through soil stabilization measures, as required by the SCAQMD's Rule 403, and will be mitigated via Mitigation Measure **AIR-1**, as noted in **Section 3.3**. Potential for water erosion would be minimized by implementation of erosion control measures during the Project's construction. Construction activities are subject to the requirements of the California State Construction General Permit, which will require the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP will incorporate BMPs to control erosion and sediment during the construction period. All stormwater and drainage facilities that will be installed underground will have the ground level restored to near existing conditions post-construction. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

c) As noted above in **Sections 3.7(a)** and **(b)**, the potential for landslides, lateral spreading, and liquefaction are all low, according to the Project's Geotechnical Report. The Project will comply with

all recommendations and parameters included in the Geotechnical Report related to grading and earthwork, temporary excavations, drainage, foundations, retaining walls, and design. By implementing the recommendations included in the Geotechnical Report for both the design and construction phases, ground and soil stability hazards from the Project would be less than significant.

d) The Project site is predominantly underlain by poorly graded sand with gravel, and sand with varying amounts of silt and gravel. These are not expansive soils as defined in the Uniform Building Code. If expansive soils were to be found during Project construction, site-specific design criteria and remedial grading techniques would be identified and implemented by the City, per the California Building Code's requirements, and the Geotechnical Report's recommendations to minimize potential for risks due to expansive soils. As a result, impacts would be less than significant.

e) The Project will not require the installation of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems since the Project is not proposing to build any habitable structures or restroom facilities. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

f) LSA conducted a Paleontological Analysis in September 2021 and concluded the project site contains Artificial Fill, which has no paleontological sensitivity, as well as Young Alluvial Fan Deposits, which have low paleontological sensitivity from the surface to a depth of 10 feet and high sensitivity below that depth. With excavation for the subsurface project components extending to depths of 15 feet to 25 feet across the project site, development of this project is expected to extend into paleontologically sensitive sediments of Young Alluvial Fan Deposits, which has the potential to impact scientifically significant paleontological resources. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measures **PALEO-1** through **PALEO-3**, impacts by the Project will be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

PALEO-1: A paleontologist who meets the qualifications of established by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) shall be retained to develop a Paleontological Resources Impact Mitigation Program (PRIMP) for this project. The PRIMP shall be consistent with the standards of the SVP and include the methods that will be used to protect paleontological resources that may exist within the project site, as well as procedures for monitoring, fossil preparation and identification, curation into a repository, and preparation of a report at the conclusion of grading. The paleontologist will also perform a Construction Worker Paleontological Resources Sensitivity training prior to any ground disturbing activities.

PALEO-2: Excavation and grading activities in deposits with high paleontological sensitivity (i.e., Young Alluvial Fan Deposits below a depth of 10 feet) shall be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor following a PRIMP. No monitoring is required for excavations in deposits with no paleontological sensitivity (i.e., Artificial Fill). If paleontological resources are encountered during the course of ground disturbance, the paleontological monitor shall have the authority to temporarily redirect construction away from the area of the find. In the event that paleontological resources are encountered when a paleontological monitor is not present, work in the immediate area of the find shall be redirected, and the paleontologist or paleontological monitor shall be contacted to assess the find for scientific significance. If determined to be scientifically significant, the fossil shall be collected from the field.

PALEO-3: Collected resources shall be prepared to the point of identification, identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible, cataloged, and curated into the permanent collections of a museum repository. At the conclusion of the monitoring program, a report of findings shall be prepared to document the results of the monitoring program.

3.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) As discussed in the Air Quality impact analysis, the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions generated by the proposed project would not exceed the SCAQMD's recommended threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$ per year for non-industrial projects. The construction phase's GHG emissions were calculated using CalEEMod, Version 2020.4.0. The following table shows the unmitigated, yearly emissions rate for in comparison to the Regional Significance Threshold. Because GHG missions will not exceed the SCAQMD threshold, the project would have a less than significant impact with respect to GHG emissions.

Pollutant	CO_2
Maximum Construction Emissions rate (MT/year)	363.42
Maximum Operations Emissions rate (MT/year)	7.04
SCAQMD Threshold (MT/year)	3,000
Exceed Threshold?	No

b) The City of Baldwin Park does not currently have an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. In 2006, California passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), which requires the CARB to design and implement emission limits, regulations, and other measures, such that feasible and cost-effective statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to 1990 levels, representing an approximate 25 percent reduction in total emissions. Statewide strategies to reduce GHG emissions include building and construction emission requirements specified in the California Green Building Standards Code. The Project will incorporate measures listed by AB 32, such as using construction equipment that minimizes GHG emissions. Because the project does not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of GHG, there would be no anticipated impact.

3.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
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?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
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?				X
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			X	

Discussion:

a) Hazardous materials are substances of chemicals that pose a health hazard, physical hazard, or harm to the environment. Hazardous materials are defined and regulated by federal, state, and local agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), EPA, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Anticipated construction activities may require the transport, storage, use, and disposal of small amounts of hazardous materials that may include gasoline, diesel, hydraulic fluids, oils and lubricants and other similarly related materials for the

Project site. In addition, hazardous materials may be needed for fueling and servicing construction equipment on the Project Site. During construction of the Project, material safety data sheets for all applicable materials present at the Project Site would be made readily available to onsite personnel. All transport, handling, use and disposal of substances such as petroleum products related to construction would comply with all federal, state, and local laws regulating the management and use of hazardous materials. Best management practices would be in place to ensure the lawful and proper storage and use of these materials. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) As discussed above, construction activities associated with the Project will involve hazardous materials. Construction contractors will be required to use standard controls and safety procedures that would avoid and minimize the potential for accidental release of hazardous substances into the environment. Standard construction practices would be observed such that any materials released are appropriately contained and remediated as required by local, state, and federal law. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

c) De Anza Elementary School and Twin Lakes Elementary School are both within a quarter mile of the Project site. As discussed in the previous sections, handling and disposal of hazardous materials is anticipated to be minimal, and would be conducted in compliance with existing federal, state, and county regulations. There is potential for dust emissions to be noticeable at these sites, but with the incorporation of mitigation measures mentioned in **Section 3**, impacts would be considered less than significant.

d) There are no Federal Superfund or other cleanup sites within the vicinity of the proposed project. According to the California Department of Toxic Substances' EnviroStor website[1], the nearest Federal Superfund site is the San Gabriel Valley (Area 2) Superfund site, which is over 1.5 miles northeast of the Project. Additionally, the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker website[2] did not identify the site as containing an underground storage tank for which an unauthorized release report was filed. Therefore, there would be no impact.

e) The Project is located more than two miles away from San Gabriel Valley Airport, and is not in a designated Airport Land Use Area. The Project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or where such a plan has been adopted within two miles of a public airport. Therefore, the Project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the Project area, and as a result, there would be no impact.

f) Implementation of the proposed Project would increase the potential need for emergency access to and from the site. However, the Project would not impair implementation or physically interfere with any adopted emergency response or evacuation plans. The City of Baldwin Park has an emergency response plan called the Baldwin Park MultiHazard Functional Plan, which identifies City planning responses to emergency situations, such as fire, earthquake, flooding and more. The emergency response plan also designated evacuation routes for various types of hazards. Because the Project will likely increase visitation to the Park and will increase the potential needs for emergency access, impacts would be less than significant.

g) The City of Baldwin Park does not contain any lands designated as a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. As such, implementation of the Project is not likely to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires; therefore, no impacts would occur.

[1] https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?global
[2] https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/

3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The goal of the Project is to provide an enhancement to water quality by capturing, treating, and infiltrating stormwater runoff to recharge the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. During construction, a SWPPP will be prepared and BMPs will be implemented to prevent erosion and

sedimentation. Compliance with the Construction General Permit (CGP) will ensure that the construction will have no permanent impact to water quality.

The Project will capture urban runoff from a 443-acre catchment of various land uses to assist the USGR EWMP Group in addressing the San Gabriel River Metals and Bacteria TMDLs, as well as a variety of 303(d) listings. The EWMP's RAA details the Los Angeles County MS4 pollutant loading requirements for subwatershed areas draining to the San Gabriel River. The Project would include the construction of a subsurface infiltration gallery and associated underground infrastructure. The Project BMPs are designed to reduce the transport of pollutants such as copper, lead, zinc, and *E. coli*, thereby improving water quality. The increased infiltration of stormwater resulting from Project implementation would increase local groundwater recharge and reducing peak storm flows. Therefore, due to the intent of the Project and with incorporation of the standard and required BMPs, impacts would be less than significant.

b) Groundwater supplies will not be affected negatively since the project does not have additional demand for groundwater. The Project intends to pretreat stormwater for groundwater recharge which will have a beneficial impact to the local groundwater supplies. Therefore, there are no anticipated negative impacts to groundwater supplies.

c)

i. The proposed Project would not adversely affect existing drainage patterns, not cause siltation or erosion. However, the Project will divert stormwater flows from entering the natural, soft-bottomed portion of the San Gabriel River into a subsurface infiltration gallery. The local drainage would mostly remain as it exists currently, since the Project is not proposed to construct any new drainage channels. Furthermore, the Project will incorporate a pre-treatment facility, which will capture any silt or sediment being collected from urban runoff. As a result, substantial erosion or siltation will not be expected to occur outside of the construction phase, and therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

ii. The Project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area resulting in flooding on or offsite. The Project intends to capture runoff from a 443-acre drainage area includes construction of new inlets to address local flooding observed in the Project's drainage area. As a result, the Project would have a beneficial impact by reducing flooding problems within the City. Additionally, the Project will not alter existing drainage patterns or alter the course of the San Gabriel River, as the river is dry between April through October, and during wet-weather events, the San Gabriel River already conveys a significant amount of flow, and flows will be redirected to a subsurface infiltration system, thereby preventing flooding. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

iii. The Project will not contribute runoff which will exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The Project intends to capture runoff from the drainage area upstream and divert flows to a pretreatment system and subsurface infiltration gallery, thereby reducing pollutant loads. As such, there would be no anticipated impacts.

iv. The Project intends to capture, treat, and route urban runoff into a subsurface infiltration gallery to reduce polluted stormwater from being discharged to the San Gabriel River. As such, the Project would be redirecting flood flows into an infiltration gallery; therefore, there is a less than significant impact.

d) The proposed Project is not within a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Project is located in a Zone X, which is outside the 0.2% annual chance flood area. The pre-existing storm drains maintained in the Project's boundaries are also in Zone X. Because the project will not decrease the flow-carrying capacity of the storm drain, and does not hinder the storm drain's ability to perform its stormwater management function, the Project's area will remain in a Zone X. The proposed Project is also approximately 300 feet above sea level and is approximately 30 miles from the coast. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

e) The Project will not conflict with the Los Angeles Regional Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles, which was designed to protect the beneficial uses of waters within the coastal watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The Basin Plan identifies beneficial uses for surface and ground waters, identifies narrative and numerical water quality objectives for regional attainment, and describes implementation programs and other necessary actions to achieve water quality objects to meet the California State Water Resource Control Board's Anti-Degradation Policy (Resolution 68-16). Furthermore, the Project will implement a SWPPP and comply with Low Impact Development (LID) requirements. As such, the Proposed project would not conflict or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan.

3.11 Land Use and Planning

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The Project is located in the City of Baldwin Park and is subject to compliance with the City's adopted plans, policies, and regulations. The Project will expand the park onto a City-owned vacant lot, just north of the current Barnes Park. The park expansion will remain consistent with current land zoning designations and would not physically divide the surrounding established community. As a result, there would be no impacts.

b) The Project site's current land use designation is Park. Permitted uses for the Park land use category, under the City's General Plan, include community neighborhood parks, ballfield, play lots, and related facilities, amenities, and structures that are devoted primarily to passive or active recreational uses. The proposed subsurface infiltration gallery and infrastructure will not impact passive or active recreational uses because the Project will restore the Park's landscaping and will include improvements to the park's current amenities. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, goal, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. As such, there would be no impact.

3.12 Mineral Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?			X	
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?			X	

Discussion:

a) The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires classification of land into mineral resource zones (MRZs) according to the known or inferred mineral potential of the area. The MRZ categories are as follows:

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

Although the Project site falls within an MRZ-2 area, the Project site and surrounding areas are fully developed and would not be available for mineral resource activities. The City of Baldwin Park's General Plan recognizes the potential for mineral resources within the city, but due to the city being largely inaccessible due to urbanization, impacts on aggregate resources are not considered significant. Therefore, impacts from the Project are less than significant.

b) Although there is potential for aggregate resources, the Project site and surrounding areas are fully developed and would not be available for mineral resource activities. Baldwin Park's General Plan recognizes the potential for mineral resources within the city, but due to the city being largely inaccessible due to urbanization, impacts on aggregate resources are not considered significant. As a result, impacts would be less than significant.

3.13 Noise

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?		X		
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?		X		
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 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?				X

Discussion:

a) The Project is primarily located within Single-Family Residential zoned properties, with small portions near Multi-Family Residential, Industrial, and Commercial uses. The school most likely to be impacted by construction noise is De Anza Elementary School, located approximately 0.20 miles to the east. Twin Lakes Elementary School is located 0.25 miles to the west in the City of El Monte; however, the school is located on the opposite side of the I-605 freeway and the San Gabriel River, which makes the school unlikely to be affected by noise associated with construction due to the ambient noise existing from the freeway itself. Construction occurring in public right-of-way on Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue will be within 30 feet of Single-Family Residential dwellings.

Because implementation of the Project may result in the generation of construction noise within the areas surrounding the Project during construction and project operations, a Noise Assessment was performed in November 2021. To identify baseline noise conditions, short-term ambient noise level measurements at the Project and at nearby representative sensitive receptors were recorded utilizing sound level meters, as shown in **Figure 3-1**. The ambient noise level measurements were taken during day-time hours, or when construction would typically occur. **Table 3-1** shows the results of the noise assessment, identifying minimum, average, and maximum A-weighted decibels (dBA) at nearby sensitive, residential, and educational land uses.

Table 3-1 Noise Assessment Results

Number	Location Description	Minimum (dBA)	Average (dBA)	Maximum (dBA)
1	Barnes Park	62	64	68
2	Patritti Avenue and Bess Avenue	60	63	70
3	De Anza Elementary School	47	52	72
4	End of Syracuse Avenue	59	63	71
5	Woodville Drive and Harnett Avenue	41	46	56
6	Twin Lakes Elementary School	49	52	61
7	Aukland Street And Barnes Avenue	45	53	84

Figure 3-1 Noise Measurement Locations for the Barnes Park Stormwater Capture Project

Construction will take place between the hours of 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. The City of Baldwin Park Code of Ordinances §130.34 describes ambient noise standards for various land uses, as shown in **Table 3-2**. Corrections to noise limits, based on different noise conditions, are shown in **Table 3-3**. Ordinance §130.37(E) states that any outside construction or repair work conducted in such a manner, that a reasonable person of normal sensitiveness residing in the area is caused discomfort or annoyance, is unlawful unless a permit has been obtained by the Department of Public Works beforehand.

Table 3-2 City of Baldwin Park Ambient Noise Standards for Residential Structures

Zone	Day (7:00A.M.-10:00P.M.)	Night (10:00P.M.-7:00A.M.)
Single Family Residential	55 dBA	45 dBA
Residential Garden/High-density Multiple-Family Residential	60 dBA	55 dBA
Commercial	65 dBA	60 dBA
Industrial	70 dBA	70 dBA

Table 3-3 Corrections to Noise Limits

Noise Condition	Correction (dB)
Repetitive impulsive noise, pure tones, and sound with cyclically varying amplitude	-5
Steady whine, screech, or hum	-5
Noise occurring more than 5 minutes but less than 15 minutes per hour	+2
Noise occurring more than 1 minutes but less than 5 minutes per hour	+5
Noise occurring less than 1 minute per hour	+7

Table 3-4 Construction Equipment Noise Emission Levels

Equipment Description	Lmax Noise Limit at 50 feet, dB Slow	Is Equipment an Impact Device?
All other equipment > 5HP	85	No
Backhoe	78	No
Compactor (ground)	83	No
Compressor (air)	78	No
Concrete Mixer Truck	79	No
Concrete Saw	90	No
Crane	81	No
Dozer	82	No
Dump Truck	76	No
Excavator	81	No
Flat Bed truck	74	No
Front End Loader	79	No
Generator	81	No
Impact/Vibratory Pile Driver	101	Yes
Jackhammer	89	Yes
Mounted Impact Hammer	90	Yes
Pavement Scarifier	85	No
Pumps	81	No
Roller	80	No
Sand Blasting (single nozzle)	96	No
Slurry Trenching Machine	80	No
Vacuum Street Sweeper	82	No
Welder / Torch	74	No

As shown in **Table 3-4**, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) identified predicted noise limits at a reference distance of 50 feet. By utilizing these values, noise levels at nearby sensitive receptors can be calculated and predicted.

Construction activities for this Project will comply with the City's Code of Ordinances and meet all noise level requirements and obtain proper permits when construction noise levels cannot meet ambient noise standards. The nearest sensitive receptors will be residents living on Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue. The Project will involve excavation, grading, drilling, trenching, and other ground disturbing activities. Noise generated from construction activities would be temporary. A concrete saw could be used within 30 feet of a residential home; a concrete saw at an unrestricted distance of 30 feet would have a noise level of 96 dBA. According to the City's Ambient Noise Standards, any noise above 55 dBA near a Single-Family Residential Structure is an exceedance and should be mitigated. During construction of the Project, the contractor will be required to use construction muffler devices, sound blankets, or other means to reduce noise levels to ambient levels. No long-term noise impacts are anticipated from the Project.

Therefore, with incorporation of mitigation measures **NOISE-1** through **NOISE-3**, impacts by noise from construction would be less than significant. Excessive noise levels will no longer occur from the Project once construction is complete.

b) The Project construction will create some ground borne vibrations as part of the construction. The Project is anticipating using equipment that are typically of concern for producing high vibration levels, such as rollers, compactors and bulldozers. There are no historic buildings within the Project's vicinity. The Caltrans threshold for residential building require a maximum of 0.5 Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) for continuous/frequent intermittent sources. As shown in **Table 3-5,** a roller would need to be at the minimum distance of 14 feet from receptors to be not perceivable. Most, if not all of the construction will be completed at a distance of at least 14 feet from nearby sensitive receptors. In instances that ground borne vibration construction occurs within 14 feet of nearby sensitive receptors, contractors will be required to incorporate Mitigation Measure **NOISE-3**. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant with incorporation of the mitigation measure. Once construction is complete, all groundborne vibrations will cease.

c) The Project is not located in an area designated as airport land use. The Project is located over two miles from the San Gabriel Valley Airport. The Project will not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels. The Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or within two miles of a public airport. As a result, the Project would not have the potential to expose people to significant aircraft-generated noise, and therefore, no impacts would occur.

Mitigation Measures:

NOISE-1: The City of Baldwin Park and their designees shall implement the following measures during construction as needed:

- The construction contractor will obtain a Noise Permit from the City of Baldwin Park's Department of Public Works prior to commencement of any construction activities.

- Include design measures necessary to reduce the construction noise levels where feasible. These measures may include noise barriers, curtains, or shields.
- Place noise-generating construction activities (e.g., operation of compressors and generators, cement mixing, general truck idling) as far as possible from the nearest noise-sensitive land uses.
- Locate stationary construction noise sources as far from adjacent noise-sensitive receptors as possible.
- Identify a liaison for off-site sensitive receptors, such as residents and property owners, to contact with concerns regarding construction noise and vibration. The liaison's telephone number(s) shall be prominently displayed at construction locations.
- Notify, in writing, all landowners, occupants of properties adjacent to the construction area, and nearby sensitive receptors of the anticipated construction schedule at least 2 weeks prior to groundbreaking.
- Prepare visible signs indicating "Noise Control Zone."
- Use noise-control devices that meet original specifications and performance.
- To the extent practical, use electrically-powered equipment.
- Implement temporary noise barriers and sound-control curtains where project activity is unavoidably close to noise-sensitive receivers. In particular, noise barriers of 8 feet and 12 feet tall should be established around work sites to remove noise impacts from the different construction operation areas. The construction contractor should regularly evaluate the noise level at nearby sensitive receptors to ensure noise levels are not in exceedance. If so, the following noise barrier measures should also be incorporated:
  - Break line of sight from noise source to receiver
  - Use a frame to secure an appropriate acoustic blanket or paneling
  - Use a solid material with a minimum surface density of 3 lb/ft^2 or mass-loaded acoustic blankets with at least STC 25
  - Overlap or seal any gaps in the barriers
- Designate haul routes to be used based on the least overall noise impact route, with heavily-loaded trucks away from residential streets, if possible. Identify haul routes streets with the fewest noise sensitive receivers if no alternatives are available.
- Place earth-moving equipment, fixed noise-generating equipment, stockpiles, staging areas, and other noise-producing operations as far as practicable from noise-sensitive receivers.
- Eliminate the use of horns, whistles, alarms, and bells.
- Phase demolition, earth moving, and ground impacting operations so they do not occur in the same time period.
- In case of nighttime construction, the contractor shall comply with the provisions of the nighttime noise variance issued by the City.
- Conduct periodic noise measurements in accordance with an approved noise monitoring plan, specifying monitoring locations, equipment, procedures, and schedule of measurements and reporting methods to be used.

NOISE-2: All construction activities that employ mechanized stationary equipment that generate noise levels shall comply with the applicable noise standards established by the City of Baldwin Park. The equipment shall be designed with noise-attenuating features (e.g., enclosures) and/or located at areas (e.g., belowground) where nearby noise-sensitive land uses would not be exposed to a perceptible noise increase in their noise environment.

NOISE-3: To prevent impacts from vibrations, large vibration producing equipment should be placed as far as is feasible from sensitive receptors. Furthermore, the City of Baldwin Park and their designees should implement the following measures as needed:

- Pre-construction Survey – A before and after survey should include inspecting building foundations and taking photographs (or installing crack monitors) of pre-existing conditions, cracks, or other flaws. The survey can be limited to buildings closest to vibratory activities.
- Hammer Energy – A recommended way to reduce PPV is to lower the hammer energy since there is a direct relationship between hammer energy and the resultant ground vibration. Ground PPV generally follows a square root relationship with hammer energy (i.e. PPV ~ √Hammer Energy). The degree of hammer energy reduction must be balanced against the likelihood/severity of expected exceedances, increase in total driving time, and ability to drive to required friction tolerances.
- Vibration Monitoring - It is recommended that vibration monitoring be conducted at any building where equipment is operating closer than the limits noted in **Table 3-5.**

Table 3-5 Construction Equipment Vibration Reference Levels

Equipment Description	Minimum Separation Distance
Vibratory Roller	14 feet
Compactor (Ground)	13 feet
Large Bulldozer	8 feet

3.14 Population and Housing

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The Project is expanding the existing park onto a City-owned vacant lot, and along public right-of-way. The Project does not propose the construction of any new homes or businesses. The Project is proposing to construct a subsurface infiltration gallery, drainage facilities, landscape improvements, and improved park amenities and recreational features. Because the construction period is expected to be short term, Project construction activities would not induce employees to move towards the Project's vicinity and would not induct population growth or the need for additional housing. Given the limited intensity of the proposed development, no substantial growth would result from the Project, and no impacts would be expected to occur.

b) The Project will not displace any existing people or housing, as the Project site is currently developed as an existing Park with a parking lot and various recreational amenities. No housing units or habitable structures will be built as part of construction. During construction, alternate street routes and access to residential dwellings will be available for those living along Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue. Therefore, there would be no anticipated impacts.

3.15 Public Services

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a)

i. Los Angeles County provides fire services for the City of Baldwin Park through the Los Angeles County Fire Department, who is contracted with the City. The nearest fire station is Los Angeles County Fire Department Station 168, approximately 1 mile southwest of the Project at 3207 Cogswell Road, El Monte, CA 91732. During construction, the project may have to close portions of Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue, none of which are major roads in Baldwin Park. Construction activities may involve temporary lane closures along residential streets for the construction of the new inlets and related infrastructure. Construction-related traffic could also result in increased travel time due to flagging or stopping of traffic to accommodate trucks entering and exiting the Project site during construction. As such, construction activities could increase response times for emergency vehicles to local business' and or residences within the Project's vicinity. However, the impacts of construction activity would be temporary and on an intermittent basis. A Construction Management Plan for the Project would be prepared to minimize disruptions to through traffic flow, maintain emergency vehicle access to the Project site and neighboring land uses, and schedule worker and construction equipment delivery to avoid peak traffic hours. Due to the temporary nature of the necessary construction activities, and limited operation activities, the Project is not expected to beyond the scope of available fire and protection services for the City.

Accordingly, the Los Angeles County Fire Department's response times would not be significantly impacted and would not require new or expanded fire facilities. Therefore, impacts regarding fire protection and emergency responses would be less than significant.

ii. The Baldwin Park Police Department is located three miles northeast of the Project site at 14403 Pacific Ave, Baldwin Park, CA 91706. During construction, the project may have to close portions of Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, Syracuse Avenue, Finchley Street, Aukland Street, and Barnes Avenue, none of which are major roads in Baldwin Park. As noted above in **Section 3.15(a)(i)**, due to the temporary nature of the construction activities, and limited operational maintenance activities, the Project not expected to require police services beyond the scope that is already available. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

iii. The nearest schools are De Anza Elementary School, 0.20 miles east at 12820 Bess Ave, Baldwin Park, CA 91706; and Twin Lakes Elementary School, 0.25 miles to the west at 3900 Gilman Rd, El Monte, CA 91732. This project does not increase population to the area and would not have impact on service ratios to schools; therefore, there would be no impact.

iv. The Project includes the construction of a subsurface infiltration gallery project, in addition to implementation of improved amenities and the expansion of Barnes Park. Portions of the park may be closed during construction and may create a minimal increase in traffic to nearby parks during the duration of construction. After construction is complete, the park will be able to serve more neighboring residents, and will be able to reduce vehicle usage since the park will feature more amenities, that were previously unavailable to local residents, and were only available in other recreational areas before. Therefore, there are no significant impacts anticipated.

v. Baldwin Park City Hall is 3 miles northwest from the Project at 14403 Pacific Ave, Baldwin Park, CA 91706. This project does not increase population to the area and would not have impact on maintaining service ratios for any public facilities. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

3.16 Recreation

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
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?				X

Discussion:

a) The Project would include the construction of a subsurface infiltration facility and various drainage facilities and infrastructure, landscape improvements, and improved park amenities. During construction, portions of the Barnes Park may be closed for expansion and enhancements; however, other parts of Barnes Park will remain open throughout construction. Although the Project would provide improved recreational opportunities for nearby residents, the Project would not draw a substantial number of new residents and visitors to Barnes Park. Therefore, the Project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional park or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated, and there would be no impacts.

b) The Project does include expansion of recreational facilities on a City-owned, vacant lot in an urbanized area of Baldwin Park, but the expansion would not have an adverse physical effect on the environment. The goal of the Project is to improve the environment by capturing, treating, and infiltration stormwater runoff and thereby reducing the pollutant load entering the San Gabriel River. According to the State of California's Office of Hazarouds Health Assessment tool, CalEnviroScreen 4.0, the pollution burden in the census tract where Barnes Park is located, is at the 96th percentile, or generally, among the worst in the state. The Project, when completed, will benefit the community by providing the following benefits:

- Improving health outcomes in obesity levels due to anticipated increase in biking, walking, and sustainability projects;
- Inspiring families, youth, and seniors to walk, exercise, and eat healthier in and around resurfaced open space and playing field with educational amenities;
- Protect/restore urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, protection of life and property, and greenhouse gas reduction;

- Reduced air temperature through urban island heat mitigation from expanded vegetation plantings;
- Reduce usage of vehicles to travel to adjacent parks/regional trails, that have expanded amenities; and
- A reduction in carbon dioxide levels and greenhouse gas emissions due to planting of shrubs and trees.

Therefore, the Project will not have a physical adverse impact on the environment, but rather, the Project will improve the environment by capturing polluted, urban runoff, and planting of trees and shrubs will sequester greenhouse gases and reduce the effects of urban heat islands. Therefore, there will be no impact.

3.17 Transportation/Traffic

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The Project will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. The Project would generate short-term construction related vehicle trips. These vehicle trips would be temporary due to construction and would not conflict with the City's General Plan, which includes a Circulation Section. The Circulation Section identifies bike lanes within the City; there are no bike lanes proposed near the Project and therefore, the City's Bikeway Plan would not be impacted by the Project. Additionally, the impacted roads are not designated bike paths by the San Gabriel Valley Master Plan. Traffic impacted by the Project would be those traveling to private residences or Barnes Park. None of the affected streets are major roads nor are they designated as evacuation routes. Access to nearby residences will be maintained throughout the construction phase of the Project. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b) gives criteria for analyzing transportation impacts, including land use projects, transportation projects, qualitative analysis, and methodology. According to the guidelines, projects within one-half mile of either an existing transit stop, or transit corridor should be presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact. The closest transit is over one-half mile and no transit lines intersect with the Project site and would be affected by any road closures associated with the construction. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

c) The Project does not require street reconfiguring or creating any dangerous road features. The Project will dig up portions of Patritti Avenue, Torch Street, and Syracuse Avenue to install new drainage infrastructure. The streets will be restored to existing conditions once construction is complete. As a result, there would be no impacts.

d) The Project does not affect any roads that are designated as evacuation routes in the City of Baldwin Park's General Plan. However, emergency access will be impacted due to the nature of the Project, which will require construction along residential streets. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **TRAF-1** and **TRAF-2**, impacts from the Project will be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

TRAF-1 - For projects that may impact traffic, contractors are required to prepare a construction traffic control plan. Elements of the plan should include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Develop circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts to local street circulation. Use haul routes minimizing truck traffic on local roadways to the extent possible.
- Develop detail plans for pedestrian detours during construction that meet or exceed standards required in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and include adequate barriers against motorized traffic.
- To the extent feasible, and as needed to avoid adverse impacts on traffic flow, schedule truck trips outside of peak morning and evening commute hours.
- Install traffic control devices as specified in Caltrans' Manual of Traffic Controls for Construction and Maintenance Work Zones where needed to maintain safe driving conditions. Use flaggers and/or signage to safely direct traffic through construction work zones.

TRAF-2 - Transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. The project specifications will limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause delays on any State facilities, a construction traffic control plan detailing these delays shall be submitted for Caltrans' review.

3.18 Tribal Cultural Resources

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a)

i. A Cultural Resource Assessment was conducted for the Project by LSA Associates. The assessment was conducted to identify previously recorded cultural resources (prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, historic buildings, structures, objects, or districts). LSA's assessment included a California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search at the SCCIC. The assessment's search included the entire Project area and a 1 mile radius buffer. LSA requested a Sacred Land Files Search from the NAHC in July 2021 and received confirmation in October 2021 from the NAHC that the Project area is negative for sacred lands.

ii. The NAHC named three tribes affiliated with the Project Area and recommended that they be consulted for information on potential tribal cultural resources. The three tribes, including the the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, the Gabrielino Tongva Tribe, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Missions were sent notification letters for AB 52 consultation on October

18, 2021. No tribal organizations responded to the City's request after 60 days; therefore, no consultations were conducted. Although no tribal consultations were conducted, the Project may encounter tribal cultural resources, as the Park is next to the San Gabriel River. Therefore, with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **TRIB-1** and **TRIB-2**, impacts from the Project will be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

TRIB-1 - Because of the low sensitivity of the project area for tribal cultural resources, there is no monitoring work anticipated.

- A Worker's Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training also known as "Environmental Awareness," or "Cultural Resource Sensitivity," training will be provided to the construction crews prior to any ground-disturbing construction activities and the procedures to follow when such material is found.
- A Qualified Archaeologist shall be present at the pre-construction meeting to advise construction personnel about the sensitive nature of cultural resources that may be found during project ground-disturbing construction activities.
- Construction personnel shall be informed of the types of archaeological or tribal cultural resources that may be encountered, and of the proper protocols for notification. Construction personnel shall attend the training and shall retain documentation demonstrating attendance.

TRIB-2 -

- If any cultural resources or artifacts are discovered during construction, the City shall be notified immediately, and construction activities shall cease until the Project archaeologist has examined the find. If a Native American site is uncovered, construction in that area shall be suspended until the project archaeologist can properly assess the resource(s) and identify the appropriate measures to ensure that the resource(s) would not be adversely affected, and known Native American tribes will be contacted to identify if the resources is significant. If cultural resources are identified during project construction, a professional archaeologist and a Native American monitor that represents the particular resources shall be present for the remainder of ground-disturbing project construction activities.
- If the archaeologist determines that an archaeological resource may be a unique resource, as defined by Section 21083.2 of the PRC, or a historical resource, as defined by Section 21084.1, or an important resource, as defined by the previous Appendix K of the CEQA guidelines, Phase II testing or surface evaluation (if determined adequate by the qualified archaeologist) of the find shall be conducted.
- If unique or important archaeological or tribal resources cannot be avoided, a data collection program may be warranted, including mapping the location of artifacts, surface collection of artifacts, or excavation of the cultural deposit to characterize the nature of the buried portions of the sites. Curation of the excavated artifacts or samples shall occur as specified by the Project's archaeologist; if the excavated finds are deemed a tribal cultural resource, known tribal entities should be consulted on the find(s) for their significance. If the find is determined not to be a unique, significant, or important archaeological or tribal resource, no further action is necessary, and construction may continue.

3.19 Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The subsurface portion of the Project includes installation of catch basins with a diversion pipeline that will extend six hundred feet along Patritti Avenue. The diversion pipeline will extend from the storm drain on Bess Avenue to just south of the parking lot at Barnes Park; the pipe will have a diameter no greater than 42 inches. As a result, the Project will include new storm water drainage facilities. However, the new drainage facilities would not cause significant environmental impacts; the stormwater would be diverted into a pretreatment system, and then an underground infiltration gallery to infiltrate the stormwater runoff. The Project will not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities. Therefore, with the construction of the new diversion pipeline and two catch basin inlets, impacts would be less than significant.

b) The Project would include the construction of underground stormwater and drainage facilities, drought-tolerant landscape improvements, and improved park amenities. Construction and operation of the Project would result in minimal demand for water supplies. Water used during construction activities would be used during site preparation, dust and erosion control, and other short-term activities. During Project operation, water use would be similar to the water usage that exists today. Landscape improvements would include drought tolerant landscaping or other low water alternatives that would not require significant watering. Due to the negligible amount of water anticipated to be used by the Project, a less than significant impact is anticipated.

c) The Project is proposing to construct a new staff bathroom, attached to the existing building. The Park already connects to an existing on-site sewer system that is directly connected to the existing main sewer line along Patritti Avenue. The main sewer line along Patritti Avenue already serves the numerous single-family residential homes in the area. Since the proposed restroom is intended for City staff only, it will not contribute a significant amount of wastewater, and will not exceed existing wastewater capacities for the area. Therefore, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

d) Some debris may be generated with the construction of the Project. However, the amount of waste generated would be minor and would not be expected to be in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure and would not impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Excess waste due to construction would be temporary and would cease once construction is complete. Therefore, impacts to local infrastructure and solid waste reduction goals would be less than significant.

e) Disposal will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations for waste disposal, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations and Title 40 of the CFR. Because the Project will comply with the regulations as noted, there would be no anticipated impacts.

3.20 Wildfire

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

a) The Project site is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. The Project proposes to construct on land that has already been developed. The Project is not anticipated to impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The Project will comply with all current local, state, and federal building code requirements related to fire safety. The Project does not interfere with any major evacuation routes as designated by the City of Baldwin Park. Therefore, there is no impact.

b) As noted above, the Project is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as a very high fire hazard severity zone. The Project does not include any components, nor is an area, that would exacerbate wildfire risks or expose public to uncontrolled spread. Therefore, there would be no anticipated impact.

c) The Project will not require the installation or maintenance of infrastructure, such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities. Therefore, the project would not exacerbate fire risk, and there would be no impact.

d) The Project is located on relatively flat terrain and would not be subject to landslide. As the Project site is not located in a state responsibility area or a high fire hazard severity zone, there would be no wildfire impact associated with downslope, downstream flooding, or landslides.

3.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		
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)?		X		
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		

Discussion:

a) Due to the location in an urbanized environment, the Project is not anticipated to affect the quality of the environment, habitat, fish, wildlife, and plant populations at Project Site during construction and at operation. Stormwater and urban runoff will be redirected to a subsurface infiltration system. During dry-weather, flows are anticipated to be minimal and will not have a substantial effect on the San Gabriel River, as the river is dry during the dry-weather season. During wet-weather, flows from the project will not have a significant hydrological impact. Overall, one of the main goals of the Project is to reduce the pollutant load from a 443-acre catchment and increase groundwater infiltration to assist the City of Baldwin Park in meeting water quality objectives in the region. Therefore, the project will have a less than significant impact on the degradation of the quality of the environment, will not impact the habitat of fish and wildlife species, and would not threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**.

b) The proposed Project would result in significant impacts unless mitigated for the following environmental issues: air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, noise, and tribal cultural resources. Because the Project impacts are generally construction related, the cumulative study area is generally confined to the immediate vicinity of the Project site. Cumulatively, the proposed Project would not result in any significant impacts that would substantially combine with impacts of other current or probable future impacts when all other development projects within the city are compliant with the establish regulatory framework. As such, with implementation of Mitigation Measures **AIR-1**, **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, **CUL-1** through **CUL-2, PALEO-1** through **PALEO-3**, **NOISE-1** through **NOISE-3**, and **TRIB-1** through **TRIB-2**, impacts would be less than significant.

c) The project would have potential environmental effects on humans, most of which are construction related. Those impacts would occur specifically in the areas of noise and air quality. As discussed in **Section 3.3** and **Section 3.13**, either these impacts are less than significant or appropriate mitigation is required to protect nearby sensitive receptors. The Project would comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations, and the impacts identified that would be considered potentially significant are appropriately dealt with through the implementation of mitigation measures. Therefore, potential impacts on human beings would be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **AIR-1**, and **NOISE-1** through **NOISE-3**.

4. References

California Department of Transportation. California Scenic Highway Mapping System. http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/16_livability/scenic_highways/index.htm

California Department of Conservation. California Geologic Survey. Regulatory Maps. http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/EL_MONTE_EZRIM.pdf

California Department of Conservation. California Important Farmland Finder. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/ciff/

CAL FIRE. Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA. 2007. https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/media/6705/fhszs_map19.pdf

Caltrans. Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manaul. April 2020. https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/environmental-analysis/documents/env/tcvgm-apr2020-a11y.pdf

City of Baldwin Park Zoning. Planning Department., revised 2019. https://www.baldwinpark.com/docssidemenu/community-development/planning/zoning-maps/2028-zoning-11x17-december-2019/file

City of Baldwin Park General Plan. Planning Department., revised 2013. https://www.baldwinpark.com/docssidemenu/community-development/planning/general-plan-individual-elements

City of Baldwin Park. Code of Ordinances. https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/baldwinpark/latest/baldwinpark_ca/0-0-0-1

Enhanced Watershed Management Programs Draft Program Environmental Impact Report. Los Angeles County Flood Control District. 2015. https://dpw.lacounty.gov/lacfcd/ewmppeir/

LSA Associates, January 2022. "Cultural Resources Records Search Results and AB 52 Consultation Assistance for the Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project"

LSA Associates, September 2021. "Paleontological Analysis of the Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Project"

San Gabriel Valley Regional Bicycle Master Plan, November 2014. https://www.sangabrielcity.com/DocumentCenter/View/3309/FINAL-BICYCLE-MASTER-PLAN-111214?bidId=

Terracon Consultants, Inc., 2021, "Geotechnical Engineering Report Barnes Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture"

United States Fish and Wildlife Service. National Wetlands Inventory. Wetlands Mapper. https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html