

3.6 GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Section 3.6 of the GP/CLUP Final EIR (City of Goleta 2006) describes the following within the existing City boundary:

- environmental setting (existing conditions and regulatory setting) for geology, soils, and mineral resources relating to the proposed project;
- the impacts associated with geology, soils, and mineral resources that would result from the proposed project; and
- mitigation measures that would reduce these impacts.

Proposed policy amendment CE 1.9 would allow for grading, earthmoving, and vegetation clearance adjacent to ESHAs during the rainy season (November 1 to March 31) only when erosion control measures such as sediment basins, silt fencing, sandbagging or installation of geofabrics are incorporated into the project and have received prior City approval. Although construction can potentially lead to accelerated erosion, existing City policies for general safety, soil and slope stability, together with implementation of the SWPPP and the grading ordinances, would prevent substantial soil erosion, instability, or the loss of topsoil. None of the proposed policy changes under Alternative 2a would amend the GP/CLUP in ways that eliminate or substantially change the requirements to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potentially significant impacts to geology and soils as stated in other City policies. Alternative 2b proposes the same amendments as Alternative 2a. In addition, Alternative 3 has the same fundamental allowances as Alternative 2a.

Proposed policy amendment CE 2.3 would allow for public work projects to take place in SPAs only where there are no feasible, less environmentally damaging alternatives. Construction of these public work projects could alter drainage patterns, possibly increasing erosion and soil instability. Potential impacts from the construction of these public works projects could be similar to impacts caused from the construction and development of other land uses that are currently allowed under the existing policy. Potential impacts from the construction of future public works projects would be reviewed on a project-specific basis and would be addressed through the project review required under the amended policy. As stated above, although construction can potentially lead to accelerated erosion and soil instability existing City policies for general safety, soil and slope stability, together with implementation of the SWPPP and the grading ordinances, would prevent substantial soil erosion, instability, or the loss of topsoil. None of the proposed policy changes under Alternative 2a would amend the GP/CLUP in ways that eliminate or substantially change the requirements to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potentially significant impacts to geology and soils as stated in other City policies. Alternatives 2b and 3 propose the same changes as Alternative 2a.

Proposed policy amendment CE 2.5 states that bridge abutments or piers should be located outside creek beds and banks, where feasible. Construction of these bridge abutments within creek beds and banks could alter drainage patterns, possibly increasing erosion and soil instability. Although construction can potentially lead to accelerated erosion within existing creek beds and banks, existing City policies for general safety, soil and slope stability, together with implementation of the SWPPP and the grading ordinances, would prevent substantial soil erosion, instability, or the loss of topsoil. None of the proposed policy changes under Alternative 2a would amend the GP/CLUP in ways that eliminate or substantially change the requirements to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potentially significant impacts to geology and soils as stated in other City policies. Alternatives 2b and 3 propose the same amendments to this policy as Alternative 2a.

The GP/CLUP amendments listed in Table 2-1 of this Supplemental EIR are not proposed to policies cited as mitigation for potential impacts to geology, soils, and mineral resources in the Final EIR; would not result in greater or different impacts to geology, soils, and mineral resources than those analyzed in the 2006 Final EIR; and do not have the potential to result in new potentially significant impacts to geology, soils, and mineral resources. **Accordingly, the proposed GP/CLUP amendments would not affect the analysis presented in Section 3.6 of the 2006 Final EIR, and no further discussion need be presented in this Supplemental EIR.**