

4.12 PUBLIC SERVICES AND RECREATION

This chapter describes public services provided in the EA Study Area and evaluates the potential environmental consequences of future development that could occur by adopting and implementing the Housing Element Update, General Plan Consistency Update, and associated Zoning Ordinances amendments, together referred to as the “Plan Components.” Impacts to law enforcement, fire protection and emergency medical response, parks and recreational facilities, and schools are each addressed in a separate subsection of this chapter. In each subsection, a summary of the relevant regulatory setting and existing conditions is followed by a discussion of the impacts and cumulative impacts of the Plan Components.

A. Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

This section describes existing conditions and potential physical environmental impacts related to fire and emergency medical services.

1. Regulatory Framework

a. State Regulations

i. California Building Code

The State of California provides a minimum standard for building design through the 2010 California Building Code (CBC), which is located in Part 2 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). It is generally adopted on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, subject to further modification based on local conditions. Commercial and residential buildings are plan-checked by local city and county building officials for compliance with the CBC. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include: the installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; the establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

ii. California Fire Code

The California Fire Code (CFC) incorporates, by adoption, the International Fire Code (IFC) of the International Code Council, with California amendments. This is the official Fire Code for the State and all political subdivisions. It is located in Part 9 of Title 24 of the CCR. The CFC is revised and published every three years by the California Building Standards Commission.

b. Local Regulations

i. *Menlo Park Fire District Fire Prevention Code*

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District (MPFPD) has adopted a Fire Prevention Code to regulate permit processes, emergency access, hazardous material handling, and fire protection systems, including automatic sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, and fire alarms. Under Ordinance 35-2012, the Fire District adopted the 2010 CFC by reference, amended the District Fire Prevention Code, and updated its Fee Schedule on July 17, 2012.¹ Section 903 of the District Fire Prevention Code requires automatic sprinkler systems in new non-single-family residential buildings if the new building has a total floor area of 5,000 square feet or more, if the building is four or more stories in height, or if the building has a height of 40 feet or more. The automatic sprinkler systems are also required in existing non-single-family residential buildings where the cost of the cumulative improvements made to the building exceeds 50 percent of the 1984 assessed valuation of the structure. New construction or improvements are subject to the Fire District's plan review and approval.

a) Insurance Services Organization

The Insurance Services Organization (ISO) is an advisory organization that, amongst other things, collects information on municipal fire-protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. In each of those communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data using their Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). The ISO then assigns a Public Protection Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria.² The ISO rating is used by the MPFPD to evaluate their public fire-protection services.

b) National Fire Protection Agency³

The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) is a non-profit organization that develops, publishes, and disseminates more than 300 consensus codes and standards intended to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other risks. The NFPA 1710: Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire De-

¹ Menlo Park Fire Protection District, *Ordinance 30 & District Standards*, September 5, 2007, <http://www.menlofire.org/fireprevention/forms/Ordinance%2035-2012.pdf>, accessed September 27, 2012.

² ISO Mitigation Online website, About ISO and About PPC pages, <http://www.isomitigation.com>, accessed on January 16, 2013.

³ National Fire Protection Agency website, Codes and Standards and NFPA 1710 pages, www.nfpa.org, accessed on January 16, 2013.

partments 2010 Edition contains the minimum requirements relating to the organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, emergency medical operations, and special operations to the public by fire departments. The MPFPD uses the NFPA 1710 to evaluate their public fire-protection services.

2. Existing Conditions

The MPFPD provides fire protection services to the EA Study Area. The MPFPD serves approximately 90,000 people, covering 30 square miles, including Atherton, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, and some of the unincorporated areas of San Mateo County.⁴ The MPFPD runs four major divisions: Administrative Services; Human Resources; Operations and Suppression; and Training. The MPFPD has agreements with the neighboring departments, including the cities of Palo Alto, Redwood City, Fremont, and Woodside Fire District, to provide automatic aid.

a. Staffing

The MPFPD currently has staffing of 110.80 full time equivalents (FTE) and authorized 112.60 FTE in FY 2012-13.⁵ The command staff includes a fire chief, a deputy chief, three division chiefs, and three battalion chiefs. Based on the MPFPD's service population of 90,000 residents, the current service ratio of the MPFPD is 1.23 firefighters per thousand service population.⁶ Each of the division chiefs' responsibilities includes operations, training, and fire prevention. Each battalion chief supervises one of the three suppression shifts.

b. Call volume:

The MPFPD responds to approximately 8,500 emergencies a year with about 60 percent of them being emergency medical incidents.⁷ The MPFPD's targeted response time for each fire station is six minutes fifty-nine seconds for medical calls and eight minutes response time for fires within the fire station's service area. In 2011, out of 7,304 incident calls 70 percent of calls were responded to in less than 5 minutes.⁸

⁴ Menlo Park Fire Protection District Website, <http://www.menlofire.org/districtinfo.html>, accessed on December 3, 2012.

⁵ Menlo Park Fire Protection District, 2012, *General Fund Revenue FY 12-13*.

⁶ $(110.8 \text{ full-time FTE} / 90,000 \text{ residents}) \times 1,000 = 1.23$.

⁷ Menlo Park Fire Protection District Website, <http://www.menlofire.org/districtinfo.html>, accessed on December 3, 2012.

⁸ Menlo Park Fire Protection District, *2011 Annual Report*.

c. Equipment

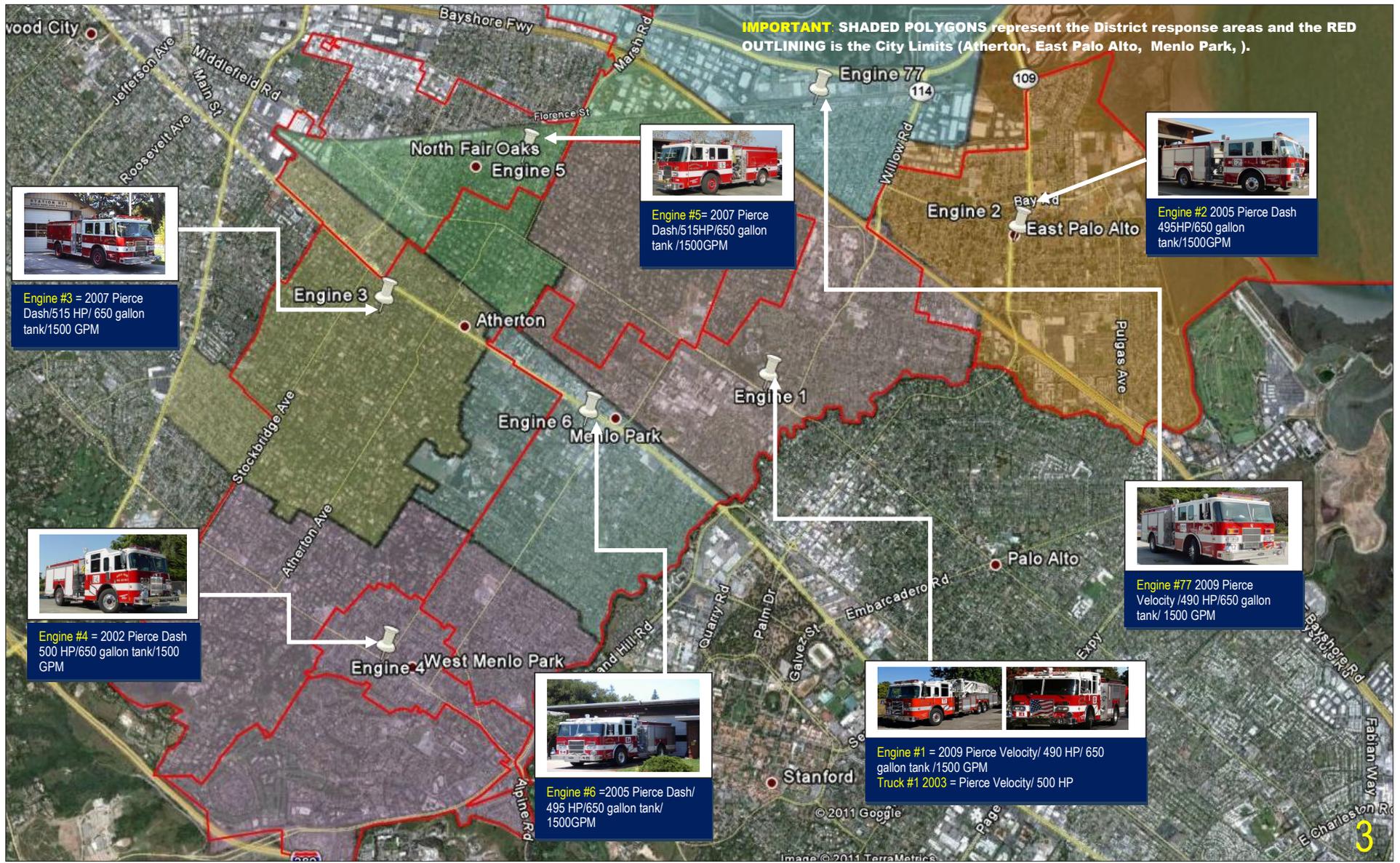
The MPFPD’s headquarters is located at 170 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park. Administration Offices and Fire Prevention offices have moved into the MPFPD’s headquarters between 2009 and 2010. As shown on Figure 4.12-1, the MPFPD operates seven stations in the EA Study area; however only six of the seven are would serve the future development permitted under the Plan Components. Table 4.12-1 shows these six stations and their equipment and staffing status. The six stations are strategically placed to provide the most efficient response times. The MPFPD’s current ISO rating is Class 3.⁹

TABLE 4.12-1 **MPFPD STATION EQUIPMENT AND STAFFING STATUS THAT SERVES THE EA STUDY AREA**

Station	Address	Equipment	Staff
Station 1	300 Middlefield Road	Engine 1, Truck 1 (aerial ladder truck - 100' ladder), Battalion 1(the Districts Mobile Command Vehicle), Rescue 1	Engine 1 is staffed by a Captain and 2 Firefighters. Truck 1 is staffed by a Captain and 3 Firefighters. One of the personnel on Engine 1 and Truck 1 will also be a licensed paramedic.
Station 2	2290 University Avenue	Engine 2 (Automatic Aide to Palo Alto and Mutual Aid to Fremont)	1 Captain and 2 Firefighters
Station 4	3322 Alameda de Las Pulgas	Engine 4 (Automatic Aid to Redwood City, Portola Valley, and Woodside)	1 Captain and 2 Firefighters. One of the personnel is a licensed paramedic
Station 5	4101 Fairoaks Avenue	Engine 5 (Automatic Aid to the Redwood City Fire Department)	1 Captain and 2 Firefighters. One of the three personnel will also be a licensed paramedic
Station 6	700 Oak Grove Avenue	Engine 6 (Automatic Aid to the City of Palo Alto)	1 Captain and 2 firefighters. One of the three personnel will also be a licensed paramedic
Station 77	1467 Chilco Avenue	Engine 77 (Automatic Aid to Redwood City and Mutual Aid to Fremont), an Air Boat, USAR Vehicles and the other various Utility Vehicles.	3 firefighting personnel (1 Captain and 2 Fire Fighters) and 2 Shop personnel (1 Fleet Manager and 1 Mechanic)

Source: Menlo Park Fire Protection District website, <http://www.menlofire.org/stations.html>, accessed December 2012; Menlo Park Fire Protection District, 2011 Annual Report.

⁹ Harold Schapelhouman, Menlo Park Fire Protection District Fire chief, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, November 20, 2012.



Source: Menlo Park Fire District, 2012.

FIGURE 4.12-1
 FIRE STATIONS

d. Expansion Plans

In 2007, with the adoption of Resolutions 1185-07, 1186-07 and 1187-07 by the MPFPD Board of Directors, the MPFPD purchased three properties to relocate the Administration and the Fire Prevention Division, and to rebuild Station 2 in East Palo Alto and Station 6 in Downtown Menlo Park. Station 2 is currently under construction. The MPFPD will relocate fire engines from the main station to Station 2 to cover a greater geographical area when completed. Station 6 is the next priority and the MPFPD recently presented preliminary plans at a Menlo Park Planning Commission study session for the construction of a new fire station. A bond issuance would be necessary to rebuild Station 6. The MPFPD also plans on remodeling Station 1 to rebuild a training tower and renovate additional space freed up with the Administration and Fire Prevention divisions relocating.

Currently, the MPFPD is updating its capital improvement plans, which aim to support future growth in the MPFPD service area. To help implement its capital improvement plans, the MPFPD is also preparing its Impact Fee Justification Study.¹⁰ Once the MPFPD Board of Directors approves the Impact Fee Justification Study, presumably in early 2013, all new development applicants in the MPFPD service area will be required to pay applicable impact fees.

3. Standard of Significance

The Plan Components would have a significant impact related to fire protection and emergency services if future development would result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

4. Impact Discussion

- a. Result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

The Plan Components would have a significant environmental impact if it would exceed the ability of fire and emergency medical responders to adequately serve the existing and future residents, thereby requiring construction of new facilities or modification of existing facilities.

¹⁰ Harold Schapelhouman, Menlo Park Fire District Fire chief, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, November 20, 2012.

As described in Chapter 3, Project Description, of this EA, future development under the Plan Components could generate up to 3,361 new residents in the EA Study Area. While all six stations would serve the second units, the following lists responsible stations for initial response to the EA Study Area for the housing sites and infill areas around downtown:

- “ Station 6: Downtown infill developments
- “ Station 1: Site 1
- “ Station 77: Sites 2, 3, 4, and 5

As described above, the MPFPD has capital improvement plans in place to expand its facilities to accommodate future demand; therefore, future development permitted under the Plan Components would not require any additional construction or expansion of MPFPD facilities. Additionally, when the Impact Fee Justification Study is adopted by the MPFPD Board of Directors, presumably in early 2013, new developments under the Plan Components would be required to pay any applicable impact fees, which would help implement the MPFPD’s capital improvement plans.

A new development application in the EA Study Area would be required to meet MPFPD standards and Fire Prevention Code requirements, including fire sprinklers, fire hydrants, water fire flow requirements, and design of driveway turnaround and access points to accommodate fire equipment. The 2010 California Residential Code would also require fire sprinklers be installed in all new one- and two-family homes and townhouses. In addition, the following amended General Plan goals, policies and programs would ensure risks associated with fire hazards in the EA Study Area would be minimized.

i. Amended General Plan Seismic Safety and Safety Element

- “ Policy S-1.30: Coordination with the Menlo Park Fire District. Encourage City-Fire District coordination in the planning process and require all development applications to be reviewed and approved by the Menlo Park Fire Protection District prior to project approval.
- “ Policy S-1.38: Emergency Vehicle Access. Require that all private roads be designed to allow access for emergency vehicles as a prerequisite to the granting of permits and approvals for construction.
- “ Policy S-1.11: Visibility and Access to Address Safety Concerns. Require that residential development be designed to permit maximum visibility and access to law enforcement and fire control vehicles consistent with privacy and other design considerations.
- “ Policy S-1.5: New Habitable Structures. Require that all new habitable structures to incorporate adequate hazard mitigation measures to reduce identified risks from natural and human-caused hazards.

- “ Policy S-1.29: Fire Equipment and Personnel Access. Require adequate access and clearance, to the maximum extent practical, for fire equipment, fire suppression personnel, and evacuation for high occupancy structures in coordination with the Menlo Park Fire Protection District.
- “ Policy S-1.31: Fire Resistant Design. Require new homes to incorporate fire resistant design and strategies such as the use of fire resistant materials and landscaping, and creating defensible space (e.g. areas free of highly flammable vegetation).
- “ Goal S-1: Assure a Safe Community. Minimize risk to life and damage to the environment and property from natural and human-caused hazards, and assure community emergency preparedness and a high level of public safety services and facilities.
- “ Program S-1.A: Link the City’s Housing and Safety Elements. Continue to review and revise the Safety Element, as necessary, concurrently with updates to the General Plan Housing Element whenever substantial new data or evidence related to prevention of natural and human hazards become available.
- “ Policy S-1.30: Coordination with the Menlo Park Fire District. Encourage City-Fire District coordination in the planning process and require all development applications to be reviewed and approved by the Menlo Park Fire Protection District prior to project approval.
- “ Program H-4.K: Work with the Fire District on local amendments to the State Fire Code to pursue alternatives to standard requirements that would otherwise be a potential constraint to housing development and achievement of the City’s housing goals.

The MPFPD expressed concerns regarding Site 5 (Haven Avenue) which is surrounded by industrial uses, and could potentially cause a hazardous situation. However, as discussed in Chapter 4.7, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, of this EA, all development in the EA Study Area would be constructed pursuant to the CBC, CFC, and the MPFPD Code and would be subject to the MPFPD’s plan review and approval prior to project approval. Proper site design and compliance with applicable regulations would reduce the risk of hazards occurring in the EA Study Area, including Site 5 (Haven Avenue).

Therefore, implementation of the listed General Plan goals, policies and programs, and compliance with the provisions of the California Building Code, California Fire Code as amended locally and adopted by the City of Menlo Park, and the Menlo Park Fire Protection District Fire Code, would ensure that adoption of the Plan Components would result in a *less-than-significant* impact with respect to fire protection services.

5. Cumulative Impacts

As described above, the Plan Components would not create a need for new or physically altered facilities in order for the MPFPD to provide fire protection services to its service area. The MPFPD's capital improvement plan is intended to accommodate cumulative growth in MPFPD's service area. Therefore, the cumulative impact on the provision of fire services would likewise be *less than significant*.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Plan Components would not result in any significant specific or cumulative impacts to the provision of fire protection service, and therefore no mitigation measures are required.

B. Law Enforcement

This section describes the current police resources and response times for police protection services and evaluates potential physical environmental impacts related to the delivery of police services.

1. Regulatory Framework

There are no federal, State, or local regulations pertaining to law enforcement that apply to the Plan Components.

2. Existing Conditions

The Menlo Park Police Department (MPPD) provides law enforcement services in the City of Menlo Park. One police station, located at City Hall, primarily covers the whole service area. The MPPD operates one 1,000-square-foot substation east of Highway 101 for officers to use restrooms, make calls, or interview a suspect, victim, or witness. The substation is also a location used during critical incidents in the Belle Haven neighborhood. The MPPD divides its service area by three beats: Beat 1 covers the area of the City west of El Camino Real, Beat 2 covers the area between El Camino Real and Highway 101, and Beat 3 covers the area east of Highway 101, and Beat 2 covers the area in the middle.

The MPPD has a mutual aid agreement with every other police agency in the County of San Mateo. This agreement includes all neighboring jurisdictions: Atherton Police Department, East Palo Alto Police Department, Redwood City Police Department, and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office who is responsible for law enforcement in unincorporated areas of Menlo Park and Redwood City. The MPPD also has an informal mutual aid agreement with the Palo Alto Police Department which borders Menlo Park, but is in Santa Clara County.

a. Staffing

The MPPD's staffing includes 47 sworn officers and 22 professional staff, resulting in a total full-time equivalent (FTE) of 68.75 as of 2012. The sworn officers consist of one chief, two commanders, eight sergeants, and 36 police officers,¹¹ with a staffing ratio of 1.4 officers per thousand residents.¹²

Recent budget shortfalls in the City have resulted in staff deficiencies in the MPPD. To maintain service levels with limited budget, the MPPD has tightened its resources by assigning some sworn officer's tasks to non-sworn staff. However, the MPPD still lacks traffic enforcement staff and equipment including motorcycles.¹³

b. Response Times

The MPPD prioritizes calls for police services as follows: Priority 1 calls involve life-threatening situations; Priority 2 calls are not life-threatening but necessitate immediate response; all other calls are designated Priority 3. In 2011, the average response time for Priority 1 calls was 4 minutes, for Priority 2 calls was 7 minutes, and for Priority 3 calls 10 minutes.¹⁴ The MPPD acknowledged that sometimes traveling east to west in the City is a huge barrier meeting the response time goal due to traffic congestion.

c. Call Volumes

From November 13, 2011 to November 12, 2012, the MPPD received 401 Priority 1 calls; 9,921 Priority 2 calls, and 10,566 Priority 3 calls for service. This does not include the 22,043 additional officer initiated calls that the dispatch center handled.¹⁵ These officer initiated calls could be priority 1, 2, or 3 depending on their nature. The MPPD identified the Beat 3 area as a "crime hot spot" because of entrenched gang activity in the area and rival gangs in East Palo Alto. Additionally, there has been a rash of residential burglaries in

¹¹ Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

¹² Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on December 6, 2012.

¹³ Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

¹⁴ Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

¹⁵ Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

the Beat 2 area, between Middlefield Road and Highway 101. Table 4.12-2 shows crimes by beat in Menlo Park in 2012.

d. Substation Plans

The City currently operates a police substation east of Highway 101. MPPD is considering improving the substation and has developed several options, including renovating the existing substation, which is easy to implement, or finding a new site for the substation, which could include an expansion of City services.

3. Standard of Significance

The Plan Components would have a significant impact if future development would result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered law enforcement facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

TABLE 4.12-2 **CRIMES BY BEAT**

Offense	Beat 1	Beat 2	Beat 3	99*	Total
Homicide	0	0	1	0	1
Rape	1	1	1	0	3
Robbery	3	7	5	0	15
Assault (Aggravated)	4	0	8	1	13
Assault (Simple)	22	24	36	1	83
Burglary	47	44	36	0	127
Larceny (Includes Auto Burglary)	151	110	53	1	315
Stolen Vehicle	2	7	9	0	18
Totals	230	193	149	3	575

Note: *Beat 99 represents any crime report taken outside of the City limits of Menlo Park.

Source: Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

4. Impact Discussion

- a. Result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

A significant environmental impact could result if implementation of the Plan Components would result in a need for the construction of new or physically altered police facilities.

As described in Chapter 3, Project Description, of this EA, implementation of the Plan Components would bring as many as 3,361 new residents to the EA Study Area. This increase in population would likely increase the number of calls for police protection services. Increased population in housing Sites 4 and 5, in the area east of Highway 101, may require additional staffing in Beat 3. To maintain the current staffing ratios, the 3,361 new residents may require three to five additional sworn officers. However, the MPPD has confirmed that no expansion or addition of facilities would be required to accommodate the additional sworn officers or equipment.¹⁶

The following amended General Plan goals and policies would ensure adverse impacts to law enforcement services in the EA Study Area would be minimized.

i. Amended General Plan Seismic Safety and Safety Element

- “ Policy S-1.38: Emergency Vehicle Access. Require that all private roads be designed to allow access for emergency vehicles as a prerequisite to the granting of permits and approvals for construction.
- “ Policy S1.11: Visibility and Access to Address Safety Concerns. Require that residential development be designed to permit maximum visibility and access to law enforcement and fire control vehicles consistent with privacy and other design considerations.
- “ Goal S-1: Assure a Safe Community. Minimize risk to life and damage to the environment and property from natural and human-caused hazards, and assure community emergency preparedness and a high level of public safety services and facilities.

Overall, the MPPD has determined that potential future development under the Plan Components would not require the expansion of MPPD facilities. The MPPD has confirmed that it anticipates addressing re-

¹⁶Dave Bertini, Commander, Menlo Park Police Department, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 13, 2012.

sponse times through staffing, rather than facility expansion. Therefore, impacts related to the provision of police protection services resulting from adoption of the Plan Components would be *less than significant*.

5. Cumulative Impacts

The MPPD is responsible for providing all police services for Menlo Park. Therefore the changes and growth anticipated under the Plan Components would not have any cumulative impact beyond the service boundary of the MPPD. Growth under the Plan Components, limited to approximately 1,318 households beyond what is accommodated for in the current General Plan, is not expected to significantly increase the degree or incidence of need for mutual aid from neighboring agencies for the MPPD. Therefore, the implementation of the Plan Components would have a *less-than-significant* cumulative impact on the provision of police services.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Plan Components would not result in any significant specific or cumulative impacts to the provision of law enforcement service, and therefore no mitigation measures are required.

C. Parks and Recreation

This section describes the regulatory framework and existing conditions, and the potential physical environmental impacts related to parks and recreation.

1. Regulatory Framework

a. Quimby Act

The Quimby Act of 1975 authorizes Cities and Counties to pass ordinances requiring developers to set aside land, donate conservation easements or pay fees for park improvements. The Quimby Act sets a standard park space to population ratio of up to three acres of park space per 1,000 persons. Cities with a ratio of higher than three acres per 1,000 persons can set a standard of up to five acres per 1,000 persons for new development.¹⁷ The calculation of a city's park space to population ratio is based on a comparison of the population count of the last federal census to the amount of city-owned parkland. A 1982 amendment (AB 1600) requires agencies to clearly show a reasonable relationship between the public need for a recreation facility or park land, and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed.

¹⁷ California Government Code Section 66477, California Park and Recreation Society website, Quimby Act 101: An Abbreviated Overview page, at <http://www.cprs.org>, accessed January 17, 2013.

b. Menlo Park Municipal Code

Section 15.16.020 of the Menlo Park Municipal Code establishes recreation requirements for residential subdivisions. The City requires the dedication of land or the payment of fees, or a combination of both, for park and recreational purposes as a condition to the approval of a tentative subdivision or parcel map for a residential development on one or more parcels of the subdivision. The amount of land dedicated or fees paid will be calculated based upon residential density from the formula under Section 15.16.020(3).

2. Existing Conditions

a. City-owned parks and facilities

The Menlo Park Community Services Department owns and operates parks and recreational facilities in the City of Menlo Park. The City has adopted a goal of maintaining a ratio of five acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents.¹⁸ Currently, the City provides 220.86 acres of parkland for the residents, with a ratio of 6.79 acres per capita.¹⁹ The detailed list of available facilities in the City is shown in Table 4.12-3.

b. Regional Parks and Preserves

In addition to the City's parks facilities, Menlo Park residents have access to a range of regional parks and open space, including the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Wunderlich County Park, Huddart County Park, and San Francisco Bay Trail also provide recreational opportunities for Menlo Park residents. Flood Park, a 26-acre facility owned by San Mateo County Parks Department, provides a place for picnicking and strolling, the City and the County have discussed transferring it to the City because of the County's budget deficit.²⁰ However, there are no plans to move forward at this time. Furthermore, the residents of Menlo Park have access to the 373-acre Ravenswood Preserve located largely within Menlo Park and owned and managed by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. The southern portion of the preserve offers pedestrian and bicycle access along the shore and levees along the marshland.

¹⁸ City of Menlo Park, General Plan, "General Plan Background Report, Public Facilities and Services, 1994, page B-VI-6.

¹⁹ 220.86 acres divided by 32.513 (existing population as of 2012/1,000)= 6.79 acres per 1,000 residents.

²⁰ Katrina Whiteaker, Community Service Manager, City of Menlo Park, Interview with the Planning Center | DC&E, on November 13, 2012.

TABLE 4.12-3 CITY-OWNED PARKS AND FACILITIES IN MENLO PARK

Name	Location	Size	Description
FACILITIES			
Arrillaga Family Recreation Center	700 Alma Street	10,000 sq2	A kitchen, lobby area, offices, and two patios, 7 main rooms for purposes of banquets, meetings, exercise, dance, and enrichment activities.
Arrillaga Family Gymnasium	600 Alma Street	24,100 sq2	Two full size basketball courts, 3 volleyball courts, 4 badminton courts, and 4 cross-court basketball, a conference room, offices, lobby area, restrooms, and locker rooms.
Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center	510 Laurel Street	19,380 sq2	(Completed in 2012.) A state of the art gymnastics facility, two multipurpose rooms, office area, lobby, restrooms, and storage.
Burgess Pool	501 Laurel Street	22,700 sq2	Three pools- performance pool, instructional pool (covered during winter months), and kiddie pool (summer only). The facility contracted to Team Sheepeer LLC (Menlo Swim and Sport).
Menlo Children's Center	801 Laurel Street	13,000 sq2	Licensed preschool (18 months to 5 years) and school age (Kindergarten - 5th Grade) services.
Belle Haven Child Development Center	410 Ivy Drive	6,600 sq2	(Licensed by the Department of Social Services.) Quality subsidized, full-time child development services.
Belle Haven After School Center	100 Terminal Ave	2,485 sq2	(Licensed by the Department of Social Services.) Care for children in kindergarten to sixth grade.
Senior Center	110 Terminal Ave	11,000 sq2	Health, recreational, and educational programs, as well as cultural events and social services for older adults. Nutritionally balanced hot meals and door-to-door local transportation to and from the Center are offered on weekdays for minimal cost to the registered patrons. Weekly brown bag through Second Harvest Food Bank, Farmer's Market, monthly free health screenings, HI CAP and tax assistance are also available.
Onetta Harris Community Center	100 Terminal Ave	11,000 sq2	A gym, weight room, computer lab, a large multipurpose room with adjacent kitchen, 3 classrooms, and office space.
Belle Haven Pool	100 Terminal Ave	6,300 sq2	Currently a seasonal pool that is open from mid-June to the end of August; a 25 meter pool with an additional shallow area as well as a small kiddie pool.
PARKS			
Bedwell-Bayfront Park	Bayfront Expressway & Marsh	155 Acres	An extensive trail system, as part of the San Francisco Bay Trail, allowing hiking, running, bicycling, dog walking, bird watching, kite flying, and photography.

TABLE 4.12-3 CITY-OWNED PARKS AND FACILITIES IN MENLO PARK

Name	Location	Size	Description
Burgess Park	Alma & Burgess Ave	9.31 acres	Little League Baseball Field; Soccer Field (300' x 200'); Regulation Baseball Field; Open Play field; Skate Park; Two Lighted Tennis Courts, Children's Playground; Picnic Areas, and Restrooms.
Jack W. Lyle Park	Middle Ave & Fremont Street	4.55 acres	Walking path with benches; Open Play field; Half-court basketball; Children's (5 -12 year old) Playground; and Tot-Lot (2 to 5 year old) Playground.
Fremont Park	Santa Cruz & University Ave	0.38 acres	Lighted walkways; benches; picnic areas, drinking fountain; and open grass areas. It is home to the City of Menlo Park Summer Concert Series and other downtown parties.
Kelly Park	100 Terminal Ave	8.3 acres	(Remodeled in 2011.) A synthetic turf soccer field with lights, full size track with four different exercise apparatuses, lighted tennis courts, lighted basketball court, benches, bleachers, and a full men's and women's bathroom facility.
Marketplace Park		1 acre	Playground, open grass areas, and walkways.
Nealon Park	800 Middle Ave	9 acres	Five lighted tennis courts, softball field, playground, picnic areas, grass areas, and an off-leash dog area.
Seminary Park	Seminary Drive & Santa Monica Avenue	3.51 acres	Walking path with benches; open play field; "Serenity Rock Garden"; children's playground, and tot-lot playground.
Sharon Hills Park	Alameda & Valparaiso	12.5 acres	Walking paths and benches.
Sharon Park	Sharon Park Drive & Monte Rosa Drive	9.83 acres	A small lake with fountain; gazebo; walking path with benches; shaded picnic area; grass areas; natural wooded area; and tot-lot playground.
Stanford Hills Park	Sand Hill Road & Branner Drive	3.11 acres	Benches, walkways, picnic tables, and a large grass area.
Tinkers Park	Santa Cruz Ave & Elder	0.54 acres	Tot-lot playground and picnic area.
Willow Oaks Park	Willow Street & Colmen Ave	2.63 acres	Three lighted tennis courts, children's playground, tot-lot playground, public area, off leash dog area, little league field, and large open play field for soccer and other sports.
Hamilton Park	Hamilton Ave	1.2 acres	A play structure, picnic tables, and open grass area.
Total		232 acres (220.86 acres - parks only)	

Source: Katrina Whiteaker, Community Service Manager, City of Menlo Park, Interview with the Planning Center | DC&E, on November 13, 2012.

c. School Facilities

The City has joint use agreements with La Entrada, Oak Knoll, Belle Haven, and Hillview Schools for use of fields after school hours, as follows:

- “ La Entrada: soccer, basketball, baseball, and tennis courts; playground
- “ Oak Knoll: soccer, basketball and baseball
- “ Belle Haven: basketball and baseball
- “ Hillview: soccer, football, lacrosse, basketball court, track

d. Private Facilities

A few private, fee-based facilities are available in Menlo Park, such as small yoga and dance studios.

3. Standard of Significance

The Plan Components would have a significant impact if future development related to park and recreation services would:

1. Result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks or other recreational facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives.
2. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

4. Impact Discussion

- a. Result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks or other recreational facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives.

As described above, Menlo Park currently provides about 6.79 acres of parkland per thousand residents, which is more than the minimum of five acres per thousand residents. The adoption of the Plan Components could bring as many as 3,361 new residents to the city, the existing 220.86 acres of parkland in Menlo Park would still be sufficient to provide 6.16 acres per thousand residents.²¹

The City has not established standards for provision of recreational facilities; however, there is currently some excess capacity in the recreational facilities, especially in the east side of Highway 101. The City ex-

²¹ 220.86 acres divided by 35.874 ((32,513 + 3,361)/1000) = 6.16 acres per thousand residents.

pects the new residents from housing Sites 4 and 5 would better utilize the existing community center and swimming pool in the Belle Haven neighborhood.

As described above, adherence to Chapter 15.15.020 of the City's Municipal Code would require the dedication of land or payment of in-lieu fees to mitigate impacts to park and recreational services in the EA Study Area when a tentative map or parcel map is involved in a project. In addition, the following amended General Plan goals, policies, and programs would ensure adverse impacts to park and recreation services in the EA Study Area would be minimized.

i. Current General Plan Land Use and Circulation Element

- “ Policy I-G.1: The City shall develop and maintain a parks and recreation system that provides areas and facilities conveniently located and properly designed to serve the recreation needs of all Menlo Park residents.
- “ Policy I-G.4: Dedication of land, or payment of fees in lieu thereof, for park and recreation purposes shall be required of all new residential development.

ii. Amended General Plan Open Space and Conservation Element

- “ Goal OSC-2: Provide Parks and Recreation Facilities. Develop and maintain a parks and recreation system to provide areas and facilities conveniently located, sustainable, properly designed and well-maintained to serve the recreation needs and promote healthy living of all residents of Menlo Park.
- “ Policy OSC-2.1: Open Space for Recreation Use. Provide open space lands for a variety of recreation opportunities, make improvements, construct facilities and maintain programs that incorporate sustainable practices that promote healthy living and quality of life.
- “ Policy OSC-2.3: Recreation Requirements for New Development. Require dedication of improved land, or payment of fee in lieu of, for park and recreation land for all residential uses.
- “ Policy OSC-2.6: Pedestrian and Bicycle Paths. Develop pedestrian and bicycle paths consistent with the recommendations of local and regional trail and bicycle route projects, including the Bay Trail.
- “ Policy OSC-2.4: Parkland Standards. Strive to maintain the standard of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

- “ Policy OSC-2.2: Planning for Residential Recreational Needs. Work with residential developers to ensure that parks and recreational facilities planned to serve new development will be available concurrently with need.
- “ Policy OSC-2.5: Schools for Recreational Use. Coordinate with the local school districts to continue to operate school sites for local recreation purposes.
- “ Program OSC-2.B: Evaluate Recreational Needs. Evaluate park facilities on a regular basis for their overall function and ability to meet recreational needs. Provide new amenities as needed to support changing needs of the population and recreational trends.

The future development under the Plan Components would be required to pay applicable development impact fees, which would finance improvements to parks and recreational facilities. Therefore, the payment of impact fees and implementation of General Plan goals, policies, and programs would ensure that any future development under the Plan Components would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks and associated impacts would be *less than significant*.

- b. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

New residents to the EA Study Area would increase the demand for recreational opportunities and facilities; however, the demand would be distributed throughout the EA Study Area. In addition, the facilities in Belle Haven would be better utilized from new residential land uses on housing Sites 4 and 5. As noted above, there is adequate capacity in the EA Study Area to accommodate the new residents' park and recreational needs, and continue to maintain the five acres per thousand residents ratio set by the City for parks in Menlo Park.

There are a number of open spaces and parklands in the vicinity of Menlo Park, including publicly accessible trails and access to recreation destinations, such as Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Wunderlich County Park, Huddart County Park, and San Francisco Bay Trail. Future residents would be expected to increase the use of these existing facilities, but not to the extent that substantial deterioration would occur. Therefore, a *less-than-significant* impact to existing neighborhood and regional parks would occur.

5. Cumulative Impacts

Future growth in the City due to the Plan Components and as projected by ABAG would result in increased demand for park and recreational facilities. If the City's population was to increase to 43,400 as projected by ABAG, and no new parks were created, the City would have available 5.08 acres of park per 1,000 residents, which meets the City's minimum standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents.

However, the City would potentially expand and construct additional parks and other recreational facilities to meet the increased demand. As described above, the City's parkland ordinance requires additional subdivision development to fund park improvements and dedicate land, which would help ensure the provision of adequate parklands. Because no park expansions or new recreational facilities are specifically identified in the Plan Components, the location and size of additional facilities would be determined as part of future development activity. As specific parkland expansion or improvement projects are identified, additional project-specific, environmental analysis, as necessary, would be completed at that time. As a result, significant cumulative impact associated with parks and recreational facilities would be *less than significant*.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Plan Components would not result in any significant impacts to parks and recreational facilities; therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.

D. Schools

This section describes existing conditions and the potential physical environmental impacts related to school services.

1. Regulatory Framework

a. Senate Bill 50

Senate Bill 50 (SB 50), funded by Proposition 1A, approved in 1998, limits the power of Cities and Counties to require mitigation of school facilities impacts as a condition of approving new development and provides instead for a standardized developer impact fee. SB 50 generally provides for a 50/50 State and local school facilities funding match. SB 50 also provides for three levels of statutory impact fees. The application level depends on whether State funding is available; whether the school district is eligible for State funding and whether the school district meets certain additional criteria involving bonding capacity, year round school, and the percentage of moveable classrooms in use.

b. California Government Code, Section 65995(b), and Education Code Section 17620

SB 50 amended California Government Code Section 65995, which contains limitations on Education Code Section 17620, the statute that authorizes school districts to assess development fees within school district boundaries. Government Code Section 65995(b)(3) requires the maximum square footage assessment for development to be increased every two years, according to inflation adjustments. On January 25, 2012 the State Allocation Board (SAB) approved increasing the allowable amount of statutory school facilities fees (Level I School Fees) from \$2.97 to \$3.20 per square foot of assessable space for residential development of 500 square feet or more, and from \$0.47 to \$0.51 per square foot of chargeable covered and enclosed space for commercial/industrial development.²² School districts may levy higher fees if they apply to the SAB and meet certain conditions.²³

At the time of preparing this EA, the school impact fee for four school districts in the EA Study Area (Menlo Park City School, Las Lomas, Redwood City School and Sequoia High School Districts) was \$3.20 per square foot of residential development. Because these fees are shared between these districts, 60 percent (\$1.92 per square foot) is distributed to the elementary school districts (Menlo Park City School, Las Lomas School and Redwood City School Districts) and 40 percent (\$1.28 per square foot) is applied to the high school district (Sequoia High School District). The other elementary school district in the EA Study Area (Ravenswood City School District) did not increase their fees, as such the fees for development that occur within this district is based on the rate of \$2.97 per square foot of residential development. This equates to 60 percent (\$1.78 per square foot) distributed to Ravenswood City School Districts and 40 percent (\$1.18 per square foot) applied to the Sequoia High School District.

c. Mitigation Fee Act (California Government Code 66000-66008)

Enacted as AB 1600, the Mitigation Fee Act requires a local agency establishing, increasing, or imposing an impact fee as a condition of development to identify the purpose of the fee and the use to which the fee is to be put. The agency must also demonstrate a reasonable relationship between the fee and the purpose for which it is charged, and between the fee and the type of development project on which it is to be levied. This Act became enforceable on January 1, 1989.

²² State Allocation Board Meeting, January 25, 2012, http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/opsc/Resources/Index_Adj_Dev.pdf, accessed on January 16, 2013.

²³ EdSource website, http://www.edsource.org/iss_fin_sys_facilities.html, accessed January 16, 2013.

2. Existing Conditions

As noted above, there are four elementary school districts and one high school district serving Menlo Park: Menlo Park City School, Redwood City School, Las Lomas School, Ravenswood City School, and Sequoia Union High School Districts. Figure 4.12-2 shows the boundaries for each district and the location of each school. The Sequoia Union High School District is not shown on Figure 4.12-2 as it serves the entire City. The following subsections provide a brief summary of each school district's enrollment trends, capacity, and facility status.

a. Menlo Park City School District

The Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) serves the central portion of the EA Study Area (roughly between Orange Avenue and Highway 101), a portion of the Town of Atherton, and a portion of unincorporated area of San Mateo County. The MPCSD operates three elementary schools and one middle school, and owns one unused school site (i.e. the former O'Connor School) that students generated from potential future development under the Plan Components in the MPCSD could attend.

Students in kindergarten to sixth grade could attend Encinal, Oak Knoll, and Laurel Elementary Schools. Students in seventh to ninth grade could attend Hillview Middle School. Each school's approximate current enrollment and capacity (organized by enrollment/capacity) is listed below:²⁴

- Encinal: 755/763
- Laurel: 489/484
- Oak Knoll: 742/763
- Hillview: 812/987

As shown above, most of the schools are at or near capacity. The MPCSD recently completed implementing their Facilities Master Plan, prepared in 2007, to increase the overall capacity to approximately 2,700 students. While the MPCSD adjusted their capacity during the Facilities Master Plan implementation process to keep up with the population growth in the MPCSD, as of 2011, the MPCSD schools remained at or near capacity. Consequently, the MPCSD has started the process of updating its Facilities Master Plan. In their 2012 Enrollment Projection Study Report, the MPCSD projected a total of between 3,026 and 3,336 students by 2022, which includes students that could be generated from future development under the Plan Components and other foreseeable projects in the MPCSD.²⁵

²⁴ Menlo Park City School District, December 2012, *Enrollment Projection Study Report*.

²⁵ Menlo Park City School District, December 2012, *Enrollment Projection Study Report*.

The MPCSD is considering renovating the O'Connor School, built in 1950, to increase their capacity. The O'Connor School was previously operated by the Ravenswood City School District (Ravenswood CSD). A final determination as to the use of the O'Connor School site has not been made at the time of preparing this EA.²⁶

The MPCSD has a policy to maintain a teacher-student ratio of 1:20 for kindergarten to third grade classrooms and 1:24 for fourth to eighth grade classrooms. The MPCSD's typical classroom size is 960 square feet. For the analysis in this EA the MPCSD suggested using the following student generation rates: 0.21 for new single-family homes; 0.26 for attached housing with a high proportion of multiple-bedroom units; and 0.13 for complexes with a high proportion of one-bedroom units.

As previously discussed, the MPCSD share of developer impact fee for residential development is \$1.92 per square foot.

b. Redwood City School District

The Redwood City School District (Redwood CSD) encompasses a small portion of the EA Study Area, around Highway 101 at Marsh Road. Students in kindergarten through ninth grade in this part of the EA Study Area could attend John F. Kennedy Middle or Taft Community Schools. However, since the Redwood CSD is a "district of choice,"²⁷ it is also likely not all students generated from future development under the Plan Components in this area would go to these two schools. The Redwood CSD's attendance report indicated that about 33 percent of students in the Taft Community School boundary went elsewhere in 2011.²⁸

²⁶ Diane White, Menlo Park School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012.

²⁷ The Redwood City School District (RCSd) offers a combination of neighborhood schools and Schools of Choice. Neighborhood schools have residential boundaries and students are generally assigned to them based on where they live. RCSd offers four schools of choice -- Adelante Spanish Immersion School, McKinley Institute of Technology (MIT), North Star Academy, and Orion School -- that do not have neighborhood boundaries. All students within the district are eligible to apply to attend one of the four schools of choice, or a neighborhood school outside their boundary area. From Redwood City School District, <http://www.rcsd.k12.ca.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=228>, February 13, 2013.

²⁸ Janet Christensen, Redwood City School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012.

Taft Community School's current enrollment is approximately 600 students, which is under its capacity of approximately 950 students. John F. Kennedy Middle School currently has about 800 students enrolled, which is under its capacity of 1,200.²⁹ The Redwood CSD anticipates an enrollment increase in both the Taft Community and John F. Kennedy Middle Schools as a result of a new 400-unit residential development in Redwood City. The Redwood CSD expects 1-percent student growth per year. Based on this projection, the Redwood CSD is currently updating their Facilities Master Plan.³⁰ The Redwood CSD also plans to open a new charter school in the Fair Oaks community in 2013.³¹

The Redwood CSD maintains an average teacher-student ratio of 1:31 for all grades, and the typical classroom size is 960 square feet. The Redwood CSD's student generation rate is an average of 0.3 students per dwelling unit.³² As previously discussed, the Redwood CSD's share of developer impact fee for residential development is \$1.92 per square foot.

c. Las Lomas School District

The Las Lomas School District (LLSD) serves the very western portion of Menlo Park, a portion of the Town of Atherton, and the unincorporated San Mateo County area. The LLSD has two schools that students generated from future development under the Plan Components could attend. Students in kindergarten through third grade in this part of the EA Study Area could attend Las Lomas Elementary School. Students in fourth through eighth grade could attend La Entrada Middle School.

Current enrollment is approximately 1,400 students with approximately 650 at Las Lomas Elementary School and 750 at La Entrada Middle School. According to the LLSD, the elementary and middle schools are at capacity and have added portable classrooms to serve increased students.³³ The LLSD projects the enrollment to increase to approximately 1,570 students; this projection does not include the new develop-

²⁹ Janet Christensen & Don Dias, Redwood City School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012 and January 18, 2013.

³⁰ Donald Dias, Redwood City School District. Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on February 13, 2013.

³¹ Janet Christensen, Redwood City School District. Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on November 19, 2012.

³² Donald Dias, Redwood City School District. Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E on February 13, 2013.

³³ Carolyn Chow, Chief Business Officer, Las Lomas Elementary School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012.

ment under the Plan Components. The LLSD is in the process of developing a Facilities Master Plan to increase its capacity beyond 1,570 students.

The LLSD maintains a current teacher-student ratio size of 1:22. According to the LLSD's Development Impact Fee Justification Study, prepared in 2012, its student generation rate is an average of 0.21 students per dwelling unit.³⁴ As previously discussed, the LLSD share of developer impact fee for residential development is \$1.92 per square foot.

d. Ravenswood City School District

The Ravenswood CSD serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade from the cities of East Palo Alto and east Menlo Park. The Ravenswood CSD has eleven public schools and one child development center. As of fall 2012, the Ravenswood CSD had a district-wide enrollment of approximately 3,482 students.³⁵ Belle Haven Elementary School and Willow Oaks Elementary School are located within Menlo Park, and serve students in kindergarten through eighth grade. According to its 2011 Final Demographic Report, Belle Haven Elementary School's enrollment is expected to decrease from 492 to 424 students while Willow Oaks Elementary School's enrollment is expected to increase from 955 to 1,065 students by the year 2018. Belle Haven Elementary School and Willow Oaks Elementary School can accommodate up to 816 students and 1,075 students, respectively.³⁶

The Ravenswood CSD's student generation rates differ depending on housing types: 0.39 students per single-family unit and 0.12 students per multi-family unit.³⁷ As previously discussed, the Ravenswood CSD's share of developer impact fee for residential development is \$1.92 per square foot.

e. Sequoia Union High School District

Ninth through twelfth grade students generated from future development under the Plan Components could attend Sequoia Union High School District (SUHSD) high schools. The SUHSD serves approximately 8,400 students in the communities of Atherton, Belmont, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Portola Valley,

³⁴ Carolyn Chow, Chief Business Officer, Las Lomas Elementary School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012.

³⁵ Ravenswood City School District, 2011, Final Demographic Report.

³⁶ Megan Cutis, Ravenswood City School District. Personal communication with The Planning Center | DC&E, on March 8, 2013.

³⁷ Ravenswood City School District, 2011, Final Demographic Report.

Redwood City, Redwood Shores, San Carlos, and Woodside.³⁸ The SHSD has four comprehensive high schools, a continuation high school, Middle College, and one adult school. The SUHSD expects most students generated from new development under the Plan Components would likely go to Menlo-Atherton High School in Atherton; while some might go to Woodside High in Woodside or Sequoia High in Redwood City.

Student population has been growing rapidly, and the SUHSD has been close to capacity for the last five years. To balance out excess enrollment among schools, the SUHSD plans on changing its school boundary system in August 2013. The SUHSD is also preparing a Facilities Master Plan to increase its overall capacity. Currently, the SUHSD's total enrollment is 8,400 students, with 2,000 at Menlo-Atherton High School, 1,760 at Woodside High, and 2,030 at Sequoia High.³⁹

According to the SUHSD's Impact Fee Justification Study, the SUHSD expects a total of 9,409 students by 2019, with a student generation rate of 0.069 per new dwelling unit and 0.1 per existing home. In 2011, the SUHSD had 8,947 students from 92,270 dwelling units.⁴⁰ Based on the SUHSD's population projection, the Facilities Master Plan aims to increase the total capacity to approximately 10,000 students by the year 2020. However, the SUHSD's population projection does not take into account new students generated under the Plan Components.

As mentioned above, the SUHSD is entitled to levy up to 40 percent of the maximum fee levels: \$1.28 per square foot of residential development.

3. Standard of Significance

The Plan Components would have a significant impact related to schools if it would result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable performance objectives.

³⁸ Sequoia Union High School District, <http://www.sequoiadistrict.org/domain/81>, accessed on January 10, 2013.

³⁹ James Lianides, Sequoia Union High School District, Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 19, 2012.

⁴⁰ Sequoia Union High School District, Fee Justification Study, June 27, 2012.

4. Impact Discussion

- a. Result in the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable performance objectives.

This section reviews the need for existing school facilities to accommodate any increases in public school enrollment due to the Plan Components. However, the California State Legislature, under Senate Bill 50 (SB 50), has determined that payment of school impact fees shall be deemed to provide full and complete school facilities mitigation. All new developments pursuant to the adoption of the Plan Components will be required to pay the school impact fees adopted by each school district, and this requirement is considered to fully mitigate the impacts of the Plan Components on school facilities.

i. Menlo Park City School District

The future development permitted under the Plan Components could generate approximately 363 new dwelling units in the MPCSD service area. Applying the suggested MPCSD student generation rates of 0.13 for complexes with a high proportion of one-bedroom units and 0.26 for attached housing with a high proportion of multiple-bedroom units, the 363 units could result in new students ranging between 48 and 95 under future development permitted under the Plan Components, respectively. In order to accommodate these new students, MPCSD schools would need to expand their facilities or renovate the O'Connor School site to increase the overall MPCSD capacity. However, as described above, this growth has been taken into account in the MPCSD's 2012 Enrollment Projection Study Report and consequently their Facilities Master Plan, which is in process.

In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees the impacts to the MPCSD would be *less than significant*.

ii. Redwood City School District

The Plan Components could generate up to 540 new dwelling units in the Redwood CSD service area, projected until 2035. Applying the Redwood CSD's average student generation rate of 0.3 students per unit, the 540 units could result in up to 162 new students. Because the Redwood CSD is the "district of choice," this analysis assumes 70 percent of the 162 students (114 students) would attend Taft Community School and John F. Kennedy Middle Schools. This growth is consistent with the one percent growth per year projected by Redwood CSD (allowing a total of over 250 additional students at these two schools). Therefore, the student growth generated under the Plan Components is taken into account in the Redwood CSD's Fa-

cilities Master Plan, which is being updated. In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees, the impacts to the Redwood CSD would be *less than significant*.

iii. Las Lomas School District

The LLSD schools are at capacity and have added portable classrooms to serve increased students. Current enrollment is over 1,400 students, and the district projects the enrollment to increase up to 1,570 students; this projection does not include the new development under the Housing Element. The LLSD is in the process of developing a Facilities Plan to increase its capacity beyond 1,570 students.

According to the District's Development Impact Fee Justification Study, prepared in 2012, its student generation rate is an average of 0.21 students per unit. With a generation rate of 0.21, the Plan Component's 40 new units could generate up to 9 new students. In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees, the Plan Components would have a *less-than-significant* impact on LLSD schools.

iv. Ravenswood City School District

The Plan Components could result in up to 369 new dwelling units in the Ravenswood CSD service area. Since the types of units (e.g. number of bedrooms) are unknown at the time of preparing this EA, the 369 units could result in new students ranging between 45 and 144 under future development permitted under the Plan Components based on the Ravenswood CSD's student generation rates of 0.12 students per multi-family unit and 0.39 students per single-family unit, respectively. The additional 45 to 144 students would be within the capacity of Ravenswood CSD schools, and the growth would occur incrementally over the 21-year planning horizon. However, adding to the Ravenswood CSD's student projection, the increase in student population may require expansion of the school facilities. In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees, the Plan Components would have a *less-than-significant* impact on Ravenswood CSD schools.

v. Sequoia Union High School District

The Plan Components could generate up to 1,318 new dwelling units in the SUHSD service area. The 1,318 units could result in up to 91 new students, assuming the student generation rates of .069 students per new dwelling unit. The additional 91 students would still be within the capacity of the District's planned facilities, and the growth would occur incrementally over the 21-year planning horizon. However, this increase in student population added to the SUHSD's student projection may require expansion of the school facilities. In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees, the Plan Components would have a *less-than-significant* impact on SUHSD schools.

5. Cumulative Impacts

Regional growth resulting from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects would result in increased demand for additional school facilities within the MPCSD, Redwood CSD, LLESD, Ravenswood CSD, and the SUHSD boundaries discussed above. The number of students generated by the Plan Components in each district appears to be consistent with enrollment trends and planned school facility expansions. It is unknown exactly where school facility expansions would occur to support the cumulative increase in population. As specific school expansion or improvement projects are identified, additional project-specific, environmental analyses would be required to be completed by each school district.

In conclusion, with the payment of mandatory developer impact fees, the Plan Components would have a *less-than-significant* impact on school facilities.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Plan Components would not result in any significant project-specific or cumulative impacts to the provision of school services, and therefore no mitigation measures are required.

E. Libraries

This section describes the existing conditions and the potential physical environmental impacts with regard to libraries.

1. Regulatory Framework

There are no federal, State, or local regulations pertaining to libraries that apply to the Plan Components.

2. Existing Conditions

There are two public libraries in Menlo Park: the Menlo Park Main Library and the Belle Haven Community Library, which are part of the Peninsula Library System, a consortium of libraries throughout San Mateo County.

The Main Branch, located at 800 Alma Street next to City Hall, is a 34,000 square-foot, 1-story building, expanded and remodeled in 1992, and with minor remodeling in 2010 and 2012. The library provides reader

seats, computers, and meeting rooms. The library's annual circulation in 2011 was 713,000 with a collection of 128,000 books.⁴¹

The Belle Haven Community Library, located in a 3,800 square-foot space at 413 Ivy Drive, was opened in 1999 as part of a joint venture with the Ravenswood City School District. This branch serves primarily the area east of Highway 101, especially students on the Belle Haven Elementary School campus. The library's annual circulation in 2011 was 13,500 with a collection of 18,000 books.⁴²

Both locations provide a range of programs, such as daily children's story times, regular special programs, and a monthly adult Saturday Series, which invite speakers, authors, and performers. Additionally, Wi-Fi access and computer networks are available to all library visitors. Menlo Park residents with a library card can borrow books, magazines, DVDs, and CDs from the 35 public and community college libraries in the Peninsula Library System. Menlo Park residents also have access to E-books and online databases through the Menlo Park Library website.⁴³

The Menlo Park Library indicated that there is a shortage of reading room space and overcrowded children's story times because of increasing number of children. There is also an increasing demand for E-books and access to online services.⁴⁴ Internal bandwidth is at maximum capacity at its current size.

The Belle Haven library is small and has no room to expand to serve a larger population. The Menlo Park Library expects if new housing on the EA Study Sites 12 and 14 is family housing, it will have a larger impact on library service than other types of housing would. Residents in these areas can also use the other neighboring libraries such as the Fair Oaks branch of the Redwood City and the East Palo Alto branch library.

According to the current General Plan, the Menlo Park Library has a goal to maintain a ratio of 3.29 books per capita and a ratio of 1.02 square feet of library space per capita. Currently, the Menlo Park Library is meeting this goal with a ratio of 4.06 books per capita⁴⁵ and 1.05 square feet of library space per capita.⁴⁶

⁴¹ State Library, Public Library Survey Data (2010-11 Fiscal Year), <http://library.ca.gov/lds/librariystats.html>, accessed on December 5, 2012.

⁴² State Library, Public Library Survey Data (2010-11 Fiscal Year), <http://library.ca.gov/lds/librariystats.html>, accessed on December 5, 2012.

⁴³ Menlo Park Library, <http://www.menloparklibrary.org/>, accessed on January 10, 2013.

⁴⁴ Sue Holmer, Director, Menlo Park Library. Interview with The Planning Center | DC&E, on November 13, 2012.

3. Standard of Significance

The Plan Components would have a significant impact with regard to libraries if it would result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered library facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, or other performance objectives.

4. Impact Discussion

As previously noted, the Plan Components could generate as many as 3,361 new residents, which may increase the use of library services within Menlo Park.

As indicated above, as development occurs in Menlo Park, new or expanded library facilities may be needed to meet the needs of the associated population growth. The growth generated by the Plan Components, however, does not exceed existing projections.

As specific library expansion or improvement projects are identified, additional project-specific, environmental analysis would be completed under the authority of the Peninsula Library System. Therefore, there would be a *less-than-significant* impact on library services.

5. Cumulative Impacts

The geographic scope of this cumulative analysis is taken as the Menlo Park Library service area, which includes the EA Study Area. The population within the EA Study Area is projected to increase up to 43,400 by 2035, which will increase the demand for library services and facilities. The Menlo Park Library system may need to expand library facilities to meet the increased demand, but existing library services would continue to exceed the goal of 3.29 books per capita for the projected 2035 population. As specific library expansion or improvement projects are identified, additional project-specific, environmental analysis would be completed. Therefore, the cumulative impacts of the Plan Components would not be cumulatively considerable, and there would be a *less-than-significant* cumulative impact.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Plan Components would not result in any significant specific or cumulative impacts to the provision of library services, and therefore no mitigation measures are required.

⁴⁵ 146,000 books/35,874 residents = 4.06.

⁴⁶ 37,800 square feet/35,874 residents = 1.05.