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## V. GENERAL IMPACT CATEGORIES

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### A. SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Section 15126(b) of the Guidelines to the California Environmental Quality Act requires that an EIR describe any significant environmental impacts that cannot be avoided. That section is restated as follows:

*“Describe any significant impacts, including those which can be mitigated but not reduced to a level of insignificance. Where there are impacts that cannot be alleviated without imposing an alternative design, their implications and the reason why the project is being proposed, notwithstanding their effect, should be described.”*

Based on the analyses contained in this EIR, the proposed Circulation Element Update would result in significant unavoidable environmental impacts relative to transportation/traffic (six intersections that would operate at LOS E or worse), air quality (construction emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>) and noise (construction noise).

### B. GROWTH INDUCING IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Section 15126.2(f) of the CEQA Guidelines requires a discussion of the ways in which a proposed project could be growth inducing. This includes ways in which the project would foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Section 15126.2(f) of the CEQA Guidelines reads as follows:

*“Discuss the ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Included in this are projects which would remove obstacles to population growth (a major expansion of a waste water treatment plant might, for example, allow for more construction in service areas). Increases in the population may tax existing community service facilities, requiring construction of new facilities that could cause significant environmental effects. Also discuss the characteristic of some projects which may encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment, either individually or cumulatively. It must not be assumed that growth in any area is necessarily beneficial, detrimental, or of little significance to the environment.”*

The proposed Circulation Element Update would accommodate future growth by upgrading the existing circulation system to adequately handle the amount of traffic anticipated by 2025. The proposed Circulation Element Update would foster economic growth by adding temporary construction jobs to the surrounding area. These individuals could, in turn, patronize other local businesses and services in

the area. However, no permanent employment would be created by the implementation of the proposed Circulation Element Update. The proposed Circulation Element Update does not include housing and therefore would not include (direct) permanent population growth. As discussed in Section IV.L, construction workers typically do not relocate to the area in which they are doing construction, as these employment periods tend to be short-term. Therefore, no additional housing would be required. Therefore, no significant population, housing, or employment impacts would be created by the proposed Circulation Element Update. In addition, as discussed below, the proposed Circulation Element Update would not induce growth in an area that is not already developed with infrastructure to accommodate such growth.

The City of El Segundo is located in a highly urbanized and developed area of Southern California. The existing utility infrastructure is sufficient to operate any additional intersection hardware (e.g., traffic signals) which may be implemented as part of the proposed Circulation Element Update. This infrastructure is located adjacent to the roadways and intersections proposed for modifications. Therefore, the project would not result in significant growth inducing impacts.

### **C. SIGNIFICANT IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES**

Section 15126(e) of the CEQA Guidelines states that significant irreversible environmental changes associated with a proposed project shall be discussed, including the following:

- Uses of nonrenewable resources during the initial and continued phases of the project which would be irreversible because a large commitment of such resources makes removal or non-use thereafter unlikely;
- Primary impacts and, particularly, secondary impacts which commit future generations to similar uses; and
- Irreversible damage which may result from environmental accidents associated with the project.

The type and level of construction associated with the implementation of the proposed Circulation Element Update would consume limited, slowly renewable, and non-renewable resources. Such resources would include the following construction supplies: aggregate materials used in concrete and asphalt such as sand, gravel, and stone; metals such as steel, copper, and lead; petrochemical construction materials such as plastics; and water. Fossil fuels such as gasoline and oil would also be consumed in the use of construction vehicles and equipment.

The implementation of the proposed Circulation Element Update would not add additional traffic to local roads beyond what is already anticipated by the year 2025. Construction of the roadway and intersection modifications would result in short-term increases in ambient noise levels. Potential irreversible damage from environmental accidents associated with the proposed Circulation Element

Update are unlikely and would be avoided by compliance with the mitigation measures proposed in this EIR as well as existing city, county, state, and federal safety regulations.