

### 3.2.5 Recreation

Recreational opportunities within the County of San Diego (County) are provided by local and regional parks, designated open space areas, and a wide variety of recreational facilities. Bureau of Land Management and Cleveland National Forest lands in eastern San Diego County also provide opportunities for recreation. The County Department of Parks and Recreation aids in the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of life for both residents and visitors through a comprehensive program of parkland acquisition, development, and maintenance of recreation facilities, including local and regional parks, fishing lakes, community centers, over 300 miles of regional and community trails, special use facilities, and open space preserves. Covering more than 44,000 acres, County parks and recreational facilities are maintained by County staff, volunteers, and service contracts (County of San Diego 2010). A significant impact would occur if the proposed project increases the use of parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur, or if the proposed project requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that would have an adverse effect on the environment.

#### 3.2.5.1 *Analysis of Project Effects*

##### Tier One and Tier Two

The Tier One and Tier Two commercial horse stable uses could result in an increase in equine facilities as well as related infrastructure including driveways, fences, parking lots, and accessory buildings. However, the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment would not allow or induce the development of residential uses, including but not limited to a residential subdivision, mobile home park, or construction of a single-family residence, which would in turn increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, or other recreational facilities in the vicinity, or require the construction of additional facilities.

Additionally, the project does not propose any physical or regulatory changes that would remove a restriction to or encourage population growth in an area. This includes new or extended infrastructure or public facilities; new commercial or industrial facilities; large-scale residential development; accelerated conversion of homes to commercial or multifamily use; regulatory changes including General Plan amendments encouraging population growth, specific plan amendments, zone reclassifications, or sewer or water annexations; or Local Agency Formation Commission annexation actions. Furthermore, the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment specifically excludes a horse stable or horsekeeping from being counted as evidence of commercial agriculture that could allow farm employee housing. The proposed project would not increase population, thereby increasing the use of parks or other recreational facilities or requiring the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

Therefore, the proposed project would not increase residential land uses, thereby increasing the use of parks or other recreational facilities or requiring the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. **No impacts** to recreational facilities would result from the development of Tier One and Tier Two equine facilities.

#### Tier Three and Tier Four

The proposed project would allow equine uses that fall under Tier Three with an Administrative Permit, and equine uses that fall under Tier Four would continue to require a Major Use Permit. Similar to Tier One and Tier Two equine uses, future Tier Three and Tier Four equine uses would not allow or induce the development of residential uses that would in turn increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, or other recreational facilities in the vicinity, or require the construction of additional facilities. Additionally, the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment would not allow a horse stable or horsekeeping to be counted as evidence of commercial agriculture that could allow farm employee housing. **No impacts** to recreational facilities would result from the development of Tier One and Tier Two equine uses.

#### **3.2.5.2 Cumulative Impact Analysis**

Cumulative impacts may result from an increase in the use of parks or other recreational facilities, or from the need for construction or expansion of existing recreational facilities. The geographic scope for this cumulative analysis is the San Diego region, which encompasses the entire County, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, as well as surrounding counties, and tribal and public agency lands. Some cumulative projects, such as the General Plan Update and buildout of general plans for adjacent jurisdictions, would have the potential to increase the demand for recreational facilities, which could result in deterioration of existing facilities. However, funding from new development such as in-lieu fees for parks or donation of parkland pursuant to the Quimby Act, which requires recreational facilities for new subdivisions, may offset impacts to recreational facilities. State grants and County bond sources are also available to fund park and recreational facilities in urban areas, and funding for maintenance of those facilities would be provided through property assessments and taxes.

However, cumulative projects that undergo environmental review may still have the potential to result in significant and unavoidable impacts that could combine to form a significant cumulative impact from the removal or degradation of recreational facilities in the region. Therefore, projects in the region would have the potential to result in cumulatively considerable impacts to recreational facilities.

As described in Section 3.2.5.1, the proposed project would not induce population growth or the development of residential uses that would in turn increase the use of existing neighborhood and

regional parks, or other recreational facilities in the vicinity, or require construction of additional facilities. Also, the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment specifically excludes a horse stable or horsekeeping from being counted as evidence of commercial agriculture that could allow farm employee housing. As a result, the proposed project **would not contribute to a cumulative impact** relative to recreational facilities.

#### **3.2.5.3**     *Mitigation Measures*

The proposed project will not result in any significant impacts to recreational facilities; therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

#### **3.2.5.4**     *Conclusion*

Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant direct or cumulative impacts associated with recreational facilities. The proposed project would not induce population growth or the development of residential uses that would, in turn, increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, or other recreational facilities in the vicinity, or require the construction of additional facilities.

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