

4.0

INTRODUCTION TO THE ANALYSIS

4.0.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 4 of the EIR analyzes the potential impacts of the proposed project on a range of environmental issue areas. Sections 4.1 through 4.15 describe the focus of the analysis, references and other data sources for the analysis, the environmental setting as related to the specific issue, project-specific impacts and mitigations measures for each issue area, and a policy consistency table for each issue area. The format of each of the sections is described below.

4.0.2 DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Under CEQA, a significant effect is defined as a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in the environment (Public Resources Code § 21068). The Guidelines implementing CEQA direct that this determination be based on scientific and factual data. The specific criteria for determining the significance of a particular impact are identified within the impact discussion in each section, and are consistent with significance criteria set forth in the CEQA Guidelines.

4.0.3 ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THIS EIR

The EIR provides the analysis necessary to address the technical environmental impacts of the proposed project. The following environmental issues are addressed in this Draft EIR:

- Aesthetics and Visual Resources;
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources;
- Air Quality;
- Biological Resources;
- Cultural Resources;
- Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources;
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy;
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials;
- Hydrology and Water Quality;
- Land Use and Urban Decay;
- Noise and Vibration;
- Population and Housing;
- Public Services and Recreation;
- Transportation and Circulation; and
- Utilities.

4.0.4 SECTION FORMAT

Each technical section addressing a specific environmental issue begins with an **introduction** describing the purpose of the section. The introduction is followed by a description of the project's **existing environmental setting** as it pertains to that particular issue. The setting description is followed by the **regulatory context** and the **impacts and mitigation measures** discussion. The impacts and mitigation measures discussion contains the **significance criteria**, followed by the **method of analysis**. In addition, the impact and mitigation measures discussion includes impact statements prefaced by a number in bold-faced type. An explanation of each impact and an analysis of the impact's significance follow each impact statement. All mitigation measures pertinent to each individual impact follow directly after the impact statement (see below). The degree of relief provided by identified mitigation measures is also evaluated. The discussions and mitigation measures presented in each technical section apply to both the Mace Ranch Innovation Center (MRIC) Site and the Mace Triangle Site unless otherwise stated. In addition, the concluding impact for each issue area contains a Davis General Plan consistency table. An example of the format is shown below:

4.x-1 Statement of Impact

MRIC

Discussion of impact for the proposed project in paragraph format.

Mace Triangle

Discussion of impact for the proposed project in paragraph format.

Conclusion

Statement of *level of significance* of impact prior to mitigation is included at the end of each impact discussion. The following levels of significance will be utilized in the EIR: less than significant, significant, or significant and unavoidable. If an impact is determined to be significant, mitigation will be included in order to reduce the specific impact.

Mitigation Measure(s)

Statement of *level of significance* after the mitigation is included immediately preceding mitigation measures.

MRIC

4.x-1(a) Required mitigation measure(s) presented in italics and listed in consecutive order.

Mace Triangle

4.x-1(b) etc.

4.x-x Consistency Impact

Discussion of impact for the proposed project in paragraph format.

Statement of *level of significance* of impact prior to mitigation is included at the end of each impact discussion.

Mitigation Measure(s)

Statement of *level of significance* after the mitigation is included immediately preceding mitigation measures.

Table 4.x-x Policy and Regulation Discussion	
Policy	Project Consistency
Chapter x, _____, of the Davis General Plan	
Policy x	Discussion of consistency for the proposed project in paragraph format.