

4.11 PUBLIC SERVICES

This section analyzes the Project's potential impacts to fire and police protection services, public schools, and library facilities. Potential impacts to public parks and recreational facilities are described in Section 4.12, *Recreation*.

4.11.1 Setting

a. Fire Protection. The Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (SBCFD) provides fire protection and emergency services in Goleta. The SBCFD was formed in 1957 and is governed by the Fire Protection District Law of 1987 (Health and Safety Code § 13800, *et seq.*). The nearest fire station that serves the Project site is Fire Station 14, located at 320 N. Los Carneros Road, approximately ½ mile north of the Project site. The Project site falls within the existing service area of this station. Fire Station 14 houses three full-time personnel per shift including a captain, an engineer, and a firefighter in addition to a Type 1 engine and Type 3 brush truck. Average response time of Station 14 is less than five minutes.

The SBCFD has implemented a dynamic deployment system for its fire engines, in addition to the traditional static deployment system from fire stations when the station's engine is in-house. Dynamic deployment allows for the dispatching of engines already on the road to emergency calls rather than dispatching by a station's "first in area," as has been the previous practice. Basically, dynamic deployment uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) to monitor the exact location of each engine in real time. Previously, when an engine was out on routine (nonemergency) activities, such as inspections or training, the engine company was considered in-service and its exact location at any given moment in time was not known to County Dispatch. However, with dynamic deployment using the County's GPS, County dispatch has real-time information on the exact location of each engine at all times and can dispatch the closest, un-engaged engine to an emergency incident, regardless of which fire station's service area the call originates from (Mike Young, SBCFD, personal communication, June 2, 2015). This precludes the need for an in-service engine to have extended run times when another fire engine would be closer. The SBCFD has also added a battalion chief as the fourth firefighter on scene, in order to meet the two-in-two-out rule.

b. Police Protection. The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office provides police services to the City of Goleta. The Sheriff's Office enforces the statutes of the State of California and the Goleta Municipal Code. Law enforcement services include 24-hour police patrol for traffic enforcement, accident investigation, vehicle abatement, and parking control, as well as detective services for special investigations as well as specialized functions provided through the Sheriff's Office as needed.

The City of Goleta is patrolled by three "beats" or patrol units and one supervisor 24 hours per day. Other full-time (40 hours per week) staff include, one traffic sergeant, three motor officers, one community resource deputy, and one school resource deputy. Officers of the Sheriff's Office assigned to the unincorporated area of the County are available to supplement Sheriff's Office units within the City as needed, for emergency response within the City limits. Sheriff's Office units within the City operate out of the Goleta Police Department, a storefront in Camino Real Marketplace, and the City Hall (Arnoldi, 2015).). For the current year, the Sheriff's Office is on track to break their record for the number of calls for service and reports filed which have been steadily rising in recent years with the increased amount development within the City.



c. Public Schools. The Goleta Union School District (GUSD) and the Santa Barbara Unified School District (SBUSD) provide public school service in Goleta and the remainder of the Goleta Valley. GUSD operates four public schools (Brandon, Ellwood, Kellogg, and La Patera) located within the City and six other public schools (El Camino, Foothill, Hollister, Isla Vista, Goleta Family School, and Mountain View) located within unincorporated areas of the Goleta Valley.

SBUSD oversees the secondary schools of Dos Pueblos High School and the Goleta Valley Junior High School, situated within Goleta’s boundaries.

The Project site is within the districts of Isla Vista and La Patera Elementary Schools, Goleta Valley Junior High School, and Dos Pueblos High School. Table 4.11-1 shows the most current available enrollment rates, approximate capacities, and percent of capacity utilization for these schools. As indicated, the two elementary schools are currently at 78% and 88% of capacity, Goleta Valley Junior High School is at 58% of capacity, and Dos Pueblos High School is at 93% of capacity.

**Table 4.11-1
 Current School Enrollment and Capacity**

School	Enrollment (2014-2015)	Capacity	Capacity Utilization
<i>Goleta Union School District (K-6)</i>			
Isla Vista Elementary School	472	592	78%
La Patera Elementary School	432	492	88%
<i>Santa Barbara Unified School District</i>			
Goleta Valley Junior High School	769	1,323	58%
Dos Pueblos High School	2,130	2,295	93%

Sources: Espinosa, 2015; Hetyonk, 2015.

d. Library Facilities. Library services in Goleta are provided by contract with the City of Santa Barbara in a facility owned by the City of Goleta. The Goleta Public Library is located at 500 North Fairview Avenue and currently operates seven days a week with varying hours each day, and is closed on holidays. The 2-acre library site includes a 15,437 square foot (SF) building and parking areas. The facility provides services for the City and nearby unincorporated areas. In 2010 and 2011, library visits totaled 256,996 and circulation totaled 606,741. Services were provided by five full-time and two part-time employees (Willow Spring II FEIR, City of Goleta, 2012).

e. Regulatory Setting.

State.

Government Code § 66410, et seq. (Subdivision Map Act). The Subdivision Map Act sets forth general provisions, procedures, and requirements for the division of land including the provision of public services.

California Fire Code, as adopted by the Goleta Municipal Code. Chapter 5 of the 2007 California Fire Code includes requirements for new development regarding access for fire-fighting apparatus and personnel, and fire protection water supplies (fire-flow).



California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (CalOSHA) requirement for firefighter safety, known as the two-in-two-out rule, is also applicable. This rule requires a minimum of two personnel to be available outside a structure prior to entry by firefighters to provide an immediate rescue for trapped or fallen firefighters, as well as immediate assistance in rescue operations.

Local.

Goleta General Plan/Coastal Land Use Plan. The Goleta General Plan identifies three standards with respect to the provision of fire protection services, which are derived from guidelines by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the SBCFD. These standards include:

- *A firefighter-to-population ratio of one firefighter on duty 24 hours a day for every 2,000 persons is the ideal goal, however, one firefighter for every 4,000 persons is the absolute maximum population that can be adequately served;*
- *A ratio of one engine company per 16,000 persons, assuming four firefighters per station, represents the maximum population that the SBCFD determined can be adequately served by a four-person crew; and*
- *A five-minute response time in urban areas.*

In addition, the Goleta General Plan contains policies and objectives regarding the adequacy of public services to serve new developments, including:

- *Policy PF 2: Other Facilities in the City of Goleta*
 - *Objective: To provide a full range of municipal public facilities to meet the need of the Goleta community.*
- *Policy PF 3: Public Safety Services and Facilities*
 - *Objective: Ensure that adequate fire and police services and facilities are available to meet the needs of both existing and new development in the city as well as service demands from outside Goleta's boundaries.*
- *Policy PF5: School Facilities*
 - *Objective: Ensure that adequate public school services and facility capacities are available to meet the long-term needs of both existing and new development in the city as well as service demands from outside Goleta's boundaries*

Goleta Inland Zoning Ordinance. The Inland Zoning Ordinance (IZO § 35-317.7(1)(d)), as adopted by the Goleta Municipal Code, includes a requirement for finding of adequate public services to serve new developments, before approval of a preliminary or final development plan.

SBCFD's Planning and Engineering Development Standards. In compliance with SBCFD standards, the Project must include defensible space, serviceable access, adequate fire hydrants, adequate building addressing, adequate interior fire sprinkler system, adequate fire or emergency alarm system, and approved locking systems for any gated access ways, among other standard conditions (SBCFD Fire Prevention Division, 2010).

Development Impact Fees. In 1986, the State Legislature adopted AB 2926, which authorized school districts to levy development fees and placed a cap on the amount of the fee that could be levied. Since 1986 Legislative actions have alternatively expanded and contracted these initial limits. In



addition, AB 1600 (1987) established a requirement that there be a nexus between the amount of the school facility fee and the impact created by new development. SB 50 provided for three tiers of fees based on needs assessment. A fee cap established under these laws, subject to every two-year adjustment for inflation by the State Allocation Board, is the total amount of fees that can be levied for school facilities (Government Code § 65995). Payment of school facilities fees pursuant to California law fully mitigates a project's environmental effects on schools under CEQA. Both the GUSD and the SBUSD require payment of development fees for providing school facilities to mitigate the impacts of new development on their schools. Special Parcel Fees have also been imposed by the SBUSD. The Project would be required to pay these fees before receipt of building permit or a certificate of occupancy. Accordingly, pursuant to Government Code § 65995, payment of the required GUSD and SBUSD fees would fully mitigate the Project's potential impacts on public schools for purposes of CEQA. On January 1, 2014, the State Allocation Board (SAB) took action to increase developer fees for residential construction. The current maximum Level I fee is \$3.37 per square foot of residential floor area for development projects.

City of Santa Barbara Library Standards. The following goals have been established by the City of Santa Barbara for the Goleta Public Library (County of Santa Barbara Eastern Goleta Valley EIR, 2015):

- Maintain a circulation of 615,000 items checked out to the public.
- Assist at least 32,000 adults and 6,800 children.
- Provide access to the internet to the public for 60,000 sessions.
- Provide access to the library 7 days a week and for a total of 55 hours open per week.

4.11.2 Impact Analysis

a. Methodology and Significance Thresholds. In the absence of thresholds for impacts to fire protection, police protection, and other public services in the City's *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*, the checklist items listed in Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* have been used to develop thresholds for the project. Based on the *CEQA Guidelines*, a significant impact related to public services could occur, if the Project would:

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

1. *Fire protection?*
2. *Police protection?*
3. *Other public facilities?*

The fire protection criteria in the General Plan, as discussed in the Regulatory Setting, also provide a guideline that is acknowledged in the impact analysis.

The City's *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* includes thresholds of significance for potential impacts on area schools. Specifically, under these thresholds any project that would generate enough students to generate the need for an additional classroom using current State standards, would be considered to result in a significant impact on area schools. Current State standards for classroom size are as follows:



- *Grades K – 2: 20 students/classroom*
- *Grades 3 – 8: 29 students/classroom*
- *Grades 9 – 12: 28 students/classroom*

A project's contribution to cumulative school impacts is considered significant if the project specific impact, as described above, is considered significant. As explained above, paying the required District-imposed school impact fees results in full compliance with CEQA.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact PS-1 **The Project would increase the amount of structural development and the number of residents dependent on fire protection service from the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District. However, service ratios and response times would remain at acceptable levels. In addition, Fire Protection District requirements would be incorporated into the Project to ensure adequate access to the Project site. Therefore, impacts related to the provision of fire protection services would be Class III, less than significant [Threshold 1].**

The Project involves construction of eight residential buildings with 360 units, two recreational buildings, a maintenance building, and a maintenance/ storage building. Based on the average household size of 2.76 persons for workforce housing (228 units proposed) and 1.11 persons for senior housing (132 units proposed), the Project would add an estimated 776 new residents (Department of Finance, 2015). The addition of 776 new residents to the existing population would not result in failure of SBCFD to meet the City's minimum service ratio of one firefighter per 2,000 residents. Because the Project would not exceed the City's minimum service ratio, there is no evidence that the Project would result in response times in excess of the five minute response time goal. Fire response times in the City are expected to remain adequate due to the proximity of Station 14 and other fire stations in the southern coastal portion of Santa Barbara County, as well as utilization of the dynamic response system discussed in Section 4.11.1(a) (Mike Young, SBCFD, personal communication, June 2, 2015). In the event that Fire Station 14 would require back-up, other available engine companies would respond via static and/or dynamic deployment. The Project would not result in the need of new or expanded facilities to maintain acceptable fire protection service ratios or response times. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures. This impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Residual Impact. Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Impact PS-2 **The Project would increase the amount of structural development and the number of residents dependent on police protection service from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office. However, the Project would not result in a need for new or expanded police facilities. Therefore, impacts on police protection services would be Class III, less than significant [Threshold 2].**



Based on the City of Goleta General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared in September 2006, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office recommends that additional deputies be assigned to the City at a range of 1:750 to 1:1,070 new residents. The Project would generate approximately 776 new residents within the City. Given the recommended service level for the City, the Project may result in the need for one additional officer. However, the Project would not be expected to result in the need to expand or construct new facilities police facilities that would result in physical impacts on the environment. Therefore, impacts to police protection facilities resulting from the Project would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures. This impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Residual Impact. Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Impact PS-3 **The Project would increase the number of residents served by GUSD and SBUSD public schools. However, additional residents would not increase school enrollment beyond capacity, and the Project developer would be required to pay school impact fees in accordance with State law. Therefore, impacts to public schools would be Class III, less than significant [Threshold 3].**

The Project would develop 228 multi-family and 132 senior residential units within the City of Goleta. Using student generation factors of 0.2 students per unit for GUSD schools, 0.1 students per unit for GVJHS, and 0.2 for DPHS, the Project would generate approximately 161 additional students. Table 4.11-2 shows projected enrollment increases attributable to the development of the proposed project.

**Table 4.11-2
 Project Induced Student Generation at GUSD and SBUSD Schools**

School	Enrollment (2014-2015)	Capacity	Currently Exceeds Capacity?	Project Generated Students	Exceeds Capacity With Project?
<i>Goleta Union School District (K-6)</i>					
Isla Vista Elementary School	472	592	No	46	No
La Patera Elementary School	432	492	No	46	No
<i>Santa Barbara Unified School District</i>					
Goleta Valley Junior High School	769	1,323	No	23	No
Dos Pueblos High School	2,130	2,295	No	46	No

Sources: Espinosa, 2015; Hetyonk, 2015; Willow Springs II FEIR, City of Goleta, 2012.

According to Table 4.11-2, the proposed residential development would add 92 students to GUSD and 69 students to the SBUSD schools. The schools which serve the Project site would be able to accommodate the additional students generated by the Project within their existing capacities. Therefore, the Project would not result in the need for new or expanded public school facilities. Payment of the required school impact fees would ensure that impacts to public schools would remain less than significant.



Mitigation Measures. With payment of State-mandated school impact fees, this impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Residual Impact. Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Impact PS-4 **The Project would increase the number of residents dependent on library services at the Goleta Public Library. However, existing facilities would be sufficient to accommodate the increased use and annual circulation. Therefore, impacts to on library services would be Class III, less than significant [Threshold 3].**

The Project includes 360 new residential units which would generate approximately 776 new residents within the City and could result in increased use of the Goleta Public Library. The addition of 776 new residents to the existing City population of 30,765 (Department of Finance, 2015) would result in a total population of approximately 31,541 persons. This increase is not expected to inhibit the City's goals for the library described in Section 4.11.2(a). The existing library facilities would be sufficient to accommodate increased use and circulation needs that may result from the Project. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures. This impact would be less than significant and no mitigation would be required.

Residual Impact. Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

c. Cumulative Impacts. Cumulative development in the City of Goleta would add 1,344 residential units and more than 1.8 million square feet of commercial and retail space (refer to Tables 3-1 and 3-2 in Section 3.0, *Related Projects*). In addition, cumulative development in non-City areas in the Goleta vicinity would add 167 housing units and approximately 21,000 square feet of commercial and industrial space. Cumulative development in the City and the vicinity, which is under various stages of construction and approval, would increase demand for public services.

Fire Protection. Development of the planned Fire Station 10, as identified in General Plan Policies PF 3.2 and PF 3.3, is intended to address deficiencies in fire service and facilities within the City, which could result from cumulative development. In December 2008, the City executed a purchase agreement for a vacant 1.3-acre site that is intended for the future development of Fire Station 10 at 7952 Hollister Avenue, in the western Goleta Valley (City of Goleta, Agenda Item D.1, January 19, 2010). A Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (Final MND) prepared for Fire Station 10 site acquisition/selection was adopted by the City Council (Fire Station 10 Site Selection; November 2010). The Final MND found that Fire Station 10 would result in no significant and unavoidable (Class I) impacts and potentially significant but mitigable (Class II) impacts in the areas of Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology/Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology/Water Quality, Noise, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities/Service Systems. The Final MND for Fire Station 10 includes mitigation measures for all Class II impacts that would reduce impacts below a level of significance. Cumulative development in the City could result in deficiencies in fire services and facilities. However, with the development of new fire facilities this cumulative impact would be reduced to a less than significant level.



In early 2016, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and lease agreement regarding the construction and operation of Fire Station 10 was approved by the Goleta City Council (January 19, 2016) and the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors (March 15, 2016). Plans for Fire Station 10 are underway with construction slated to commence in 2017 with the Station being operational in 2018. According to Santa Barbara County's 2013 Capital Improvement Program Summary, Development Impact Fees (DIFs) (refer to Section 4.11.1[e]) are being collected by the City for the Fire Station 10 project. The planned Fire Station 10 project would ensure that cumulative development in the western end of the City would be served efficiently and service to existing customers would continue to be provided within current standards. With the development of the planned Fire Station 10 project, the City would possess sufficient facilities for fire protection services to serve planned cumulative development. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact.

Police Protection. According to the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, cumulative development throughout the City is placing increased pressure on the Office's current personnel and facilities. Increasing the service demand of the Sheriff's Office may result in increased response times that would require additional staff, and which eventually may result in the need for new or expanded facilities (Arnoldi, 2015). However, the Project developer would be required to comply with Policy PF 10.2, which requires new development to pay a proportionate share of the costs of new or upgraded capital facilities attributable to new development, including sufficient funding for environmental compliance and permitting. This requirement would address any potential impacts associated with planned cumulative development in the City. Therefore, with payment of applicable DIFs, the Project would not be cumulatively considerable and potential impacts would be less than significant.

Public Schools. Residential development in the area under cumulative conditions could generate enough new students which may exceed the capacity of schools within the GUSD or SBUSD and therefore require new or altered school facilities in the future. Although development of new schools could result in environmental impacts, a precise evaluation of environmental impacts would be speculative because the location and timing of such facilities is not known at this time. Future facilities that would need to be constructed as a result of cumulative development would be subject to subsequent environmental review. As discussed above, the collection of state-mandated fees (pursuant to Section 65995 (3) (h) of the California Government Code) is considered full and complete mitigation for impacts to public schools. Through the payment of impact mitigation fees, potential cumulative impacts related to public schools would be less than significant.

Library Facilities. Cumulative development planned for the City includes 1,344 new residential units which would increase the population within the City and increase demand on public library services. However, the Project developer would be required to pay DIFs, as described in Policy PF 10.2 of the General Plan, which would provide funding for expanded library facilities to accommodate new residents, including environmental compliance and permitting for new facilities. Therefore, with payment of DIFs, the Project's contribution to cumulative impacts on library services would be less than cumulatively considerable and less than significant.

