



Section 5.11

Public Services/Parks and Recreation



Public Services/Parks and Recreation

Section 5.11

This section is based on information from public service agencies and other reference sources; refer to Appendix 12.1, *Initial Study/Notice of Preparation*, and Appendix 12.6, *Public Services/Utilities Correspondence*. Public Services include fire protection, police protection, and schools. Parks and recreational resources are also discussed in this section. This section provides existing conditions and background information necessary to determine potential impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Mitigation measures are recommended to avoid or reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

5.11.1 FIRE PROTECTION

5.11.1.1 PURPOSE

This section identifies fire protection services within the City of Artesia (City) and provides an analysis of potential impacts associated with the proposed General Plan Update at buildout. Information in this section is based on information in the *Community Safety Element* of the General Plan Update and as provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD).

5.11.1.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

According to City of Artesia Municipal Code (AMC) Title 8 Chapter 6, *Installation of Fire Hydrants and Fire Lanes*, many commercial properties in the City of Artesia are served by inadequate fire hydrants and fire lines. New development is prohibited on such properties unless the fire protection facilities are upgraded. The benefits to be derived from such upgrading would be received by all existing and future development in the area. AMC Chapter 6 provides for an equitable means of distributing the costs of the improvements among the various benefited properties.

The City has adopted Title 32 of the Los Angeles County Code (i.e., Fire Code for the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County), as the Fire Code Ordinance of the City of Artesia (Fire Code); refer to AMC Title 8 Chapter 7, *Fire Code*.

5.11.1.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection services in Artesia are provided through the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD). Table 5.11-1, *Fire Protection Facilities*, outlines the locations, staffing, and equipment available at the stations providing fire protection services to the City. The LACFD response time goal is four minutes, however, response time varies depending on the type of call.

The CSR acts as a liaison between the LACFD and the cities within the service area. Staff at Station #30 is divided between three shifts consisting of nine fire fighters and one chief officer



each. Staff at Station #115 is divided between three shifts consisting of four fire fighters and one chief officer each.

The City has entered into an automatic response agreement with the Cities of Norwalk and Cerritos to provide dispatch regardless of the city boundaries. Additionally, Station #30 is part of a Mutual Aid Agreement with the County of Orange to provide overlapping coverage, in the event of additional service need.

**Table 5.11-1
Fire Protection Facilities**

Station	Location	Staffing	Equipment
Fire Station #30 (Battalion 9 Headquarters)	19030 Pioneer Boulevard City of Cerritos	27 fire fighters, 2 chief officers 2 secretaries 1 community service representative (CSR) 6 fire prevention personnel	1 fire engine 1 paramedic squad 1 quint (ladder truck) 1 battalion chief command vehicle
Fire Station #115	11317 Alondra Boulevard City of Norwalk		1 engine 1 mobile air unit

Source: *City of Artesia General Plan Update Community Safety Element, July 20, 2010.*

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

In addition to fire suppression and prevention activities, the LACFD provides paramedic services. All uniformed LACFD personnel are trained to a minimum Emergency Medical Technician 1 standard (EMT-1), providing basic evaluation, life support and first aid, and employment of an Emergency Medical Technician defibrillator. Paramedic squad personnel are also trained to provide advanced life saving support including drug therapy.

The LACFD’s emergency ambulance services are provided through a contract with CARE Ambulance. As the 911 emergency ambulance service provider, CARE Ambulance responds alongside the LACFD paramedics to provide needed emergency transport services.

FIRE FLOW

Required fire flow is closely related to land use. Fire flow requirements depend on a number of factors including building use, type of construction, size, and presence of an automatic fire sprinkler system. Fire flow requirements established by the LACFD are outlined in Table 5.11-2, Fire Flow Requirements.

The water system must be able to provide the required fire flow at a minimum residual pressure of 20 psi. The City’s Water System Master Plan prepared in 1995 found that the existing water supply system was inadequate to provide the maximum day demand plus a fire event.



Table 5.11-2
Fire Flow Requirements

Table with 3 columns: Land Use, Fire Flow (Gallons per Minute), and Duration. Rows include Single-Family Residential (1,250 gpm, 2 hours), Two-Family Residential (1,500 gpm, 2 hours), Medium Density Residential, Apartments (2,500 gpm, 2 hours), Light Commercial, Neighborhood Shopping Center (3,000 gpm, 3 hours), Schools, Medium Commercial (3,500 gpm, 3 hours), and Single-Family Residential (1,250 gpm, 2 hours). Source: City Artesia General Plan Update Community Safety Element Table B.3-1, Fire Flow Requirements, July 20, 2010.

5.11.1.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form used during preparation of the Project Initial Study; refer to Appendix 12.1, Initial Study/Notice of Preparation. The Checklist includes the following question relating to fire protection services, which has been utilized as the threshold of significance in this section. Accordingly, a significant environmental impact would occur if the Project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, or result in the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

Based on this significance threshold, the effects of the proposed General Plan Update have been categorized as either "effects found not to be significant" or "potentially significant impact." Feasible mitigation measures, which could avoid or minimize potentially significant impacts, are identified. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a "significant unavoidable impact."

5.11.1.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE POLICIES

The following Policies and Policy Actions relevant to fire protection services have been proposed in the General Plan Update:



COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND WELLNESS ELEMENT

Community Safety

Policy Action SAF 5.1.2: Review development proposals for potential impacts to the provision of emergency services.

Community Policy SAF 6.1: Ensure quality fire prevention and protection services are provided to meet the needs of all Artesia community members.

Policy Action SAF 6.1.1: Continue to contract for service from the Los Angeles County Fire Department to provide quality fire protection services for the City's population and regularly communicate to ensure needs are met.

Policy Action SAF 6.1.2: Strive to maintain necessary water pressure throughout the City and provide necessary water storage to meet peak fire demand.

Community Policy SAF 6.2: Ensure that new structures and alterations to existing structures are properly designed and constructed to minimize fire hazards.

Policy Action SAF 6.2.1: Adopt and require compliance with the most current versions of the California Fire Code, or other relevant codes.

Policy Action SAF 6.2.2: Continue to contract with the County of Los Angeles Public Works Department for building safety review services.

Policy Action SAF 6.2.3: Continue to include the local fire district in the review of development proposals and incorporate their recommendations as conditions of approval as necessary to ensure public safety.

Community Policy SAF 7.1: Develop a Citywide Disaster Preparedness Plan

Policy Action SAF 7.1.1: Ensure that adequately trained staff is available to provide essential emergency public services.

Policy Action SAF 7.1.2: Work cooperatively with the Public Safety Commission, community organizations, adjacent jurisdictions and regional agencies to prepare Artesia for emergencies.

Policy Action SAF 7.1.3: Coordinate with regional, State and Federal agencies to prepare for and respond to potential terrorism threats.

Community Policy SAF 7.2: Provide community members with information and education on disaster preparedness.



Policy Action SAF 7.2.1: Promote public education and awareness regarding individual fire prevention and safety, earthquake safety, and other emergency preparedness topics through information resources, programs and seminars in conjunction with the County of Los Angeles and other partners.

☐ EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Section 15128, *Effects Not Found To Be Significant*, of the *CEQA Guidelines*, requires a brief discussion of the reasons that various possible significant effects of the Project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail.

There are no Project effects found not to be significant regarding fire protection services.

☐ POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

■ BUILDOUT OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD RESULT IN THE NEED FOR NEW OR PHYSICALLY ALTERED FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES.

Impact Analysis: The General Plan Update would increase the City's existing housing inventory by 338 dwelling units, population by 1,253 persons, and non-residential floor area by approximately 416,017 square feet, thereby, increasing the demand for fire protection in the form of additional calls for service. The current fire protection staffing levels appear to be sufficient to meet existing service demands within the City, including the accommodation of the projected population growth attributed to the proposed General Plan Update. Given the built-out nature of the City, it is not anticipated that construction of a new facility would result in substantial adverse physical impacts. Through the City's development review process, future projects would be evaluated to determine the appropriate permits for authorizing their use and the conditions for their establishment and operation. Future development resulting from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would be subject to compliance with AMC Title 8 Chapter 6, *Installation of Fire Hydrants and Fire Lanes*, and Title 8 Chapter 7, *Fire Code*, which involve requirements for construction, emergency access, water mains, fire flows, and hydrants. Individual projects would be reviewed by the LACFD to determine the specific fire requirements applicable to that development and to ensure compliance with these requirements (refer to Policy Action 6.2.2). Additionally, the General Plan Update has specified as a Goal that Artesia's residents, employees, and visitors are protected from the threat of urban fires. To this end, all future development would be subject to compliance with all of the Policies and Policy Actions outlined above, which would ensure that fire protection facilities, services, and resources are adequate to support the increased demands. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in a less than significant impact in this regard.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.



5.11.1.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY AND LOCAL REGION COULD CUMULATIVELY IMPACT FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES.

Impact Analysis: Implementation of the Artesia General Plan Update, along with potential projects within the region would not have a significant cumulative impact on fire protection services provided by LACFD. As previously noted, the LACFD operates on a regional aid approach where emergency response units are dispatched as needed based on unit availability, rather than municipal or determined service boundaries. This regional response concept assures that service levels are maintained throughout the entire service area of the LACFD. Cumulative effects from the General Plan Update at buildout and other projects within the region would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

5.11.1.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

No significant unavoidable impacts involving fire protection services would occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

5.11.1.8 SOURCES CITED

RBF Consulting, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 20, 2010.



5.11.2 POLICE PROTECTION

5.11.2.1 PURPOSE

This section identifies law enforcement services and programs within the City and evaluates the potential impacts to police protection services associated with the buildout of the proposed General Plan Update. Mitigation measures to avoid or reduce the significance of impacts are recommended, as necessary.

5.11.2.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE

The California Penal Code establishes the basis for the application of criminal law in California.

5.11.2.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Police protection services to the City of Artesia are provided under contract with the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. The City is served by the Lakewood Sheriff's Station located at 5130 Clark Avenue in the City of Lakewood. The Lakewood Station provides general and specialized community-oriented law enforcement services to over 270,000 residents in the contract cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, and Paramount.

One crime car and one traffic car patrol the City 24-hours a day. Their shifts overlap, ensuring someone is always in the City. Artesia also has one sergeant, two Special Assignment Deputies, and a no-call grant traffic car in the City 40 hours per week (variable times/shifts based on trends/needs).

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has a general response threshold of 60 minutes for a routine call, 20 minutes for a priority call, and 10 minutes for an emergency call. Due to Artesia's small size, response times have historically been less than one-half of the threshold times.^{1, 2} The County does not utilize a specific formula or standard to deploy or assign law enforcement personnel to a city based on population. Each city's needs are evaluated on an individual basis. Factors considered include area size, population, past crime patterns or problems, and specific city priorities.

The LACSD's "Skyknight" patrol provides helicopter air support to deputies on the ground, as needed. Additionally, a full-time community relations Code Enforcement Officer provides

¹ Written Correspondence: Greg Knapp, Sergeant, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Lakewood Sheriff's Station, April 2, 2010.

² Response times are computed beginning when the desk officer taking a call sends a computer message to the dispatcher and ends when the first unit arrives on the scene. Emergency calls are also voiced over the radio.



Municipal Code Enforcement and liaison with the business community. The LACSD also participates in numerous outreach programs in order to make a positive influence in Artesia.

5.11.2.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form used during preparation of the Project NOP; refer to Appendix 12.1. The Checklist includes the following question relating to police protection, which has been utilized as the threshold of significance in this section. Accordingly, a significant environmental impact would occur if the Project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police protection facilities, or result in the need for new or physically altered police protection facilities, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

Based on this significance threshold, the effects of the proposed General Plan Update have been categorized as either “effects found not to be significant” or “potentially significant impact.” Feasible mitigation measures, which could avoid or minimize potentially significant impacts are identified. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a “significant unavoidable impact.”

5.11.2.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

☐ GENERAL PLAN UPDATE POLICIES

The following Policies and Policy Actions relevant to police protection services have been proposed in the General Plan Update:

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND WELLNESS ELEMENT

Community Safety

Community Policy SAF 1.1: Provide opportunities for community involvement in crime prevention and control through community policing and public participation programs.

Policy Action SAF 1.1.1: Continue to support Neighborhood Watch programs community-wide.

Policy Action SAF 1.1.2: Continue to utilize the Artesia Public Safety Commission to make recommendations regarding community safety programs and policies.



Policy Action SAF 1.1.3: Encourage cooperative agreements between the Sheriff's Department and local organizations such as schools and business groups.

Policy Action SAF 1.1.4: Encourage the Sheriff's Department to conduct outreach efforts in neighborhoods and ethnic communities throughout Artesia.

Policy Action SAF 1.1.5: Work with the Sheriff's Department, Artesia Beautification and Maintenance Commission and community groups to promote litter pick-up, graffiti removal, and other neighborhood beautification efforts.

Community Policy SAF 5.1: Ensure quality police protection services are provided to meet the needs of all Artesia community members.

Policy Action SAF 5.1.1: Continue to contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to provide quality police protection for the City's population and regularly communicate to ensure needs are met.

Policy Action SAF 5.1.2: Review development proposals for potential impacts to the provision of emergency services.

Community Policy SAF 5.2: Encourage the use of techniques for Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), design that discourages crime and promotes safety, for all new development and redevelopment projects.

Community Policy SAF 7.1: Develop a Citywide Disaster Preparedness Plan

Policy Action SAF 7.1.1: Ensure that adequately trained staff is available to provide essential emergency public services.

Policy Action SAF 7.1.2: Work cooperatively with the Public Safety Commission, community organizations, adjacent jurisdictions and regional agencies to prepare Artesia for emergencies.

Policy Action SAF 7.1.3: Coordinate with regional, State and Federal agencies to prepare for and respond to potential terrorism threats.

Community Policy SAF 7.2: Provide community members with information and education on disaster preparedness.

Policy Action SAF 7.2.1: Promote public education and awareness regarding individual fire prevention and safety, earthquake safety, and other emergency preparedness topics through information resources, programs and seminars in conjunction with the County of Los Angeles and other partners.



☐ EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Section 15128, *Effects Not Found To Be Significant*, of the *CEQA Guidelines*, requires a brief discussion of the reasons that various possible significant effects of the Project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail.

There are no Project effects found not to be significant regarding police protection services.

☐ POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

■ BUILDOUT OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD RESULT IN THE NEED FOR NEW OR PHYSICALLY ALTERED POLICE PROTECTION FACILITIES.

Impact Analysis: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase the City's residential development, population, and non-residential floor area, resulting in an increased demand for police protection in the form of additional calls for service. The need for increased police protection services within the City is determined by increases in emergency 911 calls, sustained rises in crimes reported, and other issues directly related to community safety and the overall quality of life. According to the LACSD, they do not anticipate any significant impacts that would require additional manpower.³ Buildout according to the proposed General Plan Update would not require new or physically altered police protection facilities. Therefore, Project implementation would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with police protection services. Through the City's development review process, future projects would be evaluated to determine the appropriate permits for authorizing their use and the conditions for their establishment and operation. It is a Goal of the General Plan Update Community Safety Element that community safety be achieved through ongoing collaborative efforts between the community, the City of Artesia, and outside agencies. Additionally, it is a Goal that Artesia is a community with low crime rates and safe neighborhoods. The LACSD would review land use and building permit applications for potential impacts to the provision of emergency services and to ensure that police protection facilities, services, and resources are adequate to support the increased demands. All future development would be subject to compliance with the General Plan Update's Policies and Policy Actions outlined above, further minimizing potential impacts to police protection services.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

³ Written Correspondence: Greg Knapp, Sargeant, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Lakewood Sheriff's Station, April 2, 2010.



5.11.2.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- **DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY AND LOCAL REGION COULD CUMULATIVELY IMPACT POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES.**

Impact Analysis: Implementation of the Artesia General Plan Update, along with cumulative development of projects within the region, would not have a significant impact on police protection services. The LACSD anticipates adequate service capacity to accommodate the population growth projected for the Artesia General Plan Update and other cumulative development projects within the LACSD's service area. Cumulative impacts to police protection services would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

5.11.2.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

No significant unavoidable impacts involving police protection services would occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

5.11.2.8 SOURCES CITED

RBF Consulting, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 20, 2010.

County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, *Written Correspondence: Greg Knapp, Sergeant*, April 2, 2010.



5.11.3 SCHOOLS

5.11.3.1 PURPOSE

This section identifies school services and facilities within the City and provides an analysis of potential impacts associated with buildout of the proposed General Plan Update. This section is based on information provided by the ABC Unified School District. Mitigation measures to avoid or reduce the significance of impacts are recommended, as necessary.

5.11.3.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

AB 2926

The State of California has traditionally been responsible for the funding of local public schools. To assist in providing facilities to serve students generated by new development projects, the State passed Assembly Bill 2926 (AB 2926) in 1986. This bill allowed school districts to collect impact fees from developers of new residential and commercial/industrial building space. Development impact fees were also referenced in the 1987 Leroy Greene Lease-Purchase Act, which required school districts to contribute a matching share of project costs for construction, modernization, or reconstruction.

SENATE BILL (SB) 50 AND PROPOSITION 1A

The major source of school construction and modernization had been the State School Construction Program until the passage of SB 50, *School Facility Program*. SB 50 authorized a \$9.2 billion K-12 school and higher education bond presented to the State's voters on November 3, 1998. In addition, SB 50 revised developer fee and mitigation procedures for school facility purposes and reformed the State program that distributes State bond funds to K-12 school districts.

On November 3, 1998, State voters approved Proposition 1A, a \$9.2 billion bond measure, which provides funding for higher education facilities, K-12 facilities, modernization of older schools, additional funding for districts in hardship situations, and funding for class size reduction. With the passage of Proposition 1A, the Mira Powers 2 of local governments were suspended on November 4, 1998 until 2006, which is the length of time the State bond money would be available to local school districts. As a result, school districts would continue to levy a school fee under existing rules (Government Code Section 65995, 65995.5 and 65995.7), which is currently as much as \$1.93 per square foot for residential construction and \$0.31 per square foot for commercial and industrial development. SB 50 also established three levels of school fees:

- Level One Fees are the statutory fees of \$1.93 per square foot for residential projects and \$0.31 per square foot for commercial and industrial projects, which can be adjusted for inflation every two years.



- Level Two Fees allow school districts to impose fees beyond the base statutory cap, under specific circumstances.
- Level Three Fees come into play if the State runs out of bond funds after 2006, which would allow school districts to impose 100 percent of the cost of the school facility or mitigation minus any local dedicated school monies.

The provisions of SB 50 prohibit local agencies from denying either legislative or adjudicative land use approvals, on the basis that school facilities are inadequate and reinstate the school facility fee cap for legislative actions (e.g., general plan amendments, specific plan adoption, zoning plan amendments), as was allowed under the Mira, Hart, and Murrieta court cases. According to Government Code Section 65996, the development fees authorized by SB 50 are deemed to be “full and complete school facilities mitigation.” These provisions will remain in effect, as long as subsequent state bonds are approved and available.

5.11.3.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

SCHOOL FACILITIES

The ABC Unified School District (ABCUSD) provides public education services for the residents of Artesia. Table 5.11-3, School Facilities and Enrollment, outlines the ABCUSD schools currently serving the City’s residents.

**Table 5.11-3
School Facilities and Enrollment**

School	Location
Bragg	11501 Bos Street, Cerritos
Burbank	17711 Roseton Avenue, Artesia
Carver	19200 Ely Avenue, Cerritos
Elliott	18415 Cortner Avenue, Artesia
Hawaiian	12350 E. 226th Street, Hawaiian Gardens
Juarez	11939 Aclare Street, Cerritos
Kennedy	17500 Belshire Avenue, Artesia
Niemes	16715 S. Jersey Avenue, Artesia
Nixon	19600 Jacob Avenue, Cerritos
Ross	17707 S. Elaine Avenue, Artesia
Cerritos	12500 E. 183rd Street, Cerritos
Gahr	11111 Artesia Boulevard, Cerritos
Tracy	12222 Cuesta Drive, Cerritos

The demographic dynamics within the ABCUSD reflect a declining enrollment trend at all of the area schools. This reduction in student population has been consistent over the last decade and shows no indication of reversal. The lack of current demand on school facilities by Artesia’s student population has reduced the urgency for any new school construction projects, and placed maintenance and facility modernization at the forefront. This decline in the student population has alleviated capacity constraints on all the area schools; refer to Table 5.11-3.



SCHOOL FUNDING

School districts assess development fees against residential, commercial, and industrial development to mitigate impacts resulting from the increase in demand for school-related services. In accordance with California Government Code Sections 65995.5 and 65995.6, ABCUSD has implemented a developer fee schedule to address construction short-falls in school construction costs.

5.11.3.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines contains the Initial Study/NOP Environmental Checklist Form used during preparation of the NOP; refer to [Appendix 12.1](#). The Checklist includes the following question relating to schools, which has been utilized as the threshold of significance in this section. Accordingly, a significant environmental impact would occur if the Project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered school facilities, or result in the need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

Based on this significance threshold, the effects of the proposed General Plan Update have been categorized as either “effects found not to be significant” or “potentially significant impact.” Feasible mitigation measures, which could avoid or minimize potentially significant impacts are identified. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a “significant unavoidable impact.”

5.11.3.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Section 15128, *Effects Not Found To Be Significant*, of the *CEQA Guidelines*, requires a brief discussion of the reasons that various possible significant effects of the Project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail. There are no Project effects found not to be significant regarding school services.

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

- **BUILDOUT OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD RESULT IN THE NEED FOR NEW OR PHYSICALLY ALTERED SCHOOL FACILITIES.**

Impact Analysis: The General Plan Update would increase the City’s existing housing inventory by 338 dwelling units, thereby, increasing the student population. This growth in the



City's student population is not anticipated to require new or physically altered school facilities, since ABCUSD facilities are adequate to meet current and anticipated student demand. Further, the ABCUSD student population is in a current ten-year decline and demographic indicators show this trend continuing well into the future. There are no over-crowding issues within any of the schools serving the City; refer to Table 5.11-3. Therefore, adverse physical impacts involving school facilities would not occur. It is noted the increased use of existing school facilities would result in increased need for routine maintenance. As noted above, the school districts assess development fees against residential, commercial, and industrial development to mitigate impacts resulting from the increased demand for school-related services. All future developments would be subject to payment of developer impact fees, which would mitigate potential impacts to school facilities to less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

5.11.3.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY AND LOCAL REGION COULD CUMULATIVELY IMPACT THE AREA'S SCHOOLS AND RELATED RESOURCES.

Impact Analysis: As discussed above, ABCUSD's student population is in a current ten-year decline and demographic indicators show this trend continuing well into the future. Cities within ABCUSD's service area have similar demographic trends, as Artesia, and are also experiencing reductions in student populations. The potential growth associated with cumulative development within the ABCUSD is not anticipated to require new or physically altered school facilities, therefore, adverse physical impacts involving school facilities would not occur. ABCUSD would assess development fees against cumulative residential, commercial, and industrial development, which would mitigate impacts resulting from the increased demand for school-related services.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant.

5.11.3.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

No significant unavoidable impacts related to school facilities are anticipated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.



5.11.3.8 SOURCES CITED

ABC Unified School District Website: <http://www.abcusd.k12.ca.us/pdf/elemschlmap.pdf>,
Accessed July 9, 2010.

RBF Consulting, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 20, 2010.



5.11.4 PARKS AND RECREATION

5.11.4.1 PURPOSE

This section identifies the existing parks and recreational facilities within Artesia and provides an analysis of potential impacts to existing facilities that could result from the implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Mitigation measures to avoid or reduce the significance of impacts are recommended, as necessary. The analysis is based on information obtained from the General Plan Update Open Space and Conservation Element.

5.11.4.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

QUIMBY ACT

Cities and counties have been authorized since the passage of the 1975 Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477) to pass ordinances requiring that developers set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities. The fees must be paid and land conveyed directly to the local public agencies that provide park and recreation services community-wide.

ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE

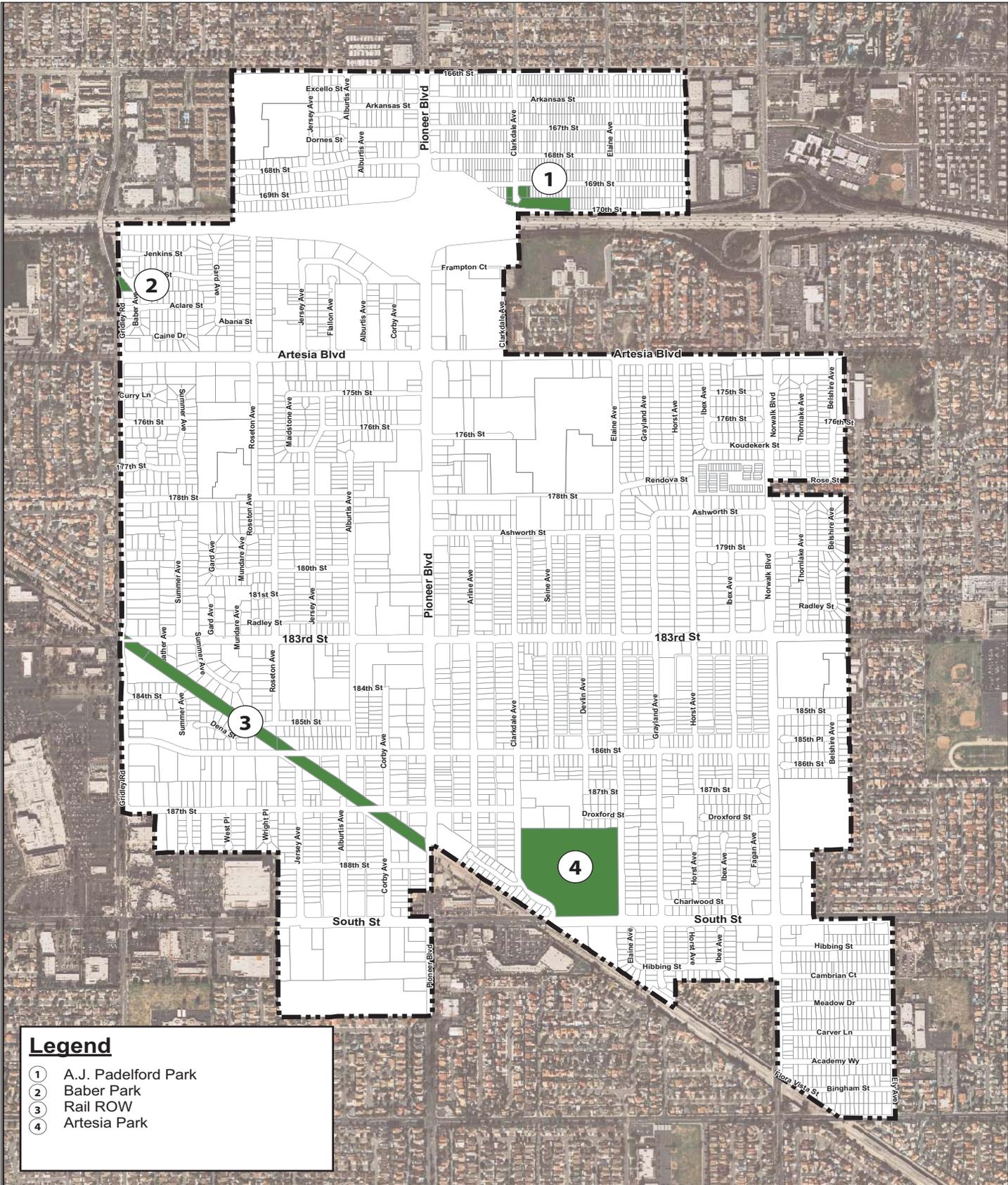
AMC Title 5 Chapter 8, *Public Parks and Public Restrooms*, outlines the regulations for use of the City's public parks.

5.11.4.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The City of Artesia is located in a highly urbanized area and is generally built out. There are essentially no areas within the City that have been undisturbed. The City's existing open space areas are either developed as recreational areas or are previously developed areas where the use has expired. Open space and recreational resources in the City include parks, community centers, school facilities, and the former Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way.

Exhibit 5.11-1, *City Parks*, and Exhibit 5.11-2, *School District Properties*, illustrate the locations of the City's open space, while Table 5.11-5, *Inventory of Recreational Facilities*, summarizes the available facilities. As indicated Table 5.11-5, a total of approximately 49 acres of open space is available to City residents, including 17.25 acres of City-owned parks and 31.41 acres of ABCUSD property. The existing open space and parks may be generally separated as into two categories: City-owned and school district properties.



Legend

- ① A.J. Padelford Park
- ② Baber Park
- ③ Rail ROW
- ④ Artesia Park

NOT TO SCALE

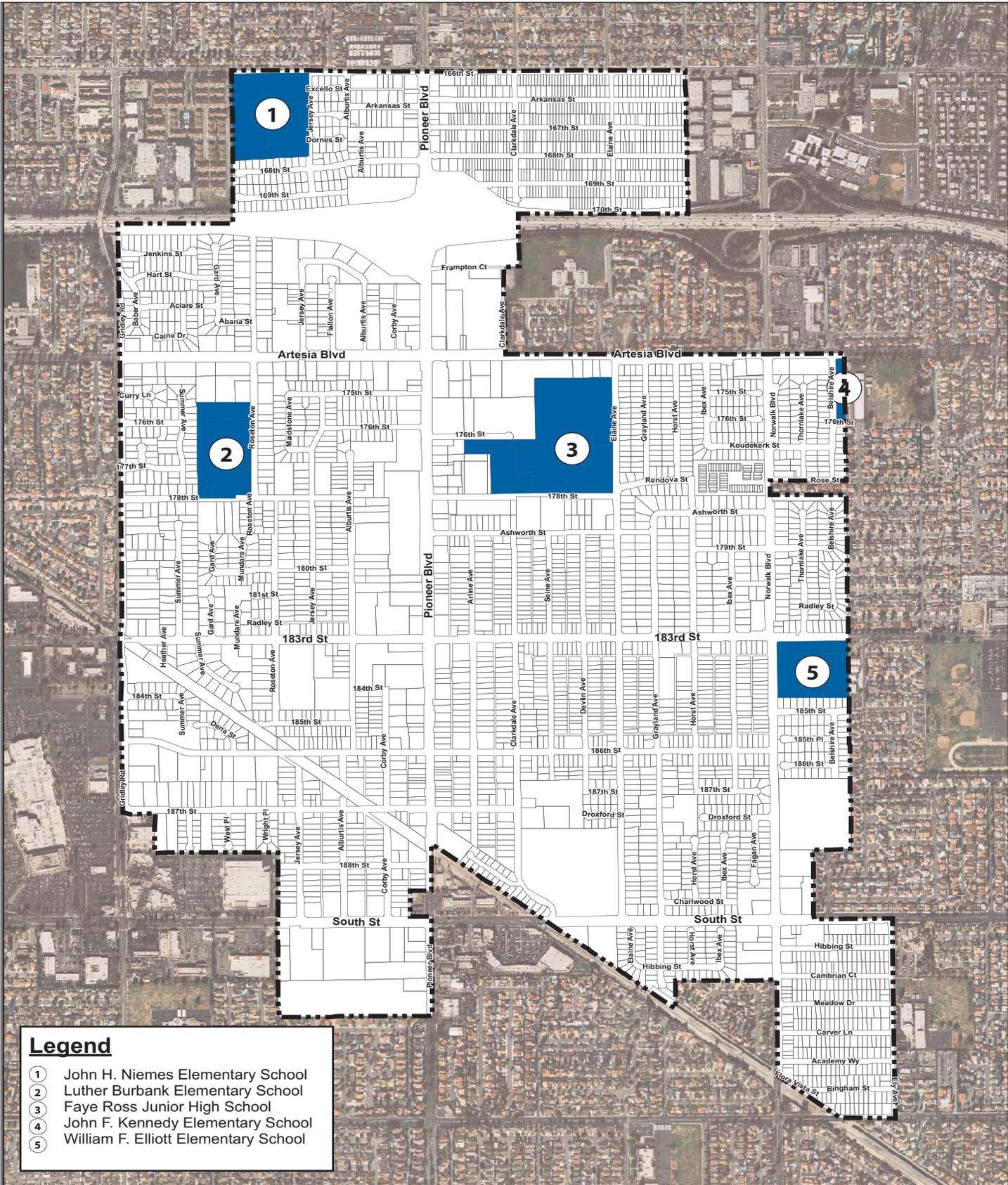


07/10 • JN 10-105039

ARTESIA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

City Parks

Exhibit 5.11-1



NOT TO SCALE



07/10 • JN 10-105039

ARTESIA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

School District Properties

Exhibit 5.11-2



**Table 5.11-5
Inventory of Recreational Facilities**

Park or Facility	Classification	Acreage	Facilities/Equipment
City of Artesia Parks			
Artesia Park	Community Park	14.79	4 ball fields; 5 youth size fields; tennis court; roller hockey; 2 full-size basketball courts; 1 playground (under 5); 1 playground (age 5-12); Community Center; senior services
A. J. Padleford Park	Neighborhood Park	1.56	1 full basketball court; 2 playgrounds 1 teen center; 1 multi-purpose room
Baber Park	Pocket Park	0.90	
Subtotal		17.25	
ABC Unified School District Properties			
Faye Ross Junior High	Joint-Use	12.99	Use of ball and multi-purpose fields.
John H Niemes Elementary		7.74	
Luther Burbank Elementary		4.96	
William F. Elliott Elementary		5.72	
Subtotal		31.41	
Total		48.66	
Other			
Railroad Right-of-Way (Future)		6.88	
Total		6.88	
Regional Parks			
Cerritos Regional County Park City of Cerritos	Regional Park	56.00	Fishing; Swimming Pool; Gymnasium Multipurpose room; Tennis Courts; Basketball courts; Picnicking.
Ralph B. Clark, City of Buena Park	Regional Park	105.00	Volleyball, fishing; Tennis; Interpretive Center; Hiking trails; Bike Trails; Baseball fields; Barbeques/Picnic/Tables; Horseshoe Pits; Amphitheater.
Total		161.00	
Source: General Plan Update Open Space and Conservation Element Table B.2-1, <i>Inventory of Open Space, Parks, and Recreational Facilities</i> , July 20, 2010.			

City-Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities

This category consists of presently developed park sites. The City of Artesia currently owns and maintains three parks, which encompass a total of 17.25 acres; refer to [Table 5.11-4](#). These include a Community Park, Neighborhood Park, and Pocket Park.

School District Properties (Joint Use)

These properties are currently developed as school sites, but maintain considerable open space suited to community use when not in use by the school system. This open space falls under the ownership of the ABC Unified School District. As indicated in [Table 5.11-4](#), four school sites, providing a net open space are of 31.41 acres, are situated within the City of Artesia. At present, the Artesia Recreation Department maintains active use of the fields at Faye Ross Junior High.



Railroad Right-of-Way

This category consists of open space areas suitable for park expansion or park development. A total of 6.88 acres of railroad right-of-way land area, owned by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), provides opportunities for development of additional recreational areas.

Regional Parks

Regional recreation facilities are an important resource for the City of Artesia residents, although they are situated outside of the City boundaries. These facilities provide supplemental recreational opportunities not be offered by the City due to its size and limited resources. Regional recreational facilities are located within a convenient traveling distance of the City. The City of Cerritos, in conjunction with the County of Los Angeles, maintains Cerritos Regional Park, a 56-acre regional park located less than one mile from Artesia's southern boundary. Additionally, Ralph B. Clark Regional Park, a 105-acre County facility, is located in the City of Buena Park, approximately seven miles from Artesia's eastern boundary. These facilities provide additional amenities not offered in Artesia such as hiking trails, fishing, volleyball courts, among others.

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM

The City of Artesia Parks and Recreation Program is multi-faceted and designed to provide services and recreational options to all ages of the City's diverse population. The Program is year-round and seasonal, and includes after school programs, reflecting the diverse interests of the City's population. Senior programs aimed at providing numerous recreational, educational, and travel opportunities to the City's senior residents are also provided.

- Sports. Sports programs for youth and/or adults include baseball, basketball, skate-orama, soccer (indoor and outdoor), softball, and volleyball.
- Youth Programs. Youth day camps and youth excursions, YMCA before/after school childcare arts and crafts, and a preschool program are available.
- Adult Programs. Special interest classes & special events such as dog obedience and martial arts-Japanese karate.
- Family Activities. Movie nights and crafts workshops.
- Special Events and Holiday Programs. Include breakfast with the Easter Bunny, 4th of July Celebration, fall Harvest Festival, Christmas Community Programs, Law Enforcement Expo and red ribbon Anti-Drug march/Rally.
- Senior Citizen Multi-Service Programs. Programs for the elderly include a senior nutrition program, home delivery meals, Portuguese social hour, seniors club, Artesia express, and trips to local and regional points of interest. Educational classes in



partnership with Cerritos College are also available. Other activities include line dancing, bingo, and other social gatherings for poetry, reading, and music amongst others are available.

5.11.4.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form used during preparation of the Project NOP; refer to [Appendix 12.1](#). The Checklist includes the following questions relating to parks and recreation facilities, which have been utilized as the thresholds of significance in this section. Accordingly, a significant environmental impact would occur if the Project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks, or result in the need for new or physically altered parks, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.
- Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.
- Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Based on these significance thresholds, the effects of the proposed General Plan Update have been categorized as either “effects found not to be significant” or “potentially significant impact.” Feasible mitigation measures, which could avoid or minimize potentially significant impacts are identified. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a “significant unavoidable impact.”

5.11.4.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

□ GENERAL PLAN UPDATE POLICIES

The following Policies and Actions relevant to parks and recreational facilities have been proposed in the General Plan Update:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN ELEMENT

Community Facilities and Infrastructure

Community Policy CFI 1.1: Maintain facilities and infrastructure to serve diverse community needs



Community Policy CFI 1.2: Promote equitable distribution of community facilities and infrastructure

Policy Action CFI 1.2.1: Conduct a community needs assessment to determine where service gaps exist in community facilities and where particular types of programs could best meet neighborhood needs.

Community Policy CFI 1.3: Require new development to provide proportionate facilities and infrastructure improvements as the new development occurs.

Policy Action CFI 1.3.1: Coordinate development with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to ensure completion of high-priority facility and infrastructure elements.

Community Policy CFI 2.1: Employ ongoing maintenance and upgrades to protect the City's long-term investment in community facilities.

Policy Action CFI 2.1.1: Continue to inspect, maintain and enhance City facilities relative to their water use.

Policy Action CFI 2.1.5: Amend as necessary and adopt a Seven-year Capital Improvement Program.

Community Policy CFI 3.1: Promote green and sustainable practices and approaches in planning, design, construction, renovation and maintenance of public facilities.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.1: Continue to sponsor and provide water conservation and education programs.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.2: Examine and utilize the use of alternative water supplies, such as grey water and reclaimed water, where appropriate and feasible.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.3: Support sustainable wastewater services that respect and improve the natural environment.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.4: Continue to participate in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.5: Review the use of natural features such as bioswales, wildlife ponds, and wetlands for flood control and water quality treatment in conjunction with new development or redevelopment projects.

Policy Action CFI 3.1.6: Provide public education information and outreach materials regarding proper materials handling practices to assist residents and businesses in complying with surface water quality regulations and to increase awareness of potential impacts to the environment resulting from improper containment or disposal practices.



Policy Action CFI 3.1.7: Review and revise planning and building codes to provide for new technologies (i.e. low flow fixtures, low flow toilets, drought tolerant landscaping, etc.).

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND WELLNESS ELEMENT

Open Space and Conservation

Community Policy OS 1.1: Ensure no net loss of open space acreage occurs.

Policy Action OS 1.1.1: Continue joint-use agreements with the ABC Unified School District to utilize school sites as community open space resources.

Policy Action OS 1.1.2: Require new development and redevelopment projects to replace any public open space removed with an equal or greater amount of public open space.

Community Policy OS 1.2: Promote development of parks in areas of the community currently lacking access to nearby recreational facilities.

Policy Action OS 1.2.1: Identify where additional parks and recreational facilities are needed.

Policy Action OS 1.2.2: Encourage new development and redevelopment to provide parks, plazas or open space areas.

Policy Action OS 1.2.3: Consider land acquisition of vacant lots, abandoned properties, and unused rail right of way for neighborhood parks, pocket parks and linear parks within existing neighborhoods.

Policy Action OS 1.2.4: Pursue available resources to fund parkland acquisitions and development including Federal, State and local funding grants or donations.

Community Policy OS 1.3: Encourage community stewardship of parks and open space areas in each neighborhood through volunteerism and public involvement programs.

Policy Action OS 1.3.1: Continue and expand partnerships with local organizations to maintain, rehabilitate and improve park facilities.

Policy Action OS 1.3.2: Pursue volunteer opportunities for residents to participate in maintenance and rehabilitation of parks and open space.

Community Policy OS 2.1: Consider the needs of persons with disabilities when providing park facilities and recreation programs including access points, path surfaces, play equipment and range of programs provided.



Community Policy OS 2.2: Continue to offer recreation facilities and programs that appeal to residents from different generations and cultural backgrounds, and that foster shared experiences across generations and cultures.

Policy Action OS 2.2.1: Research and secure public and private funding for recreational facilities and programs in the City.

Policy Action OS 2.2.2: Continue to provide and expand upon programs designed to meet the recreational, social, physical and economic needs of target populations such as senior citizens and youth.

Policy Action OS 2.3.2: Identify partnerships with schools and/or community organizations to offer joint programs or conduct cross-marketing of existing programs.

SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENT

Urban Nature

Community Policy SUS 4.2: Expand public space in the City by establishing new parks, civic plazas, and open space as funding allows. Prioritize development of new park facilities in currently underserved areas within the City.

☐ EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

In accordance with Section 15128, *Effects Not Found To Be Significant*, of the *CEQA Guidelines*, the following briefly discusses the reasons that various possible significant effects of the Project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail.

Threshold: *Would the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?*

The General Plan Update does not specifically propose, or require construction or expansion of, recreational facilities, which would result in an adverse physical impact on the environment. Any future proposals for construction or expansion of recreational facilities would undergo a project-specific CEQA review.

☐ POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

Threshold: *Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered park facilities, or result in the need for new or physically altered park facilities, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?*



■ **BUILDOUT OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD RESULT IN THE NEED FOR NEW OR PHYSICALLY ALTERED PARK FACILITIES.**

Impact Analysis: The General Plan Update would increase the City's existing housing inventory by 7.3 percent (338 DU) and the existing population by approximately 7.3 percent (1,253 persons) over existing conditions. By Quimby Act standards of 3.0 acres per 1,000 residents, the projected population growth of approximately 1,253 persons would create a demand for approximately 1.3 additional acres of parkland. Through the City's development review process, future projects would be evaluated to determine their demand for parkland and conditions for their establishment and operation. Dedication of parkland or payment of in-lieu fees, as permitted by the Quimby Act, would ensure that recreational facilities are adequate to support the increased demands. Given the built-out nature of the City, it is not anticipated that construction of a park facility would result in substantial adverse physical impacts.

The Community Facilities and Infrastructure Element provides policy direction for the use, maintenance and location of public facilities and infrastructure. It is one Goal of this Element to serve a diverse range of community needs. Additionally, it is a Goal of this Element to encourage efficient use of community facilities and provide adequate maintenance. To this end, the Community Facilities and Infrastructure Element specifies policies, which address the provision and maintenance of park facilities, including requiring new development to provide proportionate facilities and infrastructure improvements as the new development occurs (Policy 1.3). The Open Space and Conservation Element provides direction regarding the conservation and utilization of natural resources in the City. The Element outlines strategies and actions to preserve and enhance open space areas in the City and meet the recreational needs of its residents. The following are the specified Goals of the Open Space and Conservation Element:

- Goal 1: Parks and open space are preserved, enhanced and expanded to provide access to open space in all of Artesia's neighborhoods.
- Goal 2: Artesia residents of all ages and abilities have access to high quality recreational programs.
- Goal 3: Opportunities for exposure to natural environments are maximized.

To this end, it is a Policy of the Open Space and Conservation Element to require new development and redevelopment projects to replace any public open space removed with an equal or greater amount of public open space and promote development of parks in areas of the community currently lacking access to nearby facilities. Compliance with these Policies, as well as the other Open Space and Conservation Element Policies and Policy Actions outlined above, would ensure that impacts to parks or other recreational facilities are reduced to less than significant.

Following compliance with the recommended mitigation, which requires dedication of parkland or payment of in-lieu fees, and the General Plan Update Policies and Policy Actions outlined above, Project implementation would result in a less than significant impact regarding parks and recreational facilities.



Mitigation Measures:

PR-1 Prior to approval of the Final Parcel or Tract Maps related to future residential projects, the City shall require dedication of parkland and/or payment of in-lieu fees.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

- **BUILDOUT OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COULD RESULT IN INCREASED USE OF EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD AND REGIONAL PARKS OR OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SUCH THAT SUBSTANTIAL PHYSICAL DETERIORATION WOULD OCCUR.**

Impact Analysis: The potential exists that population growth associated with implementation of the General Plan Update would increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. However, as discussed above, compliance with the recommended mitigation would ensure that all future development is self-serving in terms of recreational uses. Thus, the increased usage would not be such that the physical deterioration of existing recreational facilities would occur or be accelerated. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant in this regard.

Mitigation Measures: Refer to Mitigation Measure PR-1.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

5.11.4.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- **DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY AND LOCAL REGION COULD CUMULATIVELY IMPACT PARKS AND RECREATION.**

Impact Analysis: The City of Artesia is utilizing the park facilities of adjacent cities, as well as their own, in order to meet its parks and recreation needs. Accordingly, impacts to these facilities must be considered cumulative in nature. Development according to the proposed General Plan Update, combined with other cumulative development, would create additional demand on the existing parks and recreational facilities due to population increases. Through the development review process, cumulative developments would be evaluated to determine their parkland demands and the conditions for their establishment and operation. Payment of Quimby fees and/or land dedications by cumulative developments would mitigate the impacts from cumulative demands for parkland to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measures: Refer to Mitigation Measure PR-1.

Level of Significance: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.



5.11.4.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

No significant unavoidable impacts involving parks and recreation facilities would occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

5.11.4.8 SOURCES CITED

RBF Consulting, *City of Artesia General Plan Update*, July 20, 2010.