

## 4.0

## INTRODUCTION TO THE ANALYSIS

### 4.0.1 INTRODUCTION

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The technical chapters of the EIR analyze the potential impacts of buildout of the Eastview Specific Plan & Annexation Project (proposed project) on a range of environmental issue areas. Chapters 4.1 through 4.12 describe the focus of the analysis, references and other data sources for the analysis, the environmental setting as the setting relates to the specific issue, project-specific impacts and mitigation measures, and the cumulative impacts of the project for each issue area. The format of each of these chapters is described at the end of this chapter.

### 4.0.2 DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Under CEQA, a significant effect is defined as a substantial or potentially substantial adverse physical change in the environment (Public Resources Code § 21068; CEQA Guidelines § 15382). The Guidelines implementing CEQA direct that this determination be based on scientific and factual data to the extent possible. The specific criteria for determining the significance of a particular impact are identified within the impact discussion in each chapter, and are consistent with significance criteria set forth in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines.

### 4.0.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THIS DRAFT EIR

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The EIR provides the analysis necessary to address the technical environmental impacts of the proposed project. The following environmental issues are addressed in this EIR:

- Aesthetics;
- Agricultural Resources;
- Air Quality and Climate Change;
- Biological Resources;
- Cultural Resources;
- Geology and Soils;
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials;
- Hydrology and Water Quality / Stormwater Quality;
- Land Use and Planning / Population and Housing;
- Noise;
- Public Services and Utilities / Recreation; and
- Transportation and Circulation.

#### 4.0.4 CHAPTER FORMAT

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Each technical chapter addressing a specific environmental issue begins with an **introduction** describing the purpose of the section. The introduction is followed by a description of the project's **existing environmental setting** as the setting pertains to that particular issue. The setting description is followed by the **regulatory context** and the **impacts and mitigation measures** discussion, which contains the **standards of significance**, followed by the **method of analysis**. The **impacts and mitigation measures** discussion includes impact statements prefaced by a number in bold-faced type (for both project-level and cumulative analyses). An explanation of each impact and an analysis of the impact's significance follow each impact statement. All mitigation measures pertinent to each individual impact follow directly after the impact statement (see below). The degree of relief provided by identified mitigation measures is also evaluated. An example of the format is shown below:

##### 4.x-1 Statement of Impact

Discussion of impact for the proposed project in paragraph format.

Statement of *level of significance* of impact prior to mitigation is included at the end of each impact discussion.

##### Mitigation Measure(s)

Statement of *level of significance* after implementation of the mitigation measures.

4.x-1(a)      *Recommended mitigation measure(s) presented in italics and numbered in consecutive order.*

4.x-1(b)      *etc., etc.*