

# Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

## City of Manhattan Beach

### 28<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Drain Infiltration Project

also referred as 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project



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# **Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration**

## **28<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Drain Infiltration Project**

**also referred as 28th Street Stormwater Infiltration Project**

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## Acronyms

AF	Acre-feet
AQCRs	Air Quality Control Regions
BMPs	Best Management Practices
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGP	Construction General Permit
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CRHR	California Register of Historic Resources
CSA	Cross-Spectrum Acoustics Inc.
dba	Maximum A-Weighted Decibels
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
IPaC	Information for Planning and Conservation
IS/MND	Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
LACCO	Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances
LACDBH	Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbor
LACFCD	Los Angeles County Flood Control District
LFD	Low Flow Diversion
LID	Low Impact Development
MBMC	City of Manhattan Beach Municipal Code
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
MT	Metric Tons
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	National American Heritage Commission
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEIR	Program Environmental Impact Report
PM	Particulate Matter
PPV	Peak Particle Velocity
PRIMP	Paleontological Resources Impact Mitigation Program
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCIC	South Central Coastal Information Center
SCWP	Safe, Clean Water Program

SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
WMP	Watershed Management Program
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Services

# 1. Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared on behalf of the City of Manhattan Beach (City) to identify potential site-specific environmental constraints associated with the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project (Project), located within City of Manhattan Beach public right-of-way at Manhattan Avenue and on Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbor (LACBH) owned parking lot at 115 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, California 90266. This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.), and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 et seq).

This IS/MND is an information documentation intended for use by the City of Manhattan Beach and members of the general public as a preliminary analysis to determine if there is substantial evidence that the Project may have significant effects on the environment. If site-specific environmental constraints are found to potentially have a significant effect on the environment, with mitigation, a site-specific Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should be prepared; otherwise, the lead agency may adopt a negative declaration or MND. This IS/MND was compiled for the City with the assistance of CWE. The City is serving as the Lead Agency for the proposed Project pursuant to CEQA §21067 and CEQA Guidelines Article 4 and §15367. "Lead Agency" refers to the public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a Project.

## 1.1 Purpose and Document Organization

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project. Mitigation measures, if required, have been incorporated into the Project to eliminate potential significant impacts or reduce them to a less-than-significant level.

This IS/MND is organized as follows:

- Section 1 – Introduction
- Section 2 – Project Description
- Section 3 – Initial Study/Environmental Checklist
- Section 4 – References

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) Enhanced Watershed Management Program's (EWMPs) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was used to tier off, evaluate and determine the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

## 1.2 Summary of Findings

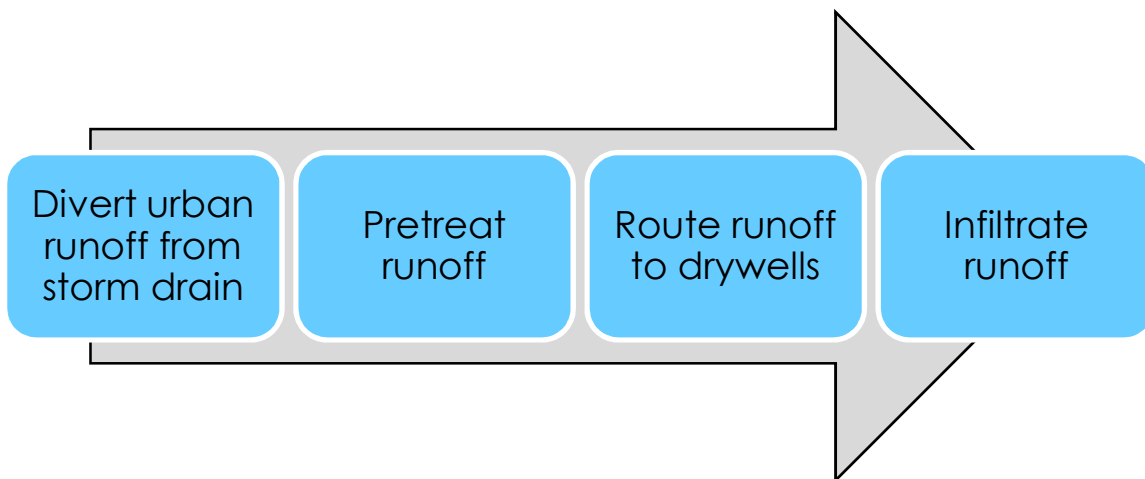
The CEQA Appendix G Environmental (Initial Study) Checklist is included in **Section 3**. The Initial Study Checklist identifies potential environmental impacts, by section, and provides a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed Project. Each response checked in the environmental checklist is discussed and supported with sufficient data and analysis as necessary. As appropriate, each section has a discussion that describes and identifies specific impacts anticipated with project implementation.

## 2. Project Description

The City of Manhattan Beach is proposing to construct the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project (Project), at the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility located at 115 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, and within the public right-of-way on the streets surrounding the parking facility, including 26<sup>th</sup> Street, from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; 27<sup>th</sup> Street from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; Ocean Drive from 26<sup>th</sup> Street to 27<sup>th</sup> Street; and Manhattan Avenue from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Street; and in the green space on the lower portion of Bruce’s Beach Park east of and adjacent to Manhattan Avenue. Runoff will be diverted from the existing County-owned storm drain located below 28<sup>th</sup> Street through a pipe aligned southeast on Manhattan Avenue. The diverted runoff will be pumped to a trash removal device and sedimentation system (pretreatment) to remove trash and sediment and then distributed to a matrix of drywells located in and around the parking facility.

The infiltration system was identified as the highest priority capital project for the City in the Beach Cities Watershed Management Program (WMP). The WMP was developed in a collaborative effort involving the Cities of Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Torrance, and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). The WMP identifies projects in the jurisdictions that will improve water quality and address applicable sources of bacteria from entering the Santa Monica Bay. To meet these goals in Manhattan Beach, the WMP includes a conceptual plan for an infiltration in the Project area. The primary goal of the Project is to reduce bacterial and trash/debris discharge from the storm drain system in alignment with existing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in the Santa Monica Bay.

The Project will divert dry- and wet-weather discharges that would otherwise drain into the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Drain (Bond Issue [BI] 0286) and ultimately into the Santa Monica Bay. **Figure 2-1** illustrates the general concept for the Project, whereby captured runoff will be redirected into an underground system that facilitates treatment and infiltration. Up to approximately 70 acre-feet (AF) of runoff may be captured during a single storm event.



**Figure 2-1 General Project Concept**



Project goals are summarized as follows:

- Reduce bacterial discharges from the storm drain system
- Reduce trash/debris discharge from the storm drain system
- Enhance water quality locally
- Reduce the potential for beach closures
- Create educational and outreach opportunities for the local community
- Enhance an existing public parking facility

The Project is utilizing funding from the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) Measure W, the State Water Resources Control Board Proposition 1 Stormwater Grant Program, and the California Natural Resources Agency Proposition 68 Urban Flood Reduction Program.

## 2.1 Project Location

The proposed Project will be constructed in the City of Manhattan Beach in Los Angeles County, California. The City of Manhattan Beach, as shown in the inset map in **Figure 2-2**, is along the coast in Los Angeles County, adjacent to the Cities of El Segundo to the north, Hermosa Beach to the south, and Redondo Beach to the east. The Project will be located at the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility at 115 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, and within the public right-of-way on the streets surrounding the parking facility, including 26<sup>th</sup> Street, from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; 27<sup>th</sup> Street from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; Ocean Drive from 26<sup>th</sup> Street to 27<sup>th</sup> Street; and Manhattan Avenue from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Street; and in the green space on the lower portion of Bruce's Beach Park east of and adjacent to Manhattan Avenue. As shown in **Figure 2-3**, the majority of the proposed drywells will be located underneath 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility with the diversion, pump, and pretreatment systems being located within public right-of-ways, with additional drywells proposed located at the west side of Bruce's Beach Park.



Figure 2-2 Project Location



Figure 2-3 Stormwater Infiltration Concept

### 3. Initial Study/Environmental Checklist

Environmental Checklist Form		
1.	<b>Project Title:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project
2.	<b>Lead Agency Name and Address:</b>	City of Manhattan Beach 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 91266
3.	<b>Contact Person and Phone Number:</b>	Jeff Fijalka (310) 802-5358
4.	<b>Project Location:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility at 115 26 <sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, and within the public right-of-way on the streets surrounding the parking facility, including 26 <sup>th</sup> Street, from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; 27 <sup>th</sup> Street from Ocean Drive to Manhattan Avenue; Ocean Drive from 26 <sup>th</sup> Street to 27 <sup>th</sup> Street; and Manhattan Avenue from 26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> Street; and in the green space on the lower portion of Bruce’s Beach Park east of and adjacent to Manhattan Avenue.
5.	<b>Project Sponsor’s Name and Address:</b>	City of Manhattan Beach 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 91266
6.	<b>General Plan Designation:</b>	Public Facilities and Open Space
7.	<b>Zoning:</b>	Public, Semi Public Facilities and Open Space
8.	<b>Description of Project:</b>	The City of Manhattan Beach is proposing to construct and install a storm drain diversion, pretreatment, pump station, valve vault, series of drywells, and associated piping for infiltration along public right-of-way and in a public parking lot. The Project will also include retaining wall replacement and reconstruction of the driving/parking surface at the 26 <sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility.
9.	<b>Surrounding land uses and setting:</b>	Medium and High Density Residential
10.	<b>Other public agencies whose approval is required:</b>	Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, and Coastal Commission.
11.	<b>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?<sup>a</sup></b>	The City of Manhattan Beach sent out notification letters to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, the Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 and Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1. During the 30 day period, only Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation had requested consultation. Mitigation measures provided by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation were modified and incorporated into this document.

<sup>a</sup>. 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.

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.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils           | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing               | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that 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.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that 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 NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

### 3.1 Aesthetics

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			X	
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?			X	
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X	

**Discussion:**

- a) The City’s General Plan does not designate any scenic vistas within the City. However, the City is located along the Pacific Ocean, which can be considered a scenic vista. The Project site is already developed and is located in an urbanized area. Construction of the Project would require temporary ground disturbance activities. During construction, the presence of construction equipment and materials would be visible from public vantage points but would not significantly affect any scenic views or vistas. Once the construction is complete the project area will have similar amenities above ground and will not restrict any additional views and vistas. Therefore, the Project does not anticipate having a substantial adverse impact on a scenic vista, and impacts would be considered to be less than significant.
- b) The Project is located in an urbanized area of the City and in a currently developed street and parking lot. The Project is not located within the vicinity of a designated scenic highway. According to the California Department of Transportation’s Scenic Highways Program Database, there are no Scenic Highways within 10 miles of the Project. The Project does not contain any rock outcroppings, nor are there any historic buildings on-site. Eleven trees located at the parking facility and vicinity will be removed during the construction of the drywells and for the parking facility enhancement. However, fourteen smaller, younger trees will be planted as a part of the project. The Project is located in Area District III, therefore, is not subject to the Tree Preservation and Restoration in



residential zones, Area Districts I and II, City Ordinance, Chapter 10.52.120. Since trees will be replaced post-construction, the impacts are expected to be less than significant.

- c) The Project is located in an urbanized area. Construction activities associated with the Project would require the use of construction equipment and storage of materials on-site, thus introducing contrasting features into the visual landscape that affect the visual quality of the Project Site and the immediate vicinity. Contrasting features would include demolition materials, excavated areas, stockpiled soils, and other materials generated and stored on-site during construction. However, adverse effects to visual character associated with Project construction would be temporary. Additionally, as the Project is located within public right-of-way and a public parking lot, the project is not in conflict with the applicable zoning requirements. As impacts to visual character will only occur during the construction phase of the Project, impacts will be less than significant.
  
- d) The Project site is already located in an urbanized area and is predominately surrounded by residential land uses. The Project site already has existing sources of light from the parking lot throughout the night. The Project will include the addition of photocell controls to automatically switch the existing lights on from dusk to dawn. No additional lighting will be introduced as a permanent fixture of the Project, therefore there is no significant impact.

### 3.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
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?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) According to the State of California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), the Project site is not located in an area designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, there is no impact to farmlands or agricultural resources.
- b) The project site is not zoned for agricultural use and is not under a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.
- c) The Project location is located on and adjacent to residential, public, semi-public, and open space land uses. The Project will not conflict with existing zoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production because none of those land uses exist within the Project site or in the City of Manhattan Beach itself. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.





- d) As discussed above, the City of Manhattan Beach has no designated forest land or timberland within City boundaries. The site is currently zoned as public, semi-public, and open space; therefore, there is no impact to forest lands.
  
- e) The project site is not on land designated for agricultural land use and will not result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.

### 3.3 Air Quality

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X	
b) 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?			X	
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?		X		
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

**Discussion:**

- a) The City of Manhattan Beach is in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9. These agencies are county or regional governing authorities that have primary responsibility for controlling air pollution from stationary sources.

USEPA established primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 50, which specifies air quality standards of six criteria pollutants: particulate matter (measured as both particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter [PM<sub>10</sub>] and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter [PM<sub>2.5</sub>]), sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), ozone, and lead.

Federal regulations designate air quality control regions (AQCRs) in violation of the NAAQS as nonattainment areas. Federal regulations designate AQCRs with levels below the NAAQS as attainment areas. Maintenance areas are AQCRs that have previously been designated as nonattainment and have been re-designated to attainment for a probationary period through implementation of maintenance plans.

USEPA has designated the portion of Los Angeles County where the action is located as a nonattainment area for lead (through December 31, 2015), PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and ozone, and as a maintenance area for PM<sub>10</sub>, carbon monoxide and NO<sub>2</sub>.



Applicable air quality plans include:

- 2022 Air Quality Management Plan
- Clean Communities Plan
- Air Quality Monitoring Network Plan
- 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS Plan
- 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS
- 2012 24-Hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS
- 1997 Ozone NAAQS (80 ppb)
- 1979 1-hour Ozone NAAQS (120 ppb)
- 2012 Los Angeles County Lead Attainment State Implementation Plan

During construction, since the proposed project will not generate air pollutants in excess of the SCAQMD’s regional significance threshold, the proposed project will not cause or substantially contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, would not result in a cumulatively increase of any criteria pollutant, and will not impact air quality long term. The surface area will be restored to existing uses including parking that currently exists. The parking lot usage emissions were not evaluated as the project will restore those parking spaces to current uses. Additionally, the project is proposing to place at least three (3) electric vehicle charging stations, with ten (10) more EV stations to be included in the future, which will additionally reduce vehicle emissions once the project is complete. Therefore, the project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan and are considered less than significant.

- b) The Project is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which is a non-attainment area for respirable particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), and Ozone. The SCAB is a designated attainment area for all other criteria pollutants. The SCAQMD has established Regional Significance Thresholds for each criteria pollutant. Potential air emissions were calculated using the CalEEMod, Version 2020.4.0, a model used to quantify air impacts from land use projects located throughout California. **Table 3-1** shows the daily emissions rate for unmitigated construction during the duration of the construction of the Project, in comparison to the Regional Significance Thresholds.

**Table 3-1 Daily Emissions for Construction of the Project**

Pollutant	NOx	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SOx	CO
Maximum Emissions rate (lbs/day)	35.81	2.06 <sup>a</sup>	1.53 <sup>b</sup>	0.12 <sup>c</sup>	43.41
Mass Daily Thresholds (lbs/day)	100	150	55	150	550
Exceed Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No
<sup>a</sup> PM <sub>10</sub> total modeled emissions <sup>b</sup> PM <sub>2.5</sub> total modeled emissions <sup>c</sup> SO <sub>2</sub> modeled emissions					

The Project is not expected to result in a measurable long-term increase in air pollutant emissions. After construction, the Project will have minimal vehicle trips to the sites for inspection and maintenance procedures. Therefore, the impacts would be considered less than significant.



- c) Certain residents, such as the very young, the elderly, and those suffering from certain illnesses or disabilities, are particularly sensitive to air pollution and are considered sensitive receptors. The sensitive receptors of concern are Grandview Elementary School, 0.20 miles east at 455 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; American Martyrs School, 0.60 miles to the southeast at 1701 Laurel Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; and Pacific Elementary School, 0.85 miles to the southeast at 1200 Pacific Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. However, the proposed project will not exceed the Regional Significance Threshold of criteria pollutants; therefore, the proposed project will have a less than significant impact on nearby sensitive receptors with mitigation measure **AIR-1**.
- d) Project construction equipment and activities, including diesel exhaust emissions, could generate odors. There may be situations where construction activity odors would be noticeable by persons working at or visiting nearby facilities, but these odors would not be unfamiliar or objectionable. In addition, these odors would be temporary and would dissipate rapidly from the source with an increase in distance. There are no long-term odors anticipated from the construction of the Project. Because there may be short-term odors as a result of the temporary construction of the Project, impacts will be less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:**

**AIR-1** – Pursuant to Rule 403 of the SCAQMD, the following dust minimizing measures shall be implemented:

- City of Manhattan Beach and its designees shall comply with all applicable SCAQMD Rules and Regulations, including Rule 403 ensuring the cleanup of construction-related dirt on approach routes to the site. Rule 403 prohibits the release of fugitive dust emissions from any active operation, open storage pile or disturbed surface area visible beyond the property line of the emission source.
- City of Manhattan Beach and its designees shall comply with all SCAQMD established minimum requirements for construction activities to reduce fugitive dust and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions.
- City of Manhattan Beach will encourage contractors to use low-emission equipment meeting Tier II emissions standards at a minimum, and Tier III and IV emissions standards, where available, as CARB-required emissions technologies become readily available to contractors in the region.
- Adequate water application techniques shall be employed to mitigate the impact of construction-related dust particulates. Portions of the site that are undergoing surface earth moving operations shall be watered to mitigate blowing dust, and to ensure visible emissions do not exceed 100 feet in any direction. Areas with surface earth moving operations shall be re-watered at the end of each day.
- Grading operations shall be suspended during first stage ozone episodes or when winds exceed 25 mph. A high wind response plan shall be formulated for enhanced dust control if winds are forecast to exceed 25 mph in any upcoming 24-hour period.
- Any construction equipment using direct internal combustion engines shall use a diesel fuel with a maximum of 0.05 percent sulfur and four-degree retard.
- Construction operations affecting roadways within the project area including detour routes, shall be scheduled by implementing traffic hours and shall minimize obstruction of through traffic lanes.

- The engines of idling trucks or heavy equipment shall be turned off if the expected duration of idling exceeds five minutes.
- On-site heavy equipment used during grading and construction shall be equipped with diesel particulate filters unless it is demonstrated that such equipment is not available, or its use is not cost-competitive.
- All haul trucks leaving or entering the site shall be covered and have at least two feet of freeboard.
- Any on-site stockpiles of debris, dirt or other dusty material shall be covered or watered twice daily.
- Any site access points with soil deposits on any public right-of-way shall be mechanically or manually swept within 30 minutes of deposition.

### 3.4 Biological Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			X	
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?		X		
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
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?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project is located in an urbanized area of the City, predominantly surrounded by residential and public land uses. The Project site is currently developed as a parking lot, public right-of-way, and a small portion of the park, which will all be returned to pre-construction condition. According to a report generated through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), six federally listed species have the potential of occurring in the area: California



Least Tern, Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Vireo, Western Snowy Plover, El Segundo Blue Butterfly, and Monarch Butterfly, but lists no critical habitat in the Project Area. The Project is located in an urbanized area, therefore it is unlikely suitable habitat exists for any of the species listed under the USFWS IPaC. Indirect impacts, such as percussive construction noise and vibration could interfere with roosting, nesting, and foraging activities in nearby ornamental trees; however, there is significant ambient noise generated from the nearby community. Implementation of various mitigation measures will be required, including conducting pre-construction species surveys and carrying out protective measures in the event that special status species are found during construction. With the implementation mitigation measure **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, there will be a less than significant impact to sensitive, special status, or listed species.

- b) According to the National Wetlands Inventory mapped by the USFWS, Manhattan Beach, which is adjacent to the Project site, is designated as Estuarine and Marine Wetland and the ocean is designated as Estuarine and Marine Deepwater. The Project would not impact riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities. As a result, there would be no impact.
- c) Adjacent to the Project site is the beach, designated as Estuarine and Marine Wetland, and the ocean, designated as Estuarine and Marine Deepwater. Stormwater flows will be intercepted from the storm drains at 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Manhattan Avenue and redirected to a subsurface pretreatment system. During dry-weather, flows are anticipated to be minimal, and will be captured by the existing downstream Low Flow Diversion (LFD) maintained by the LACFCD. During wet-weather, flows intercepted by the project will not result in a significant hydrological impact. Therefore, there will be no adverse effect on federally protected wetlands.
- d) Stormwater flows will be intercepted from the storm drains at 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Manhattan Avenue and redirected to a subsurface pretreatment system. During dry-weather, flows are anticipated to be minimal. Urban stormwater flows previously would drain directly into the Santa Monica Bay and flows collected by storm drains and drywells would not have an effect on any marine species.

Because the Project is located in a heavily urbanized area, and includes several ornamental trees, there is potential that these trees may provide habitat for nesting birds. Construction activities could indirectly disturb nesting bird habitat; therefore, with the incorporation of Mitigation measure **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, impacts from the Project would be less than significant.

- e) There are eleven existing trees throughout the lot and vicinity, that will be removed for the construction of the drywells and parking lot enhancements. As part of the Project construction eleven trees will be planted. The Project does not conflict with the City's Landscape Resources Section of the General Plan or Chapter 10.52.120 of the Municipal Code, Tree Preservation and Restoration in residential zones, Area Districts I and II, since the Project is located in Area District III, and would not be subject to the policy, therefore, there would be impact.
- f) The Project will not conflict with any adopted conservation plan, nor is the Project located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or an approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, there will be no anticipated impact.

**Mitigation Measures:**

**BIO-1** – Prior to ground-disturbing activities in areas that could support sensitive biological resources, a habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine the potential for special-status wildlife species to occur within affected areas, including areas directly or indirectly impacted by construction or operation of the BMPs. If a special-status wildlife species is found, pre-construction surveys of proposed work zones shall be conducted 14 days prior to construction. Areas, including construction areas, staging areas, and right-of-ways, shall be staked, flagged, fenced, or otherwise clearly delineated to restrict the limits of construction to the minimum necessary near areas that may support special-status wildlife species. If avoidance is not possible, the City of Manhattan Beach shall consult with the appropriate regulating agency (United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)/USFWS/California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)) to determine a strategy for compliance with the Endangered Species Act, California Fish and Wildlife Code, or other regulations supporting special-status species. The City of Manhattan Beach will work together with those regulating agencies to determine appropriate impact minimization measures and compensation for any permanent impacts due to the Project.

**BIO-2** – To protect nesting birds that may occur on site or adjacent to the Project boundary, no construction shall occur from February 1 through September 15, as early as January 1 for some raptors, unless a qualified biologist completes a survey for nesting bird activity within a 500-foot radius of publicly accessible area within the construction site. The nesting bird surveys shall be conducted at appropriate nesting times and concentrate on potential roosting or perch sites. The City of Manhattan Beach shall require surveys be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 7 days prior to the beginning of any Project-related activity likely to impact raptors and migratory songbirds, for the entire Project site. If Project activities are delayed or suspended for more than 7 days during the breeding season, the surveys shall be repeated. If nesting raptors and migratory songbirds are identified, the following minimum no-disturbance buffers shall be implemented: 300 feet around active passerine (perching birds and songbirds) nests, 500 feet around active non-listed raptor nests, and 0.5 mile around active listed bird nests. These buffers shall be maintained until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. Any sensitive and special status species data documented by the Project shall be submitted to the California Natural Diversity Database with all applicable data fields filled out. The City of Manhattan Beach and/or a designee will notify the CDFW once submitted.

**BIO-3** – The Project shall implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent erosion and the discharge of sediment and pollutants into drainages during Project activities. BMPs shall be monitored and repaired, as necessary, to ensure maximum erosion, sediment, and pollution control. The Project proponent shall prohibit the use of erosion control materials potentially harmful to fish and wildlife species, such as mono-filament netting (erosion control matting) or similar material. All fiber rolls, straw wattles, and/or hay bales utilized within and adjacent to the Project site shall be free of nonnative plant materials. Fiber rolls or erosion control mesh shall be made of loose-weave mesh that is not fused at the intersections of the weave, such as jute, or coconut (coir) fiber, or other products without welded weaves.



### 3.5 Cultural Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		X		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		X		
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project includes the construction and installation of a subsurface infiltration system, piping, and drywells, which could potentially cause impacts on cultural resources during the construction phase of the Project. A Cultural Resources Assessment was conducted by LSA Associates, which included a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC).

Data from the records search at SCCIC indicated that there have been five previous studies within a mile of the Project, two of which included a portion of the Project’s area. Although there were no resources documented within or adjacent to the Project area, seven historic-period resources are within the project area. The nearest historic period resource is Manhattan Beach Pier, approximately 0.72 miles southwest of the Project area. No archaeological resources or cultural resources were documented within a mile of the Project.

In January 2023, a Sacred Lands File search was requested from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The Sacred Land Files search came back as negative. Additionally, The City of Manhattan Beach sent out notification letters to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, the Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 and Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1. During the 30 day period, only Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation requested consultation. The consultation process commenced on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Over the next four months, consultation continued, with the City making various revisions to the draft mitigation measures to address concerns raised by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Ultimately, the City and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation were unable to come to a mutual agreement on the exact language for the mitigation measures, with the outstanding issue being whether the City could select another firm to conduct tribal monitoring in the event that the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation was not available to conduct said monitoring or charged fees above the market rate for such work.



The mitigation measures included in the IS/MND provide the City with an alternative option in such a situation.

Mitigation measure **TCR-1** through **TCR-3** are incorporated in the Tribal Culture Resources section were developed to prevent any potential damage to a resource with significance to a California Native American tribe.

- b) See discussion above in part a). However, if during construction any archaeological remains are found, all construction will cease until qualified personnel can identify the remains and mitigate the findings. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**.
- c) No formal cemeteries are on or near the Project site. Most Native American human remains are found in association with prehistoric archaeological sites. The Cultural Resources Assessment indicated that no prehistoric resources were found within a mile of the Project's area. There is low potential for the project to encounter human remains during ground-disturbing activities. However, if during construction, any remains are found, all construction will cease until qualified personnel can identify the remains and mitigate the findings. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

**CUL-1** - If previously unidentified cultural resources are unearthed during ground activity, all work shall immediately be suspended within 100 feet of the discovery and the City shall be immediately notified. A qualified archaeologist shall assess the significance of the find and determine if it is a California Register of Historic Resource (CRHR)-eligible archaeological resource and/or cultural resource. Additionally, a tribal cultural specialist from the Kizh Nation or other traditionally and culturally affiliated (TCA) tribe shall assess the significance of any Tribal Cultural Resource under Assembly Bill 52 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

If the qualified archaeologist determines that adverse impacts to significant archaeological resources could occur during the Project, then the resources shall be avoided from direct Project impacts by Project redesign, if feasible. If the resource cannot be avoided, then an archaeological treatment plan shall be developed and implemented with input from a tribal cultural specialist from the Kizh Nation or other TCA tribe. The qualified archaeologist shall remain on-site for the remainder of excavation activities, or until the archaeologist determines that the site will not impact any archaeological or cultural resources. During daily monitoring activities, the archaeologist shall complete monitoring logs, which will provide descriptions of daily activities, including construction activities, project location, soils, and any cultural materials identified.

If the qualified archaeologist determines that the discovery is not significant as an archeological resource due to its lack of provenience or otherwise fails to "add to our understanding of the prehistory of the area" and the find is still considered significant as a TCR, then the TCA tribe can determine the best treatment of the find. This could include reburial (curated onsite), curation at the TCA tribe's museum, or other treatment as deemed appropriate by the TCA tribe.

**CUL-2** - In compliance with Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are encountered, all ground disturbing activities

shall be immediately suspended within 100 feet of the discovery, and the Los Angeles County Coroner shall be notified immediately. If the Coroner determines the remains are Native American in origin, they must notify the NAHC within 24 hours of such identification so that the NAHC can contact the Most Likely Descendant (MLD). The MLD shall be provided access to the discovery and will provide recommendations for treatment of the remains within 48 hours of accessing the discovery site. Disposition of human remains and any associated grave goods, if encountered, shall be treated in accordance with procedures and requirements set forth in Sections 5097.94 and 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code; Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.

### 3.6 Energy

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project would result in consumption of energy resources during construction and operation. During construction, the Project would use heavy construction equipment and require workers, vendors, and hauling trips to install the proposed underground drainage facilities. The Project would require construction contractors and vehicle operators to comply with applicable state regulations governing heavy duty diesel on- and off-road equipment to minimize transportation fuel consumption, as noted in **Section 3.3**. During the operation of the Project, it is assumed that there would not be a substantial increase in mobile trips, as the Project would only require periodic inspection and maintenance. The new infrastructure and improved parking lot would not result in a substantial increase in electricity usage and the Project site would be restored to near existing conditions after Project completion. Therefore, the Project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, and would not increase the need for new energy infrastructure. Impacts would be less than significant.
- b) The Project will be designed in a manner consistent with relevant energy conservation plans, including the City’s General Plan. The City’s General Plan has a section on Conservation of Energy and Water Resources. The goal of the section is to encourage conservation activities and programs throughout the City. The Project would not conflict or obstruct any local or state plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency; therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.



### 3.7 Geology and Soils

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
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?				X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?			X	
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?				X
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a)
- i) The Project site is located in Southern California, which is a seismically active area. The Palos Verdes Fault, which is considered to have the most significant potential impact to the site from a design standpoint, has a maximum credible earthquake magnitude of 7.09 and is located approximately 2.6 miles from the site. However, the Project is not located within a known earthquake fault zone delineated on an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map. Therefore, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.
  - ii) The Project site is located in Southern California, which is a seismically active area. However, the potential for hazards associated with strong seismic ground shaking, such as ground surface rupture, is considered low. The proposed Project will be designed and constructed in accordance with the federal, state, and municipal building codes relative to seismic criteria, including the 2022 California Building Code, which enacts seismic safety standards for structural construction. Therefore, the impact from strong seismic ground shaking would be considered less than significant.
  - iii) According to the California Geological Survey, the Project is not located in a Liquefaction Zone. Therefore, impacts from seismic-induced liquefaction or lateral spread are not anticipated.
  - iv) According to the California Geological Survey, the Project is not located in a Landslide Zone. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.
- b) The Project area is mostly paved with asphalt concrete, or Portland cement concrete. There are very few areas where top soils are exposed. Construction of the Project would result in ground surface disruption during excavation, grading, and trenching activities, which would create the potential for erosion to occur. Wind erosion will be minimized through soil stabilization measures, as required by the SCAQMD's Rule 403, and will be mitigated via Mitigation Measure **AIR-1**, as noted in **Section 3.3**. Potential for water erosion would be minimized by implementation of erosion control measures during the Project's construction. Construction activities are subject to the requirements of the California State Construction General Permit (CGP), which will require the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP will incorporate BMPs to control erosion and sediment during the construction period. All stormwater and drainage facilities that will be installed underground will have the ground surface elevation restored to near existing conditions post-construction. Therefore, impacts are expected to be less than significant.
- c) As noted above in **Sections 3.7(a)** and **(b)**, according to the California Geological Survey, the project is not in a fault, liquefaction, or landslide zone. Therefore, soil stability hazards from the Project are not anticipated.
- d) Based on previous close proximity geotechnical reports for the area, the Project site is predominantly underlain by poorly graded sand. This is not an expansive soil type as defined in the Uniform Building Code. If expansive soils were to be found during Project construction, site-specific design criteria and remedial grading techniques would be identified and implemented by the City, per the California Building Code's requirements. As a result, impacts would be less than significant.

- e) The Project will not require the installation of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems since the Project is not proposing to build any habitable structures or restroom facilities. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact.
- f) Construction of the Project would result in ground surface disruption during excavation, grading, and trenching activities, which has the potential to impact scientifically significant paleontological resources. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measures **PALEO-1** through **PALEO-3**, impacts by the Project will be less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:**

**PALEO-1:** A paleontologist who meets the qualifications established by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) shall be retained to develop a Paleontological Resources Impact Mitigation Program (PRIMP) for this project. The PRIMP shall be consistent with the standards of the SVP and include the methods that will be used to protect paleontological resources that may exist within the project site, as well as procedures for monitoring, fossil preparation and identification, curation into a repository, and preparation of a report at the conclusion of grading. The paleontologist will also perform a Construction Worker Paleontological Resources Sensitivity training prior to any ground disturbing activities.

**PALEO-2:** Excavation and grading activities in deposits with high paleontological sensitivity (i.e., Young Alluvial Fan Deposits below a depth of 10 feet) shall be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor following a PRIMP. No monitoring is required for excavations in deposits with no paleontological sensitivity (i.e., Artificial Fill). If paleontological resources are encountered during the course of ground disturbance, the paleontological monitor shall have the authority to temporarily redirect construction away from the area of the find. In the event that paleontological resources are encountered when a paleontological monitor is not present, work in the immediate area of the find shall be redirected, and the paleontologist or paleontological monitor shall be contacted to assess the find for scientific significance. If determined to be scientifically significant, the fossil shall be collected from the field.

**PALEO-3:** Collected resources shall be prepared to the point of identification, identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible, cataloged, and curated into the permanent collections of a museum repository. At the conclusion of the monitoring program, a report of findings shall be prepared to document the results of the monitoring program.

### 3.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				X

**Discussion:**

a) As discussed in the Air Quality impact analysis, the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions generated by the proposed project would not exceed the SCAQMD’s recommended threshold of 3,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e (metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions) per year for non-industrial projects. The construction phase’s GHG emissions were calculated using CalEEMod, Version 2020.4.0. **Table 3-2** shows the unmitigated, yearly emissions rate in metric tons (MT) for in comparison to the Regional Significance Threshold. Because GHG missions will not exceed the SCAQMD threshold, the project would have a less than significant impact with respect to GHG emissions.

**Table 3-2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Project**

Pollutant	CO <sub>2</sub>
Maximum Construction Emissions rate (MT/year)	406.54
Maximum Operations Emissions rate (MT/year)	2.71
SCAQMD Threshold (MT/year)	3,000
Exceed Threshold?	No

b) The City of Manhattan Beach does not currently have an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. In 2006, California passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), which requires the California Air Resources Board to design and implement emission limits, regulations, and other measures, such that feasible and cost-effective statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to 1990 levels, representing an approximate 25 percent reduction in total emissions. Statewide strategies to reduce GHG emissions include building and construction emission requirements specified in the California Green Building Standards Code. The Project will incorporate measures listed by AB 32, such as using construction equipment that minimizes GHG emissions. Because the project does not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of GHG, there would be no anticipated impact.





### 3.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
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?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
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?				X
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 result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			X	

**Discussion:**

- a) Hazardous materials are substances of chemicals that pose a health hazard, physical hazard, or harm to the environment. Hazardous materials are defined and regulated by federal, state, and local agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), EPA, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Anticipated construction activities may require the transport, storage, use, and disposal of small amounts of hazardous materials that may include gasoline, diesel, hydraulic fluids, oils and lubricants, and other similarly related materials. In



addition, hazardous materials may be needed for fueling and servicing construction equipment on the Project Site. During construction of the Project, material safety data sheets for all applicable materials present at the Project Site would be made readily available to onsite personnel. All transport, handling, use, and disposal of substances such as petroleum products related to construction would comply with all federal, state, and local laws regulating the management and use of hazardous materials. Best management practices would be in place to ensure the lawful and proper storage and use of these materials. Therefore, the impacts would be less than significant.

- b) As discussed above, construction activities associated with the Project will involve hazardous materials. Construction contractors will be required to use standard controls and safety procedures that would avoid and minimize the potential for accidental release of hazardous substances into the environment. Standard construction practices would be observed such that any materials released are appropriately contained and remediated as required by local, state, and federal law. Therefore, the impacts would be less than significant.
- c) Grandview Elementary School is within a quarter mile of the Project site. As discussed in the previous sections, handling and disposal of hazardous materials is anticipated to be minimal, and would be conducted in compliance with existing federal, state, and county regulations. There is potential for dust emissions to be noticeable at the school, but with the incorporation of mitigation measures mentioned in **Section 3.3**, impacts would be considered less than significant.
- d) There are no Federal Superfund or other cleanup sites within the vicinity of the proposed project. According to the California Department of Toxic Substances' EnviroStor website, the nearest operating Federal Superfund site is the Chevron El Segundo Refinery, which is over 1.5 miles north of the Project. Additionally, the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker website did not identify the site as containing an active leaking underground storage tank. Therefore, there would be no impact.
- e) The Project is located more than two miles away from Los Angeles International Airport, and almost 5 miles from the Hawthorne Municipal Airport, and is not in a designated Airport Land Use Area. The Project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or where such a plan has been adopted within two miles of a public airport. In-bound flights from the south or west may fly over Manhattan Beach to allow the aircraft to turn around for landing on the runways at Los Angeles International Airport. Due to the altitude of incoming flights, noise impacts to Manhattan Beach fall below 60 dBA. Therefore, the Project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the Project area, and as a result, there would be no impact.
- f) The Project would not impair implementation or physically interfere with any adopted emergency response or evacuation plans. The City of Manhattan Beach has an emergency response plan called the Manhattan Beach Emergency Operations Plan, which identifies City planning responses to emergency situations, such as fire, earthquake, flooding and more. The emergency response plan also designates evacuation routes for various types of hazards. None of the roads that may be affected by the Project are designated as evacuation routes. The Project will not increase the amount of people in the area or the potential needs for emergency access, therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- g) The City of Manhattan Beach does not contain any lands designated as a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. As such, implementation of the Project is not likely to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires; therefore, no impacts would occur.

### 3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?			X	
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			X	
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;				X
iii) 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; or				X
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?			X	
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				X
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The goal of the Project is to provide an enhancement to water quality by capturing, treating, and infiltrating. This may, to a small extent, create a local subsurface mound to reduce sea water moving inland and therefore may slightly reduce the amount of water injected at the barrier. During construction, a SWPPP will be prepared and BMPs will be implemented to prevent erosion and



sedimentation. Compliance with the Construction General Permit will ensure that the construction will have no permanent impact to water quality.

The Project will capture urban runoff that would normally flow directly into the Santa Monica Bay. The Project will include the construction of a subsurface pretreatment and pump that will divert runoff to drywells under the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility. The increased infiltration of stormwater resulting from Project implementation will increase local groundwater recharge and reduce peak storm flows. Therefore, due to the intent of the Project and with incorporation of the standard and required BMPs, impacts would be less than significant.

- b) Groundwater supplies will not be affected negatively since the project does not have additional demand for groundwater. The Project intends to pretreat stormwater for groundwater recharge which will have a beneficial impact to the local groundwater supplies. Therefore, there are no anticipated negative impacts to groundwater supplies.
- c)
  - i. The proposed Project will not adversely affect existing drainage patterns or cause siltation or erosion. The Project will incorporate a pre-treatment facility, which will capture any silt or sediment being collected from urban runoff. As a result, erosion or siltation will not be expected to occur outside of the construction phase, and therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
  - ii. The Project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area resulting in flooding on- or offsite. The Project intends to capture, treat, and route urban runoff by diverting stormwater from an existing storm drain to drywells to reduce polluted stormwater and increase groundwater recharge. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.
  - iii. The Project will not contribute runoff which will exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The Project intends to capture runoff from an existing storm drain and divert flows to a pretreatment system and subsurface drywells, thereby reducing pollutant loads. As such, there would be no anticipated impacts.
  - iv. The Project intends to capture, treat, and route urban runoff by diverting stormwater from an existing storm drain to drywells to reduce polluted stormwater and increase groundwater recharge. As such, the Project would be intercepting wet-weather runoff into drywells. The redirection of wet-weather runoff will capture up to 70 acre-feet, which will fill dry wells, infiltrating through the soil, improving water quality. Runoff in excess of the designed wet-weather runoff will continue to flow via the existing 28<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Drain as it did during pre-project conditions. Impacts redirecting wet-weather runoff will be beneficial to the water quality and infiltration locally, therefore impacts are considered less than significant impact.
- d) The proposed Project is not within a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone. The proposed Project is between approximately 35 to 100 feet above sea level and is approximately 50 feet to 700 feet from the coast, but according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Project is located in a Zone X, which is outside the 0.2% annual chance flood area. The pre-existing storm

drains maintained in the Project's boundaries are also in Zone X. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

- e) The Project will not conflict with the Los Angeles Regional Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles, which was designed to protect the beneficial uses of waters within the coastal watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The Basin Plan identifies beneficial uses for surface and ground waters, identifies narrative and numerical water quality objectives for regional attainment, and describes implementation programs and other necessary actions to achieve water quality objects to meet the California State Water Resource Control Board's Anti-Degradation Policy (Resolution 68-16). Furthermore, the Project will implement a SWPPP and comply with Low Impact Development (LID) requirements. As such, the Proposed project would not conflict or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan.

### 3.11 Land Use and Planning

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project is located in the City of Manhattan Beach and is subject to compliance with the City’s adopted plans, policies, and regulations. The Project facilities will not have any permanent above ground features that would physically divide the surrounding established community. As a result, there would be no impact.
- b) The Project site’s current land use designation is public facilities, open space, and public right-of-way and once the Project is completed, the subsurface additions and parking facility improvements would not alter the current land use of the project area. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not conflict with an applicable land use plan, goal, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. As such, there would be no impact.



### 3.12 Mineral Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?				X
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?			X	

**Discussion:**

a) The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires classification of land into mineral resource zones (MRZs) according to the known or inferred mineral potential of the area. The MRZ categories are as follows:

- MRZ-1: Areas where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence.
- MRZ-2: Areas where adequate information indicates significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that a high likelihood exists for their presence.
- MRZ-3: Areas containing mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data.
- MRZ-4: Areas where available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ

The Project does not fall within an MRZ-2 area and the Project site and surrounding areas are fully developed and would not be available for mineral resource activities. The City of Manhattan Beach’s General Plan does not recognize any mineral resources within the City. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts.

b) Although the area is listed for potential of aggregate resources, the Project site and surrounding areas are fully developed and would not be available for mineral resource activities. Manhattan Beach’s General Plan does not recognize the potential for mineral resources within the City, but due to the City being largely inaccessible due to urbanization, impacts on aggregate resources are not considered significant. As a result, impacts would be less than significant.



### 3.13 Noise

Would the project result in:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?		X		
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?		X		
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project is primarily surrounded by Single-Family Medium and High Density Residential zoned properties, with Open Space and Public Space parcels adjacent to the site. The school most likely to be impacted by construction noise is Grandview Elementary School, 0.20 miles east at 455 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. Construction occurring in public right-of-way on 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Avenue, and around the perimeter of the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility will be within 15 feet of Residential dwellings.

Because implementation of the Project may result in the generation of construction noise within the areas surrounding the Project during construction and project operations, a Noise Assessment was performed in July 2022 by Cross-Spectrum Acoustics Inc. (CSA) and updated in April 2024.

Noise in the City of Manhattan Beach is regulated under Chapter 5.48 of the City of Manhattan Beach Municipal Code (MBMC), however Sections 5.48.220 and 5.48.250 exempt public works activities and construction activities from the provisions of Chapter 5.48.

Section 9.44.030 of the MBMC prohibits construction outside the hours of 7:30 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Friday and 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM Saturdays. Construction is prohibited on Sundays and City-recognized holidays. Since the City of Manhattan Beach does not set explicit limits for construction noise levels, the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances (LACCO) will be used as allowable limits for construction noise.





Chapter 12.08.440 of the LACCO sets limits on the allowable levels of construction noise based on the land use of the nearby buildings. The code defines mobile equipment as “short-term operation (less than 10 days)” and stationary equipment as “long-term operation (periods of 10 days or more).” Most noise-generating construction activities for the project are expected to be 10 days or fewer in duration, with the exception of the drywells installation and repaving of the parking lot. During these phases of the construction, equipment will be moving locations throughout the parking lot area, so equipment will not remain operating in one location for 10 days or more. However, construction of the access shaft at Manhattan Avenue and 28<sup>th</sup> Street will take more than ten days, making it subject to the Fixed Equipment maximum noise levels during that time period.

Since MBMC set more restrictive hours than the LACCO for when construction can occur, work will only be conducted during the allowable hours under the MBMC. **Table 3-3** outlines the allowable maximum noise levels for mobile equipment for the Project.

**Table 3-3 Construction Maximum Noise Levels**

Construction Activity		Single-Family Residential (dBA)	Business Structures (dBA)
Weekdays (7:30AM-6:00PM) Saturdays (9:00AM-6:00PM) <sup>1</sup>	Mobile Equipment	75	85
Weekdays (7:30AM-6:00PM) Saturdays (9:00AM-6:00PM) <sup>1</sup>	Fixed Equipment	60	70
Note: Noise limit applies at the façade of the closest noise sensitive building.			
<sup>1</sup> Construction hours as allowed under the MBMC			

The Noise Assessment performed by CSA included a noise model to predict noise levels with and without mitigation to the nearby sensitive receivers. Without mitigation, noise levels would exceed limits by up to 18 dBA with the assumption that all equipment is operating concurrently at full power. Because it is unlikely that all equipment would be running at full power and with mitigation measures outlined by CSA (**NOISE-1** and **NOISE-2**) and due to the fact that noise associated with the project will cease with construction activities, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

- b) The Project construction will create some ground borne vibrations as part of the construction. It is anticipated that construction of the Project will employ equipment that is typically of concern for producing high vibration levels, such as rotary drills, rollers, compactors, and bulldozers. The Noise and Vibration Assessment performed by CSA found no structures on the National Register of Historic Places located near the project area. The City of Manhattan Beach is developing framework for evaluating historic resources, and there are no historic landmarks listed inside the area of influence for vibrations from construction associated with the project. Most buildings located near the work site appear to be of modern construction and unlikely to require limits for fragile buildings. However, if concerns are raised over the fragility of any particular structures, a pre-construction crack inspection may be warranted, as described in **NOISE-3**.

Caltrans Guidance Manual outlines the limits for Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) for structures of different conditions and is summarized in

**Table 3-4.** The Caltrans Guidance Manual suggests a limit for older residential structures at 0.3 PPV for the type of equipment anticipated to be used on this project.



**Table 3-4 Construction Vibration Damage Risk Limits**

Structure and Condition	Peak Particle Velocity (in/sec)	
	Transient Source	Continuous/Frequent Intermittent Sources
Extremely fragile historic buildings, ruins, ancient monuments	0.12	0.08
Fragile buildings	0.2	0.1
Historic and some old buildings	0.5	0.25
Older residential structures	0.5	0.3
Newer residential structures	1.0	0.5
Modern industrial/commercial buildings	2.0	0.5

The Noise and Vibration Assessment performed by CSA included vibration model to predict vibration levels experienced by the nearby sensitive receivers. **Table 3-5** shows anticipated equipment with associated PPV at 25 feet and minimum distance for no impact to structures.

**Table 3-5 Construction Equipment Vibration Reference Levels**

Equipment Description	Reference Equipment	Ref PPV at 25 ft (in/sec)	Minimum Distance for No Impact <sup>1</sup> (ft)
Rollers	Vibratory Roller	0.210	20
Compactor	Heavy Vehicles	0.178	18
Bore/Drill Rigs	Cassian Drilling	0.089	11
Excavator	Large Bulldozer	0.089	11
Cement and Mortar Mixers	Loaded Trucks	0.076	10
Haul Trucks	Loaded Trucks	0.076	10
Backhoes	Small Bulldozer	0.003	1

<sup>1</sup>Shortest distance where the vibrations from the equipment are below the impact threshold of 0.3 in/sec PPV.

There are phases in which groundborne vibration construction will occur within 15 feet of sensitive receptors near the intersection of Manhattan Avenue and 28<sup>th</sup> Street. This will result in exceedance of the Caltrans of 0.3 PPV during this phase of the construction. With mitigation measures **NOISE-3** and **NOISE-4** provided by CSA, and due to the fact that groundborne vibrations will cease with construction, impacts from groundborne vibration construction is anticipated to be less than significant.

- c) The Project is not located in an area designated as airport land use. The Project is located over two miles from the Los Angeles International Airport, and almost five miles from Hawthorne Municipal Airport. The Project will not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels. The Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or within two miles of a public airport. As a result, the Project would not have the potential to expose people to significant aircraft-generated noise, and therefore, no impacts would occur.



**Mitigation Measures:**

**NOISE-1:** CSA outlined specific noise mitigation measures that shall be implemented to avoid significant noise impacts during the construction work.

- Contractor shall prepare a noise monitoring plan and collect noise levels at residences nearest the construction site during any phase where noise may exceed the noise limits defined in **Table 3-3**. The plan shall specify monitoring locations, equipment, procedures, and include a schedule of measurements and reporting methods to be used.
- Limits hours of construction to hours outlined in **Table 3-3**, unless work is authorized outside of these hours by the Manhattan Beach Public Works Director or City Council.
- Before beginning construction, communication shall begin with the local community, via flyers, postings, door knocking, etc. Outreach documents shall include a telephone number where residents can receive information about the project and make inquiries or complaints during the work. Specific outreach shall occur before the loudest events to inform residents of the expected noise and the length of time it is to last, specifically during demolition, drilling, sawing, paving, and roller operations.
- Noise barriers shall be installed around the worksite perimeter. Noise from most construction phases can be significantly reduced through the use of temporary noise barriers, noise control curtains, and/or noise enclosures. A properly constructed noise barrier 12 feet tall around the perimeter of the active noise-generating work area removes all significant noise impacts when combined with the equipment scheduling outlined below.
- Restrict concurrent operation of loudest equipment to prevent exceedances in noise levels.

**NOISE-2:** CSA outlined general noise mitigation measures that shall be implemented to avoid significant noise impacts during the construction work.

- Install visible "Noise Control Zone" signs, including telephone number where residents can learn information about the project and make complaints.
- Use equipment noise-control devices such as mufflers or motor enclosures that meet original specification and performance criteria.
- Electrically powered equipment shall be used over gas- or diesel-powered equipment to the extent practical.
- Designate haul routes to produce the least overall noise impact, with heavily loaded trucks routed away from residential streets where possible. Identification of haul routes shall consider streets with the fewest noise sensitive receivers where no alternatives are available.
- Location of staging areas, earth-moving equipment, stationary noise-generating equipment, stockpiles, and other noise-producing operations shall be set up as far as practicable from nearby noise-sensitive receivers.
- Limit use of horns, whistles, alarms, and bells. It is recommended that low impact backup alarms be used on heavy equipment.
- Phase the noisiest operations including demolition, earth moving, and ground impacting so they do not occur during the same time period.

**NOISE-3:** A before and after construction survey shall occur and include inspecting building foundations and taking photographs of pre-existing conditions, cracks, or other flaws. Structures nearer to the work than the minimum distances indicated in **Table 3-5** of the MND shall be surveyed. If the post-construction survey identifies material damage that is determined to be caused by construction of the

Project, the contractor shall be responsible for repairing any identified damage. This responsibility shall be stipulated in the contract entered into between the City and the selected contractor.

**NOISE-4:** Vibration monitoring shall be conducted at structures where construction equipment is operating closer than the limits listed on **Table 3-5**. If measurements show that vibration levels are below the limits at the nearest structures during the highest-vibration activities, no impact has occurred. If measured vibration levels exceed the limits, construction methods shall be modified, construction equipment shall be immediately reduced to a lower power setting, and/or equipment shall be moved further from the affected structure. An additional survey shall then be conducted to determine whether the structure shows signs of distress that were not previously documented.

### 3.14 Population and Housing

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned 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)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project will be constructed within a government-owned parking facility, a portion of Bruce’s Beach Park, and within City-owned public right-of-way. The Project does not propose the construction of any new homes or businesses. The Project is proposing to construct a subsurface infiltration system, drainage facilities, and enhancements to the parking facility. Because the construction period is expected to be short term, Project construction activities would not induce employees to move towards the Project’s vicinity and would not induct population growth or the need for additional housing. No substantial population growth would result from the Project, and no impacts would be expected to occur.
- b) The Project will not displace any existing people or housing, as the Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot and roadways. No housing units or habitable structures will be built or removed as part of construction. During construction, alternate street routes and access to residential dwellings will be available for those living along 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 28<sup>th</sup> Street, and Manhattan Avenue. Therefore, there would be no anticipated impacts.



### 3.15 Public Services

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision 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 ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i. Fire protection?		X		
ii. Police protection?		X		
iii. Schools?				X
iv. Parks?			X	
v. Other public facilities?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a)
  - i. The nearest fire station is Manhattan Beach Fire Department Station 1, approximately 0.5 mile southeast of the Project at 400 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. During construction, the project may have to close portions of 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Avenue, and Ocean Drive, all of which are categorized as local streets. Construction activities may involve temporary lane closures along residential streets for the construction of the diversion structure, pump system, sedimentation system, and related infrastructure. Construction-related traffic could also result in increased travel time due to flagging or stopping of traffic to accommodate trucks entering and exiting the Project site during construction. As such, construction activities could increase response times for emergency vehicles to local businesses and or residences within the Project’s vicinity. However, the impacts of construction activity would be temporary and on an intermittent basis. A Construction Management Plan for the Project would be prepared to minimize disruptions to through traffic flow, maintain emergency vehicle access to the Project site and neighboring land uses, and schedule worker and construction equipment delivery to avoid peak traffic hours. Due to the temporary nature of the necessary construction activities, and limited operation activities, the Project is not expected to be beyond the scope of available fire and protection services for the City. Accordingly, the Manhattan Beach Fire Department’s would not require new or expanded fire facilities. However, in any case that roads may be



- affected, potentially affecting response times, incorporating **PUBLIC-1** and **TRAF-1** through **TRAF-2** will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
- ii. The Manhattan Beach Police Department is located approximately 0.5 mile of the Project site at 420 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. During construction, the project may have to close portions of 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Avenue, and Ocean Drive, all of which are categorized as local streets. As noted above in **Section 3.15(a)(i)**, due to the temporary nature of the construction activities, and limited operational maintenance activities, the Project not expected to require police services beyond the scope that is already available. However, in any case that roads may be affected, potentially affecting response times, incorporating **PUBLIC-1** and **TRAF-1** through **TRAF-2** will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
  - iii. The nearest schools are Grandview Elementary School, 0.20 miles east at 455 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; American Martyrs School, 0.60 miles to the southeast at 1701 Laurel Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; and Pacific Elementary School, 0.85 miles to the southeast at 1200 Pacific Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. This project does not increase population to the area and would not have impact on service ratios to schools; therefore, there would be no impact.
  - iv. The Project includes the construction of a subsurface drainage and infiltration system and improving the 26<sup>th</sup> Street parking facility. A portion of the lower area of Bruce's Beach Park may be closed during construction of the drywells. During construction, the parking facility that serves the beach and the local park will be fully or partially closed, however construction will be sequenced so that the parking facility is available during peak visiting months. During its closure, there will be signage guiding visitors to available parking locations and temporary parking spaces will be made available on 27<sup>th</sup> Street between Manhattan Avenue and Highland Avenue and/or along Manhattan Avenue between 26th Street and 27th Street. Bruce's Beach is a small park that is mostly accessed on foot, so it is unlikely that partial or full closure of the parking facility would affect use. Since a majority of the park will be accessible during construction and return to existing conditions post-construction, impacts are expected to be less than significant.
  - v. Manhattan Beach City Hall is 0.50 miles southeast of the Project at 1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. This project does not increase population to the area and would not have impact on maintaining service ratios for any public facilities. However, in any instances that roads may be affected, incorporating **PUBLIC-1** and **TRAF-1** through **TRAF-2** will ensure that impacts are less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:**

**PUBLIC-1** – In the event that roads are inaccessible due to construction, the contractor will notify public agencies, including but not limited, to fire and police departments, to ensure that the emergency agencies can plan for alternative routes.



### 3.16 Recreation

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project 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?			X	
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?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project would include the construction of a subsurface infiltration system and various drainage facilities and infrastructure, as well as enhancements to an existing parking facility. The Project would not draw a substantial number of new residents and visitors to the area. Therefore, the Project would not increase the use of an existing neighborhood and regional park, or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. During construction the parking facility that services individuals recreating at the beach and surrounding areas will be closed to the public, however construction will be sequenced so that the parking facility is available during peak visiting months. During its closure, there will be signage guiding visitors to available parking locations and temporary parking spaces will be made available on 27<sup>th</sup> Street between Manhattan Avenue and Highland Avenue and/or along Manhattan Avenue between 26th Street and 27th Street. Once construction is complete, the parking facility will be re-opened to residents and visitors.
- b) The Project does not include construction or expansion of any recreational facilities. Therefore, there will be no impact.

### 3.17 Transportation/Traffic

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?		X		
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?				X
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. The Project would generate short-term construction related vehicle trips. These vehicle trips would be temporary due to construction and would not conflict with the City’s General Plan. During construction, portions of 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Avenue, and Ocean Drive may be intermittently closed to traffic. Access to nearby residences will be maintained throughout the construction phase of the Project. Using **TRAF-1**, impacts from road closures would be considered less than significant.
- b) CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b) gives criteria for analyzing transportation impacts, including land use projects, transportation projects, qualitative analysis, and methodology. According to the guidelines, projects within one-half mile of either an existing transit stop, or transit corridor shall be presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact. The closest transit is at Highland Avenue and 26<sup>th</sup> Street, approximately 300 feet from project site. However, no transit lines intersect with the Project site and would be affected by any road closures associated with the construction. Therefore, anticipated impacts are less than significant.
- c) The Project does not require street reconfiguring or creating any dangerous road features. The Project will excavate portions of 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Avenue, and Ocean Drive to install new drainage infrastructure. The streets will be restored to existing line and grade once construction is complete. As a result, there would be no impact.



- d) The Project does not affect any roads that are designated as evacuation routes in the City of Manhattan Beach's Emergency Preparedness Plan. However, emergency access will be impacted due to the nature of the Project, which will require construction along residential streets. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **TRAF-1** and **TRAF-2**, impacts from the Project will be less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:**

**TRAF-1** - For projects that may impact traffic, contractors are required to prepare a construction traffic control plan. Elements of the plan shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Develop circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts to local street circulation. Use haul routes minimizing truck traffic on local roadways to the extent possible.
- Develop detailed plans for pedestrian detours during construction that meet or exceed standards required in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and include adequate barriers against motorized traffic.
- To the extent feasible, and as needed to avoid adverse impacts on traffic flow, schedule truck trips outside of peak morning and evening commute hours.
- Install traffic control devices as specified in Caltrans' Manual of Traffic Controls for Construction and Maintenance Work Zones where needed to maintain safe driving conditions. Use flaggers and/or signage to safely direct traffic through construction work zones.

**TRAF-2** - Transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which require use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. The project specifications will limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause delays on any State facilities, a construction traffic control plan detailing these delays shall be submitted for Caltrans' review.

### 3.18 Tribal Cultural Resources

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a ) 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:				
i) 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				X
ii) 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.		X		

**Discussion:**

- a)
  - i. A Cultural Resource Assessment was conducted for the Project by LSA Associates. The assessment was conducted to identify previously recorded cultural resources (prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, historic buildings, structures, objects, or districts). LSA’s assessment included a California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search at the SCCIC. The assessment’s search included the entire Project area and a 1-mile radius buffer. A Sacred Land Files Search was requested from the NAHC in January 2023 and received confirmation in January 2023 from the NAHC that the Project area does not include any known sacred lands.
  - ii. The NAHC named nine tribes affiliated with the Project Area and recommended that they be consulted for information on potential tribal cultural resources. On September 23, 2023, the City of Manhattan Beach sent notification letters to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh



Nation, the Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 and Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1. During the 30 day period, only Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation requested consultation. The consultation process commenced on December 7, 2023. Over the next four months, consultation continued, with the City making various revisions to the draft mitigation measures to address concerns raised by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Ultimately, the City and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation were unable to come to a mutual agreement on the exact language for the mitigation measures, with the outstanding issue being whether the City could select another firm to conduct tribal monitoring in the event that the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation was not available to conduct said monitoring or charged fees above the market rate for such work. The mitigation measures **TCR-1** through **TCR-3** included in the IS/MND provide the City with an alternative option in such a situation and were developed to prevent any potential damage to a resource with significance to a California Native American tribe, and have been incorporated herein.

### Mitigation Measures:

#### **TCR-1** - Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities

- The project applicant/lead agency shall retain a Native American Monitor from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any “ground-disturbing activity” for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). “Ground-disturbing activity” shall include, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.

Should the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation not have sufficient qualified staff, or not provide monitoring services at market rates, after consultation between the tribe and the City’s Community Development Director, the project applicant/lead agency may contract with a different firm to provide a Native American monitor, subject to approval by the City’s Community Development Director.

- A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the lead agency prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.
- The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or “TCR”), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the project applicant/lead agency upon written request to the Tribe.
- On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon (1) written confirmation to the tribal monitor from a designated point of contact for the project applicant/lead agency that all ground-disturbing

activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification the tribal monitor to the project applicant/lead agency that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact TCRs.

**TCR-2** – Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funerary/Non-Ceremonial)

- Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the tribal monitor and a qualified archaeologist. The procedure described in Mitigation Measure **CUL-1** will then be followed.

**TCR-3** – Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects

- Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.
- If Native American human remains and/or grave goods are discovered or recognized on the project site, then Public Resource Code 5097.9 as well as Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 shall be followed.
- Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).
- Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods.
- Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

### 3.19 Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?			X	
c) 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?				X
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			X	
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The diversion pipeline will extend from the storm drain on 28<sup>th</sup> Street along Manhattan Avenue to just north of the parking lot on 26<sup>th</sup> Street. As a result, the Project will include new storm water drainage facilities. However, the new drainage facilities would not cause significant environmental impacts; the stormwater would be diverted into a pretreatment system, and then a series of drywells to infiltrate the stormwater runoff. The Project will not require or result in construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities. Minor relocations may be necessary and electrical services will be installed to power the new facilities, however, none of which would cause significant environmental effects, therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- b) The Project would include the construction of underground stormwater and drainage facilities and parking facility enhancements. Construction and operation of the Project would result in minimal



demand for water supplies. Water used during construction activities would be for site preparation, dust and erosion control, and other short-term activities. During Project operation, stormwater would be collected through storm drain diversions or through pervious parking lot with drywells and does not include any permanent fixtures that would require any additional water. Due to the negligible amount of water anticipated to be used by the Project during construction, a less than significant impact is anticipated.

- c) The Project does not include any systems that would require wastewater treatment facility. Stormwater collected from the diversion will be pretreated on site and infiltrated through drywells. Since it will not contribute a significant amount of wastewater and will not exceed existing wastewater capacities for the area, nor would it be connected to the sanitary sewer system, there are no anticipated impacts.
- d) Some debris may be generated with the construction of the Project and demolished concrete and asphalt will be sent to an offsite recycling facility when feasible. However, the amount of waste generated would be minor and would not be expected to be in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure and would not impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Excess waste due to construction would be temporary and would cease once construction is complete. Therefore, impacts to local infrastructure and solid waste reduction goals would be less than significant.
- e) Disposal will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations for waste disposal, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations and Title 40 of the CFR. Because the Project will comply with the regulations as noted, there would be no anticipated impacts.



### 3.20 Wildfire

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				X
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				X

**Discussion:**

- a) The Project site is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. The Project proposes to construct on land that has already been developed. The Project is not anticipated to impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The Project will comply with all current local, state, and federal building code requirements related to fire safety. The Project does not interfere with any major evacuation routes as designated by the City of Manhattan Beach. Therefore, there is no impact.
- b) As noted above, the Project is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as a very high fire hazard severity zone. The Project does not include any components that would exacerbate wildfire risks or expose the public to uncontrolled spread. Therefore, there would be no anticipated impact.
- c) The Project will not require the installation or maintenance of infrastructure, such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities. Therefore, the project would not exacerbate fire risk, and there would be no impact.



- d) As the Project site is not located in a state responsibility area or a high fire hazard severity zone, there would be no wildfire impact associated with downslope, downstream flooding, or landslides.

### 3.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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		
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 future projects)?		X		
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a) Due to the location in an urbanized environment, the Project is not anticipated to affect the quality of the environment, habitat, fish, wildlife, and plant populations at Project Site during construction or operation. Stormwater and urban runoff will be redirected to a pretreatment area and then to a series of drywells. During dry-weather, flows are anticipated to be minimal and will not have a substantial effect on any downstream waterbody. During wet-weather, flows from the project will not have a significant hydrological impact. Overall, one of the main goals of the Project is to reduce the pollutant load from a 1,518-acre catchment and increase groundwater infiltration to assist the City of Manhattan Beach in meeting water quality objectives in the region as outlined in the Watershed Management Plan prepared by the Beach Cities EWMP Group and submitted to LARWQCB. Therefore, the project will have a less than significant impact on the degradation of the quality of the environment, will not impact the habitat of fish and wildlife species, and will not threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**.



- b) The proposed Project would result in significant impacts unless mitigated for the following environmental issues: air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, noise, traffic, and tribal cultural resources. Because the Project impacts are generally construction related, the cumulative study area is generally confined to the immediate vicinity of the Project site. Cumulatively, the proposed Project would not result in any significant impacts that would substantially combine with impacts of other current or probable future impacts when all other development projects within the city are compliant with the established regulatory framework. As such, with implementation of Mitigation Measures **AIR-1** and **AIR-2**, **BIO-1** through **BIO-3**, **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**, **PALEO-1** through **PALEO-3**, **NOISE-1** through **NOISE-3**, **PUBLIC-1**, **TRAF-1** and **TRAF-2** and **TCR-1** through **TCR-3**, impacts would be less than significant.
- c) The project would have potential environmental effects on humans, most of which are construction related. Those impacts would occur specifically in the areas of noise and air quality. As discussed in **Section 3.3** and **Section 3.13**, either these impacts are less than significant or appropriate mitigation is required to protect nearby sensitive receptors. The Project would comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations, and the impacts identified that would be considered potentially significant can be appropriately dealt with through the implementation of mitigation measures. Therefore, potential impacts on human beings would be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures **AIR-1** and **AIR-2**, and **NOISE-1** through **NOISE-3**.

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<https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>

**Appendix A**  
**Comments and Response to Comments**



**From:** james upchurch <jimcaltius@me.com>  
**Date:** March 15, 2024 at 12:39:43 PM PDT  
**To:** List - City Council <CityCouncil@manhattanbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 28th Street Infiltration Project-Comments and Suggestions

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the City Council,

This is Jim Upchurch, a citizen of Manhattan Beach since 2012, residing at 2719 Manhattan Ave and reachable at 310-871-3083.

I am writing to you to share my views and comments regarding this Project as well as to voice my concerns regarding the material and adverse impact this Project will have on thousands of Manhattan Beach residents, visitors and service providers and especially those residing in the Project neighborhood. This is a unique project given it's nexus and multi jurisdictional involvement, it's funding sources and it's nominal if any benefit to those who will be impacted by it's construction. It's also unique in that Manhattan Beach isn't having to "fund" the direct construction and development costs though in fact there are significant costs to be borne by MB residents. I would ask each of you to consider how you would view this project if in fact Manhattan Beach citizens were required to pay the cost either through a parcel tax, bond issue or otherwise. I would also ask you to consider if the nature of the public outreach and informational disclosure would be different or more extensive if the City/Citizens were paying the cost.

I think the easiest way to share my views, comments and suggestions regarding this Project, is to share my upcoming NextDoor post below-

["28th Street/Manhattan Ave Bruce's Beach Infiltration Project AKA THE BIG DIG!!-ANYONE LISTENING??"](#)

MB City Council is considering the approval of this project at the early April Council Meeting. Here is the link to the Project on the City Website-  
<https://www.manhattanbeach.gov/departments/public-works/engineering-division/subsurface-infiltration-drainage-project>

There is a bunch of information on the site as well as references to the CEQA Report, all of which provides helpful project information. There are also FAQ's which are informative, including this FAQ-

["What impacts will I experience during construction?"](#)

A.1

**A.1:** As these comments do not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND, they are outside the purview of CEQA and no further response within the MND is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-makers for consideration as it relates to the project.



- A.2** FIRST- the Bruce's Beach/26th Street Parking Lot and it's 68 PARKING SPACES WILL BE CLOSED for substantial periods during the 540 day project construction period (this is where most of the drywells are being constructed).
- SECOND- the intersection of Manhattan Ave. and 28th Street will also be closed to thru traffic for significant periods during the construction period (this is where the diversion pipe will be tied into the 28th Street Storm Drain).
- These items and the Project in general will have a material adverse impact on the surrounding neighborhood as well as on the approximately 1,000 cars that travel northbound daily on Manhattan Ave from 27th Street to Rosecrans (per City of MB Traffic Count data). These items will also impact anyone in the vicinity who is building or remodeling their properties, service vendors, LA County Lifeguard personnel, construction workers, youth group instructors and participants, surfers, Bruce's Beach Park visitors, etc. The current commuters on Highland will also be impacted as the 1,000 or so cars currently traveling on Manhattan Ave will have to find another way to make it past the 28th Street and Manhattan Ave intersection. This will also impact residents on the smaller streets like Bayview and Ocean Blvd.
- Relating specifically to the "Construction" FAQ, "may" include detours, noise, limited street parking? How about "absolutely will"? "All of which will be mitigated"? Demonstrate how to "mitigate" the elimination of 68 parking spaces when we are currently at parking capacity. How do we "mitigate" the detour of 1,000 cars through the small alley side streets or the added congestion on Highland?
- Unfortunately, because there is a belief that this Project is "free" and supposedly will 'improve ocean water quality", it is not getting the attention it deserves. The Project is definitely not free, it will place a material and adverse tax on thousands of MB residents and visitors for at least a year and a half (assuming it is completed on time) and potentially more if there are long term impacts like odor and noise.
- A.4** In a search for solutions and complete information to allow for thoughtful decision making, I would suggest the following:
1. The City should be realistic about the material adverse impacts created by this Project and take the time to develop mitigation plans and not rely on the "Contractor" for solutions. I suggest the best way to engage the community in this discussion is to close the Bruce's Beach parking lot and barricade Manhattan Ave at 28th street for a week. Ok, perhaps a bit aggressive, but picture the realities of the first Monday morning when this actually happens. The general MB Community is UNAWARE of this Project and will not be happy with this "surprise". More public discourse is required.
  2. Council should be prepared to articulate the option of NOT DOING THIS PROJECT. What actually happens? Are there clear and specific bacteria measurements that are happening such that we are going to be fined by some water agency? If so, let's get specific and assess these risks.
- A.5**
3. Council should be prepared to articulate the specific and quantifiable benefits of this project in laymans terms and not just "it will make the water cleaner". How will it actually positively impact the citizens of MB and the Santa Monica Bay in general. Remember, the Ocean is incredibly self cleansing and this Project only provides cleansing assistance for storm water which is typically in the winter during minimal ocean going activities. Ok surfers, I surf too and we are all used to waiting a day or two to let the Ocean do it's cleansing magic.
  4. Have we measured the actual 28th Street stormwater water quality during this project planning process (multiple years) to see if it's actually getting worse or might it actually be getting better as a result of other environmental initiatives that have been implemented (and which might contribute to continued improvement).

**A.2:** Although this comment pertains to the FAQs page on the website (<https://www.manhattanbeach.gov/departments/public-works/engineering-division/subsurface-infiltration-drainage-project#!/>), parking is not subject to analysis pursuant to CEQA. It does not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND and no further response is necessary.

**A.3:** During construction, mitigation measures listed in each section under Noise (NOISE-1 through NOISE-4) and Air Quality (AIR-1) will be utilized to minimize nuisance odors, dust, and noise.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts from noise and vibration include preparing a noise monitoring plan, notifying residents that may be impacted, using electric equipment versus gas/diesel when feasible, limiting use of horns, utilizing equipment noise-control devices, scheduling to reduce concurrent use of the loudest equipment and installing noise barriers. Before and after construction surveys will be conducted for structures within equipment-specific distance listed on **Table 3-5** of the MND.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to air quality include dust minimizing measures, such as restricting earth moving operations during high winds, watering stockpiles, reducing idling of trucks/equipment, and other construction best management practices.

Pursuant to CEQA, the transportation analysis must consider program plans, ordinance or policies addressing the circulation system; identify conflicts with Section 15064.3 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines; identify increases in hazards due to new traffic design features; and determine if a project would result in inadequate emergency access.

The MND found traffic to be significantly impacted without the incorporation of mitigation measures due to road closures during construction. However, mitigation measures TRAF-1 and TRAF-2 would reduce those impacts, which include developing circulation and detour plans and scheduling to reduce impacts during commute hours when feasible would reduce those impacts to a less-than-significant level.

**A.4:** Parking is not subject to analysis pursuant to CEQA. It does not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND and no further response is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-markers for consideration as it relates to the project.

**A.5:** Per the 2021 MS4 Permit adopted by the Los Angeles Region Water Quality Control Board, the City of Manhattan Beach is required to meet certain water quality goals, including but not limited to bacteria. Failure to meet the requirements outlined in the MS4 permit subjects the City to possible fines and penalties. The City implements monitoring at the 28<sup>th</sup> Street storm drain outfall several days per week and finds consistent exceedances in bacteria, which is why this Project has been prioritized.

Water quality will be improved by diverting stormwater from drainage systems into pretreatment systems then to drywells to infiltrate into the ground water. Pretreatment systems will remove pollutants for up to 70 acre-feet per storm event and is expected to reduce bacteria loads by 163 x 10<sup>12</sup> MPN/year. <sup>2</sup>

Not sure what more to add, please get involved and informed, I hope you think it's worth your time."

A.6

In addition to the comments in the ND Post, I do have a specific ask of the Council. Given that the CEQA Report and other City provided information says there should be no damage, noise, odor or any other long term impacts on our properties or neighborhood, the City should provide a guarantee or indemnification to homeowners/renters protecting us from these risks. We are being taxed with living through this Project construction while receiving no benefit, we certainly shouldn't be exposed to any actual or potential economic or physical impairment to our homes and neighborhood. This is an important issue.

Thank you Members of City Council for your significant contribution of time, effort and energy in making Manhattan Beach the amazing community it is. Please don't let this project "slide" through just because nobody is stepping up to complain. Perhaps they are not complaining because they don't know or haven't been told the realities of what is about to happen. Please let me know if you would like to have any discussion or if you have questions regarding this email.

Respectfully your,  
Jim Upchurch

**A.6:** During construction, mitigation measures listed in each section under Noise (NOISE-1 through NOISE-4) and Air Quality (AIR-1) will be utilized to minimize nuisance odors, dust, and noise.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts from noise and vibration include preparing a noise monitoring plan, notifying residents that may be impacted, using electric equipment versus gas/diesel when feasible, limiting use of horns, utilizing equipment noise-control devices, scheduling to reduce concurrent use of the loudest equipment and installing noise barriers. Before and after construction surveys will be conducted for structures within equipment-specific distance listed on **Table 3-5** of the MND.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to air quality include dust minimizing measures, such as restricting earth moving operations during high winds, watering stockpiles, reducing idling of trucks/equipment, and other construction best management practices.

Per **NOISE-3** Noise section of the MND, a pre- and post-construction survey will occur. **NOISE-3** has been updated to include that if the post-construction survey identifies material damage that is determined to be caused by construction of the Project, the contractor will be responsible for repairing said damage, which shall be stipulated in the contract entered into between the City and the contractor.

From: james upchurch <jimcaltius@me.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 7:54 AM  
To: Jeff Fijalka, P.E. <jfijalka@manhattanbeach.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: 28th Street Stormwater Infiltration

Hi Jeff,  
I reviewed the additional information and have several questions and comments and suggestions. Happy to follow up with a call as well.

B.1

The Noise and Vibration Assessment reflects the old Ocean Drive plan and not the updated Manhattan Ave. plan. Has Cross-Spectrum updated their report to reflect his project modification? Have the project construction and equipment characteristics changed sufficiently such that an updated analysis should be performed? Or at a minimum should Cross-Spectrum issue a supplemental report stating that the Project Modification does not alter the conclusion reached in their report?

B.2

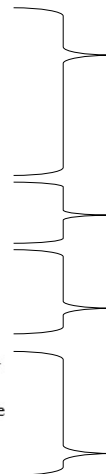
Regarding the various mitigation elements, who will be responsible for pre construction inspection, filming and documenting the condition of our homes in order to assess any potential changes, cracks, damage, etc. which could result from the construction? Perhaps the directly impacted property owners should have their own independent "expert" review the various reports, the mitigation measures, the construction planning, etc. and weigh in on as to the potential negative impacts from the project and the adequacy of mitigation measures. In no way should we be put "at risk" for potential negative impacts from this project (other than the temporary typical construction type impacts like noise, dust, etc.).

B.3

It would be helpful to get some guidance from the City on how directly impacted property owners have been insulated from risk for projects such as this. This a very serious and significant issue as we truly get no tangible benefit for the risks which are being placed upon us. Left to our decision we would of course not be in favor of this project given these risks so it seems quite reasonable that the City and contractor mitigate our exposure. How can we get this discussion going to achieve this protection? Thanks Jeff

B.4

Cheers,  
Jim Upchurch  
310-871-3083



**B.1:** The Noise and Vibration study was updated to reflect the change in location in response to this comment. While the impact receivers have shifted slightly, but level of impact and mitigations identified in the draft MND (NOISE-1 through NOISE-4) remain the same. See response to comment A.3 for further information on said mitigation measures. Additionally, it should be noted that the project description contained in the Draft MND prepared for the project and posted on the City's website (<https://www.manhattanbeach.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/54018/638436798223170000>), including the project location, accurately describes the project and is consistent with the project design analyzed in the IS/MND.

**B.2:** Per **NOISE-3** Noise section of the MND, a pre- and post-construction survey will occur. **NOISE-3** has been updated to include that if the post-construction survey identifies material damage that is determined to be caused by construction of the Project, the contractor will be responsible for repairing said damage, which shall be stipulated in the contract entered into between the City and the contractor.

**B.3:** The MND was made publicly available online and in-person for a 31-day review period, which provided agencies and the public with the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft IS/MND during the comment period. The public comment period provides the opportunity for agencies and the public at-large to review and provide comments on technical reports prepared in support of the MND. All comments provided on the Draft IS/MND have been reviewed and responded to in the Final IS/MND.

**B.4:** As these comments do not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND, they are outside the purview of CEQA and no further response within the MND is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-makers for consideration as it relates to the project.

On Feb 20, 2024, at 10:10 AM, james upchurch <jimcaltius@me.com> wrote:

Commissioners,  
As you may or may not know, the draft CEQA report for this project was released on February 16th for public comment by March 18th, to be followed by discussion and potential Project approval/or not at the April 2, 2024 Council Meeting. As part of this process, has or is the PPIC undertaking analysis and planning relating to the Project and particularly the Construction Period closures of the 26th Street Parking Lot and of Manhattan Ave at 28th Street. The duration of these closures has not been disclosed but is anticipated to be a significant portion of the construction period. Such closures will eliminate 68 parking spaces at the 26th Parking Lot and likely a number of street parking spaces. The closure will also result in some sort of re-routing of the 956 cars that travel Northbound from 27th Street to Rosecrans on a daily basis (See MB 2022 Traffic Volume Report). These motorists will seek cut-thru options or will join the already busy traffic on Highland. These are serious issues for which the project neighborhood is totally unprepared and equipped to handle.

Overlaying these closures onto an already maxed out parking situation seems like an impossible situation and makes the project viability questionable and perhaps not worth the marginal benefits. I encourage the PPIC to weigh in on behalf of the many citizens who will be materially impacted. Thanks for listening.  
Cheers,  
Jim Upchurch  
310-871-3083

**C.1:** Pursuant to CEQA, the transportation analysis must consider program plans, ordinance or policies addressing the circulation system; identify conflicts with Section 15064.3 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines; identify increases in hazards due to new traffic design features; and determine if a project would result in inadequate emergency access.

The MND found traffic to be significantly impacted without the incorporation of mitigation measures due to road closures during construction. However, mitigation measures TRAF-1 and TRAF-2 would reduce those impacts, which include developing circulation and detour plans and scheduling to reduce impacts during commute hours when feasible, would reduce those impacts to a less-than-significant level.

From: james upchurch <jimcaltius@me.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 1:50 PM  
To: List - PPIC <ListPPIC@manhattanbeach.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Parking and Public Improvements Commission-28th Street Infiltration Project

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Commissioners,  
A quick follow-up question. Will a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) be prepared under Section 4 – Non-CEQA Local Circulation and Site Access Studies of the City of Manhattan Beach Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines (Adopted November 4, 2020)? Thank You  
Cheers,  
Jim Upchurch  
310-871-3083

**C.2:** As these comments do not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND, they are outside the purview of CEQA and no further response within the MND is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-makers for consideration as it relates to the project.

**From:** GERALD JOHNSON <jjtunedog@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:19 PM  
**To:** Jeff Fijalka, P.E.  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: proposed 28th Street Stormwater Infiltration project

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I came away from the meeting at Manhattan Heights on February 15, 2024 feeling more like a potential victim than a benefactor of this proposed project. Of course, some sanitation benefits will accrue to the ocean and those who use it, and to those charged with management of the drainage basin which includes most of Manhattan Beach and parts of Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach. But a large number of citizens – property owners and the renting community—living in and near the proposed filtration project footprint would be paying some very significant dues. This would take the form of long term (at least two years, I believe) of 1.) Loss of precious parking spaces, 2.) Having to deal with construction noise, fumes, and dirt/dust, and construction traffic, and 3.) a permanent increase in large truck traffic hauling out filtration debris from the site at regular intervals far into the future.

Perhaps the biggest problem I foresee is what this project would do to the already-compromised parking situation in that area. It portends a 2-year (or more?) traffic/parking nightmare for the locals. Demolition and new construction of homes is rampant in this area, with the attendant competition for ever-diminishing numbers of parking spots, many of which are snapped up by construction crews. It's getting rare that you can find a parking spot in the area at all on Thursday or Friday mornings due to street sweeping and trash pick up. Many residents have converted garage space to storage space, and it seems that since Covid, more people are working at home and competing for parking space.

Of course the 26<sup>th</sup> St-27<sup>th</sup> St parking lot will come back (“enhanced” –whatever that means). But wouldn’t this be a great opportunity to make a huge improvement to the local parking situation by adding a level or two over that parking lot—like the one downtown near The Kettle, or the one at the intersection of Rosecrans and Highland. Think of the revenue all of those coin meters would generate! I suggest that a feasibility study be undertaken to address this concept and determine if at least a one-story new parking structure could be built without significantly blocking views of properties directly east of Manhattan Avenue. BTW, the surfers would love it and the locals would certainly benefit from improved parking in the area.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

**D.1:** Parking is not subject to analysis pursuant to CEQA. It does not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND and no further response is necessary.

During construction, mitigation measures listed in each section under Noise (NOISE-1 through NOISE-4) and Air Quality (AIR-1) will be utilized to minimize nuisance odors, dust, and noise.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts from noise and vibration include preparing a noise monitoring plan, notifying residents that may be impacted, using electric equipment versus gas/diesel when feasible, limiting use of horns, utilizing equipment noise-control devices, scheduling to reduce concurrent use of the loudest equipment and installing noise barriers. Before and after construction surveys will be conducted for structures within equipment-specific distance listed on **Table 3-5** of the MND.

Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to air quality include dust minimizing measures, such as restricting earth moving operations during high winds, watering stockpiles, reducing idling of trucks/equipment, and other construction best management practices.

Pursuant to CEQA, the transportation analysis must consider program plans, ordinance or policies addressing the circulation system; identify conflicts with Section 15064.3 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines; identify increases in hazards due to new traffic design features; and determine if a project would result in inadequate emergency access.

The MND found traffic to be significantly impacted without the incorporation of mitigation measures due to road closures during construction. However, mitigation measures TRAF-1 and TRAF-2, which include developing circulation and detour plans and scheduling to reduce impacts during commute hours when feasible, would reduce those impacts to a less-than-significant level.

After construction, only one truck/crew will be required to visit the site to maintain the trash capture and sedimentation system once every 3 months or in alignment with storm events, and is not anticipated to significantly impact traffic, or create nuisance odors/dusts.

**D.2:** Parking is not subject to analysis pursuant to CEQA. It does not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND and no further response is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-makers for consideration as it relates to the project.

**D.3:** As these comments do not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND, they are outside the purview of CEQA and no further response within the MND is necessary. However, this comment will be provided to decision-makers for consideration as it relates to the project.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 7  
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
PHONE (213) 269-1124  
FAX (213) 897-1337  
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www.dot.ca.gov



*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life*

March 5, 2024

Jeff Fijalka, Senior Civil Engineer  
City of Manhattan Beach  
3621 Bell Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

RE: 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project  
SCH # 2024020618  
Vic. LA-01/PM 23.39  
GTS # LA-2024-04458AL-MND

Dear Jeff Fijalka:

E.1

Caltrans is committed to providing a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The City of Manhattan Beach is proposing to construct the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project, at the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Facility located at 115 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, and within the public right-of-way on the streets surrounding the parking facility and in the green space on the lower portion of Bruce's Beach Park west of and adjacent to Manhattan Avenue. Runoff will be diverted from the existing County-owned storm drain located below 28<sup>th</sup> Street through a pipe aligned southeast on Manhattan Avenue. The diverted runoff will be pumped to a trash removal device and sedimentation system (pretreatment) to remove trash and sediment and then distributed to a matrix of drywells located in and around the parking facility.

According to the guidelines, projects within one-half mile of either an existing transit stop, or transit corridor should be presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact. The closest transit is at Highland Avenue and 26<sup>th</sup> Street, approximately 300 feet from project site. However, no transit lines intersect with the Project site and would be affected by any road closures associated with the construction. Therefore, anticipated impacts are less than significant.

E.2

Caltrans concurs with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **TRAF-1** and **TRAF-2**, impacts from the Project will be less than significant.

**TRAF-1** - For projects that may impact traffic, contractors are required to prepare a construction traffic control plan.



**E.1:** This is a letter from the California Department of Transportation acknowledging circulation of the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project. The summary of the project description and the basis of their comments are noted.

**E.2:** Comments were received and filed. No additional response within the MND is necessary.

Jeff Fijalka, Senior Civil Engineer  
March 5, 2024  
Page 2 of 2

E.3

**TRAF-2** - Transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials that require the use of oversized transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. The project specifications will limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause delays in any State facilities, a construction traffic control plan detailing these delays shall be submitted for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin, the project coordinator, at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2024-04458AL-MND.

Sincerely,

*Frances Duong*

FRANCES DUONG  
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse

**E.3:** Comments were received and filed. No additional response within the MND is necessary.

**From:** Gabrieleno Administration <admin@gabrielenoindians.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 4, 2024 1:49 PM  
**To:** Adam Finestone, AICP <afinestone@manhattanbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Matt Teutimez.Kizh Gabrieleno <matt.teutimez@gmail.com>; Kara Grant <kara@grant-law.net>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: 28th Street Storm Drain Infiltration Project

Hello Mr. Finestone

Thank you for getting back to us. I am sorry we did not respond to your last email. Chairman Salas was in and out of meetings all day but he did want me to forward this response to you. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Dear Mr. Finestone,

I hope this response finds you well. I am writing to express the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation’s concerns and suggestions regarding the language in TCR-1 pertaining to the retention of a Native American Monitor.  
While we appreciate the effort to incorporate provisions for a Native American Monitor in connection with ground-disturbing activities, we would like to address the addition of language about market rates and potential alternative monitors. Our concerns stem from the belief that such provisions do not align with the principles of AB52 or the spirit of our government-to-government consultation. The Gabrieleno Band is committed to meaningful consultation with the project applicant/lead agency to ensure compliance with CEQA while protecting our tribal cultural resources. In light of this, we propose the removal of language suggesting market rates and the option to contract with a different firm. These additions run counter to the collaborative spirit of our engagement and may inadvertently compromise the integrity of our cultural resource protection efforts. We believe that a focused and cooperative approach will better serve the interests of all parties involved. Our goal is to work together seamlessly to achieve the project’s compliance requirements while safeguarding our ancestral resources. By removing unnecessary stipulations, we can foster a more constructive partnership that is in

harmony with the intent of AB52. We welcome an open dialogue and are prepared to discuss these suggestions further to ensure that the language in TCR-1 reflects our shared commitment to a meaningful and effective consultation process. Thank you for considering our input. We look forward to continued collaboration in refining the language for TCR-1.

Sincerely,

Chairman Salas

Admin Specialist  
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation  
PO Box 393  
Covina, CA 91723  
Office: 844-390-0787  
website: [www.gabrielenoindians.org](http://www.gabrielenoindians.org)



*The region where Gabrieleno culture thrived for more than eight centuries encompassed most of Los Angeles County, more than half of Orange County and portions of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It was the labor of the Gabrieleno who built the missions, ranched and the pueblos of Los Angeles. They were trained in the trades, and they did the construction and maintenance, as well as the farming and managing of herds of livestock. “The Gabrieleno are the ones who did all this work, and they really are the foundation of the early economy of the Los Angeles area “. “That’s a contribution that Los Angeles has not recognized—the fact that in its early decades, without the Gabrieleno, the community simply would not have survived.”*

**F.1:** The consultation process commenced on December 7, 2023. Over the next four months, consultation continued, with the City making various revisions to the draft mitigation measures to address concerns raised by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Ultimately, the City and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation were unable to come to a mutual agreement on the exact language for the mitigation measures, with the outstanding issue being whether the City could select another firm to conduct tribal monitoring in the event that the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation was not available to conduct said monitoring or charged fees above the market rate for such work.

Mitigation Measure **TCR-1** requires monitoring during ground-disturbing activity associated with this proposed project by a Native American Monitor. The Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation has been identified as the preferred monitor; but in event that they do not have sufficient qualified staff or provide monitoring services at market rates, the City maintains a fallback provision to contract with another firm to provide a Native American Monitor in order for the project to continue.

F.1



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY  
**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**  
SOUTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE  
301 E. OCEAN BLVD, SUITE 300  
LONG BEACH, CA 90802-4325  
VOICE (562) 590-5071

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR



March 18, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL

City of Manhattan Beach  
Attention: Jeff Fijalka  
3621 Bell Avenue  
Manhattan Beach CA, 90266

Re: Draft IS/MND for the 28th Street Stormwater Infiltration Project  
State Clearinghouse No. 2024020618

Hello Mr. Fijalka,

Commission staff appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comment on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project. As you know, although the City maintains a Certified Local Coastal Plan, the proposed project is located within an area that remains appealable to the Coastal Commission. Thank you for meeting with our staff to answer our questions regarding the proposed project on March 12, 2024.

**G.0** The following comments address, in a preliminary manner, the issue of the proposed project's consistency with the Chapter 3 policies of the California Coastal Act of 1976. This letter is an overview of the main issues Commission staff has identified at this time based on the information we've been presented, and is not an exhaustive analysis. The comments contained herein are preliminary in nature, and those of Coastal Commission staff only and should not be construed as representing the opinion of the Coastal Commission itself.

To ensure that coastal water quality adjacent to the proposed project is protective of human health and biological productivity, we recommend that the following aspects of the project be verified:

- G.1** 1. Stormwater infiltration into the sandy soil of the project site is expected to remove bacteria. It is recommended that enterococcus bacteria be monitored along the shoreline adjacent to the project to allow for protective action should bacteria levels reach thresholds of potential harm.
- G.2** 2. The shoreline adjacent to the project has listed 303(d) impairments for arsenic, DDT, mercury, PCBs, and trash. It is recommended that these constituents be removed from stormwater before it infiltrates/discharges at the project site.
- G.3** 3. It is recommended that the zone of stormwater infiltration be limited to the geologic zone above any aquifer confining layer to avoid groundwater contamination.

**G.0:** This is a letter from the California Coastal Commission staff acknowledging circulation of the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed 28<sup>th</sup> Street Stormwater Infiltration Project. The summary of the project description and the basis of their comments are noted.

**G.1:** The City monitors near the shoreline and will continue to monitor during and post-construction of the infiltration systems.

**G.2:** Trash will be removed in pre-treatment, however arsenic, DDT, mercury, and PCBs cannot be removed, but can instead be infiltrated, removing them from flows discharged directly into the ocean.

**G.3:** The zone of infiltration is limited to above the groundwater level. The infiltration system invert elevation is 10 feet above the existing groundwater level plus some additional future sea level rise.

- G.4 4. It is recommended that the parking lot surface be designed to allow stormwater infiltration into the subsurface soil materials to prevent runoff of parking lot pollutants.
- G.5 5. According to the project description, the parking lot will be upgraded as part of the project. In order to comply with current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Electronic Vehicle (EV) parking requirements and design standards, this may result in a permanent loss of between 2 and 4 parking spaces. Please explain how the loss of public parking in this location may be mitigated.



**G.4:** The parking lot is being resurfaced with pervious concrete to accommodate infiltration.

**G.5:** As these comments do not specifically relate to the adequacy of the MND, they are outside the purview of CEQA and no further response within the MND is necessary. However, the City is exploring potential solutions to reduce the number of vehicular parking spaces lost in the project vicinity post-construction.

Sincerely,

Mandy Revell  
Coastal Program Analyst