

5.10 WATER RESOURCES

The Scoping Document prepared for the Project (EIR Appendix A) evaluated the potential for the Project to result in significant impacts to utility and service systems, including water resources, waste water generation, and solid waste disposal. That analysis determined that the Project's impacts would be less than significant. However, after the Scoping Document was prepared, on September 9, 2014 the Goleta Water District adopted a resolution declaring a Stage II Water Shortage Emergency, and a resolution declaring a Stage III Water Shortage Emergency was adopted on May 12, 2015. One of the effects of these actions is that as of October 1, 2014 the Goleta Water District will deny applications for new and additional service connections for potable water. This is considered to be substantial new information that could affect the ability of the Project to obtain potable water service. Therefore, the potential for the Project to result in significant water resource impacts is evaluated in this EIR.

5.10.1 Physical Setting

Water Supply and Demand. The Goleta Water District (GWD) is located in the South Coast portion of Santa Barbara County with its western border adjacent to El Capitan State Park, its northern border along the foothills of the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Los Padres National Forest, the City of Santa Barbara to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the south. The service area encompasses approximately 29,000 acres, and the District provides water service to approximately 86,950 residents. The GWD provides water service to the City of Goleta, University of California at Santa Barbara, the Santa Barbara Airport, and unincorporated areas within the District's service boundary.

The GWD has four water supply sources that under normal conditions provide a total water supply of 16,472 acre feet per year (AFY). The current and projected future water sources used by the GWD and the amount of water available from each of those sources include:

- Lake Cachuma (9,322 AFY)
- State Water (3,800 AFY)
- Groundwater (2,350 AFY) and
- Recycled water (1,000 AFY)

Based on water use data from 2012, the GWD estimated that the water demand in its service area was 13,402 AFY (GWD, 2013). Based on normal water supplies and estimated demand, the District has a supply water surplus of 3,070 AFY during times with normal water supply conditions.

The GWD has updated its current water supply projections due to on-going drought conditions. The total supply available to the District for the 2014-2015 water year is 13,499 acre-

feet, which is approximately 87 percent of normal¹ (GWD, 2015a). Based on currently available information, and assuming the region does not receive additional significant rainfall over the next year, the available water supplies for the 2015-16 water year are projected to be 10,840 acre-feet, or 70 percent of normal (GWD, 2015a). Projected water supplies for the 2015-16 water year include:

- Zero percent allocation of Lake Cachuma entitlement water, but availability of 2,265 acre-feet in unused carryover water.
- Groundwater supplies based on projected annual well production of 6,421 acre-feet.
- 2,235 acre-feet of Sate Water, which would be a 30 percent allocation.

According to GWD's 2011 *Water Supply Management Plan*, future water demand is expected to rise to 16,683 AFY by the year 2030. Based on current water supplies under normal conditions, a demand of 16,683 AFY would result in a water supply deficit of 211 AFY. This shortfall could be eliminated by making use of GWD's 2,000 AFY unused capacity for recycled water as new pipelines are installed and new customers are identified.

Drought Emergency. In response to on-going drought conditions, on September 9, 2014 the GWD Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2014-31 declaring a Stage II Water Shortage Emergency consistent with the criteria contained the District's *Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan*. The Board of Directors also adopted Resolution 2014-32 directing the denial of applications for new and additional service connections for potable water beginning on October 1, 2014. Projects with existing entitlement to potable water are exempt from the restrictions on new and additional service connections.

On May 12, 2015, the GWD Board of Directors declared a Stage III Water Shortage Emergency (Resolution 2015-20). Achieving Stage III water demand reduction targets will rely on water use limits and prohibitions to reduce non-essential uses, coupled with the implementation of a drought surcharge to achieve a 35 percent system-wide demand reduction.

Since declaring a Stage I Water Shortage in March 2014, there has been a 12 percent reduction in the District's system-wide water demand compared to 2013 water use, which includes a significant unanticipated increase in agricultural demand. While this falls short of the District's 25 percent reduction target for Stage II, District customers remain one of the lowest per capita water users in the State (GWD, 2015a).

5.10.2 Regulatory Setting

Water supplies in the Goleta area are managed through the implementation of numerous regulations, planning programs, and court decisions. Brief descriptions of selected water

¹ Normal water supply is defined in the District's Urban Water Management Plan as 15,472 AFY.

management regulations and requirements that are directly applicable to the Kenwood Village Project are provided below.

City of Goleta Inland Zoning Ordinance. Section 35-317.7(1)(d) of Article 3, Chapter 35 of the Municipal Code (the Goleta Inland Zoning Ordinance) includes a requirement for finding of adequate public services to serve new development.

City of Goleta Land Use Element. The Land Use Element of the City's GP/CLUP includes a policy related to providing adequate public services for new development projects. Policy LU 11.1 (Pacing of Growth) states that "The City shall ensure that the timing of new development is consistent with resource and service constraints, including, but not limited to, transportation infrastructure, parks, water supply, sewer system capacity, and energy availability.

Wright Judgement. GWD's rights to groundwater drawn from the Goleta Groundwater Basin were adjudicated through Wright v. Goleta Water District court case in 1985. The Wright Judgment gave the GWD the right to pump up to 2,000 AFY from the Basin in addition to the right to surplus waters, injected water, return flows, and rights transferred from private pumpers. Based on these conditions, the GWD has conservatively reported an entitlement of 2,350 AFY from the Basin. The Wright Judgment also gave GWD the right to inject excess surface water supplies into the Basin to recharge the Basin and replenish groundwater supplies.

Goleta Water District SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance of 1991. The Safe Water Supplies Ordinance (SAFE) was approved by GWD voters in 1991 and amended in 1994. SAFE sets certain restrictions on GWD use of groundwater, including the creation of a "Drought Buffer" of water that is stored in the Central Basin, which may be pumped and distributed by the GWD to existing customers only in the event that a drought causes a reduction in the District's annual deliveries from Lake Cachuma. The Drought Buffer supplies may not be used as a source of supplemental water supply to serve new or additional demands for District water. SAFE also restricts deliveries to new developments by limiting the release of water to new customers to one percent of its total potable water supply. A determination of available water allocation for new uses is made on an annual basis. The SAFE Ordinance also continued an existing prohibition on new service connections until water supplies for existing customers were secured. Those conditions were met in 1997.

The SAFE ordinance prohibits the District from providing new or additional service connections except when the following conditions are met:

- a. The District is receiving 100% of its deliveries normally allowed from the Cachuma Project.
- b. The District has met its legal obligations required by the judgment in Wright v Goleta Water District.

- c. Water rationing by the District is eliminated, and
- d. The District has met its obligation to make its Annual Storage Commitment to the Drought Buffer.

The GWD was notified by the Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board in early 2015 that for the water year that runs from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015, the District will receive only 45% of its normal water deliveries from the Cachuma Project. As a result, condition (a) above is no longer being met, and new or additional service connections are not allowed under the Safe Ordinance requirements.

2010 Urban Water Management Plan Update (2011). An Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is a planning tool that generally discloses the actions of water management agencies. Every five years, water suppliers such as the GWD are required to update the UWMP. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act requires preparation of an UWMP that: demonstrates water supply planning over a 20-year period in five-year increments; identifies and quantifies adequate water supplies, including recycled water, for existing and future demands, in normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry years; and implements conservation and efficient use of urban water supplies.

GWD Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (2014). The objectives of this Plan are to describe the conditions that constitute a water shortage emergency; to define and discuss the various stages of action in response to water shortages; and provide guidance and procedures to undertake during a declared water shortage. The Plan allows the District to identify and quickly respond to shortage in a manner that provides for public health and safety while minimizing the impacts to customers.

Executive Order B-29-15. On April 1, 2015 Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-29-15, which requires for the first time in the state's history the implementation of mandatory conservation for all residents, and directs several state agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), to take immediate action to safeguard the state's remaining potable urban water supplies in preparation for a possible fifth year of drought. The SWRCB is directed to impose restrictions to achieve a statewide 25 percent reduction in potable urban water use through February 28, 2016. These restrictions will require water suppliers to reduce usage as compared to the amount used in 2013.

5.10.3 Thresholds of Significance

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines indicates that a project may result in a significant effect on water supplies may occur if it would:

- a. Require or result in the construction of new water facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

- b. Not have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded entitlements.

5.10.4 Impact Evaluation

Potable Water Supply. The Project would be located on what is now a vacant parcel that has no existing water demand. The project site was formerly used for agricultural purposes, however, agricultural operations and the associated water demand were suspended approximately ten years. A Goleta Water District meter was installed to serve the property in 1953 and the meter was most recently used between 1993 and 1996 when metered water use ranged between 2.56 and 3.72 acre feet per year. The most recent seven-year average water use was for the meter is 1.86 acre feet per year.

The water demand for the Project was calculated using demand factors contained in the 2009 City of Santa Barbara's Water Demand Factor Update Report² and recent demand factors prepared by the Goleta Water District (GWD, 2015b). The City of Santa Barbara's water demand factors were used because they are based on more recent use data than the water demand factors included in the City of Goleta's Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual. The City of Santa Barbara demand factors include both indoor and outdoor water use are for single family residences on lots of less than 7,000 square feet; and for multi-family residences, which includes duplex, triplex, fourplex, apartments with five or more units, and condominiums. The Santa Barbara water demand factors were developed from data based on 2006 and 2007 usage, which included both an average rainfall year and a low rainfall year. The GWD water demand factors reflect 2012-13 conditions when there were no drought restrictions and reflect normal water use rates. Neither the Santa Barbara nor the GWD water demand factors reflect recent State-mandated water use reduction requirements. The water demand estimates for the Project using the Santa Barbara and GWD demand factors are summarized on Table 5.10-1.

² The City of Goleta *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* state that residential units developed at an overall density of six units per acre, which is the approximate unit density of the proposed Project, would have a water demand of 0.30 acre feet/unit/year. The City of Santa Barbara water demand factors differ from Goleta water demand factor but are based on more recent data for a similar geographically located city.

**Table 5.10-1
Kenwood Village Project Estimated Water Demand**

Use	City of Santa Barbara Water Demand Factors			GWD Water Demand Factors		
	Water Demand (afy/unit) (1)	Number of Units	Estimated Water Demand (afy)	Water Demand (afy/unit) (2)	Number of Units	Estimated Water Demand (afy)
Single-Family Units on lots less than 7,000 sq. ft.	0.26	13	3.38	0.34	13	4.42
Multi-Family Units	0.16	47	7.52	0.20	47	9.4
Total	--	60	10.9	--	60	13.82

(1) Source: City of Santa Barbara *Water Demand Factor Update Report*, October 2009.

(2) Source: Goleta Water District, Water Management & Long Range Planning Committee Agenda Letter, July 16, 2015.

Based on the City of Santa Barbara’s water demand factors, the Project would have a water demand of 10.9 AFY. Using the GWD water demand factors for the 2012-2013 water year, the Project would have a water demand of 13.8 AFY. The actual project-related demand for potable water would be somewhat less than indicated on Table 5.10-1 because the Project proposes to extend an existing recycled water line to the project site and to use recycled water for landscape irrigation purposes. It is estimated that landscape irrigation on the project site (i.e., maintenance of the proposed retention basin, lawns, front yards/streetscape, open space and private yards) would require approximately 4.7 acre feet of water per year (Arcadia Studio, 2016). The use of recycled water for landscape purposes would reduce the overall water demand of the project by approximately 34 percent to 9.1 acre feet per year. Using the highest water demand estimate of 13.8 AFY, the Project’s water demand would be approximately 0.45 percent of GWD’s water supply surplus (3,070 AFY) that exists during normal water supply conditions.

Due to the requirements of the Safe Ordinance, and the prohibition of new water service connections required by the Stage II Water Shortage Emergency, the Project may not receive new potable water service from the District at this time. The GWD *Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan* identifies the water supply criteria used to declare the Stage II Water Shortage Emergency, which initiated the restriction on new water service connections. The criteria indicate that a Stage II emergency would result if any of the following supply shortage conditions occur:

- District water supply is 75 to 85% of normal (15-25% supply deficiency) for the next twelve months.
- District water supply is insufficient to provide 75% of normal deliveries for the next twenty four months.

- Contamination of 20% of water supply (pollutant exceeds primary drinking water standards)

It is anticipated that if and when normal water supply conditions are restored (i.e., normal deliveries of water from Lake Cachuma are restored and the water supply conditions described above no longer exist), the current water service restrictions of the SAFE Ordinance and the Stage II and III Water Shortage Emergency Resolutions would be suspended. At such a time, applications for new service connections could be approved by the GWD and, and upon the satisfaction of District requirements it would issue a “Can and Will Serve” letter to confirm that adequate water supplies are available at the time water service is requested by the Project applicant.

Impact significance threshold “b” in Section 5.10.2 above states that a project would result in a significant environmental impact if there would not be sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded entitlements. As described in Section 5.10.1 above, the GWD has four water supply sources that under normal conditions provide a total water supply of 16,472 AFY, and the District has a current water demand of approximately 13,402 AFY. Therefore, under normal circumstances there would be sufficient water supplies available to serve the entire Project from existing entitlements and resources, and new or expanded entitlements would not be required.

Due to existing drought conditions and based on the requirements of the GWD *Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan*, the District will not approve applications for new and additional service connections for potable water until such time that the current water service restrictions of the SAFE Ordinance and the Stage II and III Water Shortage Emergency Resolutions have been lifted. Therefore, based on the requirements of significance threshold “b” and the implementation of the water service restrictions of the SAFE Ordinance and the Stage II and III Water Shortage Emergency Resolutions, the Project would result in a **less than significant (Class III)** water supply impact.

For the GWD to provide water service for the entire Project, the water service connection restrictions of the SAFE Ordinance and the Stage II and III Water Shortage Emergency Resolutions will need to be lifted. The timing of this is unknown at this time and is predicated on the area receiving sufficient rainfall to meet the criteria outlined by the GWD *Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan*. Until such time that the current water service restrictions are lifted, the Stage II Water Shortage Emergency Resolution allows the District to only provide water service to parties that have a pre-existing water use entitlement based on prior use.

As described in the Potable Water Supply subsection above, the most recent seven-year average water use on the project site is 1.86 acre feet per year. Obtaining water service limited to 1.86 AFY would be inadequate to serve the entire Project, but would facilitate partial

development of the project site. If the Project were to be developed in phases due to water service constraints, it is likely that the southern portion of the Project site would be developed as the first project phase, because this would minimize the need to extend road and other infrastructure improvements from Calle Real to serve the central and northern portions of the site. Residences proposed for the southern portion of the site would be multi-family units, and as shown on Table 5.10-1 each unit would have a water demand of 0.16 to 0.20 AFY. Based on those demand factors, 1.86 AFY would facilitate the development of nine to 11 multi-family units on the project site.

While it is possible to phase the Project based on water availability, there are related factors to be considered. As proposed by the Project's grading and development plans, the elevation of the northern portion of the project site would be lowered by excavating soil and the elevation of the southern portion of the project site would be raised using soil obtained from the northern portion of the site. It is anticipated that if the development of the Project were to be phased and residential units were developed on the southern portion of the project site first, most or all of the proposed project site grading would need to be implemented to provide the soil required to construct proposed building pads and roads, and to provide adequate drainage on the southern portion of the site. Grading most of the project site but only developing the southern portion would have the potential to result in significant erosion and sedimentation impacts on the graded and undeveloped portions of the site, particularly if the construction of the subsequent phase(s) were to be delayed for a prolonged period of time.

The implementation of erosion control best management practices, as identified in a required SWPPP, on the graded and undeveloped portions of the project site would reduce potential erosion-related impact to a less than significant level. It cannot be determined at this time, however, how long the implementation and maintenance of erosion control measures would be required because of the timing uncertainty of when the GWD would be able to provide water service adequate to serve the entire Project. Although the implementation of erosion control best management practices would reduce the potential for erosion-related impacts to a less than significant level, potential impacts could be reduced further if the project site were to be constructed in a single phase after water service for the entire project is provided by the GWD. A recommended condition of approval in Section 5.10.6 would require that the Project applicant submit to the City a Can and Will Serve letter from the GWD before the City approves the Final Map. The recommended condition of approval would require that no grading occur on the project site until such time that the GWD can provide water service for the entire Project, which would minimize the potential for grading-related erosion and sedimentation impacts to the extent feasible.

Recycled Water Supply. Recycled water would be used to irrigate landscaping on the Project site. The GWD receives recycled water from the Goleta Sanitary District (GSD). Although the GSD water recycling plant produces approximately 3,360 AFY, it is currently only distributing approximately 1,000 AFY due to limited storage capacity at a reservoir at the water

recycling plant. Based on annual recycled water production capabilities, adequate recycled water supplies are available for landscape irrigation at the project site.

Water Service. Potable water service for the Project would be provided from an existing water main located in Calle Real. The point of connection to the existing main would be at a point near the proposed project site entrance driveway. Recycled water used for landscape irrigation at the project site would be obtained by constructing a new pipeline in Calle Real that would connect the project site to an existing recycled water line located at Ellwood Station Road, approximately 600 feet to the west. The extension of potable and recycled water lines to the project site would require construction activities within the paved area of Calle Real and on the project site. Potential construction-related impacts (e.g., noise, dust, water quality, traffic) would not be substantially different from the impacts of constructing the proposed project and would be reduced to a less than significant level by implementing standard construction measures (e.g., traffic safety lane control and barriers, dust control requirements, water quality best management practices, and proposed construction noise mitigation measures N-1a through N-1h). Therefore, the project would not require or result in the construction of new water facilities that could cause significant environmental effects, and water service-related impacts of the Project would be **less than significant (Class III)**.

5.10.5 Cumulative Impacts

As depicted on Table 4.4-1, Estimated Cumulative Development in the Goleta Area, cumulative development in the City of Goleta, unincorporated areas near the Project site, and on the UCSB campus, would provide 2,368 residential units and more than 1.68 million square feet of non-residential uses. As shown on Table 5.10-2, the total additional water demanded of all identified cumulative development projects, including the proposed Project, is estimated to be 771 AFY without the application of current statutory water conservation measures or the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation.

**Table 5.10-2
 Goleta Area Estimated Cumulative Water Demand**

Land Use	Size	Demand Rate	Estimated Water Demand (AFY)
Single-Family Residential	317 dwelling units	0.34 AFY/unit (3)	108
Multi-Family Residential	2,051 dwelling units	0.20 AFY/unit (3)	410
<i>Residential Subtotal</i>	<i>2,368 dwelling units(2)</i>	---	<i>518</i>
Non-Residential (1)	1,684,806 square feet	0.15 AFY/1,000 sq. ft. (4)	253
Total			771

- (1) Non-residential uses consist mostly of a mix of retail-, office- and business park-related uses, with some institutional uses.
- (2) Includes the proposed Project units.
- (3) Source: Goleta Water District, Water Management & Long Range Planning Committee Agenda Letter, July 16, 2015.
- (4) The City’s *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* indicates retail, office, and research park uses have a water demand that ranges between 0.13 and 0.15 AFY/1,000 square feet. The highest demand rate was used for this analysis.

The estimated cumulative water demand of 771 AFY would use approximately 25 percent of the 3,070 AFY water supply surplus that is available to the GWD under normal water supply conditions. Therefore, the cumulative water supply impact associated with planned and pending development in Goleta would be **less than significant (Class III)**. Cumulative water supply impacts during existing drought conditions would also be less than significant because the GWD will not approve requests for new or additional water service until water supply conditions specified by the District’s *Drought Preparedness and Water Shortage Contingency Plan* are met and water supplies are at normal conditions.

5.10.6 Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts

The GWD will not approve applications for new and additional service connections for potable water until such time that the current water service restrictions of the SAFE Ordinance and the Stage II and III Water Shortage Emergency Resolutions are lifted. When that occurs, the District can meet the Project’s water demands. Therefore, the Project would result in a less than significant (Class III) water supply impact and no mitigation measures are required.

Under existing water supply conditions and the requirements of GWD Resolution 2014-32, projects with existing entitlement to potable water are exempt from the restrictions on new and additional service connections. Based on this requirement, the Project could receive service of 1.86 AFY, which would enable partial development of the project site with approximately nine to 11 multi-family residential units. To reduce potential erosion and sedimentation impacts that could result from partial development of the project site to the extent feasible, the following condition of approval is recommended. This condition of approval would require that the applicant receive water service from the GWD that is adequate to serve the entire project before the City approves the Project’s Final Map. This condition of approval would allow the applicant

to construct the Project in a single phase, thereby minimizing the potential for erosion-related impacts that could result if portions of the project site were to be graded but not fully developed for an extended period of time.

Recommended Condition of Approval

- **Can and Will Serve Letter.** The Owner/Applicant must provide a Can and Will Serve Letter from the Goleta Water District indicating that adequate water is available to serve the project.

