
4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

4.26.4.1 Introduction

This libraries analysis addresses the potential for the Master Plan alternatives to affect library facilities and demand for services. Technical Report 16, *Public Services Technical Reports*, contains detailed information on existing conditions and regulations related to libraries. Noise impacts on libraries are discussed in Section 4.1, *Noise*, and Section 4.2, *Land Use*. Direct and indirect growth in the vicinity of LAX and elsewhere in the region associated with the Master Plan would also result in increased demand for library services. Potential indirect impacts on library services are addressed in Section 4.5, *Induced Socio-Economic Impacts (Growth Inducement)*, and in subsection 4.26.4.7, *Cumulative Impacts*. Conclusions regarding the significance of impacts provided in this section are strictly for the purposes of CEQA.

4.26.4.2 General Approach and Methodology

To assess potential effects of the proposed Master Plan alternatives on libraries, baseline conditions, including a substantial change to baseline conditions since 1996 (new library construction) that has materially changed the affected environment with regard to libraries, are compared with conditions that would occur with implementation of the No Action/No Project Alternative and four proposed build alternatives. Characterization of the environmental baseline includes a description of existing library facilities, including information on facility size, capacity, and service population. This information was obtained from the library agencies within the libraries study area and published documentation.

The libraries study area has been defined to include service areas of existing library facilities potentially affected by acquisition, changes in land use, or the increased demand projected for all of the Master Plan alternatives. The libraries study area includes the LAX property, the southern portion of the community of Westchester, and the northern portion of the City of El Segundo. The libraries within the libraries study area are shown in **Figure F4.26.4-1**, Public Library Facilities Within Study Area.

Direct and indirect growth in the vicinity of LAX and elsewhere in the region associated with the Master Plan would also result in increased demand for libraries. Potential impacts are addressed in Section 4.5, *Induced Socio-Economic Impacts (Growth Inducement)*, and subsection 4.26.4.7, *Cumulative Impacts*.

The approach to evaluating impacts on libraries is based on whether implementation of the proposed Master Plan build alternatives would contribute to an increase in population and demand for library service or inhibit the use of a library. Los Angeles Public Library planning standards were used to assess future library demand based on service population within the libraries study area as it relates to the size and location of library facilities. These planning standards state that a 12,500 square foot (SF) library is able to serve a population of up to 100,000; a 10,500 SF library a population up to 50,000; and a 9,000 SF library is able to serve a population up to 35,000. Evaluating whether or not the proposed Master Plan build alternatives inhibit the use of a library within the libraries study area is based on assessing the areas proposed for acquisition, construction, and new development. Use of a library would be inhibited if the project caused a reduction in service area population that would result in closure of a library, or if the project restricted safe and convenient access to a facility. Demand for library services directly resulting from changes in on-airport employment and passenger activity is evaluated based on the current ratio of passengers and on-airport employees that are expected to visit the local libraries, based on consultation with Los Angeles Public Library staff. Impacts on libraries relative to noise are evaluated in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, Technical Report 1, *Land Use Technical Report*, and Technical Report S-1, *Supplemental Land Use Technical Report*.

4.26.4.3 Affected Environment/Environmental Baseline

In the 1996 baseline year, two City of Los Angeles libraries, the Loyola Village Branch Library and the Westchester Branch Library, were located within the libraries study area (see **Table F4.26.4-1**, Existing Libraries Within Study Area). The Loyola Village Branch Library was a 4,369 SF facility with a maximum rated capacity to serve approximately 17,000 persons. The library served an estimated 34,541 persons, however, thereby exceeding its rated service capacity by approximately 17,541 persons. Approximately 3,454, or 10 percent, of the Loyola Village Branch Library patrons were estimated to be on-airport

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

employees or passengers.¹⁰⁰³ The Westchester Branch Library was a 5,918 SF facility with a maximum rated capacity to serve approximately 23,027 persons. The library served an estimated 26,078 persons, exceeding its rated service capacity by 3,051 persons. Los Angeles Public Library developed plans and committed funds to replace the Loyola Village and Westchester branches with a single 12,500 SF library,¹⁰⁰⁴ to serve up to 100,000 persons, at the Loyola Village Branch Library site. The Loyola Village Branch Library closed in 2001. The Westchester Branch Library closed on March 29, 2003. The new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library that replaced these two closed branches opened on June 12, 2003. This larger consolidated library eliminated the service capacity deficiency in the area and will provide excess capacity to serve future demand.

Table F4.26.4-1

Existing Libraries Within Study Area

Name	Location	Size (Square Feet)	Service Capacity (Population)	Capacity Deficiency/Surplus
Loyola Village Branch ¹	7114 W. Manchester Ave. Los Angeles	4,369	17,000	-17,541
Westchester Branch ¹	8946 Sepulveda Eastway Los Angeles	5,918	23,027	-3,051
El Segundo Main	111 West Mariposa Ave. El Segundo	28,000	60,000	+44,350

¹ Existed in baseline year but now closed; replaced in 2003 by new 12,500 SF Westchester-Loyola Village Branch with service capacity of 100,000 persons, as discussed in text.

Source: PCR Services Corporation, 2000; Camp Dresser & McKee Inc., 2004.

The City of El Segundo has a single main branch library, the El Segundo Main Library, within the study area that is located on Mariposa Avenue, south of LAX. With a capacity to serve up to 60,000 people, the El Segundo Main Library is operating well within its limits.¹⁰⁰⁵ Its 28,000 SF building has a collection of 135,619 volumes and serves an estimated 15,650 persons, including 12,000 registered borrowers. The El Segundo Main Library has a staff equal to 20 full-time employees.

The three libraries within the libraries study area in the 1996 baseline year encompassed 38,287 SF, served an estimated combined population of 76,269 residents and visitors, and had an overall capacity to serve approximately 100,000 persons. With the closures and new construction since then, the updated existing condition consists of two libraries encompassing 40,500 SF and having an overall capacity to serve approximately 160,000 persons.

4.26.4.4 Thresholds of Significance

4.26.4.4.1 CEQA Thresholds of Significance

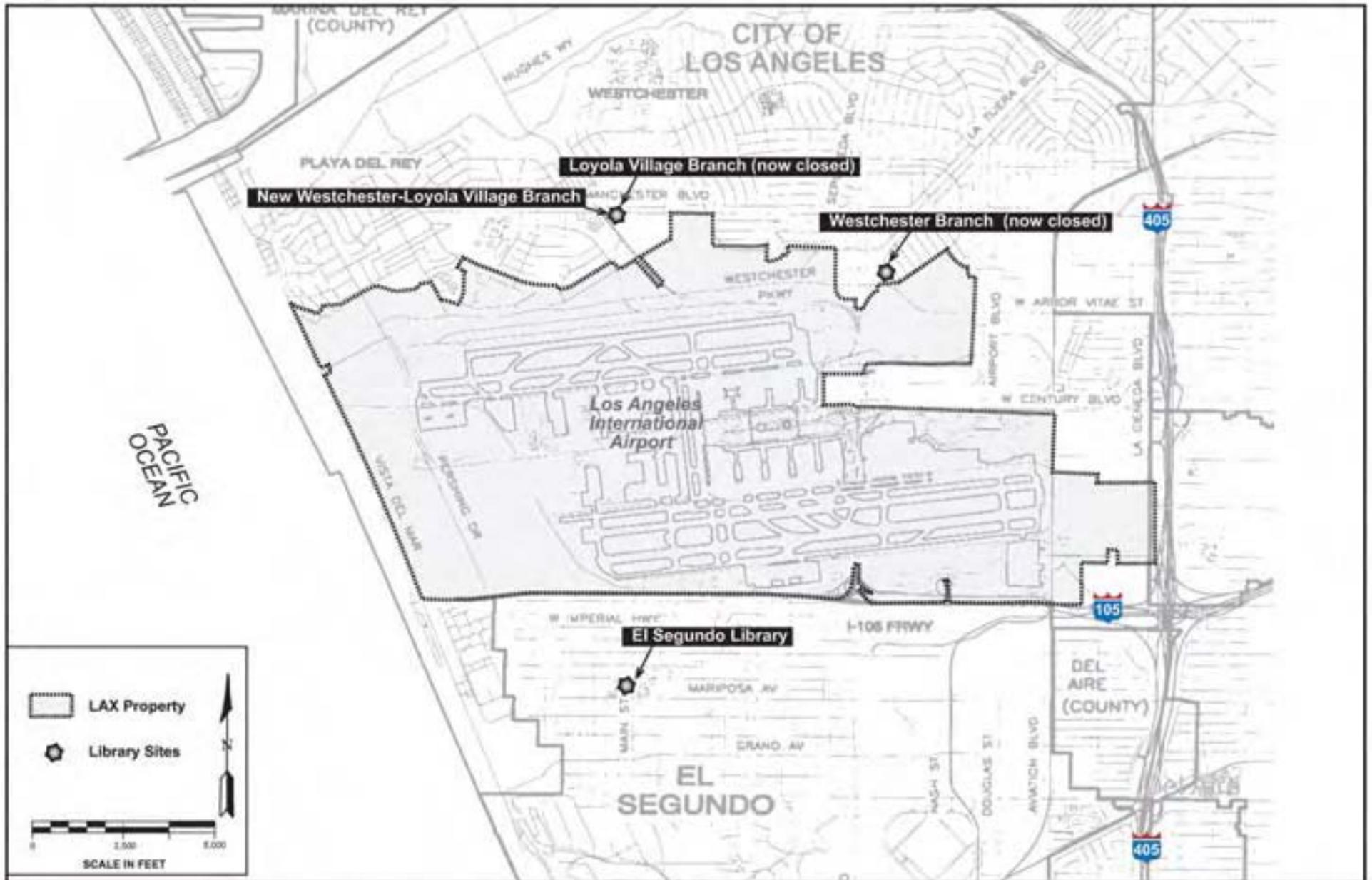
A significant library services impact would occur if the direct and indirect changes in the environment that may be caused by a build alternative would potentially result in one or more of the following future conditions:

- ◆ The service area population for a facility substantially exceeds the maximum population for the library facility or a planned and committed facility based on applicable library planning standards.
- ◆ Project-related effects cause the closure of a library or substantially inhibit use of a facility.

¹⁰⁰³ Hopf, Mary, Acting Senior Librarian, Loyola Village Branch Library, Telephone Communication, June 5, 2000.

¹⁰⁰⁴ Los Angeles Public Library, Bureau of Engineering, 1998 Library Bond Program December 1999 Progress Report, December 1999.

¹⁰⁰⁵ Condon, Erika, Senior Librarian, El Segundo Library, Personal Communication, January 1998.



LAX Property
 Library Sites

0 2,000 4,000
 SCALE IN FEET

LAX Master Plan
Final EIS/EIR

Public Library Facilities
Within Study Area

Figure
F4.26.4-1

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

These thresholds are utilized because they address the potential impacts to libraries associated with the proposed Master Plan build alternatives, namely, increased demand for library services or direct physical impacts that would close or restrict the use of library facilities. The first threshold is modified from the *Draft L.A. CEQA Thresholds Guide*.¹⁰⁰⁶ It states that a significant impact to library services would occur if the increases in net population due to a project or the demand for library services at the time of project buildout is higher than the expected level of service available. In this analysis, expected levels of service are based on adopted Los Angeles Public Library planning standards and on library construction plans,¹⁰⁰⁷ some of which have been implemented to date. The second threshold was developed specifically to address potential impacts of the Master Plan build alternatives relative to proposed acquisition areas.

4.26.4.4.2 Federal Standards

The FAA *Airport Environmental Handbook* does not require that this environmental topic be addressed; therefore, no federal standards apply to the following analysis.

4.26.4.5 Master Plan Commitments

No Master Plan commitments for libraries are proposed.

4.26.4.6 Environmental Consequences

4.26.4.6.1 No Action/No Project Alternative

Project Development

The No Action/No Project Alternative (described in Chapter 3, *Alternatives*) contains various features that are especially pertinent to the analysis of library impacts. Some of these features are increases in passengers, property acquisition, and construction.

Service Effects

Library planning standards and demand are based on the residential populations that surround a given library facility. Although the Master Plan alternatives do not include new residential development, it is possible that increases in on-airport employment and passenger activity may increase demand for library service in the area due to daytime or lunchtime employee or passenger use. Based on an estimate of on-airport employees and passengers that are currently expected to patronize local libraries, it is expected that an estimated 4,700 passengers would use the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch library in 2015.¹⁰⁰⁸ (No increase would result from employment since under the No Action/No Project Alternative there would be a decrease in employment.)

Accepting that there is some use of libraries by passengers, two factors serve to offset this increase in local demand. First, the acquisition and demolition of the Belford and Manchester Square areas, under LAWA's Aircraft Noise Mitigation Program (ANMP), would decrease what had been the service population of the old Westchester Branch Library through the potential relocation of an estimated 4,987 residents. Demand associated with these residents would be dispersed mostly to areas served by libraries outside the libraries study area, as discussed below under Cumulative Impacts. A second factor that offsets estimated employee and passenger demand is the combining of the Westchester Branch and Loyola Village Branch libraries through the now-completed construction of a new expanded facility. This new, 12,500 SF library increases the overall library space of the two areas by 2,213 SF. According to the City of Los Angeles library planning criteria, a 12,500 SF library can serve a population of up to 100,000.¹⁰⁰⁹ The new facility is thus able to serve up to 39,381 more people than the combined population that was being served by the two previously existing libraries (60,619).

¹⁰⁰⁶ City of Los Angeles, *Draft L.A. CEQA Thresholds Guide*, May 14, 1998.

¹⁰⁰⁷ Los Angeles Public Library, Bureau of Engineering, *1998 Library Bond Program January 2003 Progress Report*, March 2003.

¹⁰⁰⁸ Based on consultation with Loyola Branch Library staff. Refer to Section 4.26.4.3, *Affected Environment/Environmental Baseline*.

¹⁰⁰⁹ City of Los Angeles, *Draft L.A. CEQA Thresholds Guide*, May 14, 1998, p. J.5-5.

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

When combined with the decrease of 4,987 persons from relocating residents in Belford and Manchester Square and an increase of 1,245 persons from the growth of passenger activity,¹⁰¹⁰ this increase in library service capacity yields an estimated surplus service capacity of 43,123 persons within the Westchester-Loyola Library service area. Overall, library capacity would improve over the 1996 baseline condition within the library study area.

LAX Northside Project

By 2015, LAX Northside would be built out to approximately 4.5 million square feet (MSF) of development. The implementation of the LAX Northside project would not construct housing, but it could potentially increase local library use to a limited extent, given the increase in project employees. The decrease in library service demand and surplus in capacity described above, however, would more than offset these effects.

Continental City

At the Continental City site, build out of 3.1 MSF of development would occur by 2015. The *Continental City Draft EIR* did not include an analysis of libraries because impacts were determined not to be significant.¹⁰¹¹ As with LAX Northside, implementation of the Continental City project would not generate sufficient demand to offset the surplus in library capacity projected for the area.

Construction

Construction of projects within and adjacent to LAX property, such as the LAX Northside Project, cargo facilities, and parking facilities, would not occur adjacent to local libraries. Due to the distance between construction activities and libraries, it is not anticipated that construction activities would cause substantial increases in noise levels or impair access to local libraries, including the Westchester-Loyola Village Branch (currently accessed via Manchester Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard).

4.26.4.6.2 Alternative A - Added Runway North

Project Development

Alternative A (described in Chapter 3, *Alternatives*) contains various features that are especially pertinent to the analysis of library impacts. Some of these features are increases in passengers, employees, property acquisition, and construction.

No additional libraries or residential development is proposed with any of the Master Plan build alternatives. Implementation of Alternative A would involve acquisition that would include 84 housing units, with an estimated population of 172 persons, as well as acquisition of property occupied by the now-closed Westchester Branch Library, which has since been replaced by the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library.

Service Effects

As indicated for the No Action/No Project Alternative, library planning is typically based on residential demand and residential populations in the vicinity of library facilities. Although the Master Plan alternatives do not include residential development, potential increases in demand for library facilities are evaluated assuming that increases in on-airport employment and passengers might influence demand for libraries through daytime or lunchtime use. Based on an estimate of on-airport employees and passengers that are assumed to patronize the local libraries, it is expected that about 5,819 passengers and employees would use the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch library in 2015, a net increase of 2,365 library patrons over 1996 baseline conditions and a net increase of 1,119 library patrons over the No Action/No Project Alternative.

As previously discussed, the increase in local library use that could result from increased employee and passenger use would be partially offset by the decreased residential population of the area and would be well within recently expanded library capacity. Under Alternative A, the residential population in the area served by the Westchester-Loyola Branch Library would be reduced by both the current LAWA ANMP

¹⁰¹⁰ A total of 4,699 airport passengers would potentially patronize local libraries in 2015, a net increase of 1,245 persons.

¹⁰¹¹ City of Los Angeles, *Draft Environmental Impact Report EIR No. 407-82 SUB Continental City*, p. III-29, August 1984.

proposed relocation of 4,987 residents and the proposed relocation of 172 residents under Alternative A. The new Westchester-Loyola Library can serve up to or 39,381 more people than the combined population that had been served by the two previously existing libraries (60,619). Given this capacity and the reduced demand from the potential relocation of over 5,000 residents, the impacts on local library service capacity from the net increase of 2,365 employees and passengers under Alternative A would be less than significant. Furthermore, no impacts are anticipated at the more remotely located El Segundo Main Library, which has ample available capacity to serve any project-related increases in demand.

Impacts on libraries relative to noise are evaluated in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, Technical Report 1, *Land Use Technical Report*. As shown in Tables 26 and 27 of Technical Report 1, *Land Use Technical Report*, the Inglewood City Library would be significantly impacted by noise in 2015. The Inglewood City Library would qualify for sound insulation or acquisition through Mitigation Measure MM-LU-1, Implement Revised Aircraft Noise Mitigation Program (Alternatives A, B, C, and D), as described in Section 4.2, *Land Use*.

Westchester Southside Project

Under Alternative A, by 2015, Westchester Southside would be built out to include 1.1 MSF of mixed office, hotel, conference center, retail, restaurant and entertainment uses, 920,000 SF of business park and educational facilities, and 480,000 SF of resort hotels and a golf course. The implementation of the Westchester Southside project would not involve the construction of housing or increase the residential population of the libraries study area. Incidental increases in library use from employees would be considered less than significant and would be easily accommodated by the surplus capacity of the Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library. Therefore, the Westchester Southside development would not have a significant impact on library services.

Construction

Construction activities would be ongoing throughout the airport vicinity through 2015.

At the Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library, construction noise would not compromise library use due to the distance of the library from the Master Plan construction activities. The site of the library on Manchester Avenue is located approximately 1,400 feet from the nearest area of the airport that is proposed for construction. This distance, combined with intervening buildings and topography, is sufficient to preclude construction noise impacts or limitations to access. The El Segundo Main Library is located even more remotely from the site and would not be impacted by construction. (Construction noise impacts are further addressed in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, and Section 4.20, *Construction Impacts*.)

4.26.4.6.3 Alternative B - Added Runway South

Project Development

With implementation of Alternative B, Master Plan features influencing demand for library services would be similar to those described for Alternative A, differing primarily with respect to changes in property acquisition and construction. An additional 345 acres would be acquired and demolished over the No Action/No Project Alternative. The acquisition areas contain 84 housing units as well as the now-closed Westchester Branch Library.

Service Effects

Alternative B, as it relates to library facilities, would be similar to Alternative A. No residential development is proposed, and residential population would be reduced through acquisition of the same 84 dwelling units as proposed under Alternative A. The combined effects, given the increased capacity of the new library, would yield an estimated surplus service capacity of 42,175 persons within the Westchester-Loyola Branch Library service area. Increases in on-airport employment and passengers and the Westchester Southside development proposal would be equivalent to what was described for Alternative A; that is, impacts on library facility demand under Alternative B would be considered less than significant. As indicated for Alternative A, Alternative B would have a significant noise impact on the Inglewood City Library, which would be addressed through Mitigation Measure MM-LU-1, Implement Revised Aircraft Noise Mitigation Program (Alternatives A, B, C, and D).

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

Construction

Similar to Alternative A, the distance between libraries and construction activities under Alternative B is sufficient to preclude construction noise impacts or limitations to access. Construction noise impacts are further addressed in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, and Section 4.20, *Construction Impacts*.

4.26.4.6.4 Alternative C - No Additional Runway

Project Development

With implementation of Alternative C, Master Plan features influencing demand for library services would be similar to those described for Alternatives A and B, with primary differences focusing on changes in passengers, employees, property acquisition, and construction.

Although passenger activity and on-airport employment would increase under Alternative C, no new residential development would occur. The implementation of Alternative C would involve the acquisition and development of an additional 217 acres over the No Action/No Project Alternative. As under Alternatives A and B, the acquisition areas contain the same 84 housing units and the now-closed Westchester Branch Library.

Service Effects

Alternative C, as it relates to library facilities, would be similar to Alternatives A and B, with no residential development proposed, but a slight increase in demand expected for libraries due to daytime or lunchtime use. Specifically, passenger and employee use of libraries is expected to be approximately 5,325 library patrons, a net increase of 1,871 persons over baseline conditions and 625 persons over the No Action/No Project Alternative. However, this direct increase in demand for libraries resulting from increases in on-airport employment and passengers would be less than significant. The Westchester-Loyola Branch Library increased the overall library space by 2,213 SF, while the residential service population would be reduced by over 5,000 residents by both the current LAWA ANMP proposed relocation of 4,987 residents and the proposed relocation of 172 residents under Alternative C (see Section 4.4.2, *Relocation of Residences or Businesses*). These changes would yield a surplus service capacity of approximately 42,669 persons within the Westchester-Loyola Branch Library service area.

Increases in library demand associated with the Westchester Southside development proposal would be equivalent to Alternatives A and B, with impacts on library facilities considered less than significant due to surplus capacity in the area.

As indicated for Alternative A, Alternative C would have a significant aircraft noise impact on the Inglewood City Library, which would be addressed through Mitigation Measure MM-LU-1, Implement Revised Aircraft Noise Mitigation Program (Alternatives A, B, C, and D).

Construction

Similar to Alternatives A and B, the distance between libraries and construction activities under Alternative C is sufficient to preclude construction noise impacts or limitations to access. Construction noise impacts are further addressed in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, and Section 4.20, *Construction Impacts*.

4.26.4.6.5 Alternative D - Enhanced Safety and Security Plan

Project Development

Under Alternative D (described in Chapter 3, *Alternatives*), as with the No Action/No Project Alternative and Alternatives A, B, and C, no additional libraries or residential development are proposed. Similar to the No Action/No Project Alternative, under Alternative D there would be a decrease in employment due to increases in worker productivity with advances in technology in certain industries.

Service Effects

Library planning standards and demand are based on the residential populations that surround a given library facility. Although Alternative D does not include new residential development, it is possible that increases in passenger activity could result in an increase in demand for library services (no increase would result from employment since under Alternative D there would be a decrease in employment).

Under Alternative D, passenger use of the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library on an annual basis is expected to be 4,687 patrons in 2015, a net increase of 1,233 library patrons over 1996 baseline conditions and a net decrease of 13 library patrons compared to the No Action/No Project Alternative. However, as with the other build alternatives, this direct increase in demand for libraries resulting from increases in on-airport employment and passengers would be less than significant.

The acquisition and demolition of the Belford and Manchester Square areas, under LAWA's ANMP, would decrease what had been the service population of the old Westchester Branch Library through the potential relocation of an estimated 4,987 residents. Demand associated with these residents would be dispersed mostly to areas served by libraries outside the libraries study area. Moreover, the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library can serve up to 39,381 more people than the combined population that had been served by the two previously existing libraries (60,619). When combined with a decrease of 4,987 persons due to relocation of residents in Belford and Manchester Square and a net patron increase of 1,233 from growth in passenger activity,¹⁰¹² there would be an estimated surplus service capacity of 43,135 persons within the Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library service area. Therefore, overall library capacity would improve within the library study area. Furthermore, no impacts are anticipated at the more remotely located El Segundo Main Library, which has ample available capacity to serve any project-related increases in demand.

Impacts on libraries relative to noise under Alternative D are evaluated in Section 4.2, *Land Use*, and Technical Report S-1, *Supplemental Land Use Technical Report*. While the Westchester Branch Library, prior to its recent closure, would have been significantly impacted by aircraft noise in 2015, the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library, opened in June 2003, is located outside of the noise impact area. Overall, there would be no impacts on libraries within the libraries study area due to the effects of aircraft noise under Alternative D.

LAX Northside Project

As under the No Action/No Project Alternative, the LAX Northside project would not involve new housing, but could potentially increase local library use to a limited extent, given the increase in project employees. The decrease in library service demand due to residential relocation associated with the ANMP and the surplus in capacity with the new library described above, however, would more than offset these effects.

Construction

Similar to the No Action/No Project Alternative, construction of projects within and adjacent to LAX property under Alternative D, such as the LAX Northside project, cargo facilities, and parking facilities, would not occur adjacent to local libraries. Due to the distance between construction activities and libraries, it is not anticipated that construction activities would cause substantial increases in noise levels or impair access to local libraries, including the Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library (accessed via Manchester Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard). Therefore, construction activities associated with Alternative D would not result in impacts to local libraries. Construction noise impacts are further addressed in Section 4.2, *Land Use* (subsection 4.2.6.5), and Section 4.20, *Construction Impacts*.

4.26.4.7 Cumulative Impacts

As discussed under subsection 4.26.4.3, *Affected Environment/Environmental Baseline*, previous deficiencies in library services in the areas immediately surrounding LAX have been corrected by the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library. The El Segundo Main Library is well within its rated service capacity. Beyond the library study area, though, the City and County of Los Angeles, as well as several surrounding jurisdictions, have an overall deficit of library space. However, the Los Angeles Public Library agency is involved in 32 branch library projects through the \$183.8 million 1998 Library Bond Program. The overall schedule for completion of the 32 branch library projects is November 2004.

4.26.4.7.1 No Action/No Project Alternative

Under the No Action/No Project Alternative, there would be a reduction in direct employment generated by LAX due to increases in worker productivity with advances in technology among affected industries. As a result, demand for library services from both employees and employee-related households in close

¹⁰¹² A total of 4,687 airport passengers would potentially patronize local libraries in 2015, a net increase of 1,233 persons.

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

proximity to LAX would decrease. While passenger activity would increase, associated use of libraries by visitors to LAX is expected to be offset by the decrease in library patrons due to the relocation of residents from Belford and Manchester Square. The acquisition of properties and relocation of 4,987 residents from the Manchester Square and Belford areas would substantially reduce local neighborhood demand for library services, although the demand would shift to other jurisdictions. Although regional growth would contribute to deficiencies in library services within some jurisdictions, the No Action/No Project Alternative would not contribute considerably to a cumulative impact due to the limited use of local libraries by passengers, a decrease in demand from employees and employee households, and the forecast ample supply of local library facilities. Furthermore, the shift in demand from relocation activities would be dispersed throughout the region or beyond and would not represent net new demand or a substantial increase in demand for any one library facility.

4.26.4.7.2 Alternatives A, B, and C

As previously discussed in subsection 4.26.4.6, *Environmental Consequences*, increases in demand for library services associated with new employees and increases in passenger activity at LAX are expected to be small and would be easily accommodated by the surplus capacity of the new Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library.

Furthermore, there is existing surplus capacity at El Segundo Main Library, surplus capacity at the City of Inglewood and County of Los Angeles libraries (see Technical Report 16, *Public Services Technical Reports*), and surplus capacity expected with the completion of the other construction projects associated with the 1998 Library Bond Program. As the project's incremental effect on library services is small, and as increases in demand for libraries associated with new employees and visitors at LAX would be small, cumulative impacts are considered to be less than significant.

Although direct impacts on libraries are considered to be less than significant, increases in employment generated by the project would indirectly result in new households that could increase demand for library services in the region. Depending on the alternative, LAX-related increases in population associated with increases in direct employment could range from 38,017 to 86,806 within the five-county region. This population increase, which represents less than 1 to approximately 2 percent of forecast population growth for the region from 1996 to 2015, would generate demand for approximately 19,000 to 43,000 SF of library space (based on a ratio of 0.5 SF of space per capita).¹⁰¹³ Within a ten-mile radius of LAX, population growth associated with new employment at LAX would represent an estimated approximately 3 to 5 percent of forecast growth, generating demand for approximately 3,600 to 6,600 SF of library space. The potential impacts on library services associated with these increases are difficult to predict, although a portion of this demand would be offset in areas where library facilities mitigation fees are in place, including the County and City of Los Angeles and numerous other jurisdictions, as well as those areas in the City of Los Angeles where library facilities would be expanded or newly constructed through the 1998 Library Bond Program. Minor increases in incremental demand for libraries would occur where provisions for libraries are not included with new housing or through environmental review requirements or in areas where expansions to the library system are not planned.

In the more immediate vicinity of LAX, independent projects could contribute to cumulative impacts in association with the Master Plan. Most notably, the Playa Vista project, one of the few large areas available in the vicinity for residential development, will generate considerable new demand for libraries. However, a new library is planned within the Playa Vista project to fully offset any increase in demand. This new library, in combination with the Westchester-Loyola Branch Library and the surplus in capacity at the El Segundo Library, would ensure that cumulative impacts to libraries would be less than significant.

4.26.4.7.3 Alternative D - Enhanced Safety and Security Plan

Similar to the No Action/No Project Alternative, under Alternative D, there would be a reduction in direct employment generated by LAX due to increases in worker productivity with advances in technology among affected industries. As a result, demand for library services from both employees and employee-related households in close proximity to LAX would decrease. While passenger activity would increase,

¹⁰¹³ The 0.5 SF of library facility per capita is a State of California Library standard used in the cumulative analysis since the analysis covers multiple jurisdictions.

associated use of libraries by visitors to LAX is expected to be offset by the decrease in library patrons due to the relocation of residents from Belford and Manchester Square. Although regional growth would contribute to deficiencies in library services within some jurisdictions, Alternative D would not contribute to a cumulative impact due to the limited use of local libraries by passengers, a decrease in demand from employees and employee households, and the forecast ample supply of local library facilities. Furthermore, the shift in demand from relocation activities would be dispersed throughout the region or beyond and would not represent net new demand or a substantial increase in demand for any one library facility. Therefore, cumulative impacts on library services are considered to be less than significant.

4.26.4.8 Mitigation Measures

Alternatives A, B, C, and D would not have a significant impact on libraries due to increases in service demand or acquisition; therefore, no mitigation is required. However, it should be noted as further described in Section 4.2, Land Use, that Inglewood City Library would be significantly impacted by aircraft noise under Alternatives A, B, and C. Such an impact is classified as a land use impact and Mitigation Measure MM-LU-1, Implement Revised Aircraft Noise Mitigation Program (Alternatives A, B, C, and D), addresses this impact.

4.26.4 Libraries (CEQA)

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