

3. SOLID WASTE

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Public agencies and private companies within the City of Los Angeles administer solid waste management, including collection and disposal services and landfill operation. Single family residential and small multiple family residential refuse is collected by the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation. Private contractors collect waste generated by multiple family residences larger than four units and all commercial and industrial sources. Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles, as well as private companies, all operate waste disposal sites. Transfer stations are used to temporarily store debris until larger hauling trucks are available to transport the materials directly to the landfills. Landfill availability is limited by several factors, some of which include the following: 1) restrictions to accepting waste generated only within a landfill's particular jurisdiction and/or watershed boundary; 2) tonnage permit limitations; 3) operational constraints; and 4) corporate objectives of landfill owners and operators.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) was enacted to reduce, recycle, and reuse solid waste generated in the State to the maximum amount feasible. Specifically, the Act required city and county jurisdictions to identify an implementation schedule to divert 50 percent of the total waste stream from landfill disposal by the year 2000 and 70 percent by the year 2020. The Act also requires each city and county to promote source reduction, recycling, and safe disposal or transformation.

AB 939 further requires each city to conduct a Solid Waste Generation Study and to prepare a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) to describe how it would reach the goals. The SRRE contains programs and policies for fulfillment of the goals of the Act, including the above-noted diversion goals and must be updated annually to account for changing market and infrastructure conditions. As projects and programs are implemented, the characteristics of the waste stream, the capacities of the current solid waste disposal facilities, and the operational status of those facilities are upgraded, as appropriate. California cities and counties are required to submit annual reports to the California Integrated Waste Management Board to update the Board on the city's progress toward the AB 939 goals. To date, implementation of AB 939 has proven to be a successful method of reducing landfill waste.

The proposed project would contract with a hauler of their choice that would serve the area. Solid waste is disposed at a variety of landfills, depending on with whom the hauler has contracts. Given that landfills have certain guidelines to follow on what types of waste they can accept and from where, there are several possibilities on where the proposed project's waste will go, including: Calabasas Sanitary Landfill, the Azusa Landfill, or the Bradley Landfill. Calabasas Landfill, located in Agoura, has

22,678,600 cubic yards of capacity remaining with an average daily intake of 1,650 tons per day. The Azusa Landfill, located in the City of Azusa, has 34.1 million cubic yards of capacity remaining with an average daily intake of 1,750 tons per day. The Bradley Landfill, located in Sun Valley, has 4,881,010 cubic yards of capacity remaining with an average daily intake of 4,961 tons per day. However, the Bradley Landfill is in the process of proposing to expand its facility to accommodate more waste.¹³

Facility expansions and new landfills are being sought as existing facility capacity diminishes. Also, mandatory City waste reduction and recycling programs (in compliance with the September 1989 California Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, AB 939) are greatly reducing the amount of waste that would otherwise have entered area landfills.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Thresholds of Significance

The proposed project would have a significant impact on solid waste if there was the need for an additional solid waste collection route, or recycling or disposal facility to adequately handle the proposed project's waste.

Project Impacts

The grading and excavation phases of the proposed project would require the removal of 100,000 cubic yards (cy) of earth and the demolition of the existing on-site apartments. The project will also require the import of 75,000 cy for landslide repair. Much of the solid waste generated during the construction phase such as wood, metal scrap, and formed construction board (cement and dry wall board) could be recycled and salvaged to the maximum feasible extent. Materials not recycled would be disposed of at local landfills. Construction plans and specifications bid packages should require the construction contractor to work with the County Recycling Coordinator to ensure that source reduction techniques and recycling measures are incorporated into project construction and that building materials made of recycled materials be considered for use to the extent feasible and economically practical.

The landfills that would serve the project site, Calabasas, Azusa and Bradley, would all have sufficient capacity to accommodate the solid waste generated by the project's construction phase. Therefore, solid waste impacts during the demolition and construction of the proposed project would be insignificant.

¹³ *California Integrated Waste Management Board Active Disposal Sites, January 2001.*

Upon full occupancy of the proposed project, daily solid waste generated by the residents is estimated to be approximately 2,870 pounds per week (See Table IV.K-6). Solid waste generated on-site would be disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations related to solid waste.

Although existing landfills in Los Angeles County are near capacity, potential expansion could accommodate the potential growth projected for the region. There is additional capacity available within Los Angeles County through the proposed expansions of the Puente Hills Landfill and the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, and outside of Los Angeles County through the use of waste-by-rail at the proposed Eagle Mountain Landfill in Riverside County and the proposed Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County. Therefore, no significant solid waste impacts would be created by the proposed project.

**Table IV.K-6
Estimated Solid Waste Generation by the Proposed Project**

Land Use	Size (SF)	Generation Rate (pounds/week/du) ^{a*}	Total (pounds/week)
Multi-Family Residential (townhomes and flats)	82 DU	35	2,870
Total Solid Waste Generation			2,870
^a Source: Santa Monica Environmental and Public Works Management, 1995.			
* These rates are recognized by the City of Los Angeles			

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Implementation of the proposed project in conjunction with the related projects identified in Section II.B would further increase the demand on landfill capacity. As shown in Table IV.K-7, the total solid waste generation by the related projects and the proposed project would be approximately 16,779 pounds per week, 872,508 pounds per year. The proposed project's estimated generation would account for approximately 17 percent of the cumulative total. As with the proposed project, related projects would be required to participate in the City's recycling program, thus reducing the amount of solid waste to be disposed of at the landfills described above. Because future landfill capacity will be sufficient to accommodate solid waste generation from the proposed and related projects, cumulative solid waste impacts would not be significant.

**Table IV.K-7
Proposed and Related Projects Weekly Solid Waste Generation**

Project	Land Use	Size (SF)	Generation Rate (pounds/week/du)^{a*}	Total (pounds/week)
Proposed Project	Multi-Family Residential(townhomes and flats)	82 DU	35	2,870
<i>Subtotal</i>				<i>2,870</i>
Related Projects	Museum	235,000	420/week/10,000 sf ^b	9,870
	Beach Club	38,666	420/week/10,000 sf ^b	1,624
	Single-Family Dwelling Units	7 DU	70	490
	Multi-Family Condo	37 DU	35	1,295
<i>Subtotal</i>				<i>13,909</i>
<i>Cumulative Total</i>				<i>16,779</i>
^a Santa Monica Environmental and Public Works Management, 1995.				
[*] The City of Los Angeles recognizes these rates.				
^b Used the Commercial/Industrial Generation rate.				

MITIGATION MEASURES

The proposed project would not result in any significant solid waste impacts; therefore, no mitigation measures are required. However, the following recommendations are suggested to reduce the project's less than significant solid waste impacts:

- The project applicant should demonstrate that construction and demolition debris, to the maximum extent feasible, would be salvaged and recycled in a practical, available, and accessible manner during the construction phase.
- The applicant shall institute a recycling program to the satisfaction of the Deputy Advisory Agency to reduce the volume of solid waste going to landfills in compliance with the City's goal of a 70 percent reduction in the amount of solid waste going to landfills by the year 2020.
- Recycling bins shall be provided at appropriate locations to promote recycling of paper, metal, glass, and other recyclable material.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

Project impacts on solid waste service would be less than significant.