

## ***10. Growth-Inducing Impacts of the Proposed Project***

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Pursuant to Sections 15126(d) and 15126.2(d) of the CEQA Guidelines, this section is provided to examine ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Direct growth-inducing impacts are generally associated with the provision of urban services and the extension of infrastructure to an undeveloped area. The extension of services and facilities to an individual site can reduce development constraints for other nearby areas and can serve to induce further development in the vicinity. Indirect or secondary growth-inducing impacts consist of growth induced in the region by the additional demands for housing, employment, and goods and services associated with population increase caused by or attracted to new development.

The purpose of a general plan is to guide growth and development in a community. Accordingly, the general plan is premised on a certain amount of growth occurring. Los Angeles County, as well as the entire southern California region, has experienced dramatic growth the past two decades and this trend is expected to continue for the next two decades. The focus of the General Plan, then, is to provide a framework in which the growth can be managed and to tailor it to suit the needs of the community and surrounding area.

During the past several decades, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) region, including Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura Counties, has been one of the fastest-growing regions in the nation. Between 1950 and 1970, the population doubled in size, growing at a rate of 5 percent per year. Between 1980 and 1990, the region's population grew by more than 25 percent to 14.6 million. Between 1990 and 2000, the region's population grew by nearly 15 percent to 16.5 million.

The cumulative impacts of the general plan update will require some improvement and relocation of infrastructure and expansion of community facilities and services. Implementation of the project and the recommended mitigation measures will assist in improving the circulation of the street system in the City.

The proposed land use plan encourages redevelopment and development in specified focus areas. Development of these areas represents infill-development potential where infrastructure is already in place to serve new development. Economic development within a context of an urban infill setting would have a beneficial impact. Since the infrastructure is largely in place, secondary growth-inducing effects do not represent a significant environmental impact.

In conclusion, the General Plan Update is a response to growth within the City of Torrance as well as Los Angeles County, and the project will not significantly induce growth.

### **10.1 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES**

Implementation of the Proposed Land Use Plan would allow construction activities that will entail the commitment of nonrenewable and/or slowly renewable energy resources, human resources, and natural resources, such as lumber and other forest products, sand and gravel, asphalt, steel, copper, lead, other metals, and water. An increased commitment of social services and maintenance services (e.g., police, fire and water services) will also be required. The energy and social-services commitments will be long-term obligations, since it is impossible to return land to its original condition once it has been developed.



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As the community continues to develop, both residential and nonresidential development would require further commitment of energy resources in the form of natural gas and electricity generated by coal, hydroelectric power, or nuclear energy. Increased motor vehicle travel in the City would be accompanied by increased consumption of petroleum products. An increased commitment of social services and public maintenance services (e.g., waste disposal and treatment) would also be required. The energy, social services, and physical infrastructure maintenance commitments would be long-term obligations, since it is impossible to return the land to its original condition once it has been developed.

Since the City of Torrance is mostly developed, the commitment of undeveloped land within the City that would be developed as a result of the proposed General Plan Update would be small. However, the proposed plan would result in long-term intensification of development and some alteration to the current environment of the City of Torrance.