

# **I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

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## **A. OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT**

Currently, the City of Los Altos does not have a community swim center. The project proposes to construct an outdoor community swim center for public use. The outdoor community swim center will be located within the boundary of Rosita Park and on land leased to the City of Los Altos in a 99-year land lease swap with the Los Altos Elementary School District. Rosita Park is owned by the City of Los Altos. The community swim center would include one competitive pool, one recreational pool, a water feature, and a building that is intended to contain ancillary uses, such as offices, locker rooms, and/or mechanical room.

The City will own the community swim center. In accordance with an agreement between the City and Swimmers Promoting Los Altos Aquatics, Safety, and Health (SPLASH), the funding for the design and construction of the community swim center will be the responsibility of SPLASH. Maintenance and operation of the community swim center will be the responsibility of the City.

## **B. PROJECT LOCATION**

The proposed project site is located at the west end of Rosita Avenue in the City of Los Altos. Regional and vicinity maps of the project site are Figures 1 and 2, respectively. The outdoor community swim center will be located within the boundary of Rosita Park and on land leased to the City from the Los Altos Elementary School District. The eastern side of the project site extends into the adjoining Rosita Park parking lots. A site plan of the project site is shown on Figure 3.

## **C. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

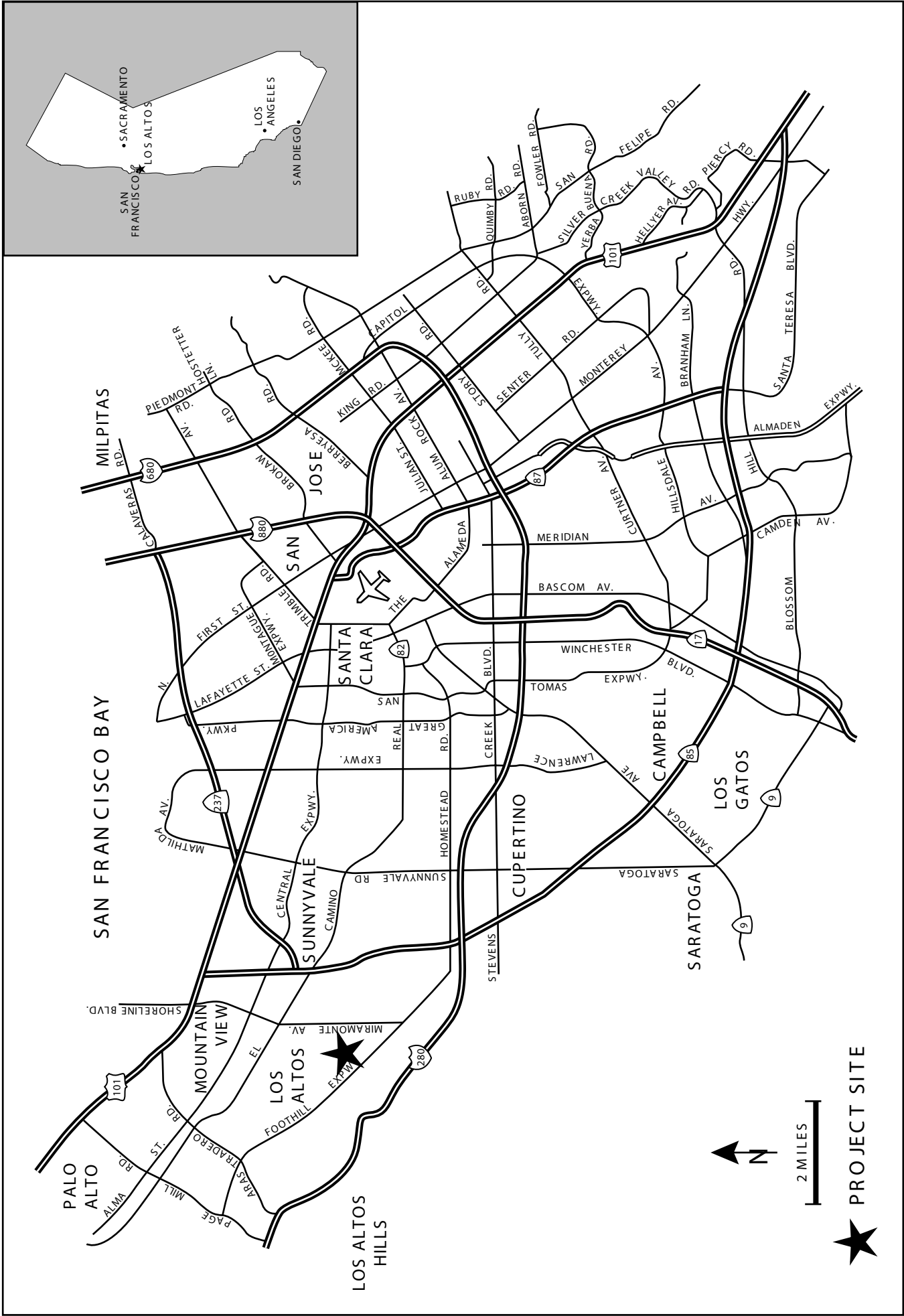
The project site is approximately 0.80 of an acre in size and is currently developed with two paved tennis courts and paved parking lots. Prior to construction of the swim center, the tennis courts and parking lots will be demolished. The gymnasium building (previously known as St. Williams Parish Hall) on the adjacent property will also be demolished<sup>1</sup>. The swim center, as it is presently proposed, will include one competitive pool, one recreational pool, a water feature, and a building that is intended to contain ancillary uses, such as offices, locker rooms, and/or a mechanical room. An approximately 20-foot wide terraced spectator area will be located along the west side of the project site. Landscaping will be planted along the perimeter of the site. A site plan of the proposed project is shown on Figure 3.

General uses of the swim center will include adult lap swim, recreational/lap swim, swimming lessons, community youth programs (e.g., Junior Lifeguarding), and water exercise. Organized swim teams will use the pools, including the Covington Youth and Los Altos Masters teams. The pools will also be available for activities such as kayaking, SCUBA diving, synchronized swimming, Special Olympics, and private use.

Based on the proposed schedule, the swim center will be open for use year-round, seven days a week. Maximum usage of the pools will occur during the summer months, with up to 1,000 people using the swim center each day from June to September. The currently proposed schedule (which should be considered a draft at this early stage) is included as Appendix A of this EIR.

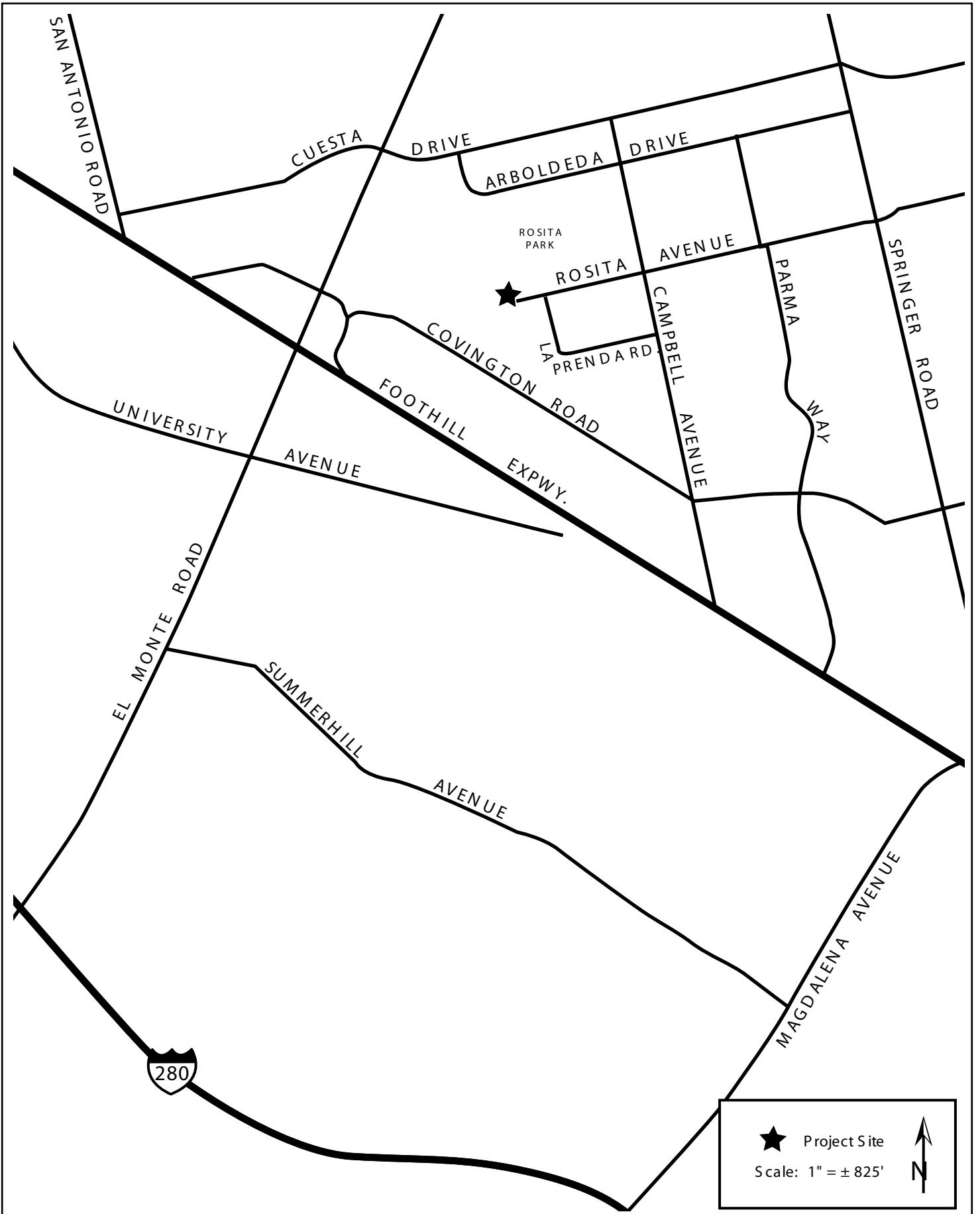
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<sup>1</sup> The demolition of St. Williams Parish Hall is included in the City's 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and is not proposed by this project.



REGIONAL MAP

FIGURE 1



VICINITY MAP

FIGURE 2

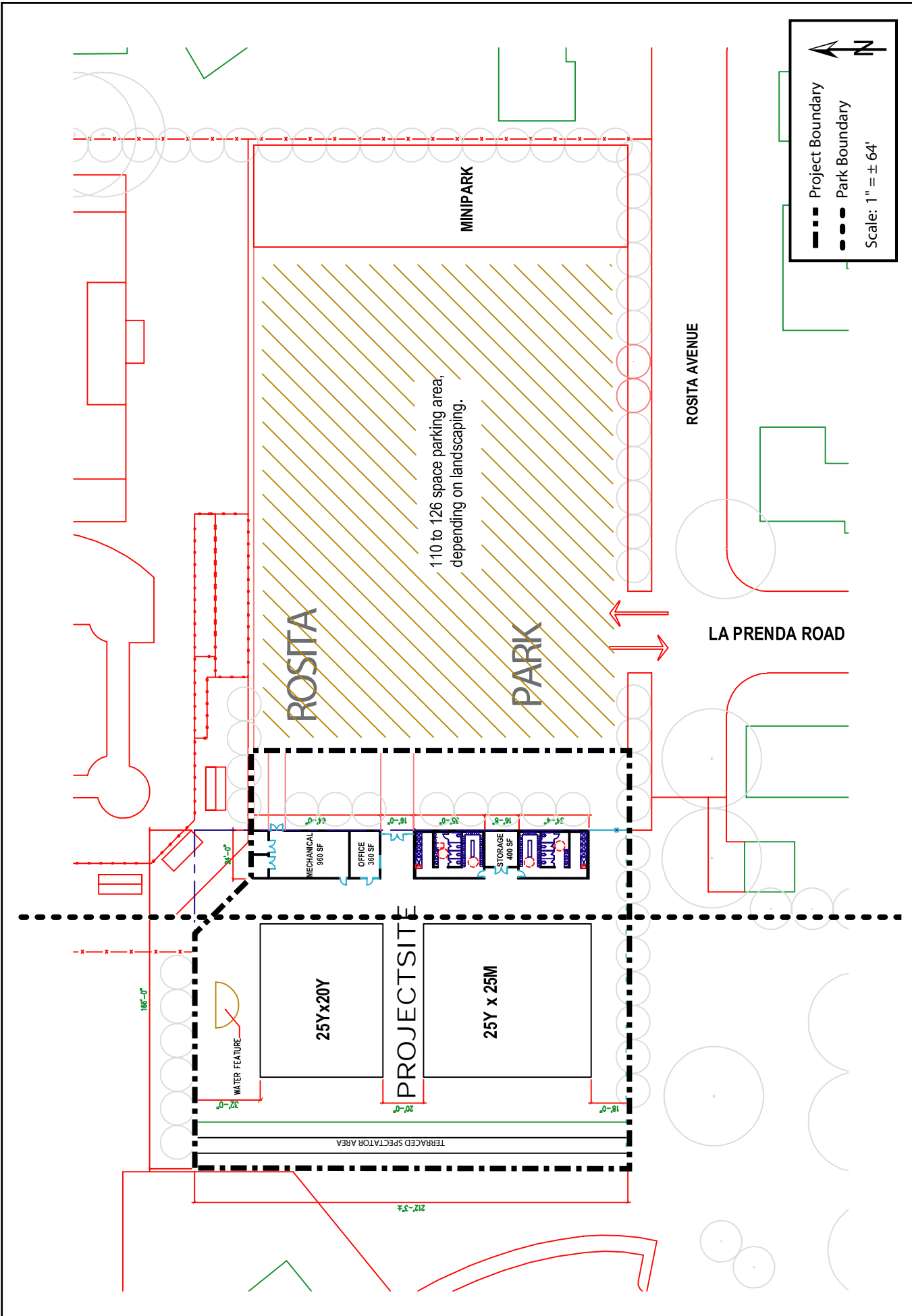


FIGURE 3

SITE PLAN

Up to six competition events per year would be held at the community swim center. Four of the competitions would be held during the summer, one would be held during the fall, and the other would most likely be held during the spring. The largest event that will be held at the community swim center will be Summer Championship. Based on the number of swimmers in the league and past attendance, approximately 585 competitors are expected to attend the Summer Championship event. The attendance at the other events will range from 213 to 400 swimmers. Table 1 below shows the anticipated schedule and attendance of competition events that will occur at the new community swim center.

<b>Table 1: Schedule of Competition Events</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Number of Swimmers</b>	<b>Time</b>
Summer Dual (largest)	320	Summer, Monday – Thursday, Evening, 3 hours maximum.
Summer Dual (average)	266	Summer, Monday – Thursday, Evening, 3 hours maximum.
Summer Dual (smallest)	213	Summer, Monday – Thursday, Evening, 3 hours maximum.
Summer Championships	573	Summer, Saturday, 8am - 2 pm.
Fall Age group Meet	400	Fall, Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 - 4:00pm
Masters Meet	350	Spring, Saturday, 7:30am - 4:00pm

The organized use of the community swim center, including special events, will be planned in coordination with the adjacent park and school uses (e.g., baseball and soccer) to assure special events at the community swim center do not conflict with special events at the adjacent uses and adequate parking is available.

Primary access to the swim center would be from the east; however, pedestrians coming to the swim center from the west may access the site from the adjacent elementary school during non-school hours. Motorists would use the proposed parking and drop off area east of the proposed swim center. A total of 110 to 126 on-site parking spaces would be available for the proposed project on the existing parking lot, depending on the amount of landscaping provided in the parking lot. To accommodate additional parking, the existing gymnasium would be demolished, and the parking lot will be expanded, repaired, and restriped.

The proposed project includes outdoor lighting that would be located throughout the swim center for the purpose of allowing the use of the swim center during the evening, and for the security and safety of the community swim center users. Low-pressure sodium lighting would be used. The lights will be fully shielded to prevent light spill over onto the adjacent properties.

A public announcement (PA) system would be used within the community swim center. The PA system would mainly be used during competition events, but may also be used for other necessary announcements during general operation of the community swim center (e.g., lost children).

## Swimming Pools

### *Competitive Pool*

The competitive pool would be located in the northwest corner of the site, and would be 75 feet long by 60 feet wide with a maximum depth of 13 feet. The pool would mainly be used for competitions, training, lap swimming, water polo, and synchronized swimming. The pool would also be used for activities such as SCUBA diving, kayaking, lifesaving training, water safety instruction, and open recreation swimming.

### *Recreational Pool*

The recreational pool would be located in the southwest corner of the site, and would be 82 feet long by 75 feet wide with a maximum depth of five feet. The pool would be primarily designed for teaching. Uses at this pool would include swim lessons, adaptive physical therapy, parent-tot and senior programs, and recreational swimming.

### *Water Feature*

The water feature would be a small circular area located along the northern side of the site. The water feature would be a supervised water play area for younger children and will only be open for use during scheduled recreational swim hours.

## Main Building

The main building would be a single-story structure with a maximum height of 15 feet and would be approximately 4,000 square feet in size. The building would be located along the eastern boundary of the site. The building will contain uses that are ancillary to the swim center operation, such as a mechanical room, bathrooms, locker rooms, office space, and storage (refer to Figure 3). The mechanical room would be located in the northeast corner of the building. The mechanical room would contain the pool pumps and would provide storage for pool equipment and chemicals.

## D. APPROVALS

The proposed project would require design approval by the Los Altos City Council, who must also approve an agreement with SPLASH, and the City's Capital Improvement Program. Non-discretionary entitlements required by the project include a City building permit, and a Santa Clara County Environmental Health Department public pool permit.

## E. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The proposed Los Altos Community Swim Center would replace Covington Pool that was located at 201 Covington Road at the Covington School site and demolished in March 2001. Covington Pool was home to the Los Altos Aquatics Program, a 46-year old program managed by the Los Altos Masters (LAM). Since the demolition of Covington Pool, swimmers in Los Altos have had to use facilities in neighboring cities because no public pool exists in Los Altos.

The proposed site was chosen through a site selection process conducted by the City of Los Altos. Various sites in the City were evaluated and ranked, based on how appropriate they would be for a public swim center. Site selection was based on the following criteria:

- €# Is the site City owned or available to the City at no cost?
- €# Does the site have reasonable access?
- €# What impact would the project location have on surrounding neighborhoods?
- €# Is there adequate parking available to serve the proposed project?
- €# Would existing park facilities be jeopardized by locating the project at the site?
- €# Is the site large enough to construct a facility that would meet present and future aquatic needs (i.e., two pools)?

The currently proposed swim center site ranked first for the following reasons:

- €# The site does not reduce the City's limited number of playing fields.
- €# The site is available to the City at no cost.
- €# A swimming pool was previously located in the immediate vicinity for many years.
- €# The site is located near the geographic center of the City.
- €# The site is one of only a limited number of sites that are large enough for a swim center that could meet the needs and desires of the various user groups.
- €# Most of the abutting land uses are designated *public/quasi-public* or *open space*.

The goals and objectives for the Los Altos Community Swim Center are as follows:

- €# Provide the City of Los Altos with a state of the art facility that replaces Covington Pool and meets or exceeds its citizens' health, fitness, safety, educational, and recreational needs.
- €# Expand the variety of aquatics programs publicly available to the City's recreation customers and introduce new programs that are not widely offered in the area.
- €# Develop a swim center and aquatics programs that are self-funding and would require no additional City or private financing.

## F. CONSISTENCY WITH RELEVANT PLANS AND POLICIES

### 1. Local Plans and Policies

#### Los Altos General Plan 2020

The City of Los Altos' General Plan is an adopted statement of goals and policies for the future character and quality of development of the community. The relevant General Plan goals and policies are shown in italics, and each is followed by a discussion of the project's consistency with that goal or policy.

#### *Open Space, Conservation, and Community Facilities*

*Goal 1*            *Preserve and expand the amount of open space in and around Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The project proposes to construct a community swim center for public use on the site of an existing recreation facility. The project will not change the amount of open space in Los Altos.

*Policy 1.1:*     *Preserve existing parks and establish new neighborhood parks to enhance neighborhood identity within Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** Although the project would result in the demolition of the existing tennis courts, the project would serve to meet the existing demand for a public swim center in the City of Los Altos.

No public swim center currently exists in the City of Los Altos and Los Altos residents use pool facilities of neighboring cities. Public tennis courts exist at other parks in Los Altos, including Marymeade Park and Montclair Park. The swim center is designed to serve a wide range of ages, and to be used for a variety of water-related recreational activities.

*Goal 2: Preserve and protect and provide for public enjoyment of natural areas (natural creek channels, topography, and vegetation), which are valuable natural resources.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would not impact any natural areas.

*Policy 2.5: Enforce local, state, and federal regulations addressing water quality and stormwater quality management.*

**Consistency:** The project would meet local, state, and federal standards for water quality and stormwater quality regulations (see discussion in **Section II. F. Hydrology and Water Quality** of this EIR..

*Goal 3: Expand recreation programs and facilities for all ages using City and non-City sites.*

**Consistency:** There are no existing community pool facilities in the City of Los Altos. The project proposes to construct a new community swim center that will serve a wide variety of ages.

*Policy 3.3: Provide and expand continuing support for children and teen facilities and programs.*

**Consistency:** The project would provide a community swim center in the City of Los Altos. The swim center would host a variety of youth programs and activities.

*Policy 3.4: Promote and provide programs and recreation facilities for seniors.*

**Consistency:** The project would provide a community swim center in the City of Los Altos, which includes specific senior programs.

*Policy 3.5: Ensure the availability of community pool facilities.*

**Consistency:** The project would provide a community swim center in the City of Los Altos, implementing this policy.

*Goal 4: Ensure proper maintenance of parks, open space, and public facilities.*

**Consistency:** The City would ensure proper maintenance of the proposed community swim center.

*Policy 4.1: Provide adequate level of maintenance for City parks, open space, and public property to ensure safety, aesthetics, and recreational enjoyment for Los Altos residents.*

**Consistency:** The City would ensure proper maintenance of the proposed community swim center.

*Goal 11: Maximize opportunities for joint public and private utilization of City, private sector, private school land and facilities, and public school district land, facilities, programs and resources to provide the most cost efficient and effective services for present and future Los Altos residents.*

**Consistency:** The project site is located on land leased to the City of Los Altos in a 99-year land lease swap with the Los Altos Elementary School District. Currently, the City does not have a swim center and the project proposes to construct a community swim center for public use.

*Policy 11.4: Encourage private sector provision of facilities and/or services.*

**Consistency:** The swim center construction would be funded by SPLASH and owned by the City of Los Altos. The City will be responsible for the operation of the swim center either through a private contractor or City resources.

### **Circulation Element**

*Roadway Plan: If proposed development projects cause traffic to exceed Level of Service standards, appropriate mitigation would be considered.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will not cause traffic to exceed Level of Service standards.

*Policy 2.11: Achieve traffic volumes and speeds on collector and local streets that are compatible with the character of the adjacent land uses, the function of the street, and bicycle and pedestrian traffic.*

**Consistency:** Rosita Avenue provides direct access to Rosita Park. Roadway volumes will increase substantially on the segment of Rosita Avenue west of Campbell Avenue, but volumes will not exceed the capacity of the roadway or cause the operation intersections in the project area to deteriorate below City thresholds. The City of Los Altos General Plan shows recreational facilities scattered throughout residential neighborhoods within the City. Therefore, recreational facilities are a compatible use with residential neighborhoods. The City would continue to ensure safe speeds are maintained in the project area and throughout the City.

*Policy 2.13: Ensure that where appropriate Los Altos residential streets maintain their pleasant, semi-rural appearance.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project does not propose any street improvements outside of the project site.

*Policy 2.16: Implement the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program and related traffic calming measures to reduce the speed and volume of traffic on local streets within the community, especially in residential areas and adjacent to schools.*

**Consistency:** There is currently no Traffic Management Program or related traffic calming measures being implemented in the project area.

*Policy 2.17: Maintain adequate emergency access for all land uses.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would not interfere with emergency access to the project area.

*Goal 5: Provide the appropriate amount of parking in residential neighborhoods and commercial areas to accommodate needs but not to encourage the use of automobile travel.*

**Consistency:** A 110 to 126-space, off-street, surface parking lot would be available to accommodate visitors to the community swim center. A parking survey completed by the project

traffic engineer indicates that during periods of heavy use in the summer and when competitive events are held (six per year), the parking supply may be exceeded and visitors will park along the streets in the project area.

*Policy 5.1: Continue to encourage off-street parking in residential areas.*

**Consistency:** A 110 to 126-space, off-street, surface parking would be available to visitors at the community swim center.

### **Natural Environment and Hazards**

*Goal 1: Minimize risks of personal injury and property damage associated with seismic activity, landslides, and other geologic hazards.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would adhere to the State of California Uniform Building Code standards, which would reduce risks of personal injury and property damage associated with potential geologic hazards.

*Policy 1.2: Avoid placement of critical facilities and high occupancy structures in areas known to be prone to ground failure during an earthquake.*

**Consistency:** The City of Los Altos is not located within a designated Alquist-Priolo Geologic Hazard zone. No known faults pass through the City of Los Altos. The project site is located in an area where the potential damage is moderately low for wood-frame, concrete and steel structures, and moderate for tilt-up concrete structures. The buildings would be built in conformance with the State of California Uniform Building Code. The potential for soil liquefaction is expected to be low at the project site.

*Policy 1.3: Require soil analysis and erosion mitigation for all development proposed on sites known to be prone to erosion or ground failure.*

**Consistency:** A geotechnical study was performed for the Covington Elementary School site, including the project site (refer to **Section II. D. Geology and Soils** of this EIR). The potential for erosion or ground failure at the project site was found to be low.

*Goal 3: Protect the community's health, safety, welfare, natural resources, and property through regulation of use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials.*

**Consistency:** The proposed community swim center would require the use of chemicals such as chlorine and muratic acid for the purpose of pool water sanitation and maintaining a proper acidity level (pH). These chemicals would be stored at the site and kept in double containment tanks. The project plans would be reviewed and approved by the Fire Department.

*Goal 5: Minimize risks of personal injury and property damage associated with human activities, such as criminal activity and air and ground transportation.*

**Consistency:** Project site plans will be reviewed by the Fire and Police Department to ensure public safety and minimize criminal activity.

*Policy 5.2: Apply design techniques and standards that are aimed at avoiding criminal activity in new development and reuse/revitalization projects.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project includes outdoor lighting that would be located throughout the swim center for the purpose of security and safety of the swim center users.

*Goal 7: Minimize the amount of noise to which the community is exposed and the amount of noise created by future development and urban activities.*

**Consistency:** The mechanical pool equipment will be enclosed and would not generate audible noise levels beyond the project site. The proposed project will be designed to minimize transmission of noise from the swim center generated by the training and event activities within the swim center. Noise levels from the project would not exceed the City's General Plan exterior noise standard for single family residences. Project-generated traffic will substantially increase noise levels along Rosita Avenue west of Campbell Avenue.

*Policy 7.1: Ensure that new development can be made compatible with the noise environment by utilizing noise/land use compatibility standards and the Noise Contours Map as a guide for future planning and development decisions.*

**Consistency:** The project site is located within the 60 CNEL noise contour in the General Plan Future Noise Contours map. The noise generated by the proposed use would be similar to the noise levels generated during games at the existing, adjacent baseball fields. The proposed project would not generate on-site noise that would exceed the exterior noise standard at nearby single family residences. Project-generated traffic will substantially increase noise levels along Rosita Avenue west of Campbell Avenue.

*Policy 7.7: Require the inclusion of design features in development and reuse/revitalization projects to reduce the impact of noise on residential development.*

**Consistency:** The proposed community swim center would be designed to minimize transmission of noise towards residences generated by activities within the swim center.

*Policy 7.9: Minimize stationary noise sources and noise emanating from construction activities.*

**Consistency:** The project proposes mitigation measures to minimize equipment and construction-related noise impacts (refer to **Section II. J. Noise**).

*Goal 8: Maintain or improve air quality in Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The project would not have significant air quality impacts (refer to **Section II. H. Air Quality**). The proposed project will include mitigation measures to minimize air quality impacts during construction.

*Policy 8.3: Interpret and implement the General Plan to be consistent with the regional Bay Area Air Quality Management Plan, as periodically updated.*

**Consistency:** The operational activities of the proposed project are consistent with the regional Clean Air Plan.

*Policy 8.4: Ensure location and design of development projects so as to conserve air quality and minimize direct and indirect emissions of air contaminants.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project site is centrally located within an established urban area and is proposed to serve the surrounding community and reduce trips made to more distant locations.

### **Infrastructure and Waste Disposal Element**

*Policy 1.4: Continue to promote water conservation.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will be designed to conserve water in all areas practicable.

*Policy 2.1: Continue to work with the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant to ensure that adequate sewage treatment capacity is available to meet the needs of development in Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be served by existing mains located on Rosita Avenue. The proposed project will not have a substantial impact on wastewater treatment (refer to **Section II. I. Utilities and Service Systems**).

*Policy 2.2: Review development proposals to ensure that if a project is approved, adequate sewage collection and treatment capacity is available to support such proposals.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will not exceed the capacity of existing sewer lines in the project area.

*Goal 3: Abate non-point source water pollution.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would incorporate pre- and post-construction Best Management Practices (BMPs), consistent with the City of Los Altos, county, and state regulations.

*Policy 3.3: Minimize the amount of impervious surfaces and directly connected impervious surfaces in areas of new development and redevelopment and where feasible maximize on-site infiltration of storm water runoff.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would not substantially change the amount of impervious surface area at the project site.

### **Community Design and Historic Resources Element**

*Goal 1: Preserve and enhance the identity and unique character of Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** Currently, Los Altos residents use pool facilities in neighboring cities. The project proposes to construct a community swim center in the City of Los Altos for use primarily by Los Altos residents.

*Policy 1.1: Preserve trees, especially heritage and landmark trees, and trees that protect privacy in residential neighborhoods.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will preserve the existing trees on the project site to the greatest extent feasible; however, the project may result in the removal of up to 24 trees on and adjacent to the project site.

*Policy 1.2: Encourage the addition of a variety of trees and landscaping to enhance streetscape and slow traffic.*

**Consistency:** Landscaping would be included around the perimeter of the project site.

*Policy 1.4: Promote pride in community and excellence in design in conjunction with attention to and compatibility with existing residential and commercial environments.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be designed to blend with the existing building style of the surrounding neighborhood and would be subject to the City of Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines

*Policy 1.6: Continue to provide for site planning and architectural design review within the City, with a focus on mass, scale, character, and materials.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be designed to blend with the existing building style of the surrounding neighborhood and would be subject to the City of Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines

*Policy 1.8: Consider neighborhood desires regarding the character of future development through the establishment of development or design regulations.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be designed to blend with the existing building style of the surrounding neighborhood and would be subject to the City of Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines

*Policy 1.9: Promote diverse opportunities for public gathering and celebrations that foster a feeling of community.*

**Consistency:** The general use of the proposed swim center includes adult lap swim, recreational swim/recreational lap swimming, swimming lessons, community youth programs, and water exercise. Special Olympics, private parties, synchronized swimming classes, and other activities sponsored by various groups and organizations in the community would also take place at the proposed community swim center.

*Policy 6.4: Preserve archaeological artifacts and sites found in Los Altos or mitigate disturbances to them, consistent with their intrinsic value.*

**Consistency:** The general area has a low potential for containing buried or obscured historic archaeological resources. Development of this property is not anticipated to impact historic archaeological resources. However, in the event of the discovery of unanticipated prehistoric or historic era cultural materials, operations would stop within 25 feet of the find and the Public Works Director would be notified. The find would be evaluated by a professional archaeologist, and if the find is significant, treatment recommendations would be developed.

*Policy 6.5: Require an archaeological survey prior to the approval of significant development projects near creeksides or identified archaeological sites.*

**Consistency:** A cultural resources report was prepared for the project area by Basin Research Associates in August 2003. Preparation of the cultural resources report included: (1) conducting and reviewing an archival records search at the California Historical Resources Information System, Northwest Information Center (CHRIS/NWIC), CSU Sonoma, Rohnert Park; (2) a focused review of pertinent literature and maps on file at Basin Research Associates; and, (3) identifying appropriate management recommendations (refer to **Section II. C. Cultural Resources**).

## Land Use Element

*General Plan Land Use Designation: State General Plan law requires that the Land Use Element specify the maximum densities and intensities permitted within the Land Use Plan. Maximum allowable development on individual parcels of land is governed by these measures of density or intensity.*

**Consistency:** The project site is designated as *Parks and Public/Quasi-Public Facilities* (Public School Land). The proposed project would be consistent with the project site's land use designation.

*Goal 2: Plan for a compatible and harmonious arrangement of land uses by providing a mix of uses consistent with projected future social and economic conditions in Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be compatible with the adjacent land uses. The proposed community swim center would be adjacent to an existing elementary school and within an existing park. The project would provide pool facilities for Los Altos residents that currently travel to neighboring cities to use their facilities.

*Policy 2.3: Continue to conduct design review of residential and non-residential development applications to ensure compatibility with surrounding property and neighborhoods.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project would be designed to blend with the existing building style of the surrounding neighborhood and would be subject to the *City of Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines*.

## Housing Element

*Goal 2: Attract families with children to Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The project site is within a predominately residential neighborhood in Los Altos and the project site is adjacent to an elementary school. The project includes a water feature designed as a water play area for younger children. It is likely that community youth programs such as Junior Life Guarding, a youth swim team, and swim lessons would take place at the proposed community swim center.

*Policy 2.1: The City shall preserve the desirable neighborhoods, good schools, spacious yards, safe streets, and community spirit of Los Altos.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will serve the community.

*Goal 7: Maximize Los Altos' energy efficiency.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will be designed and built to be as energy efficient as practicable.

*Policy 7.1: The City shall encourage energy conservation measures to reduce energy consumption in residential, governmental, and commercial buildings.*

**Consistency:** The proposed project will be designed and built to be as energy efficient as practicable.

## **Rosita Park Master Plan**

Soon after the purchase of the Rosita Park property in November, 1996, the City prepared a conceptual Master Plan for the Rosita Park property and a portion of the adjacent Los Altos Elementary School District property. The Master Plan included replacing the existing community pool on the District property with two swimming pools, the construction of a 25,500 square-foot indoor recreation building, and a maintenance facility on the adjacent District property. The pools were represented in the Master Plan to be accessed from Covington Road. The Master Plan also included the development of playfields, parking, trails, and ancillary facilities on the Rosita Park property. The conceptual Master Plan was adopted by the City Council in January 1999. Since the adoption of the conceptual Master Plan, conditions on and adjacent to Rosita Park have changed compared to those conceptualized in the Master Plan, including the reopening of the school on the District site, demolition of structures, and field improvements on the Rosita Park property.

**Consistency:** The construction of two pools on and adjacent to Rosita Park is generally consistent with the conceptual Master Plan. Since the preparation of the Master Plan, site conditions have changed and, as a result, full access to the pools from Covington Road and the District parking lot is no longer an option. The transportation analysis for the proposed project, however, found that access from Rosita Avenue is adequate to serve the proposed project.

### **2. Regional Plans and Policies**

#### **1982 Bay Area Air Quality Plan and 2000 Clean Air Plan ABAG/BAAQMD/MTC**

The 1982 Bay Area Air Quality Plan and 2000 Clean Air Plan (2000 CAP) established regional policies and guidelines to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended through 1990. The Bay Area is a non-attainment area for ozone and PM10, since federal standards are exceeded for these pollutants.

The Bay Area 2000 Clean Air Plan was adopted in 2000. The 2000 CAP outlines measures and improvements to help the Bay Area comply with the State's ozone standard, and is the current regional strategy for improving air quality. The Plan proposes the adoption of transportation, mobile source and stationary source controls on a variety of pollutant sources to offset population growth and provide improvement in air quality. The consistency of the proposed project with this regional plan is primarily a question of the consistency with population/employment assumptions utilized in developing the Plan. The 2000 CAP was based on the City's General Plan in effect at the time the CAP was approved and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Projections 1998.

**Consistency:** The proposed project is the construction of a community swim center within parkland owned and land leased to the City of Los Altos. The proposed project is consistent with the General Plan and will not result in population growth or substantially increase job opportunities within the City. Currently, residents within the City are traveling outside of the City to meet their aquatic needs. The proposed project will provide a community swim center centrally located within the City, thereby reducing vehicle use hours. The project site is well served by transit, pedestrian, and bike facilities. In many cases, the proposed project will take vehicles off the road because the swim center will be within walking or biking distance for the users. For these reasons, the proposed project is consistent with the 2000 CAP.

## San Francisco Bay Region Water Quality Control Plan

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has developed and adopted a Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the San Francisco Bay region. The Plan is a master policy document that contains descriptions of the legal, technical, and programmatic bases of water quality regulation in the San Francisco Bay region. The Regional Board first adopted a water quality control plan in 1975 and the last major revision was adopted in 1995.

The Plan provides a program of actions designed to preserve and enhance water quality and to protect beneficial uses. It meets the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and establishes conditions related to discharges that must be met at all times.

The implementation portion of the Basin Plan includes descriptions of specific actions to be taken by local public entities and industries to comply with the policies and objectives of the Plan. These include measures for urban runoff management, agricultural wastewater management, and wetland protection. As of June 2002, the Basin Plan includes an amendment that requires the identification of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) for each water-body within the jurisdiction of the RWQCB. A TMDL defines the specified maximum amount of a pollutant that can be discharged into the water-body from all combined sources. These water-body specific targets are considered necessary by the EPA in order to attain water quality standards in an impaired watercourse.

**Consistency:** The proposed project will not increase storm water runoff volumes from the project site. Pervious surfaces on the site compared to existing conditions will remain essentially the same. Development on the site will conform to the requirements of the City of Los Altos and the countywide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regarding erosion and sedimentation control, during construction and post-construction. The project will be consistent with the Basin Plan.

### Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program

The Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP) was developed in accordance with the requirements of the 1986 San Francisco Bay Basin Water Quality Control Plan, for the purpose of reducing water pollution associated with urban storm water runoff. This program was also designed to fulfill the requirements of Section 304(1) of the Federal Clean Water Act, which mandated that the Environmental Protection Agency develop National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit application requirements for storm water runoff. The Program's Municipal NPDES storm water permit includes provisions requiring regulation of storm water discharges associated with new development and construction and development of an area-wide watershed management strategy. The permit also identifies recommended actions for the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of the San Francisco Bay Delta Estuary.

The State Water Resources Control Board implemented an NPDES general construction permit for the Santa Clara Valley. For properties of one (1) or more acres or greater, a Notice of Intent (NOI) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be prepared prior to commencement of construction. Construction activity subject to this permit includes clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground such as stockpiling, or excavation. Subsequent to implementation of the general construction permit, the San Francisco Bay RWQCB issued a Municipal Storm Water NPDES Permit to the municipalities in Santa Clara Valley, the County of Santa Clara, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) as co-permittees. The Urban Runoff Prevention Program assists the co-permittees in implementing the provisions of this permit.

In October 2001, the RWQCB approved an amendment to the NPDES Permit Number CAS 029718, Provision C.3. The amendment to Provision C.3. includes new storm water discharge requirements for new development and redevelopment. For development within the City of Los Altos, implementation of the NPDES MS4 Permit requirements will be in accordance with the City of Los Altos ordinances, policies, and other City, local, state, and federal requirements.

**Consistency:** The project site is less than one acre and, therefore, the proposed project is not subject to the NPDES permitting program. Implementation of the proposed project will follow all applicable Best Management Practices to ensure that there is no increase in runoff, erosion or sedimentation that could impact local waterways. The implementation of erosion control and storm water management practices during project construction will be in accordance with the SCVURPPP. The proposed project will not result in an impact upon the conservation and restoration of streams and riparian zones or areas of special or unique ecological significance. For these reasons, the proposed project will be consistent with the SCVURPPP.