CITY OF SANTA MARIA
INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
JANUARY 21, 2021

CITY OF SANTA MARIA SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TURNKEY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT 1 (SST-1), SP2019-0018

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

Fletcher Park (2200 South College Drive), Crossroads Park (northwest corner of South College Drive and East McCoy Lane), Adam Basin (601 West Enos Drive), Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center (516 South McClelland Street), Oakley Park (1300 North Western Avenue) and North Preisker Park (2341 North Railroad Avenue)

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Description	The project (SST-1) proposes to upgrade existing lighting fixtures and install new light poles and lighting (lighting facilities) in existing City-owned parks and basins. A majority of the work proposed under SST- 1, including the replacement and/or retrofitting of existing structures (lighting, HVAC, irrigation and roofs), is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities, and 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. The specific component of SST- 1 that is not exempt from CEQA and is analyzed in this initial study includes the installation of new lighting facilities at City parks and basins that do not currently contain lighting.					
Location	Fletcher Park	Crossroads Park	Adam Basin	Paul Nelson Center	Oakley Park	North Preisker Park
Assessor's Parcel No.	128-149-019	128-137-016	117-250-028	125-102-009	119-325-003, -002 & -001	117-910-007
General Plan Designation	Open Space (OS)	OS	OS	OS	OS, Community Facility (CF)	OS
Zoning	Planned Development/ Open Space (PD/OS)	PD/OS	OS	Downtown Specific Plan – Civic (DTSP- Civic District)	Public Facility (PF), OS	OS
Size of Site (acres)	1.44	9.04	32.47	10.80	6.38	3.03
Present Use	Park	Park	Multi-use basin	Aquatic Center	Park	Park
Proposed Uses	Park	Multi-use basin	Multi-use basin	Aquatic Center	Park	Park
Access	City street	City street	City street	City street	City street	City street
Surrounding Zoning/Uses						
North	PD/General Commercial (C-2) & Auto Sales	PD/ Comm. & Prof. Offices (CPO) & Office	PF & Fair Park	DTSP-Civic & Government	PF, R-1 & Single-Family Residence	PD/PF & vacant lot

South	PD/Single-Family Residential (R-1) & Single-Family residences	PD/Medium Density Residential (R-2) & Single-Family residences	PD/High Density Residential (PD/R-3), Residential Mobile Home Park (RMH) & Multi-Family residences/ Mobile Home Park	DTSP-Civic & vacant Industrial	R-1 & Single-Family residences	PD/RSL-1 & Single-Family residences
East	PD/Light Manufacturing (M-1) & Self-storage	PD/OS, PD/R-1 & Park Land/Single-Family residences	R-1 & PF & Single-Family residences/ School	DTSP-Civic & government admin.	R-1 & Single-Family residences	PD/R-1 & Single-Family residences
West	PD/OS & Soccer Fields	PD/OS, PD/R-1 & Flood Control/Single-Family residences	PD/OS, PD/ Single Family Small Lot Residential (PD/RSL-1) & Agriculture	DTSP-Civic & Single-Family residences	R-1 & Single-Family residences	PD/PF & School
Parking*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Setbacks*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Lighting Height	30'-40'	80'	70'-80'	80'	15'-60'	40'
Building Coverage*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Landscape Area*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Storm Water Retardation*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Fencing*	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing
Related files/ Actions	None	None	None	None	None	None
Applicant/ Agent/Owner	City of Santa Maria	City of Santa Maria	City of Santa Maria	City of Santa Maria	City of Santa Maria	City of Santa Maria
Procedure	The City's Environmental Officer approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration.					

***** The project site(s) are all located in existing parks or multi-purpose drainage basins which have been previously developed. The only changes to the project sites because of this project are the installation of lighting facilities. No changes to parking, setbacks, building coverage, landscape area, stormwater retardation or fencing would result from this project.

GENERAL AREA DESCRIPTION:

The project sites are located in the City of Santa Maria, which is within Santa Barbra County. Each of the six project sites are located within existing public parks/recreational spaces or dual-use basins which offer space for recreational and leisure activity. Five of the six project sites (Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park) are located within the City's Open Space zoning district which permits recreational activity. The remaining project site (Paul Nelson Center) is located within the City's Downtown Specific Plan – Civic District which also permits recreational

activity. Fletcher Park is 1.44 acres, Crossroads Park is 9.04 acres, Adam Basin is 32.47 acres, Paul Nelson Center is 10.80 acres, Oakley Park is 6.38 acres and North Preisker park is 3.03 acres. Each of the sites have established recreational/open space uses as the primary use, and each of the sites are surrounded by urbanized areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

The project site(s) are located within the City of Santa Maria in Santa Barbara County, approximately two miles west of U.S. Highway 101. The topography in the project area(s) are flat with no significant features within the project site or surrounding area. The project site(s) area characterized as existing developed public parks/recreational spaces or dual use basins.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project (SST-1) proposes to upgrade existing lighting fixtures and install new light poles and lighting (lighting facilities) in existing City owned parks and basins. The new lighting facilities would provide lighting for recreational activities occurring in the evening and nighttime hours typically from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The proposed locations include: Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park.

The lighting facilities would be 30'-40' tall at Fletcher Park, 80' tall at Crossroads Basin, 70'-80' tall at Adam Basin, 80' tall at Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center, 15'-60' tall at Oakley Park and 40' tall at North Preisker Park. The project sites are surrounded by urbanized areas and are currently being utilized as public parks or as basins which provide a dual use for recreational activities such as soccer.

A majority of the work proposed under SST- 1, including the replacement and/or retrofitting of existing structures (lighting, HVAC, irrigation and roofs), is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities, and 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. The specific component of SST- 1 that is not exempt from CEQA and is analyzed in this initial study includes the installation of new lighting facilities at City parks and basins that do not currently contain lighting. These City parks and basins include Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Paul Nelson Aquatic Center, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park.

PROJECT REVIEW:

The environmental impacts associated with the development of the site were determined using the City of Santa Maria Staff Project Environmental Checklist (attached), on-site inspection and information provided by the applicant. Potentially significant adverse environmental impacts were identified in the area of tribal cultural resources.

Based on the above mentioned sources, no adverse impacts are associated with aesthetics/visual resources, agriculture and forest resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use and planning,

mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, utilities and service systems, or wildfire.

The following discussion of the potential adverse environmental impacts includes mitigation measures which would reduce all identified impacts to a level of insignificance. Verification that these mitigation measures have been implemented will be monitored as described in Section 8 of the City of Santa Maria's Environmental Procedures. The monitoring checklist is included at the end of this report.

Tribal Cultural Resources

The proposed project is on existing public parks/recreational spaces or dual use basins which has been graded and has been used for recreational and leisure activity. The potential for the existence of buried archaeological materials within the project area is considered low based on the historic physical setting, the previous grading and the regular clearing of vegetation off the site, and the extent of those previous disturbances. The project site does not contain any known tribal cultural resources that have been listed, or are 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).

The City has notified California Native American tribes who have formally requested notification on CEQA projects under Assembly Bill 52. This notification affords California Native American tribes the opportunity for consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1. The Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council is the only area tribe to requested notification. The City has notified the Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council of this proposed project. The representative for the tribe made phone contact with the City on June 9, 2020. The representative visited a couple of the site(s) (Adam Basin & Crossroads Basin) with staff on June 23, 2020. The representative indicated some concern over ground disturbance at Adam Basin and Crossroads Basin and the potential need for monitoring of the construction activities. The City determined that monitoring of construction at Adam Basin and the Crossroads Basin site is not required because both sites are located within Archaeological Sensitivity Areas #3 and #2 (negligible sensitivity and low sensitivity archaeological areas) respectively, as identified on Figure RME-5 Archaeological Sensitivity Areas Map of the City’s General Plan Resource Management Element, previous grading and ground disturbances have occurred at these sites, and minimal ground disturbance consisting of minor trenching (3-5 feet in depth) is required to install the park lighting facilities. No material will be removed from the site from the trenching given that the trenches will be backfilled with the native materials. Minimal sized holes (1-2 yards per hole) will be generated when excavating for the light standard foundations. The representative did request that a “discovery clause” be added whereby work would cease and the Tribe would be notified if a tribal cultural resource was inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities.

The following mitigation measure is required to reduce the potential impacts of the project to Tribal Cultural Resources to an insignificant level:

TCR-1 Inadvertent Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource. In the event that a resource of Native American origin is identified during grading and construction activities, the lead agency shall consult with local Native American(s). If the lead agency, in consultation with local Native Americans, determines that the resource is a tribal cultural resource and thus significant under CEQA, a mitigation plan shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with state guidelines and in consultation with Native American groups. The mitigation plan may include but would not be limited to avoidance, capping in place, excavation and removal of the resource, interpretive displays, sensitive area signage, or other mutually agreed upon measure.

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the information available at the time of preparation this report and, without benefit of additional information which may come to light at the public hearing, the Environmental Officer recommends that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be filed for City of Santa Maria SST-1 project based upon information contained in SP2019-0018.

PREPARED BY:

City of Santa Maria
Community Development Department
110 South Pine Street, #101
Santa Maria, CA 93458

Cody Graybehl, Environmental Analyst — 2/2/21 Date

Chuen Ng, Environmental Officer — 2/2/21 Date

CITY OF SANTA MARIA
MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM

PROJECT NAME: City of Santa Maria SST-1

APPROVAL DATE: January 21, 2021 FILE NUMBERS: SP2019-0019

Mitigated Negative Declaration for City of Santa Maria SST-1

The following environmental mitigation measures were incorporated into the project in order to mitigate identified environmental impacts. A completed and signed checklist for each mitigation measure indicates that this mitigation measure has been complied with and implemented, and fulfills the City's monitoring requirements with respect to Assembly Bill 3180 (Public Resources Code Section 21081.6).

Mitigation Measure/ Condition of Approval	Action Required	When Monitoring to Occur	Monitoring Frequency	Responsible Agency or Party	Compliance Verification		
					Initial	Date	Comments
TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES							
TCR-1 Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources. Inadvertent Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource. In the event that a resource of Native American origin is identified during grading and construction activities, the lead agency shall consult with local Native American(s). If the lead agency, in consultation with local Native Americans, determines that the resource is a tribal cultural resource and thus significant under CEQA, a mitigation plan shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with state guidelines and in consultation with Native American groups. The mitigation plan may include but would not be limited to avoidance, capping in place, excavation and removal of the resource, interpretive displays, sensitive area signage, or other mutually agreed upon measure.	Retain qualified archaeologist; documentation and reporting by qualified archaeologist	Throughout the duration of ground disturbing activities	Daily during construction	Qualified archaeologist, City of Santa Maria			

CITY OF SANTA MARIA
Environmental Checklist/Initial Study
City of Santa Maria Sustainable Solutions Turnkey Implementation Project 1 (SP2019-0018)

1. **Project Title and Location**

   City of Santa Maria Sustainable Solutions Turnkey Implementation Project 1 (SST-1)

   a. Fletcher Park – APN: 128-149-019 (1.44 acres)

   b. Crossroads Basin – APN: 128-137-016 (9.04 acres)

   c. Adam Basin – 601 West Enos Drive – APN: 117-250-028 (32.47 acres)

   d. Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center– 516 South McClelland Street – APN: 125-102-009 (10.80 acres)

   e. Oakley Park – 1300 North Western Avenue – APN: 119-325-003, -002 and -001 (6.38 acres)

   f. North Preisker Park – 2341 North Railroad Avenue – APN: 117-910-007 (3.03 acres)

2. **Lead Agency, Contact and Preparer**

   City of Santa Maria
   Cody Graybehl, Associate Planner
   Community Development Department
   110 South Pine Street, #101
   Santa Maria, CA 93458
   805-925-0951, x2552
   cgraybehl@cityofsantamaria.org

3. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address**

   City of Santa Maria
   110 East Cook Street
   Santa Maria, CA 93454

4. General Plan Designation

a. Fletcher Park – Open Space (OS)
b. Crossroads Basin – OS
c. Adam Basin – OS
d. Paul Nelson Aquatic Center – OS
e. Oakley Park – Community Facilities (CF), OS
f. North Preisker Park – OS

5. Zoning Designation

a. Fletcher Park – Planned Development/Open Space (PD/OS)
b. Crossroads Basin – PD/OS
c. Adam Basin – OS
d. Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center - Downtown Santa Maria Specific Plan – Civic (DTSP - Civic District)
e. Oakley Park – Public Facility (PF), OS
f. North Preisker Park – OS

6. Brief Description of Project

The project (SST-1) proposes to upgrade existing lighting fixtures and install new light poles and lighting (lighting facilities) in existing City-owned parks and basins. The new lighting facilities would provide lighting for recreational activities occurring in the evening and nighttime hours typically from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The proposed locations include: Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park. The lighting facilities would be 30'-40' tall at Fletcher Park, 80' tall at Crossroads Basin, 70'-80' tall at Adam Basin, 80' tall at Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center, 15'-60' tall at Oakley Park and 40' tall at North Preisker Park. The project sites are surrounded by urbanized areas and are currently being utilized as public parks or as basins which provide a dual use for recreational activities such as soccer. A majority of the work proposed under SST- 1, including the replacement and/or retrofitting of existing structures (lighting, HVAC, irrigation and roofs), is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities, and 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. The specific component of SST- 1 that is not exempt from CEQA and is analyzed in this initial study includes the installation of new lighting facilities at City parks and basins that do not currently contain lighting. These City parks and basins include Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Paul Nelson Aquatic Center, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park. Attached to this checklist is the complete scope of work for the SST-1 project (Attachment 1) which provides more information about the new park lighting facilities as well as the additional energy related measures being implemented which are categorically exempt from CEQA.

7. **Surrounding Land Uses.** The sites are surrounded by the following land uses and zoning districts:

   a. **Fletcher Park**
      - North – Planned Development-Auto/General Commercial (PDa/C2) & auto sales
      - South – Planned Development/Single Family Residential (PD/R1) & single-family residences
      - East – Planned Development/Light Manufacturing (PD/M1) & self-storage
      - West – Planned Development/Open Space (PD/OS) & soccer fields

   b. **Crossroads Park**
      - North –Planned Development/Commercial Professional Office (PD/CPO) & offices
      - South –Planned Development/Medium Density Residential (PD/R2) & single-family residences
      - East – Planned Development/Open Space (PD/OS), Planned Development/Single Family Residential (PD/R1) & park land/single-family residences
      - West – Planned Development/Open Space (PD/OS), Planned Development/ Single Family Residential (PD/R1) & flood control/single-family residences

   c. **Adam Basin**
      - North – Public Facilities and Institutional Zoning (PF) & fair park
      - South – Planned Development/High Density Residential (PD/R3), Residential Mobile Home Park (RMH) & multi-family residences/mobile home park
      - East – Single Family Residential (R1), Public Facilities and Institutional Zoning (PF) & single-family residences/school
      - West – Planned Development/ Open Space (PD/OS), Planned Development/ Single Family Small Lot Residential (PD/RSL1) & agriculture

   d. **Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center**
      - North – Downtown Santa Maria Specific Plan – Civic (SP-Civic) & government administration
      - South – Downtown Specific Plan & vacant industrial
      - East – Downtown Specific Plan & government administration
      - West – Downtown Specific Plan & single-family residences

   e. **Oakley Park**
      - North – Public Facilities and Institutional Zoning (PF), Single Family Residential (R1) & school & single-family residences
      - South – Single Family Residential (R1) & single-family residences
      - East – Single Family Residential (R1) & single-family residences
      - West – Single Family Residential (R1) & single-family residences

f. North Preisker Park
   - North – Planned Development/Public Facilities and Institutional Zoning (PD/PF) & vacant lot
   - South – Planned Development/Single Family Small Lot Residential (PD/RSL1) & single-family residences
   - East – Planned Development/Single Family Residential (PD/R1) & single-family residences
   - West – Planned Development/Public Facilities and Institutional Zoning (PD/PF) & school

8. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required

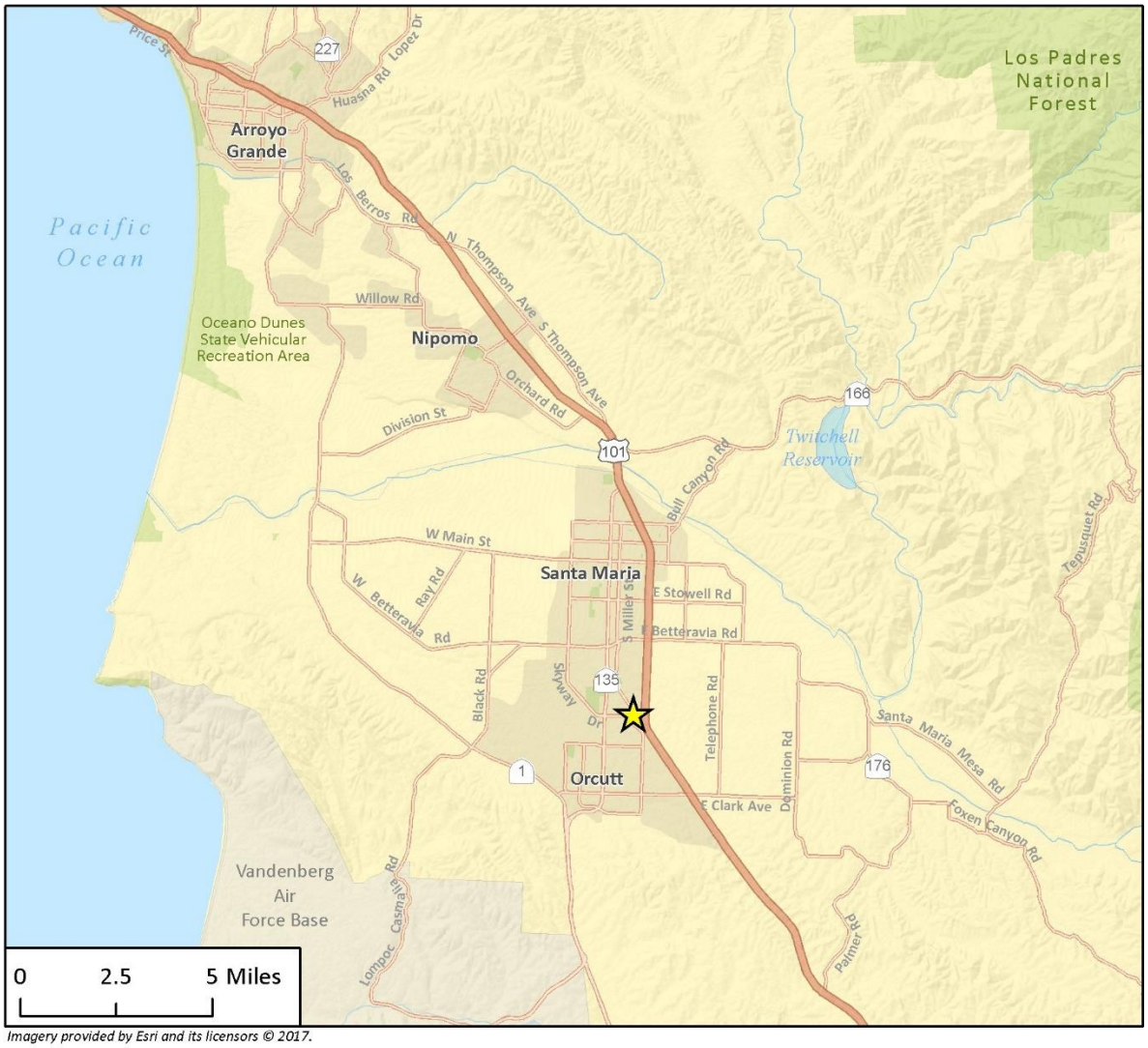
None

9. California Native American Tribes Consultation

The City has notified California Native American tribes who have formally requested notification on CEQA projects under Assembly Bill 52, and pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1. This notification affords California Native American tribes the opportunity for consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1. The Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council is the only area tribe to request notification. The City has notified the Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council of this proposed project, and the Council responded to the notification with a request for additional information on the project, and for monitoring at the Adam Basin and the Crossroads Basin sites during grading activities.

A mitigation measure has been included in Section 18 – Tribal Cultural Resources, to address the potential for the project to impact previously unidentified tribal cultural resources that may be located at the sites. This measure requires consultation with local Native American(s) in the event that a resource of Native American origin is identified during grading and construction activities, and the preparation of a mitigation plan if it is determined that the resource is a tribal cultural resource. Monitoring at the Adam Basin and the Crossroads Basin site is not required because both sites are located within Archaeological Sensitivity Areas #3 and #2 (negligible sensitivity and low sensitivity archaeological areas) respectively, as identified on Figure RME-5 Archaeological Sensitivity Areas Map of the City's General Plan Resource Management Element, previous grading and ground disturbances have occurred at these sites, and minimal ground disturbance consisting of minor trenching (3-5 feet in depth) is required to install the park lighting facilities. No material will be removed from the site from the trenching given that the trenches will be backfilled with the native materials. Minimal sized holes (1-2 yards per hole) will be generated when excavating for the light standard foundations.

Figure 1 – Project Vicinity Map



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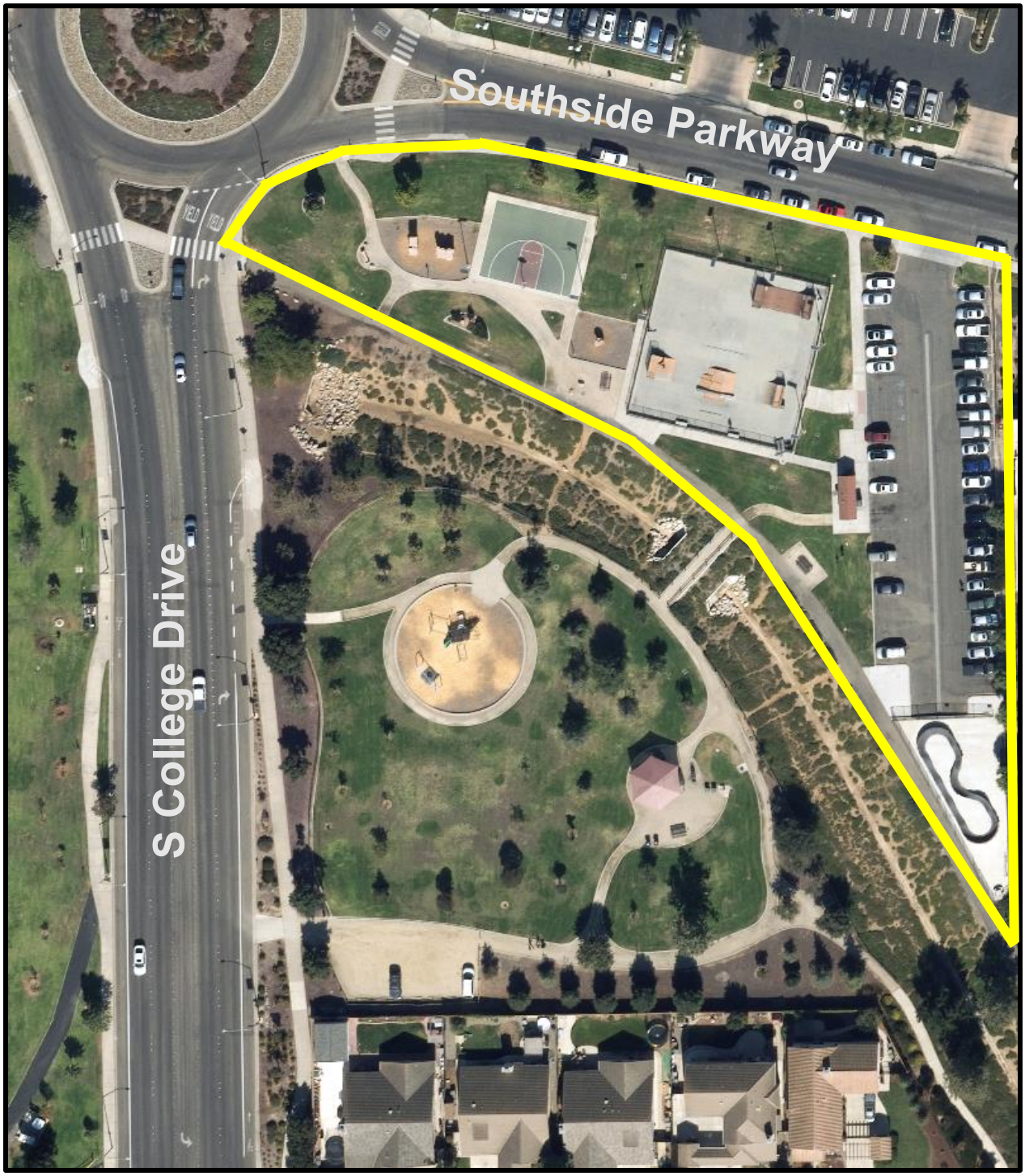
Project Location

N

Fig 1 Regional Location_vec

Figure 2 – Project Location Map(s)

Fletcher Park (APN: 128-149-019)

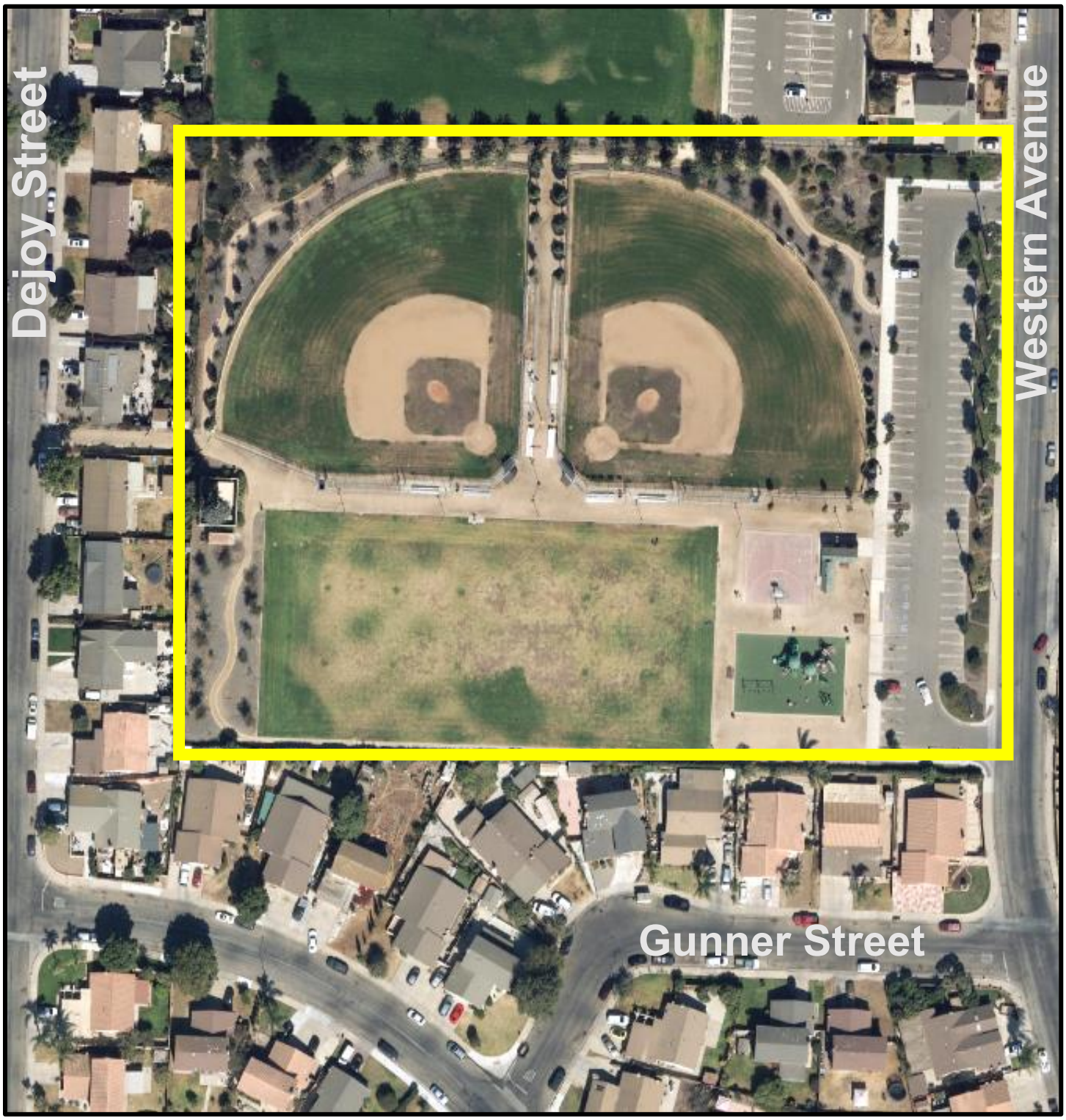


Crossroads Basin (APN:128-137-016)

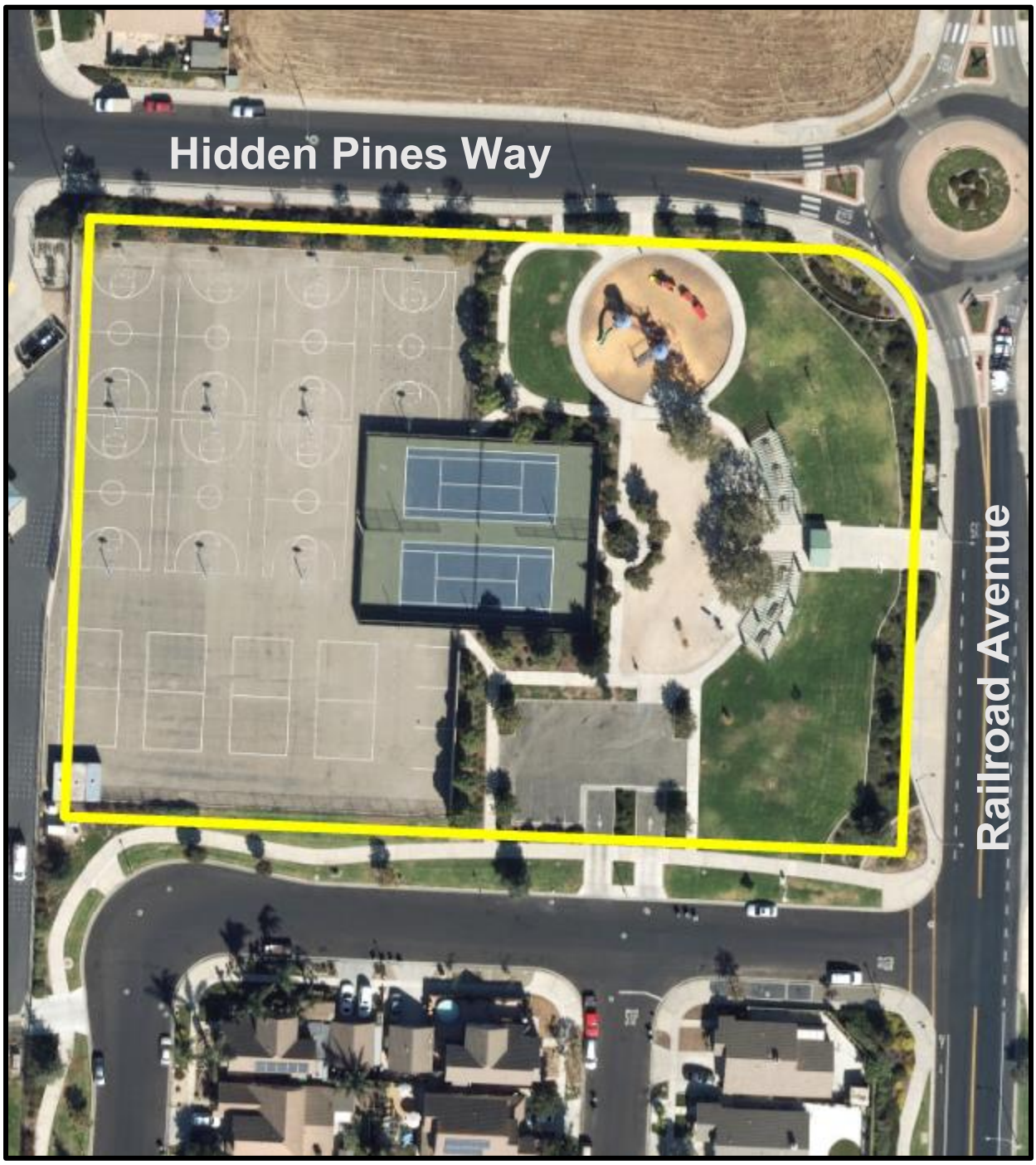
Adam Basin (APN: 117-250-028)

Paul Nelson Park Aquatic Center (APN: 125-102-009)

Oakley Park (APN: 119-325-003, -002 and -001)



North Preisker Park (APN: 117-910-007)



1. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	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 of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from 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	

Setting: The project sites are located in the City of Santa Maria, which is within Santa Barbra County. Each of the six project sites are located within existing public parks/recreational spaces or dual-use basins which offer space for recreational and leisure activity. Five of the six project sites (Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin, Oakley Park and North Preisker Park) are located within the City's Open Space zoning district which permits recreational activity. The remaining project site (Paul Nelson Aquatic Center) is located within the City's Downtown Specific Plan – Civic District which also permits recreational activity. Each of the sites have established recreational/open space uses as the primary use, and each of the sites are surrounded by urbanized areas. There are no significant features or scenic resources located within the project areas or within the immediate vicinity of the site. The project sites are flat spaces that primarily contain turf or recreational space (ball fields, basketball courts, etc.).

Impact Discussion:

a. The project sites are located in existing parks and basin areas which are primarily surrounded by public facilities (schools), residential development, and general commercial (office) uses. According to the City's Resources Management Element of the General Plan, there are no designated unique or important scenic vistas in the project area. Therefore, no impact to scenic vistas would occur as a result of the proposed project.

b. The installation of the proposed new park lighting facilities would not require the removal or damaging of trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings within a state scenic highway. This is the case because each project site is located within existing parks and/or basins that serve as recreational/open space area. The only resource that would be removed in order to install the parking lighting facilities would be existing turf grass. No trees or rock outcroppings would be removed or damaged by the project. Additionally, the projects sites are not located adjacent to or near state scenic highways. The project site nearest to Highway 101 is Fletcher Park which is approximately 0.30 miles to the west. The project site located nearest to State Route 166 is Oakley Park which is approximately 0.40 miles to the south. The City's General Plan states that both

Highway 101 and State Route 166 are eligible, but have not been officially designated as a State or local scenic highway. Therefore, no impact to the above-mentioned scenic resources would occur.

c. The project sites are each located within existing parks and basins that have established recreational uses and are surrounded by urbanized areas. Five of the six project sites are located within the Open Space zoning designation, and the remaining site is located with the City's Downtown Specific Plan – Civic District. Specific performance standards listed within the City's Municipal Code (Section 12-33) and the City's Downtown Specific Plan regulate scenic quality. These standards include glare reduction and light spillage reduction measures. Consideration of the orientation of lighting and the intensity of lighting has been reviewed. Shielding hoods have been incorporated into the design of the lighting facilities to reduce the potential of light spillage and glare impacts upon the surrounding area. Additionally, staff has reviewed an illumination summary (Attachment 2) which demonstrates that the light facilities, when in use, will be focused onto the specific recreational area and are of an appropriate intensity. Therefore, conflicts with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality would be less than significant.

d. The proposed new lighting would establish a new source of light or glare upon nighttime views. The lighting would be used during the hours of 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. for recreational activities. The potential impacts of the proposed lighting have been analyzed through an illumination summary which depicts the intensity of lighting throughout the project site(s), as well as in the immediate vicinity of the project site(s). Each of the project sites are surrounded by urbanized areas and uses with existing lighting that impacts nighttime views. The illumination summary (Attachment 2) concludes that the new lighting would not create adverse physical effects on the areas within the immediate vicinity of the parks. The new lighting would be shielded to direct illumination toward the park facilities which reduces light spillage at the areas surrounding the project sites. Staff would review the light shielding measures proposed during the building permit plan check process to ensure that the shielding measures are adequate and comply with the recommendations in the illumination summary. Therefore, the impacts related to the creation of a new source of substantial light or glare would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to aesthetic resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

2. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would the project:	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 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

Setting: The Santa Maria Valley possesses the soil and climatic conditions suitable for vegetable crops (i.e., broccoli, cauliflower and lettuce) and field crops (i.e., barley and corn) often yielding three to four crops per year. Strawberries are also grown in abundance. The City of Santa Maria's urban forest is comprised primarily of introduced native and drought-tolerant plant materials. The project site(s) consist of established parks and dual-purpose basin areas which contain no active farmland and are not zoned for agricultural use.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project would install park lighting facilities at existing parks and basins that are currently utilized and zoned for recreational purposes. The project would not establish any new parks or convert any land from an agricultural use to a non-agricultural use. Additionally, after reviewing the California Department of Conservation's (DOC) California Important Farmland Finder which lists Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, none of the project properties contain these types of Farmland. Therefore, no impacts resulting from the conversion of any land

identified as Agricultural Open Space from the City's General Plan, Prime, Unique or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use would occur.

b. As discussed previously, the project sites are developed with existing parks and basins which are not zoned for agricultural uses. Therefore, no impact or conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract would occur.

c. The project sites are within existing parks zoned for recreational open space and do not contain land zoned for forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)). The proposed project would not conflict with forest land or timberland zoning nor does it propose a zone change that would convert existing forest or timberland zoning. Therefore, no impact would occur.

d. The project sites do not contain forest land as identified in the City's General Plan Resources Management Element which includes Urban Forest and Landscaping. Therefore, no impact or loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use would occur.

e. As discussed above, the project sites are developed with parks and basins and are not zoned for or developed with agriculture uses. Therefore, this project would not lead to changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in the conversion of Farmland or Forest land to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts related to agriculture and forest resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

3. AIR QUALITY

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

Would the project:	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

Setting: The project sites are located within the South Central Coast Air Basin (SCCAB), which includes all of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties. Two types of temperature inversions (warmer

air on top of cooler air) are created in the area: subsidence and radiational. Both types of inversions limit the dispersal of air pollutants within the regional air shed, with the more stable the air (low wind speeds, uniform temperatures), the lower the amount of pollutant dispersion.

Air Quality Regulation

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have each established ambient air quality standards for certain "criteria" pollutants under the Federal and State Clean Air Acts respectively. These standards are meant to control and reduce certain air pollutants. Federal standards have been established for seven pollutants: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, respirable particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10), fine particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5), and sulfur dioxide. California has standards for the seven pollutants listed above as well as four additional pollutants: sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, vinyl chloride (chloroethene), and visibility reducing particles. According to the most recently available data from the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, Santa Barbara County was designated unclassifiable/attainment for the 2015 revised Federal 8-hour ozone standard on April 30, 2018. The County is also designated nonattainment-transitional for the State ozone standard, and also violates the State PM10 standard. The County is unclassifiable/attainment for the Federal PM2.5 standard and unclassified for the State PM2.5 standard.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project includes installing new LED lighting fixtures within existing City parks and basins. The project would not result in substantial sources of air contaminant emissions given the nature of the development. The park lighting facilities primarily utilize electricity which does not generate substantial air contaminate emissions as compared to other fossil fuel-based energy resources. Additionally, the lighting will be installed with timers which will limit light usage to specific park events which require lighting. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an air quality plan, and impacts would be less than significant.

b. The project proposes to install new park lighting facilities at existing parks and basins which use electricity. Minimal ground disturbance limited to trenching to install lighting poles and conduit would be required to install the new light poles. Minimal construction activities are required to install the new park lighting facilities. The construction activates would include trenching, conduit installation, excavation and pouring of foundations, wire pulling, electrical main panel and control system tie in and pole installation. These construction activities would not generate construction related emissions exceeding the 25 tons per year threshold for reactive organic gases (ROG) or nitrogen oxides (NOx). Criteria pollutants generated by the proposed light fixtures would be minimal and would not exceed Federal and State standards. No area source or mobile emissions contributing to long-term regional emissions would result from the proposed project. Therefore, the cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standards would be less than significant.

c. The project proposes to install new LED park lighting facilities at existing parks and basins which use electricity. This energy source does not emit any substances that could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Therefore, no impacts to sensitive receptors resulting from substantial pollutant concentrations would occur.

d. The project proposes to install new park lighting facilities at existing parks and basins within the City of Santa Maria. The new lights will use electricity and this energy source does not emit any air quality related emissions (such as those leading to odors) which would adversely affect a substantial number of people. Therefore, no impacts would occur from the project that would result in emissions that would adversely affect a substantial number of people.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to air quality. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	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 U.S. 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

Setting: The significant wildlife habitat areas within the City of Santa Maria are located within the fields surrounding the airport, riparian vegetation within the Santa Maria River, and the Vernal Pool complex located southwest of the airport. None of the project sites are located within these significant wildlife habitat areas. Sensitive habitats known to occur within the City of Santa Maria include the Central Coast Riparian Scrub and the Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh. None of the project sites contain these types of sensitive habitats. The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose basins which have been developed to provide sports fields, playgrounds, basketball courts and paved areas for open space and

recreational activity. There are no significant water features or any other unique habitat on the site, and each of the sites are surrounded by development.

Impact Discussion:

a. There are no known occurrences of species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the project sites. This conclusion is based on a query of the most recent version of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool. None of the project site(s) are located within critical habitat or contain fish hatcheries, wetlands or wildlife refuge areas. Sensitive resources within the region and surrounding vicinity of the project area(s) have occurred, but the likelihood of these species being present or utilizing the project areas is low. Additionally, the scope of vegetation removal to accommodate the installation of the new light poles would be limited to the removal of existing turf grass, and minor trenching. This minimal amount of vegetation removal and ground disturbance limits the amount of potential impacts to habitat area or direct impact to sensitive resources. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would have less than significant impacts on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

b, c. According to the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (Wetlands Mapper), the project sites do not contain riparian habitat, state or federally protected wetlands, or any other sensitive natural habitat. The removal of vegetation to accommodate the installation of the light poles would be limited to the removal of existing turf grass. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would have no impact on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The project sites do not support any migratory corridors, or nursery sites. The sites are located within existing developed parks and basins that are utilized for recreational activities and are surrounded by urbanized areas which are not known or identified in the City's General Plan Resource Management Element as significant habitat areas. For the purposes of this analysis, it is reasonable to assume that due to the existing development/disturbance at each project site, the sites locations adjacent to existing development in urbanized areas, and the lack of suitable wildlife habitat, the project sites are not located within or adjacent to a wildlife corridor or nursery site. Therefore, implementation of the proposed lighting project would have no impact on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or wildlife corridors, or impede the use of a native wildlife nursery site.

e. No biological species or trees are proposed to be removed to accommodate the installation of the light poles except existing turf grass where light poles would be installed. The project does not conflict with any local policies ordinances protection biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

f. There are no habitat conservation plans, natural community conservation plans, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans applicable to the project site. The project would comply with the City's General Plan and local ordinances pertaining to the protection of biological resources. Therefore, no impacts would occur as a result of the project.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to biological resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	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 formal cemeteries?			X	

Setting: Historical resources in Santa Maria consist of several landmarks and structures. There are 10 structures and landmarks officially designated by the City and its landmark committee. Additionally, the City's Municipal Code contains a Historic Overlay Zone which guides development for such structures and provides a mechanism to designate structures. The Resources Management Element in the City's General Plan delineates high, moderate, low, and negligible archaeological sensitivity areas within the City.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project sites are existing parks and basins designed for recreational use which do not contain a resource listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, no object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California exists at the project areas. The scope of work of ground disturbance is limited to the removal of the immediate existing turf grass and minimal grading/trenching required to install the proposed park lighting facilities. Therefore, the impact to historical resources would be less than significant.

b. The project sites are located within Archaeological Sensitivity Areas #2 & #3 (low sensitivity and negligible sensitivity archaeological areas) as identified on Figure RME-5 Archaeological Sensitivity Areas Map of the City's General Plan Resource Management Element. There are no known archaeological resources on the project sites. Additionally, limited ground disturbance consisting of the removal of turf grass and minor trenching (3-5 feet in depth) is required to install the park lighting facilities. No material will be removed from the site from the trenching given that the trenches will be backfilled with the native materials. Minimal sized holes (1-2 yards per hole) will be generated when excavating for the light standard foundations. Based on the project site's negligible archaeological sensitivity, previous ground disturbances, and minimal underground activities, the potential impacts to archaeological resources is low. Therefore, impacts to archaeological resources pursuant to §15064.5 would be less than significant.

c. As stated above, the project sites are located within Archaeological Sensitivity Areas #2 & #3 (low sensitivity and negligible sensitivity archaeological areas) as identified on Figure RME-5 Archaeological Sensitivity Areas Map of the City's General Plan Resource Management Element. There is no evidence that the sites possess any unique geologic or paleontological resources within the sites. Additionally, the project entails the installation of new light poles and concrete foundations minimizing the amount of ground disturbance at the site. Based on previous site disturbance and existing development, buried human remains are not expected in the area of the project sites. In the event of accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, California State Health and

Safety Code Section 7050.5 stipulates that no further disturbances shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to CEQA regulations and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. With adherence to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, which stipulates the process to be followed when human remains are encountered, impacts related to the disturbance of human remains would be reduced to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to cultural resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

6. ENERGY

Would the project:	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	

Setting: Santa Maria relies primarily on electricity and natural gas for household energy, and petroleum (gasoline and diesel) for most modes of transportation. Energy conservation has become a prominent local, national and global issue. Measures applied in the City of Santa Maria include energy conserving building standards, recycling, and transportation system improvements. The proposed SST -1 project is designed to implement a host of energy related measures to improve energy efficiency at City-owned park and basin facilities.

Impact Discussion:

a. The new lighting would be utilized for sports activities occurring after dark. Timers will regulate and set the hours of available lighting, which would typically be between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. Additionally, the lighting utilizes state of the art Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) which are energy efficient and would not use excessive energy when in use. Therefore, impacts resulting from wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during the project's construction or operation will be less than significant.

b. The new lighting is designed to improve energy efficiency of City-owned facilities and finance energy related measures throughout the City. As stated above, state-of-the-art LEDs are proposed as the lighting source which are designed to be energy efficient. Additionally, the lighting usage would fluctuate based upon seasonal usage depending on the availability of daylight which will naturally limit the amount of energy consumed. Therefore, the new lighting will have a less then significant impact on a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to energy. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:	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 most recent 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 wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X	

Setting: The proposed project would be located within the Santa Maria Valley, an east-west trending alluvial valley bounded to the north by the San Rafael Range and to the south by the Casmalia Range and the Solomon Hills. The Santa Maria River traverses the valley from east to west, emptying into the Pacific Ocean just west of the town of Guadalupe. The City of Santa Maria lies at the juncture between the northwest-trending southern Coast Range province and the east-west-trending Transverse Range province. The basin contains a relatively thick Miocene through Holocene age sequence of sedimentary

rocks, some of which are prolific petroleum producing formations, and others that are highly productive ground water aquifers.

The Santa Maria Valley is located within a structural fold and thrust fault area; the axes of most of the structural elements in the region run northwest-southeast, parallel to the valley. The Santa Maria basin and adjacent southern Coast Ranges have been subjected to considerable uplift during the last 2 to 5 million years and are considered to be seismically active. Relatively little direct evidence of active faulting (such as offset of bedding or structures observed at a surface fault) has been observed in the region; however, broad bands of seismicity unrelated to surface faults and other evidence indicate the region is seismically active (City 1995).

Impact Discussion:

a.

i. The City of Santa Maria is not located in close proximity to an identified Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Hazard Zone according to the ArcGIS Alquist Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones mapping. Therefore, the impacts to the project area(s) as a result of a rupture of a known earthquake rupture fault are less than significant.

ii. The City of Santa Maria is located in a region of California which experiences lower levels of shaking with very infrequent earthquakes potentially causing strong shaking according to the Earthquake Shaking Potential for California Map (2016) from the California Department of Conservation's website. Therefore, the impact to the project area(s) regarding strong seismic ground shaking would be less than significant.

iii. Some of the project areas (Fletcher Park and Crossroads Basin) are located in proximity to soils which contain shallow perched groundwater below the surface which could cause liquefaction during an earthquake, according to Figure SE-2 Geologic Hazards Map of the City's General Plan Safety Element. The light structures are unmanned facilities located at parks which primarily contain open space. Therefore, the impact to project area(s) due to seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, would be less than significant.

iv. Landslides could potentially occur in the southern portion of the City in areas with steep slopes or in areas containing escarpments, according to the City's General Plan Safety Element. The project area(s) are not within the vicinity of the steep slopes shown on Figure SE-2 Geologic Hazards Map of the City's General Plan Safety Element. Therefore, the impact to project area(s) due to landslides would be less than significant.

b. The project proposes to install light poles and accessory equipment. This action requires a minimal amount of grading and ground disturbance. The primary impact to soils will be the removal of turf grass to install concrete foundations for the light poles within the immediate vicinity of each pole. Therefore, the impact to soil erosion or the loss of topsoil would be less than significant.

c. The Geologic Hazards Map of the City's General Plan Safety Element (Figure SE-2) identifies Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin and Oakley Park near expansive soils which could result in liquefaction in the event of an earthquake. Additionally, Figure SE-2 identifies Paul Nelson Aquatic Center and North Preisker Park near the Santa Maria fault line. However, this project proposes to install park lighting facilities within existing parks and basins that primarily are being utilized as open space. Additionally, a building permit would be reviewed and approved by City staff prior to the installation of the lighting at each site to ensure the proposed design and construction documents are in compliance with the California Building Code. Therefore, the impacts of being 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 are less than significant.

d. The Geologic Hazards Map of the City's General Plan Safety Element (Figure SE-2) identifies expansive soils in proximity to Fletcher Park, Crossroads Basin, Adam Basin and Oakley Park). A query of the UC Davis Soil Web which provides U.S. Department of Agriculture National Cooperative Soil Survey (USDA-NCSS) data determined that the following soil types exist at the project site(s): Betteravia Loamy Sand, Maria Sand, Sorrento Sandy Loam, Corralitos Loamy Sand and Sandy Alluvial land. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities within existing parks and basins that are primarily used as open space. A building permit would be required to be submitted to the City for review and approval prior to the installation of the light poles. The design and construction of the park lighting would have to comply with the California Building Code. Any potential structural or soil stability concerns would be addressed at this phase of development. Therefore, the impacts of being located on expansive soil creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property is less than significant.

e. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities within existing parks and basins. No septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems are proposed for this project. The project sites do not contain septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Therefore, no impact to septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems would occur.

f. The City's General Plan Safety Element identifies that the Santa Maria basin is located in a relatively thick Miocene through Holocene age sequence of sedimentary rocks. The project site(s) are located in areas underlain by Holocene age alluvium and by Pleistocene age non-marine terrace deposits (City 1995). According to the City's General Plan Resource Conservation Element, the Santa Maria Valley is not considered to be a major archaeological or paleontological resource area as a few sites have been recorded or discovered. Ground disturbance would generally be limited to footing installation and trenching at shallow depths in non-native soil and previous fill material. As such, the project would not result in the risk of encountering underlying formations that have a potential for paleontological resources. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to geology and soils. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:	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	

Setting: The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is the lead agency for implementing climate change regulations in the State. Since its formation, CARB has worked with the public, the business sector, and local governments to find solutions to California's air pollution problems. Assembly Bill (AB) 32 requires CARB to prepare a scoping plan that outlines the main State strategies for meeting the emission reduction targets and to reduce hydrocarbons that contribute to global climate change. Pursuant to AB 32, the Scoping Plan must "identify and make recommendations on direct emission reduction measures, alternative compliance mechanisms, market-based compliance mechanisms, and potential monetary and nonmonetary incentives" in order to achieve the 2020 goal and achieve "the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions" by 2020 and maintain and continue reductions beyond 2020.

SB 32 and AB 197 have also recently passed which are of relevance. SB 32 affirms the importance of addressing climate change by codifying into statute the greenhouse gas emissions reductions target of at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 contained in Governor Brown's April 2015 Executive Order B-30-15. SB 32 builds on AB 32 and keeps us on the path toward achieving the State's 2050 objective of reducing emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels, consistent with an IPCC analysis of the emissions trajectory that would stabilize atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations at 450 parts per million CO2e and reduce the likelihood of catastrophic impacts from climate change. The companion bill to SB 32, AB 197, provides additional direction to CARB on the following areas related to the adoption of strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additional direction in AB 197 meant to provide easier public access to air emissions data that are collected by CARB was posted in December 2016.

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (SBCAPCD)

SBCAPCD provides guidance for assessing and reducing the impacts of project-specific air quality emissions in the Environmental Review Guidelines (SBCAPCD 2015). The SBCAPCD has not adopted quantitative significance thresholds for land use projects.

Santa Barbara County Associations of Governments (SBCAG)

SBCAG adopted the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS; SBCAG 2017) in 2017 which responded to the State requirements in Senate Bill 375. The RTP/SCS aims to make land use assumptions and allocate forecast future growth consistent with those assumptions and the allocation of regional housing needs. Starting with land uses allowed by existing, adopted local General Plans, the land use assumptions, developed in close coordination with the planning staff of SBCAG's member jurisdictions, selectively provide for intensification of residential and commercial land uses in urban areas proximate to existing transit. The intent of these changes is ultimately to shorten trip distances and reduce vehicle miles traveled by (1) directly addressing regional jobs/housing imbalance by providing more housing

on the jobs-rich South Coast and more jobs in bedroom communities in the North County, and (2) promoting more trips, both local and inter-city, by alternative transportation modes, especially public transit.

City of Santa Maria

The City of Santa Maria has not adopted a climate action plan. However, the Resources Management Element of the General Plan (City 2001) contains several objectives that would either directly or indirectly reduce GHG emissions. The following policy would apply to the proposed project:

- Objective 6.1.b(2) Energy Resources. Encourage innovative building and site design which maximizes energy efficiency in private and public facilities.

Thresholds. Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* considers a project to have a significant impact related to GHG emissions if the project would:

1. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or
2. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

In addition, *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.4(b) states that a lead agency should consider the following factors, among others, when assessing the significance of impacts from GHG emissions on the environment:

- The extent to which the project may increase or reduce GHG emissions as compared to the existing environmental setting;
- Whether the project emissions exceed a threshold of significance that the lead agency determines applies to the project; and
- The extent to which the project complies with regulations or requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional, or local plan for the reduction or mitigation of GHG emissions. Such requirements must be adopted by the relevant public agency through a public review process and must reduce or mitigate the projects incremental contribution of GHG emissions.

Impact Discussion:

a-b. Construction of the project would result in GHG emissions through the combustion of fossil fuels by construction equipment and through vehicle trips generated by construction workers. These activities would be temporary, and construction activity generated by the anticipated installation of the facilities would be minimal given that an excavator would be utilized for the trenching and excavation required to install the conduit and wiring for the lighting and the foundations, concrete pouring equipment would be used for the foundation and a crane would be used for the installation of the pole. The equipment would be utilized over a 60-90 day period of time.

GHG emissions would also be generated when the lights are operating. Staff calculated the worst case scenario of GHG emissions if all proposed light facilities would be operating for the entire length of nighttime hours that parks are open to the public (5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and if each park was utilized simultaneously every day for a year. Kilowatt information provided in the illumination summary (attachment 2) was used to determine the total kilowatt-hours of electricity that would be used from the worst-case scenario. Based on this information, if each lighting facility was operating over the entirety of nighttime park hours simultaneously for every night over a year period it would require 485,683.6 kilowatt-hours of electricity. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator was used to determine the total amount of CO2e emissions that would be generated from this worst-case scenario. The total amount of CO2e emissions generated would be approximately 343 MT of CO2e. This amount of GHG emissions is minimal, and in the case of existing lighting facilities, the new lights would be upgraded to include LEDs which would result in an overall reduction in the current GHG emissions from existing facilities. In addition, the lights would only be used between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. approximately 4-5 months out of the year (at the end of fall and in the beginning of winter), when the sun begins to set prior to or near 5:00 p.m. The lights would be used during specific park events or activities, and would contain timers to limit the timeframe of usage.

Therefore, the project would result in a less than significant impact resulting from GHG emissions, and would not conflict with an applicable plan, threshold, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:	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

Setting: Hazardous materials are used by numerous businesses in the Planning Area. Typical businesses include, but are not limited to, hospitals, dry cleaners, auto repair facilities, exterminators, medical labs, photographic studies, and gas stations. On a smaller scale, single family residences also use and store hazardous materials (pesticides, fertilizers, drain cleaners, etc.). The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose basins which have been developed to provide fields, playgrounds, courts and paved areas for

open space and recreational activity. There is no anticipated or proposed use or transportation of hazardous materials at the project site(s).

Impact Discussion:

a.-d The project includes the installation of new lighting facilities in existing parks and basins which are currently used for recreational activities. The new lighting would not contain hazardous materials or involve the release of hazardous materials into the environment. The project sites are not located on sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Therefore, there would be no impact related a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the transport, use, or disposal of a hazardous material.

e. Figure SE-7, displays the Santa Maria Public Airport Safety Areas in the City's General Plan. There are three zones. Safety Area 1 (Clear Zone), Safety Area 2 (Airport Approach) and Safety Area 3 (General). None of the project sites are located within Safety Area 1 or Safety Area 2 which are the most restrictive areas. Additionally, the project sites are located within existing parks and basins. Therefore, the impact upon a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area would be less than significant impact.

f. The project does not include any characteristics or features that would interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project would not result in the closure of any area roads. All improvements would be required to be completed in accordance with applicable building code requirements for lighting fixtures. Therefore, no impact would occur.

g. The project sites are within existing parks and basins that area surrounded by urbanized areas and or intensive agriculture on all sides. According to the Safety Element in the City's General Plan, the Santa Maria Valley is not susceptible to high wildland fire risks (City 1995). This conclusion is further supported by the Cal Fire, Fire Hazard Severity Map Viewer. This map indicates that the project site(s) are not located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The proposed project is not located in or near a state responsibility area or lands classified as very high hazard severity zones. Therefore, the project would not be exposed to risks from wildland fires, and there will be no impact.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project, with Local, State and Federal regulations applied, would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to hazards and hazardous materials. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:	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	

Setting: The City obtains its water from two sources: groundwater from the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin and purchased imported water from the State Water Project. The nearest body of water to the project site(s) is the Santa Maria River which is located approximately 0.40 miles to the north of the nearest project site. None of the project sites are located within a FEMA mapped 100-year flood plain.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities at existing parks and does not propose to expand park area or create new parks. Additionally, the project would only require minimal trenching and ground disturbance to install the electrical equipment for the light facilities(s). The amount of impervious area proposed to be added to each site is minor, and would only be within the area immediately below the lighting facilities. The amount of activity occurring from the proposal that would impact surface or

ground water is not significant. Therefore, a less then impact to water quality standards, waste discharge requirements or degradation of surface or ground water would occur.

b. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities at existing parks and does not propose to expand park area or create new parks. The project would not utilize groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater management. Therefore, a less then significant impact to the groundwater supplies or interference with sustainable groundwater management would occur.

c.i. The project area(s) do not contain streams or rivers and the project would create minor alterations to the park(s) drainage given that a minimal amount of concrete installation and turf removal would be required in order to install the proposed light poles. Additionally, narrow stretches of trenching would occur in order to install electrical equipment which would not have a significant impact on the site(s) soil. Therefore, the impact upon erosion or siltation at the site would be less than significant.

c.ii. The project would require minimal concrete installation and turf removal in order to install the light poles. Additionally, a minor amount of trenching would occur which would not have a significant impact on the site(s) drainage. Therefore, the impact upon the amount of surface runoff resulting in flooding on or offsite would be less than significant.

c.iii. The project would require minimal concrete installation and turf removal in order to install the light poles A small amount of trenching would occur in order to install the electrical for the lighting facilities. These minor impacts would not generate substantial amounts of runoff which would impact stormwater drainage systems or lead to substantial sources of polluted runoff. Therefore, the impact upon the creation and contribution of runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or the addition of substantial sources of polluted runoff would be less than significant.

c.iv. The project would require minimal concrete installation and turf removal in order to install the light poles. A minor amount of trenching would occur as well to install the electrical for the lighting facilities. These impacts are not significant and would not lead to the impediment or redirection of flood flows. Therefore, the impact upon the impediment or redirection of flood flows would be less than significant.

d. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities at existing parks and the City is over 15 miles from the Pacific Ocean and are not located in areas of concern regarding flood, tsunami or seiche events. Therefore, the installation of park lighting facilities would have a less then significant impact on the release of pollutants in the event of a flood, tsunami or seiche.

e. The project proposes to install park lighting facilities at existing parks. The project would require a minimal amount of concrete installation and turf removal in order to install the light poles. Additionally, a minor amount of trenching would occur as well to install the electrical for the lighting facilities. These impacts are not significant enough that they would impact, conflict or obstruct a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, the impact that would occur that could conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to hydrology and water quality. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

11. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:	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	

Setting: The project sites are located within existing City public parks and contain the following General Plan Land Use Designations: Open Space & Community Facilities. The Zoning Designations at the project site(s) include Open Space, Public Facilities and the Downtown Specific Plan Civic District. The site(s) also contain a Planned Development Overlay District as well.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project would install park lighting facilities at established parks and basin areas. No expansion of parks or new parks would be created. The lighting would be utilized during events and activities at the park(s) during nighttime hours (5 P.M. to 9 P.M.). Additionally, the only physical alteration to the land at the project site would be minimal and include trenching and ground disturbance to install the electrical equipment for the light facilities(s). The amount of impervious area proposed to be added to each site is small, and would only be within the area immediately below the lighting facilities. The amount of activity occurring at each of the established park(s) from the proposal is not significant enough that it could have the potential to divide an established community. Therefore, no impact would occur that would physically divide an established community.

b. The project would install park lighting facilities at established parks and basin areas. No expansion of parks or new parks would be created. As discussed above, the total amount of alterations required to install the park lighting facilities at the established parks would be minor. The potential of the proposal to conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental impact is low. Specific performance standards listed within the City's Municipal Code (Section 12-33) and the City's Downtown Specific Plan regulate scenic quality. These standards include glare reduction and light spillage reduction measures. Consideration of the orientation of lighting and the intensity of lighting has been reviewed. Shielding hoods have been incorporated into the design of the lighting facilities to reduce the potential of light spillage and glare impacts upon the surrounding area. Additionally, staff has reviewed an illumination summary (see attachment 2) which demonstrates that the light facilities, when in use, will be focused onto the specific recreational area and are of an appropriate intensity. Therefore, the impact upon any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environment effect would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to land use and planning resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

12. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	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	

Setting: Within the City, the primary resources suitable for mining and conservation are sand, rock, and oil. The Santa Maria River channel is considered to be a valuable mineral resource. The River contains the largest resources of Portland cement concrete-grade aggregate and almost 90 percent of the available alluvial sand and gravel resources in the Santa Barbara-San Luis Obispo County region. Mining has occurred along the Santa Maria and Sisquoc Rivers since the early 1900s. The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose basins which have been developed to provide fields, playgrounds, courts and paved areas for open space and recreational activity. None of the project site(s) are located near areas suitable for mining of mineral resources.

Impact Discussion:

a-b. The project sites would be located in proximity to Mineral Resource Zone #2, as identified on Figure RME-4 (Mineral Resource and Mining Production Areas map) of the City's General Plan Resource Management Element, which represents areas where adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present or where it is judged that a high likelihood for the presence exists. The California Department of Conservation Well Finder (CalGEM GIS) confirms that there are no active oil wells within the project site(s). The potential for impacts to occur to mineral resources is insignificant considering the project site(s) are located within established parks and basins, and the minimal ground disturbing activity that would occur to install the lighting facilities. Therefore, the impact on known mineral resources of value to the region and to residents of state or 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 is less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to mineral resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

13. NOISE

Would the project result in:	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 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

Setting: The major sources of noise in Santa Maria include: vehicular traffic on U.S. Highway 101 and major city streets, aircraft operations from the Santa Maria Public Airport, train movements along the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, construction projects and commercial activities and industrial plants. Community noise levels are typically measured in terms of A-weighted decibels (dBA). A-weighting is a frequency correction that correlates overall sound pressure levels with the frequency response of the human ear. Equivalent noise level (Leq) is the average noise level on an energy basis for a specific time period. The duration of noise and the time of day at which it occurs are important factors in determining the impact of noise on communities. The Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) and Day-Night Average Level (Ldn) account for the time of day and duration of noise generation. These indices are time-weighted average values equal to the amount of acoustic energy equivalent to a time-varying sound over a 24-hour period (City 2009).

Based on the City Land Use Element, the project is not located within a major noise impact area or within the Airport Safety Zone (City 2011a). The Noise Element in the City's General Plan includes noise compatibility standards for noise exposure by land use. The noise standards for passive outdoor recreation is 65 exterior dB CNEL.

Impact Discussion:

a-b. Temporary noise levels, groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels may be increased at the project site(s) as a result of the construction required to install the lighting facilities. However, the minor amount of construction would not result in a substantial temporary increases in noise levels, groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels because the necessary construction required to install the light poles consists of minor grading and trenching. Additionally, the construction would be limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; or between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Saturday through Sunday. The lighting facilities themselves do not generate significant permanent noise levels, groundborne vibration or groundborne noise when in use because the facilities use electricity to supply power to LED lights. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

c. The project sites are not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip and are outside of the Airport Clear Zone and the Airport Approach Zone, as listed in the City's Safety Element of the General Plan. The nearest project site is approximately 2.0 miles away from the airport. The lighting facilities themselves do not generate significant permanent noise levels Therefore, no impacts resulting from exposing people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise would result.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to noise. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:	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

Setting: Santa Maria consistently has been the fastest growing city in Santa Barbara County over the last two decades. From Census 2000 to Census 2010, 90% of the county's population growth occurred in the City of Santa Maria. It is anticipated that this trend will continue throughout the current decade as Santa Maria continues to be the hub for Northern Santa Barbara County. The City is currently in the midst of the 2015-2023 Regional Housing Needs Allocation housing targets.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project would install park lighting facilities at existing City parks and basins which would result in extended hours for existing park activities. No new parks or the expansion of existing park areas would occur as a result of this project. Therefore, no impacts related to the inducement of substantial unplanned population growth, directly or indirectly, would occur.

b. The project would install park lighting facilities at existing parks which would extend the hours of operation for existing park activities. The project sites are used as open space and recreation facilities and are not suitable nor appropriately zoned to allow for residential development and would therefore not displace existing housing or people, or necessitate the construction of additional housing. Therefore, no impacts related to the displacement of housing or people would occur.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to population and housing. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:	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	

Setting: The City of Santa Maria provides the following public services: fire services, recreation and park services, community development, public works, police protection, libraries, water services, drainage, wastewater and solid waste. The project site(s) would be served by City of Santa Maria Fire Department Station #1, 2, 3 and 4 located at 314 West Cook Street, 416 Carmen Lane, 2305 North Preisker Lane, and 2637 South College Drive respectively. The site that is located the furthest from a Fire Station is approximately 1.5 miles away. The project site(s) would be served by the City of Santa Maria Police Department Station located at 1111 West Betteravia Road. The site that is the furthest away from the Police Station is approximately 5.5 miles away. The Santa Maria Bonita School District serves the City's elementary and junior high-schools, the high-schools are served by the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.

Impact Discussion:

a.i-iv. The project site(s) are located within existing City parks and basin areas, and the installation of the lighting facilities would allow for additional usage of the park facilities during the evening and nighttime hours. The new lights would be constructed and maintained by the City's Recreation and Parks Department. No new parks, expanded park area or additional park facilities would be needed to accommodate the project. The extended park hours would not result in the need for expanded police or fire services. The impacts to fire and police response times or performance objectives would be minimal, and these services would remain in place to respond in the event of an emergency at the project sites. The project would not impact schools, roads or other public facilities. Therefore, the impact on public services (Fire protection, Police protection, Schools, Parks and other public facilities) in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services is less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to public services. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

16. RECREATION

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

Setting: The City of Santa Maria's recreation system is comprised of several local parks and recreational facilities. Specifically, the City's General Plan lists the following existing facilities: park(s), playfields (baseball, softball, soccer fields, football fields, tennis and handball/racquetball), community center building(s), social-cultural center(s), senior center(s), gymnasium(s), community swimming pool(s) and aquatic center(s). The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose basins which have been developed to provide fields, playgrounds, courts and paved areas for open space and recreational activity.

Impact Discussion:

a. The project includes the construction of new lighting facilities sites within existing City parks and basins which currently do not have lighting. The new lighting will allow for an increase in the use of park facilities and for recreational activities to occur in the evening and nighttime hours. The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose basins which have been developed to provide fields, playgrounds, courts and paved areas for open space and recreational activity. The lighting fixtures will be installed with timers which allows the City to regulate the hours the park facilities can be utilized (typically 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.). Continued maintenance of the project sites by the City's Recreation and Parks Department will ensure that physical deterioration of the park(s) or acceleration of deterioration of the park(s) would not occur and overall impacts would be less than significant.

b. The project would support existing recreational facilities through the installation of new lighting facilities which would allow for an increase in the use of park facilities for recreational purposes in the evening and nighttime hours. The new lighting facilities have the potential to emit light and glare onto surrounding areas. However, this potential impact has been analyzed through an illumination summary which depicts the intensity of lighting throughout the project site(s) as well as in the immediate vicinity of the project site(s). The illumination summary (see attachment 2) demonstrates that the impact of lighting would not create adverse physical effects on the areas within the immediate vicinity of parks. Additionally, the lighting is shielded to direct illumination toward the park facilities which reduces light spillage into the areas surrounding the project sites. Therefore, there would be a less then significant impact on the physical effects of the environment from the lighting facilities proposed to be constructed.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to recreation. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

17. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?				X
b. 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

Setting: Regional access to the City of Santa Maria is provided by the U.S. 101 Freeway. U.S. 101 extends south of Santa Maria to the City of Santa Barbara and beyond to the Los Angeles area. North of Santa Maria, U.S. 101 passes through San Luis Obispo County. The major existing north-south streets serving Santa Maria are Broadway, Blosser/Skyway, and Miller. The major east-west streets serving Santa Maria are Donovan Road, Alvin Avenue, Main Street, Stowell Road, Battles Road, McCoy Lane, and Betteravia Road. The City provides four types of public transportation services. The City's Rail System includes passenger and freight service. Trails and paths as well as bike lanes serve as the primary form of pedestrian transportation. Commercial and General Aviation from the Santa Maria Public Airport District is also provided. The City also provides the Santa Maria Area Transit (SMAT) Public Transit bus service citywide. Other regional bus services include the Breeze Bus, Clean Air Express, Guadalupe Flyer and Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Route 10.

Impact Discussion:

a. The proposed park lighting facilities would be located within existing parks and the installation of the park lighting facilities would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities because no new transportation related projects would be required to complete the project. Therefore, no impact would occur that would conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy measuring the effectiveness of the performance of the circulation system.

b. The proposed park lighting facilities would be located within existing parks, and no expansion of park(s) are proposed nor are any new parks proposed. Additionally, no new transportation facilities would need to be installed or removed to complete the project. The project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, b given that the project is not establishing a new land use that would generate vehicle miles traveled, but would only result in extending the hours existing park facilities could be utilized. Therefore, the impact upon vehicle miles traveled would be less than significant.

c. The proposed park lighting facilities would be located within existing parks which already are serviced by existing streets and the project would not impact the design of surrounding streets or lead to incompatible uses. Additionally, no new transportation facilities would need to be installed or removed. Therefore, no impact would occur.

d. The proposed park lighting facilities would be located within existing parks which already are serviced by existing streets and would not impact surrounding circulation. Additionally, no new transportation facilities would need to be installed or removed to complete the project. Therefore, no impact would occur to emergency access.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to transportation. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place or 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, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		X		

Setting: The Santa Maria Valley is not considered to be a major archaeological or paleontological resource area. The Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council is routinely contacted to determine if consultation on CEQA documents is required in accordance with AB 52.

Impact Discussion:

a.i, ii. The proposed project area(s) are located at established City parks and basins which have been previously developed and are currently used for recreational activities. The potential for the existence of buried archaeological materials within the project area is considered low based on the historic physical setting, the previous development, the regular clearing of vegetation off the site, and due to previous disturbances. The project sites do not contain any known tribal cultural resources that have been listed, or are 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). The Lead Agency has not identified any significant resource as defined in Public Resources Code section 5024.1, on the sites. The Project would not cause an adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a

local register of historical resources. The Project would have no significant impact to historical resources and no mitigation is required.

The City notified California Native American tribes who have formally requested notification on CEQA projects under Assembly Bill 52. This notification affords California Native American tribes the opportunity for consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1. The Santa Ynez Tribal Elders Council is the only area tribe to requested notification. The representative for the tribe made phone contact with the City on July 9, 2020, and visited the sites with staff. The representative requested that the project include a "discovery clause" whereby work would cease and the Tribe would be notified if a tribal cultural resource was inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, and for monitoring at the Adam Basin and the Crossroads Basin site during grading activities.

A mitigation measure has been included to address the potential for the project to impact previously unidentified tribal cultural resources that may be located at the project sites. This measure requires consultation with local Native American(s) in the event that a resource of Native American origin is identified during grading and construction activities, and the preparation of a mitigation plan if it is determined that the resource is a tribal cultural resource. Monitoring at the Adams Basin and the Crossroads Basin site is not required at these sites because both are located within Archaeological Sensitivity Areas #3 & #2 respectively (negligible sensitivity and low sensitivity archaeological areas) as identified on Figure RME-5 Archaeological Sensitivity Areas Map of the City's General Plan Resource Management Element, previous grading has occurred at the sites, and minimal ground disturbance consisting of the removal of turf grass and minor trenching (4-5 feet in depth) is required to install the park lighting facilities. No material will be removed from the site from the trenching given that the trenches will be backfilled with the native materials. Minimal sized holes (1-2 yards per hole) will be generated when excavating for the light standard foundations.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project:

CR-1 – Unanticipated Discoveries. In the event that a resource of Native American origin is identified during grading and construction activities, the lead agency shall consult with local Native American(s). If the lead agency, in consultation with local Native Americans, determines that the resource is a tribal cultural resource and thus significant under CEQA, a mitigation plan shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with state guidelines and in consultation with Native American groups. The mitigation plan may include but would not be limited to avoidance, capping in place, excavation and removal of the resource, interpretive displays, sensitive area signage, or other mutually agreed upon measure.

19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:	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 telecommunications 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	

Setting: The primary utility services the City provides are related to water, wastewater and solid waste. The City of Santa Maria has two sources of water supply, local groundwater and imported State Water. The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant is located on the west side of Santa Maria on Black Road. The treatment capacity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was expanded to 13.5 million gallons a day in 2010. The City of Santa Maria owns and operates a non-hazardous Class III Regional Landfill located on the east side of Santa Maria. The City operates a fleet of solid waste collection vehicles that collect a majority of solid waste generated in the City and brought to the Santa Maria Regional Landfill. Curbside recycling is also collected by the City fleet.

Impact Discussion:

a. The installation of lighting facilities at existing parks would not require construction of or result in the relocation of water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

b. The installation of lighting facilities would be occurring at existing parks could result in a minor increase in restroom, drinking fountains and general watering of fields resulting from extended park hours in the evening. However, this increase would be minor, and the impact to water supplies available to serve the parks during normal, dry and multiple dry years would be less than significant.

c. The project would not increase the area of existing parks nor would it create any new parks. The park hours would be extended into the nighttime as a result of the installation of the lighting, and this could result in a minor increased usage of restroom facilities, drinking fountains and general watering of fields. However, the City's wastewater treatment capacity is adequate to service the existing park(s)

and the increased usage. No expansion of wastewater services would be required to accommodate this project. Therefore, a less than significant impact to the capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments would occur.

d. The park(s) solid waste generation can adequately be serviced by the City and the installation of lighting facilities would not generate excessive amounts of solid waste, create conditions in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur

e. The installation of park lighting facilities within existing park(s) would not lead to the expansion of park area or the establishment of new parks. The sites are already being adequately serviced by the City solid waste services. Therefore, the impact toward the violation or conditions related to federal, state or local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to utilities and service systems. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

20. WILDFIRE

Would the project:	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	

Setting: The potential for wildland fire in the Santa Maria Planning Area is characterized by limited grassland and brush fires due to the absence of extensive tracts of mountainous and brush covered terrain. The most significant wildland fire hazards in the Planning Area are associated with the coastal sage scrub and grass covered slopes in the Casmalia and Solomon Hills to the south of the City. The oak savannah hillsides to the east of U.S. 101 and north of Clark Avenue represent another wildland fire hazard area. The Santa Maria Valley Oil Field represents another type of fire risk. The project site(s) are all either existing parks or dual-purpose

basins which have been developed to provide fields, playgrounds, courts and paved areas for open space and recreational activity.

Impact Discussion:

a. The existing parks do not currently impair any adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and the installation of lighting facilities would not lead to any of these conditions. Therefore, no impact to an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan would occur.

b. The project area(s) are located within urbanized areas which do not have a high fire risk. The existing parks are primarily open space which does not pose a major fire risk and park users typically utilize the spaces for a limited duration and can readily be evacuated in the event of an emergency. Additionally, the project would be installing unmanned parking lighting facilities at existing parks which would not introduce a major fire risk. Therefore, the impact due to slope, prevailing winds and other factors which would exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire would be less than significant.

c. The installation of lighting within the existing parks would not generate the need for the installation or maintenance of roads, fuel brakes, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impact to the environment. Therefore, no impact would occur.

d. The area(s) adjacent to the project sites are urbanized and are relatively flat and do not feature steep slopes or features which could easily result in flooding or landslides as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability or drainage changes. Additionally, the topography of the project area(s) will be majorly altered in order to install the light poles. Lastly, the existing parks are primarily open space areas that typically are utilized for a limited duration and can readily be evacuated in the event of an emergency. Therefore, the impact to exposing 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 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure(s) incorporated into the project: Implementation of the proposed project would not result in potentially significant environment impacts to wildfire. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

FIGURES

Figure 1 – Project Vicinity Map

Figure 2 – Project Locations Map(s)

REFERENCES

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ATTACHMENTS

1. SST Scope of Work
2. MUSCO Illumination Summaries

CONSULTATION AND DATA SOURCES

CONSULTATION SOURCES

City Departments Consulted

	Administrative Services
	Attorney
	Fire
	Library
	City Manager
	Police
	Public Works
	Utilities
x	Recreation and Parks

County Agencies/Departments Consulted

	Air Pollution Control District
	Association of Governments
	Flood Control District
	Environmental Health
	Fire (Hazardous Materials)
	LAFCO
	Public Works
	Planning and Development
	Other (list): Certified Unified Program Agency

Special Districts Consulted

	Santa Maria Public Airport
	Airport Land Use Commission
	Cemetery
	Santa-Maria Bonita School District
	Santa Maria Joint Union High School
	Laguna County Sanitation District
	Cal Cities Water Company

State/Federal Agencies Consulted

	Army Corps of Engineers
	Caltrans
	CA Fish and Game
	Federal Fish and Wildlife
	FAA
	Regional Water Quality Control Bd.
	Integrated Waste Management Bd.
	Other (list)

DATA SOURCES

General Plan

x	Land Use Element
x	Circulation Element
x	Safety Element
x	Noise Element
	Housing Element
x	Resources Management Element

Other

x	Agricultural Preserve Maps
x	Archaeological Maps/Reports
x	Architectural Elevations
	Biology Reports
	CA Oil and Gas Maps
x	FEMA Maps (Flood)
	Grading Plans
X	Site Plan
X	Topographic Maps
X	Aerial Photos
	Traffic Studies
	Trip Generation Manual (ITE)
	URBEMIS Air Quality Model
X	Zoning Maps
x	Other (list)

Photometric Exhibits, Air Quality Resources, California Register of Historical Resources, National Register of Historical Resources, Cortese List Data Resources and Seismology Resources

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. 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		
2. 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		
3. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		

SUMMARY OF POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

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

DETERMINATION

On the basis of the Initial Study, the staff of the Community Development Department:

_____ Finds that the proposed project is a Class ___ **CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION** and no further environmental review is required.

_____ Finds that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

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

_____ Finds that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

_____ Finds that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to acceptable standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on the attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)/SUBSEQUENT EIR/SUPPLEMENTAL EIR/ ADDENDUM** is required, but it must analyze the effects that remain to be addressed.

_____ Finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier **EIR** or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** pursuant to acceptable 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.

Cody Graybehl
Environmental Analyst

2/2/2021
Date

Chuen Ng
Environmental Officer

1/20/2021
Date

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