5.13 - Public Services

5.13.1 - Introduction

This section addresses potential impacts to public services such as police protection, fire protection, schools, parks/recreation, courts, libraries, and hospitals resulting from implementation of the proposed General Plan and Development Code Update. Information obtained from the various service providers has been used to determine the existing public services setting within the Planning Area.

5.13.2 - Environmental Setting

Study Area for Project Impacts

The study area for project impacts regarding public services is the City of Fresno Planning Area because potential development under the City of Fresno General Plan and Development Code Update is limited to areas within the Planning Area.

Study Area for Cumulative Impacts

The study area for the analysis of cumulative public services impacts is the area served by the service provider. Some of the service such as police protection and parks/recreation are provided within the Planning Area. In addition, there are some service providers that provide services beyond the Planning Area. These include fire protection, schools, and other public facilities such as courts, libraries, and hospitals.

Police Protection

Within the Planning Area, there are numerous agencies that provide police protection services. These agencies include the City of Fresno Police Department, the Fresno County Sheriff’s Department, the California Highway Patrol, Fresno State Police Department, and Fresno City College Police Department.

City of Fresno Police Department

City of Fresno Police Department provides police protection services. The City of Fresno Police Departments provide a full range of police services, including: uniformed patrol response to calls for service, crime prevention, tactical crime enforcement (such as gang/violent crime suppression), as well as traffic enforcement/accident prevention. The Department also contains the Investigative Services Division, which investigates crimes against persons/property, collects intelligence information, and deals with vice/narcotics control and enforcement. Patrol services are divided into four policing districts. The Southwest Policing District is located south of McKinley Avenue and west of East Avenue and SR 99. The Northwest Policing District is located north of McKinley Avenue to the San Joaquin River and west of Blackstone Avenue to the western City limits. The Southeast Policing District is located south of Ashland Avenue (east of Clovis Avenue), south of McKinley Avenue between East Avenue and Clovis Avenue, east of SR 99 south of Church Avenue to the
The Northeast Policing District is north of McKinley Avenue to the San Joaquin River and east of Blackstone Avenue to the City of Clovis.

The Fresno Police Department (FPD) operates five police stations within the City, listed below:

- Headquarters: 2323 Mariposa Mall, Fresno CA 93721
- Southwest: 1211 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93706
- Southeast: 1617 S. Cedar Ave., Fresno, CA 93702
- Northeast: 1450 E. Teague, Fresno, CA 93720
- Northwest: 3781 N. Hughes Ave., Fresno, CA 93705

The Fresno Police Department also operates Specialized Units and Services that support the Department. These units and services include Traffic, Skywatch (aerial support), Mounted Patrol, K-9 Units, Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) and Specialized Weapons and Tactics (SWAT); and are maintained within the Patrol, Support and Investigations Divisions.

**Fresno County Sheriff’s Department**

The Fresno County Sheriff’s Department provides law enforcement/crime prevention to the unincorporated portions of the metropolitan area and Fresno County. These unincorporated communities include Calwa, Malaga, Mayfair, Sunnyside, Fig Garden, and Tarpey. The Planning Area is located within Patrol Area 2 of the County of Fresno Sheriff’s Department. Area 2 extends from the San Joaquin River south to American Avenue and from McCall Avenue west to Chateau Fresno which is immediately west of the Planning Area. The Area 2 Sheriff’s Department office is located at 5717 E. Shields Avenue, which is located in the southeast portion of the Planning Area.

**Other Law Enforcement Agencies**

Other law enforcement services that are provided within the Planning Area include the California Highway Patrol, Fresno State Police Department, and Fresno City College Police Department. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) provides law enforcement services with relation to the State highway system and assists the City of Fresno by providing enforcement within the City under special programs. The CHP offices that serve the Planning Area include the CHP Central Division office located at 5179 North Gates Avenue, which is located in the northwest portion of the Planning Area and the CHP Area office located at 1382 West Olive Avenue, which is also located in the northwest portion of the Planning Area. The Division office oversees the Area offices that are located throughout the San Joaquin Valley. The Fresno State Police Department provides safety and security for students, staff, faculty, and visitors of the campus community 24 hours a day and 7 days a week and their authority extends one mile beyond the University’s boundary. The campus of the California State University at Fresno is located in the northeast portion of the Planning Area. The Fresno City College Police Department serves the school campus community that is located north of Downtown Fresno. They provide a full range of police-related services including immediate response to all medical and fire emergencies.
Fire Protection

City of Fresno Fire Department

The City of Fresno Fire Department offers the following services within the City of Fresno’s city limits: fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous material mitigation, rescue, and emergency medical services. The City has instant aid agreements with surrounding agencies and districts within Fresno County whereby the nearest fire station responds to an emergency regardless of the jurisdiction within which it is located. These agreements, in addition to the City of Fresno’s own resources, provide a high quality of fire suppression and emergency medical care services. Emergency medical service is provided to all city residents by the Fire Department, however, emergency transport is provided by private carriers (such as private ambulance companies).

The City of Fresno Fire Department employs 304 uniformed firefighters and serves a population of more than 550,000 in the City of Fresno, the North Central Fire Protection District and the Fig Garden Fire Protection District (over 325 square miles) with 24 fire stations, including the Airport Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) station (19 of which are located in the City of Fresno). The companies are divided into three battalions: two for the City and one for the North Central Fire Protection District, each supervised by a battalion chief. Daily staffing consists of 66 firefighters and one 24-hour arson investigator.

The Fire Department recently merged operational services with two other county departments and now has 19 fires stations within the City that serve a 336 square mile area. The Fire Department also has hazardous materials, swift water rescue, and heavy rescue apparatus. The Department’s target response time is four minutes from the time the station receives notification of an emergency. In 2010, the City of Fresno had a staffing level of 0.6 firefighters per 1,000 people and the state average was 0.81. In addition to responding to calls, the Fire Department reviews building permits and subdivision maps to ensure proper location and access to fire suppression equipment. Additionally, the Department conducts annual business safety inspections. The City requires that all new residential development be within a 3-mile “running distance” of a fire station. Table 5.13-1 provides Fire Department statistics from 1980 to 2011.

Table 5.13-1: City of Fresno Fire Department Statistics 1980-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firefighters</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls for Service</td>
<td>15,887</td>
<td>28,780</td>
<td>23,792</td>
<td>41,034</td>
<td>30,001</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Fighters per 1,000 Residents</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Daily Staffing</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engines</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trucks</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NA – Information not available
Source: City of Fresno General Plan Map Atlas, 2011.
City of Fresno Fire Hazards

Although the City of Fresno is proximate to high and very high fire hazard designated areas, the City itself is largely categorized as little or no threat or moderate fire hazard, which is largely attributed to paved areas. Some small areas along the San Joaquin River Bluff in the northern portion of the City of Fresno are prone to wildfire due to the relatively steep terrain and vegetation and are classified as having a high fire hazard.

North Central and Fresno County Fire Protection Districts

The North Central Fire Protection District serves approximately 240 square miles and includes several fire stations, none of which are located within the Planning Area. There are three fire stations (Station No. 21, 22, and 23) that were part of a merger between the City of Fresno Fire Department and the North Central Fire Protection District. These stations are located west of the Planning Area. The Fresno County Fire Protection District encompasses approximately 3,800 square miles and contains 19-staffed stations. There is one station (Station 87) located in the southern portion of the Planning Area. An additional station (Station 89) is located south of the Planning Area and is currently providing service to residents and businesses within the unincorporated areas in the southern portion of the Planning Area. The Fig Garden Fire Protection District is a division of the Fresno County Fire Protection District. Station 20 was part of a merger between the City of Fresno Fire Department and the Fig Garden Fire Protection District. This station is located within the unincorporated area of Fig Garden within the Planning Area.

Table 5.13-2 shows the 24 fire stations operated by the Fresno Fire Department. There are 21 fire stations (not including Fire Stations 21, 22, and 23) that are located within the Planning Area.

Table 5.13-2: Existing City of Fresno Fire Stations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station No.</th>
<th>Address (Fresno)</th>
<th>Equipment/Personnel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1264 North Jackson</td>
<td>Engine No. 1 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Truck No. 1 - The truck is operated by a crew of four. Hazmat No. 1 - Staffed by a member of Truck No. 1’s crew. Battalion No. 1 - 1998 Ford Expedition command vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7114 North West</td>
<td>Engine No. 2 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Water Tender No. 2 - The water tender holds 2,000 gallons of water and is staffed by a crewmember from engine 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1406 Fresno Street</td>
<td>The block occupied by Station No. 3 is also home to the Fresno Fire Department’s Training Section and Drill Tower, as well as the Repair and Maintenance section that are responsible for maintaining fire department apparatus. Engine No. 3 - The engine is operated by a crew of four. Truck No. 3 - The truck is operated by a crew of four. Water Tender No. 3 - The water tender holds 3,000 gallons of water and is staffed by a firefighter from Station 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3065 East Iowa</td>
<td>Engine No. 4 - The engine is operated by a crew of four.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3131 North Fresno</td>
<td>Engine No. 5 - The engine is operated by a crew of four.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station No.</td>
<td>Address (Fresno)</td>
<td>Equipment/Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4343 East Gettysburg</td>
<td>Engine No. 6 - The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2571 South Cherry</td>
<td>Engine No. 7 - The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1428 South Cedar</td>
<td>Engine No. 8 - The engine is operated by a crew of four. Brush Rig No.8- Staffed by the crew of engine 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2340 North Vagedes</td>
<td>Engine No. 9 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Truck No. 9 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Battalion 2- 2001 Ford.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5545 Air Terminal</td>
<td>Engine No. 10 - The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>5544 North Fresno</td>
<td>Engine No. 11 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Truck No. 11 - The engine is operated by a crew of four. Rescue No. 211- The rescue truck is staffed by a firefighter engineer from the truck crew.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2874 West Acacia</td>
<td>Engine No. 12 - The engine is operated by a crew of four.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>815 East Nees</td>
<td>Engine No. 13 - The engine is operated by a crew of three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>6239 North Polk</td>
<td>Engine No. 14 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Truck No. 14 - The engine is operated by a crew of three. Brush rig No. 14- The brush rig is operated by the truck crew.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5630 E Park Circle</td>
<td>Engine No. 15 – The engine is operated by a crew of three. OES No. 314- This engine is used for &quot;The Office of Emergency Services&quot; or as a reserve engine when needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>4170 N. Brix</td>
<td>Engine No. 16 - The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>10512 N Maple</td>
<td>Engine No. 17 – 2005 Smeal, which pumps 1,500 gallons of water per minute, and is equipped with a 730-gallon water tank. The engine is operated by a crew of three. Patrol Rig No. 17- Used for vegetation fires and is staffed by the engine crew.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>5938 N La Ventana</td>
<td>Engine No. 18 – The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>3175 W. Belmont</td>
<td>Engine No. 19 – The engine is operated by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>4537 N. Wishon (Fig Garden Fire Protection District)</td>
<td>Engine No. 20 – The engine is operated by a crew of three. Battalion No.3- 2006 Chevrolet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>15850 W. Kearney Blvd. (North Central Fire Protection District)</td>
<td>Engine No. 21- Staffed by a crew of three. Truck No. 21- Staffed by a crew of three Water Tender No. 21- The water tender holds 3,000 gallons of water and is staffed by a firefighter from station 21.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>806 S. Garfield (North Central Fire Protection District)</td>
<td>Engine No. 22- Staffed by a crew of three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>4555 N. Biola Ave (North Central Fire</td>
<td>Engine No. 23- Staffed by a crew of three Water Tender No. 23- The water tender holds 3,000 gallons of water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Station No. | Address (Fresno) | Equipment/Personnel
--- | --- | ---
Protection District | and is staffed by a firefighter from the engine.
24 | Airport Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) station (location: City of Fresno Yosemite International Airport) | The ARFF Team consists of 19 Fire Control 5 certified team members. Services provided include, but not limited to: ARFF response, Hazardous Materials incidents, first responder calls, and all structure fires within the airport boundaries. The department maintains a minimum daily staffing of two ARFF members assigned to the ARFF Station.

Note:
1 http://www.fresno.gov/Government/DepartmentDirectory/Fire/FireSuppression/Aircraft+Rescue+and+Fire+Fighting.htm

Schools
The Planning Area includes various schools that provide primary, secondary, and post-secondary education.

Primary and Secondary Schools (Kindergarten through Twelfth Grades)
The Planning Area is served by a number of school districts that provide kindergarten through twelfth grade classes because school boundaries do not mirror the City of Fresno Planning Area. The table below shows the current enrollment capacities of each school district, including enrollment for private and charter schools. As shown in the Table 5.13-3 below, combined, the school districts can serve up to 163,325 school aged children in kindergarten through twelfth grades.

Table 5.13-3: Capacity and Enrollment Figures for K-12 School in the City of Fresno Planning Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Elementary School</th>
<th>Middle School</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Various Grades</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School District 1</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>Current</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>Current</td>
<td>Max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Unified</td>
<td>41,210</td>
<td>38,406</td>
<td>11,271</td>
<td>9,860</td>
<td>20,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Unified (Charter)</td>
<td>(all grades and school districts combined)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clovis Unified</td>
<td>23,015</td>
<td>20,160</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>6,084</td>
<td>15,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Unified</td>
<td>10,736</td>
<td>8,060</td>
<td>2,670</td>
<td>2,277</td>
<td>5,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanger Unified</td>
<td>5,519</td>
<td>5,670</td>
<td>1,755</td>
<td>1,684</td>
<td>2,673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Fresno Elementary School District 2</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>(all grades and school districts combined)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Charter</td>
<td>(all grades and school districts combined)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td>Elementary School</td>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>High School</td>
<td>Various Grades</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Eastern Sierra; Mendota USD; Parlier USD; Sierra USD; West Fresno Charter)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>81,224</td>
<td>73,061</td>
<td>23,746</td>
<td>44,941</td>
<td>14,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,626</td>
<td>164,388</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>140,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. Given that school boundaries do not mirror city boundaries, students may attend schools outside of the city while students that live outside of the city may attend schools within the city. Enrollment figures are as of 2011.
2. In July 2011, West Fresno Elementary School District and Washington Unified School District merged. Enrollment figures for the Washington Union High School and American Union (grades K-8) were obtained from the 2010-2011 School Accountability Report Cards located at website: http://www.wusd.ws/pages/Washington_United_School_Dist/Files_Manager/Files/School_Accountability_Report_C/School_Sites. The maximum capacity at the high school is not known and therefore was assumed to be the same as the current enrollment.

Source: City of Fresno, 2011; General Plan Map Atlas and updated by FirstCarbon Solutions, 2014.

Each of the school districts is described below. The Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) is a consolidated district that contains seven sub-districts. FUSD is the fourth largest school district in California and has an enrollment of 72,357 students dispersed among 95 existing schools. A District Master Plan was recently completed which will aid in alleviating overcrowding in the schools. The Master Plan calls for a new high school in the southern edge of the City of Fresno, which would accommodate new growth and lessen overcrowding at existing high schools in the City.

Clovis Unified School District (CUSD) serves northeast and north-central Fresno and is the city’s second largest school district (with a maximum capacity of 49,915 students). Approximately 40 percent of students in CUSD are residents of Fresno. This school district predominantly serves Fresno’s new growth areas. The District is in the early planning stages of its newest educational complex in the northern portion of South East Growth Area.

Central Unified School District (Central USD) serves the northwestern and west area (i.e., west of State Route 99) as well as a large rural area west of the City. Over the past decade, this school district has had to construct new schools due to the population increase in the district’s service area.

Sanger Unified School District (Sanger USD) serves the southeast portion of the city. High school students living in Fresno and within the Sanger USD currently attend Sanger High School, which is located several miles east of Fresno. The southwest portion of the city was served by the West Fresno School District, which contains an elementary school and a middle school, however in July 2011, West Fresno USD merged into and became a part of the Washington Unified School District.

**Post-Secondary Schools**

Post-secondary schools are those schools that provide education after twelfth grade. This education is also referred to as higher education. The schools that provide higher education within the Planning Area include California State University, Fresno (Fresno State University), Fresno Pacific...
University, Fresno City College, Willow International Community College Center, and a wide variety of vocational and technical schools that prepare students for the workplace.

Fresno State University is part of the California State University system and enrolled more than 21,500 students in the 2011-2012 academic year. The school offers a wide range of advanced undergraduate and graduate degrees at its 388-acre main campus and its 1,011-acre University Farm are located at the northeast edge of the City.

Fresno Pacific University is a private college offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees. The Main Fresno campus had an enrollment of 3,603 students in the fall of 2011.

Fresno City College is a comprehensive learning institution providing a curriculum ranging from general education coursework for students intending to transfer to an undergraduate university to vocational programs. Current enrollment at Fresno City College is approximately 23,900 students.

Willow International Community College Center is part of the State Center Community College District. It offers programs in general education to student who intend to transfer to a four-year institution or obtain a Certificate or Associates Degree. Willow International is one of three State Center Community College District educational centers, and all three combined enroll approximately 8,300 students.

Parks/Recreation
The city’s park system contains several classes of park space, including trails, regional parks, neighborhood parks, educational facilities, dual-use ponding basins, etc. The City of Fresno has 4,019 acres of existing open space. Over half of the existing open space (including private golf courses and parks in gated communities) is not accessible to the general public, although it fulfills recreational needs for those who have access. The City contains over 4,000 acres of open space and maintains approximately 1,617 acres of open space and nearly 230,000 square feet of building space dedicated to recreational/educational purposes. Additionally, the City maintains 9 community pools, 4 splash parks, 518 picnic tables, 153 barbeque grills, 3 amphitheaters, 54 baseball/softball fields, 53 football/soccer fields, 40 basketball courts, 11 volleyball courts, 40 tennis courts, 7 skate parks, and 5 dog parks.

Table 5.13-4 below identifies the various parks and community facilities that are maintained by the City of Fresno. As shown in Table 5.13-4, regional parks comprise a majority of the City’s parkland, followed by neighborhood parks.

Table 5.13-4: City of Fresno Maintained Parks and Community Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Number of Sites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dual Use Ponding Basin (maintenance only)</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community center</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City owned golf course</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The park system also provides 34 acres off-road trails for pedestrians and cyclists. Schools augment the City’s park system because they provide additional opportunities through joint use agreements. However, not all schools are open during non-school hours, which limit their ability to be used for recreational purposes. Table 5.13-5 below shows the acreage of all open space in the City. As depicted in this table, ponding basins comprise a majority of the open space in the City, followed by parks. Ponding basins account for 1,273 acres within the City and are owned by the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (FMFCD). All basins serve as ponding basins for storm drainage, while some also are utilized as year-round groundwater recharge basins. Whenever feasible, FMFCD and the City partner to develop parks at basins with play equipment and sports fields.

### Table 5.13-5: City of Fresno Existing Open Space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use</td>
<td>887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponding Basins</td>
<td>1,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Approach/Clear Zone</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Open Space</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Courses</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canals</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake/Water feature</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: City of Fresno, 2011- General Plan Map Atlas
In addition to the open space within the City of Fresno, there are various types of open space within the unincorporated areas of the Planning Area. The Planning Area includes 7,742 acres of existing open space as depicted in Table 5.13-6. As shown, the majority of the open space is for multiple uses followed by ponding basins, golf courses, and parks.

Table 5.13-6: City of Fresno Planning Area Existing Open Space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use</td>
<td>3,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponding Basins</td>
<td>1,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Approach/Clear Zone</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Open Space</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Courses</td>
<td>1,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>1,625(^1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canals/Open Space</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake/Water feature</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Space/Gravel Mining</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,742</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)Includes 541 acres of ponding basins developed as park space maintained by the City. Total acreage does not include the double-counting.

Currently, the Planning Area includes approximately 545,000 people. Based on the existing City of Fresno parks standard that includes 3 acres of parkland to be provided per 1,000 residents, approximately 1,635 acres of parkland would need to be provided to currently meet this standard. As shown above, there are currently 1,625 acres of parkland within the Planning Area. Based on the current population within the Planning Area, approximately 3.28 acres of parkland is provided per 1,000 residents, which is just over the City’s current park standard. This includes ponding basins with park space maintained by the City of Fresno.

**Courts**

State and federal courts are provided in the City of Fresno Planning Area. The State courts include the Fresno County Superior Court (trial court) and the Appellate Court. The federal court is the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, Eastern Division.
State Courts

Fresno County Superior Court
There are three Superior Court locations within the Planning Area and one additional court located immediately south of the Planning Area (City of Fresno, 2014). The locations as well as the types of cases heard at each facility are provided below.

The Fresno Superior Courthouse Downtown Location is at 1100 Van Ness Avenue. The types of cases heard at the Fresno Downtown Courthouse are Criminal (Felony, Infractions, Misdemeanor); Domestic Violence; Drug Court; Juvenile Dependency Division (Juvenile Dependency Hearings) and Traffic: (Infractions and Misdemeanors).

The B. F. Sisk Courthouse is located at 1130 O Street. The B.F. Sisk Courthouse primarily is used for non-criminal cases such as civil cases, conservatorship, family court services, family law, probate, restraining orders, small claims, and unlawful detainer cases.

The “M” Street Courthouse is located at 2317 Tuolumne Street. The types of cases heard at the “M” Street Courthouse include Criminal Infractions and Traffic Infractions.

In addition to the three courthouses identified above, there is a Juvenile Delinquency Court immediately south of the Planning Area. This court is located at 333 East American Avenue. The types of cases heard at this facility include misdemeanor criminal, felony criminal, drugs, traffic, and school attendance.

5th District Court of Appeals
The State of California 5th District Court of Appeals is located in the City of Fresno at 2424 Ventura Street. The Fifth Appellate District covers nine counties located in central California: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne. Except for death penalty cases, the Courts of Appeal have appellate jurisdiction when trial courts have original jurisdiction and in other causes prescribed by statute. An appeal is filed in the trial court and reviewed in the appellate district where the trial court is located.

Federal Court System
The U.S. District Court is located in the City of Fresno at 2500 Tulare Street. This District Court is the Fresno Division of the Eastern District of California. The Fresno Division hears civil, criminal, and miscellaneous actions arising in the counties of Calaveras, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne. The Fresno Divisional Office is currently staffed with two district court judges, two senior district court judges, and three magistrate judges (United States District Court, 2014).

Libraries
The Fresno County Public Library provides collections and services through its Central Resource Library and 34 branches. The County Library is part of the San Joaquin Valley Library System, which is a cooperative network of ten public library jurisdictions in the counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare. County of Fresno library system has the Central Library,
three regional libraries, six branch libraries, and two other libraries as shown in Table 5.13-7 within the City of Fresno Planning Area.

**Table 5.13-7: Libraries Currently in the Planning Area**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woodward Park Regional Library</td>
<td>944 East Perrin Avenue, Fresno, CA 93720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinedale Branch Library</td>
<td>7170 North San Pablo Avenue, Pinedale, CA 93650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fig Garden Regional Library</td>
<td>3071 West Bullard Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politi Branch Library</td>
<td>5771 North First Street, Fresno, CA 93710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillis Branch Library</td>
<td>629 West Dakota Avenue Fresno, CA 93705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar-Clinton Branch Library</td>
<td>4150 East Clinton Avenue Fresno, CA 93703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking Book Library For The Blind</td>
<td>Ted C. Wills Community Center 770 N San Pablo Avenue, Fresno CA 93728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Library</td>
<td>2420 Mariposa Street Fresno, CA 93721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside Regional Library</td>
<td>5566 East Kings Canyon Road Fresno, CA 93727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosqueda Branch Library</td>
<td>4670 East Butler Avenue Fresno, CA 93702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Fresno Branch Library</td>
<td>188 E. California Ave Fresno, CA 93706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Resource Center Library</td>
<td>2025 E. Dakota Fresno, CA 93726</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Hospitals**

There are nine hospitals that are located within the City of Fresno Planning Area. These hospitals provide a variety of services. There are four hospitals that provide emergency services and one hospital that provides trauma service. The location, services offered, and capacity of each of the hospitals are provided in Table 5.13-8.
Table 5.13-8: Hospitals in the City of Fresno Planning Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Services Offered</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Surgical Hospital¹</td>
<td>6125 North Fresno Street</td>
<td>Inpatient and Outpatient Surgery</td>
<td>31 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Heart and Surgical Hospital²</td>
<td>15 East Audubon Drive</td>
<td>Acute Care, Emergency Services</td>
<td>57 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Agnes Medical Center³</td>
<td>1303 Herndon Avenue</td>
<td>Acute Care, Emergency Services, Eye Center, Cancer Center</td>
<td>436 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiser Foundation Hospital – Fresno⁴</td>
<td>7300 North Fresno Street</td>
<td>Emergency Services, ICU Medical/Surgical</td>
<td>145 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Regional Medical Center⁵</td>
<td>2823 Fresno Street</td>
<td>Trauma Center, Emergency Services, Burn Center, Neuroscience Institute</td>
<td>677 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Behavioral Health Center⁶</td>
<td>7171 N. Cedar Avenue</td>
<td>Inpatient and Outpatient Services</td>
<td>61 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Subacute and Transitional Care Center⁷</td>
<td>3003 N. Mariposa Street</td>
<td>Chronic Subacute Conditions</td>
<td>106 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crestwood Psychiatric Health Facility⁸</td>
<td>153 N. U Street</td>
<td>Psychiatric Health</td>
<td>12 Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Joaquin Valley Rehabilitation Hospital⁹</td>
<td>7173 N. Sharon Avenue</td>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>40 Beds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

Source: FirstCarbon Solutions 2014

As shown above, the hospital with the greatest number of beds is the Community Regional Medical Center that is located in Downtown Fresno. The total number of beds provided within the Planning Area is approximately 1,565.
5.13.3 - Regulatory Setting

Following are the public services regulations that are applicable to the Planning Area.

Police Protection

City of Fresno

The City of Fresno includes various police protection policies as part of the 2025 Fresno General Plan.

E-24 OBJECTIVE: Provide the level of law enforcement and crime prevention services necessary to maintain a safe, secure, and stable urban living environment through a police department that is dedicated to providing professional, ethical, efficient and innovative service with integrity, consistency and pride.

E-24-c: Policy: Continue to identify and apply appropriate safety design and operational measures as conditions of development entitlement approval including but not limited to access control measures, lighting and visibility of access points and common areas, functional and secure on-site recreational and open space improvements within residential developments, and utilization of private “certified” security services.

E-24-d: Policy: Maximize communication and cooperative efforts with residents and businesses in order to identify crime problems and to optimize the effectiveness of crime prevention measures and law enforcement programs.

E-24-e: Policy: Maximize coordination between the Police Department and the Sheriff’s Department to address crime problems in neighborhoods divided by the City’s incorporated boundary and continue to explore opportunities for combining and consolidating services when it provides a means to improve the level of law enforcement provided to the community.

E-24-f: Policy: Identify and pursue measures and methods to improve law enforcement services.

- Implement a process which provides for Police Department review and approval of major events including concerts, sports contests, community celebrations, exhibitions and other events generating large attendances which will ensure that adequate event staffing is provided to maintain crowd control, traffic safety and to meet law enforcement needs on and off-site.

- Establish at least one Problem Oriented Policing (POP)/TAC office in each policing area.

- Consider utilization of alternative means of patrol and apprehension such as air support (helicopter or other aircraft), foot patrol or bicycle and horse mounted patrol.

- Maintain a long-range law enforcement budget planning program to identify revenue and expenditure trends and establish funding mechanisms (including but not limited to the consideration of assessment districts) to address revenue deficiencies.
County of Fresno 2000 General Plan

Goal PF-G: To protect life and prosperity by deterring crime and ensuring the prompt and efficient provision of law enforcement service and facility needs to meet the growing demand for police services associated with an increasing population.

Policy PF-G.1: The County shall ensure the provision of effective law enforcement services to unincorporated areas in the county.

Policy PF-G.2: The County shall strive to maintain a staffing ratio of two (2) sworn officers serving unincorporated residents per 1,000 residents served. (This count of officers includes all ranks of deputy sheriff personnel an excludes all support positions and all sworn officers serving county wide population interests such as bailiffs, and sworn officers serving contract cities and grant-specific populations).

Policy PF-G.3: The County shall identify and establish funds for acquisition of adequate sheriff facility sites in unincorporated locations of the county.

Policy PF-G.4: The County shall require development to pay its fair share of the costs for providing law enforcement facilities and equipment to maintain service standards.

Policy PF-G.5: The County shall provide law enforcement support to adequately maintain its service standards, within the County’s budgetary constraints.

Policy PF-G.6: Safe Design Features. The County shall promote the incorporation of safe design features (e.g. lighting, adequate view from streets into parks) into new development by providing Sheriff Department review of development proposals.

Fire Protection

City of Fresno

The City of Fresno includes various fire protection policies as part of the 2025 Fresno General Plan.

E-25 OBJECTIVE: Ensure that fire protection, emergency medical and all emergency services are provided in an adequate, efficient and cost effective manner.

E-26 OBJECTIVE: Ensure that the Fire Department’s staffing and equipment resources are sufficient to implement all requests for fire and emergency service from the citizens of Fresno.

E-26-a. Policy: Use adopted general and specific plans, the city’s GIS database, and the fire station location program to achieve optimum siting of future fire stations. For those station sites identified by the 2025 General Plan Land Use and Circulation Map (Exhibit 4) but not yet acquired by the city, the underlying alternative land uses shown on Table 5 shall be applied.

The siting of any additional new station locations to serve future development such as the North and Southeast Growth Areas shall occur through the applicable community or specific plan adoption/amendment process.
E-26-b: Policy. Provide for an average response time of not more than five minutes for all emergency requests for service within the metropolitan area.

E-27-c: Policy. Continue Fire Department review of all development proposals in order to ensure the inclusion of adequate on-site and off-site fire protection provisions.

E-27-e: Policy. Continue to ensure that adequate water supplies and hydrants are available for fire suppression within all existing urban areas as well as newly developing areas.

E-27-f: Policy: Investigate and implement methods to generate fees to off-set the ongoing personnel and maintenance costs of providing fire protection.

**County of Fresno 2000 General Plan**

**Goal PF-H:** To ensure the prompt and efficient provision of fire and emergency medical facility and service needs, to protect residents of and visitors to Fresno County from injury and loss of life, and to protect property from fire.

**Policy PF-H.1:** The County shall work cooperatively with local fire protection districts to ensure the provision of effective fire and emergency medical services to unincorporated areas within the county.

**Policy PF-H.2:** Prior to the approval of a development project, the County shall determine the need for fire protection services. New development in unincorporated areas of the county shall not be approved unless adequate fire protection facilities are provided.

**Policy PF-H.3:** The County shall require that new fire stations be located to achieve and maintain a service level capability consistent with services for existing land uses.

**Policy PF-H.4:** The County shall reserve adequate sites for fire and emergency medical facilities in unincorporated locations in the county.

**Policy PF-H.5:** The County shall require that new development be designed to maximize safety and minimize fire hazard risks to life and property.

**Policy PF-H.6:** The County shall limit development to very low densities in areas where emergency response times will be more than 20 minutes.

**Policy PF-H.8:** The County shall encourage local fire protection agencies in the county to maintain the following as minimum standards for average first alarm response times to emergency calls:

a) 5 minutes in urban areas;

b) 15 minutes in suburban areas; and

c) 20 minutes in rural areas.
Schools
The City and the County have the following general plan land use policies that are applicable to schools within the Planning Area.

City of Fresno
E-28 OBJECTIVE: Cooperate with and encourage all school districts within the metropolitan area to provide the educational facilities and programs necessary to meet the needs of the area’s student population.

E-28-c: Policy. The implementation of strategies by school districts to provide and efficiently utilize facilities is to be considered an important factor by the City of Fresno when contributing its resources or utilizing its legislative authority to require school fees. The city cannot impose any school impact fee (other than those mandated by law), unless the school districts clearly demonstrate an efficient utilization of facilities including, but not limited to, the following considerations:

- Construction of new or expanded permanent school site facilities.
- Interim measures such as year-round schedules.
- Use of portable classroom structures, transporting students to campuses with available student capacity and double or evening sessions.

E-28-d. Policy: The acquisition of school sites and construction of school facilities that are equal to, or greater than, the state standards for school enrollment and school site size by all school districts serving the metropolitan area is a high priority of the City of Fresno.

E-28-e. Policy: Support measures to acquire planned school sites and construct school facilities, including the assessment of additional school fees on new development, consistent with applicable state and federal laws and the following:

- development fees are determined necessary to ensure that new development contributes its equitable share of the full cost of constructing new schools.
- these development fees are uniformly applied within a school district’s boundaries.
- all reasonable and diligent efforts have been made to utilize other potentially available sources of funds.

E-29. OBJECTIVE: Plan for the location and design of schools to ensure their physical and functional compatibility with surrounding urban development and improvements, and to promote their role as the focal point of neighborhood and community activity.

County of Fresno 2000 General Plan
Policy PF-I.2: The County shall encourage school facility siting that establishes schools as focal points within the neighborhoods and community in areas with safe pedestrian and bicycle access.
Policy PF-I.4: The County shall work cooperatively with school districts in monitoring housing, population, and school enrollment trends and in planning for future school facility needs and shall assist school districts in locating appropriate sites for new schools.

Policy PF-I.6: The County strongly discourages the siting of schools in agricultural areas due to the growth-inducing potential of schools and conflicts with farming practices such as pesticide application.

Policy PF-I.8: The County and school districts should work closely to secure adequate funding for new school facilities. The County shall support the school districts’ efforts to obtain appropriate funding methods such as school impact fees.

Parks and Recreational Facilities

The City and the County have the following general plan land use policies that are applicable to parks and recreational facilities within the Planning Area.

City of Fresno

F-1. OBJECTIVE: This general plan constitutes an update of the Master Parks Plan and will be used as a programmatic framework by the City of Fresno in order to ensure sufficient park facilities and to maintain a variety of meaningful and balanced recreational programs for residents for the upcoming 20-plus year planning horizon. This Master Parks Plan incorporates objectives, policies, open space land use designations, and trail alignments adopted in the land use and transportation topics of this general plan and in community and specific plans, ordinances, and resolutions of the City of Fresno.

F-1-a. Policy: The Master Parks Plan (and any subsequent implementation plan for parks and recreation) should have the following characteristics:

- it should meet the needs of the people of Fresno and make recreation more accessible to the public.
- it will be consistent with, and integrated into, regional, community, and specific plans.
- it should be simple to apply and attainable in the planning period with existing or projected funds.
- it should ensure that the city’s parks and recreation is coordinated with other recreational opportunities, other recreation providers, and other public services (such as education and transportation).
- it should be amenable to revision as circumstances change

F-1-b. Policy: Ensure that park and recreation planning is a continuous process, with a full review and evaluation of this master plan at least every ten years in order to consider changing priorities and conditions applicable to park acquisition, development, and operation.
F-1-d. **Policy:** Provide for the continuing development of a public system to meet the community’s needs for both active and passive recreation with an adequate supply of recreational space, an appropriate mix of park types, and an equitable distribution of these facilities.

F-1-e. **Policy:** Public park types are classified as follows and are to be developed according to the standards specified.

Mini-Parks ("Pocket Parks"). Small parks, generally less than two acres, located near higher-density development. These parks fill a void when larger parks are not feasible and when adequate open space and recreational opportunities within nearby residential development projects are not provided. As a general rule, these small parks are best suited to providing landscaped, shaded areas for non-programmed passive enjoyment. However, flexibility should be allowed in planning mini-park facilities, to meet specialized and changing needs of neighborhoods (for instance, predominantly senior citizen neighborhoods may desire meeting places or gardening areas; other neighborhoods may need tot lots, or surface courts for teenagers to play ball). While mini-parks may serve smaller neighborhoods, their size makes them inefficient and more costly to maintain (per person served). While they provide some open space in urban areas, mini-parks cannot replace the larger neighborhood parks in providing a wide range of recreation activities.

Neighborhood Parks. Semi-active parks of five to ten acres, designed to serve residents living within a one-mile radius of the site, or to serve between 10,000 and 15,000 residents. In addition to irrigated landscaping, typical improvements for neighborhood parks include softball/soccer fields, lighted tennis courts, lighted multi-purpose courts, tot lots, picnic areas, restrooms, equipment checkout rooms, and parking lots. Whenever possible, neighborhood parks are to be located adjacent to elementary schools, to facilitate cooperative arrangements. When sited next to schools, a minimum size of five acres is indicated for neighborhood parks. When not adjacent to school sites, neighborhood parks are developed as a “stand along” park: a minimum site size of 7.5 acres is indicated, and “stand alone” parks should also include a multi-purpose room approximately 2,000 square feet in size.

Community Parks. These parks are ideally twenty acres in size. They are intended to serve residents living within a two to four mile radius, or to serve a population of between 50,000 and 80,000 residents. Community parks may have lighted sports fields and specialized equipment not found in neighborhood parks. The community park is the nucleus of the park system, where members of the community can congregate for area-wide functions or programs. At the heart of the park is the community center building of 25,000 to 30,000 square feet, which may provide at least the following facilities and services:

- gymnasium (with showers and lockers)
- multi-purpose room
- meeting rooms
- senior activity center
- administrative offices
- snack bar and kitchen facilities
Regional Parks. These parks are generally 100 or more acres in extent. They are developed to serve residents living within each quadrant of the city. This type of park serves a population of approximately 100,000 residents with active and passive recreational opportunities. In addition to facilities for various outdoor sports, regional park improvements may include picnic shelters, hiking trails, lakes, streams, public gardens, and other amenities not normally located in an urban setting. These parks are the only city recreational sites large enough to set aside wildlife habitat and offer non-programmed, nature-oriented recreational opportunities.

The San Joaquin River Parkway. This area is being developed into a “super-regional” park, serving not only the City, but also residents of Fresno and Madera counties. Its unique recreational opportunities and ecological features also draw visitors from throughout the state. The parkway plan, discussed in detail in the Open Space/Recreation Element, encompasses developed recreational sites, interpretive and educational sites, and natural habitat areas. Intercalated with the public portions of the parkway is private land used for recreation, agriculture, surface mining (and processing of extracted minerals), and other approved existing uses.

School Grounds/Playfields. School sites comprise a large inventory of recreational open space areas, which can provide recreational space for organized activities such as soccer, youth baseball, tennis, and other exercise, and gym uses. The playfield program operates through joint use agreements between the city and school districts, which own the sites. The program currently offers programmed and non-programmed activities, primarily serving elementary school-aged children living within a one-half mile radius of the school.

Ponding Basins. Whenever feasible, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (FMFCD) provides opportunities for recreational open space through public use of storm drainage/groundwater recharge basins (see Table 7). Some basins are developed as park sites with play equipment, others have play fields, and still others are maintained as open turfed areas.

**F-1-f. Policy.** The City of Fresno will continue to pursue implementation of an open space standard of 3.0 acres of public parkland for every 1,000 persons residing in the city’s planning area and will ensure the development of sufficient park land in areas designated for higher density. This park acreage standard includes the following components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Park</th>
<th>Acres/1,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Parks</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Parks</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F-1-g. **Policy.** The City will achieve its park space acreage standards by using the following matrix for allocating park space when land use plans are formulated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARK TYPE</th>
<th>SIZE RANGE (ACREAGE)</th>
<th>POPULATION SERVED</th>
<th>SERVICE AREA RADIUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schoolground/playfield</td>
<td>1-2.5</td>
<td>3,000-5,000</td>
<td>¼ to ½ mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>10,000-15,000</td>
<td>½ to 1 mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>15-20</td>
<td>50,000-80,000</td>
<td>2 to 4 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>100+</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>30 minute drive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F-2. **OBJECTIVE:** Ensure that adequate land, in appropriate locations, is designated and acquired for park and recreation uses prior to urban development.

F-5. **OBJECTIVE:** The city will continue to coordinate with other agencies and organizations providing recreation facilities and services.

F-5-a. **Policy:** The city will coordinate the planning, acquisition, and development of recreational facilities in order to achieve the greatest public benefit from multiple use at the least cost.

F-5-e. **Policy:** In order to maximize the area’s supply of recreation activities and facilities, the city should explore cooperative agreements with the recreational sites and programs of non-profit organizations such as athletic leagues, churches, parochial and private schools, the Calwa Park District, the Clovis Memorial District, and other public agencies.

**County of Fresno 2000 General Plan**

**Policy OS-H.2:** The County shall strive to maintain a standard of five (5) to eight (8) acres of County-owned improved parkland per one thousand (1,000) residents in the unincorporated areas.

**Policy OS-H.4:** The County shall require the dedication of land and/or payment of fee, in accordance with local authority and State law (e.g., Quimby Act), to ensure funding for the acquisition and development of public recreation facilities. The fees are to be set and adjusted, as necessary, to provide for a level of funding that meets the actual cost to provide for all the public parkland and park development needs generated by new development.

**Policy OS-H.5:** The County shall encourage Federal, State, and local agencies currently providing recreational facilities to maintain, at a minimum, and improve, if possible, their current levels of service.

**Policy OS-H.15:** The County shall utilize retention-recharge basins as open space areas for parks and recreation purposes.

**Courts**

The City and the County do not have land use policies regarding courts.
Library

City of Fresno
The City of Fresno does not currently have policies within the 2025 General Plan regarding library services.

County of Fresno 2000 General Plan
Policy PF-I.9: The County shall promote provision of library services throughout the county and create new facilities as appropriate or expand existing facilities to meet additional demand from new growth.

Hospital
The City and the County do not have land use policies regarding hospitals.

5.13.4 - Thresholds of Significance

CEQA Thresholds
In accordance with CEQA, the effects of a project are evaluated to determine if they will result in significant adverse impact on the environment. The criteria used to determine the significance of an impact to public services are based on the Environmental Checklist in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. Accordingly, public services impacts resulting from the proposed project are considered significant if the project would:

Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

a) Fire protection? (See Fire Protection, Impact PS-1)
b) Police protection? (See Police Protection, Impact PS-2)
c) Schools? (See Schools, Impact PS-3)
d) Parks? (See Parks, Impact PS-4)
e) Other public facilities? (See Other Public Facilities, Impact PS-5)

The other public facilities include courts, libraries, and hospitals.
5.13.5 - Impact Analysis, Mitigation Measures, and Level of Significance After Mitigation

Fire Protection

Impact PS-1: The project could result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision or need of new or physically altered fire protection facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection, and the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

Project Specific Impact Analysis

The City of Fresno Fire Department currently does not meet target response times due to cuts in the number of units available to respond. The City is currently rated by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) as a Public Protection Class 3. Staffing reductions and other cuts since 2009 has resulted in the City’s level of service to be below average compared to similar sized metropolitan cities. The expected level of service based on nationally recognized best practice for fire prevention services in a city the size of Fresno is the ability to provide annual fire and life safety inspections if all commercial, industrial, institutional, and multi-family building and to provide proactive fire safety public education programs. Due to current budget issues, many low and moderate fire and life safety hazard buildings are not being inspected and public education outreach has ceased.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in an increased demand for fire protection. Additional staff, equipment, and facilities would be required to ensure adequate levels of service and exceed current response times. Additional personnel may require additional facilities; therefore, there could be adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities. Typical impacts associated with fire stations include: noise, traffic, and lighting.

Development Impact Fees are currently collected for the provision of capital facilities for fire facilities that will provide for future facilities as the City’s population increases.

Recognizing that there would be an increased demand for fire and emergency medical response, the General Plan Update includes several policies to support the activities of the Fresno Fire Department. The policies and objectives listed below from the proposed General Plan Update will ensure that the proposed project does not significantly affect fire protection.

PU-2: Ensure that the Fire Department’s staffing and equipment resources are sufficient to meet all fire and emergency service level objectives and are provided in an efficient and cost effective manner.

PU-2-a: Unity Fire Protection: Pursue long-range transfer of fire protection service agreements with adjacent fire districts that, in concert with existing automatic aid agreements, will lead to the eventual unification of fire protections services in the greater Fresno area.
PU-2-b: Maintain Ability: Strive to continually maintain the Fire Department’s ability to provide staffing and equipment resources to effectively prevent and mitigate emergencies in existing and new high-rise buildings and in other high-density residential and commercial development throughout the city.

PU-2-c: Rescue Standards: Develop appropriate standards, as necessary, for rescue operations, including, but not limited to, confined space, high angle, swift water rescues, and the unique challenges of a high speed rail corridor.

PU-2-d: Station Siting: Use the General Plan, community plans, Specific Plans, neighborhood plans, and Concept Plans, the City’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database, and a fire station location program to achieve optimum siting of future fire stations.

PU-2-e: Service Standards: Strive to achieve a community wide risk management plan that includes the following service level objectives 90 percent of the time:

- **First Unit on Scene** – First fire unit arriving with minimum of three firefighters and ability to apply suppressing agent within 6 minutes and 20 seconds from emergency call (7 minutes and 30 seconds with 9-11 processing time).

- **Effective Response Force** – Provide sufficient number of firefighters on scene of an emergency (17 for low risk, 23 for high risk) within nine minutes and 20 seconds from time to alert to arrival.

PU-3: Enhance the level of fire protection to meet the increasing demand for services from an increasing population.

PU-3-a: Fire Prevention Inspections: Develop strategies to enable the performance of annual fire and life safety inspection of all industrial, commercial, institutional, and multi-family residential buildings, in accordance with nationally recognized standards for the level of service necessary for a large Metropolitan Area, including self-certification program.

PU-3-b: Reduction Strategies: Develop community risk reduction strategies that target high service demand areas, vulnerable populations (e.g. young children, older adults, non-English speaking residents, persons with disabilities, etc.) and high life hazards occupancies.

PU-3-c: Public Education Strategies. Develop strategies to re-establish and enhance routine public education outreach to all sectors of the community.

PU-3-d: Review All Development Applications: Continue Fire Department review of all development applications, provide comments and recommend conditions of approval that will ensure adequate on-site and off-site fire protection systems and features are provided.
**PU-3-e:** Building Codes. Adopt and enforce amendments to construction and fire codes, as determined appropriate, to systematically reduce the level of risk to life and property from fire, commensurate with the City’s fire suppression capabilities.

**PU-3-f:** Adequate Infrastructure. Continue to pursue the provision of adequate water supplies, hydrants, and appropriate property access to allow for adequate fire suppression throughout the City.

**PU-3-g:** Cost Recovery. Continue to evaluate appropriate codes, policies, and methods to generate fees or other sources of revenue to offset the ongoing personnel and maintenance costs of providing fire prevention and response services.

In addition to the above policies and objectives, the following regulation within the City of Fresno Municipal Code would reduce potential fire service impacts.

**Section 12-4.901 of the Fresno Municipal Code.** In order to implement the goals and objectives of the City’s general plan, and to mitigate the impacts caused by future development in the city, certain fire department facilities must be constructed. The City Council has determined that a Fire Facilities Fee is needed in order to pay for (a) land acquisition for, and design, engineering, and construction of the public facilities designated in the Council resolution and reasonable costs of outside consultant studies related thereto; (b) to reimburse the city for designated public facilities construction by the city with funds (other than gifts or grants) from other sources together with accrued interest; (c) to reimburse developers who have designed and constructed designated public facilities which are oversized and supplemental size, length, or capacity; and/or (d) to pay for and/or reimburse costs of program development and ongoing administration of the Fire Facilities Fee program.

As growth occurs within the Planning Area, the Fire Department may require additional personnel and additional facilities to provide adequate fire protection services. The provision of new or physically altered fire facilities could result in adverse environmental impacts. Typical impacts associated with new or altered fire facilities, such as stations, include: noise, traffic, and lighting. These typical impacts could remain significant after the implementation of the above-mentioned proposed policies as well as the Municipal Code regulation.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis**

Future growth would result in increased demand for fire services and facilities throughout the Planning Area as well as areas that are outside the Planning Area. As cumulative development increases the demand for additional fire services and facilities, potential significant cumulative impacts could occur. To reduce the potential impacts, the General Plan Update includes objective and policies and the Municipal Code includes regulations. The implementation of General Plan Update Objectives PU-2 and PU-3 and Policies PU-2-a through PU-2-e and PU-3-a through PU-3-g and Section 12-4.901 of the Municipal Code would reduce the potential impacts. Although the potential impacts could be reduced, there could still be potential significant cumulative environmental impacts as future fire facilities are constructed to improve fire protection within the
City's service area. The implementation of the proposed project would contribute to the potential significant cumulative impact as future fire facilities are constructed. This project contribution is considered cumulatively considerable.

**Mitigation Measures**

**Project Specific**

**MM PS-1:** As future fire facilities are planned, the fire department shall evaluate if specific environmental effects would occur. Typical impacts from fire facilities include noise, traffic, and lighting. Typical mitigation to reduce potential impacts includes:

- **Noise:** Barriers and setbacks on the fire department sites.
- **Traffic:** Traffic devices for circulation and a “keep clear zone” during emergency responses.
- **Lighting:** Provision of hoods and deflectors on lighting fixtures on the fire department sites.

**Cumulative**

Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-1 is required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation**

**Project Specific**

Less than significant impact.

**Cumulative**

Less than significant impact.

**Police Protection**

**Impact PS-2**

The project could result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision or need of new or physically altered police protection facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for police protection, and the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

**Project Specific Impact Analysis**

Growth under the General Plan Update would result in a potential population increase of approximately 425,000 additional residents within the Planning Area by buildout. Full buildout is projected to occur in approximately the year 2056. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increased need for law enforcement staffing and police protection. Based on the Fresno Police Department’s goal of 1.5 officers per 1,000 residents, approximately 638 new officers would be required. Additional equipment and facilities would also be required to accommodate the additional personnel and ensure adequate levels of service and response times throughout the Planning Area. Additional new or physically altered facilities could
result in adverse environmental impacts. Typical impacts associated with police stations include: noise, traffic, and lighting.

Development Impact Fees are currently collected for the provision of capital facilities for fire facilities that will provide for future facilities as the City’s population increases.

Recognizing that there would be an increased demand for police services, the General Plan Update includes several policies to support the activities of the Fresno Police Department. The policies and objectives listed below from the proposed General Plan update will ensure that the proposed project does not significantly affect police protection.

**PU-1:** Provide the level of law enforcement and crime prevention services necessary to maintain a safe, secure, and stable urban living environment through a Police Department that is dedicated to providing professional, ethical, efficient and innovative service with integrity, consistency and pride.

Strive to increase ethnic diversity and gender representation of the law enforcement workforce to reflect the composition of the Fresno community.

Maintain active involvement in youth development and delinquency prevention activities.

Collaborate with community-based public, non-profit or private agencies to develop comprehensive narcotics and violence prevention programs designed to discourage delinquent behavior and narcotics abuse, and to encourage viable alternative behaviors.

**PU-1-b:** Involvement in General Plan. Facilitate Police Department participation in the implementation of General Plan policies, including citizen participation efforts and the application of crime prevention design measures to reduce the exposure of neighborhoods to crime and to promote community security.

- Facilitate Police Department communication with citizen advisory committees.
- Refer appropriate development entitlements to the Police Department for review and comment.

**PU-1-c:** Safety Considerations in Development Approval. Continue to identify and apply appropriate safety, design and operational measures as conditions of development approval, including, but not limited to, street access control measures, lighting and visibility of access points and common areas, functional and secure on-site recreational and open space improvements within residential developments, and use of State licensed, uniformed security.

**PU-1-e:** Communication with Public. Maximize communication and cooperative efforts with residents and businesses in order to identify crime problems and optimize the effectiveness of crime prevention measures and law enforcement programs.
PU-1g: Plan for Optimum Service. Create and adopt a program to provide targeted police services and establish long-term steps for attaining and maintaining the optimum levels of service - 1.5 officers per 1,000 residents.

In addition to the above policies and objectives, the following regulation within the City of Fresno Municipal Code would reduce potential police service impacts.

**Section 12-4.801 of the Municipal Code.** In order to implement the goals and objectives of the City’s general plan, and to mitigate the impacts caused by future development in the city, certain police facilities must be constructed. The City Council has determined that a Police Facilities Fee is needed in order to pay for (a) land acquisition for, and design, engineering, and construction of the public facilities designated in the Council resolution and reasonable costs of outside consultant studies related thereto; (b) to reimburse the city for designated public facilities construction by the city with funds (other than gifts or grants) from other sources together with accrued interest; (c) to reimburse developers who have designed and constructed designated public facilities which are oversized and supplemental size, length, or capacity; and/or (d) to pay for and/or reimburse costs of program development and ongoing administration of the Police Facilities Fee program.

As growth occurs within the Planning Area, the Police Department may require additional personnel and additional facilities to provide adequate police protection services. The provision of new or physically altered fire facilities could result in adverse environmental impacts. Typical impacts associated with new or altered police facilities, such as stations, include: noise, traffic, and lighting. These typical impacts could remain significant after the implementation of the above-mentioned proposed policies as well as the Municipal Code regulation.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis**

Future growth would result in increased demand for police services and facilities throughout the Planning Area and could increase mutual aid services to areas that are outside the Planning Area. As cumulative development increases the demand for additional police services and facilities, potential significant cumulative impacts could occur. The project’s contribution to potential cumulative impacts on police services would be considerable. Implementation of the General Plan Update Objective PU-1 and Policies PU-1-a through PU-1-g and Section 12-4.801 of the Municipal Code would reduce the potential impacts to police services. Although the potential impacts could be reduced, there could still be potential significant cumulative environmental impacts as future police facilities are constructed to improve police protection within the City’s service area. The implementation of the proposed project would contribute to the potential significant cumulative impact as future police facilities are constructed. This project contribution is considered cumulatively considerable.

**Mitigation Measures**

*Project Specific*

**MM PS-2**

As future police facilities are planned, the police department shall evaluate if specific environmental effects would occur. Typical impacts from police facilities include noise, traffic, and lighting. Typical mitigation to reduce potential impacts includes:
- **Noise**: Barriers and setbacks on the police department sites.
- **Traffic**: Traffic devices for circulation.
- **Lighting**: Provision of hoods and deflectors on lighting fixtures on the fire department sites.

**Cumulative**
Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-2 is required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation**

**Project Specific**
Less than significant impact.

**Cumulative**
Less than significant impact.

**Schools**

| Impact PS-3 | The project could result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision or need of new or physically altered school facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives for schools, and the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts. |

**Project Specific Impact Analysis**
Impacts on schools are determined by analyzing the projected increase in demand for schools as a result of future development projected under the proposed General Plan Update. The buildout of the proposed General Plan would result in a substantial increase in residential development as well as projected student population. As identified in Section 3, Project Description, the project is anticipated to increase residential development by approximately 145,164 residential units. As shown in Table 5.13-9, the total student population is projected by identifying a student generation rate by type of school and for single family and multiple family residential units. The student generation rates were derived based on a review of the student generation rates provided by the Fresno Unified School District and the Clovis Unified School District. These two districts were reviewed since the majority of the Planning Area is served by these two districts. The rates that were used for each category of student were the highest rates between the two districts to reflect a worst-case generation of students. As shown in Table 5.13-9, the amount of students projected to be generated from the residential units that are projected to be developed within the Planning Area is approximately 65,518 students. This increase in student population will result in approximately 39,197 elementary students, 8,924 middle school students, and approximately 17,601 high school students.
Table 5.13-9: Generation of Additional Students under the City of Fresno General Plan Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Residential Units and Grade Level School</th>
<th>Type of Residential Unit</th>
<th>Total Students Generated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Single-Family</td>
<td>Multiple-Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>60,626</td>
<td>84,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary School Student Generation Rate²</td>
<td>0.3587³</td>
<td>0.204³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Students</td>
<td>21,747</td>
<td>17,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Student Generation Rate²</td>
<td>0.097³</td>
<td>0.036³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Students</td>
<td>5,881</td>
<td>3,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Student Generation Rate³</td>
<td>0.222³</td>
<td>0.049³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Students</td>
<td>13,459</td>
<td>4,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Elementary, Middle, and High School Students</td>
<td>41,087</td>
<td>24,431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The student generation rates were derived based on a review of the student generation rates provided by the Fresno Unified School District and the Clovis Unified School District. These two districts were reviewed since the majority of the Planning Area is served by these two districts. The rates that were used for each category of student were the highest rates between the two districts to reflect a worst-case generation of students.

2 Development Fee Justification Study/School Facilities Needs Analysis, Clovis Unified School District, 2012


Source: FirstCarbon Solutions, 2014.

The projected increase in student population within the Planning Area will result in the need for substantial additional elementary, middle, and high schools to serve the future student population. The project includes areas within the Planning Area that are designated for school facilities. City staff coordinated with representatives from the various school districts that serve the students within the Planning Area. As future development occurs throughout the Planning Area, the school districts will continually monitor capacities of existing schools and forecast the timing of the construction of new schools or expansion of existing schools so that new student populations can be provided with adequate school facilities. As new schools or expansion of existing schools are proposed, there could be significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the schools. Typical impacts associated with schools include: noise and traffic for most of the schools and potentially lighting if there are high school stadiums proposed.
Development Impact Fees in accordance with Senate Bill 50 are currently collected for the provision of school facilities that will accommodate the Planning Area's future student population.

Recognizing that there would be an increased demand for schools, the General Plan Update includes the following objective and policies to support schools.

**Proposed General Plan Update Policies**

The following goals and policies from the proposed General Plan Update are relevant to the provision of schools within the Planning Area.

**Objective POSS-8:** Work cooperatively with school districts to find appropriate locations for schools to meet the needs of students and neighborhoods.

**Implementing Policies**

**POSS-8-a:** Support School Districts’ Programs. Support strategies and programs of school districts and the Fresno County Office of Education to provide access to and use of the highest quality educational programs and support services.

**POSS-8-b:** Appropriate School Locations. Support school locations that facilitate safe and convenient access by pedestrian and bicycle routes, are compatible with surrounding land uses, and contribute to a positive neighborhood identity and Complete Neighborhoods. Commit to the following:

- Work with representatives of public and private schools during the preparation and amendment of plans and the processing of development proposals to ensure that General Plan policies are implemented.

- Require school districts to provide necessary street improvements, pedestrian facilities, public facilities, and public services at each new school site as authorized by law.

- Continue to designate known school sites on the Land Use Diagram (Figure LU-1), community plans, Specific plans, and other plans compatible with the locational criteria of each school district, and to facilitate safe and convenient walking and biking to schools in neighborhoods.

- Meet regularly with school district staff and trustees to provide ongoing communication and coordination of plans, projects, and priorities.

- Collaborate with school districts to plan and implement new school sites in a manner that supports and reinforces objectives to develop walkable Complete Neighborhoods.

**POSS-8-c:** Park and School Site Coordination. Pursue the cooperative development and use of school sites with adjacent neighborhood parks for both school activities and non-school related recreational activities.

Implementation of the Fresno General Plan Update Policies POSS-8-a through POSS-8-c as well as assisting in collecting Senate Bill 50 fees from developers would assist the school districts in...
providing adequate school facilities in the Planning Area. However, as the expansion of existing schools or construction of new schools is proposed, there could still be adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the schools. As described above, typical impacts associated with schools include: noise and traffic for most of the schools and potentially lighting if there are high school stadiums proposed.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis**
Future cumulative growth within the school districts that currently serve the student population within the Planning Area would result in the need for expanded or new school facilities. These new facilities could be located within or outside of the Planning Area. Construction and operation of these facilities could result in significant cumulative adverse environmental impacts such as noise, traffic, and lighting. Since the proposed project would generate a demand for additional school facilities and these additional facilities could result in significant adverse environmental impacts, the proposed project’s contribution to cumulative environmental impacts associated with the provision of schools is considered cumulatively considerable. The objective and policies identified above would reduce the potential impact; however, the project’s contribution would remain cumulatively considerable. Thus, the proposed project would result in significant cumulative impacts related to the provision of schools.

**Mitigation Measures**
*Project Specific*

**MM PS-3**
As future school facilities are planned, the school districts shall evaluate if specific environmental effects would occur. Typical impacts from school facilities include noise, traffic, and lighting. Typical mitigation to reduce potential impacts includes:

- **Noise**: Barriers and setbacks placed on school sites.
- **Traffic**: Traffic devices for circulation.
- **Lighting**: Provision of hoods and deflectors on lighting fixtures for stadium lights

**Cumulative**
Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-3 is required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation**
*Project Specific*
Less than significant impact.

*Cumulative*
Less than significant impact.
Parks and Recreational Facilities

Impact PS-4  The project could result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision or need of new or physically altered park and recreational facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives for park and recreational, and the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

Project Specific Impact Analysis

With the buildout of the General Plan, growth would result in a potential population increase of approximately 425,000 additional residents within the Planning Area. This additional residential growth would result in an increase in the demand for parks and recreational facilities. Based on the proposed standard of 5 acres of public parkland per 1,000 residents, the buildout of the General Plan Update would require 4,850 acres of parkland and associated recreational amenities to serve all residents in the Planning Area. An additional 1,635 acres of Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community parkland and associated amenities would be required to accommodate existing residents, with 2,725 additional acres to reach the 5 acres per 1,000 residents goal. Based on the current Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community parkland of 632 acres within the Planning Area, an additional 2,278 acres, for a total of 2,910 acres, of parkland would be required to adequately accommodate future residents to meet the 3 acres per 1,000 residents for Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. The proposed General Plan Update includes the allocation of 2,100 acres of parkland in addition to existing parkland. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Update would not meet the City’s goal of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents for all City park space and 3 acres per 1,000 residents for Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community Park Space.

As future parklands are developed, there could be significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the facilities. Typical impacts associated with parks include: noise, traffic, and lighting.

Recognizing that there would be an increased demand for parks and recreational facilities, the General Plan Update includes several policies to support goals and objectives regarding these facilities.

Objective POSS-1: Provide an expanded, high quality and diversified park system, allowing for varied recreational opportunities for the entire Fresno community.

Implementing Policies

POSS-1-a. Parkland standard: Implement a standard of at least three acres of public parkland per 1,000 residents for Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community Parks throughout the city, while striving for five acres per 1,000 residents for all parks throughout the city, subject to identifying additional funding for regional parks and trails.

POSS-1-b. Parks Implementation Planning: Conduct ongoing planning to implement park policies established in this General Plan and continue to strive for well-maintained and fully accessible playgrounds, with accessible amenities, throughout the city.
• Keep an up-to-date inventory of existing and planned parks, including locations mapped on the Parks and Open Space Diagram.

• Plan for acquiring new parkland designated in the General Plan, as shown in Figure POSS-1.

• Establish a standard protocol for working with new development to arrange for parkland acquisition and dedication.

• Establish a protocol for working with established neighborhoods to provide needed parks, including the fostering of neighborhood and district associations to help plan, acquire, improve and care for public parks, and coordinating new City service facilities to provide new open space.

• Establish detailed design, construction, and maintenance standards.

• Prepare an assessment of the recreation needs of existing and future residents.

• Create an action plan defining priorities, timeframes, and responsibilities.

• Adopt and implement a comprehensive financing strategy for land acquisition, park development, operations, and maintenance.

• Identify opportunities for using existing or planned park space as passive stormwater storage, treatment, and conservation areas that also provide scenic and/or recreational opportunities.

• Identify opportunities for siting and using existing or planned park space as passive “purple pipe” waste water storage, treatment, and conservation areas that also provide scenic and/or recreational opportunities.

POSS-1-c: Public Input in Park Planning. Continue to provide opportunities for public participation in the planning and development of park facilities and in creation of social, cultural, and recreational activities in the community.

POSS-1-d: Additional parkland in certain areas. Strive to obtain additional parkland of sufficient size to adequately serve underserved neighborhood areas and along BRT corridors in support of new and intense residential and mixed-use infill development.

• Identify, where appropriate, joint use opportunities in siting parks with other City service facility needs.

POSS-1-e: Criteria for Parks in Development Areas. Continue to use park size and service area criteria for siting new parks and planning for parks in Development Areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Size Range (Acreage)</th>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>Service Area Radius</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>2.01 to 10</td>
<td>10,000 - 15,000</td>
<td>Up to 1 mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>10.01 to 40</td>
<td>50,000 - 80,000</td>
<td>Up to 4 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>More than 40</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000 residents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POSS 1-f. Parks and Open Space Diagram. Require parks to be sited and sized as shown on the Parks and Open Space Diagram (Figure POSS-1) of the General Plan, subject to the following:

- All new park designations carry dual land use designations, so that if a park is not needed, private development consistent with zoning and development standards may be approved. (See Figure LU-2: Dual Designation Diagram in the Urban Form, Land Use, and Design Element)
- Revised and/or additional park sites will be identified through subsequent implementation and planning in established neighborhoods and Development Areas.
- Locations for future park sites as shown on Figure POSS-1 are schematic to the extent that park sites may be relocated as necessity and opportunity dictate, and a General Plan amendment is not required if the park continues to serve the target areas as determined by the Planning Director.
- A park may be located on any suitable land in the general vicinity of the sites depicted. However, the zoning of potential park sites must be made consistent with the General Plan.

Objective POSS-2: Ensure that adequate land, in appropriate locations, is designated and acquired for park and recreation uses in infill and growth areas.

Implementing Policies
POSS-2-b: Park and Recreation Priorities. Use the following priorities and guidelines in acquiring and developing parks and recreation facilities:

- Acquire and develop neighborhood park space in existing developed neighborhoods that are deficient of such space and in areas along BRT corridors that are designated as priorities for encouraging new mixed-use transit-oriented development.
- Provide accessible recreation facilities in established neighborhoods with emphasis on those neighborhoods currently underserved by recreation facilities.
- Improve established neighborhood parks with emphasis on those neighborhoods with the greatest need.
- Acquire and develop neighborhood and community parks in new Development Areas.
- Recognize community parks as a special need in areas that lack these facilities or are planned for transit supportive urban densities, and explore all potential sources of revenue to secure and development appropriate sites including joint use facilities.
- Develop new special purpose parks, such as outdoor gym equipment, natural resource based trail parks, equestrian centers, dog parks, and amphitheaters, as well as alternative recreation facilities, such as community recreation centers, passive wildlife observation park, cultural heritage and diversity park, military veterans memorial park, and universal access open space park.
• Acquire and develop park and open space in existing neighborhoods and Development Areas so that all residents have access to park or open space within one-half mile of their residence. Develop these facilities to be fully accessible to individuals with disabilities as required by law.

POSS-2-c: Review of Development Applications. Coordinate review of all development applications (i.e., site plans, conditional use permits, and subdivision maps) in order to implement the parks and open space standards of this Plan.

• Assure the provision of adequate active and passive open spaces and facilities as appropriate within residential subdivisions through Development Code requirements for mandatory dedication and improvement of land and/or development fees.

• Require the provision of appropriate outdoor living areas or private open space in multi-family residential developments not subject to the Subdivision Map Act.

• Request open space easements where feasible and warranted to secure appropriate public use of sensitive areas with scenic or recreation values, and for buffering space for sensitive areas.

• Require provision of appropriate open space areas in private projects, in the form of trails, enhanced landscaped setbacks, parks, and water features.

• Evaluate the merits of establishing a development bonus entitlement program in which development incentives (i.e., bonus densities, bonus floor area square footage) are provided for contributions to public recreational facilities on-site or in the vicinity of the development project.

POSS-2-d: Creation Opportunities near Freeway Corridors. Negotiate with Caltrans, other public agencies, and private property owners to develop remnant parcels along freeway corridors for appropriate recreational uses.

Objective POSS-3: Ensure that park and recreational facilities make the most efficient use of land; that they are designed and managed to provide for the entire Fresno community; and that they represent positive examples of design and energy conservation.

Implementing Policies

POSS-3-a: Centralized Park Locations. Site parks central and accessible to the population served, while preserving the integrity of the surrounding neighborhood.

POSS-3-b: Park Location and Walking Distance. Site Parks within a half-mile walking distance of new residential development.

POSS-3-c: Link Parks with Walkways. Link public open space to adjacent, schools, and residential uses and Activity Centers through a series of landscaped linear walkways and bikeways that enhance and encourage pedestrian use.
**POSS-3-e:** Minimum Park Size for Active Recreation. Minimize City acquisition or acceptance of dedication of park sites less than two acres in size for active recreational uses, except where maintenance costs are secured through a CFD, HOA, or other such mechanism.

**POSS-3-f:** Park Design Guidelines. Create, maintain, and apply park design guidelines, including provisions for:

- Minimum and maximum shade.
- Protections from shading by adjacent buildings.
- Accessibility to persons with disabilities.
- Street trees and landscaped median strips in adjacent arterial roads.
- Art and points of attraction.
- Landscape and hardscape features.
- Street furniture, signage, and lighting.
- Food sales and entertainment.
- Restroom facilities, play structures, and picnic shelters.
- Landscape design synthesis with input from civil engineers and hydrologists, educators and daycare providers, fitness trainers and coaches, police officers and experts in crime prevention through environmental design, as appropriate.
- Using topography to create interesting and visually appealing spaces and forms.
- Use of waterways as a key design influence, a focus of restoration, and an opportunity to provide for public enjoyment of views.
- Reflecting the agricultural and horticultural heritage of the site or area.
- Connecting with surrounding areas in a way that encourages expanded pedestrian activity.
- Creating individual places within a park that respond to the needs of a broad range of park users, from youth to the elderly.
- Creating places of delight that engage the senses, such as water features or moving installations.
- Creating places that engage the mind, by treating park features as opportunities for interpretation and questioning.
- Using sustainable design practices, and highlighting these as opportunities for learning.

**POSS-3-g:** Park Security and Design. Promote safety, attractiveness, and compatibility between parks and adjacent residential areas through design, maintenance, and enforcement of park regulations.
- Require the installation of security lighting for parking, points of access, and building areas at all public recreation and park sites.
- Keep neighborhood eyes on parks to increase security.

POSS-3-h: Coordination with School Districts. Continue to coordinate with school districts for joint use of both outdoor and indoor recreation facilities, such as playgrounds, play fields, and gymnasiums, for City recreation programs.

POSS-3-i: Joint Use with Drainage Facilities. Continue to seek joint use agreements for use of FMFCD stormwater drainage facilities. **Objective POSS-4:** Pursue sufficient and dedicated funding for parks acquisition, operations, and maintenance.

Implementing Policies

POSS-4-a: Supplemental Revenue. Seek revenue sources to supplement General Fund support for basic park maintenance and basic recreational services.

POSS-4-b: Operation and Maintenance Financing. Continue to require new residential development to form lighting and landscaping maintenance districts or community facility districts or ensure other means of financing to pay for park operations and maintenance.

POSS-4-c: Improvements in Established Neighborhoods. Seek agreements with formal neighborhood associations and institutions for improvements and ongoing maintenance of parks in established neighborhoods.

Section 12-4.701 of the Municipal Code: In order to implement the goals and objectives of the City’s general plan, and to mitigate the impacts caused by future development in the city, certain park facilities must be constructed. The City Council has determined that a Park Facilities Fee is needed in order to pay for (a) land acquisition for, and design, engineering, and construction of the public facilities designated in the Council resolution and reasonable costs of outside consultant studies related thereto; (b) to reimburse the city for designated public facilities construction by the city with funds (other than gifts or grants) from other sources together with accrued interest; (c) to reimburse developers who have designed and constructed designated public facilities which are oversized and supplemental size, length, or capacity; and/or (d) to pay for and/or reimburse costs of program development and ongoing administration of the Park Facilities Fee program.

The implementation of the above objectives and policies as well as the Municipal Code standard would reduce potential impacts associated with parks and recreational facilities. However, the potential significant environmental impacts that could occur during construction and operation of the facilities could remain.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis**
Development associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update and related cumulative projects would result in the development of new parks and recreational facilities. Individual development projects would be required to pay the City’s Park Facilities Fee. Therefore,
individual project applicants would be required to pay the fees, so that parks can be constructed at appropriate sites within the Planning Area and adequately maintained.

As future parks and recreational facilities are developed, there could be significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the facilities. Typical cumulative impacts associated with parks include: noise, traffic, and lighting. Since the proposed project could also result in similar significant environmental impacts from construction and operation of the facilities, the proposed project’s contribution to cumulative environmental impacts would be cumulatively considerable. Thus, the implementation of the proposed project would result in significant cumulative impacts.

**Mitigation Measures**

*Project Specific*

**MM PS-4**

As future parks and recreational facilities are planned, the City shall evaluate if specific environmental effects would occur. Typical impacts from school facilities include noise, traffic, and lighting. Typical mitigation to reduce potential impacts includes:

- **Noise**: Barriers and setbacks placed on school sites.
- **Traffic**: Traffic devices for circulation.
- **Lighting**: Provision of hoods and deflectors on lighting fixtures for stadium lights

**Cumulative**

Implementation of MM PS-4 is required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation**

*Project Specific*

Less than significant impact.

**Cumulative**

Less than significant impact.

**Other Public Facilities**

**Impact PS-5**

The project could result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision or need of new or physically altered public facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives for other public facilities, and the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

**Project Specific Impact Analysis**

As growth occurs within the Planning Area in accordance with the proposed General Plan Update, an increase in residential population would occur. An increase in population would result in an increased demand for other public facilities such as court, libraries, and hospitals within the Planning...
Area. Based on a substantial increase in population (approximately 425,000 people), a substantial increase in the need for new and expanded courts, libraries, and hospitals would be required to serve the future City residents.

As future facilities such as courts, libraries, and hospitals are developed as part of the General Plan Update, there could be significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of these facilities. Typical impacts associated with other facilities include: noise, traffic, and lighting. No specific objectives or policies are proposed to reduce potential impacts to these facilities.

There are no objectives or policies within the proposed General Plan Update to reduce the potential environmental effects associated with the expansion or development of new service facilities. Therefore, the potential significant environmental impacts would remain.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis**

Development associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update and related cumulative projects would result in the development of new court, library, and hospital facilities. As these future facilities are developed, there could be significant adverse environmental impacts from the construction and operation of the facilities. Typical cumulative impacts associated with other public facilities such as courts, libraries, and hospitals would include: noise, traffic, and lighting. Since the proposed project could also result in similar significant environmental impacts from construction and operation of the facilities, the proposed project’s contribution to cumulative environmental impacts would be cumulatively considerable. Thus, the implementation of the proposed project would result in significant cumulative impacts.

**Mitigation Measures**

**Project Specific**

**MM PS-5**

As future court, library, and hospital facilities are planned, the appropriate agencies shall evaluate if specific environmental effects would occur. Typical impacts from court, library, and hospital facilities include noise, traffic, and lighting. Typical mitigation to reduce potential impacts includes:

- **Noise**: Barriers and setbacks placed on school sites.
- **Traffic**: Traffic devices for circulation.
- **Lighting**: Provision of hoods and deflectors on lighting fixtures for stadium lights

**Cumulative**

Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-5 is required.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation**

**Project Specific**

Less than significant impact.
Cumulative
Less than significant impact.