8.0 EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

The City of Duarte conducted an Initial Study in April 2013 to determine significant effects of the original Duarte Station Specific Plan. In the course of this evaluation, certain impacts of the project were found to be less than significant due to the inability of a project of this scope to create such impacts or the absence of project characteristics producing effects of this type. The effects determined not to be significant are not required to be included in primary analysis sections of the original Draft EIR or the Subsequent EIR. In accordance with *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15128, the following section identifies those impacts determined to be less than significant in the Initial Study. A copy of the Initial Study and the explanation for the less than significant conclusions of the following environmental issue areas can be found on the City of Duarte's website at:

https://www.accessduarte.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=22845

This section also summarizes which impacts were found to be less than significant in the EIR, both with and without the imposition of mitigation measures.

8.1 INITIAL STUDY CONCLUSIONS

AESTHETICS

- Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.
- Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

- 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.
- Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract.
- 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)).
- Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.
- 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.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- 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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- 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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- 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.

- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

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

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines §15064.5.

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15064.5.

- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

    - Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated 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.

    - Strong seismic ground shaking.

- Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction.
- Landslides.

- Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.
- Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in an on-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.
- Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property.
- Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.
- 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.
- 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.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

- 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.
- Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows.
- 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.
- Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

- Physically divide an established community.
- Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

MINERAL RESOURCES

- Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state.
- 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.

NOISE

- 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 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.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

- Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.
- Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

- 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.
- Result in inadequate emergency access.

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- 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.

8.2 EIR CONCLUSIONS

8.2.1 NO IMPACTS OR LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

LAND USE

Implementation of the proposed project could conflict with a Duarte General Plan land use plan or policy.

Implementation of the proposed project could conflict with the Duarte Municipal Code standards and regulations.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could conflict with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations.

AESTHETICS

Construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project could result in significant impacts related to temporary degradation of the visual character/quality of the site and its surroundings.

Implementation of the proposed project could result in significant impacts related to the long-term degradation of the visual character/quality of the site and its surroundings – visual character/quality.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project along with other cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable aesthetics impacts.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Implementation of the proposed project could induce substantial population growth in the City.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could induce substantial population and housing growth in the area.

TRAFFIC

Implementation of the proposed project could result in a decrease of the performance or safety of public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities as a result of a conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs.

AIR QUALITY

Implementation of the proposed project could result in emissions (such as those leading to odor) adversely affecting a substantial number of people.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Greenhouse gas emissions generated by development associated with implementation of the proposed project could have a significant impact on global climate change.

Implementation of the proposed project could conflict with an applicable greenhouse gas reduction plan, policy, or regulation.

Development facilitated under implementation of the proposed project could energy in a wasteful, inefficient, or necessary way.

Greenhouse gas emissions generated by implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could have a significant impact on global climate change.

Energy consumed by the implementation of the proposed project could be wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary.

NOISE

Traffic generated by the proposed project could significantly contribute to existing traffic noise in the area or exceed the city's established standards.

Implementation of the proposed project could expose on-site receptors to excessive groundborne vibration from metro gold line operations.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project site could be located on a hazardous materials site per government code section 65962.5 and could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

HYDROLOGY, DRAINAGE, AND WATER QUALITY

Implementation of the proposed project could result in the depletion of groundwater supplies or interference with groundwater recharge.

Implementation of the proposed project could result in:

- placement of 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;
- placement of structures within a 100-year flood hazard area which would impede or redirect flood flows;
- exposure of 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; or
- exposure of people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

POLICE PROTECTION

Implementation of the proposed project could result in impacts to police services.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to police services.

PARKS

Implementation of the proposed project could increase the use of existing parks and recreational facilities creating the potential for physical deterioration of facilities.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to parks and recreation facilities in the City.

WATER

Implementation of the proposed project could create demand for water that exceeds available water supplies from existing entitlements and resources.

SOLID WASTE

Implementation of the proposed project would generate solid waste that could incrementally decrease the capacity and lifespan of landfills.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative development could result in cumulatively considerable impacts related to solid waste disposal services and landfill capacity.

8.2.2 LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

AESTHETICS

Implementation of the proposed project could create a new source of light and/or glare, which could affect daytime and/or nighttime views in the area.

TRAFFIC

Implementation of the proposed project could cause a significant increase in traffic at signalized study intersections under future year 2025 conditions when compared to the traffic capacity of the street system.

Implementation of the proposed project could cause a significant increase in traffic at unsignalized study intersections under future year 2025 conditions when compared to the traffic capacity of the street system.

Implementation of the proposed project could result in a hazardous traffic condition associated with neighborhood pass-through traffic.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts related to traffic and circulation.

AIR QUALITY

Implementation of the proposed specific plan could result in a cumulatively considerable increase in non-attainment criteria air pollutants.

Implementation of the proposed project would not expose receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

Short-term construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in air pollutant emission impacts or expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

Implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in significant impacts pertaining to operational air emissions.

NOISE

The proposed project could result in land uses that may be incompatible with the project area's existing ambient noise environment.

Implementation of the proposed project could result in a significant increase in long-term stationary ambient noise levels.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Short-term construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project could create a significant hazard to the public or environment through accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

Implementation of the proposed project could create a significant hazard during use operations to the public or environment through the handling, storage, and/or use of hazardous materials, as well as accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could increase the exposure of hazardous substances to the public or the environment.

HYDROLOGY, DRAINAGE, AND WATER QUALITY

Grading, excavation, and construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project could significantly impact water quality.

Implementation of the proposed project could result in significant impacts related to increased run-off amounts and degraded water quality.

Implementation of the proposed project along with other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts related to increased runoff and degraded water quality.

FIRE PROTECTION

Implementation of the proposed project could result in impacts to fire services.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to fire services.

SCHOOLS

Implementation of the proposed project could result in impacts to existing school facilities within the Duarte Unified School District.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to school facilities within the Duarte Unified School District.

WATER

Implementation of the proposed project could require or result in the construction of new water facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

Development associated with the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to water supplies and facilities.

WASTEWATER

With implementation of the proposed project could generate wastewater that exceeds the capacity of conveyance and treatment facilities serving the project area.

Development associated with implementation of the proposed project and other related cumulative projects could result in cumulatively considerable impacts to wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities.

This page intentionally left blank.