
VI. GENERAL IMPACT CATEGORIES

C. EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

As a part of the EIR scoping process, it was determined that development and operation of the Proposed Project would not result in potentially significant impacts to the environmental impact topics listed below. Section 15128 of the CEQA Guidelines states:

“An EIR shall contain a statement briefly indicating the reasons that various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail in the EIR. ”

It has been determined that there is no evidence that the Proposed Project would cause significant environmental effects in the following areas and that no further environmental review of these issues is necessary for the reasons described below.

1. Agricultural Resources

The Project Site is leased from the Sixth District Agricultural Association of the State of California and is currently developed with the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. There have been no agricultural uses on the Project Site since before 1921, when construction of the Coliseum began, and the Project Site has been developed as a stadium since 1923, and has hosted events since then. The Proposed Project would not involve any changes to the use of the Project Site, and the Coliseum would continue hosting the same type of events as it currently does. As no agricultural uses are located on the Project Site nor have been since prior to 1921, the Proposed Project would not be converting an agricultural use to a non-agricultural use, and would not impact potential future agricultural uses on the site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in any potentially significant impacts to agricultural resources and no further analysis of this issue is warranted.

2. Biological Resources

The Project Site is a developed parcel, with urban development surrounding it in a highly urbanized area and does not contain any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game (Fish and Game), or the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, there are no known locally designated natural communities on the site or in the project vicinity.

The Proposed Project would not result in the direct removal, filling or hydrological interruption of a federally protected wetland as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Due to the highly urbanized surroundings, there are no wildlife corridors or native wildlife nursery sites in the project

vicinity. The Proposed Project would not interfere with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species. Because there are no known locally designated natural communities on the Project Site or in the project vicinity, the Proposed Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Vegetation within the Project Site consists primarily of various forms of landscaping including several native trees such as eucalyptus, deodar, yucca, agave, and palm trees. These species will not be affected by the development of the Proposed Project. No State or Federally protected plant species are currently known to exist on the immediate Project Site. The Proposed Project will not adversely impact biological resources on or around the Project Site.

3. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The Project Site has been developed as a stadium since 1923. The Proposed Project would not alter existing land use on the site, and would not use, store or transport significant amounts of hazardous materials. The Coliseum was retrofitted in 1994 following the Northridge earthquake. Nearly all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) were removed at that time; however, if ACMs or lead are present in the structures, the materials must be removed by licensed contractors using control methods prescribed in SCAQMD Rule 1403. This is a potentially significant impact that can be mitigated to a less than significant level via mandatory compliance with SCAQMD Rule 1403, which would insure safe exposure for both abatement workers as well as the general public. Additionally, minor amounts of hazardous materials may be used including motor oil, grease, paints, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. However, the use and disposal of such materials would be required to be in compliance with the State Health and Safety Code, the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code, and the Uniform Fire Code (UFC). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in any potentially significant impacts to hazards or hazardous materials.

4. Mineral Resources

A portion of Exposition Park has been designated by the Los Angeles City Planning Department as an area containing significant mineral deposits. However, the area containing such deposits is located at a southeast portion of Exposition Park, which is not occupied by the Project Site. As the Proposed Project is not located on the designated land, and would not alter existing uses, no impacts to these identified mineral resources will occur. Additionally, the Project Site is not in an area of potential petroleum resources. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. The Proposed Project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource

recovery site, as no recovery site exists on the Project Site. The Proposed Project would not result in any potentially significant impacts to mineral resources and no further analysis of this issue is warranted.

5. Population and Housing

The Proposed Project is a renovation of the existing Coliseum and would not alter the type of use on the Project Site. There are no residential properties on the Project Site and none are planned as part of the development of the Proposed Project. As the Proposed Project is not proposing any alterations to existing housing nor proposing the addition of new housing, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in a permanent population increase nor would it displace any existing housing in the area.

Construction of the Proposed Project would result in an increase of employment opportunities in the construction field, which could potentially result in an increased permanent population and a demand for housing in the vicinity of the Project Site. However, the employment patterns of the construction workers in Southern California are such that construction workers would not likely, to any significant degree, to relocate their households as a consequence of the construction employment associated with the Proposed Project.

Implementation of the Proposed Project may also provide employment after project completion in the form of Coliseum operation personnel. However, since the Project Site is currently developed with the same use as the Proposed Project, increases in employment will be minor; more staff members may be added, and more working days and hours may be created by the addition of an NFL team. As the Proposed Project is not introducing a new use to the area, it would not have a significant impact on employment levels in the City of Los Angeles. It is also acknowledged that the addition of an NFL team would increase the population of the region. However, players and their families would not be expected to locate solely in the project area, and therefore would be creating a regional rather than local impact to the greater Los Angeles area. Without the Proposed Project, an NFL team can be still expected to relocate to somewhere in the Southern California area, creating this population impact regardless of the implementation of the Proposed Project. The exact location of the team, therefore, would not create a specific local impact or a regional impact of significance.

The additional employment opportunities created by the Proposed Project will not significantly affect housing in the area, as the area surrounding the project is developed and urban, and it is therefore expected that many of the Proposed Project's new employees will be drawn from the local labor force in the nearby communities. No additional housing would be needed in the area to serve the Proposed Project's employees and demands for housing will not be affected by the project. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not have a potentially significant impact on population and housing levels in the City of Los Angeles. No further analysis of this issue is warranted.