NEGATIVE DECLARATION

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Project No. 422242
SCH No. N/A

SUBJECT: Golden Hill B Street Homes: A SITE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT and EASEMENT VACATION to construct 11 three-story residential units totaling 17,701-square-feet with basement areas totaling 1,217-square-feet, and decks totaling 1,677-square-feet. Additionally, the project would vacate portions of drainage easements. Deviations from development regulations for yard and setback, residential vehicular access, transparency requirement, and height limits are being requested. The project would also construct various site improvements, including associated hardscape and landscaping. The project would conform to the criteria of the Affordable/In-Fill Housing and Sustainable Buildings Expedite Program by generating 50 percent or more of the projected total energy consumption on site through renewable energy resources (i.e. photovoltaic). The vacant 0.589 acre (25,657-square-feet) project site is located at 2881 1/3 B Street. The project site is designated Medium Residential Use (15 - 29 dwelling units per acre) and within the Golden Hill Planned District-GH-1500 zone. Additionally, the project site is within the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Noise Contours (CNEL) (San Diego International Airport), the Airport Influence Area (San Diego International Airport, Review Area 1), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 77 Noticing Area (San Diego International Airport – Lindbergh Field), the Residential Tandem Parking Overlay Zone, the Transit Area Overlay Zone, the Affordable Housing Parking Demand, and the Greater Golden Hill Community Plan. (LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lots 1 – 5 and Easterly 16.67' of Lot 6, plus Westerly Half of 29th Street R.O.W. plus Northerly Half of Vacated Alley on Block 63 of E.W. Morse’s Map 547.) Owner: Matthew Gordon

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: See attached Initial Study.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: See attached Initial Study.

III. DETERMINATION: The City of San Diego conducted an Initial Study and determined that the proposed project will not have a significant environmental effect and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report will not be required.

IV. DOCUMENTATION: The attached Initial Study documents the reasons to support the above Determination.
V. MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM: **NONE REQUIRED**

VI. PUBLIC REVIEW DISTRIBUTION: Draft copies or notice of this Negative Declaration were distributed to:

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO**
- Mayor's Office
- Councilmember Ward - District 3
- City Attorney's Office (93C)
- Development Services
  - Fire – Plan Review
  - LDR – Engineering Review
  - LDR – EAS
  - LDR – Geology
  - LDR – Landscaping
  - LDR – Planning Review
  - LDR – Transportation Development
  - PUD – Water & Sewer Dev.
- Planning Department
  - Park & Rec.
  - Plan – Airport
  - Plan – Long Range Planning
- Facilities Financing (93B)
- Water Review (86A)
- San Diego Central Library (81A)
- Logan Heights Branch Library (81N)

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERESTED PARTIES**
- Mel Shapiro (258)
- Greater Golden Hill Planning Committee (259)
- Friends of Switzer Canyon (260)
  - J Carrie Schneider
- Joel Sevilla
- Michael Provence
- Gary Roberts
- Matthew Gordon, Owner
VII. RESULTS OF PUBLIC REVIEW:

(X) No comments were received during the public input period.

( ) Comments were received but did not address the accuracy or completeness of the draft environmental document. No response is necessary and the letters are incorporated herein.

( ) Comments addressing the accuracy or completeness of the draft environmental document were received during the public input period. The letters and responses are incorporated herein.

Copies of the draft Negative Declaration and any Initial Study material are available in the office of the Entitlements Division for review, or for purchase at the cost of reproduction.

E. Shearer-Nguyen  
Senior Planner  
Development Services Department

January 20, 2017  
Date of Draft Report

February 15, 2017  
Date of Final Report

Analyst: L. Sebastian

Attachments: Initial Study Checklist  
Figure 1 - Location Map  
Figure 2 - Site Plan
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. Project title/Project number: Golden Hill B Street Homes / 422242

2. Lead agency name and address: City of San Diego, 1222 First Avenue, MS-501, San Diego, California 92101

3. Contact person and phone number: L. Sebastian / (619) 236-5993

4. Project location: 2881 1/3 B Street, San Diego, California 92102

5. Project Applicant/Sponsor’s name and address: David Hawkins, Hawkins + Hawkins Architects, Inc., 141 14th Street, San Diego, California 92101


7. Zoning: Golden Hill Planned District-GH-15000

8. Description of project (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to, later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation.):

   A SITE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT and EASEMENT VACATION to construct 11 three-story residential units totaling 17,701-square-feet with basement areas totaling 1,217-square-feet, and decks totaling 1,677-square-feet. Additionally, the project would vacate portions of drainage easements.

   The project would also construct various site improvements, including associated hardscape and landscaping. The project would conform to the criteria of the Affordable/In-Fill Housing and Sustainable Buildings Expedite Program by generating 50 percent or more of the projected total energy consumption on site through renewable energy resources (i.e. photovoltaic).

   The project landscaping has been reviewed by City Landscape staff and would comply with all applicable City of San Diego Landscape ordinances and standards. Drainage would be directed into appropriate storm drain systems designated to carry surface runoff, which has
been reviewed and accepted by City Engineering staff. Ingress to the project site would be via B Street and a private driveway. All parking would be provided on-site.

Grading operations would entail approximately 100 cubic yards of cut with a maximum cut depth of 10 feet, and approximately 6,700 cubic yards of fill with a maximum fill depth of 14 feet. Additionally, 6,600 cubic yards of import is proposed.

The San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC), Section 158.0206(a)(3) allows projects to request deviations from applicable development regulations pursuant to a Site Development Permit (SDP) decided in accordance with Process Three, provided that the findings in SDMC Section 126.0504(a) and the findings in SDMC Section 158.0206(d)(1) through (4) are made. Deviations requested by the project include:

1. Yard and Setback – A deviation from SDMC Section 158.0301(b)(2)(B) for a 12 foot rear setback, where 15 feet is required.

2. Residential Vehicular Access – A deviation from SDMC 158.0302(c)(8)(A) for access to Units 7, 8, and 9 via a 14 foot driveway off of B Street, where it is required that vehicular access for the residential units must be provided from the alley, where alley access exists.

3. Transparency Requirement – A deviation from SDMC 158.0303(e)(1) to provide less than 15 percent transparency in the street wall affording views into living space of Units 7 and 9. Transparency is included into the garages; however, this cannot be used to meet any of the transparency requirement.

4. Height Limits – A deviation from SDMC 158.0301(b)(3) for a 36 foot maximum structure height above proposed grade, where structure height is limited to 30 feet.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project’s surroundings:

The vacant 0.589 acre (25,657-square-feet) project site is located at 2881 1/3 B Street. The project site is designated Medium Residential Use (15 - 29 dwelling units per acre) and within the Golden Hill Planned District-GH-1500 zone. Additionally, the project site is within the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Noise Contours (CNEL) (San Diego International Airport), the Airport Influence Area (San Diego International Airport, Review Area 1), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 77 Noticing Area (San Diego International Airport – Lindbergh Field), the Residential Tandem Parking Overlay Zone, the Transit Area Overlay Zone, the Affordable Housing Parking Demand, and the Greater Golden Hill Community Plan.

The project site is bordered by developed residential properties to the west and south, an unimproved parcel to the east, and B Street to the north. Vegetation on-site is varied and consists of ornamental and horticultural plantings typically located within residential yards, active-use parklands, and remnant undeveloped lots within urban settings. The project site also contains infrastructure improvements (soft bottom flood control structure and channel).
Additionally, the project site is situated in a developed area currently served by existing public services and utilities.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

None required.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun?

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

A Native American Tribe traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area has requested consultation with the City of San Diego pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21082.3 (c). The City is in consultation with this tribe. The project site is located on the City of San Diego's Historical Resources Sensitivity map. Therefore, a record search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) digital database was conducted and reviewed by qualified archaeological City staff to determine presence or absence of potential resources within the project site. No recorded archaeological sites were located within or adjacent to the project site. Further, the majority of the project site is on a slope over 25 percent grade, and the small flat portion of the project site that would be developed has been previously disturbed as indicated in the biological report and geotechnical studies. No additional archaeological evaluation or mitigation was recommended by archaeological City staff. Therefore, it was determined that there is no potential to impact any unique or non-unique historical resources.
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- Aesthetics
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Population/Housing
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Public Services
- Air Quality
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Recreation
- Biological Resources
- Land Use/Planning
- Transportation/Traffic
- Cultural Resources
- Mineral Resources
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Geology/Soils
- Noise
- Utilities/Service System
- Mandatory Findings Significance

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☒ The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect (a) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (b) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or (MITIGATED) NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or (MITIGATED) NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis.)

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from “Earlier Analyses”, as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or (mitigated) negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
   a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
   b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less Than Significant With Mitigation Measures Incorporated”, describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.
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<td>I)</td>
<td>AESTHETICS – Would the project:</td>
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<td>a)</td>
<td>Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</td>
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No scenic vista or view corridor designated within the community plan exists on the project site. Therefore, the project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. No impacts would result.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | ❌ | ❌ | ❌ | ✓ |

The project is situated within a developed residential neighborhood. No such scenic resources or state scenic highways are located on, near, or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, no impacts would result.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? | ❌ | ❌ | ❌ | ✓ |

The project site is within a developed residential neighborhood. The project is compatible with the surrounding development, and permitted by the community plan and zoning designation. The project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site or the surrounding area. Also see response I(a) above. No impacts are anticipated.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | ❌ | ❌ | ❌ | ✓ |

The project would not be expected to create new and/or cause substantial light or glare. No substantial sources of light would be generated during project construction, as construction activities would occur during daylight hours. All permanent exterior lighting is required to comply with City regulations to reduce potential adverse effects on neighborhood properties. No impacts are anticipated.
II. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. – Would the project:

   a) Converts 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?

   The project is consistent with the community plan’s land use designation, and is located within a developed residential neighborhood. As such, the project site does not contain, and is not adjacent to, any lands identified as Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as show on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resource Agency. Therefore, the project would not result in the conversion of such lands to non-agricultural use. No significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

   b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?

   Refer to response to II(a) above. There are no Williamson Act Contract lands on or within the vicinity of the project site. The project is consistent with the existing land use and the underlying zone. The project does not conflict with any agricultural use. No impacts would result.

   c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 1220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

   The project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. No designated forest land or timberland occur onsite as the project is consistent with the community plan, and the underlying zone. No impacts would result.
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<td>d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
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Refer to response II(c) above. Additionally, the project would not contribute to the conversion of any forested land to non-forest use, as surrounding land uses are built out. No impacts would result.

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? | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☑ |

Refer to responses II(a) and (c) above. No impacts would result.

III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied on to make the following determinations – Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☑ |

The San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) and San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) are responsible for developing and implementing the clean air plan for attainment and maintenance of the ambient air quality standards in the San Diego Air Basin (SDAB). The County Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) was initially adopted in 1991, and is updated on a triennial basis (most recently in 2009). The RAQS outlines the SDAPCD’s plans and control measures designed to attain the state air quality standards for ozone (O3). The RAQS relies on information from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and SANDAG, including mobile and area source emissions, as well as information regarding projected growth in San Diego County and the cities in the county, to project future emissions and then determine the strategies necessary for the reduction of emissions through regulatory controls. CARB mobile source emission projections and SANDAG growth projections are based on population, vehicle trends, and land use plans developed by San Diego County and the cities in the county as part of the development of their general plans.

The RAQS relies on SANDAG growth projections based on population, vehicle trends, and land use plans developed by the cities and by the county as part of the development of their general plans. As such, projects that propose development that is consistent with the growth anticipated by local plans would be consistent with the RAQS. However, if a project proposes development that is greater than that anticipated in the local plan and SANDAG’s growth projections, the project might be in conflict with the RAQS and may contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact on air quality.
The project would construct 11 residential units within a developed neighborhood of similar residential uses. The project is consistent with the General Plan, community plan, and the underlying zoning for residential development. Therefore, the project would be consistent at a sub-regional level with the underlying growth forecasts in the RAQS, and would not obstruct implementation of the RAQS. As such, no impacts would result.

### Short-term Emissions (Construction)

Project construction activities would potentially generate combustion emissions from on-site heavy-duty construction vehicles and motor vehicles transporting the construction crew and necessary construction materials. Exhaust emissions generated by construction activities would generally result from the use of typical construction equipment that may include excavation equipment, forklift, skip loader, and/or dump truck. Variables that factor into the total construction emissions potentially generated include the level of activity, length of construction period, number of pieces and types of equipment in use, site characteristics, weather conditions, number of construction personnel, and the amount of materials to be transported on or off-site. It is anticipated that construction equipment would be used on-site for four to eight hours a day; however, construction would be short-term and impacts to neighboring uses would be minimal and temporary.

Fugitive dust emissions are generally associated with land clearing and grading operations. Due to the nature and location of the project, construction activities are expected to create minimal fugitive dust, as a result of the disturbance associated with grading. The project would construct 11 residential units. Construction operations would include standard measures as required by the City of San Diego grading permit to reduce potential air quality impacts to less than significant. Therefore, impacts associated with fugitive dust are considered less than significant, and would not violate an air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Impacts related to short-term emissions would be less than significant.

### Long-term Emissions (Operational)

Long-term air emission impacts are those associated with stationary sources and mobile sources related to any change caused by a project. The project would produce minimal stationary source emissions. Once construction of the project is complete, long-term air emissions would
potentially result from such sources as fireplaces, heating, ventilation, and cooling (HVAC) systems, and other motorized equipment typically associated with residential uses. The project is compatible with the surrounding development and is permitted by the community plan and zone designation. Based on the residential land use, project emissions over the long-term are not anticipated to violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Impacts would be less than significant.

Overall, the project is not expected to generate substantial emissions that would violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation; therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

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

As described above in response III(b), construction operations temporarily increase the emissions of dust and other pollutants. However, construction emissions would be temporary and short-term in duration. Implementation of Best Management Practices (BMP’s) would reduce potential impacts related to construction activities to a less than significant level. Therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standards. Impacts would be less than significant.

d) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Short-term (Construction)
Odors would be generated from vehicles and/or equipment exhaust emissions during construction of the project. Odors produced during construction would be attributable to concentrations of unburned hydrocarbons from tailpipes of construction equipment and architectural coatings. Such odors are temporary and generally occur at magnitudes that would not affect a substantial number of people. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Long-term (Operational)
Typical long-term operational characteristics of the project are not associated with the creation of such odors nor anticipated to generate odors affecting a substantial number of people. The project would construct 11 residential units. Residential dwelling units, in the long-term operation, are not typically associated with the creation of such odors nor are they anticipated to
generate odors affecting a substantial number or people. Therefore, project operations would result in less than significant impacts.

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IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a) Have substantial adverse effects, 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? □ □ □ □ ▧

A Biological Assessment Letter Report dated May 2, 2016 was prepared by BLUE Consulting Group. On-site vegetation consists of Disturbed Habitat (Tier IV) and a soft bottom flood control channel that is generally un-vegetated or ornamental grass species lined. Developed Land (paved areas) would be impacted off-site.

The observed soft bottom flood control system is a non-jurisdictional feature and a non-Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) wetland. The project site does not support areas considered to be U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), or City jurisdictional wetlands. The area does not support an historic streambed; no blue-line is depicted in United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps of this area and no natural channel or flow line leading to or from the concrete outfall structures exists. Additionally, onsite hydrology is a result of man-made conditions; storm events flows are piped onsite and no non-permitted filling of wetlands has occurred in this area. Although an isolated willow was observed on-site, vegetation is generally comprised of upland, non-wetland species. Off-site to the south and adjacent to C street, storm water ponding has resulted in the proliferation of hydrophytic species (including willows). However, the surrounding development indicates that these species exist in isolation form larger areas of functional wetland vegetation.

The Biological Assessment Report Letter determined that the project site does not contain any sensitive biological resources, nor does it contain any candidate, sensitive or special status species or habitat. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? □ □ □ □ ▧
Refer to response IV(a) above. The project site consists of Disturbed Habitat. Off-site impacts would occur to Developed Land and Disturbed Habitat. No wetlands occur onsite. The project site does not contain any riparian habitat or other identified community. Additionally, the project site is located within a developed residential neighborhood. No impacts would result. Also refer to response IV(a) above.

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?

The project site does not contain any federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The project site is located within a developed residential neighborhood. No impacts would result. Also refer to response IV(a) above.

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, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

No formal and/or informal wildlife corridors are on or near the project site, as the project site is located within a developed residential neighborhood. Therefore, no impacts would result. Also refer to response IV(a) above.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

The project would not conflict with any local policies and/or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. No impacts would result.

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?

Refer to response IV(e) above. The project site is located within a developed urban neighborhood and is not within, nor adjacent to, the City’s Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). Therefore, no impacts would result.
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in §15064.5?

☐ ☑ ☐ ☒

The purpose and intent of the Historical Resources Regulations of the Land Development Code (Chapter 14, Division 3, and Article 2) is to protect, preserve and, where damaged, restore the historical resources of San Diego. The regulations apply to all proposed development within the City of San Diego when historical resources are present on the premises. Before approving discretionary projects, CEQA requires the Lead Agency to identify and examine the significant adverse environmental effects which may result from that project. A project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource may have a significant effect on the environment (Sections 15064.5(b) and 21084.1). A substantial adverse change is defined as demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration activities, which would impair historical significance (Sections 15064.5(b)(1)). Any historical resource listed in, or eligible to be listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, including archaeological resources, is considered to be historically or culturally significant.

Archaeological Resources
Many areas of San Diego County, including mesas and the coast, are known for intense and diverse prehistoric occupation and important archaeological resources. The region has been inhabited by various cultural groups spanning 10,000 years or more.

The project site is located on the City of San Diego’s Historical Resources Sensitivity map. Therefore, a record search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) digital database was conducted and reviewed by qualified archaeological City staff to determine presence or absence of potential resources within the project site. No recorded archaeological sites were located within or adjacent to the project site. Further, the majority of the project site is on a slope over 25 percent grade, and the small flat portion of the project site that would be developed has been previously disturbed as indicated in the biological report and geotechnical studies. No additional archaeological evaluation or mitigation was recommended by archaeological City staff. Therefore, it was determined that there is no potential to impact any unique or non-unique historical resources. No impacts would result.
The City of San Diego reviews projects requiring the demolition of structures 45 years or older for historic significance in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA Section 21084.1 states that “A project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may cause a significant effect on the environment.” Historic property (built environment) surveys are required for properties which are 45 years of age or older and which have integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The project site is currently vacant. Therefore, no impacts would result.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

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Refer to response V(a) above.

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

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According to the Geotechnical Update prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated April 24, 2015, the project site is underlain by Lindavista Formation. Lindavista Formation is categorized as having a moderate sensitivity for paleontological resources.

Pursuant to the City of San Diego's Significance Determination Thresholds, projects that require over 2,000 cubic yards of excavation, and at depths over 10 feet within a moderate sensitivity area, could result in impacts to these resources. Grading operations would entail approximately 100 cubic yards of cut with a maximum cut depth of 10 feet, and approximately 6,700 cubic yards of fill with a maximum fill depth of 14 feet. Additionally, 6,600 cubic yards of import is proposed. Consequently, the project does not have the potential to disturb or destroy paleontological resources and therefore, does not exceed the threshold for paleontological monitoring. No impacts would occur.

d) Disturb and human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

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Refer to response V(a) above. No cemeteries, formal or informal, have been identified on the project site; therefore, no impacts would result.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
The project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. The project is required to comply with the seismic requirements of the California Building Code. Implementation of proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant.

ii)  Strong seismic ground shaking?

The project site is located within a seismically active southern California region, and is potentially subject to moderate to strong seismic ground shaking along major earthquake faults. Seismic shaking at the site could be generated by any number of known active and potentially active faults in the region. Implementation of proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant.

iii)  Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Refer to response VI(a)(ii) above. The site could be affected by seismic activity as a result of earthquakes and major active faults located throughout the Southern California area. Liquefaction occurs when loose, unconsolidated, water-laden soils are subject to shaking, causing the soils to lose cohesion. Implementation of proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant.

iv)  Landslides?

According to the City of San Diego Seismic Safety Study 2008, the project site is located in Geologic Hazard Category 52. Hazard Category 52 is characterized as “Other Terrain – other level areas, gently sloping to steep terrain, favorable geologic structure, low risk.” Implementation of proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant.
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

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Construction of the project would temporarily disturb on-site soils during grading activities, thereby increasing the potential for soil erosion to occur. However, the use of standard erosion control measures and implementation of storm water BMP requirements during construction would reduce potential impacts to a less than a significant level. Additionally, the project site would be landscaped in accordance with City requirements, which would also preclude erosion or topsoil loss, and all storm water requirements would be met. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

c) 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 on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

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Refer to response VI(a) above. As previously discussed, the project site is located in Geologic Hazard Category 52. Geologic Hazard Category 52 is defined as “Other Terrain – other level areas, gently sloping to steep terrain, favorable geologic structure, low risk.” Implementation of proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant.

d) 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?

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Refer to response VI(a) above. The project would be constructed in accordance with the California Building Code and appropriate engineering design. Utilization of appropriate engineering design measures and standard construction practices, to be verified at the building permit stage, would ensure that the potential for impacts from geologic hazards would be less than significant. Therefore, impacts related to unstable soils are considered less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

e) 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?

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No septic system or alternative wastewater systems are proposed. The project site is located within an area that is already developed with existing infrastructure (i.e., water and sewer lines). No impacts would result.
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

The City’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlines the actions that the City will undertake to achieve its proportional share of State greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. A CAP Consistency Checklist (Checklist) is part of the CAP and contains measures that are required to be implemented on a project-by-project basis to ensure that the specified emission targets identified in the CAP are achieved.

The project is consistent with the existing General Plan and Community Plan land use and zoning designations. Further based upon review and evaluation of the completed CAP Consistency Checklist for the project, the project is consistent with the applicable strategies and actions of the CAP. Therefore, the project is consistent with the assumptions for relevant CAP strategies toward achieving the identified GHG reduction targets, and impacts from greenhouse gas emissions are considered less than significant. No mitigation is required.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

The project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. The project is consistent with the existing General Plan and Community Plan land use and zoning designations. Further based upon review and evaluation of the completed CAP Consistency Checklist for the project, the project is consistent with the applicable strategies and actions of the CAP. Therefore, the project is consistent with the assumptions for relevant CAP strategies toward achieving the identified GHG reduction targets. Impacts are considered less than significant. No mitigation is required.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

The project would construct 11 residential units. Construction of the project may require the use of hazardous material (fuel, lubricants, solvents, etc.) that would require proper storage, handling, use and disposal. Although minimal amounts of such substances may be present during construction, they are not anticipated to create a significant public hazard. Once constructed, the
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<td>routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials on or through the project site is not anticipated. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>Refer to response VIII(a) above. Construction of 11 residential units within a neighborhood of similar uses would not be associated with such impacts. Therefore, no significant impacts related to this issue were identified, and no mitigation measures are required.</td>
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<td>c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refer to responses VIII(a) and VIII(b) above. The project site is not within one quarter mile of a school. Future risk of releases of hazardous substances would not occur as a result of project operations because it is anticipated that future on-site operations would not require the routine use or transport of acutely hazardous materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction of the project may require the use of hazardous materials (fuels, lubricants, solvents, etc.), which would require proper storage, handling, use and disposal. Further, the project would be required to comply with all federal, state and local requirements associated with hazardous materials; therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</td>
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<td>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, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff assessed Geotracker and Envirostor databases, and reviewed the Cortese list.</td>
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<td>Geotracker is a database and geographic information system (GIS) that provides online access to environmental data. It tracks regulatory data about leaking underground fuel tanks (LUFT), Department of Defense (DoD), Spills-Leaks-Investigations-Cleanups (SLIC), and Landfill sites.</td>
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<td>Envirostor is an online database search and Geographic Information System (GIS) tool for identifying sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to</td>
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investigate further. It also identifies facilities that are authorized to treat, store, dispose or transfer (TSDTF) hazardous waste.

The Cortese List is a Hazardous Waste and Substance Sites (Cortese) List, which is a planning resource used by the State, local agencies, and developers to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements in providing information about the location of hazardous materials release sites. Government Code section 65962.5 requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to develop, at least annually, an updated Cortese List. The Department of Toxics and Substance Control (DTSC) is responsible for a portion of the information contained in the Cortese List. Other State and local government agencies are required to provide additional hazardous material release information for the Cortese List. Based on the searches conducted, no contaminated sites are on or adjacent to the project site. Furthermore, the project site was not identified on the DTSC Cortese List. Therefore, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impacts would result.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two mile 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?

The project site is located within the Federal Aviation Administration Part 77 Notification Area (San Diego International Airport), the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Noise Contours (CNEL) (San Diego International Airport), and the Airport Influence Area Review Area 2 identified in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for San Diego International Airport. The basic function of the ALUCP (2014) is to promote compatibility between airports and the land uses that surround them to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible land uses. The ALUCP safeguards the general welfare of the inhabitants within the vicinity of San Diego International Airport and the public in general. The ALUCP provides policies and criteria for the City of San Diego to implement and for the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) to use when reviewing development proposals.

Although the project site is located within an airport land use plan, the project would not result in a safety hazard residing in the project area. Per the San Diego International Airport ALUCP, Review Area 2 is defined by the combination of the airspace protection and overflight boundaries beyond Review Area 1. Only airspace protection and overflight policies and standards apply within Review Area 2. No impacts would result.

f) 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?

Refer to response VIII(e) above. The project site is not in proximity to any private airstrip. Therefore, no significant impacts will occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or evacuation plan?

The project would not impair the implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or evacuation plan. No roadway improvements are proposed that would interfere with circulation or access, and all construction would take place on-site. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

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?

The project site is located within a developed residential neighborhood. There are no wildlands or other areas prone to wildfire within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, the project would not expose people or structures to wildland fires. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

The project would comply with all storm water quality standards during and after construction, and appropriate Best Management Practices (BMP's) must be utilized. Implementation of these BMP's would preclude any violations of existing standards and discharge regulations. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would 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 would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses

The project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would 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 would not drop to a level which would not support existing land uses.
or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

The project does not require the construction of wells. The project is located within a developed residential neighborhood with existing public water supply infrastructure. No impacts would result.

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 would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or the area. There are no streams or rivers located on-site and thus, no such resources would be impacted through the proposed grading activities. Although grading would be required for the project, the project would implement BMPs to ensure that substantial erosion or siltation on or off-site would not occur. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

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 would result in flooding on- or off-site?

The project would implement low impact development principles ensuring that a substantial increase in the rate or amount of surface runoff resulting in flooding on or off-site, or a substantial alteration to the existing drainage pattern would not occur. Streams or rivers do not occur on or adjacent to the project site. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

e) Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

The project would comply with all City storm water quality standards during and after construction. Appropriate BMP’s would be implemented to ensure that water quality is not degraded; therefore, ensuring that the project runoff is directed to appropriate drainage systems. Due to the nature of the project, any runoff from the site is not anticipated to exceed the capacity of existing storm water systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff that
would require new or expanded facilities. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

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<td>f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?</td>
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The project would comply with all City storm water quality standards during and after construction. Appropriate BMP’s would be implemented to ensure that water quality is not degraded. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

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?

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<td>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?</td>
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The project site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area. No impacts would result.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area, structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?

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<td>h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area, structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?</td>
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The project site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area or any other known flood area. No impacts would result.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

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<tr>
<td>a) Physically divide an established community?</td>
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The project is consistent with the General Plan's and Community Plan's land use designation. The project site is located within a developed residential neighborhood and surrounded by similar residential development. Construction of 11 residential units would not affect adjacent properties and is consistent with surrounding land uses. Therefore, the project would not physically divide an established community. No impacts would result.

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?

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<td>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?</td>
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See response X(a) above. The project is compatible with the area designated for residential development by the General Plan and Community Plan, and is consistent with the existing underlying zone and surrounding land uses with allowable deviations.
The San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC), Section 158.0206(a)(3) allows projects to request deviations from applicable development regulations pursuant to a Site Development Permit (SDP) decided in accordance with Process Three, provided that the findings in SDMC Section 126.0504(a) and the findings in SDMC Section 158.0206(d)(1) through (4) are made. Deviations requested by the project include:

1. Yard and Setback – A deviation from SDMC Section 158.0301(b)(2)(B) for a 12 foot rear setback, where 15 feet is required.

2. Residential Vehicular Access – A deviation from SDMC 158.0302(c)(8)(A) for access to Units 7, 8, and 9 via a 14 foot driveway off of B Street, where it is required that vehicular access for the residential units must be provided from the alley, where alley access exists.

3. Transparency Requirement – A deviation from SDMC 158.0303(e)(1) to provide less than 15 percent transparency in the street wall affording views into living space of Units 7 and 9. Transparency is included into the garages; however, this cannot be used to meet any of the transparency requirement.

4. Height Limits – A deviation from SDMC 158.0301(b)(3) for a 36 foot maximum structure height above proposed grade, where structure height is limited to 30 feet.

Construction of the project would occur within an urbanized neighborhood with similar development. Furthermore, the project would not 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, community plan, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. No conflict would occur and thus, no impacts would result.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? □ □ □ ☑

The project is located within a developed residential neighborhood and would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. The project would not conflict with the City’s Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP), in that the site is not located within or adjacent to the MHPA. No significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project?
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<td>a) 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?</td>
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There are no known mineral resources located on the project site. The urbanized and developed nature of the project site and vicinity would preclude the extraction of any such resources. No impacts would result.

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<td>b) 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?</td>
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See response XI(a) above. The project site has not been delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan as a locally important mineral resource recovery site, and no such resources would be affected with project implementation. Therefore, no significant impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures are required.

XII. NOISE – Would the project result in:

a) Generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Short-term noise impacts would be associated with onsite demolition, grading, and construction activities of the project. Construction-related short-term noise levels would be higher than existing ambient noise levels in the project area, but would no longer occur once construction is completed. Sensitive receptors (e.g. residential uses) occur in the immediate area and may be temporarily affected by construction noise; however, construction activities would be required to comply with the construction hours specified in the City's Municipal Code (Section 59.5.0404, Construction Noise), which are intended to reduce potential adverse effects resulting from construction noise. With compliance to the City's construction noise requirements, project construction noise levels would be reduced to less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

For the long-term, typical noise levels associated with residential uses are anticipated, and the project would not result in an increase in the existing ambient noise level. The project would not result in noise levels in excess of standards established in the City of San Diego General Plan or Noise Ordinance. No significant long-term impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.
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<tr>
<td>b) Generation of, excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?</td>
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</table>

See response XII(a) above. Potential effects from construction noise would be reduced through compliance with City restrictions. Pile driving activities that would potentially result in ground borne vibration or ground borne noise are not anticipated with construction of the project. No impacts would result.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | ☒ |

The project would not significantly increase long-term noise levels. The project would not introduce a new land use or significantly increase the intensity of the allowed land use. Post-construction noise levels and traffic would be generally unchanged as compared to noise with the existing residential use. Therefore, no substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels is anticipated. A less than significant impact would result.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above existing without the project? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | ☒ |

The project would not expose people to a substantial increase in temporary or periodic ambient noise levels. Construction noise would result during grading, demolition, and construction activities, but would be temporary in nature. Construction-related noise impacts from the project would generally be higher than existing ambient noise levels in the project area, but would no longer occur once construction is completed. In addition, the project would be required to comply with the San Diego Municipal Code, Article 9.5, Noise Abatement and Control. Implementation of these standard measures would reduce potential impacts from an increase in ambient noise level during construction to a less than significant level, and no mitigation measures are required.

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 would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | ☒ |

The project is located in the 65 to 70 decibel (dB) Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) as depicted in the ALUCP. The ALUCP requires new residential uses above the 60 dB CNEL to provide noise attenuation to ensure an interior noise level of 45 dB CNEL for all habitable rooms.
As a condition of the permit, adequate noise attenuation would be provided to ensure an interior noise level of 45 dB CNEL for all habitable rooms. The project site is also not located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. No impacts would result.

f) 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?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less Than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

The project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. No impacts would result, and no mitigation measures are required.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:

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)?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less Than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

The project site is located in a developed residential neighborhood, and is surrounded by similar residential development. The project site currently receives water and sewer service from the City, and no extension of infrastructure to new areas is required. As such, the project would not substantially increase housing or population growth in the area. No roadway improvements are proposed as part of the project. No impacts would result.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less Than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

The project site is currently undeveloped, and no such displacement would occur in that the project would construct 11 residential units. No impacts would result.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less Than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

See response XIII(b) above. No impacts would result.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service rations, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:
### Issue Summary

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The project site is located in an urbanized and developed area where fire protection services are already provided. Construction of the project would not adversely affect existing levels of fire protection services to the area, and would not require the construction of new, or expansion of, existing governmental facilities. No impacts would result.

The project site is located in an urbanized and developed area within the City of San Diego where police protection services are already provided. Construction of the project would not adversely affect existing levels of police protection services to the area or create significant new demand for such services. Additionally, the project would not require the construction of new, or expansion of, existing governmental facilities. No impacts would result.

The project site is located in an urbanized and developed area where public school services are available. The project would not significantly increase the demand on public schools over that which currently exists. Construction of the project is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in demand for public educational services. No impacts would result.

The project site is located in an urbanized and developed area where City-operated parks are available. The project would not significantly increase the demand on existing neighborhood or regional parks, or other recreational facilities, over that which presently exists. Construction of the project is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in demand for parks or other offsite recreational facilities. No impacts would result.

The project site is located in an urbanized and developed area where City services are already available. Construction of the project would not require the construction of new, or expansion of, existing governmental facilities. No impacts would result.

### XV. RECREATION

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical

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The project would construct 11 residential units and therefore, not adversely affect the availability of and/or need for new or expanded recreational resources. The project would not adversely affect existing levels of public services, and would not require the construction or expansion of an existing governmental facility. The project would not significantly increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities. Therefore, the project is not anticipated to result in the use of available parks or facilities such that substantial deterioration occurs, or that would require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities to satisfy demand. As such, no significant impacts related to recreational facilities have been identified, and no mitigation measures are required.

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?

- Potentially Significant Impact
- Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
- Less Than Significant Impact
- No Impact

See response to XIV(a) above. The project does not propose recreation facilities, nor does it require the construction or expansion of any such facilities. No impacts would result.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project?

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?

- Potentially Significant Impact
- Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
- Less Than Significant Impact
- No Impact

Construction of the project would not change existing circulation patterns on area roadways; however, a temporary minor increase in traffic may occur during construction. The project would not conflict with any applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. The project is not expected to cause a significant short-term or long-term increase in traffic volumes, and thus, would not adversely affect existing levels of service along area roadways. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards

- Potentially Significant Impact
- Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated
- Less Than Significant Impact
- No Impact
Refer to response XVII(a) above. Construction of the project would not generate additional vehicular traffic nor would it adversely affect any mode of transportation in the area. Therefore, the project would not conflict with any applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. Impacts are considered less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

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? □ □ □ ☒

Implementation of the project would not result in a change to air traffic patterns. As stated in Section VIII(e), the project site is located within the Federal Aviation Administration Part 77 Notification Area (San Diego International Airport), the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Noise Contours (CNEL) (San Diego International Airport), and the Airport Influence Area Review Area 2 identified in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for San Diego International Airport. The basic function of the ALUCP (2014) is to promote compatibility between airports and the land uses that surround them to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible land uses. The ALUCP safeguards the general welfare of the inhabitants within the vicinity of San Diego International Airport and the public in general. The ALUCP provides policies and criteria for the City of San Diego to implement and for the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) to use when reviewing development proposals.

Although the project site is located within an airport land use plan, the project would not result in a safety hazard residing in the project area. Per the San Diego International Airport ALUCP, Review Area 2 is defined by the combination of the airspace protection and overflight boundaries beyond Review Area 1. Only airspace protection and overflight policies and standards apply within Review Area 2. No impacts would result.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? □ □ □ ☒

The project would not alter existing circulation patterns. No design features or incompatible uses that would increase potential hazards are proposed. The project would not affect emergency access to the project site or adjacent properties. Access would be provided to the project site via B Street and a private driveway. Driveway design for the project is consistent with City design...
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<td>requirements to ensure safe ingress/egress from the properties. Additionally, the project site is located within an existing residential neighborhood and is not an incompatible use that would create hazardous conditions. No impacts would result. e) Result in inadequate emergency access?</td>
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The project is consistent with the underlying zone and would not result in inadequate emergency access. The project design would be subject to City review and approval for consistency with all design requirements to ensure that no impediments to emergency access occur. No impacts would result.

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? | ☐                             | ☐                                 | ☐              | ☑         |

The project would not alter the existing conditions of the project site or adjacent facilities with regard to alternative transportation. Construction of the project would not result in design measures or circulation features that would conflict with existing policies, plan, or programs supporting alternative transportation. No impacts would result.

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES- Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or | ☐                             | ☐                                 | ☐              | ☑         |

Refer to response V(a) above. The project site is located on the City of San Diego's Historical Resources Sensitivity map. Therefore, a record search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) digital database was conducted and reviewed by qualified archaeological City staff to determine presence or absence of potential resources within the project site. No recorded archaeological sites were located within or adjacent to the project site. Further, the majority of the project site is on a slope over 25 percent grade, and the small flat portion of the project site that would be developed has been previously disturbed as indicated in the biological report and geotechnical studies. No additional archaeological evaluation or mitigation was recommended by archaeological City staff. Therefore, it was determined that
there is no potential to impact any unique or non-unique historical resources. No impacts would result.

No tribal cultural resources as defined by Public Resources Code section 21074 have been identified on the project site. Furthermore, the project site was not determined to be eligible for listing on either the State or local register of historical resources.

b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Refer to response V(a) above. The project site is located on the City of San Diego's Historical Resources Sensitivity map. Therefore, a record search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) digital database was conducted and reviewed by qualified archaeological City staff to determine presence or absence of potential resources within the project site. No recorded archaeological sites were located within or adjacent to the project site. Further, the majority of the project site is on a slope over 25 percent grade, and the small flat portion of the project site that would be developed has been previously disturbed as indicated in the biological report and geotechnical studies. No additional archaeological evaluation or mitigation was recommended by archaeological City staff. Therefore, it was determined that there is no potential to impact any unique or non-unique historical resources. No impacts would result.

No significant resources pursuant to subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1 have been identified on the project site.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Implementation of the project would not interrupt existing sewer service to the project site or other surrounding uses. No increase in demand for wastewater disposal or treatment would be created by the project, as compared to current conditions. The project is not anticipated to generate significant amounts of wastewater. Wastewater facilities used by the project would be operated in accordance with the applicable wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional
Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Additionally, the project site is located in an urbanized and developed area. Adequate services are already available to serve the project. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

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?

See response XVII(a) above. Adequate services are available to serve the project site. Additionally, the project would not significantly increase the demand for water or wastewater treatment services and thus, would not trigger the need for new treatment facilities. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The project would not exceed the capacity of the existing storm water drainage systems and therefore, would not require construction of new or expansion of existing storm water drainage facilities of which could cause significant environmental effects. The project was reviewed by qualified City staff who determined that the existing facilities are adequately sized to accommodate the proposed development. No impacts would result.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

The project does not meet the CEQA significance threshold requiring the need for the project to prepare a water supply assessment. The existing project site currently receives water service from the City, and adequate services are available to serve the proposed residential dwelling units without requiring new or expanded entitlements. Impacts would be less than significant.

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?


Construction of the project would not adversely affect existing wastewater treatment services. Adequate services are available to serve the project site without requiring new or expanded entitlements. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs?

- 
- 
- X
- 

Construction debris and waste would be generated from the construction of the 11 residential units. All construction waste from the project site would be transported to an appropriate facility, which would have adequate capacity to accept the limited amount of waste that would be generated by the project. Long-term operation of the proposed residential units is anticipated to generate typical amounts of solid waste associated with residential use. Furthermore, the project would be required to comply with the City’s Municipal Code for diversion of both construction waste during the demolition phase and solid waste during the long-term, operational phase. Impacts are considered to be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

- 
- 
- X
- 

The project would comply with all Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. The project would not result in the generation of large amounts of solid waste, nor generate or require the transport of hazardous waste materials, other than minimal amounts generated during the construction phase. All demolition activities would comply with any City of San Diego requirements for diversion of both construction waste during the demolition phase and solid waste during the long-term, operational phase. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE –

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?

- 
- 
- X
- 

The project would not adversely affect existing wastewater treatment services. Adequate services are available to serve the project site without requiring new or expanded entitlements. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.
As documented in this Initial Study, the project would not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment. As such, no mitigation measures would be incorporated as all impacts are less than significant.

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 futures projects)?

As documented in this Initial Study, the project would not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment. As such, no mitigation measures would be required. Other future projects within the surrounding neighborhood or community would be required to comply with applicable local, State, and Federal regulations to reduce the potential impacts to less than significant, or to the extent possible. Therefore, the project would not contribute potentially significant cumulative environmental impacts.

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

As discussed throughout this document, it is not anticipated that implementation of the project and construction activities associated with the 11 residential units would create conditions that would significantly directly or indirectly impact human beings. No mitigation measures have been required because all impacts are less than significant. For this reason, environmental effects fall below the thresholds established by CEQA and the City and therefore, would not result in significant impacts. Impacts would be less than significant.

**INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST**

**REFERENCES**

I. **Aesthetics / Neighborhood Character**

   X City of San Diego General Plan
   X Community Plans: Greater Golden Hill
II. **Agricultural Resources & Forest Resources**

___ City of San Diego General Plan
___ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey - San Diego Area, California, Part I and II, 1973
___ California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997)
___ Site Specific Report:

III. **Air Quality**

___ California Clean Air Act Guidelines (Indirect Source Control Programs) 1990
___ Regional Air Quality Strategies (RAQS) - APCD
___ Site Specific Report:

IV. **Biology**

___ City of San Diego, Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Subarea Plan, 1997
___ City of San Diego, MSCP, "Vegetation Communities with Sensitive Species and Vernal Pools" Maps, 1996
___ City of San Diego, MSCP, "Multiple Habitat Planning Area" maps, 1997
___ Community Plan - Resource Element
___ California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database, "State and Federally-listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California," January 2001
___ California Department of Fish & Game, California Natural Diversity Database, "State and Federally-listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California," January 2001
___ City of San Diego Land Development Code Biology Guidelines

V. **Cultural Resources (includes Historical Resources)**

___ City of San Diego Historical Resources Guidelines
VI. Geology/Soils

X City of San Diego Seismic Safety Study


X Site Specific Report: Geotechnical Update prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated April 24, 2015

X Site Specific Report: Addendum to Geotechnical Update prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated May 21, 2015

X Site Specific Report: Response to City of San Diego Geology Review prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated July 17, 2015

X Site Specific Report: Response to City of San Diego Geology Review prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated August 15, 2016

X Site Specific Report: Response to City of San Diego Geology Review prepared by Hetherington Engineering, Inc. dated September 27, 2016

VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

X Site Specific Report: Climate Action Plan Consistency Checklist

VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

X San Diego County Hazardous Materials Environmental Assessment Listing

X San Diego County Hazardous Materials Management Division

X FAA Determination

X State Assessment and Mitigation, Unauthorized Release Listing, Public Use Authorized

X Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
IX. **Hydrology/Water Quality**

- Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Flood Insurance Program-Flood Boundary and Floodway Map
- Clean Water Act Section 303(b) list, [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists.html)
- Site Specific Report: Drainage Study prepared by Christensen Engineering & Surveying dated July 14, 2016

X. **Land Use and Planning**

- City of San Diego General Plan
- Community Plan
- Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
- City of San Diego Zoning Maps
- FAA Determination
- Other Plans:

XI. **Mineral Resources**

- California Department of Conservation - Division of Mines and Geology, Mineral Land Classification
- Division of Mines and Geology, Special Report 153 - Significant Resources Maps
- Site Specific Report:
XII. Noise

X  City of San Diego General Plan

____ Community Plan

____ San Diego International Airport - Lindbergh Field CNEL Maps

____ Brown Field Airport Master Plan CNEL Maps

____ Montgomery Field CNEL Maps

____ San Diego Association of Governments - San Diego Regional Average Weekday Traffic Volumes

____ San Diego Metropolitan Area Average Weekday Traffic Volume Maps, SANDAG

____ Site Specific Report:

XIII. Paleontological Resources

X  City of San Diego Paleontological Guidelines


X  Kennedy, Michael P., and Gary L. Peterson, "Geology of the San Diego Metropolitan Area, California. Del Mar, La Jolla, Point Loma, La Mesa, Poway, and SW 1/4 Escondido 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangles," California Division of Mines and Geology Bulletin 200, Sacramento, 1975

____ Kennedy, Michael P., and Siang S. Tan, "Geology of National City, Imperial Beach and Otay Mesa Quadrangles, Southern San Diego Metropolitan Area, California," Map Sheet 29, 1977

____ Site Specific Report:

XIV. Population / Housing

____ City of San Diego General Plan

____ Community Plan

____ Series 11/Series 12 Population Forecasts, SANDAG

____ Other:
XV. Public Services

- City of San Diego General Plan
- Community Plan

XVI. Recreational Resources

- City of San Diego General Plan
- Community Plan
- Department of Park and Recreation
- City of San Diego - San Diego Regional Bicycling Map
- Additional Resources:

XVII. Transportation / Circulation

- City of San Diego General Plan
- Community Plan
- San Diego Metropolitan Area Average Weekday Traffic Volume Maps, SANDAG
- San Diego Region Weekday Traffic Volumes, SANDAG
- Site Specific Report:

XVIII. Utilities

- Site Specific Report:

XIX. Water Conservation


Created: REVISED - October 11, 2013
Vicinity Map
Golden Hill B Street Homes / Project No. 422242
City of San Diego – Development Services Department