

# **Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration**

## **Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan City Project ID: 14-034**

**Prepared For:**



**Prepared By:**



**January 2015**



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Project Description:** The City of Mountain View proposes to consolidate materials storage for on-going maintenance activities associated with Shoreline Park. The project proposes placement of a new pre-engineered storage building in the existing Site B-1 maintenance yard. The new building would include a foundation and a landfill gas mitigation system. The project proposes to relocate three existing maintenance material storage containers located adjacent to Site B-1 over to Site B-2, and would also construct ten concrete soil and material storage bins on Site B-3. Site preparation and grading would be necessary to complete the project. New soil berms would also be installed at Sites B-2 and B-3 to provide visual screening of the storage areas. The proposed project site is located in the Mountain View Shoreline Landfill, a closed Class III solid waste disposal facility, but is not on the list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (Cortese List).

**Project Location:** The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within Shoreline Park in the City of Mountain View. The 29.65-acre parcel includes part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course and supports existing Public Works storage and maintenance yards, referred to as Sites B-1, B-2, and B-3.

**Initial Study/Environmental Assessment:** An Initial Study has been prepared for the proposed project and the analysis has determined that there will be no significant environmental impacts with implementation of proposed mitigation measures. Therefore, the proposed project would not have a significant impact on the environment and adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be recommended to the City Council. The public review period for the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is from **Thursday, January 29, 2015 to Friday, February 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Public Hearing:** The Mountain View City Council will consider this proposed project at a meeting tentatively scheduled for March 24, 2015, commencing at 6:30 pm. in the City Council Chambers, Mountain View City Hall, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA.

**Information:** All information regarding the proposed project, the Initial Study, Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, and all documents referenced in the environmental analysis are available for review in the City of Mountain View's Public Works Department, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA, 94041. Written comments regarding the project may be sent to Jennifer Rose, Project Manager, at the mailing address listed above or via email at [jennifer.rose@mountainview.gov](mailto:jennifer.rose@mountainview.gov).

If you challenge any decision to this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public meeting or hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Public Works Department at, or prior to, the public meeting or hearing.

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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## **PROJECT LOCATION**

The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park in the City of Mountain View. The 29.65-acre parcel is part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course and supports existing City of Mountain View Public Works Department storage and maintenance yards, referred to as Sites B-1, B-2, and B-3. Regional and vicinity maps of the site are shown on Figures 1 and 2, and an aerial photograph of the project site and surrounding area is shown on Figure 3.

Surrounding land uses include a golf course, athletic fields, hiking trails, Amphitheater, and other multi-use recreational activities associated with Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park. Additional land uses include ongoing maintenance and monitoring activities associated with the closed Shoreline Landfill.

## **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The City of Mountain View proposes to consolidate materials storage for on-going maintenance activities associated with Shoreline Park. The project proposes placement of a new pre-engineered storage building in the existing Site B-1 maintenance yard. The new building would include a foundation and a landfill gas mitigation system. The project proposes to relocate three existing maintenance material storage containers located adjacent to Site B-1 over to Site B-2, and would also construct ten concrete soil and material storage bins on Site B-3. Site preparation and grading would be necessary to complete the project. New soil berms would also be installed at Site B-2 and Site B-3 to provide visual screening of the storage areas.

## **SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS**

Consolidation of storage areas, containers, and construction of ten concrete soil and loose material storage bins could result in significant impacts to biological resources.

Implementation of the mitigation measures included in the project and best management practices required by the City of Mountain View would reduce potential significant impacts to a less than significant level.

## **SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

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This Initial Study (IS) of environmental impacts is being prepared to conform to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations 15000 et. seq.), and the regulations and policies of the City of Mountain View. This Initial Study evaluates the potential environmental impacts which might reasonably be anticipated to result from implementation of the proposed Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan Project.

The City of Mountain View is the Lead Agency under CEQA and has prepared this Initial Study to address the environmental impacts of implementing the proposed project.

## **SECTION 2.0 PROJECT INFORMATION**

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### **2.1 PROJECT TITLE**

Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan, City Project 14-34

### **2.2 PROJECT LOCATION**

The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within Shoreline Park in the City of Mountain View. The 29.65-acre parcel includes part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course and supports existing Public Works storage and maintenance yards, referred to as Sites B-1, B-2, and B-3. Regional and vicinity maps of the site are shown on Figures 1 and 2, and an aerial photograph of the project site and surrounding area is shown on Figure 3.

Surrounding land uses include a golf course, athletic fields, hiking trails, Amphitheater, and other multi-use recreational activities associated with Shoreline Park. Additional land uses include ongoing maintenance and monitoring activities associated with the closed Shoreline Landfill.

### **2.3 LEAD AGENCY CONTACT**

Jennifer K. Rose, Project Manager  
Public Works Department  
City of Mountain View  
500 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
(650) 903-6311

### **2.4 PROJECT PROPONENT**

Public Works Department  
City of Mountain View  
500 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
(650) 903-6311

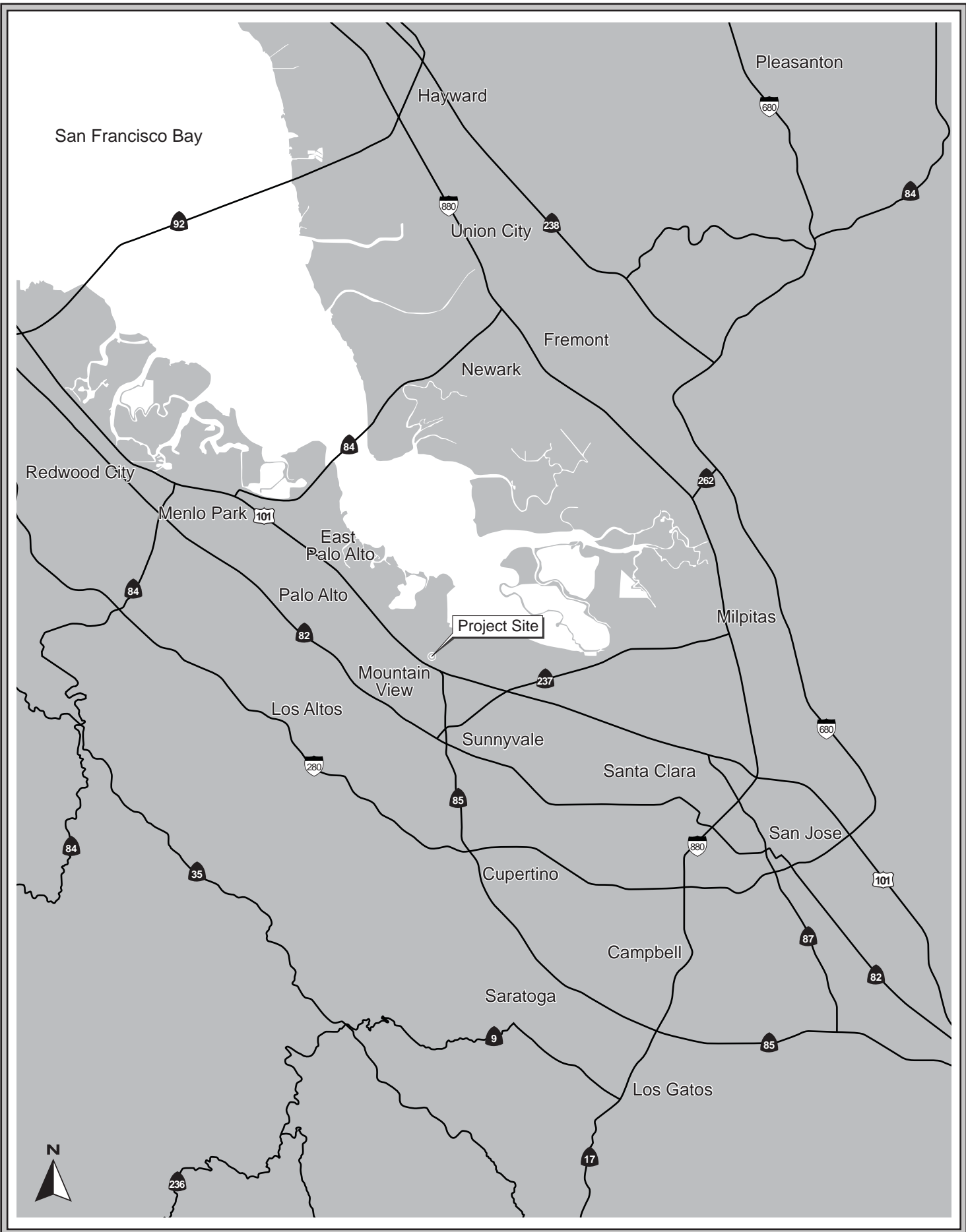
### **2.5 ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER (APN)**

116-04-007

### **2.6 EXISTING GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING DISTRICT**

General Plan: *Regional Park*

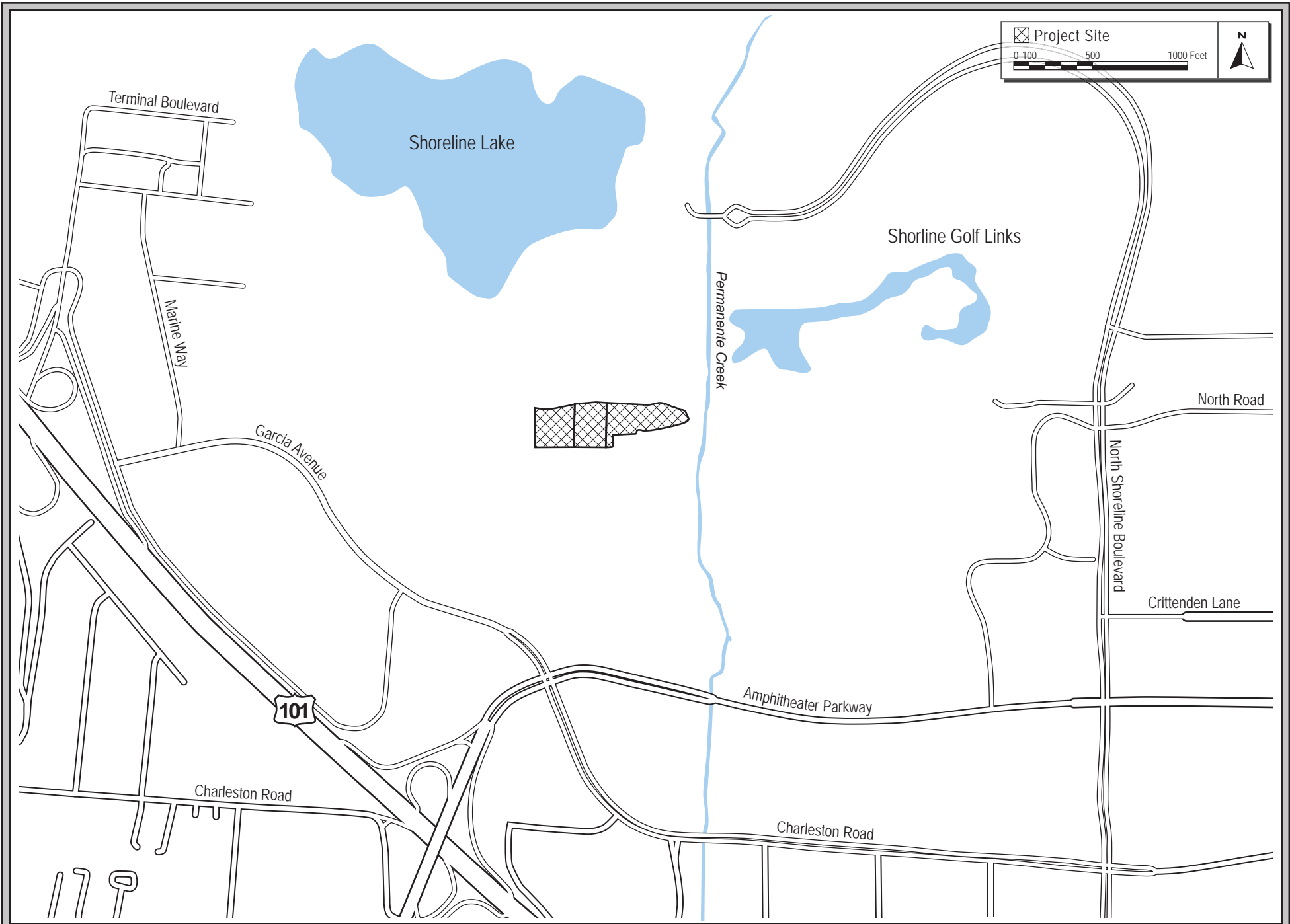
Zoning District: *Public Facility (PF)*



REGIONAL MAP

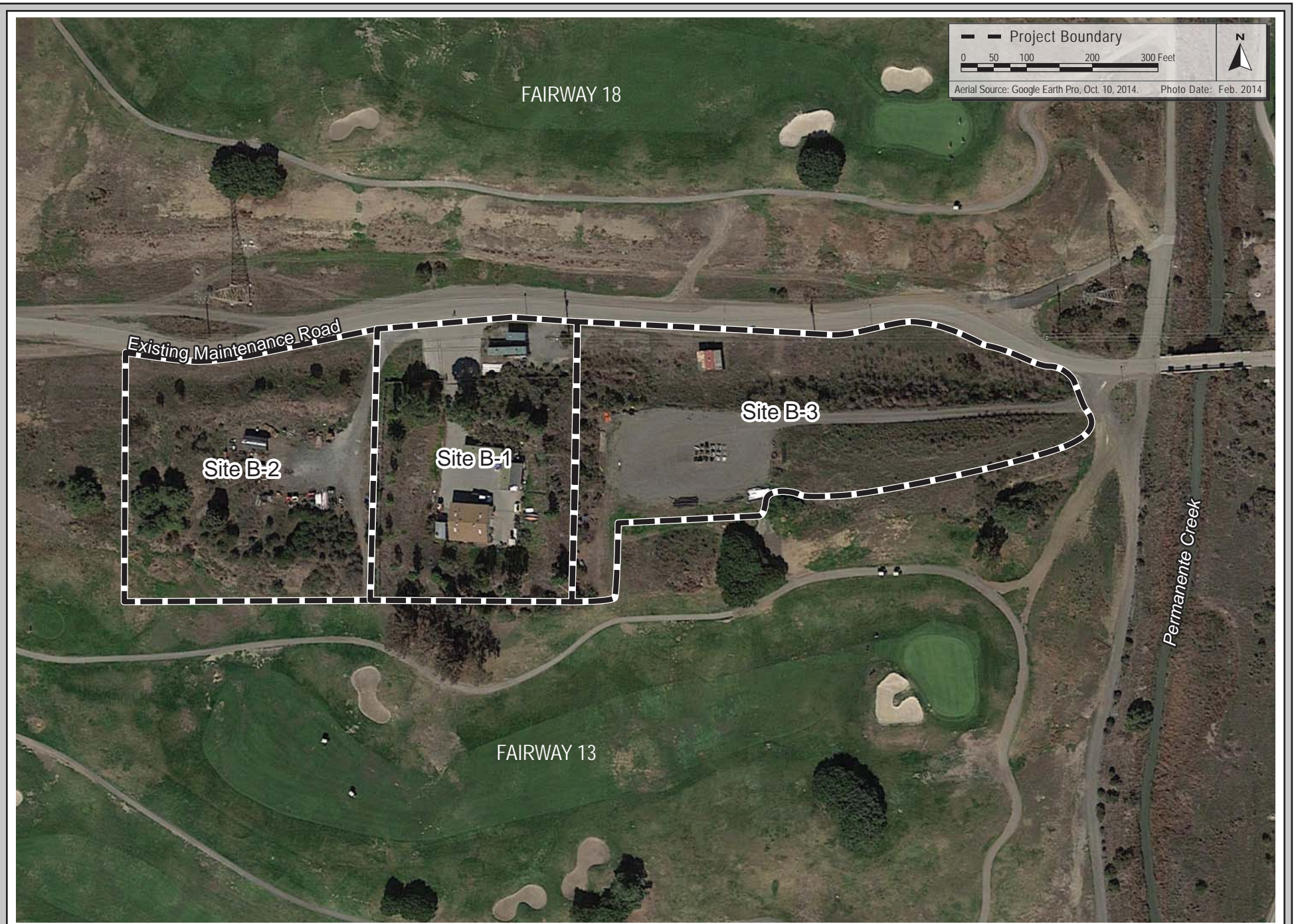
FIGURE 1





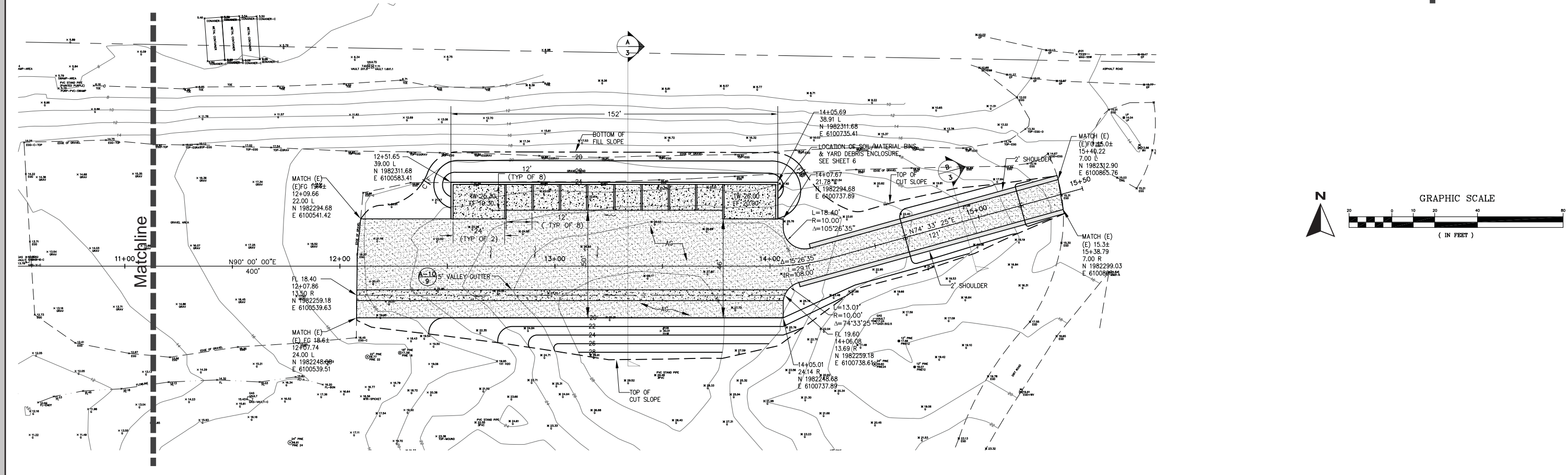
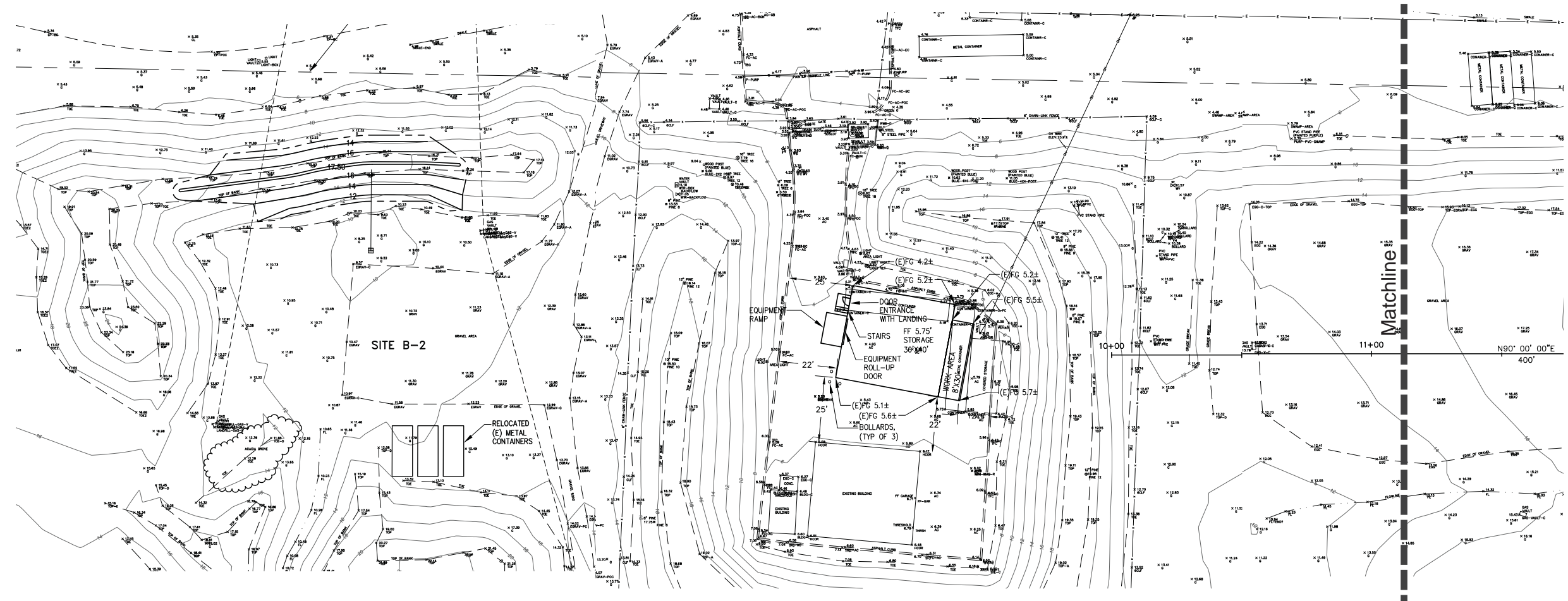
VICINITY MAP

FIGURE 2



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH AND PROPOSED PROJECT SITE

FIGURE 3



SITE PLAN

FIGURE 4

## **SECTION 3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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### **3.1 PROJECT LOCATION**

The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within Shoreline Park in the City of Mountain View. The 29.65-acre parcel includes part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course and supports existing Public Works storage and maintenance yards, referred to as Sites B-1, B-2, and B-3.

Surrounding land uses include a golf course, athletic fields, hiking trails, Amphitheater, and other multi-use recreational activities associated with Shoreline Park. Additional land uses include maintenance and monitoring activities associated with the closed Shoreline Landfill.

Regional and vicinity maps of the site are shown on Figures 1 and 2, and an aerial photograph of the project site and surrounding area is shown on Figure 3.

### **3.2 EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS**

The proposed project site consists of Sites B-1, B-2 and B-3 located within the Shoreline Park. Site B-1 is an existing developed storage area that currently contains a single-story pre-engineered storage building and a small air compressor station. Site B-1 also supports existing storage containers, loose maintenance materials, landscaping, paved driveways and surface parking areas. Site B-2 is an existing unpaved storage area that supports existing portable metal storage containers and loose maintenance materials. Site B-3 is a highly disturbed, unpaved loose maintenance material storage area. Access to the proposed project site is provided by an existing east-west unpaved maintenance road covered in asphalt grindings.

The project site and surrounding area is generally flat, with some rolling topography associated with the golf course. The elevation of the proposed project site is approximately five to fifteen feet above mean sea level, with Site B-3 to the east at a slightly higher elevation.

### **3.3 SITE DEVELOPMENT**

#### **3.3.1 Project Description**

The City of Mountain View proposes to consolidate materials storage for on-going maintenance activities associated with Shoreline Park. The project proposes placement of a new pre-engineered storage building in the existing Site B-1 maintenance yard. The new building would include a foundation and a landfill gas mitigation system. The project proposes to relocate three existing maintenance material storage containers located adjacent to Site B-1 over to Site B-2, and would also construct ten concrete soil and material storage bins on Site B-3. Site preparation and grading would be necessary to complete the project. New soil berms would also be installed at Site B-2 and Site B-3 to provide visual screening of the storage areas. A conceptual site plan is shown on Figure 4.

### **3.3.2            General Plan and Rezoning**

The project site is currently designated *Regional Park* in the City's 2030 General Plan and is currently zoned *Public Facility (PF)*.

### **3.3.3            Access, Circulation, and Parking**

The proposed project site is located within Shoreline Park. Access to Site B-1 and Site B-3 is provided by an existing paved maintenance road that runs east-west through the park. Public access to the site is restricted. The project does not include any new parking.

### **3.4                USES OF THE INITIAL STUDY**

This Initial Study (IS) provides decision-makers in the City of Mountain View (the CEQA Lead Agency), responsible agencies, and the general public with relevant environmental information to use in considering the project.

This IS may also be relied upon for other agency approvals necessary to implement the project, including approvals by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## SECTION 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

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*This section describes the existing environmental conditions on and near the project area, as well as environmental impacts associated with the proposed project. The environmental checklist, as recommended in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, identifies environmental impacts that could occur if the proposed project is implemented.*

*The right-hand column in the checklist lists the source(s) for the answer to each question. The sources cited are identified at the end of this section. Mitigation measures are identified for all significant project impacts. Mitigation Measures are measures that will minimize, avoid, or eliminate a significant impact (CEQA Guideline 15370).*

### 4.1 AESTHETICS

#### 4.1.1 Aesthetics Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,4
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2

#### 4.1.2 Setting

The project site is located within Shoreline Park in the City of Mountain View. The 750-acre park is located on a former landfill that has been converted to a variety of recreational uses, including a golf course and miles of public walkways, as well as wildlife and habitat management areas. Site B-1 is developed with a paved driveway, a single-story auxiliary storage building, mobile storage containers, landscaping, a perimeter fence, and parking (Photos 1 and 2). Site B-2 is an unpaved storage area that supports existing portable metal storage containers and loose maintenance materials. Site B-3 is a highly disturbed loose material storage yard with a dirt access drive (Photos 3 and 4). The project site is surrounded by the existing Shoreline Golf Links golf course. An existing paved east-west maintenance access road is located directly north of the project site and Permanente Creek is located approximately 100 feet to the east.



**PHOTO 1:** Looking south across Site B-1, showing auxiliary building and storage containers.



**PHOTO 2:** Existing storage containers and maintenance materials at site B-1.



**PHOTO 3:** Looking west across site B-3, showing existing loose material storage pad and associated ruderal habitat.



**PHOTO 4:** Looking east across site B-3, showing existing access road and upland habitat.



The site is visible from the surrounding golf course and from various points within Shoreline Park. Sites B-1, B-2 and B-3 are visible from existing surface streets and roadways in the North Bayshore area, including Amphitheater Parkway and Charleston Road. The site is not located on a scenic view corridor; nor is it visible from a designated or eligible State scenic highway.

#### **4.1.2.2        *Surrounding Land Uses***

Surrounding land uses include Shoreline Golf Links golf course, the Shoreline Landfill, the Shoreline Amphitheater to the east, Shoreline Lake and the San Francisco Bay to the north, and athletic fields and office/light industrial business parks to the south associated with the North Bayshore area of Mountain View.

The foothills of the Santa Cruz and Diablo Mountains are visible to the west and south, respectively.

#### **4.1.3        Impacts Evaluation**

*a.        Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

The project site is not located along a state scenic highway or scenic gateway. Due to its location within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park, views of the project site are limited to the immediate area. Development of the project would not change the visual character of the golf course or the regional park and would consolidate existing loose material storage sites throughout the park into one location. The project includes installation of soil berms on the north side of Sites B-2 and B-3 to assist in concealing the loose material storage site. Soil berms around Sites B-2 and B-3 would be hydroseeded and allowed to grow tall to provide additional visual screening of the new concrete storage containers. For these reasons, the project would not have a substantial adverse impact on scenic vistas. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

*b.        Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*

There are no rock outcroppings or historic buildings on-site, and the site is not visible from a state scenic highway. **[No Impact]**

*c.        Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?*

The project site supports existing storage containers and materials associated with on-going routine maintenance work at Shoreline Park. Development of the project would not change the visual character of the golf course or the regional park and would consolidate existing loose material storage sites throughout the park into one location. Construction of the storage facility is not anticipated to adversely affect visual quality of the regional park or the area. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

*d.        Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

The primary sources of light and glare in the area are associated with the industrial/office development south of Shoreline Park, in the North Bayshore area of Mountain View. No new lighting is proposed as part of the project. The proposed pre-engineered storage building and concrete storage containers do not contain highly reflective construction materials, therefore the project would not create substantial glare. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.1.4            Conclusion**

Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant adverse visual or aesthetic impacts. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

## 4.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

### 4.2.1 Agricultural and Forestry Resources Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2,5,6
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2,5,6
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5
d. Result in a loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,6

### 4.2.2 Setting

The project site is not designated as farmland or forest land. According to the Santa Clara County *Important Farmland 2010* map, the project site is designated as Urban and Built-Up Land, meaning that the land contains a building density of at least six units per 10-acre parcel or is used for industrial or commercial purposes, golf courses, landfills, airports, or other utilities.

### 4.2.3 Impacts Evaluation

a. - b. *Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) to non-agricultural use? Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?*

The project site is not designated, used, or zoned for agricultural purposes. The project site is not part of a Williamson Act contract. For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in impacts to agricultural or forest resources. **[No Impact]**

- c. - d. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? Would the project result in a loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

The project site is not zoned or used for agriculture. The surrounding area is not used or zoned for timberland or forest land. The project would not impact timberland or forest land. **[No Impact]**

- e. *Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

According to the Santa Clara County *Important Farmland 2012* map, the project site and surrounding area is designated as Urban and Built-Up Land. The development of the project site would not result in conversion of any forest or farmlands. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.2.4**            **Conclusion**

Implementation of the proposed project would have no impact on agricultural or forestry resources in the area. **[No Impact]**

## 4.3 AIR QUALITY

### 4.3.1 Air Quality Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,7
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,7
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is classified as non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,7
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1

### 4.3.2 Setting

Air quality and the amount of a given pollutant in the atmosphere are determined by the amount of a pollutant released and the atmosphere's ability to transport and dilute the pollutant. The major determinants of transport and dilution are wind, atmospheric stability, terrain and for photochemical pollutants, sunshine.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have established ambient air quality standards for what are commonly referred to as "criteria pollutants," because they set the criteria for attainment of good air quality. Criteria pollutants include carbon monoxide, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter (PM).

#### 4.3.2.1 *Regional Air Quality*

The project site is located within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional government agency that monitors and regulates air pollution within the air basin.

The Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act require that the CARB, based on air quality monitoring data, designate portions of the state where the federal or state ambient air quality standard are not met as "nonattainment areas." Because of the differences between the national and

state standards, the designation of nonattainment areas is different under the federal and state legislation. The Bay Area is designated as an “attainment area” for carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide. The region is classified as a “nonattainment area” for both the federal and state ozone standards, although a request for reclassification to “attainment” of the federal standard is currently being considered by the U.S. EPA. The area does not meet the state standards for particulate matter; however, it does meet the federal standards.

#### **4.3.2.2 Toxic Air Contaminants**

Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs) are a broad class of compounds known to cause morbidity or mortality (usually because they cause cancer or serious illness) and include, but are not limited to, criteria air pollutants. TACs are found in ambient air, especially in urban areas, and are caused by industry, agriculture, fuel combustion and commercial operations (e.g., dry cleaners). TACs are typically found in low concentrations, even near their source (e.g., diesel particulate matter near a highway). Because chronic exposure can result in adverse health effects, TACs are regulated at the regional, state and federal level. The identification, regulation and monitoring of TACs is relatively new compared to that for criteria air pollutants that have established ambient air quality standards. TACs are regulated or evaluated on the basis of risk to human health rather than comparison to an ambient air quality standard or emission-based threshold.

#### **Diesel Particulate Matter**

Diesel exhaust, in the form of diesel particulate matter (DPM), is the predominant TAC in urban air with the potential to cause cancer. It is estimated to represent about two-thirds of the cancer risk from TACs (based on the statewide average). According to the CARB, diesel exhaust is a complex mixture of gases, vapors and fine particles. This complexity makes the evaluation of health effects of diesel exhaust a complex scientific issue. Some of the chemicals in diesel exhaust, such as benzene and formaldehyde, have been previously identified as TACs by the CARB, and are listed as carcinogens either under the State’s Proposition 65 or under the federal Hazardous Air Pollutants programs. California has adopted a comprehensive diesel risk reduction program. The U.S. EPA and the CARB have adopted low-sulfur diesel fuel standards in 2006 that reduce diesel particulate matter substantially. The CARB recently adopted new regulations requiring the retrofit and/or replacement of construction equipment, on-highway diesel trucks and diesel buses in order to lower fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) emissions and reduce statewide cancer risk from diesel exhaust.

#### **4.3.2.3 Sensitive Receptors**

There are groups of people more affected by air pollution than others. CARB has identified the following persons who are most likely to be affected by air pollution: children under 14, the elderly over 65, athletes, and people with cardiovascular and chronic respiratory diseases. These groups are classified as sensitive receptors. Locations that may contain a high concentration of these sensitive population groups include residential areas, hospitals, daycare facilities, elder care facilities, elementary schools, and parks. For cancer risk assessments, children are the most sensitive receptors, since they are more susceptible to cancer causing TACs. Residential locations are assumed to include infants and small children. Recreational users of Shoreline Park are considered sensitive receptors.

### 4.3.3 Impacts Evaluation

- a. *Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?*

Regional Air Quality Management Districts such as BAAQMD have prepared air quality plans specifying how state air quality standards would be met. The BAAQMD's most recent adopted plan is the *Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan (CAP)*. The proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of any air quality plan due to the limited amount of construction needed to complete the project, and the project does not support additional jobs or cause an increase in the population. **[No Impact]**

- b. *Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?*

The proposed project would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to any existing or projected air quality violation due to the limited work schedule and construction needed to complete the project. The project would not cause an increase in vehicle trips, once constructed. **[No Impact]**

- c. *Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is classified as non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors?*

The proposed project would not create a significant air quality impact due to the limited work schedule and amount of construction need to complete the project. A cumulatively considerable net increase of any pollutant would not occur, and any impact would, therefore, be less than significant. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- d. *Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*

In 1998, CARB identified particulate matter from diesel fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant (TAC). Health risks from TACs are a function of both concentration and duration of exposure. Typically, if heavy equipment use occurs for less than six months, then the associated health risk should not be significant. Construction of the proposed project would take place over a course of approximately four to six months. The storage building proposed for Site B-1 is pre-engineered and, therefore, the majority of the structure is constructed off-site prior to being moved on-site for assembly. The new building would include a foundation and a landfill gas mitigation system, which would be constructed on-site.

Grading for the buildings and storage bins on Site B-3 would be minimal, occurring only to level the site and provide access. There would be a minimal amount of heavy-duty diesel equipment on the site to complete the project, and truck traffic to and from the site would be limited. The proposed project shall implement the following BAAQMD recommend Basic

Construction Mitigation Measures to limit construction-related air quality impacts:<sup>1</sup>

- All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day, if feasible, and if water is available due to drought and water shortage conditions.
- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
- All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).
- All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly turned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
- Post a publicly viable sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The BAAQMD's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

Sensitive receptors using the golfing and athletic field facilities would only be exposed to construction TACs for limited periods of time during practices and/or events, and only if they happen to be held within the timeframe and hours of temporary construction activities. Implementation of basic air quality construction measures listed above would reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Sensitive receptors in the project area, including athletes, golfers, and recreational users at Shoreline Park, would not be exposed to significant levels of TACs during project construction activities. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

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<sup>1</sup> Bay Area Air Quality Management District. CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. May 2010. Available at: <http://www.ci.pinole.ca.us/publicworks/bidnotice.html>



e. *Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?*

The propose project is located within the limits of a closed municipal landfill, however, the project would not disturb any landfill cells. Objectionable odor from refuse is unlikely. The proposed project is consistent with the *Shoreline Landfill Master Plan*. The project does not include any odor-causing operations and any odors emitted during construction would be temporary and localized. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

#### **4.3.4**            **Conclusions**

The project would result in less than significant air quality impacts to the limited work schedule and small amount of construction necessary to complete the project. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

#### 4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The discussion in this section is based on a “Biological Resources Letter Report” prepared by *David J. Powers and Associates*, dated October 23, 2014. The report is included in this Initial Study as Appendix A.

##### 4.4.1 Biological Resources Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on 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 Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8,9,10
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,8

## 4.4.2 Setting

### 4.4.2.1 *Federal Regulations*

#### **Federal Endangered Species Act**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has jurisdiction over federally listed threatened and endangered plant and animal species. The federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) prohibits the take of any fish or wildlife species that is federally listed as threatened or endangered without prior approval. “Take” is broadly defined as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct (16 USC, Section 1532(19), 50 CFR, Section 17.3). Take can also include habitat modification or degradation that directly results in death or injury of a listed wildlife species.

Although federally listed animal species are legally protected from harm no matter where they occur, Section 9 of the FESA provides protection for endangered plants by prohibiting the malicious destruction of individuals on federal land and other “take” that violates State law. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has jurisdiction over federally listed, threatened and endangered, marine species and anadromous fish.

#### **Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA: 16 USC Section 703, Supp. I, 1989) prohibits killing, possessing, or trading in migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. This act encompasses whole birds, parts of birds, and bird nests and eggs. Construction disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment, a violation of the MBTA.

### 4.4.2.2 *State Regulations*

#### **Threatened and Endangered Species**

Special status species in California include plants or animals that are listed as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), species identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as California Species of Special Concern, as well as plants identified by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS)<sup>2</sup> as rare, threatened, or endangered.

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<sup>2</sup>The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a non-profit organization that maintains lists and a database of rare and endangered plant species in California. Plants in the CNPS “Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California” are considered “Special Plants” by the CDFW Natural Diversity Database Program.

The CESA (Fish and Game Code of California, Chapter 1.5, Sections 2050-2116) prohibits the take of any plant or animal listed or proposed for listing as rare, threatened, or endangered. The CDFW has jurisdiction over state-listed species and regulate activities that may result in take of individuals. To “take” a listed species, as defined by the state of California, is “to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill” said species (California Fish and Wildlife Code, Section 86).

### **California Fish and Game Code**

The California Fish and Game Code includes regulations governing the use of, or impacts on, many of the state’s fish, wildlife, and sensitive habitats. The CDFW has jurisdiction over the bed and banks of rivers, lakes, and streams (Sections 1601-1603 of the California Fish and Game Code). Streambed Alteration Agreements are required for the fill or removal of material within the beds and banks of a watercourse or waterbodies, and for removal of riparian vegetation.

Certain sections of the Fish and Game Code describe regulations that pertain to certain wildlife species. Fish and Game Code Section 3503, 2513, and 3800 (and other sections and subsections) protect native birds, including their nests and eggs, from all forms of take. Birds of prey, such as owls and hawks, are protected in California under provisions of the state Fish and Game Code, Section 3503.5 (1992), which states that it is “unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the order Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds of prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.” Construction disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort is considered “taking” by the CDFW.

#### **4.4.2.3 *Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan***

The Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (SCVHP), which encompasses a study area of 519,506 acres (or approximately 62 percent of Santa Clara County), was adopted by six local entities in Santa Clara County. The plan went into effect in October 2013 and the newly created Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency is charged with implementing the plan. The area for which development activities are covered by the plan is located south and east of Mountain View, primarily within the Llagas/Uvas/Pajaro, Coyote Creek, and Guadalupe Watersheds. The SCVHP was developed through a partnership between Santa Clara County, the Cities of San José, Morgan Hill, and Gilroy, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (collectively termed the ‘Local Partners’), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The SCVHP is a conservation program to promote the recovery of endangered species in portions of Santa Clara County while accommodating planned development, infrastructure and maintenance activities. The species of concern identified in the SCVHP include, but are not limited to, the California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, western burrowing owl, Bay Checkerspot butterfly, and a number of species endemic to serpentine grassland and scrub. Projects and activities of the jurisdictions in Santa Clara County which are not Permittees, such as the City of Mountain View, are not covered under the SCVHP.

The proposed project is located outside the SCVHP area. The one aspect of the SCVHP that relates to activities in Shoreline Park is described below.

#### 1. Expanded Burrowing Owl Conservation Area

In addition to the area covered by the SCVHP noted above, an expanded study area for burrowing owl conservation was identified to the north and west in portions of the cities of San José, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Milpitas, and Sunnyvale; in Fremont in Alameda County; and a small portion of San Mateo County. The expanded study area for burrowing owl conservation that falls outside of the primary SCVHP study area is 48,464 acres in size and includes the project area within the City of Mountain View (e.g., area north of US 101). The allowable activities covered by the SCVHP in this expanded study area are limited only to conservation actions for western burrowing owl.

#### 4.4.2.4 *2012 Shoreline Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan*

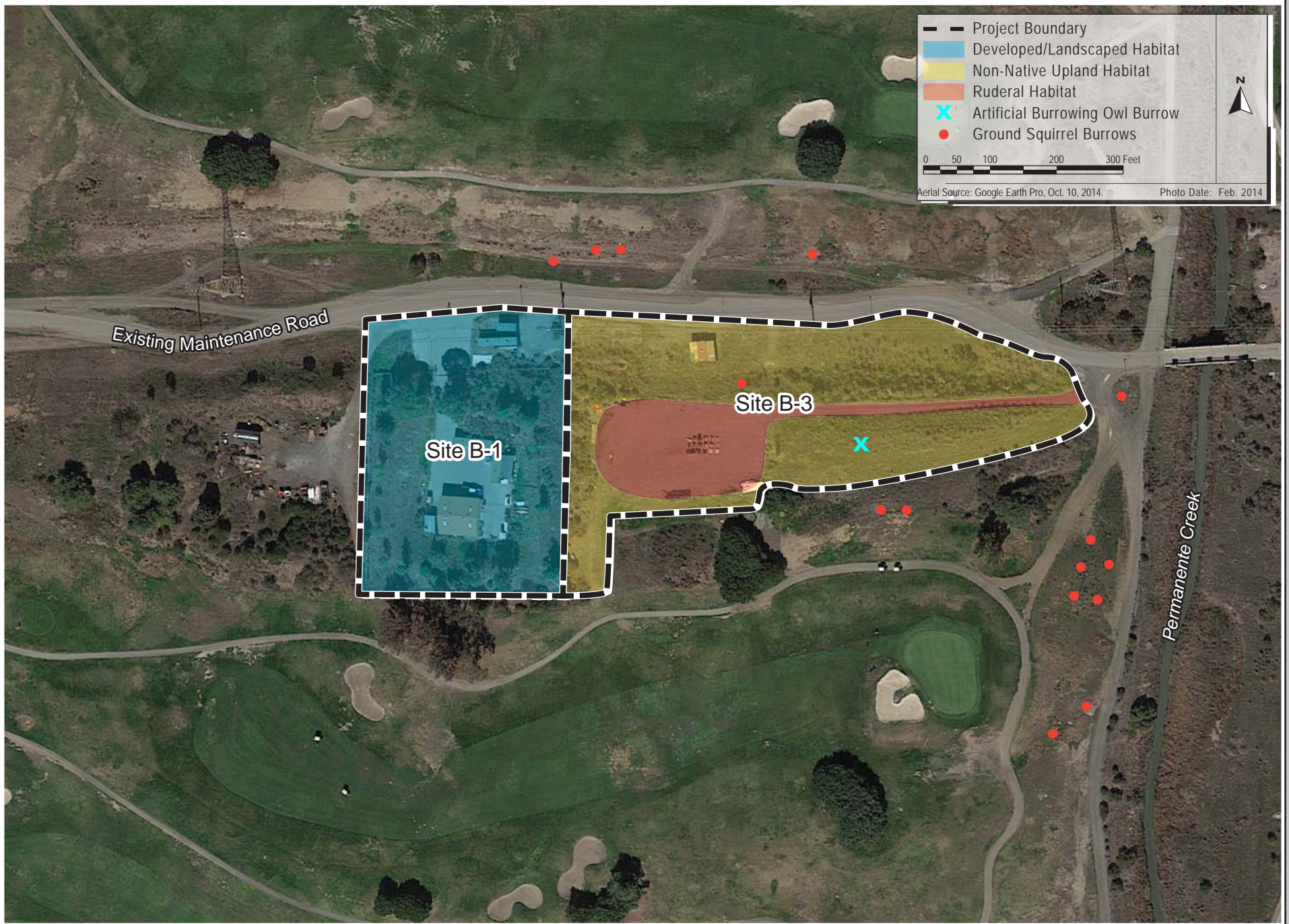
In 1998, the City developed the Burrowing Owl Management Plan for Shoreline Park to promote burrowing owl protection during maintenance activities by focusing on meeting regulatory requirements for the closed landfill while avoiding impacts to birds. In 2010, the management plan was updated and the name changed from “Burrowing Owl Management Plan” to “Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan.” The Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan offers goals and actions that the City can implement, which will facilitate on-going maintenance activities while supporting management techniques that have the greatest potential for maintaining a population of burrowing owls at Shoreline Park. In October 2012, the City Council accepted the Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan as a tool to manage the burrowing owl population at Shoreline Park.

#### 4.4.3 Impacts Evaluation

- a. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on 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 (CDFW) and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?*

Shoreline Park is well known for supporting habitats for a variety of special status and non-special status species. Site B-1 is an existing, developed storage area that supports an auxiliary building, portable storage/shipping containers, a covered storage area, loose maintenance materials, landscaping, paved driveways, and surface parking areas. Vegetation on the perimeter levee of the storage area includes various planted trees including eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus spp.*) and pine (*Pinus spp.*), and ornamental shrubs and forbs such as iceplant.

Site B-3 is a highly-disturbed, loose materials storage yard. The central portion of the site supports an unpaved road that provides vehicular access to an existing storage pad. The access road and pad area is covered in ballast material and characterized as ruderal habitat with emergent non-natives such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*). The vegetated portion of the site is dominated by herbaceous, non-native grasses but also supports dense thickets of shrub species including coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*). Overall, the site is characterized as non-native upland habitat (Figure 5).



SHORELINE MAINTENANCE STORAGE PLAN HABITAT MAP

FIGURE 5

## Special-status Plant Species

Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi ssp. congdonii*), is listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as a California Rare Plant 1B.1 species. Congdon's tarplant is an annual herb in the composite family (Asteraceae) that has a variable blooming period extending from June through November. It occurs in valley and foothill grasslands, particularly those with alkaline substrates, and in slumps or disturbed areas where water collects in lower elevation wetlands below approximately 760 feet. This subspecies tolerates disturbance and often occurs in disked fields with non-native, California annual grassland habitat with Harding grass (*Phalaris paradoxa*) and alkali mallow (*Malvella leprosa*).

City of Mountain View biologists have reported five known populations of Congdon's tarplant within Shoreline Park; the CNPS identified Congdon's tarplant at the Crittenden Hill location in 2013.<sup>3</sup> Congdon's tarplant has not been documented as occurring on the project site, and was not observed during the site visit conducted on September 25, 2014.

Due to the presence of ruderal and non-native grassland habitat, Site B-3 is considered suitable habitat for Congdon's tarplant.

**Impact BIO-1:** Development of the proposed project could impact undocumented occurrences of Congdon's tarplant. **[Significant Impact]**

**Mitigation Measures:** The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to special-status plant species:

**MM BIO-1.1:** Prior to any construction-related activities, a preconstruction survey for Congdon's tarplant will be conducted by the City biologist in accordance with CDFW plant survey protocols.<sup>4</sup>

If Congdon's tarplant is found during the preconstruction survey, and avoidance is not feasible, the City biologist will work directly with the CDFW to develop a mitigation and monitoring plan for the species prior to any construction activities. Impacts will be mitigated at a minimum 1:1 ratio. The mitigation plan will identify an appropriate location with Shoreline Park to replant or replace the lost plant population. The plan will also describe the propagation or planting techniques to be used during mitigation efforts, establish a success criteria, identify remedial actions, and provide funding for the long-term monitoring and management of the mitigation area depending on the level of impact and the mitigation required by CDFW.

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<sup>3</sup> Higgins, Phil. City of Mountain View. Biologist. Personal Communication.

<sup>4</sup> California Department of Fish and Wildlife. *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities*. 2009.

Implementation of MM BIO-1.1 would reduce impacts to special-status plant species to a less than significant level. **[Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

### **Burrowing Owls**

The entire terrestrial area of Shoreline Park (approximately 530 acres) is considered burrowing owl habitat and is used by owls to nest in the spring, roost in the winter, or forage year-round. At any time of the year, burrowing owls may be found at any location in Shoreline Park, and projects anywhere in the park have the potential to impact the species.

Small mammal burrows, including burrows of California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), are located along the northern portion of Site B-3 and the perimeter of the golf course along the southern portion of the project site. No burrowing owls or burrowing owl sign (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, and/or prey remains) were observed on Site B-1 or Site B-3 during the site visit on September 25, 2014.

Development of Site B-3 would result in permanent removal of approximately 0.84-acres of burrowing owl foraging habitat. The loss of foraging habitat would result from the installation of the new material storage bins and gravel pad located on Site B-3. The proposed project would also result in the removal of an inactive unoccupied artificial burrowing owl burrow that was installed in 2010 as part of mitigation for burrowing owl impacts at the adjacent golf course. The general location of the artificial burrowing owl burrow and ground squirrel burrows can be seen on Figure 5.

**Impact BIO-2:** Development of the proposed project will result in permanent removal of approximately 0.84-acres of burrowing owl foraging habitat and removal of a previously installed artificial burrowing owl burrow. **[Significant Impact]**

**Mitigation Measures:** In accordance with the 2012 City of Mountain View Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan, any project that would permanently impact burrowing owl foraging habitat must be approved by CDFW.

**MM BIO-2.1:** The proposed project will prepare a Burrowing Owl Mitigation Plan (BOMP) in coordination with the City biologist and CDFW prior to any construction-related activities. The BOMP will identify the proposed burrowing owl mitigation site and include details as to how the project will mitigate for impacts to foraging habitat and the loss of the artificial burrow. In accordance with the Shoreline Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan, impacts to burrowing owl foraging habitat will be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio, and impacts to suitable burrows (ground squirrel burrows and artificial burrowing owl boxes) will be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio within Shoreline Park. The BOMP shall be approved by CDFW prior to implementation.



The Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan has identified nine acres of habitat adjacent to Shoreline Boulevard and the Meadowlands portion of Mountain View Shoreline Landfill (MVSL) as ideal habitat for burrowing owls. This portion of Shoreline Park is located on stable engineered fill and not underlain by landfill material. This nine acre site is especially important for owls since it is not subjected to landfill subsidence and subsequent landfill maintenance such as filling and land-disturbing activities to address subsidence. The project is anticipating mitigating for the permanent loss of 0.84-acres of burrowing owl foraging habitat by establishing a formal foraging habitat mitigation area within the nine acre site that has been identified as ideal habitat for burrowing owls in Shoreline Park. Establishment of the permanent burrowing owl foraging habitat mitigation area will require minimal physical changes to the environment since the area is actively managed for burrowing owls.

The proposed project site is not currently occupied but could become occupied by burrowing owls at any time due to the presence of suitable habitat (low growing vegetation and ground squirrel burrows). Burrowing owls are actively using areas adjacent to the proposed project site including the golf course and Vista Slope. One burrowing owl has recently been observed on Fairway 13 and another owl was observed utilizing multiple small mammal burrows on Fairway 18 earlier in 2014. A pair of burrowing owls also successfully nested on Fairway 15 in 2014.<sup>5</sup>

**Impact BIO-3:** Development of the proposed project could result in direct impacts to burrowing owls. **[Significant Impact]**

**Mitigation Measures:** The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to burrowing owls:

**MM BIO-3.1:** Prior to any site disturbance, staging, or construction-related activities, the City of Mountain View biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey. The purpose of the survey is to document the presence or absence of burrowing owls on the project site, and in areas within 250 feet of any construction activity. If no owls or evidence of owls are observed during the preconstruction survey, construction-related activities will be allowed to proceed.

If burrowing owls are observed during the survey, the City of Mountain View biologist will establish a 250-foot non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows. Construction activities outside of this 250-foot buffer are allowed to proceed. Construction activities within the non-disturbance buffer will be evaluated and allowed at the discretion of the City biologist, in consultation with CDFW, and if the following criteria are met:

- The City biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction.)

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<sup>5</sup> Higgins, Phil. City of Mountain View. Biologist. Personal Communication. October 27, 2014.

- The City biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
- If there is any change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, these activities will cease within the 250-foot buffer. Construction cannot resume within the 250-foot buffer until the adults and juveniles from the occupied burrows have moved out of the project site as determined by the City biologist.

The City biologist will monitor the project site during all construction-related activities to ensure that no owls are directly impacted by project activities.

Construction-related activities could be limited to the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to reduce the disturbance to owls if a bird were to nest on or near the project site. Restricting construction times will be at the discretion of the City biologist.

A vehicle and equipment travel route shall be clearly marked on the project plans and on the ground at the project site prior to beginning construction-related activities. Cones or flags may be used to mark the vehicle travel route within 100 feet of the project location.

On-site worker education will be provided to all workers involved at the project site by the City of Mountain View biologist. Education will include, but is not limited to the following:

- Introduction to burrowing owl natural history,
- Informing workers on identification and location of nearby burrows,
- Providing information on ways to protect resident owls.

Implementation of MM BIO-2.1 and 3.1 would reduce impacts to burrowing owls to a less than significant level. **[Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

### **Ridgway's Rail**

Ridgway's Rail (*Rallus obsoletus*), formally known as the California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*), is an endangered species listed under both the federal and California Endangered Species Acts and is a state Fully-Protected Species. The species is known to use emergent salt and brackish tidal marshland habitat dominated by pickleweed and cordgrass for foraging and breeding.

The project site does not support any saltmarsh habitat, but is located approximately 100 feet west of Permanente Creek. Ridgway's rails have been observed at Permanente Creek, as far upstream as the marsh area located east of Shoreline Lake, approximately 1,400 feet north of the project site, but not upstream from there. Ridgway's rails typically nest in broader marshes with well-developed tidal channels and are not expected to nest within or adjacent to the project site.

Since Site B-3 is located directly adjacent to Permanente Creek, sedimentation and erosion from grading and heavy equipment necessary to construct the project could result in indirect impacts to the creek where Ridgway's rails have been observed, downstream from the project site.

In order to prevent indirect impacts to Permanente Creek and Ridgway's rail from construction grading, the proposed project will implement construction best management practices (BMPs). Construction BMPs shall be implemented for reducing the volume of runoff and pollution in runoff to the maximum extent practicable during site excavation, grading, and construction. BMPs will include:

- Restrict grading to the dry season or meet City requirements for grading during the rainy season.
- Use effective, site-specific erosion and sediment control methods during the construction periods. Provide temporary cover of all disturbed surfaces to help control erosion during construction. Provide permanent cover as soon as is practical to stabilize the disturbed surfaces after construction has been completed.
- Cover soil, equipment, and supplies that could contribute non-visible pollution prior to rainfall events or perform monitoring of runoff. Cover stockpiles with secure plastic sheeting or tarp.
- Implement regular maintenance activities such as sweeping driveways between the construction area and public streets. Clean sediments from streets, driveways, and paved areas on-site using dry sweeping methods. Designate a concrete truck washdown area.
- Dispose of all wastes properly and keep site clear of trash and litter. Clean up leaks, drips, and other spills immediately so that they do not contact stormwater.
- Place fiber rolls or silt fences around the perimeter of the site. Protect existing storm and sewer inlets in the project area from sedimentation with filter fabric and sand or gravel bags.

As discussed in Section 4.9 *Hydrology and Water Quality*, the project will also implement sediment and erosion control measures to minimize runoff and erosion. Measures will include installation of the following items where appropriate:

- Silt fences around the site perimeter;
- Gravel bags surrounding catch basins;
- Filter fabric over catch basins;
- Covering of exposed stockpiles;

- Concrete washout areas;
- Stabilized rock/gravel driveways at points of egress from the site; and
- Vegetation, hydroseeding or other soil stabilization methods for high-erosion areas.

To further avoid indirect impacts to Ridgway's rail, the project will install silt fencing, trenched into the ground along the length of the creek adjacent to the project site and parallel to Permanente Creek (approximately 150 ft.). Installation of the silt fencing parallel to Permanente Creek should be overseen by the City of Mountain View biologist. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

### **Nesting Birds**

Shoreline Park supports important habitat for migratory and resident bird species. Trees, vegetation, and storage buildings also provide suitable nesting opportunities for a variety of avian species. Most avian species in the United States, including non-special status species, are protected by the MBTA. Disturbing or destroying active nests, eggs, and young is prohibited under this act. Since birds may nest in trees and vegetation within and adjacent to the proposed project site, there is potential for construction-related activities to impact nesting birds if active nests are removed, or otherwise disturbed during the avian breeding season.

**Impact BIO-4:** Development of the proposed project could result in direct impacts to nesting birds. **[Significant Impact]**

**Mitigation Measures:** The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to nesting birds:

**MM BIO-4.1:** A preconstruction nesting bird survey shall be completed by the City of Mountain View biologist prior to demolition, vegetation removal, or any construction related activity occur during the breeding season (February through August). Surveys shall be completed no more than 14 days before initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). If nests are observed, the biologist, in consultation with CDFW, will determine an adequate buffer zone and other minimization measures to ensure that nests will not be disturbed during project construction. Avoidance buffers and minimization measures shall be utilized until the City biologist determines that the nest is no longer being utilized.

Implementation of MM BIO-4.1 will reduce impacts to nesting birds to a less than significant level. **[Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

- b. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?*

The proposed project site does not support any riparian habitat or sensitive natural community. Site B-1 is developed and supports existing landscaping. Site B-3 supports ruderal and non-native upland habitat. **[No Impact]**

- c. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

The proposed project site does not support any wetlands. Site B-1 is developed and supports existing landscaping. Site B-3 supports ruderal and non-native upland habitat. The proposed project site does not support any wetlands. Site B-3 is located approximately 100 feet east of Permanente Creek. Installation of BMP's discussed in *Section 4.9 Hydrology and Water Quality* will reduce sedimentation and indirect impacts to Permanente Creek. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- d. *Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

Shoreline Park is an important stopover location for migratory bird species, especially for raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl. Shoreline Park also provides important habitat for year-round avian residents. Mitigation Measure BIO-4.1, discussed above, will reduce potential impacts to migratory and resident bird species.

Grey foxes (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) have been reported to den under two separate portable shipping containers located at Site B-1. One shipping container is located just outside of the gate/fence along the maintenance road and the other is located inside Site B-1. In 2013 and 2014, two grey fox dens were observed at the proposed project site.<sup>6</sup> Removal and/or consolidation of portable shipping containers at Site B-1 has the potential to impact active grey fox dens.

**Impact BIO-5:** Removal and/or consolidation of portable shipping containers at Site B-1 has the potential to impact active grey fox dens. **[Significant Impact]**

**Mitigation Measures:** The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to grey foxes:

**MM BIO-5.1:** In order to avoid direct impacts to grey foxes, prior to construction-related activities, known grey fox dens will be monitored for three days by the City of Mountain View biologist using a tracking medium or wildlife camera to determine if dens are currently being used. If grey fox activity is observed at the den locations during the initial monitoring period, the dens will be monitored for an additional five consecutive days

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<sup>6</sup> Higgins, Phil. City of Mountain View. Biologist. Personal Communication. October 27, 2014.

from the time of the first observation to allow any resident animals to move to another den while den use is actively discouraged.

If a natal or pupping den is found, the den will not be removed or destroyed until pups and adults have been vacated, as determined by the City of Mountain View biologist and CDFW. A 250-foot exclusion zone buffer will be established around each den by the City biologist. For dens other than natal or pupping dens, use of the den can be discouraged by partially plugging the entrance with soil such that any resident animal can easily escape, or by other exclusion techniques approved by CDFW.

Once the den is determined to be unoccupied, it may be excavated/destroyed under the direction of the City biologist.

Any occupied grey fox den that is destroyed will be replaced/mitigated by installing an artificial den box within Shoreline Park, within a quarter-mile of the project site, at a 1:1 ratio. The location and placement of artificial den boxes will be at the direction of the City biologist.

Implementation of MM BIO-5.1 will reduce impacts to grey foxes. **[Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

- e. *Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

The proposed project does not include the removal of any trees that are protected by City of Mountain View Tree Ordinance (Chapter 32, Article 2). **[No Impact]**

- f. *Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?*

The proposed project site is located in the *Burrowing Owl Expanded Study Area* of the SCVHP. MM BIO 2.1 and MM 3.1 would reduce potential impacts to burrowing owls to a less than significant level. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

#### **4.4.4 Conclusion**

The project would have a less than significant impact on biological resources with implementation of the mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project. **[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

## 4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

### 4.5.1 Cultural Resources Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in §15063.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15063.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3

### 4.5.2 Setting

#### 4.5.2.1 *Prehistoric Resources*

The City completed a Cultural Resources Assessment for the 1990 General Plan Update. For the most recent 2030 General Plan update, a records search was conducted at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS, including an examination of the official records and maps for archaeological sites and surveys in Santa Clara County, as well as a review of the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Inventory of Historic Resources, California State Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, the Directory of Properties in the Historical Resources Inventory, Caltrans Local Bridge Surveys, and secondary sources pertaining to state and local prehistory and history.

Ten recorded archaeological resources are recorded within the City of Mountain View. None of these locations are located in proximity to the proposed project site.

#### 4.5.2.2 *Historic Resources*

The Henry A. Rengstorff House, a historic residence listed on the City Register of Historic Resources and the City's oldest house, is located inside Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park at 3070 North Shoreline Boulevard.

### 4.5.3 Impacts Evaluation

- a. *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15063.5?*

According to the cultural resources assessment prepared for the City of Mountain View 2030 General Plan, there are no historical resources located on the proposed project site. The Henry A. Rengstorff House, a historic residence listed on the City Register of Historic Resources and the City's oldest house, is located inside Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park approximately 0.25 miles north of the project site. The proposed project would not directly or indirectly impact the Rengstorff House. **[No Impact]**

- b. *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15063.5?*

The proposed project site is located on top of the Shoreline landfill, a closed municipal solid waste disposal facility. There are no known archaeological resources in the vicinity of the proposed project site and the site has a low sensitivity for buried archaeological resources. In the unlikely event that cultural resources are encountered during construction, the following measure would apply.

Discovery of Archaeological Resources. If prehistoric or historic-period cultural materials are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work within 100 feet of the find shall halt until a qualified archaeologist and Native American representative can assess the significance of the find. Prehistoric materials might include obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or tool making debris; culturally darkened soil ("midden") containing heat-affected rocks and artifacts; stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones, or milling slabs); and battered-stone tools, such as hammerstones and pitted stones. Historic-period materials might include stone, concrete, or adobe footings and walls; filled wells or privies; and deposits of metal, glass, and/or ceramic refuse. If the find is determined to be potentially significant, the archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American representative, shall develop a treatment plan that could include site avoidance, capping, or data recovery. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- c. *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?*

The proposed project is located on top of a closed landfill. There are no known paleontological resources in the vicinity of the proposed project site. **[No Impact]**

- d. *Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?*

The proposed project is located on top of a closed landfill. Minimal grading is necessary



to construct the project. The project is not likely to encounter human remains since it is located on top of a closed landfill. In the unlikely event that human remains are encountered during construction, the following measures would apply.

Discovery of Human Remains. In the event of the discovery of human remains during construction or demolition, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site within a 50-foot radius of the location of such discovery, or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains. The Santa Clara County Coroner shall be notified and shall make a determination as to whether the remains are Native American. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his authority, he shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission who shall attempt to identify descendants of the deceased Native American. If no satisfactory agreement can be reached as to the disposition of the remains pursuant to this State law, then the City shall re-enter the human remains and items associated with Native American burials on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance. A final report shall be submitted to the City's Community Development Director prior to release of a Certificate of Occupancy. This report shall contain a description of the mitigation programs and its results including a description of the monitoring and testing resources analysis methodology and conclusions, and a description of the disposition/curation of the resources. The report shall verify completion of the mitigation program to the satisfaction of the City's Community Development Director. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

#### **4.5.4**            **Conclusion**

The proposed project would not have a significant impact on cultural resources. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

## 4.6 GEOLOGY

### 4.6.1 Geology and Soils Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:					1,2,3
1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as described on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13
4. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13 ,14
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13 ,14
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13 ,14
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,12,13 ,14

### 4.6.2 Setting

The project site is located in the Santa Clara Valley, an alluvial basin, bound by the Santa Cruz Mountains to the west, the Hamilton/Diablo Range to the east, and the San Francisco Bay to the north. The Santa Clara Valley was formed when sediments derived from the Santa Cruz Mountains and the Hamilton/Diablo Range were exposed by continued tectonic uplift and regression of the inland sea that had previously inundated this area. Bedrock in this area is made up of the Franciscan Complex, a diverse group of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks of Upper Jurassic to

cretaceous age (70 to 140 million years old). Overlaying the bedrock at substantial depths are marine and terrestrial sedimentary rocks of Tertiary and Quaternary age.

#### 4.6.3 Impacts Evaluation

a., c. *Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: i) rupture of a known earthquake fault, ii) strong seismic ground shaking, iii) seismic-related ground failure, or iv) landslides? Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?*

The project site is located within the seismically-active San Francisco Bay region, but is not located within a currently designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. There are three known major active faults in the general project vicinity: the San Andreas Fault, located approximately 7.5 miles to the southwest; the Calaveras Fault, located approximately 15.5 miles to the east; and the Hayward Fault, located approximately 11 miles to the east/northeast. The Monte Vista-Shannon Fault is located approximately five miles to the southwest. There are no known earthquake faults crossing the site, therefore the likelihood of primary ground rupture is low. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) has reported that the Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities (2007) has estimated that there is a 63 percent probability that one or more major earthquakes would occur in the San Francisco Bay Area between 2007 and 2036. An earthquake occurring on any of the fault lines in the region may induce seismic ground shaking at the project site; however, the proposed project does not include the construction of any occupied buildings or residential use. Maintenance workers only use the project site for temporary storage of maintenance materials and equipment. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed project site is located within a State of California Seismic Hazard Zone for liquefaction and a Santa Clara County Liquefaction Hazard Zone.<sup>7,8</sup> Since the project is located in a regional park, an increase of risk of loss, injury or death involving seismic-related ground failure or liquefaction would not be substantial. The pre-engineered building proposed for Site B-1 would be constructed to meet California Building Codes and the City of Mountain View Municipal Code and building standards. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The project site is relatively flat and slopes gently south. According to the California Seismic Hazards Zone Map, the project site is not located within an earthquake induced landslide area. **[No Impact]**

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<sup>7</sup> California Geological Survey. "Seismic Hazard Zones." October 18, 2006. Accessed October 10, 2014. Available at: [http://gmw.consrv.ca.gov/shmp/download/pdf/ozn\\_mvview.pdf](http://gmw.consrv.ca.gov/shmp/download/pdf/ozn_mvview.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> County of Santa Clara. "Geologic Hazard Zones." October 26, 2012. Accessed October 10, 2014. Available at: <http://www.sccgov.org/sites/planning/GIS/GeoHazardZones/Pages/SCCGeoHazardZoneMaps.aspx>

- b., d. *Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?*

The project site is generally flat and not adjacent to any steep slopes. The project would require minimal site disturbance and grading and is not likely to result in any substantial soil erosion.

The project site is primarily underlain by Hangerone clay loam soils of zero to two percent slopes.<sup>9</sup> The project is located in a closed landfill with bentonite clay backfill. Clay is inherently expansive when wet. Since no people reside on the project site, the risk to life or property from expansive soils would be minimal. The pre-engineered building proposed for Site B-1 would be constructed to meet California Building Codes and the City of Mountain View Municipal Code and building standards. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- e. *Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?*

The project does not propose the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. The proposed project is a storage plan for ongoing maintenance at Shoreline Park. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.6.4            Conclusion**

The project would not result in significant geology and soil impacts. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

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<sup>9</sup> United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. "Web Soil Survey: Santa Clara Area, California, Western Part (CA641)." Accessed October 10, 2014. Available at: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

## 4.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

### 4.7.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,7
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,7

### 4.7.2 Setting

Unlike emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants, which have local or regional impacts, emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) have a broader, global impact. Global warming associated with the “greenhouse effect” is a process whereby GHGs accumulating in the atmosphere contribute to an increase in the temperature of the earth’s atmosphere over time. The principal GHGs contributing to global warming and associated climate change are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and fluorinated compounds. Emissions of GHGs contributing to global climate change are attributable in large part to human activities associated with the transportation, industrial/manufacturing, utility, residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors.

#### **California Assembly Bill 32 and Executive Order S-3-05**

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), also known as the Global Warming Solutions Act, was passed in 2006 and established a goal to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Prior to the adoption of AB 32, the Governor of California also signed Executive Order S-3-05 into law, which set a long-term objective to reduce GHG emissions to 90 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) is the state agency in charge of coordinating the GHG emissions reduction effort and establishing targets along the way.

In December 2008, CARB approved the Climate Change Scoping Plan, which proposes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce California’s dependence on oil, diversify energy sources, save energy, and enhance public health, among other goals. Per AB 32, the Scoping Plan must be updated every five years to evaluate the mix of AB 32 policies to ensure that California is on track to achieve the 2020 greenhouse gas reduction goal.

In May 2014, CARB adopted an updated Scoping Plan document. The 2014 Update highlights California’s progress toward meeting the “near-term” 2020 greenhouse gas emission reduction goals defined in the 2008 Scoping Plan and evaluates how to align the State’s longer-term greenhouse gas reduction strategies with other State policy priorities, such as for water, natural resources, agriculture, clean energy, and transportation and land use.

## California Senate Bill 375

Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), known as the Sustainable Communities Strategy and Climate Protection Act, was signed into law in September 2008. It builds on AB 32 by requiring CARB to develop regional GHG reduction targets to be achieved from the automobile and light truck sectors for 2020 and 2035 in comparison to 2005 emissions. The per capita reduction targets for passenger vehicles in the San Francisco Bay Area include a seven percent reduction by 2020 and a 15 percent reduction by 2035. The four major requirements of SB 375 are:

1. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) must meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for automobiles and light trucks through land use and transportation strategies.
2. MPOs must create a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), to provide an integrated land use/transportation plan for meeting regional targets, consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
3. Regional housing elements and transportation plans must be synchronized on eight-year schedules, with Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation numbers conforming to the SCS.
4. MPOs must use transportation and air emissions modeling techniques consistent with guidelines prepared by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

MTC and ABAG adopted Plan Bay Area in July 2013. The strategies in the plan are intended to promote compact, mixed-use development close to public transit, jobs, schools, shopping, parks, recreation, and other amenities, particularly within Priority Development Areas (PDAs) identified by local jurisdictions.

### Bay Area Air Quality Management District

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional government agency that regulates sources of air pollution within the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties. The BAAQMD regulates GHG emissions through the following plans, programs, and guidelines.

*Regional Clean Air Plans:* BAAQMD and other air districts prepare clean air plans in accordance with the state and federal Clean Air Acts. The Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan (CAP) provides a comprehensive plan to improve Bay Area air quality and protect public health through implementation of a control strategy designed to reduce emissions and decrease ambient concentrations of harmful pollutants. The most recent CAP also includes measures design to reduce GHG emissions.

*BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines:* BAAQMD's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines include thresholds of significance for GHG emissions, and provide additional guidance for tiering under CEQA. Under the CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, a local government may prepare a qualified GHG Reduction Strategy that is consistent with AB 32 goals. If a project is consistent with an adopted qualified GHG Reduction Strategy and General Plan that address the project's GHG emissions, it can be presumed that the project would not have significant GHG emissions under CEQA.

## City of Mountain View 2030 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program

The City of Mountain View adopted the Mountain View 2030 General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program (GGRP), and certified the General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program EIR in 2012. The General Plan is the guiding document for future growth of the City. The GGRP is a separate but complementary document and long-range plan that implements the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals of the General Plan, and serves as a programmatic greenhouse gas reduction strategy for CEQA tiering purposes. The GGRP includes goals, policies, performance standards, and implementation measures for achieving GHG emission reductions, to meet the requirements of AB 32. The GGRP was evaluated in the certified 2030 General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program EIR.

Emissions reductions from implementation of the GGRP come from the mandatory efficiency measures described in the GGRP; mandatory measures include exceeding Title 24 energy efficiency standards and planting shade trees. Further reductions can come from the voluntary measures such as solar thermal water heating and zero-waste recycling plans. Individual development projects that comply with the GGRP's mandatory reduction measures can be determined to not have cumulatively considerable greenhouse gas emissions impacts under CEQA.

### 4.7.3 Impacts Evaluation

- a. – b. *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

The proposed project would generate greenhouse gas emissions during construction and placement of a new pre-engineered storage building at Site B-1 and during construction of the loose material storage containers at Site B-3. The BAAQMD guidelines and the Mountain View GGRP do not suggest a threshold of significance for short-term construction-related GHG emissions. Minimal vehicle trips would be necessary to complete the project. Operational vehicle trips associated with on-going maintenance activities would not change once the project is constructed. Based on the limited amount of construction-related activities necessary to complete the project and implementation of Basic Construction Measures discussed in *Section 4.3 Air Quality*, the project would result in a less than significant impact to greenhouse gas emissions. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

### 4.7.4 Conclusion

The proposed project would not generate new greenhouse gas emissions considered to have a significant impact on global climate change. Voluntary implementation of BAAQMD's recommended Basic Construction Mitigation Guidelines would further reduce impacts to greenhouse gas emissions to a less-than-significant level. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

4.8

**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

4.8.1

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,15
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, will it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,15
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, will the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,16,17
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, will the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,16,17
g. Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,18



#### 4.8.2 Setting

Hazardous materials encompass a wide range of substances, some of which are naturally-occurring and some of which are man-made. Examples include motor oil and fuel, metals (e.g., lead, mercury, arsenic), asbestos, pesticides, herbicides, and chemical compounds used in manufacturing and other activities. A substance may be considered hazardous if, due to its chemical and/or physical properties, it poses a substantial hazard when it is improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or released into the atmosphere in the event of an accident. Determining if such substances are present on or near project sites is important because exposure to hazardous materials above regulatory thresholds can result in adverse health effects on humans, as well as harm to plant and wildlife ecology.

The proposed project site is located within Shoreline Park which was constructed on top of the Mountain View Shoreline Landfill (MVSL), a closed Class III solid waste disposal facility owned and operated by the City of Mountain View. The project site is located in a section of the closed landfill referred to as the 544-Acre Parcel. This parcel was originally purchased in 1970 by the City and accepted solid waste through 1981. The site received approximately 8,450,000 tons of refuse during its operation. Waste received included construction/demolition, landscaping, and non-contract municipal waste. No hazardous waste, septage or grease interceptor wastes were accepted at this location. On-going compliance, monitoring, and routine maintenance activities occur throughout Shoreline Park, in accordance with MVSL closure requirements.

#### 4.8.3 Impacts Evaluation

*a. – b. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?*

The proposed project would not involve the use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials following construction. The project would involve the placement of a pre-engineered building for storage of basic landfill maintenance materials (signs, hand tools, buckets, etc.) and the construction of ten concrete storage bins designed to store soil, gravel, rock, and other loose materials. No long-term impacts involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment would occur as a result of project implementation.

Project construction would require the temporary use of heavy equipment. Construction would also require the use of hazardous materials including petroleum products, lubricants, cleaners, paints, and solvents. These materials would be used in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws. If used as directed, these materials would not pose a hazard to workers or persons in the vicinity.

A minimal amount of construction and grading would be necessary to complete the project and would not compromise or rupture solid waste disposal cells located beneath the site.

**[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- c. *Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*

The proposed project site is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. The nearest school (Crittenden Middle School) is located approximately 1.5 miles south of the project site. The proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste during operation. **[No Impact]**

- d. *Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to [Government Code Section 65962.5] and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?*

The proposed project site is not on a list of hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, but is located on a closed class III solid waste disposal facility. The proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment and would not rupture the existing solid waste cells below the project site. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- e. - f. *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?*

Moffett Federal Airfield is located approximately 1.25 miles southeast of the project site. The project site is located approximately 2.0 miles south of Palo Alto Airport. The project site is not located within the airport land use plan for either airport. The project would not affect any airport or result in a safety hazard for people working or residing in the project area. **[No Impact]**

- g. - h. *Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?*

The development of the proposed project would not impair or interfere with implementation of the City's emergency response plans or any statewide emergency response or evacuation plans. The project site is located near a golf course in an urbanized area and is not subject to hazards from wildland fires.<sup>10</sup> Implementation of the proposed project would not expose people or structures to any risk from wildland fires. **[No Impact]**

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<sup>10</sup> California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. *Fire Hazard Severity Zones – Santa Clara County*. October 8, 2008.

#### 4.8.4 Conclusion

The project is not proposing any new hazardous materials uses and would not affect the closed landfill, therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on hazards and hazardous materials. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

## 4.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

### 4.9.1 Hydrology and Water Quality Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there will be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells will drop to a level which will not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which will result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which will result in flooding on-or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
e. Create or contribute runoff water which will exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,19
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which will impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,19

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,3,20,21
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,21

#### 4.9.2 Setting

The water quality of streams, creeks, ponds, and other surface water bodies can be greatly affected by pollution carried in contaminated surface runoff. Pollutants from unidentified sources, known as non-point source pollutants, are washed from streets, construction sites, parking lots, and other exposed surfaces into storm drains. Urban stormwater runoff often contains contaminants such as oil and grease, plant and animal debris (e.g., leaves, dust, animal feces, etc.), pesticides, litter, and heavy metals. In sufficient concentration, these pollutants have been found to adversely affect the aquatic habitats to which they drain.

#### 4.9.3 Impacts Evaluation

a., f. *Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? Would the project otherwise substantially degrade water quality?*

Grading and construction-activities have the potential to temporarily increase erosion and sedimentation that could be carried by runoff into natural waterways. Increased erosion could increase sedimentation impacts to local creeks such as Permanente Creek and/or the San Francisco Bay.

The proposed project requires minimal site preparation and grading for construction in order to complete the project and is not likely to affect water quality. The project will also implement the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) to avoid any potential water quality impacts:

Construction Best Management Practices: Construction BMPs shall be implemented for reducing the volume of runoff and pollution in runoff to the maximum extent practicable during site excavation, grading, and construction. All measures shall be included in the project's Stormwater Management Plan (described below) and printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans. These will include:

- Restrict grading to the dry season or meet City requirements for grading during the rainy season.
- Use effective, site-specific erosion and sediment control methods during the construction periods. Provide temporary cover of all disturbed surfaces to help control erosion during construction. Provide permanent cover as soon as is practical to

- stabilize the disturbed surfaces after construction has been completed.
- Cover soil, equipment, and supplies that could contribute non-visible pollution prior to rainfall events or perform monitoring of runoff. Cover stockpiles with secure plastic sheeting or tarp.
  - Implement regular maintenance activities such as sweeping driveways between the construction area and public streets. Clean sediments from streets, driveways, and paved areas on-site using dry sweeping methods. Designate a concrete truck wash down area.
  - Dispose of all wastes properly and keep site clear of trash and litter. Clean up leaks, drips, and other spills immediately so that they do not contact stormwater.
  - Place fiber rolls or silt fences around the perimeter of the site. Protect existing storm and sewer inlets in the project area from sedimentation with filter fabric and sand or gravel bags.

The project shall implement sediment and erosion control measures that will be used at the site to minimize sediment runoff and erosion during storm events. Measures shall include installation of the following items where appropriate:

- Silt fences around the site perimeter;
- Gravel bags surrounding catch basins;
- Filter fabric over catch basins;
- Covering of exposed stockpiles;
- Concrete washout areas;
- Stabilized rock/gravel driveways at points of egress from the site; and
- Vegetation, hydroseeding or other soil stabilization methods for high-erosion areas.

Through implementation of the above measures, the project would result in a less than significant impact to water quality. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- b. Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge?*

The project is the construction of a maintenance storage yard and would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge. **[No Impact]**

- c. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which will result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site?*

The proposed project would require a minimal amount of site preparation and/or grading necessary to construct the storage maintenance area. The project would not substantially alter the drainage pattern of Site B-1, which is already completely paved, or Site B-3. Permanente Creek is located approximately 100 feet to the east of the project site; however, the project does not propose any alterations or impacts to the creek. **[No Impact]**

- d. *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which will result in flooding on-or off-site?*

The proposed project would not significantly alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area and does not include any alterations to Permanente Creek. Implementation of Construction BMP's and erosion control measures listed above would reduce surface runoff impacts during construction to a less than significant level. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- e. *Would the project create or contribute runoff water which will exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?*

The proposed project would not increase the amount of impervious surface or increase stormwater runoff that has the potential to exceed the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems. **[No Impact]**

- g. – i. *Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map? Would the project place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which will impede or redirect flood flows? Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?*

According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the project area is located in Zone A in a special flood hazard area subject to inundation by the one percent chance flood. The one percent annual flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a one percent change of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.<sup>11</sup>

The City of Mountain View recently completed the *Shoreline Regional Park Community Sea Level Rise Study: Feasibility Report and Capital Improvement Program* (December 18, 2012). Because of considerable uncertainty in sea level rise projections, this study adopts two sea level rise scenarios to bracket the low and high ends of a representative uncertainty range. The two sea level rise scenarios studied were:

- 8 inches of sea level rise between 2000 and 2067, and
- 31 inches of sea level rise between 2000 and 2067.

The study examines impacts to the Shoreline Regional Park with and without the implementation of the capital improvements described in this plan. The proposed project site has the potential to be affected by sea-level rise under either of the scenarios described above

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<sup>11</sup> Federal Emergency Management Agency. *Flood Insurance Rate Map, Community Panel No. 06085C0037H*. Map. Effective Date: May 18, 2009.

The proposed project is construction of a storage maintenance facility and does not include any housing. The Mountain View dam hazard map contained within the 2030 General Plan EIR shows that the project site is not located within a dam failure inundation hazard zone.<sup>12</sup> The Santa Clara County Geologic Hazard Zones Map indicates the site is located within a Dike Failure Hazard Zone.

The project site is located within a 100-year flood hazard area and would be required to comply with the City of Mountain View Flood Hazard Ordinance, including Section 8.164.1, Standards for Construction. Conformance with City's Flood Hazard Ordinance would ensure that impacts from flooding and inundation would be less than significant. [**Less Than Significant Impact**]

j. *Would the project exposed the project to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?*

The project site is not subject to seiche, tsunami, or mudslide hazards. The California Department of Conservation provides tsunami inundation maps for the Bay Area. Based on the review of the maps for Santa Clara County, the project site is not located in an affected area. [**No Impact**]

#### **4.9.4**            **Conclusion**

With implementation of the best management practices, erosion control measures, conformance with the City of Mountain View Flood Hazard Ordinance, the project would result in a less than significant impact on hydrology and stormwater quality. [**Less Than Significant Impact**]

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<sup>12</sup> City of Mountain View. *Draft 2030 General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program Environmental Impact Report*. November 2011. Figure IV.H-3.



**4.10 LAND USE**

**4.10.1 Land Use Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,11

**4.10.2 Setting**

The proposed project site is located in Shoreline Park in the City of Mountain View. Shoreline Park is a 750-acre site consisting of an 18-hole golf course, a 50-acre saltwater recreational lake, miles of walking and biking trails and open space wildlife habitat within the boundary of a closed Class III municipal landfill. Surrounding the park are office and light industrial buildings, the Shoreline Amphitheater, and two ponds formerly used for salt production.

**4.10.3 Impacts Evaluation**

a. *Would the project physically divide an established community?*

Development of the project would not impede existing uses or change the character of Shoreline Park. The proposed project would not physically divide an established community. **[No Impact]**

b. *Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?*

The project site is currently designated *Regional Park* in the City’s 2030 General Plan and is zoned *Public Facility (PF)*. Development of the proposed project would not conflict with the City of Mountain View General Plan since the project is related to maintenance of an existing public facility. **[No Impact]**

- c. *Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?*

The proposed project site is located within the *Expanded Study Area for Burrowing Owl Conservation* discussed in the SCVHP. The expanded study area is 48,464 acres in size and includes the project area within the City of Mountain View (i.e., the area north of US 101). The allowable activities covered by the SCVHP in this expanded study area are limited only to conservation actions for western burrowing owl. As discussed in *Section 4.4, Biological Resources*, the project, includes measures to minimize impacts to burrowing owls and, therefore, would not be in conflict with the SCVHP. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

#### **4.10.4        Conclusion**

The proposed project would not result in a significant land use impact. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

**4.11 MINERAL RESOURCES**

**4.11.1 Mineral Resources Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
d. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that will be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
e. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3

**4.11.2 Setting**

Extractive resources known to exist in and near the Santa Clara Valley include cement, sand, gravel, crushed rock, clay, limestone, and mercury. The project site is located on a closed municipal landfill, and is not located within a Mineral Resource Zone area containing known mineral resources, nor is the project site within an area where they are likely to occur.

**4.11.3 Impacts Evaluation**

*a. – b. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that will be of value to the region and the residents of the state or in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?*

The project site is located on a closed municipal landfill and is not located in an area containing known mineral resources. There are no known mineral recovery sites in the vicinity of the project site. **[No Impact]**

**4.11.4 Conclusion**

The project would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. **[No Impact]**

## 4.12 NOISE

### 4.12.1 Noise Environmental Checklist

Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
b. Exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,16, 17
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,16, 17

### 4.12.2 Setting

Noise may be defined as unwanted sound. Acceptable levels of noise vary from land use to land use. In any one location, the noise level will vary over time, from the lowest background or ambient noise level to temporary increases caused by traffic or other sources. State and federal standards have been established as guidelines for determining the compatibility of a particular use with its noise environment.

There are several methods of characterizing sound. The most common in California is the A-weighted sound level or **dB(A)**.<sup>13</sup> This scale gives greater weight to the frequencies of sound to which the human ear is most sensitive. Because sound levels can vary markedly over a short period of time,

<sup>13</sup> The sound pressure level in decibels as measured on a sound level meter using the A-weighting filter network. All sound levels in this discussion are A-weighted, unless otherwise stated.

different types of noise descriptors are used to account for this variability. Typical noise descriptors include maximum noise level ( $L_{max}$ ), the energy-equivalent noise level ( $L_{eq}$ ), and the day-night average noise level ( $L_{dn}$ ). The  $L_{dn}$  noise descriptor is commonly used in establishing noise exposure guidelines for specific land uses. For the energy-equivalent sound/noise descriptor called  $L_{eq}$  the most common averaging period is hourly, but  $L_{eq}$  can describe any series of noise events of arbitrary duration.

Although the A-weighted noise level may adequately indicate the level of environmental noise at any instant in time, community noise levels vary continuously. Most environmental noise includes a conglomeration of noise from distant sources which create a relatively steady background noise in which no particular source is identifiable.

Since the sensitivity to noise increases during the evening hours, 24-hour descriptors have been developed that incorporate artificial noise penalties added to quiet-time noise events. The Day/Night Average Sound Level,  $L_{dn}$  (sometimes also referred to as DNL), is the average A-weighted noise level during a 24-hour day, obtained after the addition of 10 dB to noise levels measured in the nighttime between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) is a 24-hour A-weighted noise level from midnight to midnight after the addition of five dBA to sound levels occurring in the evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and after the addition of 10 dBA to sound levels occurring in the night between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

#### **4.12.3      Impacts Evaluation**

- a.      *Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?*

The project site is located in Shoreline Park. Residential uses are not located in the vicinity of the project site. The City's 2030 General Plan has established outdoor noise environment guidelines for different land use categories. The following are the outdoor compatibility standards for golf courses:

Normally Acceptable: up to 70 dBA  $L_{dn}$

Normally Unacceptable: 70-80 dBA  $L_{dn}$

Clearly Unacceptable: 80-85+ dBA  $L_{dn}$

The existing noise environment on the site and in the vicinity results primarily from recreational and maintenance activities within the park, vehicular traffic along nearby roadways and aircraft overflights from Moffett Federal Airfield. The City's General Plan anticipates that noise at the project site would be less than 60 CNEL/ $L_{dn}$  in the year 2030.<sup>14</sup>

Once constructed, operational noise of the project site would be similar to existing conditions. Ambient noise levels at the site are associated with on-going maintenance and monitoring activities at Shoreline Park. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

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<sup>14</sup> City of Mountain View. *Mountain View 2030 General Plan*. Figure 7.

- b. *Would the project result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?*

The proposed project would include minor demolition, construction, and earthwork activities. The groundborne vibration and noise generated by these activities would be minimal, temporary and only occur during the construction phase of the project. Compliance with applicable provisions of Chapter 8 of the City of Mountain View Municipal Code, including restricting construction activity to 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, would further reduce temporary impacts from groundborne vibration and noise. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**.

- c. *Would the project result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?*

The project does not include any new noise generating uses. Once constructed, operational noise of the project site would be similar to existing conditions and include ambient noise associated with on-going maintenance and monitoring activities at Shoreline Park. **[No Impact]**

- d. *Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?*

Minor demolition, construction, and earthwork necessary for the proposed project would temporarily increase the ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project site. The increase in noise would be temporary and limited to the demolition and construction of the project. Compliance with the provisions of Chapter 8 of the City of Mountain View Municipal Code, including, restricting construction activity to 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday would further reduce temporary noise impacts from construction-related activities. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

- e-f. *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not yet been adopted, within 2 miles of a public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?*

Moffett Federal Airfield is located approximately 1.25 miles to the southeast. The project site is not located within the airport influence area for Moffett Federal Airfield. The project site is located approximately 2.0 miles south of Palo Alto Airport and is not located within the noise contour for the airport.<sup>15</sup> The project site is already subjected to noise from overhead flights associated with Palo Alto and Moffett Federal Airfield and the project would not expose people to excessive noise levels. **[No Impact]**

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<sup>15</sup> Santa Clara County Airport Land Use Commission. *Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Santa Clara County, Palo Alto Airport*. November 19, 2008.

#### **4.12.4 Conclusion**

With compliance with City of Mountain View Municipal Code, noise impacts would be less than significant. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

**4.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING**

**4.13.1 Population and Housing Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2

**4.13.2 Setting**

The proposed project is construction of a maintenance materials storage area and does not include any housing.

**4.13.3 Impacts Evaluation**

a. *Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?*

The proposed project does not include any residential uses or improvements to infrastructure that would induce population growth. Implementation of the project would not result in substantial population growth during the construction or long-term operation of the storage facility that is not already anticipated by the Mountain View 2030 General Plan. **[No Impact]**

b., c. *Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing housing or people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

The project is construction of a storage maintenance facility within Shoreline Regional Park. The project would not result in displacement of any residences and would not result the need to construct replacement housing. **[No Impact]**



#### 4.13.4 Conclusion

The project would not induce unplanned growth or result in significant adverse impacts to the existing housing supply. **[No Impact]**

**4.14 PUBLIC SERVICES**

**4.14.1 Public Services Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the 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 public services:					
1. Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,22
2. Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,23
3. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3
4. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,24
5. Other Public Facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3

**4.14.2 Setting**

Public facility services are provided to the community as a whole, usually from a central location or from a defined set of nodes. The resources base for delivery of the services, including the physical service delivery mechanisms, is financed on a community-wide basis, usually from a unified or integrated financial system. The service delivery agency can be a city, county, service or other special district.

**4.14.3 Impacts Evaluation**

a. *Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the 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 public services?*

**Fire Protection Services**

Fire protection to the project site is provided by the City of Mountain View Fire Department (MVFD), which serves a population of approximately 74,066 and an area of 12 square miles. The MVFD provides fire suppression and rescue response, hazard prevention and education, and disaster preparedness. The MVFD operates out of five stations, strategically located

throughout the City to ensure fast responses. Station Five is the closest fire station to the project site. Station Five is located at 2195 North Shoreline Boulevard, approximately 0.75 miles southeast of the project site.

The proposed project includes demolition of existing storage containers, removal of a covered storage area and construction of a new pre-engineered storage building on Site B-1. The storage building would be constructed to current Fire Code standards and would not increase the area served by the Mountain View Fire Department. Consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities included in the proposed project would not create any new potential fire hazards that do not already exist at Shoreline Park, and would not exceed the capacity of the City Fire Department to provide service to the site. **[No Impact]**

### **Police Protection Services**

Police protection services are provided by the Mountain View Police Department (MVPD). The MVPD consists of authorized staff of 95 sworn and 49.5 non-sworn personnel. The MVPD conducts an active volunteer program (non-officers), which consists of approximately 30 non-sworn volunteers. Officers patrolling the area are dispatched from police headquarters, located at 1000 Villa Street, approximately three miles driving distance south of the project site.

Existing storage and maintenance facilities at Shoreline Park are served by MVPD. The proposed project does not include the addition of any new uses. Consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities included in the proposed project would not create new demand for police services or alter existing service. **[No Impact]**

### **School Services**

The proposed project does not include any new residential development or land use. Consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities included in the proposed project would not create new demand for school services or alter existing service. **[No Impact]**

### **Park Services**

The proposed project is located within Shoreline Park, a 750-acre wildlife and recreation area with a multitude of recreational land uses. Sites B-1 and B-3 are existing designated storage and maintenance facilities within the park. Consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities included in the proposed project would not result in a demand for new park services. Demolition and construction proposed by the project may temporarily disturb recreational users of the park. Staging and use of heavy equipment would create temporary construction noise, however, these impacts are minimal and temporary and would not change the availability of the park for recreational purposes. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

### **Other Public Facilities**

The proposed project does not include any new residential development or land uses. Consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities included in the proposed project would have no impact on libraries, senior centers or other public facilities. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.14.3 Conclusion**

The project would result in a less than significant impact to public services. **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

**4.15 RECREATION**

**4.15.1 Recreation Environmental Checklist**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
e. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
f. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1

**4.15.2 Setting**

The City of Mountain View currently owns 972.26 acres of parks and open space facilities, including 22 urban parks and the Stevens Creek Trail. The urban parks are divided among mini-parks, neighborhood parks, district parks, a community garden, and a regional park (Shoreline at Mountain View). The City also maintains 10 parks under joint-use agreements with local school districts.

**4.15.3 Impacts Evaluation**

a. *Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?*

The project proposes to consolidate existing storage and maintenance facilities within Shoreline Park and would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. No substantial physical deterioration of Shoreline Park would occur or be accelerated by the project. **[No Impact]**

b. *Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?*

The proposed project is consolidation of existing storage and maintenance facilities within Shoreline Park. The project does not include recreational facilities or the need to improve or expand on existing recreational facilities. **[No Impact]**

**4.15.4 Conclusion**

The project would not impact recreation facilities within the City of Mountain View. **[No Impact]**

**4.16 TRANSPORTATION**

**4.16.1 Transportation Environmental Checklist**

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,5
b. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,2,3,16, 17
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible land uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
f. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3

**4.16.2 Setting**

Regional access to Shoreline Park is provided by US 101 and State Route (SR) 85. US 101 is a north-south freeway that extends through and beyond the Bay Area, connecting San Francisco to San Jose. Local access to Shoreline Park is provided via Shoreline Boulevard. Shoreline Boulevard is a north-south arterial that extends northward from El Camino Real (SR 82) across US 101 to the San Francisco Bay. The four-lane roadway has a landscaped median with left-turn pockets, bike lanes

and sidewalks on both sides of the street, and is the only public vehicular access point to Shoreline Park. Recreational users enter the park via Shoreline Boulevard, which provides access to the Shoreline Golf Links and Aquatic Center but does not provide outlet or access to any other public street.

Shoreline Park also provides opportunities to connect to regional trails and other park facilities including the Stevens Creek Trail, Permanente Creek Trail, and the San Francisco Bay Trail.

#### **4.16.3            Impacts Evaluation**

- a. – b. Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit? Would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?*

The only public vehicular access point to Shoreline Park is via Shoreline Boulevard. The proposed project site can only be accessed via existing internal maintenance roads that are not open to public vehicles.

Current maintenance activities at Shoreline Park require delivery of loose materials on a regular basis. Topdressing sand and mulch are delivered approximately once per month. Pea gravel is delivered approximately every two months, and landscape blend is delivered on an as needed basis between March and October, which could be one load per month or up to a load per day, depending on need. Bunker sand is delivered every three months and crushed rock is delivered approximately once per year.<sup>16</sup> Unwanted soil and expired materials are hauled offsite on an as needed basis. The proposed project would not increase or otherwise change the existing delivery schedule of maintenance materials.

Once delivered, maintenance materials are moved around Shoreline Park for a variety of maintenance activities using maintenance trucks, ProGators (heavy duty turf vehicles), Gators (light duty turf vehicles) and, on occasion, a flatbed truck.

The proposed project does not include any new employment and would not increase traffic either during construction or after project completion. The project would not exceed a level of service standard established by any congestion management agency. **[No Impact]**

- c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?*

Moffett Federal Airfield is located approximately 1.25 miles southeast of the project site. The project would not affect air traffic patterns. **[No Impact]**

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<sup>16</sup> Rose, Jennifer. City of Mountain View Department of Public Works. Personal Communication.

*d. – e. Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible land uses (e.g., farm equipment)? Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?*

Access to the proposed project site is provided via existing internal maintenance roads. The project does not include any roadway improvements, modifications, or changes, and would not increase hazards due to design features or incompatible land uses. The project does not propose any new parking. The proposed project would not change access to the site and would not result in inadequate emergency access, which is currently provided by existing paved maintenance roads. **[No Impact]**

*f. Would the project conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?*

The project would not be in conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. The project does not include any improvements, modifications, or changes to existing pedestrian trails in Shoreline Park. The project would not impact the performance of any facilities. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.16.4            Conclusion**

The proposed project would not impact transportation or traffic. **[No Impact]**



## 4.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

### 4.17.1 Utilities and Service Systems Environmental Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,25
c. Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,26
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,27
g. Comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1,3,27

### 4.17.2 Setting

The City of Mountain View owns and operates its own water utility, which serves the majority of the City and all of the North Bayshore area. Most of the City's water (approximately 84 percent) comes from the City and the County of San Francisco Regional Water System, operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC).

This water originates primarily in the Sierra Nevada and is transported via the Hetch Hetchy Water System, but also includes treated water from facilities in Alameda and San Mateo Counties. Mountain View's remaining water comes from the Santa Clara Valley Water District System

(SCVWD) (approximately nine percent), local groundwater wells (four percent), and recycled water delivered for non-potable irrigation purposes (three percent).

The City of Mountain View maintains its own wastewater collection system. The City pumps its wastewater to the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) for treatment. The RWQCP has an overall 40 million gallons per day (mgd) average annual treatment capacity. The City of Mountain View has an annual wastewater capacity allotment of 15.1 mgd at the plant. As of 2010, approximately 8.8 mgd of wastewater from Mountain View was collected and treated by the RWQCP. This quantity is expected to increase to 12.6 mgd by the year 2035.<sup>17</sup>

Solid waste collection and recycling services for residents and businesses in Mountain View are provided by Recology Mountain View (formerly known as Foothill Disposal). Once collected, solid waste and recyclables are transported to the SMaRT station in Sunnyvale for sorting. Non-recyclable waste is transported to Kirby Canyon Sanitary Landfill in south San José, which is contracted to the City until 2021. Additional small quantities of waste may be transported to other landfills within the area by private contractors.

#### **4.17.3            Impacts Evaluation**

- a.     *Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?*

The proposed project would not create additional wastewater that is not already generated by existing maintenance activities at Shoreline Park, and would not exceed existing wastewater requirements. **[No Impact]**

- b.     *Would the project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

The proposed project would not create additional wastewater that is not already generated by existing maintenance activities at Shoreline Park. The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater facilities or require the expansion of existing facilities. **[No Impact]**

- c.     *Would the project require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

Stormwater at Site B-1 currently flows north into an existing stormwater intake located at the entrance of the site. The proposed project does not include any changes or modifications to the existing stormwater drain. The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or require the expansion of existing facilities. **[No Impact]**

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<sup>17</sup> City of Mountain View. *2010 Urban Water Management Plan*. June 2011.

- d. *Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?*

Water is currently available at Sites B-1 and B-3, and the proposed project would not require additional water supplies or new or expanded entitlements. Water supply would be provided from several water vaults in the vicinity of the project. The proposed project would not increase the amount of water needed for maintenance activities at Shoreline Park over existing conditions. **[No Impact]**

- e. *Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?*

The proposed project would not generate additional wastewater over existing conditions. The proposed project is a consolidation of storage and maintenance facilities at Shoreline Park and no additional water capacity is proposed or required. **[No Impact]**

- f. - g. *Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs? Would the project comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste?*

Solid waste generated from maintenance activities at Shoreline Park is currently placed in eight or ten yard debris bins and hauled offsite on an as-needed basis. Solid waste generated by the proposed project would be hauled to the City's designated recycling facility in Sunnyvale. Unrecoverable refuse is transported to Kirby Canyon Landfill in San José for disposal. The proposed project is not expected to generate additional solid waste that is not already generated by existing maintenance activities at Shoreline Park. **[No Impact]**

#### **4.17.4 Conclusion**

The project would not result in any utility or service facility exceeding its current capacity or require the construction of new infrastructure or service facilities. **[No Impact]**

**4.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**4.18.1 Mandatory Findings Environmental Checklist**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Checklist Source(s)
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pages 6-101
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pages 6-101
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pages 6-101

**4.18.2 Impacts Evaluation**

- a. *Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?*

The project would not result in significant impacts to aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, and utilities and service systems.

With the implementation of the mitigation measures included in the proposed project and described in the biological resources section of this Initial Study, the proposed project would not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

- b. *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?*

As identified elsewhere in this Initial Study, the potential environmental impacts from the proposed project are primarily limited to the construction period, which is estimated to be approximately four to six months. There are no other known construction projects in Shoreline Park. It is possible that other proposed construction schedules in the North Bayshore area may overlap with the project, but the overlap is likely to be minimal, and the proposed project includes measures to minimize disturbance to adjacent land uses. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

- c. *Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*

Under this standard, a change to the physical environment that might otherwise be minor must be treated as significant if it would cause substantial adverse effects to humans, either directly or indirectly. This factor relates to adverse changes to the environment of human beings generally, and not to effects on particular individuals.

While changes to the environment that could indirectly affect human beings would be represented by all of the designated CEQA issue areas, those that could directly affect human beings include air quality and noise. Due to the short construction schedule and limited areal extent of the project, impacts to human beings resulting from construction-related air and noise impacts would be less than significant. No other direct or indirect adverse effects of the project on human beings have been identified. **[Less than Significant Impact]**

SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS	MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES
<b>Biological Resources Impacts</b>	
<p><b>Impact BIO-1:</b> Development of the proposed project could impact undocumented occurrences of Congdon’s tarplant. [Significant Impact]</p> <p>[Significant Impact]</p>	<p>The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to Congdon’s tarplant.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-1.1:</b> If Congdon’s tarplant is found during the preconstruction survey, and avoidance is not feasible, the City biologist will work directly with the CDFW to develop a mitigation and monitoring plan for the species prior to any construction activities. Impacts will be mitigated at a minimum 1:1 ratio. The mitigation plan will identify an appropriate location with Shoreline Park to replant or replace the lost plant population. The plan will also describe the propagation or planting techniques to be used during mitigation efforts, establish a success criteria, identify remedial actions, and provide funding for the long-term monitoring and management of the mitigation area depending on the level of impact and the mitigation required by CDFW.</p> <p>[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]</p>
<p><b>Impact BIO-2:</b> Development of the proposed project would result in permanent removal of approximately 0.84-acres of burrowing owl foraging habitat and removal of a previously installed artificial burrowing owl burrow</p> <p>[Significant Impact]</p>	<p>The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to burrowing owls owl foraging habitat:</p> <p><b>MM BIO-2.1:</b> The proposed project will prepare a Burrowing Owl Mitigation Plan (BOMP) in coordination with the City biologist and CDFW prior to any construction-related activities. The BOMP will identify the proposed burrowing owl mitigation site and include details as to how the project will mitigate for impacts to foraging habitat and the loss of the artificial burrow. In accordance with the Shoreline Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan, impacts to burrowing owl foraging habitat will be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio, and impacts to suitable burrows (ground squirrel burrows and artificial burrowing owl boxes) will be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio within Shoreline Park. The BOMP shall be approved by CDFW prior to implementation</p> <p>[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]</p>

SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS	MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES
<p><b>Impact BIO-3:</b> Development of the proposed project could result in direct impacts to burrowing owls.</p> <p><b>[Significant Impact]</b></p>	<p>The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to burrowing owls:</p> <p><b>MM BIO-3.1:</b> Prior to any site disturbance, staging, or construction-related activities, the City of Mountain View biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey. The purpose of the survey is to document the presence or absence of burrowing owls on the project site, and in areas within 250 feet of any construction activity. If no owls or evidence of owls are observed during the preconstruction survey, construction-related activities will be allowed to proceed.</p> <p>If burrowing owls are observed during the survey, the City of Mountain View biologist will establish a 250-foot non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows. Construction activities outside of this 250-foot buffer are allowed to proceed. Construction activities within the non-disturbance buffer will be evaluated and allowed at the discretion of the City biologist, in consultation with CDFW, and if the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The City biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction.)</li> <li>▪ The City biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.</li> <li>▪ If there is any change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, these activities will cease within the 250-foot buffer. Construction cannot resume within the 250-foot buffer until the adults and juveniles from the occupied burrows have moved out of the project site as determined by the City biologist.</li> </ul> <p>The City biologist will monitor the project site during all construction-related activities to ensure that no owls are directly impacted by project activities.</p> <p>Construction-related activities could be limited to the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to reduce the disturbance to owls if</p>

<b>SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS</b>	<b>MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES</b>
	<p>a bird were to nest on or near the project site. Restricting construction times will be at the discretion of the City biologist.</p> <p>A vehicle and equipment travel route shall be clearly marked on the project plans and on the ground at the project site prior to beginning construction-related activities. Cones or flags may be used to mark the vehicle travel route within 100 feet of the project location.</p> <p>On-site worker education will be provided to all workers involved at the project site by the City of Mountain View biologist. Education will include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction to burrowing owl natural history,</li> <li>▪ Informing worker on identification and location of nearby burrows,</li> <li>▪ Providing information on ways to protect resident owls.</li> </ul> <p><b>[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]</b></p>
<p><b>Impact BIO-4:</b> Development of the proposed project could result in direct impacts to nesting birds</p> <p><b>[Significant Impact]</b></p>	<p>The City shall implement the following measures to reduce impacts to nesting birds:</p> <p><b>MM BIO-4.1:</b> A preconstruction nesting bird survey shall be completed by the City of Mountain View biologist prior to demolition, vegetation removal, or any construction related activity occur during the breeding season (February through August). Surveys shall be completed no more than 14 days before initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). If nests are observed, the biologist in consultation with CDFW, will determine an adequate buffer zone and other minimization measures to ensure that nests will not be disturbed during project construction. Avoidance buffers and minimization measures shall be utilized until the City biologist determines that the nest is no longer being utilized.</p> <p><b>[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]</b></p>



SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS	MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES
<p><b>Impact BIO-5:</b> Removal and/or consolidation of portable shipping containers at Site B-1 has the potential to impact active grey fox dens.</p> <p><b>[Significant Impact]</b></p>	<p><b>MM BIO-5.1:</b> In order to avoid direct impacts to grey foxes, prior to construction-related activities, known grey fox dens will be monitored for three days by the City of Mountain View biologist using a tracking medium or wildlife camera to determine if dens are currently being used. If grey fox activity is observed at the den locations during the initial monitoring period, the dens will be monitored for an additional five consecutive days from the time of the first observation to allow any resident animals to move to another den while den use is actively discouraged.</p> <p>If a natal or pupping den is found, the den will not be removed or destroyed until pups and adults have been vacated as determined by the City of Mountain View biologist and CDFW. A 250-foot exclusion zone buffer will be established around each den by the City biologist. For dens other than natal or pupping dens, use of the den can be discouraged by partially plugging the entrance with soil such that any resident animal can easily escape, or by other exclusion techniques approved by CDFW.</p> <p>Once the den is determined to be unoccupied, it may be excavated/destroyed under the direction of the City biologist.</p> <p>Any occupied grey fox den that is destroyed will be replaced/mitigated by installing an artificial den box within Shoreline Park, within a quarter-mile of the project site, at a 1:1 ratio. The location and placement of artificial den boxes will be at the direction of the City biologist.</p>

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### **Persons and Organizations Consulted**

Phil Higgins, City of Mountain View Biologist

Jennifer Rose, City of Mountain View Public Works Department

## **SECTION 6.0 LEAD AGENCY AND CONSULTANTS**

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### **LEAD AGENCY**

**City of Mountain View**  
*Public Works Department*  
Jennifer Rose, Project Manager  
Phil Higgins, Biologist

### **CONSULTANTS**

**David J. Powers & Associates, Inc.**  
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Judy Shanley, Principal  
Judy Fenerty, Project Manager  
Jared Bond, Associate Project Manager/Biologist  
Zach Dill, Graphic Artist

## **SECTION 7.0 DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

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### **CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

##### **A. LEAD AGENCY AND ADDRESS**

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Mountain View, CA 94041  
(650) 903-6311

##### **D. EXISTING GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION AND ZONING**

General Plan: *Regional Park*  
Zoning District: *Public Facility (PF)*

##### **E. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The City of Mountain View proposes to consolidate materials storage for on-going maintenance activities associated with Shoreline Park. The project proposes placement of a new pre-engineered storage building in the existing Site B-1 maintenance yard. The new building would include a foundation and a landfill gas mitigation system. The project proposes to relocate three existing maintenance material storage containers located adjacent to Site B-1 over to Site B-2, and would also construct ten concrete soil and material storage bins on Site B-3. Site preparation and grading would be necessary to complete the project. New soil berms would also be installed at Site B-2 and Site B-3 to provide visual screening of the storage areas.

## F. LOCATION OF PROJECT

The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park in the City of Mountain View (Shoreline Park). The 29.65-acre parcel is part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course and supports an existing City of Mountain View Public Works Department storage and maintenance yard, referred to as Site B-1. This parcel also includes a secondary, unpaved loose material storage yard, referred to as Site B-3.

## II. MITIGATION MEASURES

### Biological Resources

**MM BIO-1.1:** Prior to any construction-related activities, a preconstruction survey for Congdon's tarplant will be conducted by the City biologist in accordance with CDFW plant survey protocols.

If Congdon's tarplant is found during the preconstruction survey, and avoidance is not feasible, the City biologist will work directly with the CDFW to develop a mitigation and monitoring plan for the species prior to any construction activities. Impacts would be mitigated at a minimum 1:1 ratio. The mitigation plan will identify an appropriate location with Shoreline Park to replant or replace the lost plant population. The plan will also describe the propagation or planting techniques to be used during mitigation efforts, establish a success criteria, identify remedial actions, and provide funding for the long-term monitoring and management of the mitigation area depending on the level of impact and the mitigation required by CDFW.

**MM BIO-2.1:** The proposed project will prepare a Burrowing Owl Mitigation Plan (BOMP) in coordination with the City biologist and CDFW prior to any construction-related activities. The BOMP will identify the proposed burrowing owl mitigation site and include details as to how the project will mitigate for impacts to foraging habitat and the loss of the artificial burrow. In accordance with the Shoreline Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan, impacts to burrowing owl foraging habitat will be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio, and impacts to suitable burrows (ground squirrel burrows and artificial burrowing owl boxes) will be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio within Shoreline Park. The BOMP shall be approved by CDFW prior to implementation.

**MM BIO-3.1:** Prior to any site disturbance, staging, or construction-related activities, the City of Mountain View biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey. The purpose of the survey is to document the presence or absence of burrowing owls on the project site, and in areas within 250 feet of any construction activity. If no owls or evidence of owls are observed during the preconstruction survey, construction-related activities will be allowed to proceed.



If burrowing owls are observed during the survey, the City of Mountain View biologist will establish a 250-foot non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows. Construction activities outside of this 250-foot buffer are allowed to proceed. Construction activities within the non-disturbance buffer will be evaluated and allowed at the discretion of the City biologist, in consultation with CDFW, and if the following criteria are met:

- The City biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction.)
- The City biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
- If there is any change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, these activities will cease within the 250-foot buffer. Construction cannot resume within the 250-foot buffer until the adults and juveniles from the occupied burrows have moved out of the project site as determined by the City biologist.

The City biologist will monitor the project site during all construction-related activities to ensure that no owls are directly impacted by project activities.

Construction-related activities could be limited to the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to reduce the disturbance to owls if a bird were to nest on or near the project site. Restricting construction times will be at the discretion of the City biologist.

A vehicle and equipment travel route shall be clearly marked on the project plans and on the ground at the project site prior to beginning construction-related activities. Cones or flags may be used to mark the vehicle travel route within 100 feet of the project location.

On-site worker education will be provided to all workers involved at the project site by the City of Mountain View biologist. Education will include, but is not limited to the following:

- Introduction to burrowing owl natural history,
- Informing workers on identification and location of nearby burrows,
- Providing information on ways to protect resident owls.

**MM BIO-4.1:** A preconstruction nesting bird survey shall be completed by the City of Mountain View biologist prior to demolition, vegetation removal, or any construction related activity occur during the breeding season (February through August). Surveys shall be completed no more than 14 days before initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). If nests are observed, the biologist, in consultation with CDFW, will determine an adequate buffer zone and other minimization measures to ensure that nests will not be disturbed during project construction. Avoidance buffers and minimization measures shall be utilized until the City biologist determines that the nest is no longer being utilized.

**MM BIO-5.1:** In order to avoid direct impacts to grey foxes, prior to construction-related activities, known grey fox dens will be monitored for three days by the City of Mountain View biologist using a tracking medium or wildlife camera to determine if dens are currently being used. If grey fox activity is observed at the den locations during the initial monitoring period, the dens will be monitored for an additional five consecutive days from the time of the first observation to allow any resident animals to move to another den while den use is actively discouraged.

If a natal or pupping den is found, the den will not be removed or destroyed until pups and adults have been vacated, as determined by the City of Mountain View biologist and CDFW. A 250-foot exclusion zone buffer will be established around each den by the City biologist. For dens other than natal or pupping dens, use of the den can be discouraged by partially plugging the entrance with soil such that any resident animal can easily escape, or by other exclusion techniques approved by CDFW.

Once the den is determined to be unoccupied, it may be excavated/destroyed under the direction of the City biologist.

Any occupied grey fox den that is destroyed will be replaced/mitigated by installing an artificial den box within Shoreline Park, within a quarter-mile of the project site, at a 1:1 ratio. The location and placement of artificial den boxes will be at the direction of the City biologist.

### III. DETERMINATION

In accordance with local procedures regarding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Public Works Department has conducted an Initial Study to determine whether the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and on the basis of that study recommends the following determination:

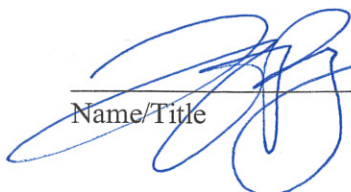
*The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment based on the implementation of the required mitigation measures, and therefore, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is not required.*

The Initial Study incorporates all relevant information regarding potential environmental effects of the project and confirms the determination that an EIR is not required.

### IV. FINDINGS

Based on the findings of the Initial Study, the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

- A. As discussed in the preceding sections, the proposed project does not have the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment, including effects on animals or plants, or to eliminate historic or prehistoric sites.
- B. As discussed in the preceding sections, both short-term and long-term environmental effects associated with the proposed project will be less than significant.
- C. When impacts associated with the adoption of the proposed project are considered alone or in combination with other impacts, the project-related impacts are insignificant.
- D. The above discussions do not identify any substantial adverse impacts to people as a result of the proposed project.
- E. This determination reflects the independent judgment of the City.

  
Name/Title Project Manager

1/22/2015  
Date



## **APPENDIX A**

Biological Resources Letter Report  
David J. Powers & Associates

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*Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan  
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration*

City of Mountain View

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October 23, 2014

Jennifer K. Rose  
Public Works Department  
City of Mountain View  
500 Castro Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Mountain View, CA 94041

**RE: Biological Resources Letter Report for the Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan Project,  
City of Mountain View, Santa Clara County.**

Sent via email: [jennifer.rose@mountainview.gov](mailto:jennifer.rose@mountainview.gov)

Dear Ms. Rose:

Per your request, this biological resources letter report provides an assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan project on sensitive biological resources. David J. Powers & Associates (DJP&A) conducted a biological resources assessment of the proposed project site located in Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park on September 25, 2014. The results of the biological assessment are described below.

### ***Introduction and Project Description***

The purpose of this biological assessment is to review and document the biological resources associated with the proposed project site as part of the environmental review process for the Shoreline Maintenance Storage Plan project. The proposed project is located within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park, a 750-acre wildlife and recreation area known to support special-status species.

The proposed project site (APN 116-04-007) is located within a 29.65-acre parcel that is part of the Shoreline Golf Links golf course. The site currently supports an existing storage and maintenance yard, referred to as Site B-1. This parcel also includes a secondary, unpaved loose material storage yard, referred to as Site B-3, located directly east of Site B-1 (Figure 1). Both sites are used daily for a variety of on-going operations and maintenance activities at Shoreline at Mountain Regional Park (Shoreline Park).

The City of Mountain View Public Works Department proposes to clean up and consolidate existing maintenance material storage areas located in the park. The project proposes placement of a new prefabricated storage building on Site B-1. The project also proposes to construct approximately ten concrete soil and loose material storage bins on Site B-3. Minimal site preparation and grading would be necessary to complete the project.

### ***Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park***

Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park is a 750-acre wildlife and recreation area owned and operated by the City of Mountain View. For over 20 years, burrowing owls (*Athene cunicularia*) have been documented as year-round residents in the park. Shoreline Park is one of the last areas in Santa Clara County supporting burrowing owls and, as such, provides important habitat for the species.

In 1998, the City developed the Burrowing Owl Management Plan for the Park to promote burrowing owl protection during maintenance activities, by focusing on meeting regulatory requirements for the closed landfill while avoiding impacts to birds. In 2010, the management plan was updated and the name changed from “Burrowing Owl Management Plan” to “Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan.” The Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan offers goals and actions that the City can implement, which will facilitate on-going maintenance activities while supporting management techniques that have the greatest potential for maintaining a population of burrowing owls at Shoreline Park. The Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan was most recently updated and adopted by the Mountain View City Council in October 2012.<sup>1</sup>

The project site is located within an area actively managed for burrowing owls and is also located directly adjacent to an existing 6.5-acre burrowing owl mitigation area. The 6.5-acre area is an official burrowing owl nesting mitigation site located inside a newly established burrowing owl preserve. The project is required to comply with the provisions of the Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan.

### ***Methods***

On September 25, 2014, DJP&A Associate Project Manager/Biologist Jared Bond was escorted to the project site by City of Mountain View Biologist Phil Higgins. The project site was evaluated to determine if existing conditions provide suitable habitat for any special status plant or wildlife species. Special status species include those plants and wildlife species that have been formally listed, are proposed as endangered or threatened, or are candidates for such listing under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA).

A burrowing owl habitat assessment was conducted in accordance with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (CDFW) *2012 Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation*. The project site was

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<sup>1</sup> Mountain View, City of. *Shoreline Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan*. October 1, 2012.

also examined for the presence of sensitive biological communities or habitats that fulfill special functions or have special value, such as wetlands, streams, and riparian habitat.

## **Results**

Shoreline Park is well known for supporting habitats for a variety of special status and non-special status species. The project site consists of Site B-1 and Site B-3, located in Shoreline Park. Site B-1 is an existing, developed storage area that supports an auxiliary building for a Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) air compressor station, portable storage/shipping containers, a covered storage area, loose maintenance materials, landscaping, paved driveways, and surface parking areas. Vegetation on the perimeter levee of the storage area includes various planted trees including eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus spp.*) and pine (*Pinus spp.*), and ornamental shrubs and forbs such as ice plant (Photos 1 & 2).

Site B-3 is a highly-disturbed, loose materials storage yard. The central portion of the site supports an unpaved road that provides vehicular access to an existing storage pad. The access road and pad area is covered in ballast material and characterized as ruderal habitat with emergent non-natives such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*). The vegetated portion of the site is dominated by herbaceous, non-native grasses but also supports dense thickets of shrub species including coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*). Overall, the site is characterized as non-native upland habitat (Photos 3 & 4).

## **Burrowing Owls**

The entire terrestrial area of Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park (approximately 530 acres) is considered burrowing owl habitat and is used by owls to nest in the spring, roost in the winter, or forage year-round. At any time of the year, burrowing owls may be found at any location in Shoreline Park, and projects anywhere in the park have the potential to impact the species.<sup>2</sup>

Small mammal burrows, including burrows of California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beechyi*), are located along the northern portion of Site B-3 and the perimeter of the golf course along the southern portion of the project site. Site B-3 also contains an artificial burrow that was installed in 2010 as part of mitigation efforts for burrowing owl impacts at Shoreline golf course. Tall grasses and dense shrubs have likely precluded burrowing owls from occupying the artificial burrow. No burrowing owls or burrowing owl sign (e.g., whitewash, pellets, feathers, and/or prey remains) were observed on Site B-1 or Site B-3 during the site visit on September 25, 2014. A map showing the general location of the artificial burrowing owl burrow and ground squirrel burrows can be seen on Figure 2.

Due to the presence of small mammal burrows, tall vegetation, and a diversity of ground cover conditions, Site B-3 supports moderate to high quality burrowing owl foraging habitat.<sup>3</sup> Adjacent to Site B-3 is a 6.5-acre formally designated burrowing owl nesting mitigation site actively managed for

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.



burrowing owls that is associated with the Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan. Further southwest of the project site, across Permanente Creek on Vista Slope, is a 12-acre site formally designated as a burrowing owl foraging habitat mitigation area that is also associated with the Burrowing Owl Preservation Plan.

### **Special-status Plant Species**

Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi ssp. congdonii*), is listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as a California Rare Plant 1B.1 species. Congdon's tarplant is an annual herb in the composite family (Asteraceae) that has a variable blooming period extending from June through November. It occurs in valley and foothill grasslands, particularly those with alkaline substrates, and in slumps or disturbed areas where water collects in lower elevation wetlands below approximately 760 feet. This subspecies tolerates disturbance and often occurs in disked fields with non-native, California annual grassland habitat with Harding grass (*Phalaris paradoxa*) and alkali mallow (*Malvella leprosa*).<sup>4</sup>

Congdon's tarplant is present in ruderal portions of the North Bayshore area. City of Mountain View biologists have reported five known populations of Congdon's tarplant within Shoreline at Mountain Park; the CNPS identified Congdon's tarplant at the Crittenden Hill location in 2013 (P. Higgins, personal communication).

Due to the presence of ruderal and non-native grassland habitat, Site B-3 is considered suitable habitat for Congdon's tarplant. Congdon's tarplant has not been documented as occurring on the project site, and was not observed during the site visit on September 25, 2014. For these reason, Congdon's tarplant has a low to moderate potential to occur on the proposed project site.

### **Grey Foxes**

Grey fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) is an uncommon to common permanent resident throughout most of the state. The species is known to frequent meadows, croplands, shrublands, valley foothills riparian, montane riparian, and brush stages of many deciduous forest and woodland habitats.

Grey foxes have been reported to den under two separate portable shipping containers located at Site B-1. Once shipping container is located just outside of the gate/fence along the maintenance road and the other is located inside Site B-1. In 2013 and 2014, two grey fox dens were observed at the proposed project site.<sup>5</sup> Removal and/or consolidation of portable shipping containers at Site B-1 has the potential to impact active grey fox dens.

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<sup>4</sup> Mountain View, City of. 2030 General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program Environmental Impact Report. June 2012.

<sup>5</sup> Higgins, Phil. City of Mountain View. Biologist. Personal Communication.

## **Nesting Birds**

Trees, vegetation, and storage buildings also provide suitable nesting opportunities for a variety of bird species. Most avian species in the United States, including non-special status species, are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Disturbing or destroying active nests, eggs, and young is prohibited under this act. Since birds may nest in trees and vegetation within and adjacent to the proposed project site, there is potential for construction-related activities to impact nesting birds if active nests are removed, or otherwise disturbed during the avian breeding season (February 1 through August 31).

### ***Conclusions/Recommendations***

## **Burrowing Owls**

Burrowing owls regularly nest, forage, and overwinter at Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park. The proposed project will result in permanent removal of approximately 0.84-acres of burrowing owl foraging habitat. The loss of foraging habitat would result from the installation of the new material storage bins and existing gravel pad located on Site B-3. The proposed project will also result in the removal of an inactive unoccupied artificial burrowing owl burrow that was installed in 2010 as part of mitigation for burrowing owl impacts at the adjacent golf course (Figure 2). Any project or activity that will permanently impact burrowing owl foraging or nesting habitat must be approved by CDFW. Recommendations for avoiding significant impacts to burrowing owl foraging habitat are summarized as follows:

- The proposed project will prepare a Burrowing Owl Mitigation Plan (BOMP) in coordination with the City biologist and CDFW prior to any construction-related activities. The BOMP will identify the proposed burrowing owl mitigation site and include details as to how the project will mitigate for impacts to foraging habitat and the loss of the artificial burrow. Impacts to burrowing owl foraging habitat will be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio, and impacts to suitable burrows (ground squirrel burrows and artificial burrowing owl boxes) will be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio. The BOMP will ultimately be approved by CDFW prior to implementation.

The proposed project site is not currently occupied but could become occupied by burrowing owls at any time due to the presence of suitable habitat (low growing vegetation and ground squirrel burrows). Burrowing owls are actively using areas adjacent to the proposed project site including the golf course and Vista Slope. One burrowing owl has recently been observed on fairway 13 and another owl was observed utilized multiple small mammal burrows on fairway 16 earlier in 2014. A pair of burrowing owls also successfully nested on fairway 15 in 2014.<sup>6</sup> Recommendations for avoiding direct impacts to burrowing owls are summarized as follows:

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<sup>6</sup> Higgins, Phil. City of Mountain View. Biologist. Personal Communication.

- Construction related activities should take place during the non-breeding season (September 1-January 31) to the greatest feasible.
- Prior to any site disturbance, staging, or construction-related activities, the City of Mountain View owl biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey. The purpose of the survey is to document the presence or absence of burrowing owls on the project site, and in areas within 250 feet of any construction activity. If no owls or evidence of owls are observed during the preconstruction survey, construction-related activities will be allowed to proceed.

If burrowing owls are observed during the survey, the City of Mountain View biologist will establish a 250 foot non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows. Construction activities outside of this 250 foot buffer are allowed to proceed. Construction activities within the non-disturbance buffer will be evaluated and allowed at the discretion of the City biologist, in consultation with CDFW, and if the following criteria are met:

- The City biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction.)
  - The City biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
  - If there is any change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, these activities will cease within the 250-foot buffer. Construction cannot resume within the 250-foot buffer until the adults and juveniles from the occupied burrows have moved out of the project site as determined by the City biologist.
- The City biologist will monitor the project site during construction to ensure that no owls are directly impacted by project activities.
- Construction-related activities should be limited to the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to reduce the disturbance to owls during their foraging periods.
- A vehicle and equipment travel route will be clearly marked on the project plans and on the ground at the project site prior to beginning construction-related activities. Cones or flags may be used to mark the vehicle travel route within 100 feet of the project location.
- On-site worker education will be provided to all workers involved at the project site by the City of Mountain View owl biologist. Education will include but is not limited to the following:
  - Introduction to burrowing owl natural history,
  - Informing worker on identification and location of nearby burrows,
  - Providing information on ways to protect resident owls.

## **Congdon's Tarplant**

Due to the presence of ruderal and non-native grassland habitat, Site B-3 is considered low to moderate habitat for Congdon's tarplant.<sup>7</sup> The species has been documented in multiple locations within Shoreline Park and has been observed approximately 800 feet northwest of the project site (P. Higgins, personal communication). Recommendations for avoiding significant impacts to Congdon's tarplant are summarized as follows:

- Prior to any construction-related activities, a preconstruction survey for Congdon's tarplant will be conducted by the City of Mountain View biologist in accordance with CDFW plant survey protocols.<sup>8</sup>

## **Nesting Birds**

Since birds may nest in trees and vegetation within and adjacent to the proposed project site, there is potential for construction-related activities to impact nesting birds if active nests are removed, or otherwise disturbed during the avian breeding season (February 1 through August 31). Recommendations for avoiding impacts to nesting birds are summarized as follows:

- A preconstruction nesting bird survey shall be completed by the City of Mountain View biologist prior to vegetation removal or any construction related activity occur during the breeding season (February through August) in order to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Surveys shall be completed by a qualified biologist no more than 14 days before initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). If nests are observed, the biologist in consultation with CDFW, will determine an adequate buffer zone and other minimization measures to ensure that nests will not be disturbed during project construction. Avoidance buffers and minimization measures shall be utilized until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer being utilized.

## **Grey Foxes**

Grey foxes have been reported to den under the portable shipping containers located at Site B-1. Removal and/or consolidation of portable shipping containers at Site B-1 has the potential to impact two known grey fox dens. Recommendations for avoiding impacts to grey foxes are summarized as follows:

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<sup>7</sup> Mountain View, City of. *2030 General Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program Environmental Impact Report*. June 2012.

<sup>8</sup> California Department of Fish and Wildlife. *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities*. 2009.

- In order to avoid direct impacts to grey foxes, prior to construction related activities, known grey fox dens will be monitored for three days by the City of Mountain View biologist using a tracking medium or wildlife camera to determine if dens are currently being used. If grey fox activity is observed at the den locations during the initial monitoring period, the dens will be monitored for an additional five consecutive days from the time of the first observation to allow any resident animals to move to another den while den use is actively discouraged.
- If a natal or pupping den is found, the den will not be removed or destroyed until pups and adults have been vacated as determined by the City of Mountain View biologist and CDFW. A 250 foot exclusion zone buffer will be established around each den by the City biologist. For dens other than natal or pupping dens, use of the den can be discouraged by partially plugging the entrance with soil such that any resident animal can easily escape, or by other exclusion techniques approved by CDFW.
- Once the den is determined to be unoccupied, it may be excavated/destroyed under the direction of the City biologist.
- Any occupied grey fox den that is destroyed will be replaced/mitigated by installing an artificial den box within Shoreline Park, within a quarter mile of the project site, at a 1:1 ratio. The location and placement of artificial den boxes will be at the direction of the City biologist.

Implementation of the avoidance and minimization recommendations listed above will reduce the potential project impacts to special-status species and nesting birds that may occur within the project site.

Sincerely,



Jared Bond  
Associate Project Manager/  
Biologist  
David J. Powers & Associates

## ***References***

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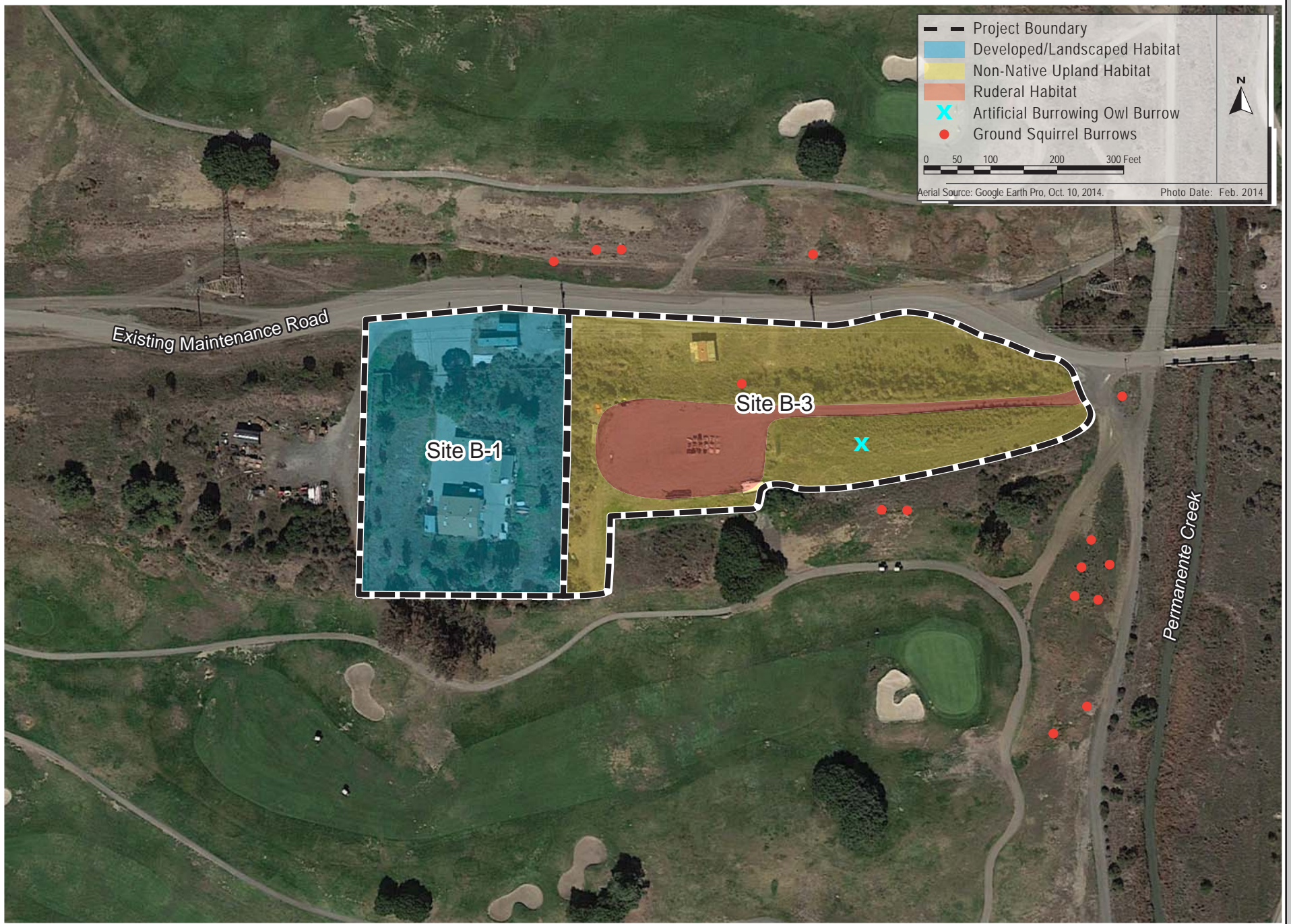
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SHORELINE MAINTENANCE STORAGE PLAN PROPOSED PROJECT SITE

FIGURE 1



SHORELINE MAINTENANCE STORAGE PLAN HABITAT MAP

FIGURE 2





**PHOTO 1:** Looking south across Site B-1, showing auxiliary building and storage containers.



**PHOTO 2:** Existing storage containers and maintenance materials at site B-1.



**PHOTO 3:** Looking west across site B-3, showing existing loose material storage pad and associated ruderal habitat.



**PHOTO 4:** Looking east across site B-3, showing existing access road and upland habitat.

