

3.2.2 Recreation

The topic of recreation was not addressed in either the 1981 or 1983 certified EIRs. The Initial Study in the NOP for the Project noted that although the previous EIRs did not address recreation, no analysis is warranted because the Project would include recreation amenities for future residents.

County Parks and Recreation Department provides parks and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors in the vicinity of the Project. The more than 40,000 acres of recreational facilities within the County include local and regional parks (active and passive), campgrounds, 300 miles of trails, fishing lakes, recreation centers and sports complexes, ecological preserves, and open space preserves. County recreational facilities in the vicinity of the Project include Wilderness Gardens Preserve, Guajome Park, Fallbrook Sports Park, Live Oak County Park, Don Dussault Park, and Rainbow Sports Park.

The General Plan recreational facilities standard is 15 acres of recreational uses per 1,000 population. New development is required to provide a portion of this requirement. The standard is 3 acres per 1,000 persons unless the unincorporated areas of the County already exceed this standard, in which case a standard of 5 acres per 1,000 persons is applied. The current estimated population for the unincorporated County area is 678,270 (County General Plan EIR 2011:2-14); therefore, the General Plan requirement would be satisfied by approximately 2,035 to 3,390 acres of parkland.

Although the County's current 40,000 plus acres of parkland far exceed the County's parkland goal, park demand is generally increased through the increasing residential population. The Project would include a maximum of 283 multi-family residences, which would increase the demand for recreational facilities. Assuming an estimated population of 2.95 people per household (SANDAG 2009), it is assumed that the project would increase population by 835. Based on the need for 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents for new development, this would lead to a demand for approximately 4.2 acres of parkland.

The Proposed Project would provide land or payment of Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) funds, as required by the County. The PLDO is the mechanism that enables the funding or dedication of local parkland in the County. The PLDO establishes several methods by which developers may satisfy their park requirements. Options include the payment of park fees, the dedication of a public park, the provision of private recreational facilities, or a combination of these methods. PLDO funds must be used for the acquisition, planning, and development of local parkland and recreation facilities.

The San Luis Rey River Park is located south of the Project site, and the Project would provide connection to this park via a proposed pathway along Pankey Road/Shearer Road that would connect to a trail identified in the San Luis Rey River Park Master Plan. The Project also would provide sidewalks and pathways along the Project's roadways, which would be used by pedestrians and bicyclists. Project detention basins and adjoining perimeter areas also may be designed as passive open space areas for residential and commercial users where appropriate. Finally, although not necessary to address recreational needs of the Project, if approved, adjacent

properties such as Campus Park would be developed with public recreational facilities (e.g., trails, trail staging area, active sports park) that could be used by future Project residents and would be accessible via Project-connecting sidewalks or pathways. The development of Palomar College also would allow Project residents to utilize the college's playing fields.

Taking all of the above into consideration, recreation demands generated by the Project would be satisfied through the inclusion of connections to adjacent recreational amenities (including connections to a future trail within the San Luis Rey River Park) and payment of PLDO fees or dedication of land that would be used for development of local parkland as needed. Recreation impacts would be **less than significant**.