

# SUMMARY

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## SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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 from the Los Altos Elementary School District. 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 a mechanical room.

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES

### SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES

#### Biological Resources

The proposed project may result in the removal of up to 24 trees on and adjacent to the project site. **(Significant Impact)**

All healthy, mature trees will be incorporated into the proposed project to the greatest extent feasible. Each tree removed by the proposed project on or adjacent to the project site will be replaced by one 24-inch box specimen. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

#### Cultural Resources

Archaeological resources may be discovered during construction of the proposed project. **(Significant Impact)**

In the event of the discovery of unanticipated buried prehistoric or historic era cultural materials the Director of Public Works would be notified and the find would be evaluated by a professional archaeologist. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

#### Hydrology and Water Quality

Construction activities on the project site could contaminate runoff from the project site. **(Significant Impact)**

The project would implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing the volume of runoff and pollution in runoff to the maximum extent practicable. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

## SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

## MITIGATION AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES

### Air Quality

Air quality impacts resulting from construction, particularly generation of construction dust, could affect nearby sensitive receptors. **(Significant Impact)**

The proposed project includes Bay Area Air Quality Management District dust control measures to reduce construction related impacts to a less than significant level. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

### Noise

The proposed use of the community swim center would result in sound levels that substantially exceed the 40 dBA nighttime and 50 dBA daytime limits at the nearest residences intermittently each day. **(Significant Impact)**

The project design will include a noise barrier along the south property line of the community swim center. Youth swim practice will not occur before 7:00AM unless noise levels can be controlled so as not to exceed an L50 of 40 dBA or the ambient noise level, whichever is greater. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

The project-generated traffic would cause a substantial increase in noise levels along Rosita Avenue west of Campbell Avenue. **(Significant Impact)**

There are no reasonable or feasible measures to mitigate or avoid the noise impact to adjacent residential land uses resulting from project-generated traffic along Rosita Avenue west of Campbell Avenue. **(Significant Unavoidable Impact)**

Construction activities would temporarily substantially increase noise levels in the project area. **(Significant Impact)**

The noise control program described in **Section II. K. Noise** will be included in the construction contract for the project. **(Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

### Summary of Alternatives

The identified significant unavoidable impact from the proposed project is the significant increase of noise levels along Rosita Avenue, due to traffic traveling to and from the proposed project. Alternatives required by CEQA to be considered should, therefore, be capable of avoiding or lessening this impact. This EIR discusses alternatives to the proposed project. The alternatives discussed include the “No Project”, “Reduced Scale”, and “Alternative Location”.

#### *No Project*

Under the No Project alternative, the project would remain in its current state, with two tennis courts and parking lots. The No Project alternative avoids the impacts of the proposed project. The No Project alternative would not meet any of the project objectives.

**Summary of Alternatives Cont'd**

***Alternative Location***

There are several areas within the City of Los Altos that might accommodate the proposed project. The proposed site was chosen through a site selection process conducted by the City of Los Altos Parks, Art, and Recreation Commission. Various sites in the City were evaluated and ranked based on their appropriateness for a public swim center. The following criteria were used in the site selection process:

- €# 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 other locations evaluated included the following: Grant Park, Heritage Oaks Park, Hillview Community Center, Lincoln Park, Marymeade Park, McKenzie Park, Montclair Park, Redwood Gove Nature Preserve, Shoup Park, Village Park, and the Civic Center.

Development of the proposed project at alternative locations within the City would not be possible at seven of the alternative locations, due to size constraints. Development at other identified locations that are large enough would likely result in a significant unavoidable noise impact and/or other impacts such as flooding, water quality, biological, and/or parking overflow. Placing the proposed swim center at the Civic Center would result in a significant unavoidable cultural resource impact. Therefore, no Alternative Location that was environmentally superior to the proposed project has been identified.

**Public Controversy**

An Initial Study/Negative Declaration previously prepared for the proposed project and adopted by the City of Los Altos on March 26, 2002 was appealed by the Rosita Neighborhood Coalition. The appeal argued that the project description was inadequate and that noise and transportation impacts were not properly evaluated. The case was heard before the Superior Court in County of Santa Clara County (Case Number: CV807329). On February 20, 2003, the court granted a writ of mandate that set aside the Negative Declaration.

The NOP for this EIR was circulated on August 1, 2003. A copy of the NOP and responses to the NOP are available for review at the City of Los Altos Community Development Department, located at One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California.