

**ADDENDUM TO AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
Project No. 104495/SCH No. 2006091032**

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN RECREATION ELEMENT UPDATE: The proposed Recreation Element Update would modify the metric on how the City analyzes its parks and recreation needs. The current Recreation Element uses a population-based metric to determine the size and location of parks. The proposed Recreation Element Update would change this population-based metric to a Recreational Value-Based (RVB Value standard) Park Standard, which is a more meaningful and practical standard that reflects the variety of recreational experiences within a large, diverse city. The RVB Value standards would promote positive recreational outcomes, such as safe, accessible, active parks, and would establish a point value to represent recreational opportunities within local, resource-based, and open space parks. Recreation value emphasizes the activities and experiences that residents can enjoy, rather than the amount of parkland in a given area. It measures the inherent benefits of park spaces – their ability to support active recreation and exercise; encourage socializing; link to transit, bike facilities, trails, and active public areas; and invite activity throughout the day. Since this standard stresses the value of amenities and features within a space, rather than its size alone, the standard recognizes the value of parks appropriate for diverse communities, from a large field park for active recreation to trails within a regional park or a small, lively urban gathering space. A focus on value also rewards efforts to upgrade existing parks by adding amenities, pursuing joint use partnerships, and introducing new recreational activities. The proposed Recreation Element Update would use the RVB Value standard to achieve its goals of creating an integrated citywide sustainable and equitable parks system that offers recreational opportunities for all residents and visitors.

Applicant: City of San Diego Planning Department - Environment & Mobility Planning Division

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Recreation Element Update contains goals and policies for each of the following sections:

1. Park and Recreation Guidelines
2. Recreational Opportunities
3. Preservation
4. Accessibility
5. Joint Use and Cooperative Partnerships
6. Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks

Section 1: Park and Recreation Guidelines

As the City of San Diego (City) has grown, so have the quantity, quality, and distribution of recreational opportunities. However, population growth and land constraints create pressures on existing neighborhood park and recreational facilities as well as on undeveloped land. The proposed Recreation Element Update contains the following goals to guide the acquisition and enhancement of the City's parks system:

1. A sustainable park and recreation system that meets the needs of all residents and visitors;

2. Provide parks that keep pace with population growth through timely acquisition, development, and facility upgrades;
3. Provide an increase in the amount and quality of recreation facilities and infrastructure through the promotion of alternative methods where development of typical facilities and infrastructure may be limited by land constraints; and
4. Ensure an equitable citywide distribution of and access to parks and recreation facilities.

These goals guide the design and placement of parks and recreational facilities so they are equitably distributed throughout the City's parks system and they provide the most benefit to the City's residents and visitors. The proposed Recreation Element Update identifies various methods by which the City can sustain, connect, and expand its parks and recreational opportunities. These strategies include protecting its existing open space, acquiring land, and pursuing partnerships with other agencies and organizations (see also Section 3, Preservation, Section 5, Joint Use and Cooperative Partnerships, and Section 6, Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks).

Section 2: Recreational Opportunities

San Diego has a mild climate, diverse topography, and unique location that spans from the mountains to the coast. This diverse physical landscape defines the City and the City utilizes these beautiful natural resources to provide opportunities for passive or active recreation. The proposed Recreation Element Update contains the following goals to guide the creation of a network of park lands, open space, recreational facilities, and programs designed to meet the specialized needs of individual neighborhoods and communities:

1. A City with park and recreation facilities and services that are designed to accommodate the needs of a growing and diverse population and respects the City's natural landforms;
2. A regional and citywide parks/open space system, including the bays, beaches, rivers, and other attractions, that gives our region identity, attracts tourism, and enriches the quality of life for residents and visitors; and
3. A City with a diverse range of active and passive recreational opportunities that meet the needs of and reinforces the City's natural beauty and resources.

The City provides sports fields, swimming pools, tennis courts, parks, beaches, picnic areas, skate parks, dog off-leash parks, hiking/biking and equestrian trails, and areas of scenic beauty for public use, as well as a variety of programs for youth, adults, and seniors. City-designated open space and parks are those areas of the City that are identified in adopted land use plans as open space or parks. As such, these areas include local and resource-based parks, open space lands with natural or cultural value (including Multi-Habitat Planning Area [MHPA] lands), and areas identified in land use plans that may not contain natural or cultural characteristics, but instead function to provide a land use buffer, visual relief, or similar purpose. The proposed Recreation Element Update would work alongside the Conservation Element in protecting, preserving, and implementing a citywide park and open space system that takes into account the City's sensitive natural and cultural resources (see also Section 3, Preservation, and Section 6, Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks).

Section 3: Preservation

San Diegans place a high value on the availability of parks and recreational opportunities, and increasingly recognize their importance as a requisite companion to urban living as population densities increase. The proposed Recreation Element contains the following goals to aide in the preservation of parks and recreation facilities:

1. Preserve, protect and enhance the integrity and quality of existing parks, open space, and recreation programs citywide; and
2. Preserve, protect, and enrich natural, cultural, and historic resources that serve as recreation facilities.

As San Diego continues to grow, so will the demand for parks and recreation opportunities. Undeveloped land in the City is diminishing, increasing the difficulty to provide new parks which puts increased pressure on existing parks. This will be evident in older, well-established urban communities. The preservation and enhancement of existing parks, recreation programs, and open space is essential and will require careful balancing of community and park infrastructure needs (see also Section 4, Accessibility). The City's open space lands and resource-based parks contain many of the City's cultural and natural resources. Cultural resources, such as Old Town, Balboa Park, and tribal sites, and natural resources, such as canyons, creeks, rivers, beaches, lakes, and native lands, provide various opportunities for recreation and should be protected and preserved to ensure the maximum educational, recreational, and aesthetic benefit for the residents of, and visitors to San Diego (see also Section 6, Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks).

Section 4: Accessibility

The quality of life for all San Diegans is enhanced through opportunities offered from parks and recreational facilities. However, existing parks and recreation facilities are not distributed equitably citywide partly due to issues with accessibility. Parks and recreational facilities are accessible if they provide access to all people, are accessible via transportation, and if they offer a variety of programs for all. The proposed Recreation Element Update contains the following goals to guide the distribution, placement, and access to recreation opportunities:

1. A park and recreation system that provides an equitable distribution of park and recreation facilities that are designed to accommodate the needs of a diverse population, age, ability, or place of residence;
2. Park and recreation facilities that are sited to optimize access by foot, bicycle, public transit, micro mobility, and alternative modes of travel;
3. Provide an inter-connected park and open space system that is integrated into and accessible to the community; and
4. Recreational facilities that are available for programmed and non-programmed uses.

Given the wide variety of recreation facility types and their use characteristics and associated costs, it is not feasible to locate every type of recreation facility in every community. Therefore, regional recreation facilities should be placed equitably throughout the City, particularly in communities of concern. Recreation facilities should be designed to address people with special needs, and should be located along transit routes that provide access for the disabled, elderly, teens, and the economically disadvantaged. Ideally all parks should be located within a 10-minute walk, 20-minute bike ride, and 30-minute transit ride of residential neighborhoods and employment centers. An emphasis should be placed on siting facilities along transit routes and interconnected to the City's Trail Master Plan and Bicycle Master Plan. New parks and recreation facilities should be located near existing or proposed trails, bike paths, and transit routes.

Recreation facilities also need to be open for use by the general public. Many recreation facilities set aside time for exclusive use by programmed activities, such as sport leagues, clubs, or other private groups that fulfil the recreational needs of the community. A balance between programmed and non-programmed use of recreation facilities needs to be achieved to make facilities available to the greatest number and variety of users.

Section 5: Joint Use and Cooperative Partnerships

San Diego's expanding urban development and its desire to acquire, protect and preserve parkland, recreation facilities, and open space have limited the availability of, and placed constraints on, developable lands. The City is pursuing creative methods for the cost-effective and efficient use of public lands in order to enhance and expand recreation facilities that meet existing and future needs. The City has a successful history of developing joint use recreation facilities. The proposed Recreation Element Update contains the following goals to guide the City's continued pursuit of joint use and cooperative partnerships:

1. Achieve greater public benefit through shared use of recreational resources;
2. An increase in recreational activities and programs through multi-agency coordination of interagency public lands, facilities and infrastructure uses; and
3. Joint use and lease agreements that contribute to the recreational and physical education needs of the community.

Joint use partnerships can be used to provide additional lands and facilities to help develop equitable access to recreational opportunities. These agreements allow for public recreation use provided through the joint use of public and not-for-profit facilities as well as through partnerships with private facilities and other government agencies. Joint use facilities can include any land area or physical structure shared by one or more public or not-for-profit entities. The City should pursue joint use and lease agreements where the community identifies a need for more recreational and physical education facilities and programs. Additionally, the City should pursue cooperative partnerships with governmental agencies and other land holding entities. For example, underutilized public facilities, such as surplus land, remnant parcels, structures, rooftops, plazas, and underground facilities can provide recreational and economic opportunities. Undeveloped rights-of-way provide opportunities for trails that link parks and recreation facilities and unnecessary paper streets could be vacated and acquired for mini-park development.

Section 6: Open Space Lands and Resource-Based Parks

Open space is generally non-urban in character and may be designated for park and recreation purposes, preservation of natural resources, historic or scenic purposes, or for military installations. Open space that is used for outdoor recreation includes areas of scenic, historic, and cultural value, and areas particularly suited for park and recreation purposes, including access to passive recreation spaces adjacent to waterfronts, rivers and creeks, urban canyons, and specified areas within the City's Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). The proposed Recreation Element Update contains the following goals to aide in the protection, preservation, and linkage between open space lands and resource-based parks:

1. An open space and resource-based park system that provides for the preservation and management of natural resources, enhancement of outdoor recreation opportunities, and protection of the public health and safety;
2. Preservation of the natural terrain and drainage systems of San Diego's open space lands and resource-based parks; and
3. A system of pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian paths linking communities, neighborhoods, parks, and the open space system.

Open space that is designated for outdoor recreation should respect the natural terrain and drainage systems. The Conservation Element further defines and expands on policies for the preservation of open space. The City's MSCP Subarea Plan, Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) Ordinance, and other environmental regulations aim to

protect natural lands and resource-based parks – such as Presidio Park, Mission Bay Park, and Balboa Park –from encroachment of adjacent development, pollutants, and other types of land degradation. Protection and proper management of these areas will ensure a sustainable park system for future needs. The General Plan Mobility Element and the City's Bicycle Master Plan support providing linkages and connections within the City, specifically as it pertains to connecting parks and recreation facilities to residential areas and employment centers. Additionally, open space areas can serve as links between major recreation use and open space.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

See the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) No. 104495/SCH No. 2006091032 for the City of San Diego General Plan.

III. PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Recreation Element serves as a policy guide to address the comprehensive recreation needs of the City. It is one of ten elements of the City of San Diego's General Plan. The Recreation Element is being updated to revise the metric of distributing parks from population based to resource based thereby ensuring the equitable distribution of quality parks and recreational resources.

IV. DETERMINATION:

The City of San Diego previously prepared and certified the draft General Plan PEIR (Project No. 104495/SCH No. 2006091032). Based upon a review of the current project, it has been determined pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 and 15164 that:

- a. There are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR;
- b. No substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken; and
- c. There is no new information of substantial importance to the project.

Therefore, this Addendum has been prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164. Public review of this Addendum is not required pursuant to CEQA.

As shown below, the Recreation Element Update is consistent with all other elements of the General Plan and there would be no new significant environmental impacts which were not already considered in the previous PEIR.

V. DISCUSSION

The Final PEIR for the General Plan found that, although significant impacts could be mitigated through a review of discretionary projects, implementation of the General Plan would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Geologic Conditions, Health and Safety, Historic Resources, Hydrology, Land Use, Mineral Resources, Noise, Paleontological Resources, Population and Housing, Public Facilities, Public Utilities, Transportation/Traffic/Circulation/Parking, Visual Effects and Neighborhood Character, and Water Quality as site-specific details of future development projects are unknown at this time. Similarly, it is anticipated that implementation of the Recreation Element Update will also result in significant and unavoidable impacts in the same issue areas given the lack of site-specific details of future development projects that could occur under the Recreation Element Update. Thus, the City reviewed the Recreation Element Update against the other nine elements of the General Plan to determine the Recreation Element Update's consistency

with what was previously analyzed.

Land Use and Community Planning

The Land Use and Community Planning Element (Land Use Element) provides policies to implement the City of Villages strategy within the context of San Diego's community planning program. The Land Use Element establishes a structure that respects the diversity of each community and includes policy direction to govern the preparation of community plans. The Land Use Element addresses zoning and policy consistency, the plan amendment process, annexation policies, airport-land use planning, balanced communities, equitable development, and environmental justice.

The proposed Recreation Element Update complements and advances the goals of the Land Use Element through refining citywide park and recreation land use policies through community plan updates or other comprehensive planning efforts. Policies such as RE-B.3, call for including recreation needs in community plans to ensure that facilities and programs reflect community preferences, including the growing demand for senior activities. The proposed Recreation Element Update also emphasizes the importance of including the community in the decision-making process through policies such as RE-B.2 which supports sustaining partnerships with communities in the planning, site selection, design, and construction of park and recreation facilities to ensure resident, neighborhood and area needs are satisfied. These policies echo similar policies in the Land Use Element which promote equitable development that takes into account community input and needs (see Land Use Element policies LU-A.2, LU-H.1, and LU-I.5). The proposed Recreation Element Update policies which advocate for an equitable distribution of parks and recreation facilities also aligns with the Land Use Element's goals and policies to create an equitable distribution of public facilities, infrastructure, and services throughout all communities (see Recreation Element policies RE-A.11 through RE-A.15, and Land Use Element policies LU-I.4 through LU-I.6). Therefore, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the Land Use and Community Planning Element of the General Plan and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Mobility Element

The Mobility Element contains policies that promote a balanced, multi-modal transportation network, while minimizing environmental and neighborhood impacts. In addition to addressing walking, bicycling, transit, and streets, the Mobility Element includes policies related to regional collaboration, parking, the movement of goods, and other components of the City's transportation system.

The proposed Recreation Element Update complements and advances the goals and policies of the Mobility Element by working to improve transportation and land use coordination to create more compact, walkable, and transit-oriented communities. The proposed Recreation Element Update would work together with the Mobility Element to identify sidewalks, bike paths, pedestrian paths, and multi-purpose trails to form a continuous region-wide network that links open space and recreation to all communities throughout the City. The proposed Recreation Element Update envisions the reuse of public rights-of-ways as places to play and socialize, while still continuing to function as paths of travel. Policies such as RE-A.6, RE-C.10, and RE-E.6 support this vision by promoting the identification and adaptation of underutilized public rights-of-way to help meet the City's recreational needs. Specifically, policy RE-C.10 encourages the development of strategies that adapt public rights-of-way that support recreation, walkability, sociability, bikeability, and health while reducing vehicular congestion and emissions. This aligns with the Mobility Element's goals to create a transportation system that balances the needs of multiple users of the public right-of-way while simultaneously providing vehicle congestion relief.

Other policies within the Recreation Element support increasing accessibility to and within the City's parks system.

Policy RE-D.5 calls on the City to work with regional agencies to improve public transit to park and recreation facilities, while policy RE-D.6 calls for providing safe and convenient bicycle, pedestrian, and micromobility linkages to, and within, park and recreation facilities and open space areas. Policy RE-D.6 also supports the designation of pedestrian and bicycle corridors, and equestrian corridors where appropriate, that link residential neighborhoods with park and recreation facilities, trails, open spaces, and active commercial areas. The proposed policies in the Recreation Element Update identify actions the City can take to promote the design and integration of new and existing park and recreation facilities in a way that promotes walking, bicycling, and transit use. Thus, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the Mobility Element, and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Urban Design Element

The Urban Design Element's policies capitalize on San Diego's natural beauty and unique neighborhoods by calling for development that respects the natural setting, enhances the distinctiveness of our neighborhoods, strengthens the natural and built linkages, and creates mixed-use, walkable villages throughout the City.

The proposed Recreation Element Update includes policies which complement the goals of the Urban Design Element to promote development that is consistent with the social, economic, and aesthetic values of the City. Policy RE-A.10 encourages private development to include recreation facilities, such as children's play areas, rooftop parks and courts, useable public plazas, and mini-parks, which aligns with Urban Design Element policies UD-B.8 and UD-C.5 to provide public open spaces for a variety of activities within village centers and residential developments. Similarly, policies such as RE-C.10, which call on the City to develop strategies that adapt public rights-of-way that support recreation, walkability, sociability, bikeability, and health while reducing vehicular congestion and emissions, echo similar policies in the Urban Design Element which encourage the design or retrofit of streets to improve walkability and bikeability, to strengthen connectivity, and to enhance community identity.

The proposed Recreational Element Update would support the Urban Design Element's goals to respect San Diego's natural environment and climate and to maintain the historic resources that contribute to the City's identity through policies that promote the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the City's natural and cultural resources throughout the City's parks system (see Recreation Element policies RE-C.5 and RE-F.1 through RE-F.7). Through implementation of these policies, the proposed Recreation Element Update would be consistent with and would facilitate urban design in accordance with the Urban Design Element. There would be no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Economic Prosperity Element

The structure of San Diego's economy influences the City's physical development and capacity to fund essential services, and vice versa. The purpose of the Economic Prosperity Element is to increase wealth and the standard of living of all San Diegans with policies that support a diverse, innovative, competitive, entrepreneurial, and sustainable local economy.

The proposed Recreation Element Update supports the goals and policies of the Economic Prosperity Element through policies that promote creative and cost-effective measures to guide the development and enhancement of new and existing parks and recreational facilities. Policies such as RE-A.19 and RE-E.1 through RE-E.13 support pursuing partnerships and agreements with school districts, not-for-profit entities, developers, and other public agencies to increase recreational activities and programs and identify underutilized and/or surplus land and facilities for park and recreation opportunities. These policies advance the Economic Prosperity Element's goal to promote community revitalization through enhanced access to regional and national sources of private and public

funding. The proposed Recreation Element Update policies also align with policy EP-G.6 of the Economic Prosperity Element, which encourages the City to partner with other municipalities, school districts, and other public or nonprofit agencies, whenever possible to achieve General Plan and community plan goals.

The Economic Prosperity Element also recognizes the role that San Diego's historical and cultural resources play in contributing to the City's tourism industry. The proposed Recreation Element Update promotes the Economic Prosperity Element's goal to create a city that recognizes the benefits of and promotes cultural heritage tourism in the overall economy through policies that encourage the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the City's cultural resources, and advocate for the development of educational programs to highlight the variety, importance, and recreational uses of the City's cultural resources (see policies RE-C.5, RE-C.8, and RE-F.7). Thus, the Recreation Element Update is consistent with the Economic Prosperity Element and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Public Facilities, Services, and Safety Element

Providing adequate public facilities and services needed to serve the City's current and future population continues to be a great challenge. The Public Facilities, Services, and Safety (Public Facilities) Element responds to this challenge through policies that address public financing strategies, public and developer financing responsibilities, prioritization, and the provision of specific facilities and services that must accompany growth.

The Public Facilities Element outlines the City's financing strategy for providing public facilities and services, including parks and recreational facilities. The proposed Recreation Element Update supports the Public Facilities Element through policies that address financing strategies for existing and future parks and recreational facilities (see policies RE-A.16 through RE-A.18 and RE-E.13). Specifically, policy RE-A.17 encourages the City to prepare an ordinance for City Council consideration that authorizes the implementation of the state Subdivision Map Act/Quimby Act and provides a methodology for acquiring land and/or appropriate park fees from new subdivisions for parks and recreation facilities. Implementation of these policies would be consistent with Public Facilities Element policy PF-A.2(c) to continue to develop, evaluate, and apply innovative public infrastructure and facility financing mechanisms and strategies.

The proposed Recreation Element Update also contains a number of goals and policies that encourage the provision and expansion of recreational infrastructure and services to accommodate projected growth in the City. Policies such as RE-E.7 call for designing public facilities, such as municipal water storage facilities, public parking structures, and libraries to incorporate recreational elements such as children's play areas, rooftop parks, courts and arenas, plazas, mini-parks, and community gardens. Similarly, policy RE-E.9 supports exploring the acquisition or utilization of government-owned surplus or remnant parcels for public park use.

The Public Facilities Element acknowledges that increasing joint use efficiencies to remedy existing public facilities deficits and provide high quality services is necessary as the City continues to grow. The proposed Recreation Element Update addresses this issue through policies RE-A.19, RE-E.1, RE-E.4, and RE-E.8 which advocate for the pursuit of joint use agreements with other public agencies to increase recreational opportunities for City residents and future generations. Additionally, policies RE-E.2 and RE-E.3, which encourage the City to work with and support the local school district's efforts to develop and expand recreational opportunities on their sites, ties in with Public Facilities Element policy PF-K.6 to expand and continue the joint use of schools with adult education, civic, recreational and community programs, and also for public facility opportunities.

Implementation of these policies would assist the City in providing adequate parks and recreational facilities that meet the needs of its residents. Thus, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the goals of the Public Facilities, Services, and Safety Element, and there are no new significant environmental impacts not

considered in the previous PEIR.

Housing Element

Providing the range of housing needed to serve the City's current and future population continues to be a great challenge. The Housing Element responds to this challenge with policies to guide the development and supply of adequate housing. The Housing Element aims to increase housing opportunities while enhancing the transportation and land use connection through an improved jobs-housing balance, and creating more compact and walkable communities. The City is updating the Housing Element for the next eight-year planning period (2021-2029). In anticipation of the upcoming adoption of the Housing Element Update, the proposed Recreation Element Update was analyzed against the Housing Element Update. Nevertheless, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the existing Housing Element and the proposed Housing Element Update as it provides goals and policies that support the vision of the Housing Element.

The proposed Recreation Element Update complements the Housing Element through goals and policies which address the need to provide new and enhance existing parks and recreation facilities to ensure an equitable citywide distribution of recreation facilities. The proposed Recreation Element Update achieves this through policies such as RE-C.9 which calls for determining strategies that accommodate both land for residential, commercial, and industrial use with the needs for parkland and open space uses. Similar to the Housing Element, the proposed Recreation Element Update also includes policies which address investing in underserved communities. Policies RE-A.11 through RE-A.15 promote the Housing Element's vision of prioritizing equitable development and promoting balanced communities by identifying actions the City can take to ensure that a diverse range of recreational opportunities are available citywide, especially in communities of concern.

The Housing Element also recognizes the importance of coordinating with other organizations and public agencies to provide public infrastructure (see Housing Element Update policies HE-D.1 and HE-N.6). The proposed Recreation Element Update would further encourage this practice through policies such as RE-E.3 which call on the City to support local school districts' efforts to expand elementary and secondary school sites that result in additional joint use opportunities while balancing the competing needs of recreation and housing. Thus, the Recreation Element Update is consistent with the Housing Element of the General Plan and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Conservation Element

The Conservation Element contains policies to guide the conservation of resources that are fundamental components of San Diego's environment, that help define the City's identity, and that are relied upon for continued economic prosperity. Conservation is the most cost-effective strategy to ensure that there will be a reliable supply of the resources for present and future needs.

The proposed Recreation Element Update includes goals and policies which promote sustainable development within the City's parks system with a focus on conserving resources and energy while mitigating the effects of climate change. The proposed Recreation Element would support the Conservation Element's goal to preserve and manage the natural landforms and open spaces that help make San Diego unique through policies RE-C.1 through RE-C.8, which address the importance of protecting, managing, preserving open space lands in a way that allows for recreational opportunities while protecting sensitive resources. Policy RE-A.7 which seeks to establish a policy for park design and development that encourages the use of sustainable methods and techniques to address water and energy conservation, green buildings, low maintenance plantings and local environmental conditions, such as soil and climate, complements Conservation Element policies CE-A.5 and CE-A.11 which promote the use of "green" building techniques and sustainable landscape design and maintenance.

The proposed Recreation Element Update identifies the importance of protecting and preserving natural resources and open space, many of which contribute to the City's parks system. Thus, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the goals of the Conservation Element as it would also work to encourage development that is sustainable and conserves San Diego's natural resources. There are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Historic Preservation Element

The Historic Preservation Element guides the preservation, protection, restoration, and rehabilitation of historical and cultural resources within the City of San Diego. San Diego's rich and varied historical and cultural resources include buildings, structures, objects, landscapes, districts, archaeological sites, and traditional cultural properties that possess historical, scientific, architectural, aesthetic, cultural, or ethnic significance.

The proposed Recreation Element Update would work together with the Historic Preservation Element to preserve and protect the City's historical and cultural resources. Policy RE-C.5 supports designing parks to preserve, enhance, and incorporate items of natural, cultural, or historic importance. Similarly, policies RE-F.5 and RE-F.7 focus on protecting sensitive cultural resources within the City's open space lands and resource-based parks by encouraging the design and utilization of City park land in a manner that preserves these resources and is compatible with the City's cultural and historic preservation goals. Adherence to these policies would ensure that future park developments and/or improvements comply with the Historic Preservation Elements goals.

The proposed Recreation Element Update would also promote the Historic Preservation Element's goal of increasing public education about the importance of historical resources. Policy RE-C.8 encourages the development of programs that educate the public on the variety, importance, and recreational uses of the City's natural and cultural resources that are located in City parks and open space lands. This policy would complement Historic Preservation Element policy HP-B.1 to foster greater public participation and education in historical and cultural resources. Thus, the proposed update to the Recreation Element is consistent with the General Plan Historic Preservation Element, and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

Noise Element

Noise at excessive levels can affect our environment and our quality of life. At excessive levels, people typically perceive noise as being intrusive, annoying, and undesirable. The purpose of the Noise Element is to protect people living and working in the City of San Diego from excessive noise.

The proposed Recreation Element Update would support the goals and policies of the Noise Element by encouraging the development of the City's parks system such that it would not conflict with adjacent land uses. Policy RE-C.9 calls on the City to determine strategies that accommodate both land for residential, commercial, and industrial use with the needs for parkland and open space, while policy RE-F.2 encourages the sensitive development of recreation uses within and adjacent to City-owned open space lands. Adherence to these policies would ensure that parks and recreation facilities are sited and designed in a manner that minimizes noise impacts to noise-sensitive land uses (such as open space areas containing Multi-Habitat Planning Area [MHPA] lands) and sensitive receptors recreating within these areas. Similarly, compliance with policy RE-F.1 to protect and enhance park lands from adjacent incompatible uses and encroachments would prevent the placement of parks and recreational facilities in areas where the noise levels exceed the land use noise adjacency guidelines detailed in the Noise Element. Although the General Plan PEIR identifies mitigation measures to reduce program level impacts, the degree of impact and the applicability, feasibility, and success of these measures cannot be adequately known for each specific project. Thus, the proposed Recreation Element Update is consistent with the Noise Element of

the General Plan, and there are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous PEIR.

IV. MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM INCORPORATED INTO THE PROJECT:

The Final PEIR for the City of San Diego Draft General Plan (Project No. 104495 / SCH No. 2006091032), dated March 10, 2008, concluded that the General Plan would result in significant and unmitigated impacts to Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Geologic Conditions, Health and Safety, Historic Resources, Hydrology, Land Use, Mineral Resources, Noise, Paleontological Resources, Population and Housing, Public Facilities, Public Utilities, Transportation/Traffic/Circulation/Parking, Visual Effects and Neighborhood Character, and Water Quality. Since the Draft General Plan does not include specific development projects, it is infeasible at the Program EIR level to provide project-specific mitigation that would reduce any future impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, at this program level of review there is no project-specific Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program proposed and significant and unavoidable impacts associated with the project remain.

VI. SIGNIFICANT UNMITIGATED IMPACTS:

There are no new significant impacts identified in conjunction with implementation of the proposed Recreation Element Update, and significant effects previously examined will not be substantially more severe than shown in the previous Final PEIR. The Final PEIR for the original project identified significant unmitigated impacts for the following issue areas: Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Geologic Conditions, Health and Safety, Historic Resources, Hydrology, Land Use, Mineral Resources, Noise, Paleontological Resources, Population and Housing, Public Facilities, Public Utilities, Transportation/Traffic/Circulation/Parking, Visual Effects and Neighborhood Character, and Water Quality. Because there were significant unmitigated impacts associated with the original project, approval of the project required the decision maker to make specific and substantiated CEQA findings which stated that: a) specific economic, social or other considerations make infeasible the mitigation measure or project alternatives identified in the final PEIR, and b) these impacts have been found acceptable because of specific overriding conditions. No new CEQA findings are required for this project.



Rebecca Malone, AICP

Senior Planner
Planning Department

May 8, 2020

Date of Final Report

Analyst: **Pascual/Ash-Reynolds**

The Addendum to Environmental Impact Report No. 104495/SCH No. 2006091032 was posted on the City of San Diego's California Environmental Quality Act webpage on May 8, 2020 at <https://www.sandiego.gov/ceqa/final>.

Copies of the addendum, the Final PEIR, the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program, and any technical appendices may be reviewed in the office of the Planning Department, or purchased for the cost of reproduction.