

3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES, PARKS, AND RECREATION

This section evaluates the potential impacts to public services (fire, police, and schools), parks, and recreation associated with the adoption and implementation of the proposed Project. This section describes the regulatory framework and existing conditions; identifies criteria used to determine impact significance; provides an analysis of the potential impacts to public services, parks, and recreation; and identifies proposed General Plan 2045 goals and policies that would minimize potentially significant impacts.

This analysis is based in part on the Livermore General Plan Update Existing Conditions Report prepared in March 2022 (City of Livermore 2022). Where more recent data is available at the time of preparation of this Draft EIR, the analysis provided herein reflects such updated information.

As detailed in Chapter 3, *Environmental Analysis*, no concerns related to public services, parks, and recreation were received during the EIR scoping period.

3.15.1 Regulatory Framework

STATE

California Building Code

The State of California provides a minimum standard for building design through Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The California Building Code (CBC) is in Part 2 of Title 24. The CBC is updated on a three-year cycle. It is effective statewide, but a local jurisdiction may adopt more restrictive standards based on local conditions under specific amendment rules prescribed by the California Building Standards Commission. Commercial and residential buildings are plan-checked by City building officials for compliance with the CBC. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include the establishment of fire-resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction, and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas. School buildings are plan-checked by the Division of the State Architect.

California Fire Code

The California Fire Code (CFC) incorporates, by adoption, the International Fire Code of the International Code Council, with California amendments. This is the official Fire Code for the state and all political subdivisions. It is found in CCR Title 24, Part 9, and, like the CBC, it is revised and published every three years by the California Building Standards Commission. Also like the CBC, the CFC is effective statewide, but a local jurisdiction may adopt more restrictive standards based on local conditions.

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The CFC includes provisions and standards for emergency planning and preparedness, fire service features, fire protection systems, hazardous materials, fire-flow requirements, and fire hydrant locations and distribution. Typical fire safety requirements include installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; the establishment of fire-resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

California Wildland-Urban Interface Code

Prior to the 2025 code cycle, ignition-resistant construction standards for buildings in FHSZs and Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas were primarily addressed in Chapter 7A of the CBC and Chapter 49 of the CFC. Effective January 1, 2026, these wildfire-related building and site design requirements are consolidated into the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code (CWUIC), Part 7 of CCR Title 24. The CWUIC supersedes the separate wildfire construction and WUI provisions formerly contained in CBC Chapter 7A and CFC Chapter 49.

The CWUIC establishes statewide standards for development in designated FHSZ/WUI areas, including requirements for ignition-resistant construction materials and methods for exterior wildfire exposure (e.g., roofing, vents, exterior walls, windows and glazing, exterior doors, decks, and appendages), protection of underfloor areas and projections, and standards for ancillary structures. The CWUIC also includes provisions related to site access and emergency access, water supply for fire protection, fire protection planning, and long-term vegetation management.

Mitigation Fee Act

The Mitigation Fee Act (California Government Code Sections 66000-66008), or Assembly Bill (AB) 1600, requires a local agency establishing, increasing, or imposing an impact fee as a condition of development to identify the purpose of the fee and the use to which the fee is to be put. The agency must also demonstrate a reasonable relationship between the fee and the purpose for which it is charged, and between the fee and the type of development project on which it is to be levied. This act became effective on January 1, 1989.

Mello-Roos Communities Facilities Act

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (California Government Code Section 53311 et seq.) provides an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services through special taxes. This State law empowers local agencies to establish Community Facilities Districts (CFDs) to levy special taxes for facilities such as fire protection, police protection, schools, and libraries.

Senate Bill 50

Senate Bill (SB) 50 (funded by Proposition 1A, approved in 1998) limits the power of cities and counties to require mitigation of school facilities impacts as a condition of approving new development and provides instead for a standardized developer fee. SB 50 also provides for three levels of statutory impact fees. In setting the fees, school districts must prepare nexus studies to demonstrate a reasonable connection between new development and the need for school improvements. The fees may only be used to finance the construction or modernization of school facilities. The fee application level depends on whether state funding is available, whether the school district is eligible for state funding, and whether the school district meets certain additional criteria involving bonding capacity, year-round school, and the percentage of moveable classrooms in use.

The Quimby Act

The 1975 Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477) authorizes cities and counties to adopt ordinances requiring developers to set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for operation and maintenance of park facilities. A 1982 amendment (AB 1600) requires agencies to clearly show a reasonable relationship between the public need for the recreation facility or parkland and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed. Cities with a high ratio of park space to inhabitants can set a standard of up to 5 acres per 1,000 people for new development. Cities with a lower ratio can only require the provision of up to 3 acres of park space per 1,000 people. The calculation of a city's park space to population ratio is based on a comparison of the population count of the last federal census to the amount of City-owned parkland.

LOCAL

Livermore Municipal Code

The Livermore Municipal Code (LMC) includes various directives to minimize adverse impacts to public services, parks, and recreation. The LMC is organized by title, chapter, section, and, in some cases, articles. Most provisions related to public services, parks, and recreation are in Title 2, *Administration and Personnel*; Title 3, *Revenue and Finance*; Title 12, *Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places*; and Title 15, *Buildings and Construction*, as follows:

- **Chapter 2.36, *Police Department and Police Reserve***, establishes that as long as the City receives aid from the State of California, the City will adhere to the standards for recruitment and training of the State of California's Penal Code.

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- **Chapter 2.49, *Library Board of Trustees***, establishes a Library Board of Trustees consisting of 5 Livermore residents. Duties and responsibilities include carrying out duties required by the California Education Code, advocating for the library, knowing the programs and needs of the library, keeping abreast of library standards and trends, supporting library staff, and assisting in establishing financial support and preparation of the annual budget.
- **Chapter 2.56, *Emergency Organization***, provides for the preparation and carrying out of plans for the protection of persons and property within the City in the event of an emergency, the direction of the emergency organization, and the coordination of the emergency functions of the City with all other public agencies, corporations, organizations and affected private persons.
- **Chapter 2.60, *Public Library***, establishes the Livermore Public Library (LPL).
- **Chapter 3.24, *School Facilities Financing***, requires dedication of land for interim school facilities, or fees in lieu of such dedication, where it concurs with the governing body of a school district in finding that overcrowding exists in one or more attendance areas within the district. Because fees authorized by SB 50 may be inadequate to completely mitigate the effects of new development on the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), this chapter also requires all future residential development within the boundaries of the school district to fully mitigate any impacts on school facilities.
- **Chapter 12.60, *Park Facilities Fee***, implements the policies adopted in the General Plan and other planning documents requiring new development pay its fair share of improvements needed to accommodate that development, including parks and trails.
- **Chapter 15.02, *Building Code***, adopts the International Building Code, as amended and set forth in the California Building Standards Code, CCR Title 24.
- **Chapter 15.06, *Fire Code***, adopts the International Fire Code, as amended and set forth in the CCR, Title 24, Part 9.

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Facilities Master Plan

The 2021 LVJUSD Facilities Master Plan provides a vision for the future of the LVJUSD (LVJUSD 2021). The campus plans set a direction for each LVJUSD campus facility, imagining thoughtful and transformative design that will propel the LVJUSD 's campuses for the next 75 years. The LVJUSD Facilities Master Plan document is in the process of being refreshed in 2025 as best practice to continue to refine the vision to meet instructional goals.

Las Positas College Facilities Master Plan

The 2018 Las Positas College Facilities Master Plan guides the development of the campus for the next 15 years and beyond (Las Positas College 2019). The Plan includes design principles for the development of buildings, outdoor spaces, mobility and infrastructure upgrades, and other physical improvements envisioned for the campus.

Library Strategic Services Plan

The LPL 2020-2025 Strategic Services Plan contains objectives and strategies to make the LPL an inclusive and supportive education space, encouraging all community members to gather and learn from a variety of resources, including each other (LPL 2019). This plan guides library staff to balance limited resources in ways to meet public needs.

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

The purpose of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan (Master Plan) is to provide a realistic and visionary guide for the creative, orderly development and management of parks, trails, recreation facilities, open space, and programs for the LARPD, now and into the future (LARPD 2016). The Master Plan findings and recommendations are based on a combination of community input derived from community workshops, targeted surveys, input from professional staff, district records, participation data, and technical analysis, and, as such, they represent community expectations. This plan also includes a recreational facility needs assessment to determine the existing service level of the park, trails, and open space within the LARPD boundary and determine any deficiencies. The needs assessment was used to identify future recommendations and assisted in goal setting of the future of LARPD.

3.15.2 Existing Conditions

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire services are provided by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD). In 1996, the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton entered into a Joint Powers Authority, consolidating each City's fire department into the LPFD. The LPFD provides contract and automatic aid outside the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton within Alameda County and adjacent areas. The LPFD also provides reimbursed mutual aid during State of California and federal incidents.

The LPFD provides core services to approximately 89,000 Livermore residents over an area of 26 square miles. These services include all-risk emergency response, such as fire, emergency medical services, automobile accidents, hazardous materials, and County and statewide mutual aid. Additionally, LPFD provides mandated emergency readiness training, fire prevention plan checks and inspections, community education, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) instruction and coordination. The LPFD also supports law enforcement to implement evacuation orders. LPFD has worked to adopt AC Alert and Genasys Protect (formally Zonehaven AWARE), a community emergency and evacuation interface tool, to facilitate successful emergency preparation and evacuation (LPFD 2025c).

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The LPFD is organized into three branches: Administration, Fire Prevention, and Emergency Operations. The Administration branch includes the Office of the Fire Chief, the Finance Division, and the Disaster Preparedness Division. The Finance Division partners with the Finance Departments of both cities to oversee the LPFD's budget, including tracking and reporting on all revenues and expenses, developing long-term budget forecasts, and presenting finance information to departmental and City personnel. The Fire Prevention branch focuses on risk reduction to the community through a performance-based approach and application of the codes and laws pertaining to fire, hazardous materials, and use of buildings and facilities. The Fire Prevention branch is also responsible for the enforcement of codes and standards, including fire protection and suppression systems, hazardous materials inventory reporting, aboveground and underground storage of petroleum products, and community fire education programs. The Fire Prevention branch also oversees the Weed Abatement Program, Annual Fire Inspection Program, and the Veteran's Administration Hospital (outbuildings and grounds). The Disaster Preparedness Program Division facilitates and trains a disaster-resilient community through training, outreach, and public education. This division trains community-based disaster workers through the Livermore-Pleasanton Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT workers are trained to respond to fire safety, disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue.

The Emergency Operation team prepares for, responds to, and provides all services related to emergency fire suppression; emergency medical service; traffic collisions; specialized rescue; and emergency hazardous materials response and property losses (i.e., water leaks, fallen trees, and downed wires). Additionally, Emergency Operations also conducts fire safety inspections for businesses and conducts public education outreach.

Staffing

As of April 2025, the LPFD has 128 full time-equivalent employees and four half-time employees. The LPFD does not have a target ratio for personnel-to-population. The LPFD has 0.65 firefighters per 1000 people, including firefighters not assigned to first-responder roles. The National Fire Protection Association does not specify a recommended number (LPFD 2025a).

Facilities and Equipment

The LPFD headquarters are in Pleasanton at 3560 Nevada Street. Five of the 10 fire companies are based in the EIR Study Area. Table 3.15-1, *Fire Stations in the EIR Study Area*, provides the fire station addresses in the EIR Study Area. Fire companies are strategically located to provide the best possible response time to emergency incidents. Each fire engine or truck is staffed with at least one paramedic, which allows the department to provide first responder advanced life support services.

Table 3.15-1 Fire Stations in the EIR Study Area

Fire Stations	Address
Fire Station 6	4550 East Avenue
Fire Station 7	951 Rincon Avenue
Fire Station 8	5750 Scenic Avenue
Fire Station 9	1919 Cordoba Street
Fire Station 10	330 Airway Boulevard

Source: LPFD 2025b.

Response Times and Performance

The LPFD has a reflex time standard of seven minutes over 90 percent of the time, which includes a one-minute call processing time, one-minute turnout time, and five-minute travel time. New development, population growth, traffic, and the Alameda County Fire Department's exiting a portion of its automatic aid agreement with the LPFD have led to increased response times in excess of LPFD's goal of 7 minutes or less 90 percent of the time. To meet their standard, LPFD believes more staffing, additional stations, changes to the deployment model, and more equipment may decrease the LPFD reflex time (LPFD 2025a).

Budget

In the 2023-25 fiscal year, fire services accounted for roughly 21 percent of the City's Municipal General Fund expenditures, which included funding for employee salaries, purchasing fire suppression equipment, and various other basic funding needs (City of Livermore 2023). Administrative costs for the LPFD are shared 50/50 between the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, whereas cost-share formulas are used for support services, such as payroll, personnel, risk management, and dispatch. Fire Prevention expenses are shared based on units of service provided (the number of new construction and tenant improvement permits issued per city, per calendar year). Fire operations and suppression expenses are shared between the partner cities based on the number of firefighters each city requires. To maintain current service levels with contractual and inflationary operation costs, the LPFD's budget will need to increase over time (LPFD 2025a).

POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES

The Livermore Police Department (LPD) provides police services within the City Limit. Outside the City Limit, police services are provided by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office or the adjacent Pleasanton Police Department. In the instance that an unusual occurrence becomes or is beyond the control of the LPD, the LPD's Chief of Police or their designee may request mutual aid from the Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator, also known as the Alameda County Sheriff. The operational area is a county with political subdivisions. Moreover, in

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response to a law enforcement mutual-aid request, the Sheriff will coordinate within the operation area to activate mutual aid.

The LPD operates through an Area Policing model. This model is often used by public safety agencies to expand their community policing efforts by assigning patrol personnel to a geographic area known as “Area Commands” for extended periods of time. Police agencies practicing this model build long-lasting and more effective relationships with the community and respond proactively to the unique issues within each area. Area Commands are larger than the traditional beat area. A command-level officer, known as an Area Commander, is typically assigned to each area and responsible for developing key partnerships to community members and understanding the unique issues in their Area Command. In the EIR Study Area, there are four Area Command Districts.

LPD is organized into three divisions: Support Services, Operations, and Special Operations.

The Support Services Division supports multiple teams:

- **Communication Center:** This team provides a vital communication link between those in the community who need help and personnel who provide emergency services.
- **Records Unit:** This team manages and maintains the integrity of department codes. The Records Unit also provides information assistance and other services to the public, police personnel, and other governmental agencies.
- **Business Services:** This team creates and monitors the department’s budget, administers grants, contracts, and other financial functions.
- **Information Technology Unit:** This team operates, manages, and plans for technology systems and resources necessary to support the mission of the department. This unit is also responsible for supporting 9-1-1 Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD), mobile and field reporting technologies, and Command Center/Emergency Operations Center readiness 24 hours a day, year-round.
- **Volunteer and Reserve Officers:** Reserve officers are professionals who serve their communities in ways that exceed typical volunteer opportunities. Reserve officers are commissioned, and hold at a minimum, California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Level-11 certifications, and volunteer more than 16 hours per month as sworn officers.
- **Facilities and Fleet Services:** This unit ensures the physical infrastructure and vehicles are fully operational and safe.
- **Professional Standards Unit:** This unit maintains the integrity, accountability, and professionalism of the LPD through internal investigations; policy compliance and oversight; audits; early intervention systems; and backgrounds and recruitment.

The Operations Division consists of the Patrol Bureau, Animal Services, Field Training, Cadet program, and the Explorer Program. The Patrol Bureau is the largest division of the LPD and is made up of uniformed individuals who patrol in traditional black-and-white police vehicles.

The Special Operations Division supports the following teams:

- **Traffic Unit:** This team increases traffic safety in the community through outside-the-box global approach and application of the three Es of traffic safety: Education, Engineering, and Enforcement.
- **Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB):** This team investigates cases that include, but are not limited to, forcible rape, aggravated assaults, robberies, homicide, and crimes against juveniles. CIB also investigates burglaries and grand, vehicle, and identity thefts. The Special Operations Unit is a part of CIB and investigates drug and gang-related crimes while aiding CIB.
- **School Resource Officer Unit:** This team addresses juvenile crime and safety concerns in local schools. The program places police officers on campus at the schools where they are more accessible for both school administrators and students alike.
- **Crime Prevention Unit:** This team educates the public in areas of crime prevention, empowering citizens to protect themselves against crimes of opportunity and potential violent crimes. Additionally, this unit administers the Crime-Free Multi-Housing program, the volunteer program, the neighborhood watch program, and community events.
- **Homeless Liaison Officers:** This team addresses the complex needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. Their primary purpose is to build trust, provide support, and connect unhoused individuals with services, while also addressing public safety concerns.
- **The Mobile Evaluation Team (MET):** This team provides field-based intervention, de-escalation, and stabilization services to community members in acute mental health crisis. The MET is a co-responder model and is comprised of a licensed clinician and a police officer.
- **Training Unit:** This unit provides department-wide training.

Staffing

As of April 2025, the LPD employs 100 sworn officers and 53 professional staff members, supported by over 100 volunteers (LPD 2025). As shown in Table 3.15-2, *Livermore Police Department Staff Service Ratios*, the LPD does not meet national police ratio standards for total sworn officers per 1,000 residents.

Table 3.15-2 Livermore Police Department Staff Service Ratios

Service Ratio	National Average	Livermore Police Department
Law Enforcement Employees per 1,000 inhabitants	0.71	1.78
Sworn Officers per 1,000 inhabitants	2.17	1.17

Source: LPD 2025.

Although the LPD does not meet national standards for sworn officers, the LPD indicated the current staffing ratios are currently acceptable. However, LPD notes that anticipated growth from future development projects may require an increase in staffing by at least three officers and one professional staff per year. LPD also anticipates the need for additional professional staff in the near future to accommodate the administrative demands from recent national and state police reform legislation such as the Public Records Act requests, Racial and Identity Profiling Act, National and State Incident-Based Report Systems, Use of Force tracking, and body-worn camera and in-care camera footage (LPD 2025).

Facilities and Equipment

There is one main LPD station at 1110 South Livermore Avenue. The station is adjacent to the Livermore Civic Center Library and City Hall. The LPD needs 33,000 square feet of property and a total of 44,000 square feet of space for additional storage, training, and office facilities over the next decade. A three-phase project was recommended to meet the LPD facilities and equipment deficiencies. The first phase of the project was included in the 2019-2021 Capital Improvement Program as Police Facility Expansion, Project No. 2000-28. The following phases are being addressed in the proposed CIP Budget to be completed 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 budget years (LPD 2025).

Response Times and Call Volumes

LPD prioritizes responses to calls based on the following factors:

- **Priority 1** indicates a response is immediate; red lights and sirens are authorized. There is either a serious crime in progress or just occurred, serious injury accident, or any crime where a citizen is detaining a suspect with a potential for violence.
- **Priority 2** calls are urgent, but do not authorize lights and sirens unless specific expectations are noted. These calls may include any non-serious crimes in progress.
- **Priority 3** calls are routine and may hold, depending on higher-priority needs.

In 2024, the LPD had an average response time of 6 minutes and 51 seconds for Priority 1 phone calls, 18 minutes and 7 seconds for Priority 2, and 49 minutes and 37 seconds for Priority 3. The LPD's response time to calls for service is acceptable given the City's geography, population, residential and commercial areas, the retail/restaurant/shopping draw, the entertainment/social

opportunities downtown, and police staffing. Local traffic conditions also impact response times. To reduce response times, the LPD had indicated the need to increase staffing levels (LPD 2025).

Budget

The LPD is funded primarily by the City’s Municipal General Fund. In fiscal year 2023 to 2024, police services accounted for roughly 30 percent of the City’s Municipal General Fund expenditures, which funded employee salaries, police equipment, and other needs (City of Livermore 2023). The LPD also received funding from Police Grant Funds and Horizons funds. The Police Grant Fund accounts for various federal, State, and local grants used for police programs. The Horizon Fund supports the LPD Horizons Youth and Family Services Division.

SCHOOLS

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District

The LVJUSD serves more than 13,050 students from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade at 10 elementary campuses, 2 K-8 schools, 3 middle schools, 3 comprehensive high schools, and 2 alternative schools. These schools offer specialized programs, including International Baccalaureate Programs; Green Engineering Academy; Dual Immersion Programs; and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math (STEAM) pathways. The school names, student enrollment, and school capacity of each school are shown in Table 3.15-3, *Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Schools*.

Table 3.15-3 Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Schools

Schools	Student Enrollment	School Capacity	Student Enrollment of School Capacity
Altamont Creek Elementary	620	680	91%
Arroyo Seco Elementary	584	708	82%
Christensen Elementary	592	965	61%
Del Valle High	87	185	47%
East Avenue Middle School	581	725	80%
Emma C. Smith Elementary	648	744	87%
Granada High School	2,157	2,850	76%
Jackson Avenue Elementary	489	668	73%
Joe Michell (K-8)	786	795	99%
Junction Avenue (K-8)	801	1,125	71%
Lawrence Elementary	494	520	95%
Leo R. Croce Elementary	537	828	65%
Livermore High	1,827	2,325	79%

Table 3.15-3 Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Schools

Livermore Adult Education	160	384	42%
Marilyn Avenue Elementary	430	525	82%
Rancho Las Positas Elementary	586	630	93%
Sunset Elementary	759	796	95%
Vineyard Alternative School	92	384	25%
William Mendenhall Middle School	876	1,175	75%

Source: LVJUSD 2025.

Schools in the LVJUSD are operating within the existing capacity; however, there are five schools close to meeting school capacity: Altamont Creek Elementary, Joe Mitchell (K-8), Lawrence Elementary, Rancho Las Positas Elementary, and Sunset Elementary. As of the 2024-25 school year, these schools have over a 90-percent student enrollment to school capacity ratio. Capacity is regularly reviewed and adjusted as changes in program impact the number of students that can be served.

Funding

LVJUSD funding primarily comes from the State Local Control Funding Formula, property taxes, federal revenue, other state revenue, Measures J and G, and other local revenue (City of Livermore 2022). Approximately 80 percent of the school district's funding is from state revenue.

The Livermore community has financially supported students in the LVJUSD through the passage of Measure J, a general obligation bond, and Measure G, a parcel tax. Measure J, the facilities bond provides financial support to upgrade school sites, and create infrastructure and systems needed to outfit twenty-first century classrooms to maximize student success. Measure G, the parcel tax enhances STEAM programs and opportunities funds elementary school specialists who deliver hands-on lab experiences for students, supports the Project Lead the Way program throughout K-12 grade levels. These programs incorporate computer science, design, and engineering experiences and engage all age groups in captivating curriculum.

Las Positas College

Las Positas College is a community college within the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (District) and serves 9,000 annual students. The college provides a variety of occupational, transfer, and professional development courses while they prepare students for four-year institutions, continued education, career opportunities, or specialized training.

Las Positas College is within Alameda County and has benefited from two County-approved measures: Measure A and Measure B. Measure A, through the sale of \$950 million of capital

improvement bonds, helped the District fund major projects in Las Positas College, which includes modernizing the existing campus with new and remodeled buildings, new sports and recreational facilities, improved landscaping and outdoor spaces, enhanced sustainability, upgraded infrastructure, and improved mobility and parking. By October 2018, 15 building projects on Las Positas College's campus were funded by Measure B. Seven major projects have already been preapproved, such as a new academic Support Office, Public Safety Complex, and New Agricultural Science: Horticulture Building. Las Positas College has divided the future development of their campus into two phases: Phase 1 and Phase 2. Phase 1 projects include projects that will accommodate immediate needs and account for current funds available. Phase 2 projects will accommodate longer-term growth and may require securing additional funding. Projects in Phase 1 include a new STEAM building, student center, auxiliary gymnasium, and new soccer and softball fields. Phase 2 projects include, but are not limited to, renovation of Building 1800, additional classroom space, greenhouse, and shade house expansion (City of Livermore 2022).

LIBRARIES

There are three library locations in the LPL system and a Digital Library. The library locations are Civic Center Library, Rincon Library, and Springtown Library. The Civic Center Library is the Main Library while the Rincon and Springtown Libraries are considered branches. All branches offer books and audio-visual materials, public computers, wireless internet access, and study spaces.

Facilities and Services

The main Civic Center Library is approximately 56,000 square feet and was opened in 2004. The Civic Center Library is home to 190,000 items and includes study rooms, computer areas for children and adults, wireless internet access and printing, a large reading room, open study and seating areas, a café, and a Library Friends' bookstore. The Civic Center Library is open seven days per week for a total of 65 hours. Approximately 70 percent of the LPL's circulation is conducted through the Civic Center Library, which receives over 340,000 visits per year (City of Livermore 2022).

The Springtown Branch Library is a 2,400-square-foot library that opened in 1986. This branch features approximately 20,000 items with access to four public computers, wireless Internet access, and one small seating and study area. The library is open 1.5 days per week for a total of 11 hours. In addition, Civic Center Library staff are borrowed to staff the Springtown Library. To supplement the 11 hours of full staff library hours, this branch features an "Easy Access Library," a complete self-service portion of the branch open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with an Easy Access keycard. The self-service portion of the branch offers book checkouts, DVDs, and items on hold, and check-ins through the materials return system. Approximately 4 percent of the library's circulation is conducted through this branch, which receives over 14,000

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visits per year (City of Livermore 2022). The building is aging and will likely require a remodel (LPL 2025)

The Rincon Branch Library is a 4,200-square-foot library that opened in 1992. The Rincon Branch Library is a neighborhood library in May Nissen Park next to Marilyn Avenue STEAM Academy. The Rincon Branch Library features public computers, wireless Internet access, several small seating and study areas, and one meeting room used for library programming. Using trained volunteers, this library operates a successful homework center throughout the school year. Additionally, this library branch contains the LPL's largest collection of Spanish language material to serve the surrounding Spanish-speaking population. In 2019, the Rincon Branch Library expanded its service days from three to five days per week for a total of 31 hours. Approximately 5 percent of the LPL's circulation is conducted through this branch and receives over 30,000 visits per year (City of Livermore 2022). The Rincon Branch Library needs exterior building repairs and general maintenance updates. The building is aging and will likely require a remodel (LPL 2025).

The LPL has an online branch called the Digital Library, a virtual collection of nearly 34,000 items, including eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, research databases, periodicals, online classes, business data, test preparation, a museum pass program, and more. Approximately 21 percent of the library's circulation is conducted through the Digital Library and electronic content in the Digital Library is used over 200,000 times per year (City of Livermore 2022).

Staffing

The Livermore Library Services Department staffs approximately 28 positions (City of Livermore 2023). The employee allocation is as follows:

- One Administrative Assistant
- One Administrative Clerk I/II
- One Administrative Technician
- One Assistant Library Services Director
- Ten Librarian I/Librarian II
- Eight Library Assistants
- One Library Clerk
- One Library services Director
- Three Supervising Librarians
- One Supervising Library Assistant

In addition to the 27 full-time employee library staff, the LPL system features hourly on-call staff and is supported by 16,000 hours of volunteer help per year to assist library staff.

Funding

In the 2023-25 fiscal year, library services accounted for approximately 5 percent of the City's Municipal General Fund expenditures, which included funding for employee salaries and various other basic funding needs (City of Livermore 2023). Additionally, LPL programs are funded by the Friends of the LPL, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to support the LPL (LPL 2019).

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) is a Special District that serves Livermore with parks, trails, recreation programs, and facilities. The LARPD was created in 1947 via Livermore voters and is a completely independent governmental agency and is governed by a five-person, elected Board of Directors, each of whom serves a four-year term. LARPD's jurisdictional boundary includes 243.5 square miles bounded by Contra Costa County to the north, San Joaquin County to the east, Santa Clara County to the south, and the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin to the west.

Facilities and Services

LARPD currently manages approximately 1,949 acres of parks, trails, and open space lands (LARPD 2025). LARPD breaks down the acreage into three functional categories.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are intended to serve LARPD residents who live nearby; however, they also contribute to the overall park system available to the entire community. Ideally, everyone in the district would live within convenient walking distance (typically one-half mile) of a Neighborhood Park. This is defined as the "service radius" or "service area" of a Neighborhood Park. Neighborhood Pocket Parks and Downtown Parks are subcategories of the Neighborhood Park group because these smaller parks provide important accessible recreation opportunities to the residents in their immediate vicinity. LARPD generally does not manage these types of parks due to their small size, limited scope, and the loss of recreational use of downtown parks to commercial interests. Neighborhood Parks address daily recreation needs of the surrounding neighborhood; features of Neighborhood Parks might include playgrounds, multipurpose open turf areas, practice sports fields, picnic tables and/or picnic shelters, walking paths, attractive landscaping, and recreation features, such as tennis and basketball courts.

Community Parks

Community Parks can provide a broad range of both passive and active recreational opportunities, but their primary purpose is to provide active recreational opportunities for use by a larger segment of the population than Neighborhood Parks. Community Parks are generally considered to serve several neighborhoods within a two-mile radius. If a Community Park is

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within a residential area, it can also serve a Neighborhood Park function and, therefore, is included in the service area analysis for Neighborhood Parks. Recreation buildings or centers are important features in some Community Parks. These buildings may contain features such as gymnasiums, multipurpose rooms, classrooms, and offices for recreation staff. Other facilities often found at Community Parks might include sports fields, sports courts, amphitheaters, swim pools, restrooms, and group picnic areas. Large special events, such as concerts and festivals, might also be held in larger Community Parks. The ideal size for a community park is about 30 to 50 acres, allowing for adequate community-oriented facilities, parking, and open areas for flexible park programming.

Special-Use Facilities/Parks

Special-Use Facilities generally possess a unique character or function focused on a single type of activity. Sports fields, equestrian facilities, BMX courses, skate parks, community gardens, historic sites, or community buildings (without an associated park), and trail facilities are considered Special-Use Facilities. These parks may serve second or third uses, such as meeting spaces or alternative transportation corridors, but the primary use is prioritized with regard to design, maintenance, and function. Size requirements for special-use parks vary depending on the functions, activities, and required parking/service space. For example, many sports parks exceed 60 acres in size, but a swimming facility could be constructed on three to five acres of property.

Recreation

LARPD also provides over 50 programs and services to the community. LARPD programming caters to youth, teens, adults, and seniors. Programs range from high-intensity and impact activities, such as sports, to low-intensity and low-impact activities, such as flower arranging and baking. Other programs include camping and nature programming, swimming, and language learning. LARPD also provides a variety of services, such as curbside meals, real estate planning, senior services, and health insurance counseling. Even though the LARPD assessment determined no significant gap in programming, there is difficulty in meeting the programming needs for all user groups in the district.

Regional Parks

While there are no regional parks in the EIR Study Area, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) manages regional parks throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The two regional parks closest to the EIR Study Area are the Brushy Peak Regional Preserve to the northeast and the Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area to the southwest (EBRPD 2025a).

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The 1,979-acre Brushy Peak Regional Preserve shares a border with the city of Livermore. Brushy Peak offers hiking, biking, running, nature study, and dog walking. Visitors desiring to access the top of Brushy Peak and the northern part of the preserve are directed to contact LARPD for information on guided tours. This preserve can be accessed by the portion of the Dryer Ranch Trail that is inside the City Limit. According to the EBRPD map, Brushy Peak Regional Preserve currently has parkland areas just inside the EIR Study Area that are not publicly accessible at this time as they are designated as “parklands in planning” (EBRPD 2025b).

Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area is as close as 1.5 miles to the southwest border of EIR Study Area. This area is made up of a 266-acre park, including an 80-acre lake. Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area offers boating, picnicking, swimming, hiking, biking, running, nature study, and dog walking (EBRPD 2025c).

Park Service Standard

LARPD oversees approximately 153 acres of Neighborhood Park land, 152 acres of Community Park space, and 199 acres of Special-Use facilities/parks, totaling approximately 504 acres of parkland (LARPD 2016). The LARPD park service standard is 2 acres per 1,000 residents for each parkland category, totaling 6 acres per 1,000 residents. The LARPD is in the process of recertifying its service level goals and standards, including proposed regional targets to reflect the community’s growing need for access to open space and natural areas. The LARPD Board of Directors is expected to confirm these goals, which will also be revisited as part of the upcoming Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan update.

Table 3.15-4, *Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Service Standards*, summarizes the LARPD park service standards.

Table 3.15-4 Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Service Standards

Park Category	Service Standard	Total Acres
Neighborhood	2 acres per 1,000 residents	153
Community	2 acres per 1,000 residents	152
Special-Use	2 acres per 1,000 residents	199
Total	6 acres per 1,000 residents	504

Source: LARPD 2016.

Note: Numbers rounded from original source.

Based on the 2023 population of 87,930, LARPD is currently not meeting the established service standards of 175 acres of each parkland category, specifically for Neighborhood and Community Parks.

Funding

LARPD's General Fund is funded in primarily two ways: property taxes and earned income. Residents within the district are taxed based on the value of their property. The earned-income category relates to the various programs and services (i.e., classes, adult sports, LARPD's Camp Shelly at Lake Tahoe, youth sports, etc.) provided by the district to the public. Often, these services and programs result in a net income for the district. In the 2023-24 fiscal year, property taxes (57 percent), and earned income (43 percent) made up most of the operating income of the LARPD (LARPD 2023). The rest of the budget consists of various taxes (i.e., Special Tax 97.1, Special Assessment Tax, Residual Property Taxes, and Redevelopment Fiscal Impact).

The EBRPD is primarily funded through a combination of property taxes, special assessments that support specific park services, voter-approved bond measures for major improvements and land acquisitions, grants from State, federal, and nonprofit sources, and usage fees from parking, facility rentals, and program participation. The EBRPD's Board of Directors approves an operating budget and a five-year project and program budget annually (EBRPD 2025d). In 1992, LARPD entered into an agreement with the EBRPD in which LARPD agreed to share a portion of its property tax revenue for the purposes of EBRPD's acquisition and development of new regional parks, open space, and trails within LARPD's service area.

3.15.3 Standards for Analysis

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

Appendix G, *Environmental Checklist Form*, of the CEQA Guidelines states that the proposed Project would result in a significant impact related to public services and parks and recreational facilities if it would:

- 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 to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:
 - Fire protection
 - Police protection
 - Schools
 - Parks
 - Other public facilities
- b) 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.

- c) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

3.15.4 Project Impact Analysis

- a) **Would the project 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, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives?**

Less than Significant.

Fire Protection

Fire services in the EIR Study Area are provided by the LPPD. As described in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, the LPPD reported response times in excess to the goal of 7 minutes or less 90 percent of the time. Future development would be required to comply with Title 24 of the CCR, as outlined in Section 3.15.1, *Regulatory Setting*. The CBC, and CCR require typical fire safety requirements such as the installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; establishment of fire-resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas. The CWUIC establishes standards for development in designated FHSZ/WUI areas, including requirements for ignition-resistant construction materials and methods for exterior wildfire exposure (e.g., roofing, vents, exterior walls, windows and glazing, exterior doors, decks, and appendages), protection of underfloor areas and projections, and standards for ancillary structures. The CWUIC also includes provisions related to site access and emergency access, water supply for fire protection, fire protection planning, and long-term vegetation management. Compliance with these regulations, as applicable, would ensure future development meets the most current building and fire codes, thereby increasing safety of the buildings, and reducing the likelihood of a fire emergency, subsequently reducing demand on LPPD fire services.

Additionally, the Safety (S) Element of proposed General Plan 2045 contains the following goal and policies that are designed to reduce impacts on LPPD services and facilities and ensure that services and facilities keep pace with development:

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- **Goal S-4:** Maintain a safe environment in Livermore through effective fire prevention, emergency response, and collaboration with regional partners and the community.
 - **Policy S-4.1: Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.** Continue to participate in the Joint Powers Authority agreement governing the consolidated Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.
 - **Policy S-4.2: Coordinated Fire Protection.** Continue to cooperate with State and County fire protection agencies in fire prevention, management, and response. Request notification from Alameda County regarding development projects in the unincorporated part of Livermore that could call for fire protection services from the City.
 - **Policy S-4.3: Automatic-Aid Agreements.** Maintain an automatic-aid agreement with Alameda County to provide adequate fire protection to unincorporated parts of Livermore.
 - **Policy S-4.4: Fire Department Performance.** Continuously strive to improve performance and efficiency in the Fire Department. Monitor traffic conditions, call volume, and development in Livermore to determine if any fire stations need to be relocated, or if there is a need for a new station(s), to maintain adequate response times.
 - **Policy S-4.5: Fire Fighting Equipment and Staffing.** Continue to provide firefighting equipment, facilities, and staffing sufficient to ensure:
 - a. Response to all calls by the “first due” company in 7 minutes or less 90 percent of the time
 - b. Availability of additional companies for serious fires
 - c. Capability for handling simultaneous fires
 - d. A water system capable of sustaining prerequisite fire flow at all times
 - **Policy S-4.6: Fire Station Sites.** Locate future fire stations on sites at least 5/8 to 3/4 acre in size. Consider larger sites if a central office, multipurpose community meeting room, training center, maintenance yard, or fire prevention bureau is to be included as a part of the station.
 - **Policy S-4.7: Fire Apparatus Roadway Access.** Build and require roadways that facilitate access by firefighting apparatus.
 - **Policy S-4.8: Water Supply for Firefighting.** Maintain a reliable supply of water for firefighting purposes through long-term water supply planning and installation and maintenance of fire hydrants, storage tanks, and other necessary infrastructure. Coordinate with the California Water Service Company regarding the effects of planned water system improvements on fire flows.
 - **Policy S-4.9: Addresses and Signage.** Require visible home and street addresses and signage to assist with a timely fire response.

- **Policy S-4.10: Fire Inspections.** Regularly conduct fire inspections of commercial, industrial buildings, multifamily, and apartment complexes.

Specifically, proposed Policies S-4.4 and S-4.5 would require the City to strive to improve performance and efficiency of the LPFD by monitoring traffic conditions, call volume, and development to determine if any fire stations need to be relocated, or if there is a need for a new station(s), and provide firefighting equipment, facilities, and staffing sufficient to maintain adequate response times and meet performance standards.

As the City receives development applications for subsequent development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with existing regulations and the policies and programs of the proposed General Plan 2045, to ensure that fire protection services keep pace with new development. In addition to the proposed General Plan 2045 goal and policies identified, see Section 3.18, *Wildfire*, for a complete list of goals and policies that would minimize risk of wildfire, thereby reducing demand on LPFD fire services.

Police Protection

Future development would be served by the LPD. As described in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, the LPD staffing ratio of 1.08 sworn officers to 1,000 residents is below the national staffing average of 2.4 sworn personnel per 1,000 residents.

In addition, the Safety (S) Element of proposed General Plan 2045 contains the following goal and policies that are designed to reduce impacts on LPD services and facilities and ensure that police protection services keep pace with new development:

- **Goal S-3:** Maintain a safe environment in Livermore through enforcement of the law, prevention of crime, and the function of partnerships with the community.
 - **Policy S-3.1: Law Enforcement Coordination.** Request notification from Alameda County of development projects in the unincorporated part of Livermore that could call for law enforcement services from the City.
 - **Policy S-3.2: Police Department Staffing.** Annually review Livermore Police Department staffing levels and development trends to determine whether additional police staffing or facilities are needed.
 - **Policy S-3.3: Crime Prevention Information.** Continue to disseminate information on crime prevention to the community.
 - **Policy S-3.4: Crime Rates.** Continue to monitor Livermore's crime rates and types of crime to determine the most appropriate methods to target and reduce crime in the city.
 - **Policy S-3.5: Crime Prevention Programs.** Maintain adequate crime prevention programs to serve the full diversity of Livermore's existing population and businesses, as well as expected future growth.

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Specifically, proposed Policy S-3.2 would require annual review of the LPD staffing levels and development trends to determine whether additional police staffing or facilities are needed. A three-phase project was recommended to meet the LPD facilities and equipment deficiencies. The first phase of the project was included in the 2019-2021 Capital Improvement Program as Police Facility Expansion, Project No. 2000-28. The following phases are being addressed in the proposed CIP Budget to be completed 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 budget years (LPD 2025), and implementation of this policy would ensure that adequate police staffing and facilities are provided for.

As the City receives development applications for subsequent development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with existing regulations and the policies and programs of the proposed General Plan 2045, to ensure that police services keep pace with new development.

Schools

Future development would be served by LVJUDS and Las Positas College. As described in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, schools in the LVJUSD are operating within the existing capacity; however, there are five schools that are close to meeting school capacity.

Future development would incrementally pay for any needed facility upgrades and expansions, which, pursuant to SB 50, has been deemed sufficient to provide full and complete school facilities mitigation for the impacts of a project, regardless of whether the fees are adequate to fully fund the expansion or construction of needed facilities. Future development would also be subject to LMC Chapter 3.24, which requires dedication of land for interim school facilities, or fees in lieu of such dedication, where it is found that overcrowding exists in one or more attendance areas within the school district. LMC Chapter 3.24 requires all future residential development within the boundaries of the school district to fully mitigate any impacts on school facilities.

Furthermore, the Community Services (CS) Element of proposed General Plan 2045 contains the following goals and policies that are designed to reduce impacts on school services and facilities and ensure that school facilities keep pace with development:

- **Goal CS-1:** Facilitate education facilities that meet the needs of Livermore residents.
 - **Policy CS-1.1: School District Coordination and Facility Planning.** Coordinate with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District on an ongoing basis to share information about planned residential development and General Plan Updates. Provide the District with opportunities to review and comment on proposed projects and identify the general type of school facilities that may be needed to serve anticipated population growth.

- **Policy CS-1.2: School Facility Development.** Ensure that school facilities needed to serve new development are available in a timely manner, concurrently with demand, to the extent allowed by State law.
- **Policy CS-1.3: School Funding.** Support efforts to expand funding of the public school system, as long as it is not to the detriment of municipal funding.
- **Policy CS-1.4: School Site Location.** Work with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District to identify appropriate locations for new schools (or expand existing schools) that are near the populations they will serve; avoid noise and traffic hazards; permit access by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit; minimize impacts to surrounding residential areas; and integrate with parks and community recreation facilities wherever possible.
- **Policy CS-1.5: Student Generation Rates.** Assist the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District in tracking changes in student generation rates by reporting projected residential growth by housing type, including actively coordinating efforts to update student generation rates from all types of new housing.
- **Policy CS-1.6: Local Access to Regional Higher Education.** Maintain and expand partnerships with Las Positas College to offer job-readiness courses that align with local employment needs, while also supporting multimodal access to the campus, expanding nearby housing opportunities, and enhancing access to services and amenities that benefit students, faculty, staff, and the broader community.

Specifically, proposed Policy CS-1.1 would require coordination with LVJUSD to allow the district with opportunities to review and comment on future development projects and identify the type of school facilities that may be needed to serve the anticipated population growth.

As the City receives development applications for subsequent development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with existing regulations and the policies and programs of the proposed General Plan 2045, to ensure that school services keep pace with new development.

Parks

As discussed in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, the LARPD manages approximately 504 acres of parkland, distributed across three categories including Neighborhood Park land, Community Park space, and Special-Use facilities/parks. Each of these park categories have a park service standard of 2 acres per 1,000 residents, or a total of 6 acres per 1,000 residents. LARPD is currently not meeting the established service standards, specifically for Neighborhood and Community Parks.

Implementation of the proposed Project could introduce up to 43,820 new residents. To meet the standard of 2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents (total of 6 acres per 1,000 residents), the City would need a total of approximately 264 acres of each parkland category (approximately

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792 acres of total parkland) to serve the projected buildout population of 131,750 total residents by 2045.¹ As shown in Table 3.15-5, *Parkland at Buildout*, the City currently has approximately 504 acres of developed parkland, which means approximately 288 net new acres would be needed to meet the established park service standard.

Table 3.15-5 Parkland at Buildout

Park Category	Service Standard	Existing Parkland Acres ¹	Future Parkland Acres Needed to Achieve Standard (2045)	Surplus or Deficit Acreage
Neighborhood	2 acres per 1,000 residents	153	264	-111
Community	2 acres per 1,000 residents	152	264	-112
Special-Use	2 acres per 1,000 residents	199	264	-65
Total	6 acres per 1,000 residents	504	792	-288

Future development would be required to build new parks or pay in-lieu fees for the City to dedicate parkland elsewhere pursuant to LMC Chapter 12.60. This would result in the incremental addition of parkland as new development is proposed.

Additionally, the Open Space and Conservation (OS) Element of proposed General Plan 2045 contains the following goal and policies that are designed to reduce impacts on park services and facilities and ensure that parks and recreational facilities keep pace with new development:

- **Goal OS-5:** Provide parks, recreational programs, and facilities that are equitably distributed so that all residents can experience the physical and mental health benefits of parks and open space.
 - **Policy OS-5.1: Comprehensive Park and Recreation System.** Work with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District to provide a comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities in Livermore that are efficient, accessible to all users, well-maintained, and equitably distributed throughout the community.
 - **Policy OS-5.2: Park and Trail Master Plan Update.** Coordinate with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on preparing and updating the District’s Park and Trails Master Plan, including the identification of sites for future parks, trails, and recreation facilities. Ensure alignment with the Citywide Active Transportation Plan to create an integrated network of parks, trails, and corridors that support walking, biking, and other forms of non-motorized mobility.

¹ 131,750 residents/1,000 = 131.75; 2 x 131.5 = 263.5 acres

- **Policy OS-5.3: Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Park Coordination.** Coordinate with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District regarding the timing of completion of park improvements and to develop adequate neighborhood, community, and other appropriate park space and facilities in Livermore to serve foreseeable population increases.
- **Policy OS-5.4: Regional Park Development Coordination.** Coordinate with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the East Bay Regional Park District in developing adequate regional park space around Livermore to serve the existing community and foreseeable population increases in Livermore and its environs.
- **Policy OS-5.5: Future Community Park Site.** If the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District cannot identify an appropriate future community park site in the urban growth boundary, support the efforts of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District to seek a community park site outside the urban growth boundary, in accordance with the North Livermore Urban Growth Boundary Initiative.
- **Policy OS-5.6: Park Access.** Ensure all neighborhoods are within a half mile of a park, open space, or outdoor recreational area. In denser (average of 20 dwelling units per acre or greater) Specific Plan areas, such as Downtown, Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan, and Midtown Specific Plan, ensure all units are within a quarter mile of a park, open space, or outdoor recreational area.
- **Policy OS-5.7: Establish Park Service Standards.** Implement a standard of publicly owned parkland per thousand population that is consistent with Livermore Area Recreation and Park District standards.
- **Policy OS-5.8: Implement Park Service Standards.** Coordinate with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District to identify sites to maintain park service standards, prioritize new parks and park improvements in park-deficient neighborhoods, and identify funding sources for park acquisition and improvements.
- **Policy OS-5.9: Park Development Fees.** Require developers to provide land or in-lieu fees for parks, as governed by the terms of the Quimby Act.
- **Policy OS-5.10: Park Fees.** Collaborate with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on updates to the in-lieu park fee ordinance and park facility fees to ensure they reflect current needs and support the development of parks, trails, and recreational facilities.
- **Policy OS-5.11: Park and Public Facility Colocation.** Where feasible and safe, incorporate recreational facilities into sites planned for new public facilities to maximize land use efficiency, provide community benefit, and achieve park service standards.
- **Policy OS-5.12: Park Water Conservation and Shade Provision.** Provide water conservation and shade provision when designing or redesigning parks and/or advising the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on park design/redesign.

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- **Policy OS-5.13: Recreational and Cultural Facilities and Activities.** Provide a full range of recreational and cultural facilities and activities in Livermore’s park system.
- **Policy OS-5.14: Trail Access.** Continue to encourage public access to, and maintenance of, existing recreational trails in Livermore. Prioritize gap closures and trail connections to denser neighborhoods (20 dwelling units per acre [du/ac] or more) to facilitate safe and convenient nonmotorized access to parks and open space.
- **Policy OS-5.15: Creekside Recreational Opportunities.** Develop public recreational opportunities and trails along the arroyos and creeks while ensuring that increased public access is managed to protect these areas from adverse environmental impacts, such as erosion or water pollution.

Although the City’s existing parkland acreage does not meet the adopted service standard, the proposed General Plan 2045 includes policies requiring that new development provide land, in-lieu fees, and coordinated planning with LARPD to ensure that park facilities expand proportionally with population growth in a planned and coordinated manner which will avoid any significant environmental impacts. Specifically, proposed Policy OS-5.7 would require implementation of parkland standards that are consistent with the LARPD standards. Proposed Policy OS-5.9 would require developers to provide land or in-lieu fees for parks, which would help facilitate the construction of parks. Proposed Policies OS-5.8 and OS-5.10 would require coordination with LARPD to identify sites to maintain park service standards, prioritize new parks and park improvements in park-deficient neighborhoods, and identify funding sources for park acquisition and improvements and to update the in-lieu park fee ordinance and park facility fees to ensure they reflect current needs and support the development of parks, trails, and recreational facilities, which would ensure new residents have access to parks, stopping potential over usage of existing parks and recreational facilities.

As the City receives development applications for subsequent development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with existing regulations and the policies and programs of the proposed General Plan 2045, to ensure that park services keep pace with new development.

Library

As described in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, the EIR Study Area is served by LPL’s three existing library facilities (Civic Center Library, Springtown Branch Library, and Rincon Branch Library).

The Community Services (PS) Element of proposed General Plan 2045 contains the following goal and policies that are designed to reduce impacts on library services and facilities and ensure that such facilities keep pace with development:

- **Goal CS-4:** Provide library services that meet informational, cultural, and educational needs of the Livermore community.
 - **Policy CS-4.1: Library Facilities and Staffing.** Continue to maintain a comprehensive system of library facilities, services, and staffing, distributed equitably throughout the community, to help the community discover, enjoy, connect, and learn.
 - **Policy CS-4.2: Library Services and Programs.** Provide diverse and quality library services and programs to the community promoting literacy and lifelong learning.
 - **Policy CS-4.3: Library Funding.** Maintain City funding of library operations or expand funding as the City budget allows to meet the community's needs.
 - **Policy CS-4.4: Library Programming.** Provide sustainable and scalable library programming based on staffing levels available at Livermore libraries.
 - **Policy CS-4.5: School District Partnership.** Partner with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District to promote access to library materials, services, and resources in the pursuit of students' lifelong learning and academic success.

Specifically, proposed Policy CS-4.3 requires the maintenance of City funding of library operations or expansion of funding, as the City budget allows, to meet the community's needs; this funding would allow the expansion of staffing and facilities to serve future buildout, as needed.

As the City receives development applications for subsequent development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with existing regulations and the policies and programs of the proposed General Plan 2045, to ensure that library services keep pace with new development.

Summary

In summary, it is expected that new growth under the proposed Project would most likely occur incrementally over the next 20 years. The potential need for new or physically altered governmental facilities would be assessed as development occurs. Mandatory adherence to the proposed General Plan 2045 goals and policies would minimize impacts to public services and governmental facilities and ensure facilities and staffing for public services keep pace with development. Furthermore, since the proposed General Plan 2045 is a long-term planning document with no specific projects identified, the projected buildout is speculative and represents a conservative assumption for the purposes of this program-level EIR. The proposed Project is not a commitment to construct specific development projects or public service facilities. The specific location and design of future public service facilities is not known at this time because the site-specific locations and designs of future new or expanded facilities are not known. As the City proceeds with the construction or alteration of public service facilities, those projects would be reviewed for compliance with the policies and programs of the General Plan and LMC and such construction would be subject to separate project-level environmental

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review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures, if needed. Furthermore, as the City receives development applications for future development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with the policies and programs of the General Plan 2045 to ensure that other facilities keep pace with new development. Therefore, the physical effects on the environment from the construction of new or expanded facilities would be **less than significant**.

b) 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?

Less than Significant. As described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, the overall purpose of the General Plan 2045 is to create a policy framework that articulates a vision for the City’s long-term physical form and development, while preserving and enhancing the quality of life for Livermore residents, which includes recreational opportunities. Two objectives that support the vision are to preserve and improve open spaces, including open space for recreation, and to provide public services, which includes the LARPD, that support the health, welfare, and civic engagement of all members of the community. Therefore, one of the many reasons the proposed Project is being implemented is to ensure that existing recreational facilities are maintained for the residents and visitors to Livermore.

While implementation of the proposed Project would result in an increased population with an increased demand for parks and recreational facilities, buildout would occur incrementally throughout the next approximately 20 years. LMC Chapter 12.60 would require payment of pay in-lieu fees for the City to dedicate parkland elsewhere, helping to ensure that individual park and recreation facilities are not overburdened by use. Also, the EBRPD manages their own funding of which the residents of Livermore contribute, which goes to support their ongoing maintenance of EBRPD facilities.

Additionally, the same proposed General Plan 2045 goal and policies from the Open Space and Conservation (OS) Element identified under impact discussion (a) under the “Parks” subheading would also ensure adequate parks and recreational facilities are available to serve the community and keep pace with development. Specifically, proposed Policies OS-5.1 and OS-5.3 require coordination with LARPD to provide a comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities that are efficient, accessible to all users, well-maintained, and equitably distributed throughout the community and to develop adequate neighborhood, community, and other appropriate park space and facilities in Livermore to serve foreseeable population increases.

As the City receives development applications for future development, those applications will be reviewed by the City for compliance with the policies and program of the General Plan to ensure that parks and recreational facilities keep pace with new development. In addition, development consistent with proposed Project would be required to pay in-lieu fees in

accordance with LMC Chapter 12.60. Therefore, through implementation of the proposed Project, the City would continue to provide adequate parkland to ensure that the use of existing parkland or recreational facilities would not result in substantial physical deterioration. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

c) Would the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Less than significant. As stated under impact discussion (b), one of the many reasons the proposed Project is being implemented is to ensure adequate recreational facilities are provided to the residents and visitors of Livermore. As described under impact discussions (a) and (b), it is anticipated that the increase of population over the 20-year buildout horizon will require the maintenance and expansion of existing parks, as well as the construction of new parks. As previously stated, buildout would occur incrementally throughout the buildout horizon of the proposed Project.

Additionally, the same proposed General Plan 2045 goal and policies from the Open Space and Conservation (OS) Element identified under impact discussion (a) under the “Parks” subheading would also ensure adequate parks and recreational facilities to serve the community. Specifically, proposed Policies OS-5.1 and OS-5.3 require coordination with LARPD to provide a comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities that are efficient, accessible to all users, well-maintained, and equitably distributed throughout the community and to develop adequate neighborhood, community, and other appropriate park space and facilities in Livermore to serve foreseeable population increases.

The estimated timing or location of such facilities or the exact nature of these facilities are not known, so project-specific environmental impacts that would occur from their construction and operation cannot be determined at this time. However, depending on the type, size, and location of new recreational facilities, the construction or expansion of new recreational facilities would be subject to environmental review and the mitigation as needed to ensure the impacts from the construction would be less than significant. Construction or expansion of recreational facilities would require permitting and review in accordance with City standards, which would ensure that any environmental impacts are disclosed and mitigated. Therefore, the physical effects on the environment from the construction of new or expanded parks and recreational facilities would be **less than significant**.

3.15.5 Cumulative Impact Analysis

The geographic scope of the cumulative impact analysis for public services is delineated by the local service areas, i.e., the services areas for the LFD, LPD, LVJUSD, Las Positas College, LPL, LARPD, and EBRPD. Cumulative demand for each service is based on projected population and employment growth within these service areas through 2045, as reflected in the proposed General Plan 2045 and regional growth forecasts.

Would the project have a cumulative effect related to public services and recreation?

Less than Significant.

Fire Protection

As described under impact discussion (a), the LPFD provides services to the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton as well as mutual aid during State of California and federal incidents. The analysis considers growth from future development within the EIR Study Area combined with the estimated growth in the service area of the LPFD. As described under impact discussion (a), construction of additional LPFD facilities may be needed to meet reflex time goals. Future development within the LPFD service area would be required to comply with applicable City ordinances and General Plan policies and programs that address fire protection services. As the LPFD requires new equipment or staffing, the funds for such improvements would be provided through the Livermore General Fund and through shared costs with Pleasanton. Future development would be required to comply with all ordinances and policies, including those in place to ensure provision of adequate services.

Police Protection

As described under impact discussion (a), the LPD provides services to the city of Livermore. As stated in Section 3.15.2, *Existing Conditions*, outside the City Limit, police services are provided by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, and in unusual circumstances the LPD may request mutual aid from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. As described under impact discussion (a), construction of additional LPD facilities may be needed to meet staffing ratios and to provide better coverage and service. As the LPD requires new equipment or staffing, the funds for such improvements would be provided through the Livermore General Fund and through grants such as the Police Grant Fund and the Horizon Fund, when available. Future development would be required to comply with all applicable regulations, ordinances, and policies, including those in place to ensure provision of adequate services.

Schools

As described under impact discussion (a), construction of additional school facilities may be needed to meet the needs of the school services in the LVJUSD and Las Positas College service areas. As the LVJUSD requires new equipment or staffing, the funds would be provided through the State Local Control Funding Formula, property taxes, federal revenue, other state revenue, Measures J and G, and other local revenues. As new development occurs, developer impact fees pursuant to SB 50, which are only be used to finance the construction or modernization of school facilities, would be applied to fund new construction or improvements. Las Positas College, like the LVJUSD, is within Alameda County and has benefited from two County-approved measures: Measure A and Measure B, which would ensure that school facilities within the applicable service areas can accommodate future students.

Parks

As described under impact discussion (a), construction of additional parks will be needed to meet the needs of the LARPD. As described in Section 3.15.1, *Regulatory Setting*, as the LARPD requires new parks and upgrades to existing parks, the funds would be provided through the General Fund and various taxes. As new development occurs, developers would be required to pay in-lieu fees for the City to dedicate parkland elsewhere pursuant to LMC Chapter 12.60. This would result in the incremental addition of parkland to ensure the City meets their standard of parkland to residents.

Library

As described in Section 3.15.1, *Regulatory Setting*, as new libraries and/or upgrades to existing libraries within the LPL service area are needed, funds would be provided through the General Fund and in some cases the Friends of the LPL. As the LPL requires new libraries or staffing, the funds for such improvements would be provided through the Livermore General Fund and Friends of the LPL, when available. Future projects within the LPL service area would be required to comply with City ordinances and other policies that address library facilities and services, including payment of fees to provide for the provision of adequate facilities and staffing.

Recreation

The City would need to expand and construct additional parks and other recreational facilities to meet the increased demand and maintain existing service levels within the LARPD service area. Future projects within the LARPD service area would be required to comply with City ordinances and General Plan policies and programs that address provision of adequate parks and recreational facilities such as the payment of fees. Compliance with proposed General Plan 2045 goals and policies listed under impact discussion (a) and other applicable regulations would ensure the provision of adequate parklands along in the LARPD service area.

Summary

Future development would be required to undergo project review at the time of project application, and each proposed development would be assessed for impacts to fire protection services, police services, school services, library services, and park and recreation services. Construction or alteration of public service facilities would also be reviewed for compliance with the policies and programs of the General Plan and LMC of the appropriate jurisdiction, and such construction would be subject to separate project-level environmental review pursuant to CEQA, as required, to identify potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures, if needed. With adequate planning in place in both the EIR Study Area and the areas served by the service providers, the proposed Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact on public services, parks, and recreation and cumulative impacts would be **less than significant**.

3.15.6 References

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