

# City of Galt

## Parks Master Plan Update

Initial Study / Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration

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Prepared for:



The City of Galt

June 1, 2010

Prepared by:  
 **FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**  
2010

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# 1.0 MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION INFORMATION SHEET

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Galt Parks Master Plan Update

**PROJECT LOCATION:** City of Galt

**DATE:** June 1, 2010

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** City of Galt Parks and Recreation Department

**LEAD AGENCY:** City of Galt

**CONTACT PERSON:** Sandra Kiri, Principal Planner

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The City of Galt Parks Master Plan Update proposes a planning strategy for the provision and management of City recreation facilities and programs in the area defined by the City of Galt and the General Plan Planning Area (Planning Area). See Section 3.0 for additional Project Description details.

## DECLARATION

The City of Galt has determined that implementation of the Galt Parks Master Plan Update project will not result in significant effects on the environment and therefore does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This determination is based on the attached Initial Study in support of the following findings:

- The project will not degrade environmental quality, substantially reduce habitat, cause a wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, reduce the number or restrict the range of special-status species, or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.
- The project does not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
- The project will not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
- The project will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.
- No substantial evidence exists that the project will have a negative or adverse effect on the environment.

The project incorporates all applicable mitigation measures identified in the attached Initial Study (IS).

This draft proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) reflects the independent judgment of the lead agency.

Written comments shall be submitted no later than 30 days from the posting date. The City of Galt determination on this draft MND shall be final.

Submit comments in writing to:

Sandra Kiriu AICP, Principal Planner  
City of Galt Planning Department  
495 Industrial Drive  
Galt, CA 95632  
Fax: (209) 744-1642

Or by e-mail to:

[skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us](mailto:skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us)

## 2.0 INTRODUCTION

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### 2.1 INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This document is an Initial Study supporting a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) determination for the **Galt Parks Master Plan Update** project (Master Plan). This MND evaluates the potential impacts resulting from implementation of the Master Plan at the Plan level. As future facilities are proposed for improvement, subsequent environmental analysis will be conducted and documentation will be prepared pursuant to CEQA as relevant for individually proposed projects based on site-specific characteristics and the nature of the project as proposed and defined by the project description. This MND has been prepared in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines, 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15000 et seq.

An Initial Study (IS) is prepared by a Lead Agency to determine if a project has the potential to result in significant impacts on the environment (CEQA Guidelines Section 15063). An EIR must be prepared if an IS indicates that the proposed project under review may result in significant impacts to the environment. A Negative Declaration may be prepared instead, if the Lead Agency prepares a written statement describing the reasons why a proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore does not require the preparation of an EIR. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when either:

- a) The Initial Study documents that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project may result in any significant effect on the environment, or
- b) The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects, but:
  - (1) Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before the proposed negative declaration is released for public review would avoid potentially significant impacts or mitigate potential impacts to less than significant levels, and
  - (2) There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency that the proposed project as revised, may result in significant impacts to the environment.

#### 2.1.1 Tiering (Guidelines §§15152, 15385; Pub. Res. Code §21093)

“Tiering” is a concept referring to use of the analysis presented in a broad EIR, such as a General Plan EIR, for use in subsequent EIRs or Negative Declarations (ND) on more focused projects, incorporating by reference the general discussion contained in the broader EIR, and concentrating the later EIR or ND on issues specific to the later project. Tiering is appropriate when the sequence of analysis is from an EIR prepared for a general plan, policy or program, to an EIR or ND prepared for another policy, plan, or program of lesser scope, or to a site-specific EIR or ND. CEQA encourages tiering to eliminate repetitive discussions of the same issues, and allows for focusing in later EIRs and NDs on issues ripe for discussion at each level.

Tiering is used in this document by relying on the City of Galt General Plan Policy Document, Existing Conditions Report, and the EIR prepared for the General Plan, as the initial basis for analyzing the potential environmental impacts of implementation of the proposed Galt Parks Master Plan Update. The analysis of the Master Plan, therefore, need not examine those effects which were addressed in the earlier EIR and mitigated or avoided by adoption of the General

Plan Goals and Policies, or which were examined at a sufficient level of detail in the earlier EIR to allow the effects to be avoided or mitigated as part of the project approval process.

## 2.1.2 Incorporation by Reference

Pursuant to Section 15150 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the documents listed below are hereby incorporated by reference. Relevant information from these documents has been summarized and incorporated into individual resource issue area discussions. Citations have been included to indicate from which document information has been summarized. All documents are on file and available for review at the City of Galt Community Development Department office located in the City of Galt at 495 Industrial Drive.

- City of Galt, *Municipal Code*
- Mintier et al., 2005, *2030 Galt General Plan Existing Conditions Report*, November 2005, with 2008 updates to the Traffic, Fire, and Historic Preservation Sections.
- Mintier et al., 2008, *Draft Environmental Impact Report for the 2030 Galt General Plan*, SCH No. 2007082092, Final, March 2009 (Certified April 7, 2009).
- Mintier et al., 2009, *2030 Galt General Plan Policy Document*, City of Galt, April 2009.

## 2.2 LEAD AGENCY

The Lead Agency is the public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a proposed project. CEQA Guidelines Section 15051 states that if a project will be carried out by a public agency that agency shall be the Lead Agency, even if the project would be located within the jurisdiction of another public agency. Since the City of Galt will oversee and implement the project, the City of Galt is the Lead Agency for the Proposed Master Plan Update Project for the purposes of CEQA.

## 2.3 PURPOSE AND DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this Initial Study is to document if implementation of the proposed Galt Parks Master Plan Update project may result in potentially significant impacts on the environment.

This document is divided into the following sections:

- 1.0 Mitigated Negative Declaration Information Sheet**
- 2.0 Introduction and Regulatory Guidance** - provides an introduction and describes the purpose and organization of this document.
- 3.0 Project Description** - provides a detailed description of the proposed project including the location of the project.
- 4.0 Environmental Setting, Impacts and Mitigation Measures** - describes the environmental setting for each of the environmental subject areas, the regulatory setting, where relevant, and evaluates a range of impacts in response to the environmental checklist. Impacts are classified as “no impact”, “less than significant,” “less than significant with mitigation incorporated,” or “potentially

significant.” Where appropriate, mitigation measures are provided that mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.

**5.0 Determination** - provides the environmental determination for the project.

**6.0 Report Preparation and References** - identifies a list of staff and consultants responsible for preparation of this document, and persons and agencies consulted. This section also identifies the references used in preparation of the MND.

**Appendix A – Mitigation Monitoring Plan** – identifies mitigation measures included in the Initial Study and the responsible entity for implementation of the mitigation measures, as required by Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines.

## 2.4 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Determining the significance of an activity is based on the natural and man-made conditions/use of the property at the time the initial study is written. Any proposed change in that condition is weighed along with scientific and factual data, consultation with other agencies, and uses already permitted through the zoning on the property.

A significant effect on the environment is generally defined as a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in the physical environment {Guidelines sec. 15358}. Environment as used in this definition includes the land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects which are historical or aesthetic in nature. The guidelines in the following initial study focus on these elements and are used as tools to determine the potential of whether or not an activity is considered significant {Guidelines section 15065}. Effects are also recognized as to whether they would occur either directly or indirectly as a result of the project.

## 2.5 TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

The Environmental Checklist in this document utilizes the following terminology to describe the various levels of significance associated with project related impacts:

**Potentially Significant Impact:** An impact that may have a "substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15382); the existence of a potentially significant impact requires the preparation of an EIR with respect to such an impact.

**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated:** An impact that could be mitigated to a level of less than significant with the addition of mitigation measures.

**Less Than Significant Impact:** An impact which is less than significant and does not require the implementation of mitigation measures.

**No Impact:** Utilized for checklist items where the project will not have any impact and does not require the implementation of mitigation measures.

## **2.6 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENTING ON THIS INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

For additional information regarding this project, or to review studies or reports referenced in this report, or comment on this document, please contact or send correspondence to:

Sandra Kiriū AICP, Principal Planner  
City of Galt Planning Department  
495 Industrial Drive  
Galt, CA 95632  
Telephone: (209) 366-7230  
Fax: (209) 744-1642

Or by e-mail to:  
[skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us](mailto:skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us)

## 3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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The following subsections describe the proposed project location, components, and characteristics.

### 3.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The Planning Area for the Parks Master Plan Update is defined as the City of Galt and the unincorporated area within the General Plan boundary, encompassing areas located within portions of Sections 12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, and 35, Township 5 North, Range 6 East, Latitude 38° 16' 15.8" North, Longitude 121° 17' 57.5" West, as shown on the *Lodi* USGS 30 Minute Topographic Quadrangle, as shown on **Figure 3.2-1**.

### 3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

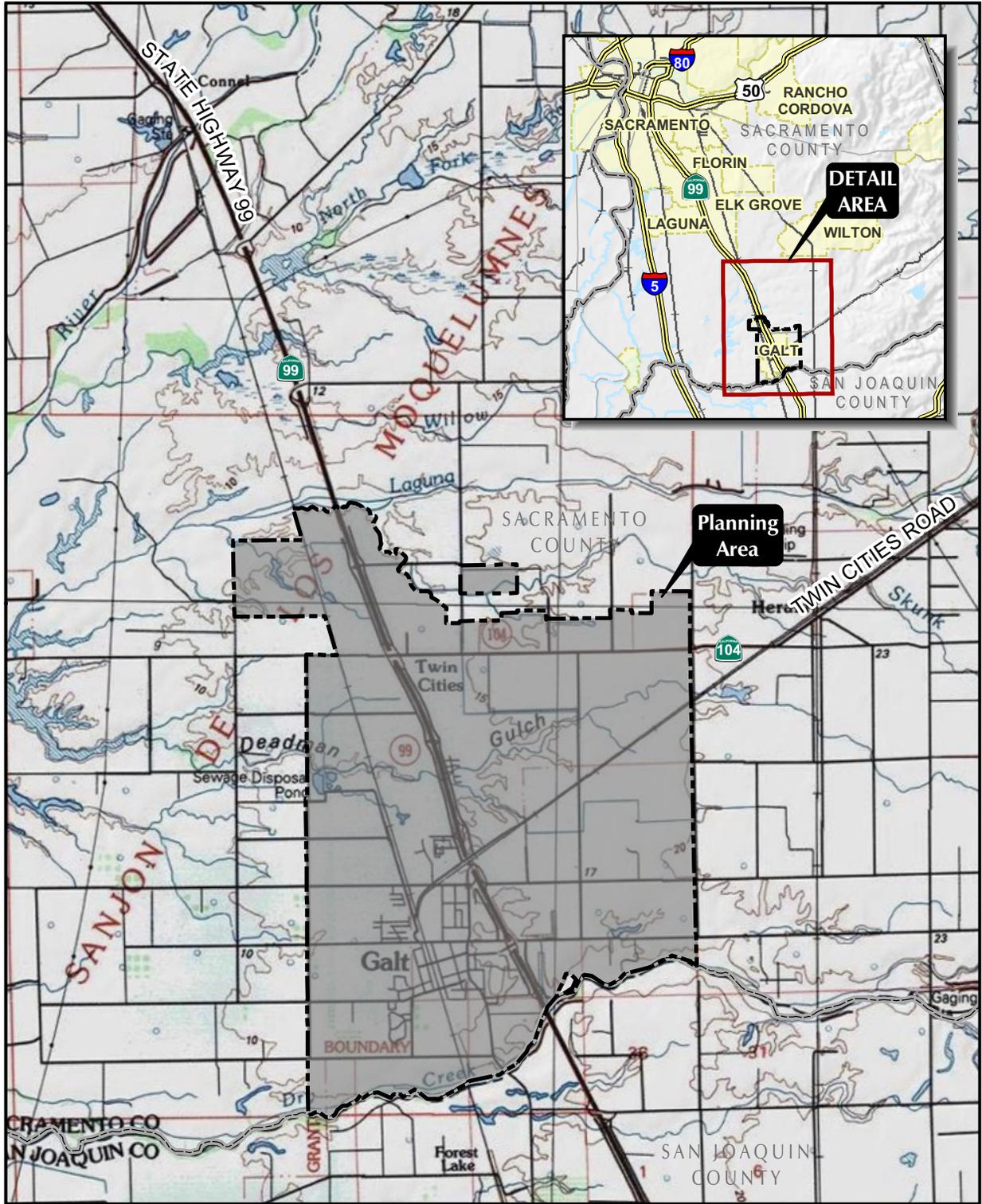
The City of Galt Parks and Recreation Department maintains and manages parks, pools, and public facilities within the city limits and provides community recreation programs. The Department currently manages a total of 23 sites, two of which are undeveloped, ranging from less than an acre to 40 acres in size. The facilities at these parks provide Galt residents with access to a variety of informal recreation activities as well as organized youth and adult sports, picnicking, children's play areas, and nature watching. Additionally, multi-use trails run along the north and south forks of Deadman Gulch, connecting a number of parks and schools. The locations of existing recreation resources within the City of Galt, as well as the proposed locations for future parks within the General Plan boundary area surrounding the City are shown on **Figure 3.2-2**.

Overall, the existing Galt park grounds and facilities are in very good condition. While some of the older parks are in need of general maintenance such as replacing or repairing worn play equipment, picnic tables, and grills, the level of wear is consistent with the age of the parks and well within the normal expected replacement cycle of ongoing park maintenance. Isolated evidence of occasional vandalism is apparent in a few parks, but Parks Maintenance personnel are generally able to repair and/or clean up such damage in a timely fashion. A Comprehensive Parks Security Program is currently under development which will recommend security improvements at each existing park to help address these issues.

Improvements have been made to provide handicap access consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at about half of the parks, including poured-in-place rubber surfacing leading to the swings and transfer station. The City is working to bring the remaining facilities into compliance in accordance with the adopted ADA guidelines.

#### 3.2.1 Surrounding Land Uses

Land use in the City Limits is determined by the City of Galt General Plan and implemented by the requirements of the zoning ordinance. Various types of residential designations are the predominant land uses within the City. The recently updated General Plan also shows a substantial amount of new residential development occurring east of the city limits within the City's proposed SOI. Most of this area is designated as low, medium, and high density residential development with schools and parks to serve the new neighborhoods and designated open space to protect sensitive resources. The areas west of the current city limits included in the Planning Area will remain almost entirely rural residential.



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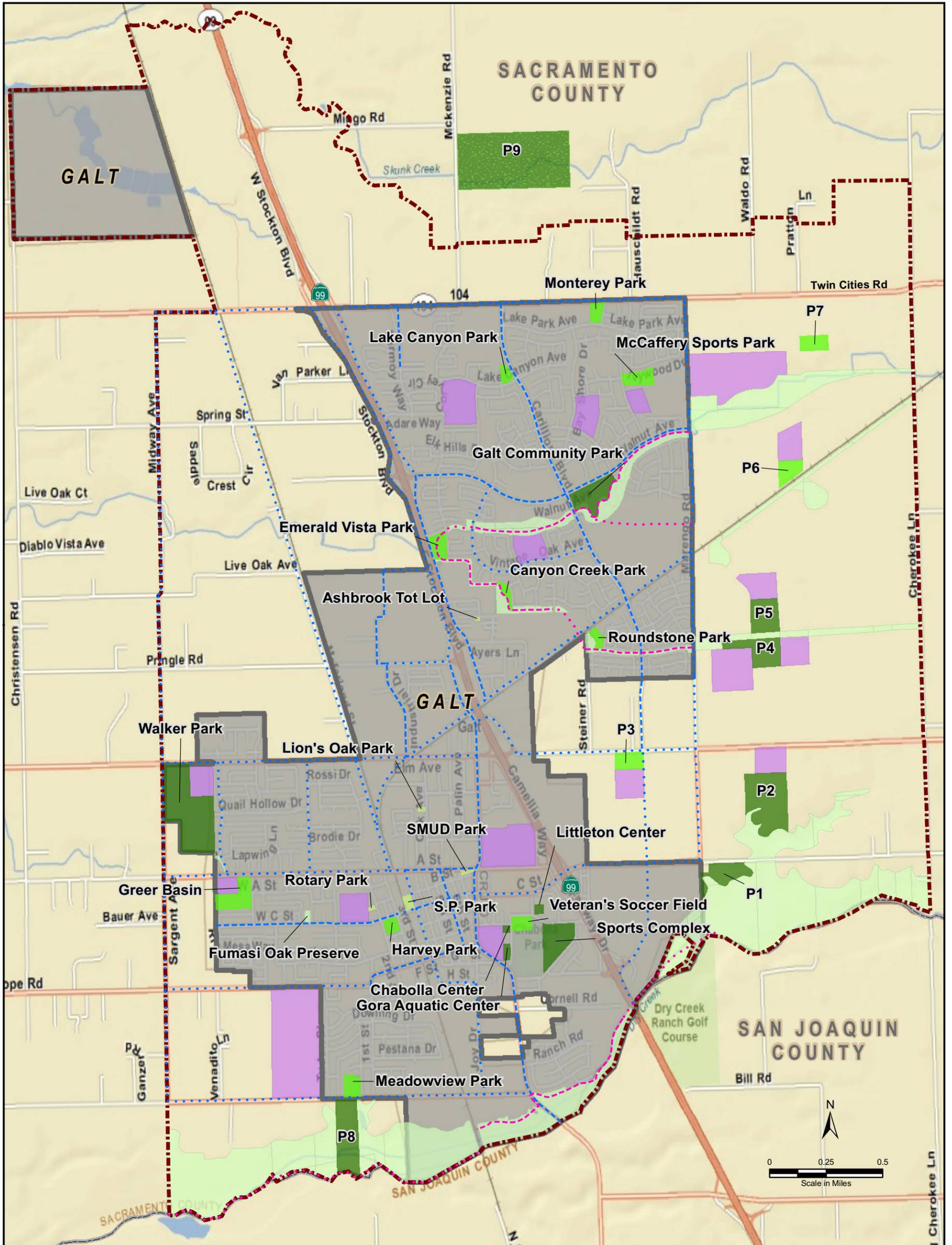
USGS 30 Min. Lodi Quad  
 Township 5N, Range 6E, Sections 12,13,23,24,25,26,27,33,34, & 35  
 Approximate Location: 38° 16' 15.8" N, 121° 17' 57.5" W, NAD 83  
 Approximate Acreage: 8817  
 NGS TOPO! Quad Image Copyright: © 2008 National Geographic Society  
 Planning Area Boundary Provided by Mintier Associates.

**SITE  
AND  
VICINITY**

FIGURE 3.2-1

**FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING • PLANNING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



PARKS/PROPOSED PARK SITES	PEDESTRIAN/BIKE SYSTEM	OTHER FEATURES
Community Parks	Class I Trail	2009 City Limits
Neighborhood Parks	Class I Proposed	General Plan Area
Pocket Parks	Class II Lane	Schools/Proposed School Sites
Open Space	Class II Proposed Lane	Future Park Outside of General Plan Area

**EXISTING AND PROPOSED CITY OF GALT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

FIGURE 3.2-2

04/02/10

**FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**  
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING • PLANNING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Commercial land uses in the Planning Area are concentrated in the historic center of the city, the "C" Street-Lincoln Way district, and east of the Central Galt interchange ("A" Street and "C" Street with Highway 99). In addition there are some commercial parcels along Highway 99 frontage and along Twin Cities Road. Industrial land uses west of Highway 99 are concentrated in the Galt Industrial Park bounded generally by McFarland Road, Elm/Amador Avenue, Highway 99 and Walnut Avenue. There are also industrial land uses planned north of Twin Cities Road along the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. Two other areas designated for industrial land use are located east of Highway 99 south of Boessow Road and east of Highway 99 on Simmerhorn Road.

### 3.2.2 Recreational Programs

The Galt Parks and Recreation Department provides a wide variety of recreational programs and events for residents of all ages. These programs include aquatics, sports teams and camps, arts and cultural classes, and a diverse array of special interest programs. Multiple programs are available for preschoolers, people with special needs, youth/teens, and seniors. The City regularly reviews participation in various programs, as well as suggestions from residents for new programs, to make sure program offerings meet the changing needs of the community.

The range of recreation programs offered in 2006 and 2007 and participation in these programs are shown in **Table 3-1**.

**Table 3-1 — City of Galt Recreation Programs and Participation for 2006-2007**

Activity/Program	Number of Participants	
	2006	2007
<i>Aquatics</i>		
Swim Lessons	1,008	998
Recreational Swim Team (Gators)	196	205
Lap Swim/Watercise	1,500	1,000
Galt Area Swim Program	202	57
Lifeguard Training	21	20
Water Safety Instructor	8	11
Gators Swim Clinics	122	118
<i>Recreation</i>		
Adult Golf	19	4
Adult Basketball - Teams	19	20
CPR/First Aid Classes	6	14
Basketball Camp	59	
Basketball - Youth	652	605
Bus Trips	236	127
Crafting With Santa		27
Fitness in a Chair	1	4
Fitness is Forever	1,941	1,906
Cheer - Jr. Warriors	102	101
Football - Jr. Warriors	151	135
Football Camp		160
Football Conditioning		100
Guitar	41	
Gymnastics	132	153
Hunter Safety	40	40
Instr/T-Ball/Softball - Youth	701	668

Activity/Program	Number of Participants	
	2006	2007
Junior Golf Lessons	34	12
Karate	76	29
Kids in the Park		482
Kidsafe Cheer	34	12
Kidsafe Self-Defense	143	116
Line Dancing - Seniors	25	37
Preschool Program	96	98
Release the Voice	5	
Scottish Country Dance	16	
Adult Softball - Teams	71	82
Senior Games	40	35
STAR	35	40
Summer Band Program		56
Summer Concert Band		52
T'ai Chi	341	233
Tang Soo Do		66
Teen Dances		200
Tennis Youth	46	47
Tennis Clinic - Adults	8	
Adult Volleyball - Teams	6	7
Wrestling Conditioning	9	
Young Rembrandts		9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8,142</b>	<b>8,086</b>

The City also coordinates a number of community-oriented special events each year. These events play an important role in helping to establish the community's sense of identity and provide opportunities for families and neighbors to interact, share common experiences, and strengthen relationships. Some of these events also draw considerable visitation to the City from the region and help generate revenue for local merchants. Special annual events include the Winter Bird Festival, Strawberry Festival, Galt Festival and 4th of July fireworks, the Holiday Tree Lighting, and magic shows. Additionally, there are a number of sporting events coordinated by the City Recreation staff such as the Punt, Pass, and Kick and MLB Pepsi Pitch, Hit, and Run competitions.

City recreation programs and special events are publicized through a comprehensive annual brochure that is available online and in hard copy from the Parks and Recreation Department. The brochure includes information on facility rentals and contacts for various recreation programs that are run by other local organizations. In this way, the City Parks and Recreation Department helps publicize non-City programs in a collaborative effort to help meet residents' recreation needs and leverage limited City resources.

### 3.2.2.1 Other Recreational Programs

While the City of Galt offers a diverse range of recreation programs, a number of programs provided by other organizations or special interest groups are also available to local residents. These organizations include the Galt 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Boy Scouting through the Greater Yosemite Council, and Girl Scouting through the Heart of Central California Council. The

Galt Dance Center provides recreational opportunities for dance enthusiasts. A number of private sports clubs provide youth and adult athletic opportunities.

County Line Youth Soccer League offers both competitive and recreational soccer opportunities for youth in the Galt area. Recreational fall soccer leagues include players ranging from four to 18 years in age. The fall season is followed by a short winter league in January and February. Competitive teams are active throughout the year with players between the ages of eight and 18.

Many of these organizations rely heavily on volunteers to operate their programs, but have no dedicated facilities of their own. Some of the groups look to the City or local schools to provide facilities for their programs. For example, County Line Youth Soccer League uses Veterans' Field and other fields at a number of elementary and middle schools in Galt and surrounding communities. As the community grows, it is likely that the demand on City recreation facilities will also increase.

### **3.2.3 School Resources**

Two public school districts provide services in the City of Galt. The Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (GJUESD) serves children from kindergarten through 8th grade at four elementary and two middle schools. The Galt Joint Union High School District (GJUHSD) serves two high schools, Galt High School and Estrellita Continuation High School, that provide 9th through 12th grade education. GJUHSD also provides adult education classes. A third high school, Liberty Ranch High School, will open in the fall of 2009.

School campuses provide many recreational amenities to their neighborhoods in the form of sports fields and courts, play structures, and meeting areas. After school hours, some of these facilities are used informally by local residents, while others are made available for City recreation programs through formal joint use agreements with the City. These agreements also provide schools with access to certain City park facilities for use during school hours. The City and the districts share in various aspects of facility development, maintenance, and operations. These arrangements help maximize the public benefits from resources used to fund both schools and parks.

The City currently has three joint use agreements with GJUESD. The agreements cover the McCaffery Sports Park adjacent to McCaffery Middle School, the ball fields at Marengo Ranch Elementary School, and general provisions for shared use at other District facilities and City parks at the discretion of the District Business Manager and the Parks and Recreation Director.

Additionally, one joint use agreement with GJUHSD includes similar general provisions for shared use at other District facilities and City parks at the discretion of the District Business Manager and the Parks and Recreation Director.

### **3.2.4 Existing Recreational Facilities**

Existing recreational facilities within the City of Galt are summarized in **Table 3-2**.

Table 3-2 — Galt Park Inventory

Facility (Address)	Total Acreage	Active Acreage	Passive Acreage	Pocket Park	Neighborhood Park Acreage	Community Park Acreage	Open Space Acreage	Within Galt City Limits?	Amphitheater	Little League Ballfields	Reg. Hardball Ballfields	Softball Ballfields	Regulation Soccer Field	Multi-Use Field	Outdoor Volleyball	Outdoor Basketball (# of hoops)	Tennis Courts	Children's Play Area	Tot Lot	Water Play Area	Swimming Pool	Multipurpose Room	Community Center	Non-group Area Picnic Tables	Group Area Picnic Tables	Group Picnic Area	Horseshoe Pit	Skate Park	Dog Park	Restrooms (incl. Porta Potties)	Pond/Lake	Paths/Trails	Natural/Nature Area	Off-Street Parking	Maintenance Shop	Remarks		
Canyon Creek Park (Canyon Creek Way)	2.00	2.00			2.00			Y								1		1	1					2	5	1				Y		Y	Y			Unisex restroom, on multipurpose trail		
Emerald Vista Park (Winn Dr. & Emerald Vista Dr.)	4.40	4.40			4.40			Y										1						6						Y		Y	Y			Unisex restroom, NE corner of park cut off from rest by creek		
Fumasi Oak Preserve (Emerald Oak Dr. & W. "C" St.)	0.84	0.00	0.84				0.84	Y																							Y	Y						
Galt Community Park (Walnut & Carillion)	15.00	15.00				15.00		Y				1	1	2	2	5		1	1					25	5	1	2			Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Concession Stand, connects to trail, large play area, all courts lighted		
Gora Aquatic Center & Chabolla Park (630 Chabolla Ave.)	1.50	1.50				1.50		Y												1	1			5			1			Y		Y		Y		Skate park and swim center		
Ashbrook Park (Lyonia Dr.)	0.16	0.16		0.16				Y											1	1																		
Greer Basin (West "A" St. & Fumasi Dr.)	7.00	7.00			7.00			Y			3		1											4	4	1				Y		Y				1 lighted, also 2 practice fields, no ADA in play area, adjoins Greer MS		
Harvey Park & Annex (2nd St. & "C" St.)	3.25	3.25			3.25			Y	1															5						Y		Y				Lighted ball field, Concession stand		
Lake Canyon Park (Lake Canyon Ave.)	2.00	2.00			2.00			Y								1		1	1					2	7	1	1			Y		Y						
Lion's Oak Park (Oak Ave.)	0.30	0.30		0.30				Y																								Y					Oaks, olives, and walnuts, new play equipment	
Meadowview Park (Meadowview Dr. & Kost Rd.)	4.50	4.50			4.50			Y	2															4	1					Y		Y					Unisex restrooms with 2-stalls each	
Monterey Park (Lake Park & Monterey Bay Ct.)	2.90	2.90			2.90			Y								2		1	1					6	1		2		Y		Y							
McCaffery Sports Park (Park Terrace Dr.)	5.35	5.35			5.35			Y			3		1											1						Y		Y		Y			Shared with school, 3 softball backstops, soccer field in center, unisex restroom	
Rotary Park (2nd Street)	0.30	0.30		0.30				Y																								Y					Throughway to school, mature oak at corner. Vacant lot adjacent to north.	
Roundstone Park (Roundstone Dr.)	1.90	1.90			1.90			Y										1	1					4	3	1						Y	Y					
S.P. Park (4th & "C" St.)	1.20	1.20		1.20				Y																													Open turf with alley of date palms, WWI memorial	
SMUD Park (Lincoln Way & "A" St.)	0.70	0.70		0.70				Y																													Monument, open turf and redwoods	
Sports Complex (1022 Caroline Ave.)	11.00	11.00				11.00		Y				3												31	5					Y		Y		Y			Lighted fields, concession stand, three shelters with multiple tables	
Veteran's Soccer Field (900 Caroline Ave.)	2.50	2.50			2.50			Y					1																	Y		Y					Lighted field and bleachers, unisex restroom	
Chabolla Center (600 Chabolla Ave.)	0.19	0.19				0.19		Y														1	1											Y			8,228 sq. ft. Community Center	
Littleton Center (420 Civic Dr.)	0.19	0.19				0.19		Y																										Y			8,940 sq. ft. Community Center	
Galt Flea Market (Caroline & Chabolla)	15.00	15.00				15.00		Y																														
Dry Creek Trail (0.68 mile)	4.00		4.00				4.00	Y																														
Deadman Gulch Trail (2.98 miles)	54.36		54.36				54.36	Y																														
<b>Total</b>	<b>140.54</b>	<b>81.34</b>	<b>59.20</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>35.80</b>	<b>42.88</b>	<b>59.20</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>									

### 3.2.4.1 Parks

#### **Park Classifications**

The City of Galt recognizes several different types of parks, all of which contribute in different ways to the overall recreation vision for the community.

#### Linear Parks

Linear parks are corridors along natural areas that may include a trail and scattered picnic sites but are not usually appropriate for active use facilities, such as sports fields, that require broader spaces. The Deadman Gulch Trail System is an example of a linear park.

#### Pocket Parks

Pocket parks are usually one acre or smaller and provide very limited facilities. Pocket parks are often the by-product of other planning decisions or site limitations. They may result from the establishment of public landscaping around monuments, when protected natural resources limit development of a small parcel, or when the development pattern results in a small residual piece of property. The City is no longer developing pocket parks because of their limited functionality and the disproportionate cost of maintenance per acre when compared to larger parks. Six pocket parks are located in the Planning Area; all are within the city limits (**Table 3-3**).

**Table 3-3 — Galt Pocket Parks**

<b>Park Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Ashbrook Tot Lot	Lyonia Dr.	0.16
Lion's Oak Park	Oak Ave.	0.30
Rotary Park	2nd St.	0.30
SMUD Park	Lincoln Way. and "A" St.	0.70
Fumasi Oak Preserve	Emerald Oak Dr. and W. "C" St.	0.84
S.P. Park	4th and "C" St.	1.20
TOTAL:		3.50

#### Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks typically range in size from four to eight acres in size, depending on proximity to schools and the density of the neighborhoods they serve. The minimum size of a neighborhood park is set at four acres to maximize the efficiency of maintenance and provide design flexibility. Neighborhood parks usually includes a combination of picnic areas, play structures, paths, tennis courts, basketball courts, and/or sports fields and are intended to be used by all age groups.

The City currently has ten facilities that function primarily as neighborhood parks (**Table 3-4**). Only four of these meet the recommended minimum standard for acreage. The other six neighborhood parks are all less than four acres in size because of constraints on available land and/or resources at the time the parks were developed. However, two of these parks are adjacent to other public open space or recreation features that enhance the functional value of the parks. Canyon Creek Park is located on the Deadman Gulch Trail System, and the Veterans' Soccer Field is next to the Gora Aquatic Center and Chabolla Park. Three additional sites totaling 17 acres are designated as potential future neighborhood park sites in the unincorporated Planning Area.

**Table 3-4 — Galt Existing Neighborhood Parks**

Park Name	Location	Acres
Roundstone Park	Roundstone Drive	1.90
Canyon Creek Park	Canyon Creek Way	2.00
Lake Canyon Park	Lake Canyon Avenue	2.00
Veterans' Soccer Field	900 Caroline Ave.	2.50
Harvey Park	2nd St. and "C" St.	3.25
Monterey Park	Lake Park and Monterey Bay Court	2.90
Emerald Vista Park	Winn Dr. and Emerald Vista Dr.	4.40
Meadowview Park	Meadowview Dr. and Kost Rd.	4.50
McCaffery Sports Park	Park Terrace Drive	5.35
Greer Basin	West "A" St. and Fumasi Dr.	7.00
TOTAL:		35.80

Community Parks

Community parks are typically from eight to 40 acres and may include the same basic amenities found at neighborhood parks, along with more specialized facilities such as a swimming pool, nature areas, sports field complexes, a skate park, gymnasiums, community centers, and/or meeting rooms. These specialized facilities are intended to serve the larger community. When community parks include the basic neighborhood park amenities, they often also serve as the neighborhood park for residents living nearby.

Galt has six existing community recreation facilities totaling 42.88 acres (**Table 3-5**). A seventh community park, Walker Park (39.2 acres), will soon be under construction. Another community park is to be located south of Kost Road (20.5 acres). Six additional sites totaling 122.6 acres are designated as potential community park sites in the unincorporated Planning Area.

**Table 3-5 — Galt Existing Community Parks**

Park Name	Location	Acres
Gora Aquatic Center and Chabolla Park	630 Chabolla Ave.	1.50
Sports Complex	1022 Caroline Ave.	11.00
Galt Community Park	Walnut Ave. and Carillion Blvd.	15.00
Chabolla Center	600 Chabolla Ave.	0.19
Littleton Center	420 Civic Drive	0.19
Galt Market	Caroline Ave. and Chabolla Ave.	15.00
TOTAL:		42.88

Regional Parks

A regional park is generally larger than a community park and may include amenities found in both neighborhood and community parks. It will generally also include additional specialized facilities or a unique combination of facilities that will attract usage from the surrounding region. Galt currently has no regional parks. An 80-acre parcel north of the city on MacKenzie Road may eventually be developed as a regional park site, when resources become available and population density warrants the expenditure.

### **Existing City of Galt Parks**

Park sites are widely distributed throughout the City, and many of the Planning Area parks are adjacent to existing or proposed school sites. Locating parks and schools in this manner provides opportunities for future joint use of school and park facilities by the City and the school districts.

Galt has two developed community recreation areas. The first area includes the Galt Market and various facilities in the vicinity: the Gora Aquatic Center/Chabolla Park, Veteran's Soccer Field, and the Sports Complex. The Littleton Community Center is located just north of the Sports Complex. The second major community facility is the Galt Community Park, which connects with trails that run east and west along the north fork of Deadman Gulch.

The **Gora Aquatic Center/Chabolla Park** is a narrow 1.5-acre park along Chabolla Avenue. It is bounded on the west by Fairsite Elementary School. Features of this park include the Park and Recreation Department offices, Chabolla Community Center, a skatepark, and the Gora Aquatic Center. The aquatic center has an eight-lane competition pool, with covered spectator bleachers, and a recreation pool area. The recreation pool has two water slides, a beach-entry area, and a mushroom-shaped spray feature. The aquatic center has separate men's, women's, and family changing rooms. A small picnic area with a grill is located between the skate park and the aquatic center. Off-street parking is available next to the aquatic center and across the street next to the Galt Market.

**Veteran's Soccer Field** is 2.5 acres. This regulation-size lighted soccer field is located on Caroline Drive across from the Park and Recreation Department offices. It has a unisex restroom and full-size bleachers. The soccer field shares a parking lot with the Galt Market.

The 11-acre **Sports Complex** borders the east side of the Galt Market. It has a softball complex consisting of three lighted fields and a concession stand. Outside of the softball complex is a play area and three covered picnic areas. Restrooms are located inside the Sports Complex, which is kept locked when not in use.

**The Galt Market** is a 15-acre parcel located west of the Sports Complex. It is the site of a twice-weekly City-operated flea market that draws local residents as well as many visitors from around the region looking for bargains on all types of produce, house wares, clothing, and new and used merchandise. The Galt Market site is also one of the venues for the annual Galt Festival in July. Recent improvements include new shade structures and renovated restrooms.

**Galt Community Park** is a 15-acre park located at the southeast corner of Walnut Avenue and Carillion Boulevard. It is bounded on the south by a multi-use trail that runs along Deadman Gulch. Recreation amenities at the park include lighted tennis courts, sand volleyball, basketball courts, a lighted adult baseball/soccer field and concession complex, a large play area and tot lot, horseshoe courts, a picnic shelter, and many picnic tables. Four interpretive signs are located along the trail. A large central parking lot serves the park.

**Meadowview Park** is a 4.5-acre park located at the intersection of Meadowview Road and Kost Road in the southwest corner of the City. The majority of the park is dedicated to two Little League fields, both of which have bleachers for spectators. The park has a restroom building with separate men's and women's facilities. Meadowview Park has two play areas, both focused at children in the 5-12 age range. A tot swing and one spring rider are available for younger children. A chain link fence enclosing a large above-ground storage tank is located in the northeast corner of the park. The park also has a shade shelter, but it is not connected to the paths in the rest of the park. All parking is on-street.

**Greer Basin** is a 7-acre park located on the west side of the City next to Greer Middle School at the intersection of West 'A' Street and Fumasi Drive. A portion of the park also serves as a stormwater retention basin and drains to Hen Creek. The south half contains three lighted adult softball/hardball fields, one of which has spectator bleachers and a dug-out area. The north half of the park has two overlapping softball fields, both of which have spectator bleachers and players' benches. None of the fields have skinned infields or base lines. A picnic area, play area, and restroom building are located at street level between the two sets of fields.

The 39-acre **Walker Park** site is located at the corner of Sargent Road and Elm Avenue/Orr Road. It is currently an open field with an old barn and silo complex. Master planning for the park is completed and construction will occur in phases, pending available funding. The park improvements will include a variety of sports fields and a community center.

The **Fumasi Oak Preserve** is a 0.84-acre natural area located at the corner of Emerald Oak Avenue and West "C" Street. Within the preserve are a number of mature native oak trees that give it a distinctive character and ample shade. The preserve is crossed by a winding path with benches and interpretive signs. The landscaping is composed mainly of native plants compatible with oak trees.

**Rotary Park** is a 0.3-acre pocket park between Valley Oaks Elementary School and 2nd Street. The park consists of a bench along a concrete path between the street and school, surrounded by shaded turf. A large interior live oak tree stands at the back corner of the park.

**Harvey Park** includes a 2.8-acre improved area which occupies an entire block bounded by 2nd, 3rd, "B", and "C" Streets in downtown Galt, and a recently added 0.45 acre portion south of "D" Street awaiting improvement. The primary feature of the park is a lighted Little League field. A small grove of interior live oaks shades picnic tables, grills, and a restroom building along the western side of the park.

**S.P. Park** is 1.2 acres and features two rows of date palms in a field of turf surrounding a WWI Veterans' memorial. It is located between 4th Street and the railroad tracks just north of "C" Street. There are no benches or other amenities in the park.

**SMUD Park** is located at the corner of "A" Street and Lincoln Way. It is a small (0.7 acres) grassy triangle buffering an electrical transformer compound. There is a monument at the eastern end of the park to the historic Lincoln Highway, which ran through Galt.

Improvements to **Lion's Oak Park** have been sponsored by the local Lion's Club. This 0.3-acre park is anchored by a number of mature oak, olive, and walnut trees. The play equipment consists of swings, a standing see-saw, a spinning disk, and a large climbing net. Seating is provided by two benches, and a picnic table used to occupy a large concrete pad at the back of the park. The park is located on Oak Avenue and is connected to Alice Rae Circle by an access path.

**Roundstone Park** is a newly constructed 1.9-acre park that adjoins the south fork of Deadman Gulch. It has a play area, tot lot, open turf area, water mister pole, and covered picnic area. There is no access from the park to the natural area along the creek or to a bike trail. A small picnic area provides seating adjacent to the creek corridor. This park has no restroom.

**Canyon Creek Park** is located between Canyon Creek Way and the south fork of Deadman Gulch. Features of this 2.0-acre park include a tot lot, play area, half-basketball court, and restroom. A trellis with wisteria vines shades the group picnic area. Young trees surround a second, smaller picnic area. Canyon Creek Park is backed by a trail along the creek that connects it to Emerald Vista Park. A bridge crosses the creek just upstream of the park, connecting the park to the Ashbrook neighborhood and the Ashbrook Tot Lot. Future

development south of the creek can extend the trail to connect with the Roundstone Park neighborhood.

At approximately 0.16 acres, **Ashbrook Tot Lot** is the smallest park in Galt. It includes a small turf area, swings, a play structure, and a picnic table.

**Emerald Vista Park** is 4.4 acres in size and is located at the confluence of the north and south forks of Deadman Gulch. It is connected to Canyon Creek Park by a multi-use trail. The multi-use trail along the north fork of Deadman Gulch stops approximately one-fifth of a mile short of the park. Emerald Vista Park offers users a large play structure, two small, uncovered picnic areas, and a restroom. The northwest third of the park, with a grassy field and parking pull-out, is cut off from the rest of the site by Deadman Gulch.

The 2.0-acre **Lake Canyon Park** is located at the corner of Carillion Boulevard and Lake Canyon Avenue. Park features include a wisteria-covered picnic shelter arbor, lighted basketball half-court, horseshoe pit, play area, tot lot, restroom, and open turf area.

The **McCaffery Sports Park** adjoins McCaffery Middle School on Park Terrace Drive. It is a 5.35-acre park with three unlighted softball fields and a large turf area that can be used for soccer. The park site is managed under a joint use agreement with the school district. It shares a parking lot with the middle school and is used by the school for physical education classes. A small play area and unisex restroom building are next to the parking lot.

**Monterey Park** is a 2.9-acre park located on the northern boundary of the City. It is unique in that this park includes two dog parks, both with exercise course equipment. In addition to the dog parks, there is a full-court basketball court, a tot lot and play area, a unisex restroom, and a rentable covered group picnic shelter.

### 3.2.4.2 Existing Trails

Trails and circulation are addressed in the Circulation element of the General Plan. In addition, the City of Galt prepared a Bicycle Transportation Plan in 2002 that details the planned bike routes throughout the City. The Bicycle Transportation Plan includes existing and proposed Class I and Class II bike facilities. Class I routes are dedicated to bicycle and pedestrian use and are physically separated from vehicular roads. Class II bike lanes are striped on-street facilities in which cyclists share the road with motorists but have a dedicated lane for bicycle use only. Class II bike routes are not suitable for pedestrians unless a separate sidewalk is available. Currently, 3.66 miles of Class I and 12.01 miles of Class II bicycle routes are in the Planning Area. Another 2.8 miles of Class I and 24.8 miles of Class II trails are proposed for future development in the Planning Area

Several major transportation features effectively divide the Planning Area and constrain bicycle and pedestrian access to parks because of the limited number of crossings. Highway 99 bisects the entire Planning Area from north to south. Two rail lines, one east of McFarland Road and the other south of Amador Road, provide further challenges. The existing and proposed bicycle routes emphasize access to parks and schools for people living within the nearby neighborhoods, while also taking advantage of these limited crossing opportunities to provide connectivity between Planning Area segments.

The Deadman Gulch Trail system includes a Class I multi-use trail made up of three currently unconnected segments, providing access to four parks. The first segment runs along the north fork of Deadman Gulch from Marengo Road past Galt Community Park to just past Lake Canyon Elementary School. This trail stops approximately one-fifth of a mile short of Emerald Vista Park. A proposed Class I trail would provide a continuous connection to a second segment of the trail which follows the south fork of Deadman Gulch from Emerald Vista Park past Canyon Creek

Park. Developing the parcels south of the creek, as specified in the Bicycle Transportation Plan, will create an opportunity to continue this trail. The third segment of this Class I network is south of Roundstone Park north of Trafalgar Road and Paddington Road, ending at Marengo Road.

The Deadman Gulch Trail system is a recreation and a transportation amenity, accessible to both cyclists and pedestrians of all ages. Completing this network will require adding the missing segments described above and refining the design at points where this Class I trail intersects roadways to provide safe transitions that protect trail users and motorists.

For example, at Carillion Boulevard next to the Galt Community Park, pedestrians or cyclists cannot cross Carillion Boulevard without going north to the light at Walnut Avenue. Although Carillion Boulevard has a bike lane, entrances to the multi-use trail have no curb cuts, forcing cyclists to either hop the curb or ride on the sidewalk. Clear trails worn through the median landscaping indicate that trail users prefer to cross directly without the benefit of a signal, rather than detour to Walnut Avenue to use a crosswalk. This is a potentially dangerous situation that could be addressed by adding signage, curb cuts, a crosswalk, and possibly an on-demand signal light to warn oncoming vehicular traffic.

Existing and proposed Class II bike lanes throughout the city provide bicycle access to nine other existing park sites within the city limits, as well as the Walker Park, Kost Road, and Simmerhorn/Carillion park sites outside of the city limits (**Table 3-6**). However, pedestrian access to these parks depends on the presence of sidewalks because Class II bike lanes are not intended for pedestrian use. Six park sites within the City are not on a designated bike route. The Bicycle Transportation Plan has not been updated yet to address the unincorporated Planning Area, and access plans for the remaining six new parks in this area have not been defined. However, five of these park sites are adjacent to designated open space areas that could include Class I trails for access to the parks from local neighborhoods.

**Table 3-6 — Bike Route Access to Parks**

Park Name	Class I Access		Class II Access	
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
Canyon Creek Park	■			
Emerald Vista Park	■			
Fumasi Oak Preserve			■	
Galt Community Park	■		■	
Gora Aquatic Center and Chabolla Park			■	
Ashbrook Tot Lot				
Greer Basin				■
Harvey Park			■	
Lake Canyon Park			■	
Lion's Oak Park				
Meadowview Park				■
Monterey Park			■	
McCaffery Sports Park				
Rotary Park				
Roundstone Park				
S.P. Park				■
SMUD Park			■	
Sports Complex				
Veteran's Soccer Field				
Kost Road Site				■
Walker Park				■

A number of proposed bikeways will link the trails within the City of Galt to the larger region. Sacramento Area Council of Governments's (SACOG) Regional Transit Plan indicates creating a Class I multi-use path connecting Galt to Elk Grove and Rancho Cordova along the Central California Traction Company Railroad tracks, which run east of Galt. The City's Bicycle Transportation Plan proposes expanding trails along Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch. Both of these trails could potentially be extended to connect with the Cosumnes River Preserve, if recreation easements or acquisitions of existing private property can be secured.

### 3.2.4.3 Other Recreational Resources

Galt area residents are fortunate to have access to many additional public and private recreation resources in the region. These resources complement the parks and recreation opportunities provided by the City and offer many unique activities that enrich the lives of City residents.

## **Regional Parks and Amenities**

**McFarland Living History Ranch:** This historic ranch is being restored and preserved by the Galt Area Historical Society. Thirty-five acres of the original 3,800-acre ranch are in use as a living pioneer ranch that provides a unique learning experience for school children of all ages. The pioneer ranch house, bunk house, carriage house, metal shop, tank house, privy, wash house, barn, chicken coop, and animal pens have been restored. Special events held at the ranch include the Old Car Festival and Historic Tractor Show.

The 43-acre **Lodi Lake Park**, operated as a regional park by the City of Lodi, is located on the Mokelumne River adjacent to the **Lodi Lake Nature Area**. The park has five group picnic areas available for rent. Swimming, fishing, and boating are allowed in the lake. The Nature Area has both paved and unpaved trails along the river. The Lake Discovery Museum is located in the Nature Area, and docents offer guided tours through the riparian area for a minimal fee.

**Micke Grove Regional Park** is a 258-acre regional park operated by San Joaquin County and located 14 miles south of Galt off Highway 99 between Lodi and Stockton. This park includes the Micke Grove Zoo, a Japanese Garden and Tea Pavilion, Fun Town Amusement Park, the San Joaquin History Museum, and Micke Grove Golf Course, in addition to picnic shelters, ball fields and children's play areas.

**Elk Grove Regional Park** is a 127-acre Sacramento County regional park in Elk Grove 10 miles north of Galt off Highway 99. The park amenities include abundant open space and oak trees; softball, baseball, and soccer fields; horseshoe and volleyball courts; a swim center; several group picnic areas and playgrounds; an off-leash dog park; a stocked lake for fishing; the Pavilion with meeting and banquet kitchen facilities; and Strauss Island, home of the Strauss Festival.

The **Rancho Seco Recreational Area** is operated by the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) and is located approximately 15 miles from Galt. The 160-acre lake was created as an emergency water supply for the decommissioned Rancho Seco power generating station. In addition to fishing and boating activities, the recreation area offers both tent and RV camping and day use areas for picnicking and hiking. The area includes the 75-acre Amanda Blake Memorial Wildlife Refuge, which is home to a number of endangered exotic animals that were rescued from the illegal animal trade. The seven mile Howard Ranch Trail offers a scenic hike through vernal pools and grasslands.

The **Cosumnes River Preserve** is located approximately five miles west of Galt. It was established in 1987 and has grown to more than 46,000 acres, with participation from various partners including: The Nature Conservancy, Sacramento County, Ducks Unlimited, and State and federal agencies. The preserve offers a variety of options for wildlife viewing and low-impact recreation. Two public hiking trails are open year-round, and other guided hikes are offered periodically throughout the year. The preserve is open to non-motorized watercraft. A visitors' center is open on weekends throughout the year. Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch both flow into the preserve.

The **Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge**, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), is located 15 miles northwest of Galt, near Elk Grove. It is open for wildlife viewing and hosts special events throughout the year. The USFWS runs a waterfowl hunting program on part of the preserve two days a week from October through January.

Galt is located approximately 30 miles from the **Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta**. This extensive network of river channels and sloughs offers a variety of water sport and wildlife recreation opportunities. Boating, fishing, swimming, and sailboarding are all popular on the Delta. There are also opportunities for wildlife viewing and hunting.

Although no golf courses are located within the City of Galt, the public 18-hole **Dry Creek Ranch Golf Course** is located just south of town. **Lockeford Springs Golf Course** is an 18-hole championship links-style public course in Lodi. The **Emerald Lakes Golf Course** in Elk Grove is a 9-hole regulation length course. For shorter games, the **Forest Lake Golf Course** in Acampo offers an 18-hole executive length course.

### **3.3 BACKGROUND**

The City of Galt Parks and Recreation Department, established in 1985, is responsible for all aspects of park planning, facility design, maintenance, and operation, as well as the coordination of a diverse array of recreation programs. The Department also operates the popular Galt Market, a twice weekly open-air market that attracts vendors and customers from the entire region. The Department has six divisions: Parks, Recreation, Galt Market, and Administration employ a total of ten permanent staff. The Aquatic Center division includes a variety of seasonal, part-time staff. The Library division is responsible for operation and planning for the Library, however the Library is not addressed in the Master Plan.

The City of Galt parks and recreation programs are complemented by the recreation resources offered by other public entities in the region such as the City of Lodi, SMUD, and Cosumnes Community Services District. Residents also have access to a number of privately operated special interest recreation programs and facilities.

To develop the Master Plan, a comprehensive needs assessment was conducted that examined park facilities, recreation programs, and the operational and administrative aspects of Galt's recreation resources. Existing and projected demographics were also examined to determine what parks and programs are currently needed, as well as those that will be needed in the future.

Following this analysis, planning standards were developed to guide various aspects of park development such as preferred locations, types of improvements, and quantity of parks. These standards were then combined with information on residents' needs and preferences gathered through several community workshops and two surveys. Throughout this process, oversight and direction were provided by a nine-member Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. Committee members represented a variety of perspectives and all shared a passionate interest in maintaining the quality of the City's parks and recreation resources.

A list of strategies and recommendations was then developed and prioritized for future implementation. Costs were estimated for capital and non-capital expenditures for a 10-year period and combined with expected revenues to develop a 10-year Finance Plan.

Development of the Parks Master Plan is mandated and guided by the City's General Plan. Goal PFS-8 directs the City to "maintain and expand the public park system, recreational, and civic facilities suited to the needs of residents, employees, and visitors." A series of General Plan policies intended to guide implementation of this goal provide further direction.

#### **Policy PFS-8.1: Parks/Resident Ratio**

The City shall require new developments to provide for park acreages at a minimum of 5 acres/1,000 residents and make land acquisition for parks and open space a recreation priority.

**Policy PFS-8.2: Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch Recreation Areas**

The City shall require developers of land adjacent to Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch to provide a continuous pedestrian and bicycle trail system, set aside land for a dedicated wildlife habitat, and provide related amenities.

**Policy PFS-8.3: Park/Recreation Master Plan**

The City shall update the park and recreation master plan consistent with the General Plan.

**Policy PFS-8.4: Joint Use of Parks**

The City shall encourage neighborhood park development adjacent to school sites and similar community-oriented facilities to maximize land and facility use and shall negotiate joint use agreements whenever possible.

**Policy PFS-8.5: Parks/Recreation Funding**

The City shall continue to explore sources of parks and recreation funding.

**Policy PFS-8.6: Galt Market Revenue**

The City should continue to seek ways to increase revenue from Galt Market for parks and recreation funding.

**Policy PFS-8.7: Park Design Factors**

The City should consider the following factors in the design of new parks:

- a. Safety
- b. Security
- c. Maintenance
- d. Accessibility
- e. Landscaping complimentary to the surrounding environment
- f. Travel distance of users
- g. Passive versus active use areas
- h. Restroom facilities
- i. Citizen input
- j. Adequacy of off-street parking
- k. Flexibility for programming activities
- l. Nature education opportunities
- m. Linkages to other parks, open space areas, and significant community activity centers

**Policy PFS-8.8: Service Clubs**

The City should encourage local service clubs and non-profit organizations to participate in the development and improvement of City parks and recreation facilities.

**Policy PFS-8.9: Park Siting**

The City should ensure that recreation facilities are sited to minimize negative impacts (i.e., parking, night lighting, and excessive noise) on surrounding neighborhoods and should strive to maintain a standard of one park within a ½-mile of all new homes.

**Policy PFS-8.10: Crime Prevention**

The City should seek to protect the users of the parks, reduce vandalism, and work with law enforcement agencies to eliminate crime at parks and recreation facilities.

**Policy PFS-8.11: Park Linkages**

The City should encourage pedestrian and bicycle trail linkages between parks, open space areas, wildlife habitat, and significant community activity centers.

**Policy PFS-8.12: Natural Resource Protection in Park and Open Space Design**

The City should incorporate natural resource protection, wildlife habitat, and stormwater quality techniques into parks and open space design to encourage sustainability.

**Policy PFS-8.13: Performing Arts Center**

The City should encourage the development of a performing arts center and related facilities in the community.

The General Plan also includes numerous other goals and policies that address sensitive resources such as water, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetation, air, and open space; public safety; and transportation. When the planning, design, and operation of parks and recreation facilities involve any of these issues, these goals and policies must be adhered to as well as those that specifically address parks.

In 2002, the City of Galt also adopted a Bicycle Transportation Plan. Several goals in this plan supplement the General Plan and provide relevant guidance for the trails elements in the Parks Master Plan.

**Goal 2: Provide bike facilities at all major activity centers including, but not limited to, employer sites, shopping/office areas, schools, and recreational facilities.**

**Goal 5: Join with other agencies in the planning and development of regional trail linkages as identified in the Park Master Plan.**

**Goal 11: Develop city-wide design guidelines for the various types of trail systems and related amenities.**

**Objective 11-1:** The City shall update and modify the Bicycle Transportation Plan as needed to assure construction phasing of proposed facilities, inclusion of new routes or annexed areas, and to update design standards.

### **3.4 PROJECT PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES**

One purpose of the Master Plan is to define a consistent vision for the quality and quantity of community park and recreation resources, also called the level of service (LOS). The LOS includes consideration of how many parks are required in the Planning Area, where they should be located, and the types of facilities they should include to best meet the projected need for parks and recreation services. Specific planning standards established in the Master Plan include:

- Park Classifications
- Acres per 1,000 Population
- Trails and Paths
- Park Service Area
- Non-vehicular Access
- Park Site Characteristics
- Facilities per 1,000 Population

The standards are designed to provide flexibility in how the future park resources develop, while still setting a threshold for the level of service those resources are expected to provide. As new parks or park improvements are developed in the Planning Area, consideration will be given to these standards to determine if the proposed action is consistent with the City's defined level of service for parks and recreation.

It is important to remember that, in most cases, the standards apply to the citywide system of parks and recreation facilities, rather than to any one park alone. These standards are meant to be used collectively to direct the future design and location of parks and improvements so the overall quality of recreation resources throughout the City stays high.

### **3.4.1 Park Classifications**

Park Classifications recognized by the City of Galt are defined in Section 3.2.4.1.

### **3.4.2 Acres/Miles per 1,000 Population**

This standard defines the quantity of land that should be devoted to recreation uses for every 1,000 people in the community. Separate standards apply for active use park land and recreational open space. Active use park land primarily provides improved recreation facilities such as play areas and sports fields. Recreational open space is limited to passive recreation activities such as hiking or bird watching. The differentiation between active use park land and recreational open space is important because the active use park land must be located near the people to be served and be suitable for the intended types of facility improvements.

#### **3.4.2.1 Active Use Park Land**

Active parks are those that emphasize constructed improvements such as sports fields, hard surface courts, play structures, pools, and meeting rooms. The 1992 Galt Parks Master Plan established a standard of five acres of active park land for every 1,000 residents, and this standard is reiterated in the General Plan. This standard is also comparable to that established by many other recreation providers in the region and includes the area required for the constructed recreation improvements as well as the surrounding landscaping and parking areas. The acreage may also include some passive use areas that are part of an overall active park configuration.

School land covered under joint use agreements is generally not included in the calculation of park acreage provided by the City because the property is owned by the school districts and may one day be converted to classroom or building space, depending on the districts' needs.

The City of Galt currently has 81.34 acres of park land improved for active use (**Table 3-7**). Another 51.70 acres are pending improvements for active uses at Walker Park (39.20 acres) and a portion of the Kost Road park site (12.50 acres). These parks will provide a total of 133.04 acres. With the current population of approximately 24,000 people, this equates to about 5.53

acres per 1,000 people, which is slightly in excess of the standard. The active use park acreage surplus is 13.04 acres.

**Table 3-7 — Level of Service Active Park Acreage**

Year	2008	2025
Population	24,000	44,000
Active Use Park Land Acres		
Current Improved	81.34	81.34
Pending Improvements	51.70	51.70
Future General Plan Area Development	0.00	79.90
Total	133.04	212.94
Acres/1,000 Population	5.53	4.83
Needed to Meet 5 Acres/1,000 Standard	120.00	220.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	13.04	(7.06)

If growth occurs as projected, 20,000 new residents will be moving to the Planning Area by the end of the Parks Master Plan period (2025). An additional 86.96 acres of active use park land will need to be acquired by the City and added to the current 13.04 acre surplus to meet the acreage standard for this new population.

The Parks Master Plan addresses anticipated growth through 2025, while the City’s General Plan projects a build-out population in 2030 of 51,291. An additional 36.46 acres of park land will be needed to serve the additional 7,291 residents who are projected to move to the area between 2025 and 2030. This means a total of 123.42 more acres of active use park land will be needed to serve the build-out population. The Master Plan proposes that future acquisition of this acreage should be accomplished through land dedications or fees in-lieu of land dedication required as part of the development approval process.

The General Plan land use map designates 79.90 acres of additional land for neighborhood and community parks. Therefore 7.06 additional acres of park land would need to be located and designated for the projected 2025 population, or 43.52 additional acres for the 2030 population. The City currently owns an 80-acre site north of the General Plan area that was acquired with the intent of eventually developing a regional park.

### 3.4.2.2 Recreational Open Space

Lands designated as recreational open space may be used for passive recreation activities that are compatible with the resource values and natural physical characteristics of the area. Hiking and biking, bird watching, nature photography, and environmental education are examples of passive recreation activities. While there are numerous passive recreation opportunities in the region, additional publicly accessible open space needs to be preserved in the Planning Area so residents will have access to these types of recreation options without having to leave their communities.

The City’s General Plan designates 572 acres as open space within the City and the General Plan area. Much of this area is located within the 100-year floodplain and is not suitable for development. However, this open space acreage is predominantly in private ownership and not accessible for public recreational uses.

The recommended standard in the Parks Master Plan for public open space for passive recreational uses is 5 acres per 1,000 residents. This amount of land is adequate to

accommodate the trail corridors described below with approximately 75 feet of natural area buffer on each side of the trail.

While open space acreage may be used to accommodate trails, the trails located in non-open space areas may not be counted against the open space standard. Open space areas that are designated as preserves to protect special-status species or other sensitive resources and which prohibit all public access may also not be counted towards the five acres per 1,000 population standard.

The City currently owns 67.20 acres of open space that is suitable for public passive recreation uses. This open space includes the Fumasi Oak Preserve (0.84 acres), the Dry Creek Trail (4.0 acres), the Deadman Gulch Trail (54.36 acres), and 8.0 acres of the Kost Road park site. Another 52.80 acres should be acquired by the City or dedicated for public use to meet the proposed standard (**Table 3-8**) for the current population.

Nearly half of the 80-acre Hauschildt property owned by the City is in the floodplain. This area, at a minimum, could potentially be designated as recreational open space to help meet this deficit. A larger portion of the parcel could potentially be designated as recreational open space to fully address the current deficit. If development of the non-floodplain portions of the site for active recreation uses eventually becomes desirable, acquisition of other open space parcels adjacent to existing park land, such as the Kost Road site, could be pursued as a replacement.

As new developments are approved by the City, land dedication of open space at the rate of 5 acres/1,000 residents or fees paid in-lieu of dedication would be required to provide the recreational open space acreage for new residents. If growth occurs as projected, another 100 acres of recreational open space will need to be provided to meet the demand created by the addition of 20,000 new residents to the Planning Area by 2025.

**Table 3-8 — Level of Service Recreation Open Space**

Year	2008	2025
Population	24,000	44,000
Existing Open Space Recreation Acreage	67.20	67.20
Acres/1,000 Population	2.80	2.80
Needed to Meet 5 Acres/1,000 Standard	120.00	220.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	(52.80)	(152.80)

### 3.4.2.3 Trails and Paths

The trails standard addresses three different types of facilities: paved paths in parks, Class I bicycle/ pedestrian trails, and open space trails.

Each new neighborhood and community park should include paved paths within the park suitable for walking, skating, young children on bicycles, and other such uses. Nearly all of the City's existing parks satisfy this standard except for a few small parks that don't have adequate demand and/or space for such an improvement.

While Galt residents have access to many trails at nearby regional facilities such as the Cosumnes River Preserve and the Lodi Lake Nature Area, this does not negate the need for trail access to public recreational open space areas within the General Plan area. Therefore, the trails standard also includes the requirement that a system of trails be provided through public recreational open space areas. However, the extent of such trails will be dictated by the size and configuration of the particular site, public safety considerations, and natural resource constraints. Therefore, a mileage standard is not relevant for this type of facility.

Paved Class I trails should be provided at a rate of one-quarter mile for every 1,000 residents or one mile of Class I trail for every 4,000 residents in the Planning Area. This ratio reflects the fact that Galt area residents have expressed a desire for more local trails for transportation and recreation uses. The City of Galt 2002 Bicycle Transportation Plan specifies that Class I trail design will comply with the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 1000 and shall be a paved surface 10 feet across with 2 foot shoulders on each side for a total width of 14 feet.

The City currently has 3.66 miles of Class I trails located in the Deadman Gulch and Dry Creek corridors (**Table 3-9**). With a current population of 24,000 people in the Planning Area, this means there is currently 0.15 mile of trail for every 1,000 residents. To reach the desired level of service, another 2.34 miles of trail are needed. The City of Galt 2002 Bicycle Transportation Plan identifies 2.79 miles of Class I trail to be built within these natural corridors, which would more than accomplish the desired level of service. As the Planning Area population increases to the projected 44,000 people by 2025, another 5 miles of trails will be needed to maintain the standard.

**Table 3-9 — Level of Service Class I Trails**

Year	2008	2025
Population	24,000	44,000
Existing Trails	3.66	3.66
Miles/1,000 Population	0.15	0.08
Needed to Meet 0.25 mile/1,000 Standard	6.00	11.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2.34)	(7.34)

#### 3.4.2.4 Park Service Area

Park service area standards specify where to locate parks to provide reasonable access for the people who are expected to use the facilities. Service areas are expressed in terms of how far users are expected to travel to get to the park. Establishing service area standards helps to ensure that parks are appropriately distributed throughout the Planning Area to best meet the needs of residents.

The service area for a pocket park or a neighborhood park is one-half mile. Residents should live within one-half mile of at least one of these types of park. This is the distance that one can reasonably expect children to walk or bike to get to a park. Community parks that include neighborhood park amenities also serve as the neighborhood park for residents within one-half mile of the park.

An analysis of the existing and proposed park sites in the Planning Area shows that there would be adequate coverage to meet this neighborhood park service area standard after all planned parks are built (**Figure 3.2-2**) for all areas of existing and planned residential development, with one exception. The General Plan land use map shows future high-density residential located between Bergeron Road and McKenzie Road, north of Twin Cities Road in the Planning Area. This area would be just outside of the service area for Lake Canyon Park. However, portions of this area would be within one-half mile of the future park facilities that may eventually be built at the 80-acre Hauschildt site east of McKenzie Road.

Although all residential areas are within one-half mile of an existing or potential future park site, some of the parks are small and have relatively few improvements. Residents in the neighborhoods in the southwest Planning Area surrounding Lion's Oak Park, SMUD Park, Rotary Park, and the central Planning Area around Ashbrook Tot Lot have access to limited amenities at these small pocket parks.

The land use designations in this area include a significant number of medium and medium-high density lots. The combination of small lots and high population density means this is an area with a potentially very high demand for public parks. Development of a small community center in the area would help supplement the limited facilities available to these residents.

The only other areas that will not be within the one-half mile neighborhood park service area are either west or north of the existing city limits. However, these areas have a land use designation of rural residential, commercial, office professional, or light industrial and will generate very little demand for neighborhood park facilities. These rural residential designated areas are not anticipated to be annexed into the City during the life of the current General Plan.

A community park is generally intended to serve people living within a short driving distance of the park. The recommended service area for a community park is 2 miles. Community park sites are well-disbursed throughout the Planning Area, with Galt Community Park serving the northeast area and the Chabolla Center, its associated facilities, and the Kost Road site serving the south area. After Walker Park is built, it will function as the community park for the west area. Additional potential community park sites are spread throughout the east part of the Planning Area where future residential development will occur.

No regional park service area standard is recommended, because the service area may vary widely depending on the type of facility improvements. Park service area standards have also not been recommended for linear parks because the service area will depend on the configuration of the park and connections to access points. Park service areas standards are summarized in **Table 3-10**.

**Table 3-10 — Park Service Area Standards**

Park Type	Service Area
Pocket Park	½ mile
Neighborhood Park	½ mile
Community Park	2 miles
Regional Park	No standard
Linear Park	No standard

### 3.4.3 Non-Vehicular Access

All new neighborhood parks should be on an existing or proposed Class I multi-use trail or Class II bike route. Neighborhoods that include parks on Class II bike routes should have sidewalks connecting homes to the park. This standard is intended to facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and to make it feasible for children to visit neighborhood parks without being driven there. Improved non-vehicular access will also reduce the need for parking lots, help prevent overflow parking into neighborhoods, and reduce traffic congestion and associated air pollution.

### 3.4.4 Park Site Characteristics

Not all types of land are appropriate for improved park uses. Lands that are to be dedicated for development as active parks must have a location and physical characteristics that are suitable for the intended uses. The following guidelines will be used to evaluate the suitability of proposed land to be dedicated for active use parks.

- The service area standards determine how far park users can reasonably be expected to travel to access the park. Land that is to be dedicated for a neighborhood park should generally be within ½ mile of the population it will serve. Community park land should be within two miles of the intended user population.
- Proposed park land should have access to infrastructure such as roads, water, sewer, and power.
- The types of land uses surrounding the potential park site should be considered. Land adjacent to an existing or proposed school site is desirable because it offers future joint use opportunities. Land that provides opportunities to connect to trails or bikeways is also desirable. If a proposed park site is adjacent to land uses that are incompatible with the proposed park use, the land may not be suitable.
- The types of improvements that are typically developed in an active use park include, but are not limited to: playgrounds, sports fields, hard surface courts, meeting rooms, paths, and gymnasiums. The size of a site, as well as its topography, geology, presence of water courses, and any other physical constraints must be suitable for these and any other intended uses.
- The site should be no less than four acres for a neighborhood park and no less than eight acres for a community park.
- Land that is constrained by the presence of special-status species, jurisdictional wetlands, floodplain, significant agricultural lands, cultural/historical resources, or other protected resources may not be suitable, depending on how much of the site is constrained and the extent of the constraint. In no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. In some situations these resources may offer meaningful interpretive opportunities and provide additional passive recreation experiences that would not damage the resources, and would complement the active uses located on other parts of the site.
- A site may be deemed unsuitable for park land dedication if previous land uses have resulted in the presence of hazardous materials, excessive erosion, unstable ground, or any other condition that cannot be corrected without excessive remediation costs. If such conditions can be remediated to the satisfaction of the City of Galt, at no cost or an acceptable cost to the City, the land may be considered suitable.
- The City of Galt reserves the right to make the final determination on the suitability of a proposed park land dedication for both active and recreational open space uses because individual site conditions are unique and cannot fully be anticipated in these guidelines. The City may also determine what portion of a proposed site is suitable.

### **3.4.5 Facilities per 1,000 Population**

Facility standards are established to identify the maximum number of people that can reasonably be served by a particular type of facility, based on the demand for that facility by the community. Because demand and recreation preferences can vary dramatically by region and city, the National Recreation and Park Association only suggests minimum facility guidelines, and encourages communities to establish their own standards that reflect the preferences of

residents<sup>1</sup>. Facility standards for Galt have been derived by examining facility standards in the region and adjusting them to reflect input from the local community and City staff. Recreation facilities with long-term joint use agreements are included in the assessment of existing facilities. The credit provided for these facilities towards meeting the proposed level of service depends on the current nature of the joint use agreement and the limitation on use because of school hours and events versus demand for the facility.

The current number of common recreation facilities by type is listed in **Table 3-11**, along with a number of additional facilities needed, if any, to keep the service population at or below the proposed limit. This standard is intended to set the minimum level of service and may in practice be exceeded, especially when additional facilities are needed to provide adequate access to facilities throughout the Planning Area.

For example, the City already has two dog parks for 24,000 people. This is well within the service standard of one dog park serving up to a maximum of 20,000 people. However, both of these parks are in the northeast part of the Planning Area. The standard is not intended to preclude the City from adding a third park in a location that would serve residents on the west side of the City. Many of the improvements at Walker Park are intended to address the lack of access for west side residents to various recreation facilities that are available to people living in more recently developed areas of the City.

As indicated in **Table 3-11**, some additional facilities will be needed as the population of the Planning Area increases. Most of the additional facilities, such as sports fields, picnic areas, and play structures, would be incorporated into the design of new neighborhood parks as standard improvements. There are several unique facilities, however, that are not normally found in neighborhood parks and special consideration needs to be given to locating these improvements.

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<sup>1</sup> Lancaster, R.A. (Ed.). (1990). Recreation, Park, and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Ashburn, VA: National Recreation and Park Association.

**Table 3-11 — Current Facilities and Proposed Facility Standard to Serve Population of 24,000**

Facility Type	Existing City Facilities	Existing School Joint Use Facilities <sup>2</sup>	Current Population per Facility	Maximum Population per Facility	Needed to Meet Proposed Standard	Comments
Playground	20		1,333	1,500 with one tot and children's play area at every new park	Some existing parks do not have space for both facilities	Includes 12 children's play areas, 7 tot lots, and 1 water play area. 1 accessible play area and water feature planned for Walker Park. Informal school use also.
Tennis Court	5		4,800	5,000	0	2 new courts planned at Walker Park; informal (non-joint use) access at High School.
Outdoor Basketball Hoops	6		4,000	2,500	4	2 new full courts (4 hoops) planned at Walker Park. Informal school use also.
Baseball Field <i>Little League</i> Lighted (1) Not Lighted (2) <i>Softball</i> Lighted (3) Not Lighted (4) <i>Hardball</i> Lighted (1) Not Lighted (2)	13	3 (counted as 1 due to limited access)	1,714	3,500	0	Existing joint use ball fields are at Marengo Ranch Elementary School. Another softball and little league field are planned at Walker Park to serve west side. Another baseball field will be available in 2009 through joint use with Liberty Ranch High School.

<sup>2</sup>Access to School facilities through joint use agreements is limited to times when not needed by the schools. These facilities are only considered at partial value as noted for this reason.

Facility Type	Existing City Facilities	Existing School Joint Use Facilities <sup>2</sup>	Current Population per Facility	Maximum Population per Facility	Needed to Meet Proposed Standard	Comments
Soccer Field	4	1 (counted as .33 due to limited access)	5,542	4,000	2	Includes 1 dedicated soccer field and 3 multi-use fields suitable for soccer; school field is multi-use; Another new field is planned at Walker Park.
Football Field	0	1 (counted as .33 due to limited access)	72,727	18,000	1	Another football/ soccer field is planned at Walker Park. Another football field available in 2009 via joint use with Liberty Ranch High School.
Swimming Pool	1		24,000	20,000	0	An additional pool will be needed at General Plan build-out; current pool is slightly beyond maximum service level.
Gymnasium	0	3 (counted as 1 due to limited access)	24,000	15,000	1	Another gym will be available in 2009 through joint use with Liberty Ranch High School, but use will also be limited. New community center at Walker Park will include gymnasium.
Community Center (approx. 30,000 sq ft)	2 (counted as 1 due to limited size)	3 multi-use rooms (counted as .20 due to limited size and access)	20,000	20,000	0	Chabolla Center (8,228 sq ft) and Littleton Center (8,940 sq ft) are smaller than standard. 3 multi-use rooms also available through school joint use. 1 new community center planned for Walker Park.
Small Group Picnic Area (min. capacity 25 people)	10		2,400	2,500	0	47 standard tables in these group areas; all shaded; 1 additional small group area planned at Walker Park.

Facility Type	Existing City Facilities	Existing School Joint Use Facilities <sup>2</sup>	Current Population per Facility	Maximum Population per Facility	Needed to Meet Proposed Standard	Comments
Large Group Picnic Area (min. capacity 50 people)	2		12,000	6,000	2	11 oversize tables in these group areas; all shaded; 1 additional large group area planned at Walker Park.
Skateboard Park	1		24,000	40,000	0	
Outdoor Volleyball Court	2		8,000	6,000	2	1 turf volleyball court planned at Walker Park.
Disc Golf Course	0		None	40,000	0	Kost Road site would be a good location due to proximity to open space.
BMX Course	0		None	40,000	0	
Amphitheater	0		None	25,000	1	
Dog Park	2		12,000	20,000	0	None on west side.

The Planning Area currently needs another gymnasium and an amphitheater or other similar performing arts venue. By the end of the planning period (2025), it is anticipated that population growth will have created the need for another community center and swimming pool. To optimize use and minimize cost, the gymnasium should be incorporated into the design of the community center. The pool should be built in the northeastern part of the City.

There are several possible locations for a new community center. The master plan for Walker Park includes space for a 30,000 square foot community center and associated facilities. A structure this size could easily accommodate an amphitheater and would serve about 20,000 people.

Alternatively, a smaller community center (about 18,000 square feet serving about 12,000 people) without the amphitheater or pool facilities could be built at the site of the former Boys and Girls Club. This smaller structure would still be large enough to house a gymnasium and several meeting rooms. It could be used for programs serving pre-school aged children during the day and teens in the afternoon and evenings, as well as arts and leisure classes. This location provides an opportunity to address some of the underserved areas on the west side of the Planning Area where neighborhood parks lack facilities. It may also be a good candidate for redevelopment grant funding, such as the state Community Development Block Grants. Such a community center would only serve about sixty percent of the full complement of 20,000 people envisioned by the facility standard. However, the smaller size and reduced cost could make it feasible for this center to be built sooner than a larger building. Additional community center capacity could be needed in the future as the population of the Planning Area increases beyond the approximately 12,000 people the smaller center would serve.

The third option for a new community center would be to locate it, together with the pool and amphitheater, in one of the large community parks planned for new residential developments on the east side of the Planning Area. The decision about the specific location for the community center, pool, and amphitheater should be revisited in several years, and will depend on where growth occurs, available recreation impact fee revenues, and possible funding opportunities.

### 3.5 PROJECT COMPONENTS

Strategies and recommendations for future development and operation of Galt parks and recreation programs are described in the Master Plan. These strategies and recommendations are based on the analysis of existing facilities and programs compared to the various service objectives defined in the planning standards, as well as the input received from the Ad Hoc Committee, Parks and Recreation staff, and the community workshops and surveys. The strategies address the following areas:

- Improvements to Existing Parks
- New Park Development
- Open Space/Trails
- Programs
- Administration

For each specific strategy, a relative priority has been established to assist with development of a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This prioritization includes four levels tied to proposed implementation timeframes (**Table 3-12**). Higher priority is assigned to projects that 1) are required for public health, safety, and regulatory compliance; 2) provide a large benefit for a relatively low cost; 3) must be completed before others projects can be done; 4) address significant imbalances in the level of service provided to certain groups of residents; or 5) protect existing infrastructure investment through repairs or preventive maintenance.

**Table 3-12 — Implementation Priorities**

Priority	Completion Target
A	Within 3 years (FY 2012-13)
B	Within 7 years (FY 2016-17)
C	Within 10 years (FY 2019-20)
D	Greater than 10 years (FY 2020-21 and beyond)

### 3.5.1 Improvements to Existing Parks/Facilities

These recommendations include capital improvements to existing parks that are in excess of ordinary maintenance. Also included are new facility developments at existing parks that are needed to provide facilities to underserved areas, or to meet park planning standards included in the Master Plan. Improvements proposed for existing parks/facilities are shown in **Table 3-13**.

For example, the west side of the City has a relatively low level of neighborhood park facilities because improvements at the several small pocket parks in the area are limited. The proposed improvements at Harvey Park will provide additional facilities for residents in this area. Additional tot lots and children's play structures are also proposed for several existing parks in order to meet the standard of providing these facilities at every park.

**Table 3-13 — Improvements to Existing Facilities**

	Strategy/Recommendation	Priority
EP-1	<b>Harvey Park Expansion</b> Add a tot lot and children's play structure, picnic areas, parking, and related improvement to 0.45 acre adjacent to Harvey Park to improve safety at park and provide activities for young children and families living in the neighborhood or attending baseball games. This area is underserved with respect to these facilities.	A
EP-2	<b>Littleton Center Renovation</b> Replace flooring.	B
EP-3	<b>Galt Market Renovations</b> Renovate lights and add security cameras at rest areas to improve safety and appeal of market.	A
EP-4	<b>Additional Play Structures</b> Emerald Vista Park, Greer Basin, McCaffery Sports Park, and the Sports Complex all need tot lots to meet the standard of a tot lot and children's play area at each park. Lion's, S.P., Rotary, and SMUD Parks also lack play structures, but they are too small to warrant this investment because the absence of other facilities and activities will increase the likelihood of vandalism.	A/B
EP-5	<b>Park Security Improvements</b> Implement Parks Security Improvement Plan.	A/B
EP-6	<b>Playground ADA Compliance</b> Install/renovate playground surfaces for ADA compliance and safety at Greer, Emerald Vista, Lake Canyon, and Canyon Creek Parks.	A

Strategy/Recommendation		Priority
EP-7	<b>Galt Market Pavement Overlay</b> Overlay, repair, and restripe pavement at Market grounds and parking area for safety and to prevent further deterioration.	A/B
EP-8	<b>Sports Complex/Park Shade Structure Replacement</b> Replace 3 shade structures that are damaged and unsafe. Provide temporary repair and then replace 3 score keeper shade structures.	A D

### 3.5.2 New Park Development

Several capital and strategic actions are recommended for new park development (**Table 3-14**). The City’s General Plan establishes a standard of 5 acres of active use park land for every 1,000 people, or 120 acres for the current population of 24,000. The City currently owns 81.34 acres that are improved for active park use. Another 39.2 acres are master planned and pending improvements at Walker Park. The City owns an additional 12.5 acres of active use park land at the 20-acre Kost Road site, for which preliminary concept plans have been initiated. In order to meet the 120-acre goal for the current population, it is recommended that Phase 1 and Phase II of the Walker Park site be developed first. These phases will provide a level of improvement equal to or greater than a typical neighborhood park over the 39.2-acre site. The remainder of the Walker Park improvements may be implemented later as population growth drives the need for the facilities envisioned for future phases.

The 12.5 acres of active use park land at the Kost Road site should be the next priority for improvement, unless a significant residential development in the Planning Area drives the need for neighborhood parks in another location. Improving the Kost Road site will leverage its location across the street from Meadowview Park to create a community park serving residents in the southwest Planning Area. Since the City owns a surplus of active use park land within the Planning Area at this time (13.04 acres), fees paid in-lieu of land dedication for an equivalent number of acres could potentially be used to help fund improvements on this land consistent with the provisions of Chapter 17.32 of the City’s Municipal Code. An alternative strategy would be to improve the Kost Road site first and reduce the subsequent improvements at Walker Park by an equivalent number of acres.

The City should continue to require park land dedication or fees in-lieu along with recreation impact fees for new residential development in order to maintain the level of service for recreation resources established by the Master Plan.

The 80-acre Hauschildt site may also play a significant role in meeting future park needs. In particular, the City has an immediate need for about 53 acres of recreational open space to meet the proposed standard for the current population. If the decision is made to designate a portion of the site for this purpose, a feasibility study and Master Plan should be developed to assess how best to use this property to meet the City’s long term recreation needs and revenue objectives. While the eventual development of the site is anticipated to take place beyond the 10-year CIP timeframe of the Master Plan, an estimated cost has been provided to help frame the analysis of future uses for this site.

The General Plan land use diagram identifies approximate locations where most of the future parks will be located outside the current city limits. These park locations and parcel configurations are very general in nature due to the broad planning purposes served by a General Plan. Typically, it is too speculative to designate particular property boundaries and precise locations for future parks at the General Plan level. For example, many of Galt’s future parks are

planned to be joint use facilities with adjacent school sites planned to serve the same future population. Although the City worked with the school districts to identify future school locations on the General Plan land use diagram, the school districts have not made any specific real estate and planning decisions and those sites will likely change somewhat as future development is proposed. Specific park locations will have to comply with the Park Site Characteristics identified in the Master Plan.

In acknowledgement of this typical planning dilemma, the Galt General Plan includes a policy (LU-1.1) that requires approval of Specific Plans prior to annexation of land for development. At the Specific Plan level of analysis, there is more neighborhood scale information about the types of development proposed, the location of planned infrastructure, specific needs for park locations and facilities, and how those locations will interface with the neighborhoods they are intended to serve. Consequently, the Specific Plan is the more appropriate level at which to fully evaluate and plan future park locations and design facilities.

**Table 3-14 — New Park Development Strategies**

<b>Strategy/Recommendation</b>		<b>Priority</b>
NP-1	<p><b>Walker Park</b></p> <p>Implement first two phases of Walker Park Master Plan to provide facilities to underserved west area neighborhoods, and supplement community needs for sports fields. Costs are taken from existing Walker Park Master Plan.</p> <p>Phase 1A – 2 soccer fields, 2 shade structures, play area, restroom, parking lot, West Elm Street Access road</p> <p>Phase 1B – Complete park road, 2 youth baseball/softball fields, artificial turf football/soccer field, concession stand, restroom</p> <p>Later Phases – all other improvements including 30,000 sq ft Community Center, 1 large group picnic area, 1 small group picnic area, 4 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, water play feature, Parks Division corporation yard</p>	<p>A</p> <p>A</p> <p>D</p>
NP-2	<p><b>Kost Road Park Improvements</b></p> <p>Master plan and improve the 12.5 active use acres of the Kost Road parcel to meet the City’s active park land standard and provide facilities to underserved neighborhoods to the north. Cost assumes \$25,000 for a master plan and \$400,000/acre with a 20% contingency for development.</p>	B
NP-3	<p><b>Park Land Dedication and Recreation Impact Fees</b></p> <p>Continue to require park land dedication or fees in-lieu as well as recreation impact fees from new residential developments to maintain the City standard of 5 acres of improved park land for every 1,000 people.</p>	A
NP-4	<p><b>Hauschildt Parcel Feasibility Study/Master Plan</b></p> <p>Assess feasibility of various recreation uses, partnerships, and revenue opportunities to develop long range Master Plan that addresses how this land will be used to meet long range local and/or regional needs.</p>	C
NP-5	<p><b>Hauschildt 80-Acre Parcel Future Renovations</b></p> <p>Assuming that 60% of the site will be used for active facilities and a current construction cost of \$400,000 per acre with a 20% contingency, the estimated cost of construction for this portion is about \$23 million. Improvements to the remaining natural area for passive recreation uses may be estimated at \$16,200 per acre or \$518,400. The estimated total is \$23.6 million. The amount to be set aside each year, if any, will vary depending on other expenditure priorities.</p>	D
NP-6	<p><b>Additional Future Park Land Use Designations</b></p> <p>Work with City Planning staff to begin identifying other potential site for new parks pending future development, and the disposition of the Hauschildt site. In particular, a park is needed to serve the high density residential area in the north General Plan Area if it develops before the Hauschildt site is improved.</p>	C

Land dedication, or in-lieu fees, along with recreation impact fees would be used to acquire and improve the number of acres needed as future Specific Plans and/or subdivisions are approved

and the population of the City increases. The General Plan land use diagram currently shows 38 acres less park land than will eventually be needed at build-out to meet the 5 acres per 1,000 people standard for the projected population in 2030. City Planning staff and Parks and Recreation staff will need to work together to evaluate future development proposals for additional park opportunities to make sure the level of service is maintained and residents continue to have access to adequate neighborhood and community park resources.

### 3.5.3 Open Space/Trails

Community input for the Master Plan consistently emphasized enhanced access to natural areas and a desire for more walking and biking opportunities. The following capital improvement recommendations and planning strategies would help address these concerns (**Table 3-15**).

As new parks and recreational open space areas are established, the City should require the components of the trail standard addressing ADA accessible paved paths in parks and trails in recreational open space to be integrated into the site plans. Class I trails and paved ADA paths should be located in recreational open space where site conditions and anticipated usage are appropriate.

The City should expand the current Recreation Impact Fee to specifically include assessments for acquisition and development of recreational open space at the rate of 5 acres per 1,000 people, and to provide Class I trails at the rate of one-quarter mile per 1,000 people. Land dedication of suitable lands may offset the land portion of the recreational open space fee at the City's discretion. Alternatively, if the City has a surplus of recreational open space land, the acquisition portion of the fee may be used for improvements.

To meet the trail standard of one-quarter mile of Class I trails for every 1,000 population, an additional 2.34 miles of Class I trails are needed for the current population. The City also needs to designate another 52.8 acres of open space for passive recreation use to meet the standard of 5 acres for every 1,000 population for the current population. This may be accomplished by designating a portion of the Hauschildt site for this purpose. However, if the remaining 2.79 miles of Class I trails proposed in the Bicycle Transportation Plan for the Deadman Gulch and Dry Creek corridors are built with an average corridor width of 164 feet, this will add about 55 acres of open space to meet both the recreational open space and Class I trail standard deficits.

As new population increases the need for additional recreational open space, priority should be given to improving the eight acres of recreational open space at the Kost Road site since it is adjacent to an active use park area and is located in the Dry Creek corridor.

The recreation and transportation value of the Deadman Gulch Trail could be improved by addressing several connectivity issues. While an existing footbridge provides a trail connection to Canyon Creek Park, a second footbridge is needed to connect Emerald Vista Park and the Deadman Gulch Trail to the neighborhoods to the south. In areas where rail lines create barriers to a continuous Deadman Gulch Trail alignment, it is unlikely that the City will be able get approvals for at-grade crossings from the railroad operators. Given the cost of above grade crossings, it would be more practical to identify on-street Class II bike routes that will provide connections between the separated Class I trail sections. City transportation planners should also evaluate the options for improving safety at the intersection of Carillon Boulevard and the Deadman Gulch Trail.

The City Parks and Transportation planning staff should also begin considering where five miles of new Class I trails should be located in anticipation of the potential for 20,000 new residents to move to the area by 2025. Class I trails could be located in designated open space corridors, or as part of the streetscape improvements required for new residential subdivisions. Such trails should be located to maximize access to parks and schools. This strategy will help ensure that

all new neighborhood parks are accessible for pedestrians or cyclists via a Class I route. Where this is not feasible, access to neighborhood parks via a Class II route should be required.

Coordination with regional trail partners to establish regional networks and connections to Galt area parks should also be pursued. The SACOG Regional Transportation Plan identifies several regional trail opportunities in the Galt area which would provide important recreation and transportation benefits to the community if implemented.

As the City builds out, the value of recreational open space to residents is likely to increase. In order to preserve the natural qualities of these areas, it will be important for the City to educate residents about the sensitive resources and appropriate recreational uses. The City should pursue grants to provide interpretive signage and other features in the recreational open spaces, and develop partnerships with schools and local groups to foster stewardship through environmental education and events.

**Table 3-15 — Open Space and Trails Strategies**

<b>Strategy/Recommendation</b>		<b>Priority</b>
OS-1	<b>Paths in All Parks and Recreational Open Space</b> Require the inclusion of an ADA accessible paved path in all new active use parks. Require all new recreational open space areas to have trails. Class I trails and ADA accessible trails should be located in recreational open space as site conditions and use allow. Fund with impact fees (see OS-2 and OS-3 below).	A
OS-2	<b>Recreation Impact Fees for Recreational Open Space</b> Assess and collect recreation impact fees for acquisition of and improvements to recreational open space at the rate of 5 acres per 1,000 people. Land dedication of suitable lands may offset the land portion of the fee at the City's discretion. Alternatively, if the City has a surplus of recreational open space land, the acquisition portion of the fee may be used for improvements.	A
OS-3	<b>Recreation Impact Fees for Class I Trails</b> Assess and collect recreation impact fees to provide Class I or equivalent trails at the rate of one-quarter mile per 1,000 people.	A
OS-4	<b>Complete Deadman Gulch and Dry Creek Class I Trails</b> Acquire land for and build the remaining 2.79 miles of Class I trails identified in the Bicycle Transportation Plan in the Deadman Gulch and Dry Creek open space corridors. Cost based on \$300,000/mile of construction and \$8,000/acre for acquisition of approximately 55 acres of open space land. Grant funding is a possible source.	A/B
OS-5	<b>Kost Road Recreational Open Space Acreage</b> Improve the 8 acres of recreational open space at the Kost Road Site including accessible trails and interpretive signage. Cost estimated at \$16,200/acre includes accessible unpaved trails.	C
OS-6	<b>Emerald Vista Park Bridge</b> Build second footbridge across Deadman Gulch to connect park and Deadman Gulch trail with housing development and neighborhoods to the south.	B

Strategy/Recommendation		Priority
OS-7	<b>Bicycle Transportation Plan Coordination</b> Work with City transportation planners to identify additional Class II bicycle routes that cyclists and pedestrians can use in areas where rail lines create barriers to a continuous Deadman Gulch Trail alignment. Consider options to improve safety at the intersection of Deadman Gulch Trail and Carillion Blvd.	A
OS-8	<b>Recreational Trails Planning</b> Identify at least 5 miles of additional Class I trail alignments within the Planning Area in anticipation of future population increase. Also consider opportunities to link to future regional trail networks.	C
OS-9	<b>Accessible Routes to Parks</b> Require all new neighborhood parks to be accessible for pedestrians or cyclists via Class I trail or Class II route and sidewalks. To be paid through impact fees.	A
OS-10	<b>Interpretive Features</b> Pursue grants to provide interpretive signage in existing open space areas to enhance awareness of the natural resources.	A
OS-11	<b>Trail and Open Space Stewardship</b> Partner with schools and local groups to implement trail and open space stewardship programs and events.	A

### 3.5.4 Programs

While the community is very positive about the diversity and quality of recreation programs offered by the City, demographic trends and input from residents suggest some additional areas of program focus will be needed to keep pace with future demand (**Table 3-16**).

More recreation programming for active adults is likely to be needed as the baby boomer generation ages. This demographic is distinct from traditional seniors in that they have a higher level of physical ability and, in some cases, more disposable income and free time. They are also often very interested in making a contribution back to the community through volunteerism, and in pursuing continuing education and life enrichment. The City should consider establishing an active adult advisory committee or advocacy group to help formulate programming direction and priorities.

Recreation programs for teens were also identified as a priority by the community. There is a particular need to provide activities for teens who are not participating in organized school activities and teams. The City has organized various programs and events in the past with this demographic in mind, but has had limited success in attracting participation. The development of a teen advisory council, or a similar mechanism for getting input from teens on program and event preferences, may help address this issue.

Community input during the Master Plan process consistently emphasized the desire for more arts and cultural events, including the possibility of weekend concerts at the Galt Market. The events and festivals that currently take place in Galt are well-attended and draw visitation from the region. The expansion of such offerings to include more arts and cultural events would not only help meet a need for local residents, but would also help bring additional revenues to the City in the form of event fees and ancillary spending at local businesses.

The community also expressed a strong the desire to see other types of weekend uses of the Galt Market, such as car, boat, and RV shows, other market events, and festivals. These are all revenue generating opportunities that would bring in regional visitation.

Demographic trends for the City indicate that cultural diversity is expected to increase as the City grows. It will be critical for the City to bring awareness of this trend to all aspects of recreation programming and planning in order to meet the evolving needs and expectations of all residents. This cultural diversity will provide opportunities for new types of programs, events, and festivals that will enrich the recreation experience of the whole community.

City Recreation staff are encouraged to establish cooperative partnerships with other community groups to implement these strategies in a manner that leverages the diverse knowledge and expertise within the community.

**Table 3-16 — Program Recommendations**

<b>Strategy/Recommendation</b>		<b>Priority</b>
P-1	<b>Emphasize Active Adult Programs</b> Seek input from mature adults and seniors to diversify and expand life enrichment and physical activities specifically for these groups. Such activities may include travel, cultural events, health management, community stewardship, etc. Establish an active adult advisory committee or advocacy group to assist with programming.	B
P-2	<b>Increase Arts and Cultural Events</b> Look for additional opportunities to partner with local arts and cultural groups to sponsor community and special interest events. These could include activities and events promoting music, arts, theater, travel, literature, etc.	A
P-3	<b>Teen Activities</b> Work with the teen community to identify venues and activities for teen-oriented activities and events. In particular, identify ways to involve underserved teens in identifying the types of activities and facilities that would best meet their needs.	A
P-4	<b>Galt Market Uses and Events</b> Expand weekend use of the Galt Market to include events, shows, festivals, and concerts.	A
P-5	<b>Multi-Cultural Program Support</b> Integrate measures in all aspects of program development, selection, publicity, and implementation to facilitate the inclusion of residents with diverse cultural backgrounds.	A

### 3.5.5 Administration

The following strategies and recommendations describe in **Table 3-17** are intended to facilitate the ongoing operation of City parks and programs consistent with the direction established by the Master Plan. The Parks and Recreation Director will have primary responsibility for implementation of these strategies while collaborating with other City staff, management, and elected officials as needed.

**Table 3-17 — Administrative Strategies**

<b>Strategy/Recommendation</b>		<b>Priority</b>
A-1	<p><b>Adopt Level of Service Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Park Classifications</li> <li>– 5 Acres of Active Use Park Land/1,000 people</li> <li>– 5 Acres of Recreational Open Space/1,000 people</li> <li>– Trails and Paths                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One-quarter mile of Class 1 trail/1,000 people</li> <li>○ Walking paths in all parks</li> <li>○ Trails in all recreational open space</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Park Service Area                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ½ mile neighborhood parks and pocket parks serving as neighborhood parks</li> <li>○ 2 miles community parks</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Non-vehicular Access to Parks</li> <li>– Park Site Characteristics</li> <li>– Facility Standards/1,000 people</li> </ul>	A
A-2	<p><b>Revise Recreation Impact Fee to Include Special Use Facilities</b></p> <p>Per the evaluation of existing facilities and the desired level of service, the following special facilities need to be factored into the Recreation Impact Fee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Aquatic Center</li> <li>– Community Center (30,000 SQ FT., may include gymnasium, amphitheater, kitchen, classrooms, etc.)</li> </ul>	B
A-3	<p><b>Revise All Assessment District Fees Periodically</b></p> <p>Revise two assessment district agreements that do not allow annual inflation adjusted increases.</p>	A
A-4	<p><b>Joint Use Agreements</b></p> <p>Continue to pursue and use joint use opportunities with the school districts to enhance access to recreation resources, especially on the west side of the City.</p>	A
A-5	<p><b>Enhance Grant Writing Capacity</b></p> <p>Provide training to staff to enhance grant writing skills to help offset reductions in Market revenues.</p>	A
A-6	<p><b>Revenue Opportunities</b></p> <p>Look for new revenue opportunities from existing park facilities and events. For example, consider taking reservations for additional group picnic areas. Also consider non-traditional revenue generation through ground leases for cell towers, advertising sales, donations, sponsorships, etc.</p>	A
A-7	<p><b>Labor Cost Management</b></p> <p>Pursue opportunities to leverage volunteers for appropriate uses that could help offset the need for additional staff, or free up staff for more cost-effective uses. .</p>	A
A-8	<p><b>Energy Cost Management</b></p> <p>Design all new facilities and facility renovations to include energy cost management strategies such as solar technology.</p>	A

### **3.6 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION**

As discussed in the Master Plan, and shown in **Table 3-13** through **Table 3-17** above, proposed future development strategies have been assigned a relative priority to assist with development of a 10-year CIP. Improvements to existing facilities, as well as the development of new facilities and parks would be constructed as prioritized in **Table 3-13** through **Table 3-17**. Construction equipment, materials, and timeframes would be identified as individual projects are proposed for development, and all individually proposed projects would be subject to environmental review pursuant to CEQA, and possibly the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

### **3.7 OTHER PROJECT APPROVALS**

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan Update and the IS/MND are subject to review and approval by the City of Galt. The Galt City Council would demonstrate final discretion over the Master Plan and IS/MND through the adoption of these documents. No other approvals would be required. As previously discussed, individual projects/improvements identified by the Master Plan would be subject to subsequent discretionary approval by the City of Galt, and would be subject to a variety of additional approvals and certifications based on the site-specific characteristics and proposed actions associated with individual projects.

## 4.0 INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

### 4.1 AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

**No Impact.** Lands within the City of Galt Planning Area are characterized by relatively level topography ranging in elevation from sea level to 30 feet above mean sea level (Mintier et al. 2005). Implementation of the Master Plan would result in the development of recreational facilities within areas currently characterized by agricultural lands, open space, and rural residential development. However, the development of future recreational facilities will occur primarily in conjunction with proposed Specific Plans or other similar development in the City's Planning Area. The development of recreational facilities within these areas of planned urban development would provide attractive open space to improve the scenic vistas of the planned urban development. Therefore implementation of the Master Plan would not substantially affect any scenic vistas. No impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

*b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt is not located within the proximity of any designated State or County scenic highways (California Scenic Highway Mapping System 2007). Therefore implementation of the Master Plan would not result in damage to scenic resources within a State scenic highway. No impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

*c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would result in the eventual future development of Park and Recreation facilities throughout the City and surrounding

Planning Area. The development of these facilities would vary in size and design based on the criteria established for individual projects. Many of the proposed park sites would be located within areas currently characterized as rural agricultural lands, which include a variety of cultivated and fallow fields, supporting buildings, machinery, and equipment. Park facilities would include large areas of natural open space, greenways, and structures set within landscaped areas designed for aesthetic enjoyment as well as recreational utility that will be maintained year round. While the visual attributes of these facilities will in some respects differ from the visual attributes of the rural landscape, the preservation of open vistas, natural areas, and improved ornamental landscaping will provide comparable visual quality and character.

### Regulatory Setting

There are no federal or State regulations applicable to aesthetics relevant to the Proposed Project.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and polices relevant to maintaining the existing visual character of the City's Planning Area:

#### **Goal CC – 1: To improve the overall visual quality of Galt's urban environment.**

##### **Policy CC-1.1: City Image**

The City should promote high quality design and building materials for all new development.

##### **Policy CC-1.2: Neighborhood Integrity**

The City should protect and enhance the character and integrity of existing residential neighborhoods and protect these neighborhoods from incompatible uses.

##### **Policy CC-1.5: Rail Corridors**

The City should work with Union Pacific Railroad and private property owners to improve maintenance, code enforcement, screening, and landscaping of viewsheds along rail corridors in Galt.

##### **Policy CC-1.6: Open Space Features**

The City should promote community design that incorporates the open space features of Galt's rivers, creek, wetlands, trail corridors, and parks into the travel experience. This includes visual access to open space features and private and public investment that visually frames and complements natural landscapes and parks.

##### **Policy CC-1.7: Viewsheds**

The City should work to protect views from frequently used gathering places, major streets, and pedestrian paths to provide a sense of place and orientation.

##### **Policy CC-1.8: Building Elevations**

The City shall require that all exterior elevations have structural architectural treatments to alleviate long void surfaces. This can be accomplished through varying setbacks, breaking buildings into segments, pitched roof elements, columns, fenestration (doors and windows), substantial building relief/reveals to provide shadow and interest, patios, and similar treatments.

**Policy CC-1.10: Art in Public Places**

The City shall encourage new development projects to install public art and other design features such as fountains and monuments that beautify the community.

**Goal CC-2: To maintain and enhance the visual quality of Galt’s major corridors, gateways, and entrances.**

**Policy CC-2.5: Landscape Maintenance**

The City shall actively monitor and enforce the maintenance of landscaping on private property within major corridors.

**Policy CC-2.7: State Route 99 and State Route 104 Beautification**

The City shall work with Caltrans and private property owners to improve the visual quality of State Routes 99 and 104 through right-of-way maintenance, adjacent property maintenance, code enforcement, reducing the number of billboards, encouraging new investment on visible sites, requiring landscaping, and requiring screening of industrial uses.

**Goal CC-3: To protect historic and authentic qualities of Galt’s Downtown.**

**Policy CC-3.1: Restore Downtown**

The City shall continue to require that new infrastructure investment respect the image and character of the Downtown. Landscapes, roadways, sidewalks, and other public features in downtown shall be repaired where necessary as funding allows.

**Policy CC-3.2: Historical and Cultural Resources**

The City shall ensure, to the extent possible, that new public and private investment protects and enhances Galt’s historical and cultural resources.

**Goal CC-4: To maintain and enhance the quality of Galt’s trees.**

**Policy CC-4.1: Tree Canopy**

The City shall endeavor to protect the tree canopy created by mature trees and heritage trees in existing developed areas and undeveloped areas. At a minimum, the City should require trees in residential areas to be planted five to seven feet from street right-of-ways to provide streetscape enhancements.

**Policy CC-4.2: Trees in New Development**

The City shall require that all new development protect existing trees, to the extent feasible, and incorporate the planting of additional trees and other vegetation, to provide shade, buffering, and visual character. Oak trees are specifically protected by the Galt Municipal Code, but other trees on land that is subject to a development application may be required to be protected through the development phase. New trees shall be carefully selected based on appropriate site conditions (Galt’s microclimate, soil type, water usage, surrounding infrastructure and improvements, and distance from buildings). In order to help the Sacramento region attain air quality conformance, the largest tree species possible for the given application, with the lowest biogenic emission rates, should be selected. High biogenic emitting tree species should be avoided or planted only as a second choice when low emitters will be unsatisfactory. Developers can obtain information on biogenic emissions of tree species from the City of Galt Planning Department, the SMAQMD, and the Sacramento Tree Foundation.

#### **Policy LU-2.4: Site Design**

The City shall require the use of durable and aesthetically pleasing building materials and encourage pedestrian-oriented design with attractive open space to enhance living and working areas.

#### Impact Analysis

Development of the improvements proposed by the Master Plan would have the potential to change the characteristics of the views surrounding individual park sites as future facilities are proposed. However, the open space characteristics of park facilities would not substantially degrade the surrounding rural character of undeveloped areas within the Planning Area or within the City limits. The City has adopted General Plan goals and policies to protect the visual character of the Planning Area. Proposed future facilities are not anticipated to adversely affect the visual character of the City's Planning Area, and the City has adopted specific General Plan goals and policies to protect visual resources within the City and the Planning Area. In addition the development of proposed future recreational facilities would facilitate the incorporation of open space within proposed future residential and mixed land use developments; therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Individual new park projects, as well as proposed improvements to existing facilities, may include the construction of structures and lighted recreational facilities in addition to open space parklands.

#### Regulatory Setting

There are no federal or State regulations applicable to aesthetics relevant to the Proposed Project.

#### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies relevant to light and glare within the City's Planning Area:

#### **Policy CC-1.11: Outdoor Lighting**

The City shall ensure that future development includes provisions for the design of outdoor light fixtures to be directed/shielded downward and screened to avoid nighttime lighting spillover effects on adjacent land uses and nighttime sky conditions.

#### **Policy CC-1.12: Reflective Materials**

The City shall consider a range of building materials to ensure that future building design reduces the potential impacts of daytime glare.

#### Impact Analysis

Proposed facilities would be subject to City design standards, and review by City Planning and Building Departments; however development of recreational facilities as proposed by the master Plan would have the potential to result in new sources of substantial light and/or glare, and may affect nighttime views. Implementation of mitigation measures AES – 1 through AES – 3 would reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure AES – 1:** All outdoor light fixtures shall be directed/shielded downward and screened to avoid nighttime lighting spillover effects on adjacent land uses and nighttime sky conditions.

**Mitigation Measure AES – 2:** Recreational facilities and/or structures shall be designed and constructed using materials that minimize impacts from glare.

**Mitigation Measure AES – 3:** All lighting shall be designed to prevent artificial lighting from illuminating adjacent natural areas at a level greater than 0.25 foot candle measured on a vertical plane located five feet inside of an adjacent property and six feet above ground..

## 4.2 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) *Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The Division of Land Resource Protection of the California Department of Conservation, has developed the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) which monitors the conversion of the State's farmland to and from agricultural use. Data is collected at the county level to produce a series of maps identifying eight land use classifications using a minimum mapping unit of 10 acres. The program also produces a biannual report on the amount of land converted from agricultural to non-agricultural use. The program maintains an inventory of State agricultural land and updates the "Important Farmland Series Maps" every two years (Mintier et al. 2005). Agricultural Resources mapped by the FMMP within the City's Planning Area are shown on **Figure 3.2-1**.

Approximately 11,744 acres of important farmlands (prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, and unique farmland) are present within the City's Planning Area as has been evaluated in the Galt General Plan EIR (Mintier et al. 2005). Land Use Policy LU-1.1 of the Galt General Plan requires approval of Specific Plans prior to annexation of lands within the Sphere of Influence for development. Although it is possible that proposed future recreational facilities will convert important farmland. Potential impacts to important farmlands would therefore be evaluated at the Specific Plan level when site-specific details will be known for individual projects.

### Regulatory Setting

There are no federal or State regulations applicable to agricultural resources relevant to the Proposed Project.

## **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy relevant to Prime Agricultural land:

### **Policy COS-4.1: Prime Agricultural Land Preservation**

The City shall work to preserve prime agricultural lands surrounding the Planning Area from future development by creating a clear and sensitive urban transition to minimize land use conflicts and protect long-term agriculture.

### **Policy LU-1.1: Phased Development**

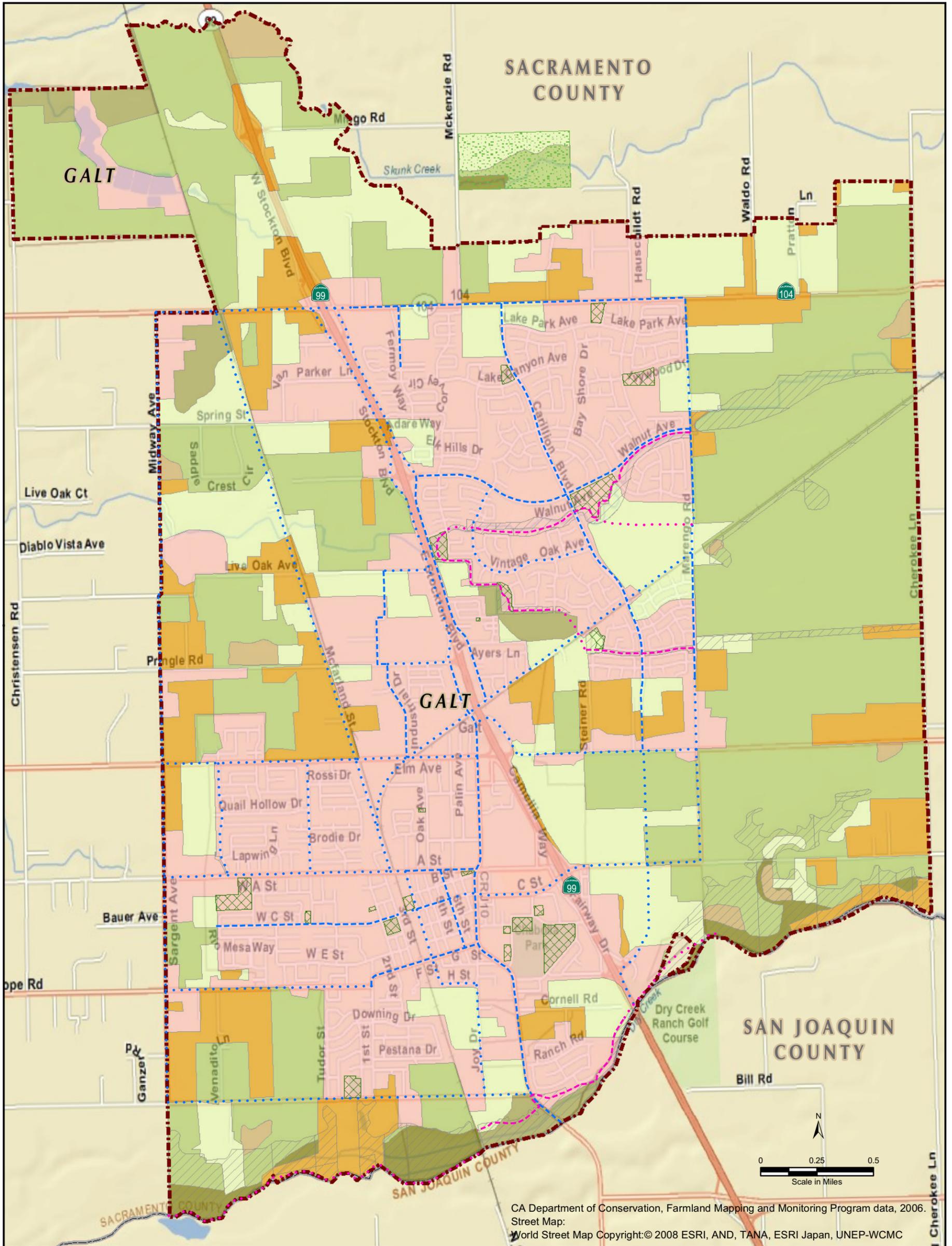
The City shall establish three prioritized development phases, as shown in Figure LU-2, to guide future growth of the city within the Planning Area as follows:

**a. Phase I:** Includes only the areas within the existing 2007 city limits, which can be adequately served by public facilities, including the City's wastewater treatment plant, as shown in the Land Use and Circulation Diagram (Figure LU-1).

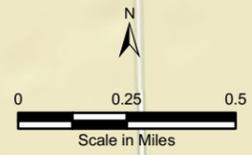
**b. Phase II:** Includes areas outside of the existing 2007 city limits but close to available public services and infrastructure. This includes land in the "notch" (the area generally along Simmerhorn and Boessow Roads between Highway 99 and Marengo Road), the eastern part of the Planning Area, the area north of Twin Cities Road between the Union Pacific mainline and State Route 99, and the proposed expansion of the existing industrial park between Live Oak Avenue and Spring Street. The main purpose of this policy is to limit public facilities provision outside of these areas in order to encourage a compact urban form, limit the cost of providing public facilities, and provide for urban land uses to meet the needs of the projected 2030 population. Developers of land within Phase II will be required to obtain approval of a Specific Plan prior to annexation in accordance with the following procedures:

1) Property owners/applicants in Phase II that are interested in annexation and development shall first submit a "Specific Plan Proposal" to the Community Development Department, with appropriate fees. The Specific Plan Proposal shall consist of:

- Executive Summary of the Proposal describing the main components of the plan, the guiding principles for design and development, and a summary of the market study and fiscal analysis findings noted below;
- Logical boundaries that ensure orderly, efficient and cost-effective extension and maintenance of necessary infrastructure;
- Proposed Land Use and Circulation Diagram for all of the property to be included;
- Demonstrated incorporation of innovative and "smart growth principles" such as jobs/housing balance, alternative and non-polluting modes of travel, emissions reductions, habitat and open space preservation, energy conservation measures, sustainability principles, and an adequate mix of economic and residential opportunities;



CA Department of Conservation, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program data, 2006.  
 Street Map: World Street Map Copyright: © 2008 ESRI, AND, TANA, ESRI Japan, UNEP-WCMC



FARMLAND CLASS	PEDESTRIAN/BIKE SYSTEM	OTHER FEATURES
FARMLAND OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE	Class I Trail	General Plan Area
FARMLAND OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE	Class I Proposed	Open Space
GRAZING LAND	Class II Lane	Existing Parks
OTHER LAND	Class II Proposed Lane	Future Park Outside of General Plan Area
PRIME FARMLAND		
UNIQUE FARMLAND		
URBAN AND BUILT-UP LAND		

**CITY OF GALT  
 PLANNING AREA  
 AGRICULTURAL  
 RESOURCES**

FIGURE 4.2-1  
 10/26/09

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- Proposed Circulation Plan for the primary arterial and collector streets and demonstrated pedestrian/bicycle circulation;
- Study showing the market feasibility of development in the area, including expected absorption rate; and
- Description of proposed financing mechanisms for provision of needed public facilities and services.

2) Planning staff will review the Proposal and work with the property owner(s)/Applicant to address any outstanding issues. Once the Proposal is accepted, the City will initiate preparation of a Specific Plan, to be paid for by the applicant(s). Issues to be evaluated in a Specific Plan application shall include, but not be limited to, all statutory requirements as well as the following:

- Availability of land for development within the Planning Area;
- Demonstrated feasibility of development in the proposed area based on the market study;
- Implications for overall community form and relationship to the existing community and Downtown Galt;
- Consistency with the General Plan or substantial justification for amendments thereto;
- Incorporation of innovative and “smart growth principles” such as jobs/housing balance, alternative and non-polluting modes of travel, emissions reductions, habitat and open space preservation, energy conservation measures, sustainability principles, and an adequate mix of economic and residential opportunities;
- Availability of, compatibility with, and effect on existing City infrastructure, including water, sewer, stormdrain, and wastewater treatment plant capacity;
- Sufficient and reasonable financing mechanisms to provide for needed public facilities and services;
- Improved circulation patterns and provision of attractive, street infrastructure for all modes of travel including bicycles, pedestrians, wheelchairs, electric vehicles, and transit; and
- Sufficient detail to facilitate complete environmental review and analysis of General Plan consistency.

**c. Phase III:** Includes areas beyond Phase II that will require major upgrades to the City’s public facilities and services. These lands are relatively far from public services and infrastructure. Phase III lands, excluding land for needed public facilities and services (parks, schools, etc.), will also be required to provide a Specific Plan Proposal for development consideration in accordance with the procedures noted for Phase II lands. The City shall, when deemed necessary, consider the appropriateness of development in the Phase III area based on the following considerations to be included in the Specific Plan Proposal:

1) All requirements listed under Phase II development above (Policy LU-1.1(b)(2)); and

2) Availability of land within the Phase I and Phase II development areas or demonstration of a unique development opportunity of substantial benefit to the City that would justify a reprioritization of phasing.

**d. Exceptions to the Specific Plan Requirement:**

1) The City may, at its discretion, waive the Specific Plan preparation requirement for small projects within any Phase that demonstrate a unique development opportunity if the City determines that a Specific Plan would be impractical or unnecessary for the Project.

2) Annexation of land for needed public facilities and services is exempt from the requirement to prepare a Specific Plan.

**Policy LU-9.1: Greenbelt**

The City should participate in regional efforts to establish a permanent agriculture, open space, and wildlife habitat greenbelt between the northern boundary of the Planning Area and the City of Elk Grove.

Impact Analysis

The Master Plan stipulates that land that is constrained by the presence of special-status species, jurisdictional wetlands, significant agricultural lands, cultural/historical resources, or other protected resources may not be suitable, depending on how much of the site is constrained and the extent of the constraint. In no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. As future recreational facilities and improvements are proposed for development, project-level environmental analysis will be required based on site-specific conditions and design details for individually proposed projects. If it is determined during CEQA review for individual projects that the potential exists for impacts related to Prime Agricultural land, the development and implementation of mitigation measures would be required pertinent to individual project proposals and the associated impacts relevant to important farmlands for a given site. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Approximately 4,443 acres of land currently under Williamson Act Contract are present within the City’s Planning Area. An estimated 631 acres of land are in non-renewal (Mintier et al. 2005).

Regulatory Setting

***Williamson Act***

The Williamson Act, enacted in 1965, is a statewide agricultural land resource protection program implemented by individual Counties. However, the Williamson Act program is administered by the Land Resources Protection Division of the California Department of Conservation. The principles behind the Act involve voluntary commitment by landowners to preserve agricultural lands and open space, thereby prohibiting urban development. The contractual agreement represents an enforceable land use restriction and is entered into for a minimum period of ten years. The contract is automatically renewed until the land owner files a “notice of non-renewal” and/or petitions for cancellation of the contract. In return for the preservation of this land,

landowners receive a reduction in property taxes ranging from 20 percent to 75 percent. Compatible uses under the Williamson Act are adopted by the legislative body of local government. Land under contract is presumed to be in parcels large enough to sustain agricultural uses and production. Minimum acreage for land under contract is generally considered at least 10 acres for prime agricultural land and at least 40 acres for land that is not considered prime agricultural land.

### Impact Analysis

Although individual sites proposed for future development of City recreational facilities are not known at this time, development may occur on lands currently under Williamson Act contract, depending on individual site development proposals. If recreational use proposed by the City was determined to be incompatible with an existing Williamson Act contract on an individual site, Government Code Section 51280 et seq. defines the provisions under which a Williamson Act contract may be cancelled. Cancellation provides for the immediate cancellation of a Williamson Act contract, if requested by the landowner and processed in accordance with the Government Code, Article 5, Section 5180 et seq.

Subsequent environmental review for individual proposals for future recreational facilities will be required based on site-specific characteristics, and will evaluate the proposed developments' potential to conflict with agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract at the time of proposed development. Future proposed recreational facilities and improvements would not be developed until the City has annexed and pre-zoned lands within the Planning Area consistent with the land use designations defined by the General Plan. Pursuant to Galt General Plan Policy LU-1.1, the preparation of a Specific Plan, with appropriate CEQA analysis, would also be required for proposed future developments. Therefore, an actual inconsistency with agricultural zoning would not result from implementation of the Master Plan and impacts are therefore considered less than significant. However, the potential exists for conflicts with adjacent land uses. Impacts related to conflicting land uses are discussed in Land Use, **Section 4.9** of this Initial Study.

If it is determined that proposed recreational facilities and/or uses conflict with the terms of a Williamson Act on an individual site, the City would be required to file for non-renewal or cancel the existing contract pursuant to the conditions defined by Government Code Section 51280 et seq. Impacts related to conflict with a Williamson Act contract are therefore considered less than significant.

*c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The City's economic, cultural, and environmental framework has been influenced by agriculture. For over a century, the City has been a productive location for agricultural cultivation operations due to climate, water availability, and proximity to transportation routes (Mintier et al. 2005). As previously discussed, it is possible that proposed future recreational facilities would result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. However, site-specific details for individual projects are currently unknown.

The Master Plan stipulates that land that is constrained by the presence of special-status species, jurisdictional wetlands, significant agricultural lands, cultural/historical resources, or other protected resources may not be suitable, depending on how much of the site is constrained and the extent of the constraint. In no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. As future recreational facilities and improvements are proposed for development, project-level environmental analysis will be required based on site-specific conditions and design details for individually proposed projects. If it is determined during CEQA review for individual projects that the potential exists for impacts related to agricultural land conversion, the development and implementation of mitigation measures would be required

pertinent to individual project proposals and the associated impacts relevant to important farmlands for a given site. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

### 4.3 AIR QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district is relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Regional Location

The City of Galt is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB), which extends from south of Sacramento to north of Redding and is bounded by the Coast Range to the west, the Sierra Nevada to the east, and the Cascade Range to the north. The basin is noticeably affected by marine airflow through the Carquinez Strait, with prevailing winds from the southwest. This airflow moderates climatic extremes and transports air pollutants into the region from downwind sources such as the San Francisco Bay Area.

The mountains surrounding the SVAB create a barrier to airflow which inhibits the dispersion of air pollutants in some areas, most commonly in autumn and early winter when there are reduced surface winds. The concentration of pollutants is highest when these conditions are combined with smoke or when temperature inversions trap cool air and pollutants near the ground. Carbon monoxide accumulation is a concern in the winter. Summers in the region are typically hot and dry, and are characterized by stagnant morning air with a delta sea breeze arriving in the afternoon. These conditions contribute to ozone buildup during the months of May through October.

Within the SVAB, Galt is under the jurisdiction of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). The SMAQMD is responsible for implementing and enforcing emissions standards and other regulations pursuant to federal and state laws.

## **Air Pollutants**

Ozone and particulate matter are criteria pollutants of particular concern and importance within the region. These are the pollutants for which the Sacramento region still periodically exceeds state and national standards. These pollutants are individually described below.

- **Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)** — Ozone occurs at both ground level and in the upper atmosphere. Ozone can be either helpful or harmful depending upon its location in the atmosphere. The layer closest to the Earth's surface is the troposphere. Here, ground-level or "bad" ozone is present as an air pollutant that is harmful to breathe and also damages crops and other vegetation. Ground-level ozone is one of the main components of urban smog. The troposphere generally extends to an upward depth of approximately six miles, where it meets the stratosphere. The stratosphere or "good" ozone layer extends upward to a depth ranging from approximately six to 30 miles, and protects life on Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays (USEPA 2008).

Ground-level ozone is not created directly from sources and emitted directly into the air, but is formed instead by photochemical reactions between oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) and reactive organic gases (ROG) in the presence of sunlight. NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG are known as ozone precursors. Ozone levels are the highest from late spring through autumn when sunlight intensity is high and the hours of sunlight are longest. The major sources of NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG are emissions from motor vehicle exhaust, gasoline vapors, coatings and solvents, industrial facilities and electric utilities. In California, motor vehicles create the majority of reactive organic gas and nitrogen oxide emissions.

Ozone is a public health concern due to the fact that it acts as a respiratory irritant and increases susceptibility to respiratory infections and diseases. Exposure to levels of ozone above current ambient air quality standards can lead to human health effects such as lung inflammation and tissue damage and impaired lung functioning. Ozone exposure is also associated with symptoms such as coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath, and the worsening of asthma symptoms.

- **Particulate Matter PM<sub>10</sub>** — PM<sub>10</sub> consists of particulate matter that is 10 microns or less in diameter. A micron is one-millionth of a meter. Airborne dust contains PM<sub>10</sub> and can include a wide range of solid or liquid particles, including smoke, dust, and aerosols. The health effects of PM<sub>10</sub> exposure depends upon the specific composition of the particulate matter. Effects may include aggravated asthma, chronic bronchitis, and decreased lung function (American Lung Association 2007). A sub-set of PM<sub>10</sub> is PM<sub>2.5</sub> which includes particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter.

Respirable particulate matter, especially PM<sub>2.5</sub>, is unhealthy to breathe and has been associated with premature mortality and other serious health effects. PM<sub>10</sub> poses a health concern because these particulates can be inhaled into and accumulate in the respiratory system. PM<sub>2.5</sub> is believed to pose the greatest health risks. Because of their small size (approximately three percent of the average width of a human hair), fine particles can lodge deeply into the lungs. Extensive research reviewed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) indicates that exposure to outdoor PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels exceeding current ambient air quality standards is associated with increased risk of hospitalization for lung and heart-related respiratory illness, including emergency room visits for asthma.

In addition to ozone and particulate matter, the region has occasionally exceeded standards for carbon monoxide in the past.

- **Carbon Monoxide (CO)** — Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is formed by the incomplete combustion of fuels. Emissions from motor vehicles are the primary source of CO in the region. High concentrations of CO can reduce the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood, causing dizziness, headaches, unconsciousness, and even death. CO binds to hemoglobin in the bloodstream more strongly than oxygen and both the cardiovascular system and the central nervous system can be affected. State and federal ambient air quality standards for CO have been set to keep CO emissions below that level which adversely affects the cardiovascular and nervous systems. The CO standards have not been exceeded since 1999 (SMAQMD 2004).

Other pollutants of concern include toxic air contaminants.

- **Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs)** — Toxic TACs are a broad class of compounds known to cause morbidity or mortality (usually because they cause cancer) and include, but are not limited to, the criteria air pollutants listed above. TACs are found in ambient air, especially in urban areas, and are caused by industry, agriculture, fuel combustion, and commercial operations (e.g., dry cleaners). TACs are typically found in low concentrations, even near their source (e.g., benzene near a freeway). Because chronic exposure can result in adverse health effects, TACs are regulated at the regional, state, and federal level.

Diesel exhaust is the predominant TAC in urban air and is estimated to represent about two-thirds of the cancer risk from TACs (based on the statewide average). According to the CARB, diesel exhaust is a complex mixture of gases, vapors and fine particles. This complexity makes the evaluation of health effects of diesel exhaust a complex scientific issue. Some of the chemicals in diesel exhaust, such as benzene and formaldehyde, have been previously identified as TACs by CARB, and are listed as carcinogens either under the state's Proposition 65 or under the federal Hazardous Air Pollutants programs. California has adopted a comprehensive diesel risk reduction program. The U.S. EPA has adopted low sulfur diesel fuel standards that will reduce diesel particulate matter substantially. These went into effect in late 2006.

### ***Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases***

#### *Background*

Energy from the sun drives the earth's climate and weather. The earth absorbs energy from the sun, and also radiates energy back into space. Much of this energy going back to space is absorbed by gases in the atmosphere. Because the atmosphere then radiates most of this energy back to the Earth's surface, our planet is warmer than it would be if the atmosphere did not contain these gases. Without this natural "greenhouse effect," temperatures would be about 60°F lower than they are now, and life as we know it today would not be possible (USEPA 2009a). Thus, the "greenhouse gases" (GHGs), including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, serve to regulate the earth's surface temperature, keeping the earth's average temperature close to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Greenhouse gases occur both naturally and as a result of manmade activities (anthropogenic sources).

Climate change refers to any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). Over the past 200 years, anthropogenic sources, including the burning of fossil fuels (such as coal and oil) and deforestation have caused the concentrations of heat-trapping "greenhouse gases" to increase significantly in our atmosphere (U.S. EPA 2009a). As atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases rise, so do temperatures, because less heat is able to escape the atmosphere. This rise in temperature is accompanied by climatic changes that affect how organisms live, adapt, and survive on the planet (CARB 2008a).

In the U.S., our energy-related activities account for three-quarters of our human-generated greenhouse gas emissions, mostly in the form of carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels. More than half the energy-related emissions come from large stationary sources such as power plants, while about a third comes from transportation. Industrial processes (such as the production of cement, steel, and aluminum), agriculture, forestry, and waste management are also important sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States (USEPA 2009b). GHGs from anthropogenic sources which are of most concern include carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). The individual GHGs have different global warming potential (GWP) as each traps heat in the atmosphere to a different degree compared to the others. Carbon dioxide is set as the reference gas for climate change analyses, and the emissions from the other gases are typically expressed as CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents. For example, methane is approximately 23 times as effective as CO<sub>2</sub> in trapping heat (i.e. methane has a GWP of 23). Therefore, a ton of methane emissions would be expressed as 23 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions.

### *Effects*

In California during the last fifty years winter and spring temperatures have been warmer, spring snow levels in lower and mid elevation mountains have dropped, and snowpack has been melting one to four weeks earlier (California Energy Commission 2009). These changes could result in an increase in the number of severe heat days, an increase in poor air quality days, and a declining Sierra snowpack. Such changes could adversely affect health, water supplies, hydropower, agriculture, and recreation in California.

The Sacramento region can also expect many negative impacts that affect our health, economy, environment, and quality of life. Higher temperatures will facilitate easier formation of summer ozone. This will increase asthma rates and demand for energy use for air conditioning. Less snowpack will reduce water availability in summer. The Delta's water level will rise, increasing costs to maintain levees and protect species. More droughts will mean more large forest fires, impacting air quality, homes and businesses, and recreation (SMAQMD 2009a).

### Regulatory Setting

#### ***Federal Regulations***

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) governs air quality in the United States. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) administers the CAA. The USEPA has established ambient air quality standards (AAQS) for common pollutants. The ambient air quality standards are levels of contaminants which represent safe levels that avoid specific adverse health effects associated with each pollutant. The ambient air quality standards cover what are called "criteria" pollutants because the EPA regulates them by developing human health-based and/or environmentally based criteria (science-based guidelines) for setting permissible levels. The set of limits based on human health is called primary standards. Another set of limits intended to prevent environmental and property damage is called secondary standards.

As required by the federal Clean Air Act, standards have been established for the following criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), respirable particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), sulfur oxides, and lead.

The EPA classified most of Sacramento County, including Galt, as a "serious non-attainment" area for the eight-hour federal ozone standard in April 2004. EPA requires jurisdictions under this classification to reach attainment within nine years. Sacramento County is listed as moderate non-attainment for federal PM<sub>10</sub> emissions. For all other federal criteria pollutants, Sacramento County is designated as attainment or unclassified.

The various GHGs that are considered to contribute to global warming have not been regulated by the federal government in the past as “air pollutants” in the sense that ambient air quality standards had not been set for their emissions on the basis of their impacts to health. Beginning in 2003, the stance of the USEPA was that the Clean Air Act did not authorize regulation to address global climate change, based upon the absence of express authority in the Act and no indication of congressional intent to provide such authority. Therefore, to address climate change at the federal level, the U.S. had established non-regulatory policies outside of the Clean Air Act to implement its climate change policy through voluntary and incentive-based programs.

In April 2007 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the gases that cause global warming are pollutants under the Clean Air Act. The court also found that the U.S. government has the authority to regulate carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases. Per the Court’s decision, in April 2009 the USEPA issued a proposed finding that greenhouse gases contribute to air pollution and may endanger public health or welfare. The proposed finding identified six greenhouse gases that pose a potential threat.

The finding states, “In both magnitude and probability, climate change is an enormous problem. The greenhouse gases that are responsible for it endanger public health and welfare within the meaning of the Clean Air Act” (USEPA 2009c).

The USEPA finding may lead to federal regulatory action in the future. In addition, in the spring of 2009, legislation concerning climate change, GHGs, and energy independence is being addressed in the U.S. Congress in the form of the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.

### **State Regulations**

Air quality in California is governed by the California Clean Air Act (CCAA). The CCAA is administered by CARB at the state level and by air quality management districts at the regional and local levels. Pursuant to the CCAA, the State of California has also established ambient air quality standards. California standards are generally considered more stringent than the corresponding federal standards, and incorporate additional standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, vinyl chloride, and visibility reducing particles. CARB classifies Sacramento County, including Galt, as a “serious” non-attainment area for state one-hour ozone, as well as nonattainment for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub>. For carbon monoxide and all state other criteria pollutants, Sacramento County is designated as attainment or unclassified.

To address climate change and GHGs, the State of California has enacted AB 32, known as the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. This Act declares that global warming is a serious threat to the public health, economic well-being, natural resources, and environment of California. AB 32 makes CARB responsible for monitoring and reducing GHG emissions, and requires CARB to:

- Establish (by January 1, 2008) a statewide GHG emissions cap for 2020, based on 1990 emissions;
- Adopt a plan by January 1, 2009 showing how emissions reductions will be achieved from significant GHG sources via regulations, market mechanisms, and other actions; and
- Adopt a list of discrete early action measures by July 1, 2007 that can be implemented by regulation before January 1, 2010.

Pursuant to AB 32, in December 2007, CARB approved a greenhouse gas emissions target for 2020 equivalent to the state’s calculated greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990. CARB

developed the 2020 target after extensive technical studies and a series of stakeholder meetings. The 2020 target of 427 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E) requires the reduction of 169 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E, or approximately 30 percent, from the state's projected 2020 emissions of 596 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E (business-as-usual) and the reduction of 42 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E, or almost 10 percent, from 2002-2004 average emissions (CARB 2008b).

In December 2008, CARB adopted the Climate Change Scoping Plan, containing strategies to achieve the GHG reductions required by AB 32. Strategies include:

- 1) Expanding and strengthening existing energy efficiency programs as well as building and appliance standards;
- 2) Achieving a statewide renewables energy mix of 33 percent;
- 3) Developing a California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiative partner programs to create a regional market system;
- 4) Establishing targets for transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions for regions throughout California, and pursuing policies and incentives to achieve those targets;
- 5) Adopting and implementing measures pursuant to existing State laws and policies, including California's clean car standards, goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard; and
- 6) Creating targeted fees, including a public goods charge on water use, fees on high global warming potential gases, and a fee to fund the administrative costs of the State's long term commitment to AB 32 implementation.

In October 2007, CARB released a list of 44 early actions, nine of which were recommended as "discrete early actions" as required by AB 32. The nine discrete early actions include:

- 1) Low Carbon Fuel Standard;
- 2) Reduction of HFC emissions from non-professional servicing of motor vehicle air conditioning systems;
- 3) Landfill methane capture;
- 4) SF<sub>6</sub> Reductions in the Non-Electric Sector;
- 5) Reduction of High GWP GHGs in Consumer Products
- 6) SmartWay Truck Efficiency;
- 7) Tire Inflation Program;
- 8) Reduction of PFCs from the Semiconductor Industry; and
- 9) Green Ports (shipping industry).

In addition to the AB 32 legislative action, Governor Schwarzenegger has issued Executive Orders relating to climate change and GHG reductions:

- S-3-05 (2005): Executive Order S-3-05, on GHG emission targets (issued on June 1, 2005), established State GHG emission reduction targets and requires oversight of the reduction efforts by a climate action team led by the Secretary of the California EPA.
- S-01-07 (2007): Executive Order S-01-07, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) (issued on January 18, 2007), calls for a reduction of at least 10 percent in the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels by 2020. It instructed the California Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate activities between the University of California, the California Energy Commission and other state agencies to develop and propose a draft compliance schedule to meet the 2020 target. The Executive Order also directed CARB to consider initiating regulatory proceedings to establish and implement the LCFS.

### CEQA and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In August 2007, the California State legislature passed and the Governor signed into law Senate Bill (SB) 97, adding Section 21083.05 to the Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act). The Bill required the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to prepare, develop, and transmit to the Resources Agency guidelines for the feasible mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or the effects of greenhouse gas emissions including, but not limited to, effects associated with transportation or energy consumption by July 1, 2009. The Resources Agency was required to certify and adopt those guidelines by January 1, 2010, and is also required to periodically update the guidelines to incorporate new information or criteria established by the State Air Resources Board pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32) .

In April 2009, the OPR submitted to the State Secretary for Natural Resources its proposed amendments to the state CEQA Guidelines for greenhouse gas emissions, as required by Senate Bill 97. These proposed CEQA Guideline amendments provided guidance to public agencies regarding the analysis and mitigation of the effects of greenhouse gas emissions in draft CEQA documents.

Greenhouse Gas Amendments to the CEQA Guidelines, mandated by SB 97 and codified in Public Resources Code section 21083.05, were adopted December 30, 2009. On February 16, 2010, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Amendments, and filed them with the Secretary of State for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations. These amendments became effective March 18, 2010.

The Guidelines require local agencies to quantify or describe the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of proposed projects and to mitigate GHG emissions when feasible. The Guidelines emphasize the importance of local greenhouse gas reduction plans (such as local climate action plans) as a means for CEQA analysis findings and streamlining the CEQA review process. The Guidelines preserve agency discretion in implementing GHG analysis under CEQA, and provide for agency discretion in selecting a standard for determining GHG emission significance for individual projects.

### ***Regional Regulations***

Local and regional air quality management districts, including the SMAQMD, are responsible for implementing and enforcing emissions standards and other regulations pursuant to federal and state laws. The Sacramento region's air districts work jointly with the USEPA, CARB, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, county transportation and planning departments, cities and counties, and multiple non-governmental organizations to improve air quality through a variety of programs. These programs include the adoption of regulations and policies, as well as implementation of extensive education and public outreach programs (SMAQMD 2004).

Due to the region's classification as a "serious" nonattainment area for the federal eight hour AAQS, the region is designated as the Sacramento Federal Ozone Nonattainment Area (SFNA). The SFNA is comprised of contiguous counties that affect each other's air quality and include the following counties: Yolo and Sacramento and in-part Solano, Sutter, Placer, and El Dorado counties.

As a response to the complex factors contributing to non-attainment of the ozone standards, the five air districts in the non-attainment area approved the Sacramento Area Regional Ozone Attainment Plan in 1994 for achieving attainment, which is commonly referred to as the 1994 State Implementation Plan (SIP). The regional attainment plan is required to be updated every three years with a Reasonable Further Progress demonstration plan. The various regional plans from non-attainment areas comprise the SIP. The regional plans and the SIP require review and approval by CARB and USEPA.

In addition, the SMAQMD has established ozone precursor significance thresholds. Substantial emissions of precursor pollutants from individual projects could contribute to an existing exceedance of the Federal and State ozone standards. Per the SMAQMD, a "substantial" contribution would be construction emissions of NOx of 85 lbs/day or greater, and operational emissions of NOx and/or ROG of 65 lbs/day or greater. The SMAQMD has also developed recommended significance criteria for other criteria pollutants, odors, toxic air contaminants, and cumulative impacts to air quality.

On October 27, 2005, the SMAQMD Board of Directors authorized staff to develop an AQMD Climate Protection Program that would include outreach and education, data collection and analysis, and provide support and leadership for local, state, and national efforts to reduce GHG emissions. The SMAQMD Board of Directors adopted the Climate Change Protection Program on March 23, 2006. The Program addresses climate change within the context of the District's air quality mission.

On August 28, 2008, the SMAQMD Board of Directors authorized the District Air Pollution Control Officer to direct staff to begin program development on several enhancements to the SMAQMD Climate Protection Program. Those enhancements include: 1) the creation of a GHG emissions "bank," 2) the creation of a program which would facilitate GHG mitigation for CEQA purposes, 3) an enhanced reporting system 4) assurances that climate protection measures do not cause increases in criteria pollutants.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and polices relevant to air quality within the City's planning area:

#### **Policy COS-5.6: SMAQMD Coordination**

The City shall coordinate with the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) on the review of proposed development projects. The City shall use the SMAQMD Guide to Air Quality Assessment for determining and mitigating project air quality impacts and related thresholds of significance for use in environmental documents.

#### **Policy COS-5.9: Air Quality Mitigation Measures**

The City shall enforce construction and operation related air quality mitigation measures adopted through the CEQA process.

**Policy COS-5.11: Construction Mitigation Measures**

The City shall require developers to implement dust suppression measures as well as the applicable standard construction mitigation measures associated with exhaust NOx and PM-10 reduction in accordance with the current SMAQMD CEQA Guide to Air Quality Assessment.

**Policy COS-5.13: Air Pollution Control Technology**

The City shall follow the rules and regulations as adopted by the SMAQMD to maintain healthful air quality and high visibility standards. These measures shall be applied to new development approvals and permit modifications as appropriate.

**Policy COS-6.2: Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities**

The City shall encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation by encouraging public transit, neighborhood electric vehicles, bicycle, and pedestrian modes in City transportation planning and by requiring new development to provide safe and separate pedestrian circulation and adequate bikeway circulation and facilities.

In addition to the General Plan policies noted above, the City's General Plan has also established 26 polices relevant to global warming and energy conservation within the City's planning area. These goals include the setting of GHG emissions reductions in concert with the AB 32 goals, encouragement of energy efficient designs, promotion of solar photovoltaic system incentive programs, programs for tree planting, building certifications, and education programs. Policies that may be relevant to the proposed project include:

**Policy COS-7.4: Energy Efficient Development**

In addition to the energy regulations of Title 24, the City shall encourage the energy efficiency of new development. Possible energy efficient design techniques include provisions for solar access, building siting to maximize natural heating and cooling, and landscaping to aid passive cooling and protection from winter winds.

**Policy COS-7.5: Building Design and Components**

The City shall encourage the implementation of cost-effective and innovative emission-reduction technologies in building components and design.

**Policy COS-7.6: Sustainable Design**

The City shall promote the implementation of sustainable design strategies for "cool communities" such as reflective roofing, light colored pavement, and urban shade trees.

**Policy COS-7.9: City Facilities**

The City shall incorporate, when feasible, energy-conserving design and construction techniques in all city facilities.

**Policy COS-7.16: EPA Energy Star Certified Appliances**

The City shall encourage the use of "EPA Energy Star" certified appliances (e.g., water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units) for new private development, where feasible. The City shall encourage the use of "EPA Energy Star" certified appliances for all public facilities, where feasible, in the course of ongoing maintenance/replacement.

## **Policy COS-7.22: LEED Certification**

The City shall strive to attain LEED certification on all new municipal buildings with an ultimate goal of reaching LEED gold or platinum certification if feasible.

### Impact Analysis

Air Quality impacts resulting from implementation of the project are categorized as follows:

- 1) Short-term impacts related to construction activities; and
- 2) Long-term impacts related to operation of the project.

Short-term air quality impacts are the result of the use of construction equipment, transport of materials (i.e. equipment, supplies, and construction material) to and from the site, and construction employee commute trips. Short-term air quality emissions typically consist of reactive organic gases (ROG), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and fugitive dust. NOx and ROG are largely generated from the operation of gas and diesel powered equipment. Fugitive dust and particulate matter is largely generated from earth moving activities and wind erosion.

Long-term air quality impacts are associated with the operation of a project after construction and typically are the result of the use of equipment that directly generates pollutants (i.e. diesel powered pumps, electrical generators, etc) as well as mobile emissions related to vehicle trips created by projects. In the case of the Master Plan, impacts would primarily result from user traffic to the park sites and facilities.

### Methodology

The **Section 3.0** of this Initial Study describes the existing City recreation facilities, proposed improvements to existing facilities, and proposed additional facilities (both active park facilities and open space/trails) to meet the needs of the City's population through the year 2025.

Proposed improvements to existing facilities include additional play structures at several parks, installation/renovation of playground surfaces for ADA compliance, pavement overlay at the Galt market, and improvements to a 0.45 acre location adjacent to Harvey Park.

Proposed new active park facilities include an additional 139 acres of new parks and facilities, located at approximately ten locations throughout the City and the Planning Area. The largest potential site is the 80 acre Hauschildt parcel, which would likely be a combination of both active and passive park (up to 60% active park facilities). Walker Park is proposed as a 39 acre active park facility, and the Kost Road location is expected to include 12.5 acres of active park uses and 8 acres of open space for passive park uses. (Walker Park was previously evaluated under CEQA as part of the joint Walker Park & Quail Hollow Elementary School project).

It is expected that the City would need an additional 7.34 miles of Class I trails and an additional 153 acres of recreational open space to meet the expected 2025 population. The total number of both active park and recreational open space acres required to serve the 2025 population is 440 acres. Of this amount, approximately 148 acres are currently developed for these uses, leaving 292 acres required for both active park development (139 acres) and recreational open space development (153 acres).

The development of any recreational facility, park, or recreational improvements proposed by the Master Plan would generally be incorporated into a larger development effort (e.g. Specific Plan), and be subject to the air quality analysis and mitigation measures developed under the CEQA analysis for the larger development project. However, should Master Plan facilities be developed

independently of such larger planning efforts, the following analysis specifies the expected impacts to air quality and incorporates mitigation measures as appropriate to reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

### Impact Analysis

The Impact Analysis and checklist answers following this discussion utilize the SMAQMD Guide to Air Quality Assessment (2004 and draft 2009 updates) and the emissions analysis conducted for the City of Galt 2030 General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

#### *a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?*

**No Impact.** The Sacramento Area Regional Ozone Attainment Plan includes projected growths in population, vehicle activity, and economic development. To reach attainment, the plan includes reductions from existing control measures and adopted rules, reductions from new state and federal regulations, and reductions from defined new SIP local and regional measures. Construction and operation of the proposed park, trail, and open space facilities would be subject to all SMAQMD rules in effect at the time of development.

Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Sacramento Regional Ozone Attainment Plan. Therefore no impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

#### *b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?*

**Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** Due to the nature of operational park activities (walking, bicycling, ball games, trail use, picnicking, etc.), the primary impact to air quality standards would most likely occur as a result of construction activities. Operational impacts would largely occur as a result of vehicle trips taken to the various facilities by the public. Impacts from both sources are discussed below.

### Construction Impacts

The Master Plan proposes improvements to existing park facilities including construction of play structures, pavement overlays, and improvements to a 0.45 acre location adjacent to Harvey Park. The update also proposes construction of approximately 139 acres of new active parks and facilities, located at approximately ten locations throughout the City and the Planning Area. The largest potential site is the 80-acre Hauschildt parcel, which would likely be a combination of both active and passive park (up to 60 percent active park facilities which would result in approximately 48 acres of active park and 32 acres).

The SMAQMD Guide to Air Quality Assessment uses Project Screening as a first level analysis to indicate whether the construction of projects is likely to result in emissions that exceed the SMAQMD 85 lbs/day significance threshold for NOx. The 2004 Guide does not include "city park" as a land use category in the construction screening list. However, the SMAQMD is in the process of updating the Guide for 2009, and the draft version of the updated Guide includes "City Park" in the new land use list (SMAQMD 2009b). The screening level for city park construction is set at 60 acres. This would mean that construction of city park projects of 60 or more acres would likely result in emissions that exceed the NOx threshold without mitigation. The SMAQMD cautions that projects under the screening limits may still have the potential for exceeding the threshold due to project-specific conditions such as construction schedule, equipment use, or unique meteorological or soil conditions.

As the largest proposed park in the Master Plan is expected to be no greater than 48 acres of active park land, and with remaining proposed park improvements and facilities planned at smaller acreages, no single project under the Parks Master Plan Update is expected to result in emissions that exceed the 85 lbs/day NOx significance threshold. The SMAQMD Guide also includes the assumption that if a project's NOx emissions is determined to be less than significant, emissions of other criteria pollutants are also expected to be less than significant. In addition, construction of park facilities would be subject to SMAQMD rules, including Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust) and Rule 442 (Architectural Coatings). The required adherence to these SMAQMD rules would further reduce construction emissions of particulate matter and ROG respectively. The construction related emissions of criteria pollutants for each individual Master Plan project would be expected to be less than significant.

However, due to the long range planning nature of the Master Plan, the timing of development and construction of individual projects is unknown for most of the future facilities. Therefore, the possibility for construction of multiple Master Plan projects occurring simultaneously exists. Although unlikely due to the small acreage of many of the proposed improvements, this could potentially create a condition where the acreage of projects under active construction at a single time could approach or exceed the SMAQMD construction screening criteria of 60 acres. Also, the exact physical location of several of the future facilities is not yet determined. Project-specific conditions such as construction schedule, equipment use, or unique meteorological or soil conditions are therefore unknown. This would be a potentially significant impact without mitigation. Compliance with Mitigation Measure AQ -1 would reduce potential impacts due to construction emissions to a less than significant level.

#### Operational Impacts

The air quality analysis conducted for the City of Galt 2030 General Plan utilized the URBEMIS 2007 model to estimate air pollutant emissions associated with the buildout of the General Plan area land uses. This model predicts daily and yearly emissions of NOx, ROG, PM10, PM 2.5, CO, and CO2 associated with land use developments. As developed for the General Plan, the model combines the land uses (in acres or square footage) and predicted daily traffic activity associated with the different land use types, with emission factors from the State's mobile emission factor model (i.e., EMFAC2002). The model was used to predict operational emissions from the expected buildout of the General Plan land uses. The model utilized for the General Plan assumed 868 acres of "City Park". This is approximately 10% greater acreage than all lands designated as "Open Space" and "Parks" in the Land Use and Circulation Diagram of the General Plan.

The daily operational emissions (winter emissions) for the ozone precursors NOx and ROG under the General Plan "City Park" land use category (868 acres) was estimated as 20.57 lbs/day for NOx and 13.07 lbs/day for ROG. These emission levels are well below the significance thresholds of 65 lbs/day established by the SMAQMD. It is expected that the projects proposed under the Parks Master Plan Update (440 acres total by the year 2025, with only 293 acres being new lands/facilities (beyond acres already developed and in use in 2009), would also result in NOx and ROG emissions well below the SMAQMD significance thresholds, as the total parks, trails, and open space acreage proposed under the Parks Master Plan Update is significantly less than the total acreage used for the City's General Plan EIR emissions analysis. In addition, the proposed SMAQMD operational screening level for "city park" land uses is 2,210 acres (K. Huss, SMAQMD, personal communication, June 2, 2009).

The "city park" land use screening criteria (as well as the URBEMIS computer model) utilizes a city park land use trip generation rate of 1.59 daily trips per acre based upon the current Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) trip generation projections. This trip generation rate would be appropriate for development and operation of new park facilities such as neighborhood and community parks. The larger acreage of the Hauschildt parcel (80 acres) may allow that location to function more as a regional park. The ITE trip generation for a regional park is 4.57 daily trips

per acre (approximately 3 times the rate for “city park”). However, as the entire Master Plan acreage of 440 acres is only 20 percent of the SMAQMD operational screening level acreage, Master Plan operational emissions with the use of 80 acres at the higher “regional park” trip generation rate would still be expected to remain significantly below the SMAQMD thresholds. Therefore, the Master Plan implementation would not be expected to violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.

*c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The impacts to air quality standards from Master Plan projects alone are less than significant with mitigation. The SMAQMD has developed thresholds to determine if a project’s emissions would create significant cumulative impacts. Per the SMAQMD, development projects would be considered cumulatively significant if the project requires a change in the existing land use designation (i.e. general plan amendment, rezone), and projected emissions (NO<sub>x</sub>, ROG) of the proposed project are greater than the emissions anticipated for the site if developed under the existing land use designation. As the emissions inventory of the SIP are based largely upon growth assumptions derived from land use planning from cities and counties, a project’s inconsistency with the City’s general plan could result in cumulative impacts, depending upon the specific project site’s existing land use designation.

It is anticipated that future recreational facilities and improvements would not be developed until the City has annexed and pre-zoned lands within the Planning Area consistent with the land use designations defined by the General Plan, and prepared a Specific Plan(s) and associated CEQA analyses/documentation pursuant to General Plan Policy LU-1.1. Therefore, an inconsistency with land use and/or zoning designation would not result from implementation of the Master Plan and impacts related to increases in criteria pollutants are therefore considered less than significant.

Although GHGs are not regulated as criteria pollutants, a project’s construction and/or operation could have the potential to result in an increase in GHGs that could be cumulatively considerable due to the contribution of the additional GHGs to climate change. Currently, there are no specific quantitative criteria for determining the significance of impacts resulting from GHG emissions in the CEQA guidelines, and no SMAQMD established thresholds of significance for GHG emissions. For this analysis, the proposed Master Plan project would be considered to have a significant impact (i.e. result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of emissions), if the project would conflict with or obstruct implementation of the AB 32 measures and other state regulations concerning GHG emissions.

As discussed previously, significant sources of anthropogenic GHGs are the burning of fossil fuels, large stationary sources such as power plants, transportation, industrial processes (such as the production of cement, steel, and aluminum), agriculture, forestry, and waste management. The Master Plan projects include improvements to existing park facilities (e.g. addition of playgrounds, resurfacing parking lots), the development of new neighborhood and community parks, the potential development of a regional park, and the development of additional open space areas for trails and passive recreation. GHG emissions associated with the Master Plan projects would be associated with vehicle emissions from construction and operation, and energy use from park buildings and structures. The Master Plan includes park site characteristic recommendations and conceptual plans that promote walkability, non-vehicular access, and shade tree plantings. Relevant Planning Standards proposed by the Master Plan include:

- Active Park Land – 5 acres per 1,000 population;
- Recreational Open Space – 5 acres per 1,000 population;

- Class 1 Trails – ¼ mile per 1,000 population;
- Pedestrian paths in all parks;
- ½ mile service area for pocket and neighborhood parks;
- 2 mile service area for community parks;
- Non-vehicular access to all new neighborhood parks via Class I trails or Class II bike routes; and
- Energy conservation should be factored into all new facility designs and renovations.

The proposed components of the Master Plan support the General Plan's goals and policies relative to global warming and reduction of GHG emissions and would not be expected to be in conflict with or obstruct implementation of AB 32 measures. However, potential GHG emissions associated with construction of new facilities or the renovation of existing facilities, as well as operational components of proposed individual future facilities may contribute to the generation of GHG emissions within the City's Planning Area. The potential for significant impacts related to GHG emissions would be determined through the environmental review process at the time Specific Plans and individual projects are reviewed for approval. Future facility development would be required to implement Planning Standards proposed by the Master Plan, as well as General Plan policies relevant to GHG emission reduction. However, the location, configuration, and design of future facilities remain unknown at this time. Therefore, potential impacts related to GHG emission relevant to implementation of the Master Plan would be considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. As future recreational facilities and improvements are proposed for development, project-level environmental analysis will be required based on site-specific conditions and design details for individually proposed projects. If it is determined during CEQA review for individual projects that the potential exists for impacts related to GHG emissions, the development and implementation of further mitigation coordinated through the SMAQMD would be required pertinent to individual project proposals and the associated impacts relevant to GHG emissions estimated for a given project design and components. Compliance with Mitigation Measure AQ – 1 would therefore reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

*d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*

**Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The SMAQMD defines sensitive receptors as facilities that house or attract children, the elderly, and people with illnesses or others who are especially sensitive to the effects of air pollutants. Examples of sensitive receptors include: hospitals, schools, convalescent facilities, and residential areas. Improvements to existing facilities proposed under the Master Plan will occur at sites already utilized as park facilities. The Walker Park, Kost Road, and potential Hauschildt sites have determined locations. However, exact locations of several of the proposed future Master Plan facilities are not yet determined. The operation of park facilities after construction would not be expected to result in substantial pollutant concentrations, as activities at the facilities would consist of ball games, trail use, picnicking, and other typical city park activities. As discussed in checklist answer "b" above, air quality impacts that could potentially result from the Master Plan projects would be primarily construction-related. The impacts from construction activities would be temporary. However, some projects under the Master Plan would occur at existing park sites and therefore construction emissions, including diesel particulate matter, could impact park users, including children and the elderly, during construction hours. In addition, the location and timing for construction of future park facilities is not yet determined. Although such construction could occur prior to or simultaneously with construction of residential areas and schools, it is also possible that such construction could occur after some degree of residential buildout has

occurred and homes and/or schools near the park facilities could be occupied and in use. Therefore, air quality impacts to sensitive receptors from development of the Proposed Project could be significant without mitigation. Compliance with Mitigation Measure AQ -1 would reduce potential impacts due to construction emissions to a less than significant level.

*e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The generation of any odors resulting from the Master Plan projects would occur primarily during construction and would include diesel exhaust, odors from the application of architectural coatings, and odors from new applications of asphalt for parking. However, these odors would be temporary and intermittent. After construction, the use of park facilities, including bar-b-que units, would be expected to create minimal odors. Odors from bar-b-que units would be sporadic and temporary, and would typically disperse quickly in open space settings. Therefore, potential impacts related to odors are considered less than significant.

#### Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure AQ – 1:** Prior to approval of any improvements proposed by the Master Plan that require a grading permit, the City shall consult with the SMAQMD. This consultation would be to determine if a project-specific air quality analysis for the project construction would be required due to either simultaneous construction of multiple Master Plan projects or due to unique project-specific conditions. If a project-specific air quality analysis is required, the City shall conduct the analysis using the SMAQMD's Guide to Air Quality Assessment and recommended methodology. The methodology may include, but not be limited to, the SMAQMD's screening criteria, the URBEMIS emissions model, the SMAQMD's Roadway Construction Emissions Model (appropriate for bike paths and trails), or other methodology identified by SMAQMD. Should the project-specific analysis estimate that emissions, (including GHG emissions) could exceed the SMAQMD thresholds, the project shall incorporate the appropriate level of SMAQMD mitigation measures, which may include additional fugitive dust/particulate matter control as well as the applicable standard construction mitigation measures associated with exhaust NOx and PM-10 reduction (including diesel particulates), or other measures identified to reduce GHG emissions in accordance with the current SMAQMD CEQA Guide to Air Quality Assessment.

#### 4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal wetlands, etc.), through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Information relevant to Biological Resources is summarized from the City of Galt General Plan EIR and supporting documents. The Master Plan encompasses lands located in the southern Sacramento Valley and characteristic vegetation communities and wildlife habitats in the area include annual grassland, cropland, vineyard, agriculture, freshwater marsh, riverine and riparian woodland, vernal pools, seasonal wetland, and urbanized habitat areas (Mintier et al. 2005). The Cosumnes River system and Dry Creek, which flow into the Mokelumne River, make up a large portion of the open water habitats in this area.

Annual grasslands are characterized by open areas with herbaceous vegetation that provide habitat for a number of common and special-status plant and wildlife species. Cropland makes up a significant portion of the Planning Area and includes field crops, hay and grain crops, pasturelands, and berry crops which provide habitats to several species of wildlife. Riparian habitats support the most wildlife and botanical species diversity for habitat types that are present in the study area (Mintier et al. 2005). Regionally speaking, the Planning Area supports many intermixed habitat types including annual grasslands, cropland, freshwater marsh, and/or riparian habitats which in combination, provide many habitat uses for a number of common and special-status species including but not limited to nesting and foraging birds including raptors such as Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) and tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*), western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), many species of roosting bats as well as several other species of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.

The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) is a natural heritage database program maintained by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Habitat Conservation Division that provides natural history and location information on rare, threatened, endangered, and other special-status species to the public, other agencies, and conservation organizations (CDFG 2009). The CNDDDB was reviewed in order to determine the potential for special-status species to occur in the study area. Based upon review of the *Lodi North* and *Lodi South* USGS topographic maps, twelve (12) special-status species were identified as a potentially occurring in the study area including two plants species and ten wildlife species (**Appendix B**).

### Regulatory Setting

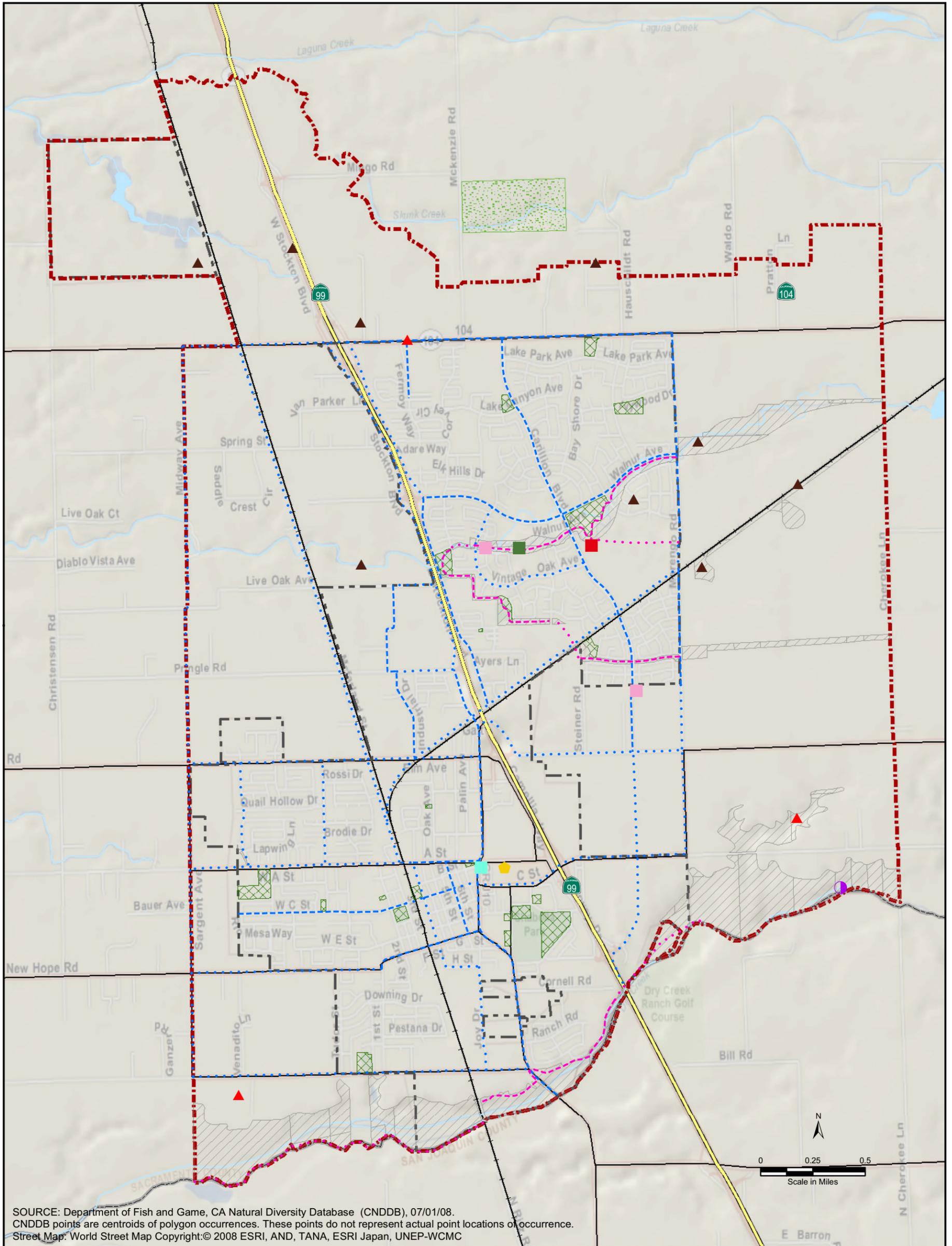
The following subsections briefly describe the regulatory background governing special-status species identified as potentially occurring in the Planning Area. Special-status species are defined as species that are afforded a protective status under federal, state, and/or local environmental laws and policies that are relevant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental review process. The locations of CNDDDB records for special-status species within the study area and immediate vicinity are shown on **Figure 4.4-1**.

### **Federal Endangered Species Act**

The United States Congress passed the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) in 1973 to protect those species that are endangered or threatened with extinction. FESA is intended to operate in conjunction with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to help protect the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend.

FESA prohibits the "take" of endangered or threatened wildlife species. "Take" is defined to include harassing, harming, pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife species or any attempt to engage in such conduct (FESA Section 3 [(3)(19)]). Harm is further defined to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns (50 CFR §17.3). Harassment is defined as actions that create the likelihood of injury to listed species to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavior patterns (50 CFR §17.3). Actions that result in take can result in civil or criminal penalties.

FESA and Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 guidelines prohibit the issuance of wetland permits for projects that jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) when threatened or endangered species under their jurisdiction may be affected by a proposed project. In the context of the proposed project, FESA would be initiated if development resulted in take of a threatened or endangered species or if issuance of a Section 404 permit or other federal agency action could result in take of an endangered species or adversely modify critical habitat of such a species.



CNDDB	PEDESTRIAN/BIKE SYSTEM	OTHER FEATURES
California Linderiella	Class I	2009 City Limits
Midvalley Fairy Shrimp	Class I Proposed	General Plan Area
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp	Class II	Open Space
Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp	Class II Proposed	Existing Parks
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle		Future Park Outside of General Plan Area
California Tiger Salamander		
Swainson's Hawk		
Tricolored Blackbird		

**CITY OF GALT  
PLANNING AREA  
CNDDB**

FIGURE 4.4-1  
10/26/09

**FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING • PLANNING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

### ***Migratory Bird Treaty Act***

Raptors (birds of prey), migratory birds, and other avian species are protected by a number of state and federal laws. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the killing, possessing, or trading of migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Interior. Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code states that it is “unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the order Falconiformes or Strigiformes or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.”

### ***California Endangered Species Act***

The State of California enacted the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) in 1984. CESA is similar to FESA but pertains to state-listed endangered and threatened species. CESA requires state agencies to consult with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) when preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents. The purpose is to ensure that lead agency actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction, or adverse modification of critical habitat essential to the continued existence of those species, if there are reasonable and prudent alternatives available (Fish and Game Code §2080). CESA directs agencies to consult with CDFG on projects or actions that could affect listed species, directs CDFG to determine whether jeopardy would occur and allows CDFG to identify “reasonable and prudent alternatives” to the project consistent with conserving the species. CESA allows CDFG to authorize exceptions to the state’s prohibition against take of a listed species if the “take” of a listed species is incidental to carrying out an otherwise lawful project that has been approved under CEQA (Fish & Game Code § 2081).

### ***CDFG Species of Concern***

In addition to formal listing under FESA and CESA, species receive additional consideration by CDFG and local lead agencies during the CEQA process. Species that may be considered for review are included on a list of “Species of Concern,” developed by CDFG. The list tracks species in California whose numbers, reproductive success, or habitat may be threatened or declining.

### ***California Native Plant Society***

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) maintains a list of plant species native to California that has low population numbers, limited distribution, or are otherwise threatened with extinction. This information is published in the Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2001). Potential impacts to populations of CNPS-listed plants receive consideration under CEQA review. The following classifications define CNPS listings:

- List 1A: Plants presumed Extinct in California
- List 1B: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere
- List 2: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more numerous elsewhere
- List 3: Plants about which we need more information – A Review List
- List 4: Plants of limited distribution – A Watch List

## ***City of Galt General Plan***

In addition to federal and state regulatory protection of special-status plant and wildlife species, the Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document was recently adopted and outlines goals and policies specific to the protection of listed, sensitive, and rare plant and wildlife species. Specifically, the Conservation and Open Space element states the following goal and policies (Mintier et al. 2009):

### **Goal COS-2: To protect, restore, and enhance habitat that support fish and wildlife species.**

#### **Policy COS-2.1: Sensitive Species Protection**

The City should require minimization of impacts to protect mature trees, vernal pools, and any threatened endangered or other sensitive species when approving new development.

#### **Policy COS-2.2: Wetland and Riparian Communities Management**

The City shall support the protection, restoration, expansion, and management of wetland and riparian plant communities for passive recreation, groundwater recharge, and wildlife habitat.

#### **Policy COS-2.3: Biologically Sensitive Area Development**

The City should require new development in areas that are known to have particular value for biological resources to maximize preservation of sensitive vegetation and wildlife habitat.

#### **Policy COS-2.4: Federal, State, and Local Statutes Compliance**

The City shall review development proposals in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local statutes protecting special-status species and jurisdictional wetlands.

#### **Policy COS-2.5: Mitigation Measures Imposition**

The City shall, in its role as lead agency, take into consideration mitigation standards and policies of resource and regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over biological resources (e.g., USFWS, CDFG, etc.).

#### **Policy COS-2.6: Biological Surveys**

On sites that have the potential to contain critical or sensitive habitats or special species, the City shall require the project applicant to have the site surveyed by a qualified biologist. A report on the findings of this survey shall be submitted to the City as part of the application process.

The Galt General Plan **Policy COS-2.7** also encourages the continued participation in the preparation of the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) which is intended to help ensure the protection of sensitive habitats and special-status species in and around the City of Galt (Mintier et al. 2008).

### Impact Analysis

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan proposes conceptual planning framework for the development of future park and recreational sites, as well as improvements to existing recreational facilities. The Master Plan states that land that is constrained by the presence of special-status species or other protected resources may not be suitable for future park site development. The Master Plan also states that in no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed

use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. The potential for significant impacts related to special-status species as a result of the City of Galt Parks Master Plan would be determined at the time property is proposed to be annexed to the City as part of a Specific Plan proposed for development and as individual projects are reviewed for approval. Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 are proposed as general mitigation to be incorporated into project design relevant to mitigation for potential impacts to special-status species. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 would ensure that a Biological Resource Assessment is conducted for individual sites proposed for development identifying the potential occurrence of special-status species, and would require pre-construction surveys; therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Section 3.5.1 of the Master Plan identifies recommended capital improvements to existing parks that are in need of ordinary maintenance and improvement activities. Existing parks are primarily located within urbanized areas of the City and no significant impacts are expected to occur to special-status species related to construction of improvements to existing facilities.

*b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The Galt General Plan states that approximately 755 acres of riparian habitat occurs within the General Plan Study Area (Mintier et al. 2005). Annual grasslands (including both disturbed and vernal pool grasslands) and other wetlands types are also considered sensitive habitats that are afforded protection by various regulatory agencies. Additional detailed discussion relevant to these sensitive natural communities is included in Sub-sections "c" and "d" below.

Riparian habitats generally provide a high level of species diversity and habitat values. The structure of riparian habitat is typically multi-leveled and provides food, cover, and reproductive value as well as dispersal and migration corridor habitat for a variety of species. Riparian habitat supports plant species that are adapted to living in moist conditions and riparian habitat often occurs adjacent in association with streams, creeks, rivers, and floodplains (Mintier et al. 2005).

#### Regulatory Setting

##### **State Regulations**

The CDFG is a Trustee Agency with jurisdiction under Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code. Under Section 1602, a private party must notify the CDFG if a proposed project will "substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake designated by the department, or use any material from the streambeds except when the department has been notified pursuant to Section 1601." If an existing fish or wildlife resource may be substantially adversely affected by the activity, the CDFG may propose reasonable measures that will allow protection of those resources. If these measures are agreeable to the party, they may enter into an agreement with the CDFG identifying the approved activities and associated mitigation measures.

##### **City of Galt General Plan**

In addition to Section 1600 California Fish and Game Codes, the Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document was recently adopted and outlines goals and policies specific to the protection of riparian habitat resources. The Conservation and Open Space element identifies the following goals and policies (Mintier et al. 2009):

**Goal COS-1: To protect and enhance the qualities of the area's rivers, creeks, sloughs, and groundwater.**

**Policy COS 1.10:** Ecological Features Retention

The City shall retain to the extent feasible the ecological features of the creeks, sloughs, and rivers in their natural state.

**Policy COS-1.11:** Riparian Corridor Protection

The City shall endeavor to protect, preserve, and improve riparian corridors.

**Policy COS-1.9:** Streambed Alteration Watershed Regulations Compliance

The City shall require proposed developments to comply with streambed alteration and watershed protection regulations as administered by the California Department of Fish and Game.

**Goal COS-3: To preserve and protect the valuable vegetation resources of the Galt area.**

**Policy COS-3.1:** Riparian Protection

The City should require the protection of existing riparian vegetation along stream courses in the city.

**Policy COS-3.2:** Mature Tree and Woodland Preservation

The City shall encourage retention of mature trees and woodlands to the maximum extent possible.

#### Impact Analysis

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan proposes conceptual planning framework for the development of future park and recreational sites, as well as improvements to existing recreational facilities. The Master Plan states that land that is constrained by the presence of wetlands or other protected resources may not be suitable for future park site development. The Master Plan also states that in no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. The potential for significant impacts related to waterways, creeks, or riparian habitat subject to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Codes as a result of the City of Galt Parks Master Plan would be determined at the time Specific Plans and individual projects are reviewed for approval. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 is proposed as general mitigation to be incorporated into project design relevant to mitigation relevant to potential impacts to resources regulated by Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Codes. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-3 would ensure that the City coordinates with CDFG related to any impacts to CDFG jurisdictional resources and requires the City to enter into a Streambed Alteration Agreement with CDFG, incorporating CDFG-defined site-specific mitigation measures; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

In addition to new park sites being identified for development, Section 3.5.1 of the Master Plan identifies recommended capital improvements to existing parks that are in need of ordinary maintenance and improvement activities. Since these existing parks are located in urbanized areas, no significant impacts are expected to occur to waters potentially regulated under California Fish and Game Code Section 1602.

- c) *Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal wetlands, etc.), through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The Galt General Plan identifies the following wetland acreages as occurring within the City's Planning Area (Mintier et al. 2005). The aquatic features listed below have the potential to be regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act:

- Freshwater marsh = 135 acres
- Open water = 767 acres
- Seasonal wetland = 431 acres
- Vernal pools = 258 acres

Freshwater marsh or freshwater emergent wetland habitats are generally subject to frequent flooding, dominated by rooted, emergent vegetation, and characterized by anaerobic soils. Open water habitats include both lacustrine and riverine habitats. Lacustrine habitats generally include permanent and intermittent ponds, lakes, and reservoirs. Riverine habitats are open water areas typically with a submerged zone and often occurring along the shore of rivers and streams. Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch make up the majority of riverine habitat within the Galt Parks Master Plan Area.

#### Regulatory Setting

##### **Federal Regulations**

The Corps regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States under Section 404 of the CWA. "Discharges of fill material" is defined as the addition of fill material into waters of the U.S., including, but not limited to the following: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; fill for intake and outfall pipes and subaqueous utility lines [33 C.F.R. §328.2(f)]. In addition, Section 401 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards.

Waters of the U.S. include a range of wet environments such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, and wet meadows. Boundaries between jurisdictional waters and uplands are determined in a variety of ways depending on which type of waters is present. Methods for delineating wetlands and non-tidal waters are described below.

- Wetlands are defined as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions" [33 C.F.R. §328.3(b)]. Presently, to be a wetland, a site must exhibit three wetland criteria: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology existing under the "normal circumstances" for the site.
- The lateral extent of non-tidal waters is determined by delineating the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) [33 C.F.R. §328.4(c)(1)]. The OHWM is defined by the Corps as "that line on shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical character of the soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas" [33 C.F.R. §328.3(e)].

## **City of Galt General Plan**

In addition to Section 404 of CWA regulatory protection over waters of the U.S., the Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document was recently adopted and outlines goals and policies specific to the protection of wetland resources. The Conservation and Open Space element identifies the following policies (Mintier et al. 2009):

### **Policy COS-1.13: No Net Loss of Wetlands**

The City shall review development proposals in accordance with applicable local, State, and Federal statutes protecting jurisdictional wetlands (Section 404 of the Clean Water Act) and require that new developments have no net loss of existing wetland habitats.

### **Policy COS-2.2: Wetland and Riparian Communities Management**

The City shall support the protection, restoration, expansion, and management of wetland and riparian plant communities for passive recreation, groundwater recharge, and wildlife habitat.

### Impact Analysis

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan proposes conceptual planning framework for the development of future park and recreational sites, as well as improvements to existing recreational facilities. The Master Plan states that land that is constrained by the presence of wetlands, waters of the U.S. potentially subject to Section 404 of CWA, or other protected resources may not be suitable for future park site development. The Master Plan also states that in no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. The potential for significant impacts related to wetlands, waters of the U.S. potentially subject to Section 404 of CWA as a result of the City of Galt Parks Master Plan would be determined at the time Specific Plans are proposed and individual projects are reviewed for approval. Mitigation Measures BIO-4 and BIO-5 are proposed as general mitigation to be incorporated into project design as mitigation relevant to potential impacts to wetlands and waters of the U.S. potentially subject to Section 404 of CWA. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4 and BIO-5 would ensure that the City evaluates the potential presence of jurisdictional waters through the preparation of a jurisdictional delineation, requires Corps verification of the delineation; and requires the City to obtain Section 404 and Section 401 authorization for the placements of fill in any jurisdictional waters. Mitigation for the fill of waters of the U.S. will be determined during the Corps and Regional Water Quality Control Board review of the Proposed Project based on site-specific resources and functions and values; therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

In addition to new park sites being identified for development, Section 3.5.1 of the Master Plan identifies recommended capital improvements to existing parks that are in need of ordinary maintenance and improvement activities. Since these are existing parks in urbanized areas, no significant impacts are expected to occur to wetland or other waters of the U.S. potentially regulated under Section 404 of CWA in regards to improvements to existing facilities.

- d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Central Valley wildlife movement and migratory corridors typically occur along riparian corridors with well-developed riparian vegetation and surrounding undeveloped lands. Areas along the Cosumnes River, Laguna Creek, and Dry Creek support riparian habitat. The Cosumnes and Dry Creek watersheds that surround the City's Planning Area have a high potential for greater wildlife diversity because these areas

provide important foraging, dispersal, and migratory corridors for many sensitive species of wildlife. Much of the habitat in the City's Planning Area is interconnected with large areas of open space (Mintier et al. 2009).

### Impact Analysis

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan proposes conceptual planning framework for the development of future park and recreational sites, as well as improvements to existing recreational facilities. The Master Plan states that land that is constrained by the presence of protected resources may not be suitable for future park site development. The Master Plan also states that in no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. The potential for significant impacts related to protected resources would be determined at the time Specific Plans and individual projects are reviewed for approval. Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-6 are proposed as general mitigation to be incorporated into project design as mitigation relevant to potential impacts to protected biological resources. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-6 would ensure that the City evaluates the potential presence of these resources and requires the City to coordinate with resource agency having jurisdiction to obtain authorization under relevant federal and State regulatory requirements. Mitigation for potential impacts to migratory corridors, wildlife nursery sites, and other wildlife migration corridors would be developed through agency coordination through the permitting process(s) based on site-specific resources; therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

In addition to new park sites being identified for development, the Master Plan identifies recommended capital improvements to existing parks that are in need of ordinary maintenance and improvement activities. Since these are existing parks in urbanized areas, no significant impacts are expected to occur to wildlife corridors.

e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Tree species that are known to occur within the Galt General Plan Area include California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), interior live oak (*Quercus wislizeni*), white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), box elder (*Acer negundo*), cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), and willow (*Salix* spp.). Urban landscapes also provide street tree and shade tree value. Shade tree and lawn habitats are usually composed of many different species of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous cover and occur in residential yards, public planting areas and designated landscape corridors, as well as parks (Mintier et al. 2005).

### Regulatory Setting

#### **City of Galt Municipal Code**

The City of Galt Municipal Code contains all codified ordinances adopted by Galt City Council. Chapter 12.28 covers the cutting and removal of oak trees, grading beneath driplines, and measures to protect trees during construction. This chapter states that the preservation, enhancement, or removal of protected oak trees within parks, parkways, and public recreation easements shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Works. Because the project proponent is the City of Galt, the Parks Master Plan project is expected to comply with the City's municipal code with respect to oak trees during implementation of the Parks Master Plan project. An oak tree is defined as valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), interior live oak (*Quercus wislizenii*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) or oracle oak (*Quercus morehus*) having at least one trunk of six inch diameter measured four feet above the ground, or multi-trunks with an aggregate diameter of eight inches or more, measured four feet above ground. Chapter 12.20 regulates street trees, and Section 18-20.030 regulates street tree planting in front yards.

## ***City of Galt General Plan***

In addition to the specific Galt Municipal Codes that protect biological resources, the Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document was recently adopted and outlines goals and policies in regards to open space preservation and protection of biological resources. The Conservation and Open Space element identifies the following relevant goal and policies (Mintier et al. 2009):

### **Goal COS-4: To preserve and enhance open space lands to maintain the natural resources of the Galt area.**

#### **Policy COS-4.2: Natural Floodway Protection**

Where stream modifications are needed to prevent flooding, the City shall require a natural floodway incorporating as much of the existing vegetation as possible. When feasible, the City should require additional wetlands along drainage features, in retention basins, and parks, and that development and roads are setback from stream courses a sufficient distance to prevent damage to these areas.

#### **Policy COS-4.3: Natural Land Forms**

The City shall support the preservation and enhancement of natural land forms, natural vegetation, and natural resources as open space to the extent feasible.

#### **Policy COS-4.4: Open Space Protection**

The City shall, where appropriate, permanently protect as open space areas of natural resource value, including wetlands preserves, riparian corridors, woodlands, and floodplains.

#### **Policy COS-4.5: Development Design and Construction**

The City shall require that new development be designed and constructed to preserve significant stands of vegetation and any areas of special ecological significance as open space to the extent feasible.

#### **Policy COS-4.6: Natural Open Space in Parks**

The City shall consider the inclusion of natural open space areas in regional, community, and neighborhood parks where appropriate.

#### **Policy COS-4.9: Open Space Preservation**

The City shall work to preserve open space that provides both habitat for wildlife and increases the quality of life for people. This can include maintaining areas for trails, bike and pedestrian paths, and open space buffers used as separators between neighborhoods to provide an identity and a sense of place.

#### **Policy CC-4.1: Tree Canopy**

The City shall endeavor to protect the tree canopy created by mature trees and heritage trees in existing developed areas and undeveloped areas. At a minimum, the City should require trees in residential areas to be planted five to seven feet from street right-of-ways to provide streetscape enhancements.

#### **Policy CC-4.2: Trees in New Development**

The City shall require that all new development protect existing trees, to the extent feasible, and incorporate the planting of additional trees and other vegetation, to provide shade, buffering, and visual character. Oak trees are specifically protected by the Galt Municipal Code, but other trees on land that is subject to a development application may be required to be protected through the development phase. New trees shall be carefully selected based on appropriate site conditions (Galt's microclimate, soil type, water usage, surrounding infrastructure and improvements, and distance from buildings). In order to help the Sacramento region attain air quality conformance, the largest tree species possible for the given application, with the lowest biogenic emission rates, should be selected. High biogenic emitting tree species should be avoided or planted only as a second choice when low emitters will be unsatisfactory. Developers can obtain information on biogenic emissions of tree species from the City of Galt Planning Department, the SMAQMD, and the Sacramento Tree Foundation.

#### Impact Analysis

The City of Galt Parks Master Plan proposes conceptual planning framework for the development of future park and recreational sites, as well as improvements to existing recreational facilities. The Master Plan states that land that is constrained by the presence of protected resources may not be suitable for future park site development. The Master Plan also states that in no case shall such protected resources be adversely impacted by the proposed use unless appropriate mitigation is provided as determined by the regulatory entity with jurisdiction over the resource. The potential for significant impacts related to conflict with an ordinance or policy protecting biological resources would be determined at the time Specific Plans and individual projects are reviewed for approval, based on site-specific characteristics and the proposed project description. Mitigation Measure BIO-6 is proposed as general mitigation to be incorporated into project design as mitigation relevant to potential conflicts with the City's Municipal Ordinance pertaining to oaks trees. Compliance with Mitigation Measure BIO-6 would ensure that the City evaluates the potential presence of oak trees and requires the City to implement mitigation consistent with the mitigation standards identified by the City's Municipal Code; therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

f) *Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) is a regional environmental planning and permitting document that is presently in draft form and at the preliminary planning and review stage (Radmacher & Ryden, 2009). This planning effort is collectively aimed at establishing a regional preserve system that is configured and managed to provide for the long-term survival and recovery of a diversity of special-status species in the Planning Area. The City of Galt is a participating city in the SSHCP document and is included in the SSHCP area.

#### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document was recently adopted and outlines goals and policies specific to meeting compliance with local or regional Habitat Conservation Plans and/or Natural Community Conservation Plans. The Conservation and Open Space Element identifies the following relevant policies (Mintier et al. 2009):

#### **Policy COS-2.7: Regional Habitat Conservation Efforts Coordination**

The City shall continue to coordinate efforts with Sacramento County to develop the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan.

## **Policy COS-2.8: Habitat Conservation Easement Coordination**

The City will initiate contact with private conservation trusts and work to identify trust lands within the Planning Area and to the extent feasible will inventory known trust lands to address potential conflicts with development in the City's Planning Area.

### Impact Analysis

The SSHCP is not yet adopted, however General Plan policy COS-2.7 commits the City to future coordination efforts in the development of this long-term conservation strategy. The City's commitment to continued planning coordination efforts for the development and finalization of the SSHCP would prohibit conflict with any habitat conservation plans. There are no natural community conservation plans currently proposed within the City's Planning Area. Therefore, no impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

### Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure BIO-1:** Prior to the issuance of a grading or building permit by the City of Galt for the construction of park facilities on undeveloped sites, a Biological Resources Assessment, field survey and technical report shall be prepared. The surveys and reports would be conducted by a qualified biologist and would identify the potential for special-status species to occur on the site (state or federally listed or California species of concern) and would recommend measures to avoid impacts to these species and would provide recommendations for any further required studies or regulatory permitting that may be required for the site. The Biological Resources Assessment would also identify any sensitive habitat areas including potentially jurisdictional waters on the property that may be subject to federal or state jurisdiction.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-2:** If construction is proposed during the raptor breeding season (March 1 to September 1), a pre-construction raptor nest survey shall be conducted within 30 days prior to beginning of construction activities by a qualified biologist. The results of the survey shall be submitted to CDFG and the City of Galt Planning Department. If no active nests are found during the pre-construction survey, no further mitigation is required. If active nests are found, a quarter-mile (1320 feet) initial temporary nest disturbance buffer area shall be established. If project related activities within the temporary nest disturbance buffer are determined to be necessary during the nesting season (approximately March 1 to September 1), then an on-site biologist/monitor experienced with raptor behavior shall be retained by the project proponent to monitor the nest, and shall along with the project proponent, consult with CDFG to determine the best course of action necessary to avoid nest abandonment or take of individuals. Work may be allowed to proceed within the temporary nest disturbance buffer if raptors are not exhibiting agitated behavior. The designated on-site biologist/monitor shall be on-site daily while construction related activities are taking place and shall have the authority to stop work if raptors are exhibiting agitated behavior.

Any trees containing nests that must be removed as a result of project implementation shall be removed during the non-breeding season (October to February), however the project proponent shall be responsible for off-setting the loss of any Swainson's Hawk nesting trees. The extent of any necessary compensatory mitigation shall be determined by the project proponent in consultation with CDFG.

The project proponent shall be responsible for mitigating the loss of any Swainson's hawk foraging habitat. The extent of any necessary mitigation shall be determined by the project proponent in consultation with CDFG.

If construction is proposed during the nesting season for non-raptor migratory birds (February 1 through August 15), a pre-construction survey shall be conducted by a qualified wildlife biologist within 15 days of the start of project related activities. If nests of migratory birds are detected on site, or within 100 feet of the project site, the project proponent shall consult with CDFG to determine the size of a suitable buffer in which no new site disturbance is permitted until August 15, or until the qualified biologist determines that the young are foraging independently, or the nest has been abandoned.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-3:** If it is determined that project development would affect the bed, bank or associated riparian vegetation (e.g. native oak trees) of any creek or stream on the project site, a Streambed Alteration Agreement shall be obtained from CDFG, pursuant to Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Codes prior to the issuance of a grading or building permit by the City of Galt. If required, the City of Galt shall coordinate with CDFG in developing mitigation appropriate for potential impacts to riparian and/or wetland impacts and shall abide by the conditions of any executed agreement.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-4:** Prior to the issuance of a grading or building permit by the City of Galt for the construction of park facilities on undeveloped sites, if potentially jurisdictional wetland features occur on the site, the City shall comply with all USACOE regulatory requirements relevant to activities proposed within areas of jurisdictional aquatic features.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-5:** If it is determined by park site design, that the placement of fill will occur in jurisdictional waters of the U.S., a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit from the Corps and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) shall be obtained, as applicable, prior to commencement of development activities.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-6:** Prior to the issuance of a grading or building permit by the City of Galt for the construction of park facilities on undeveloped sites, if protected oak trees have a potential to occur on the undeveloped site, an Arborist Survey and Arborist Report shall be prepared for the site by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)-certified Arborist. Any activities resulting in the removal of a protected oak tree or encroachment into the protected root zone shall

comply with the guidelines presented in the City of Galt's municipal code as it applies to protected trees as outlined in Chapter 12.28, Cutting and Removal of Oak Trees. This chapter also outlines construction measures which would be implemented during the development of each future construction site; construction protection measures and other recommendations would also be outlined in the Arborist Report that is prepared for each park site. Since future individual park site development would be municipal projects, the City of Galt may not necessarily be required to obtain a tree permit issued for the removal of a protected tree; however the City shall comply with the mitigation standards for direct or indirect impacts to protected trees.

## 4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The City of Galt has a rich historic heritage. Many historically-significant buildings are present in the City, particularly within the downtown area (Mintier et al. 2009).

### Regulatory Setting

#### **State Regulations**

A substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource means the physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of the historical resource would be materially impaired (Section 15064.5 (b)(1), CEQA Guidelines).

In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, historical resources include the following:

- A resource listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (California Pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et seq.)
- A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code
- Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript, which:
  - is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
  - is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;

- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic value; or
- has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**City of Galt General Plan**

The City’s General Plan identifies the following goals and policies relevant to historical resources:

**Goal HRE-1: To preserve and maintain sites and structures that serve as significant, visible connections to Galt’s social, cultural, economic, and architectural history.**

**Policy HRE-1.1: Historic Preservation**

The City should designate natural or man-made features as cultural resources or historic preservation districts if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the City’s cultural, architectural, aesthetic, social, economic, political, artistic, and/or engineering heritage;
- It is identified with persons, businesses, or events significant to local, State, or National History;
- It embodies distinctive characteristics of style, type, period, or method of construction or is a valuable example of the use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship;
- It is representative of the notable work of a builder, designer, engineer, or architect;
- Its unique location or singular physical characteristic represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the City and/or;
- It is a geographically definable area possessing a concentration or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects as unified by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

**Policy HRE-2: Preservation of Architectural Styles**

The City shall encourage the preservation of varied architectural styles that reflect Galt’s cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural past. For structures listed on the City’s cultural resources list, or on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR), preservation efforts shall conform to the current Secretary of the Interior’s standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings

**Policy HRE-1.7: Environmental Review of Historic Resources**

The City shall require that environmental review consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) be conducted on demolition permit applications for buildings designated as, or potentially eligible for designation as, historic structures and shall continue to implement the requirement for a Certificate of Appropriateness as set forth in Appendix A of the Downtown Revitalization and Historic Preservation Specific Plan.

## Impact Analysis

The City's General Plan identifies the preservation and maintenance of sites that serve as significant, visible connections to Galt's social, cultural, economic, and architectural as framework for the preservation of the City's historic resources. Table 9-1 of the Existing Conditions Report prepared for the City's General Plan Update lists historic resources identified by the City (Mintier et al. 2005). Improvements and future park facilities may have the potential to impact historic resources, depending on individual site locations and resources, as well as adjacent resources. Until such time as individual sites and site-specific plans are known, potential historic significance cannot be determined. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measures CR – 1 and CR – 2 would reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

*b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The Planning Area defined for the City of Galt by the General Plan lies within a culturally rich area within California's Central Valley. Literature suggests that the Central Valley was inhabited by large populations of peoples. These populations primarily inhabited areas along waterways, wetlands and streams. It is reasonable to assume that many archaeological resources have been buried, and underlie alluvium characteristic of the region, as a result of erosion and other depositional processes (Mintier et al. 2005).

## Regulatory Setting

### **California Public Resources Code**

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21983.2(g), an archaeological resource shall be considered unique if "it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person."

### **Senate Bill 18 - Tribal Consultation Guidelines**

Senate Bill 18 requires city and county governments to contact and consult with California Native American Tribes prior to adopting or amending a General Plan, or prior to designation of land as open space for the purpose of protecting Native American Cultural Places.

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies relevant to archaeological resources:

**Goal HRE-4 To encourage the identification, protection, and enhancement of Galt's archaeological resources for their cultural values.**

**Policy HRE-4.1: Archaeological Resource Surveys**

For future development projects on previously un-surveyed lands, the City shall require a project applicant to have a qualified archaeologist conduct the following activities: (1) conduct a record search at the North Central Information center located at California State University, Sacramento and other appropriate historical repositories, (2) conduct field surveys where appropriate, and (3) prepare technical reports, where appropriate, meeting California Office of Historic preservation Standards (Archaeological Resource Management Reports). These requirements shall be completed prior to the approval of the specific project.

**Policy HRE-4.2: Native American Resources**

The City shall consult with Native American representatives regarding cultural resources to identify locations of importance to Native Americans, including archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties. Consistent with State requirements, consultation shall occur at the onset of an amendment to the City's General Plan or a specific plan.

**Policy HRE-4.3: Discovery of Archaeological Resources**

In the event that archaeological/paleontological resources are discovered during site excavation, the City shall require that grading and construction work on the project site be suspended until the significance of the features can be determined by a qualified archaeologist/paleontologist. The City will require that a qualified archeologist/paleontologist make recommendations for measures necessary to protect a site or to undertake data recovery, excavation, analysis, and curation of archaeological/paleontological materials.

**Policy CC-3.2: Historical and Cultural Resources**

The City shall ensure, to the extent possible, that new public and private investment protects and enhances Galt's historical and cultural resources.

Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would involve construction activities including excavation, trenching, grading, and other ground-disturbing activities which would have the potential to result in adverse changes to archaeological resources. Therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with mitigation measures CR -3 through CR - 5 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

*c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Implementation of the Master Plan would involve construction activities including excavation, trenching, grading, and other ground-disturbing activities which would have the potential to result in adverse changes to paleontological resources. Therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measure CR – 6 would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

*d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Although unlikely, the discovery of human remains would be possible during ground disturbing activities associated with implementation of the Master Plan.

## Regulatory Setting

### **California Health and Safety Code**

Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code defines general provisions for the treatment of dead bodies, and requires that the County coroner be contacted in the event of the inadvertent discovery of human remains and all excavation or disturbance of the site or nearby areas be immediately ceased until such time as the Coroner has made a determination pursuant to Section 27491 of the Government Code. In the event that the Coroner recognizes or has reason to believe that the remains are of Native American ancestry, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted within 24 hours.

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy relevant to the inadvertent discovery of human remains:

#### **Policy HRE-4.4: Discovery of Human Remains**

Consistent with CEQA Guidelines (Section 15064.5), if human remains of Native American origin are discovered during development project construction, it is necessary to comply with state laws relating to the disposition of Native American burials, which fall within the jurisdiction of the Native American Heritage Commission (Public Resources Code Sec. 5097). If any human remains are discovered or recognized in any location on the project site, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until:

- a. The Sacramento County Coroner/Sheriff has been informed and has determined that no investigation of the cause of death is required; and
- b. if the remains are of Native American origin,
  1. The descendants of the deceased Native Americans have made a timely recommendation to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, or
  2. The Native American Heritage Commission was unable to identify a descendant or the descendant failed to make a recommendation within 24 hours after being notified by the commission.

## Impact Analysis

Grading and other construction activities involving ground disturbance (i.e. trenching, excavation) associated with implementation of the Master Plan would have the potential to result in the inadvertent discovery of human remains. Therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measure CR – 7 would reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

## Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure CR – 1:** Prior to approval of any recreational facility, park, or recreational improvements proposed by the Master Plan, the site shall be evaluated for the presence of historic resources. If it is determined that on-site resources have the potential for historic

significance, as indicated by age or previous inclusion on a list of designated historic resources, the City Parks and Recreation Department shall hire a qualified professional architectural historian to evaluate the historical significance of on-site resources.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 2:** Development of recreational facilities, parks, or other recreational improvements proposed by the Master Plan where an Historical Architectural feature or structure, or other historic resource has been determined to be present, shall preserve the varied architectural styles that reflect Galt's cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural past to the extent feasible. Proposed renovation of, or any structural modification to, designated historic structures shall conform to the current Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 3:** Prior to approval of any Specific Plan including the development of new recreational facilities, or proposed development of individual new recreational facilities, parks, or recreational improvements proposed by the Master Plan involving ground-disturbing activities, a qualified archaeologist shall conduct the following activities: (1) conduct a record search at the North Central Information Center located at California State University, Sacramento and other appropriate historical repositories, (2) conduct field surveys where appropriate, and (3) prepare technical reports, where appropriate, meeting California Office of Historic preservation Standards (Archaeological Resource Management Reports). All recommendations to avoid adverse impacts to archaeological resources shall be incorporated into project design and construction as specified by a qualified archaeologist.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 4:** Should buried archaeological deposits or artifacts be inadvertently exposed during the course of any construction activity, work shall cease in the immediate area and the City of Galt Community Development Department shall be immediately notified. A qualified archaeologist will be retained to document the find, assess its significance, and recommend further treatment.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 5:** Prior to the approval of any Open Space areas designated for the purpose of protecting Native American Cultural Places, the City of Galt shall consult with Native American representatives regarding cultural resources to identify locations of importance to Native Americans, including archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 6:** If evidence of a paleontological site is uncovered during grading or other construction activities, work shall be halted within 100 feet of the find and the City Community Development Department shall immediately be notified. A qualified paleontologist shall be retained to conduct an on-site evaluation and provide recommendations for removal and/or preservation. Work on the project site shall not resume until the paleontologist

has had a reasonable time to conduct an examination and implement mitigation measures deemed appropriate and necessary by the City of Galt Planning Department to reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

**Mitigation Measure CR – 7:** In the event that any human remains or any associated funerary objects are encountered during construction, all work will cease within the vicinity of the discovery and the City of Galt Community Development Department shall be immediately notified. In accordance with CEQA (Section 1064.5) and the California Health and Safety Code (Section 7050.5), the Sacramento County coroner should be contacted immediately. If the human remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, who will notify and appoint a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD will work with a qualified archaeologist to decide the proper treatment of the human remains and any associated funerary objects. Construction activities in the immediate vicinity will not resume until a notice-to-proceed is issued.

## 4.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death, involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death, involving:*

a.i) *Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Lands within the City of Galt and Planning Area are not located within or crossing a delineated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The nearest active fault,

the Greenville Fault, is located approximately 42 miles southwest of the City's Planning Area (Mintier et al. 2005).

### Regulatory Setting

There are no federal regulations applicable to fault hazards relevant to the Proposed Project.

### **State Regulations**

#### *Building Standards*

The State regulations protecting the public from geo-seismic hazards, other than surface faulting, are contained in California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, the California Building Code and California Public Resources Code, Division 2, Chapter 7.8, the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act. These regulations apply to public buildings and a large percentage of private buildings intended for human occupancy. The California Building Code (CBC) is based on the Uniform Building Code (UBC). The CBC has been modified for California conditions with numerous more detailed and/or more stringent regulations.

California Health and Safety Code 19100 et seq., the State Earthquake Protection Law, requires that structures be designed to resist stresses produced by lateral forces caused by wind and earthquakes. . Specific minimum seismic safety and structural design requirements are set forth in Chapter 16 of the CBC. The CBC requires a site-specific geotechnical study to address seismic issues and identifies seismic factors that must be considered in structural design.

Because the project area is not in an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, no associated provisions would be required for project development.

#### *Seismic Hazards Mapping Act*

The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act requires the State Geologist to delineate seismic hazard zones and requires cities, counties, and other local permitting agencies to regulate certain development projects within these zones. Before a development permit is granted for a site within a seismic hazard zone, a geotechnical investigation of the site must be conducted and appropriate mitigation measures incorporated into the project design, as recommended by a qualified professional geologist.

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to seismic hazards and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy SS-1.7: California Building Standard Code**

The City shall continue to require that alterations to existing buildings and all new buildings be built according to the seismic requirements of the California Building Standard Code.

#### **Goal SS-2: To minimize the loss of life, injury, hardships, and property damage due to seismic and geological hazards.**

#### **Policy SS-2.1: Geologic and Soils Information**

The City shall require soils reports for new projects and use the information to determine appropriate permitting requirements.

## **Policy SS-2.2: Seismically-Engineered Public Structures**

The City should ensure that all existing and future public structures, such as buildings and water storage tanks, are of sufficient construction to withstand seismically induced ground shaking and related geologic hazards.

### Impact Analysis

Surface expression of a fault rupture is typically expected on or within close proximity to the fault generating the seismic activity (Mintier et al. 2005). The project is not located within close proximity to a delineate Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone or any other active fault; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

#### *a.ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The potential for ground shaking hazards within the City's Planning Area is considered low. The Planning Area is located within Seismic Zone 3, and is not within the vicinity of a delineated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, or other active faults (Mintier et al. 2008). Therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

#### *a.iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Liquefaction can generally be described as a loss of soil strength related to seismic ground shaking and is most commonly associated with soil deposits characterized by water-saturated, well sorted, fine grain sands and silts. Clayey type soils are generally not subject to liquefaction (Mintier et al. 2005). Hazards related to soil liquefaction within the City's Planning Area are considered low to moderate due to the distance from an active fault, the low potential for ground shaking hazards, and soil conditions within the area (Mintier et al. 2005). Therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

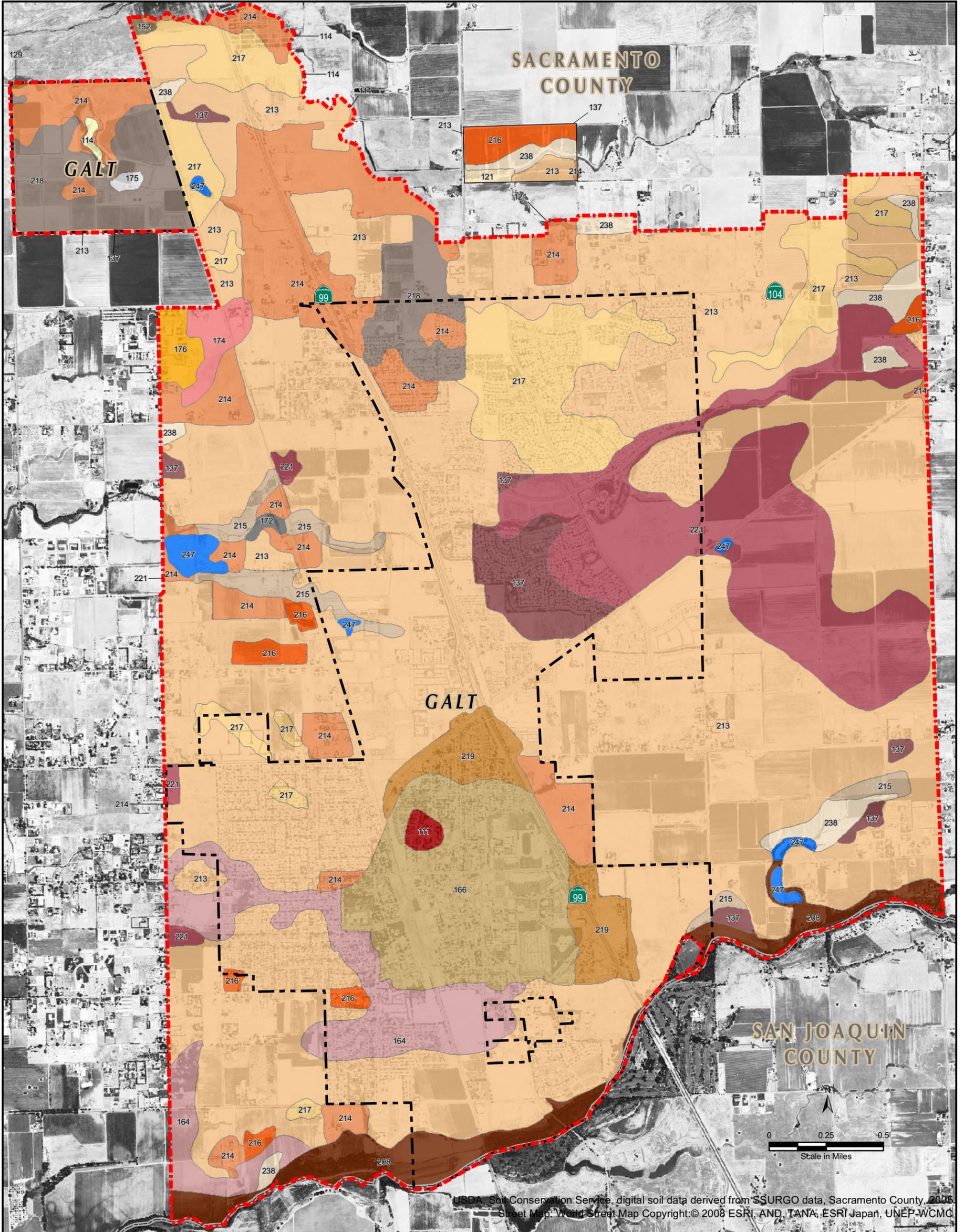
#### *a.iv) Landslides?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Lands within the City of Galt and Planning Area are characterized by relatively level topography ranging in elevation from sea level to 30 feet above mean sea level (Mintier et al. 2005); therefore implementation of the Master Plan would not result in the exposure of people or structures to geologic hazards related to landslides. Impacts are considered less than significant.

#### *b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** According to mapping completed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, 22 soil map units are located within the project area (NRCS 1993), as shown in **Figure 4.6-1**.

Erosion refers to the detachment and transport of soil particles related to wind, water, or ice. The NRCS identifies ranges for soils erosion hazards based on soil properties as documented for individual soil series in data collected from the Soil Survey. The erosion potential of soils within the City's Planning Area can generally be characterized as having a slight to high potential for erosion. The erosion hazard potential and expansive soils properties of individual soil map units are identified in **Table 4-1**.



USDA, Soil Conservation Service, digital soil data derived from SSURGO data, Sacramento County, 2005.  
 Street Map: World Street Map Copyright: © 2008 ESRI, AND, TANAN, ESRI Japan, UNEP-WCMC



- 111, BRUELLA SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 114, CLEAR LAKE CLAY, PARTIALLY DRAINED, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, FREQUENTLY FLOODED
- 121, COLUMBIA SANDY LOAM, CLAYEY SUBSTRATUM, DRAINED, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, OCCASIONALLY FLOODED
- 129, COSUMNES SILT LOAM, DRAINED, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, OCCASIONALLY FLOODED
- 137, DURIXERALS, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES, OCCASIONALLY FLOODED
- 152, GALT CLAY, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 164, KIMBALL SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 166, KIMBALL-URBAN LAND COMPLEX, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 172, LIVEOAK SANDY CLAY LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, OCCASIONALLY FLOODED
- 174, MADERA LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 175, MADERA LOAM, 2 TO 8 PERCENT SLOPES
- 176, MADERA-GALT COMPLEX, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 188, SAILBOAT SILT LOAM, DRAINED, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES, OCCASIONALLY FLOODED
- 208, SAN JOAQUIN SILT LOAM, LEVELED, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
- 213, SAN JOAQUIN SILT LOAM, 0 TO 3 PERCENT SLOPES
- 214, SAN JOAQUIN SILT LOAM, 0 TO 3 PERCENT SLOPES
- 215, SAN JOAQUIN SILT LOAM, 3 TO 8 PERCENT SLOPES
- 216, SAN JOAQUIN-DURIXERALS COMPLEX, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
- 217, SAN JOAQUIN-GALT COMPLEX, LEVELED, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
- 218, SAN JOAQUIN-GALT COMPLEX, 0 TO 3 PERCENT SLOPES
- 219, SAN JOAQUIN-URBAN LAND COMPLEX, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- 221, SAN JOAQUIN-XERARENTS COMPLEX, LEVELED, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
- 238, XERARENTS-SAN JOAQUIN COMPLEX, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
- 247, WATER

**CITY OF GALT  
 PLANNING  
 AREA SOILS**

FIGURE 4.6-1  
 10/19/09

**FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**  
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**Table 4-1 — Project Area Soil Map Units**

<b>Soil Map Unit Number</b>	<b>Soil Map Unit</b>	<b>Erosion Hazard</b>	<b>Shrink/Swell Potential</b>
111	Bruella Sandy Loam, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	None to Slight	Low-Moderate
114	Clear Lake Clay, Partially Drained, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, Frequently Flooded	High	Moderate to High
121	Columbia Sandy Loam, Clayey Substratum, Drained, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, Occasionally Flooded	Slight	Low to High
129	Cosumnes Silt Loam, Drained, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, Occasionally Flooded	Slight	Low to High
137	Durixeralfs, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	None to Slight	--
152	Galt Clay, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	High
164	Kimball Silt Loam, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
166	Kimball-Urban Land Complex, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
172	Liveoak Sandy Clay Loam, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, Occasionally Flooded	Slight	Low
174	Madera Loam, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
175	Madera Loam, 2 to 8 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
176	Madera-Galt Complex, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
208	Sailboat Silt Loam, Drained, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, Occasionally Flooded	Slight	Low to Moderate
213	San Joaquin Silt Loam, Leveled, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
214	San Joaquin Silt Loam, 0 to 3 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
215	San Joaquin Silt Loam, 3 to 8 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
216	San Joaquin-Durixeralfs Complex, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
217	San Joaquin-Galt Complex, Leveled, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
218	San Joaquin-Galt Complex, 0 to 3 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
219	San Joaquin-Urban Land Complex, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
221	San Joaquin-Xerarents Complex, Leveled, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	High	Low to High
238	Xerarents-San Joaquin Complex, 0 to 1 Percent Slopes	Low to High	Low to High
247	Water	--	--

Source: Natural Resource Conservation Service, 1993

## Regulatory Setting

### **State Regulations**

State regulations pertaining to the management of erosion and sedimentation are described in **Section 4.8**, Hydrology and Water Quality. Although the primary purpose of these regulations and standards is the protection of water quality from adverse effects related to land development (such as turbidity caused by sedimentation), measures included in these regulations and standards also reduce the potential for erosion. These regulations include, but are not limited to, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program for management of construction and municipal storm water runoff, as part of the federal Clean Water Act and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act. NPDES is implemented at the State and local level through issuance of permits and preparation of site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) as regulated by the RWQCB.

### **Local Regulations**

#### *City of Galt Municipal Code*

Title 16 of the City's Municipal Code established the Stormwater Ordinance of the City of Galt. Chapters 16.10 (Stormwater Protection) and 16.30 (Grading) were enacted for the purpose of regulating grading on property within the city limits of the city to safeguard life, limb, health, property and the public welfare; to avoid pollution of watercourses with nutrients, sediments, or other materials generated or caused by surface water runoff; to comply with the City's NPDES permit and to ensure that the intended use of a graded site within the city limits is consistent with the city general plan, any specific plans adopted thereto and all applicable city ordinances and regulations. The Stormwater Ordinance is intended to control all aspects of grading operations within the city limits of the city.

#### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to erosion hazards and relevant to the Proposed Project:

##### **Policy SS-2.1: Geologic and Soils Information**

The City shall require soils reports for new projects and use the information to determine appropriate permitting requirements.

##### **Policy SS-2.3: Grading/Erosion Control**

The City shall require grading and erosion control plans to be prepared by a qualified engineer or land surveyor.

##### **Policy PFS-4.4: Project Design**

The City should encourage project designs that minimize drainage concentrations and impervious surfaces.

##### **Policy PFS-4.5: Grading During the Rainy Season**

The City shall prohibit grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities.

#### **Policy PFS-4.6: Erosion Control Plan**

The City shall require new development projects to prepare an erosion control plan.

#### **Policy COS-1.12: Best Management Practices**

The City shall require all new development and redevelopment to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, the City shall require, as part of its Storm Water NPDES Permit and ordinances, to implement the Grading Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction activities of any improvement plans, new development and redevelopment projects for reducing pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

#### Impact Analysis

Construction activities associated with implementation of Master Plan would be subject to compliance with the SWPPP prepared in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the RWQCB through NPDES, under the Construction General Permit. Potential impacts to water quality resulting from pollutant discharges, including sediments and soil particulate matter, are regulated by the City through implementation of the City's Storm Water Ordinance. In addition, the City regulates grading and excavation activities through implementation of the Grading Ordinance, which limits the season in which grading may occur and requires that erosion control plans be prepared by qualified professionals. Enforceable regulatory standards and requirements exist to prevent significant impacts related to erosion; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

- c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Lands within the City of Galt and Planning Area are characterized by relatively level topography ranging in elevation from sea level to 30 feet above mean sea level. Landslide "type" activity within the City's Planning Area may however include minor slumping along riverbanks, drainages, and levees (Mintier et al. 2005). Clayey soils characteristic of those found within the City's Planning Area are generally not considered susceptible to liquefaction. Subsidence is generally characterized by the gradual settling of the earth's surface with little or no horizontal motion, and typically occurs in formations overlying an aquifer subject to a gradual and consistently decreasing withdraw of groundwater. Groundwater withdraw within the City's Planning Area has created the potential for subsidence (Mintier et al. 2005).

#### Regulatory Setting

There are no federal regulations applicable to unstable soils relevant to the Proposed Project.

#### **State Regulations**

Chapter 18 of the CBC regulates the excavation of foundations and retaining walls. Chapter 33 regulates grading activities, including drainage and erosion control and construction in areas containing expansive soils. Construction activities are subject to occupational safety standards for excavation, shoring, and trenching as specified in Cal-OSHA regulations (Title 8 of the CCR) and in Section A33 of the CBC.

Installation of underground utility lines must comply with industry standards specific to the type of utility (e.g., American Water Works Association for water lines). These standards contain specifications for installation and design to reflect site-specific geologic and soils conditions.

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies relevant to unstable soils:

#### **Policy LU-1.9: Growth in Hazard-Prone Areas**

The City shall limit urban growth in areas with hazardous conditions such as flooding and unstable soils.

#### Impact Analysis

Although minor slumping occurring adjacent to riverbanks, drainages, and levees may be anticipated, lands within the City of Galt and its Planning Area are characterized by relatively level topography ranging in elevation from sea level to 30 feet above mean sea level (Mintier et al. 2005); therefore implementation of the Master Plan would not result in the exposure of people or structures to geologic hazards related to landslides. Impacts related to unstable soils including lateral spreading, liquefaction, or collapse resulting from seismic-induced ground shaking are considered less than significant due to the distance from an active fault, the low potential for ground shaking hazards, and soil conditions within the area. The rates of groundwater withdraw occurring over the past several years associated with the groundwater basin underlying the City's Planning Area have resulted in the potential for subsidence. However, design and construction of future proposed structures in areas potentially subject to subsidence would be required to be constructed in accordance with the design and constructions standards specified by the CBC as enforced through building permits issued by the City of Galt. Impacts are therefore considered less than significant

*d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The shrink/swell potential of soils mapped by the NRCS within the City's Planning Area are shown in **Table 4-1**. As shown in **Table 4-1**, Planning Area soils are characterized by shrink-swell potentials ranging from low to high. Design and construction of structures within areas of expansive soils would be required to be constructed in accordance with the design and constructions standards specified by the CBC as enforced through building permits issued by the City's Building Division. Impacts are therefore considered less than significant.

*e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The Master Plan proposes the development of future recreation and park facilities for which access to infrastructure such as roads, water, sewer, and power will typically exist. It is not anticipated that proposed improvements to existing park facilities, or proposed future park/recreational facilities would involve the use of septic systems. Any proposed alternative wastewater disposal systems would be required to comply with the standards and specifications stipulated by the current regulatory standards existing at the time of proposed development. Any such alternative systems would be subject to inspection and approval by the appropriate divisions of the City of Galt and/or Sacramento County government, including Building and Environmental Health Divisions. There is no anticipated development of septic systems associated with park/recreational facility improvements and/or future construction, and any proposed alternative wastewater disposal system would be subject to compliance with

current regulatory standards specified for the type of system proposed; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.7 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of land uses or facilities typically associated with the storage, use, disposal, or generation of hazardous materials or wastes. Routine maintenance activities occurring within recreational facilities may involve the occasional use of hazardous materials. Potentially toxic or hazardous compounds associated with maintenance activities typically consist of readily available solvents, cleaning compounds, paint, herbicides, and pesticides. These compounds are regulated by stringent federal and state laws mandating the proper transport, use, and storage of hazardous materials in accordance with product labeling. In addition, facilities surrounding proposed recreational facilities regularly handling or storing hazardous materials in quantity are required to prepare Risk Management Plans and are subject to monitoring and reporting requirements mandated by State law.

However, construction activities associated with implementation of the Master Plan project would involve the use of hazardous materials including diesel fuel, gasoline, oil, and grease.

#### Regulatory Setting

##### ***State Regulations***

State agencies accept delegation of federal responsibility for hazardous materials and hazardous waste management pursuant to legislation granting such authority. The Clean Water Act is implemented at the State level through the State Water Resources Control Board, as well as the Regional Water Quality Control Board, pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The use of hazardous materials in the workplace is regulated by the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA), pursuant to the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970. Cal/OSHA regulations require appropriate training, availability of safety equipment, accident and illness prevention programs, hazardous substance exposure warnings and emergency action and fire prevention plan preparation in the workplace.

The transportation of Hazardous waste is required to be implemented only by a registered hazardous waste transporter, as defined and required by the California Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations.

##### ***Local Regulations***

###### *Sacramento County Environmental Management Division*

The Sacramento County Environmental Management Division (SCEMD) is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the incorporated and unincorporated areas within Sacramento County. As the CUPA, SCEMD regulates the use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials.

##### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to hazardous materials safety risks and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal SS-5: To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, serious illness, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from the use, transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous materials wastes.**

**Policy SS-5.3: New Development**

The City shall consider the risks inherent in use, production, storage, and transport of hazardous substances when considering development proposals and their safety features.

**Policy SS-5.6: Hazardous Materials Inventory**

The City shall require, as appropriate and as a component of the environmental review process or business license review/building permit review a hazardous materials inventory for project sites, including an assessment of materials and operations for any development applications.

Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of facilities or land uses associated with hazardous materials handling, storage, or use, and existing federal, state and local regulations exist to ensure hazardous materials use, storage, and disposal associated with project area maintenance activities or adjacent facilities would not result in risk of hazardous materials exposure to humans or the environment. Best Management Practices would be implemented for construction activities to minimize impacts to the environment and public health. The transport, storage, and disposal of any hazardous materials used would be subject to federal, State, and local regulations. Temporary storage tanks necessary to store fuel and/or other flammable or combustible liquids required on the project site during construction would be regulated through the applicable federal, State and local regulations as well. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed in detail above, implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of facilities or land uses typically associated with hazardous materials handling, storage, or use, and existing federal, State and local regulations exist to ensure hazardous materials use, storage, and disposal associated with any proposed maintenance activities or adjacent facilities would not result in significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Compliance with federal, State, and City regulations and requirements would therefore ensure that impacts related to the accidental release of hazardous materials would be less than significant.

*c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would involve improvements to and the development of future new recreational facilities within the proximity of existing and future school sites. In fact, the Master Plan identifies reciprocal shared arrangements between The Galt Joint Union Elementary School District and the Galt Joint Union High School District. However, as discussed in detail above, implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of facilities or land uses typically associated with hazardous materials handling, storage, or use, and existing federal, State and local regulations exist to ensure hazardous materials use, storage, and disposal associated with any proposed maintenance activities would not result in significant hazard to the public or the environment through exposure of school sites to hazardous materials or emissions. Compliance with federal, State, and City regulations and requirements would ensure that impacts related to the exposure of school sites to hazardous materials or emission would be considered less than significant.

d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** SCEMD, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) maintain lists of contaminated sites within the City's Planning Area.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to hazardous materials sites relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy SS-5.9: Hazardous Materials Studies**

The City shall ensure that the proponents of applicable new development projects address hazardous materials concerns through the preparation of Phase I or Phase II hazardous materials studies for each identified site as part of the design phase for each project. Recommendations required to satisfy Federal or State cleanup standards outlined in the studies will be implemented as part of the construction phase for each project.

#### Impact Analysis

As specified by the Master Plan: *"a site may be deemed unsuitable for park land dedication if previous land uses have resulted in the presence of hazardous materials, excessive erosion, unstable ground, or any other condition that cannot be corrected without excessive remediation costs. If such conditions can be remediated to the satisfaction of the City of Galt, at no cost or an acceptable cost to the City, the land may be considered suitable."* If potential future park sites were documented as contaminated by hazardous materials, the site would be considered unsuitable for park or recreational facility development, unless remediation of the site were possible, under the terms and conditions specified by the City. Any proposed remediation would be monitored and inspected pursuant to State and local regulatory requirements until acceptable environmental thresholds relevant to human health risks were achieved and the site was considered suitable for development as a public recreational facility. Impacts related to development of future City recreational facilities or parks on sites contaminated with hazardous materials are therefore considered less than significant.

e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Franklin Field, Mustang Airport, and Lodi Airport are located within the vicinity of the City's Planning Area. Franklin Field, a public airport, is located approximately six miles west of the City's Planning Area, although the City's Planning Area lies outside of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan boundary of Franklin Airport. Mustang Airport is located approximately one and one-half miles north of the City's Planning Area and is currently operating as a private airstrip. No adopted airport land use plan exists for Mustang Airport, as this facility is private, and therefore not subject to federal or State regulations pertaining to airport operations guidance. However, Mustang Airport has applied for public airport status, subject to final County review of the EIR and subsequent project approval by the Board of Supervisors. This change in status would result in the requirement of an Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Mintier et al. 2008). The Lodi Airport is also a private airport and is located approximately five miles south of the City's Planning Area

## Regulatory Setting

### **City of Galt General Plan**

#### **Policy C.7-2: Inter-Agency Coordination**

The City shall coordinate planning efforts with Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to ensure compatible land uses within airport overflight zones.

#### **Policy LU-1.15: Caltrans Handbook Reference**

When reviewing proposed projects within a one mile radius of an airport (such as Mustang Airport, if approved for public use), the City shall refer to the Caltrans Airport Land Use Planning Handbook (2002) in order to identify any potential safety compatibility concerns between the airport and the proposed land use.

## Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would involve improvements to existing City recreational facilities as well as the development of future facilities. The Caltrans' California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook specifies that non-residential land uses are considered more acceptable near an airport, provided a number of factors are taken into consideration, including minimizing concentrations of people within the airspace of airport facilities. If future facilities were proposed within the overflight zones of either of these airports, consistency with the adopted airport land use plan would be required for all development. Galt General Plan Policy C.7-2 requires planning effort coordination between the City and Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to ensure land use compatibility for development within airport overflight zones. General Plan Policy LU-1.15 requires City reference to the 2002 Caltrans Airport Land Use Planning Handbook for any development projects proposed within a one-mile radius of a public airport. Therefore impacts related to implementation of the Master Plan are considered less than significant.

*f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Please see discussion for subsection e), above. Impacts related to private airstrip safety hazards are considered less than significant.

*g) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Although the exact individual locations for proposed future recreational facilities are currently unknown, any proposed facility would be subject to compliance with emergency access standards and requirements specified by State Fire Code, CCSD, and the City's Municipal Code (Zoning Code 18.36), as well as the City's General Plan. Proposed site design and configuration would be subject to review by the City's Community Development Department, Public Works and CCSD for compliance with these standards and guidelines, assuring that proposed site configurations, points of ingress and egress, and circulation routes were adequate for the proposed use and would not result in inadequate emergency access. Similarly, any proposed modifications to points of ingress/egress or circulation routes would require review for compliance with State and City-required standards. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Lands adjacent to the northwestern and eastern portions of the City's Planning Area are characterized by expanses of annual grasslands, subject to grass fires. Although the City's Planning Area is largely characterized by urban development and irrigated agricultural practices and in general, is considered at low risk of wildland fires, areas adjacent to surrounding annual grasslands may be potentially at-risk from wildland fire hazards (Mintier et al. 2008).

Fire protection services for the City of Galt are described in detail in **Section 4.14** of this Initial Study. The Cosumnes Community Services District (CCSD) Fire Department currently provides fire protection services to the City. The CCSD serves a population of approximately 180,000 in a 157-square mile service area, operating eight fire stations serving the cities of Galt, Elk Grove, and other unincorporated areas of Sacramento County with two fire stations located in Galt.

Recreational and park facilities are generally characterized by large expanses of greenways, greenbelts, fields, and turf. Structural construction would be limited, although the City is proposing the future construction of a several structures, including a Community Center and Amphitheater. Although the design and site-specific details are not currently known for future proposed recreational parks and facilities, it is likely that the majority of structures would be constructed within areas of existing residential development, per the standards established by the Master Plan, and would therefore not subject people or structures to potential hazards from wildland fire. Recreational areas promoting access to open space within areas of the City's Planning Area would not involve gathering places for public crowds or other mass congregations of people. Proposed public gathering places including Community Center-like structures and those facilities would likely be constructed within existing urban or residential development and not adjacent to wildlands. Proposed public recreational access to areas of open space would not involve the construction of structures or gathering places for large groups of people; therefore impacts related to wildland fire hazards are considered less than significant.

#### Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.8 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of a failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Any discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. is unlawful unless the discharge is in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The City of Galt has a Phase 1 NPDES stormwater permit and is part of the Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership. The City of Galt is regulated by Order No. R5-2008-0142 NPDES No. CAS082597 "Waste Discharge Requirements for Cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Rancho Cordova, and County of Sacramento, Sacramento Storm Water Discharges From Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Sacramento County" issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. However, the City of Galt Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System is noncontiguous to other MS4s and is surrounded by rural and agricultural areas that are not subject to NPDES regulations.

#### Regulatory Setting

##### **Federal Regulations**

The 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act (CWA), establishes the basic structure for the EPA to regulate discharges of pollutant into waters of the United States. The CWA's primary intent is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

Section 401 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to obtain a water quality certification that assumes the discharge would comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. This policy is intended to preserve wetland values or acres, and seeks to avoid adverse impacts and to offset unavoidable adverse impacts to existing aquatic resources through mitigation to achieve no net loss of wetland function and value.

The CWA was amended in 1987 with the addition of Section 402(p), which established a framework for regulating storm water discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The NPDES permit system was established in the CWA to regulate point source pollution such as municipal and industrial discharges to surface waters of the United States. In California, the EPA has given the state authority to administer the NPDES program, which is implemented by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

Nonpoint pollution sources originate over a wide area rather than from a definable point. Such nonpoint sources are generally exempt from federal NPDES permit program requirements with the exception of storm water discharges. Stormwater discharges during and after project construction can transport pollutants from impervious surfaces such as roads and parking lots to creeks and streams. NPDES municipal Phase II regulations require jurisdictions to initiate actions to prevent long term non-point pollution through appropriate design. The goal of the NPDES nonpoint source regulations is to improve the quality of storm water discharged to receiving waters to the "maximum extent practicable" through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

In accordance with NPDES regulations, to minimize the potential effects of construction runoff on receiving water quality, the SWRCB requires that any construction activity affecting one acre or more must obtain coverage under the General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit (General Permit). Permit applicants are also required to prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that specifies erosion and sediment control BMPs to reduce or eliminate construction-related impacts on receiving water quality. Construction of specific Greenway projects that would disturb one acre or more will be required to obtain coverage under the General Permit, develop and implement a SWPPP and perform regular inspections of all BMPs.

Examples of construction BMPs identified in SWPPPs include: using temporary mulching, seeding or other stabilization measures to protect uncovered soils; storing materials and equipment to ensure that spills or leaks cannot enter the storm drain system or surface water; developing and implementing a spill prevention and cleanup plan, installing traps, filters, or other devices at drop inlets to prevent contaminants from entering storm drains; and using barriers, such as straw wattles or silt fencing to minimize the amount of uncontrolled runoff that could enter storm drain inlets or surface water.

Effective July 1, 2010 all Permittees are required to obtain coverage under the new Construction General Permit Order 2009-0009-DWQ adopted on September 2, 2009.

### ***State Regulations***

The SWRCB and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Boards) are designated responsibility for ensuring implementation and compliance with the provision of the federal CWA through the provisions of California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Regional Boards have the authority to implement water quality protection standards through the issuance of permits for discharges to waters at locations within their jurisdiction and through multiple enforcement mechanisms. The City's Planning Area is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### ***Local Regulations***

Chapter 16.10 of the City's Municipal Ordinance establishes the Storm Water Protection Ordinance for the City of Galt. The Storm Water Protection Ordinance was established to protect and enhance the water quality of the city's watercourses, water bodies, and wetlands pursuant to, and consistent with federal and State statutory requirements.

Chapter 16.30 of the City's Municipal Code established the Grading Ordinance of the City of Galt, enacted for the purpose of regulating grading on property within the city limits of the city to safeguard life, limb, health, property and the public welfare; to avoid pollution of watercourses with nutrients, sediments, or other materials generated or caused by surface water runoff; to comply with the City's NPDES permit and to ensure that the intended use of a graded site within the city limits is consistent with the city general plan, any specific plans adopted thereto and all applicable city ordinances and regulations. The grading ordinance is intended to control all aspects of grading operations within the city limits of the city.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to water quality and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal PFS-4: To collect and dispose of stormwater in a manner that protects the city's residents and property from the hazards of flooding, manages stormwater in a manner that is safe and environmentally sensitive, and enhances the environment.**

#### **Policy PFS-4.3: Stormwater Quality**

The City shall ensure compliance with Federal and State clean water standards by continuing to monitor and enforce provisions to control non-point source and point source water pollution contained in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NPDES program.

**Policy PFS-4.5: Grading During the Rainy Season**

The City shall prohibit grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities.

**Policy PFS-4.6: Erosion Control Plan**

The City shall require new development projects to prepare an erosion control plan.

**Policy PFS-4.7: Mitigating Stormwater Runoff**

The City shall require projects that have significant impacts on the quantity and quality of surface water runoff to incorporate mitigation measures for impacts related to urban runoff.

**Policy SS-2.3: Grading/Erosion Control**

The City shall require grading and erosion control plans to be prepared by a qualified engineer or land surveyor.

**Policy COS-1.7: Stormwater Quality Protection**

The City shall, through the development review process, ensure compliance with Federal and State stormwater quality standards and regulations.

**Policy COS-1.12: Best Management Practices**

The City shall require all new development and redevelopment to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, the City shall require, as part of its Storm Water NPDES Permit and ordinances, to implement the Grading Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction activities of any improvement plans, new development and redevelopment projects for reducing pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

Impact Analysis

The SWMP developed by the City addresses enforceable regulatory requirements and BMPs for the reduction of pollutants in storm water runoff in compliance with the requirements mandated by the CWA as implemented and enforced by the Central Valley RWQCB. Individually proposed projects of one acre in size or greater, and/or part of a larger plan of development would be subject to regulation through the filing of an NOI and the preparation of a SWPPP. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of BMPs in site design as mandate by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition projects are subject to the local regulatory requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances therefore, impacts related to implementation of the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

- b) *Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The City of Galt relies upon groundwater from the Cosumnes Sub-basin (DWR Groundwater Basin Number 5-22.16) of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin as its sole source of domestic potable water. The Cosumnes Sub-

basin is an un-adjudicated basin that supports both municipal and agricultural users (Mintier et al. 2008).

Proposed improvements to existing facilities and future new recreational facility development may result in the need for additional water supply related to restroom facilities, public access to drinking water, and irrigation needs. The Master Plan Park Planning Standards specify that proposed park land should have access to appropriate infrastructure, including water supply. In addition to a potential created demand for additional water supply, proposed recreational facilities would conserve areas of groundwater recharge through the preservation of open space and/or the development of recreational greenways.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies following policies applicable to groundwater conservation and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy PFS-2.4: Ground Water Protection Response Plan**

The City shall develop a response plan to address any safe groundwater yield and/or projected water requirement imbalances discovered as a result of studies undertaken pursuant to Policy PFS-2.2. This response plan will include an appropriate mix of water conservation measures, reuse, surface water supplements, and other water management techniques.

#### **Policy PFS-2.9: Water Conservation**

The City shall, to the extent practicable, promote water conservation and reduced water demand by:

- a. Requiring water-conserving building design and equipment in new construction;
- b. Encouraging water-conserving landscaping and other conservation measures; and
- c. Encouraging retrofitting of existing development with water-conserving devices.

#### **Policy PFS-2.13: Reclaimed Water**

The City should encourage the use of reclaimed water, including the installation of secondary plumbing systems (aka "purple pipe"), in all new Specific Plans for landscape irrigation.

### Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would involve the conservation of areas of potential groundwater recharge within the City's Planning Area through the development of recreational greenways, and open space conservation. Proposed future recreational facilities and parks however, may result in an increased demand for water supply. The long-term viability of groundwater within the Cosumnes Sub-basin remains unknown although it is anticipated that the City will continue to depend on this resource for its water supply (Mintier et al. 2008). It is unknown to what extent proposed future development of recreational facilities would result in a depletion of groundwater supplies within the City's Planning Area; therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with mitigation measures HYDRO – 1 and HYDRO – 2 would reduce potential impacts related to groundwater supplies to less than significant levels.

*c & d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding or erosion and siltation on- or off-site?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The General Plan land use diagram identifies approximate locations where most of the future parks will be located outside the current city limits. These park locations and parcel configurations are very general in nature due to the broad planning purposes served by a General Plan. At this time, the actual locations and configurations of future proposed recreational and park facilities are unknown. Any proposed alterations to the bed, bank, or channel of a stream or river would be subject to numerous and overlapping existing regulatory and statutory requirements implemented and enforced through resource agencies with expertise in affected resources, including the State Department of Fish and Game, Central Valley RWQCB, and the City of Galt, among others. The City has adopted specific flood control provisions through implementation of the General Plan, as well as the City's Flood Control Ordinance (Title 19 of the City's Municipal Code).

#### Regulatory Setting

Please refer to **Section 4.4** of this Initial Study for relevant federal and State regulations.

#### ***City of Galt General Plan***

##### **Policy COS-1.1: Flood Control**

The City shall require adequate natural floodway design to assure flood control in areas where stream channels have been modified and to foster stream enhancement, improved water quality, recreational opportunities, and groundwater recharge.

##### **Policy COS-1.2: Flood Protection Ordinance**

The City shall continue to implement the City's flood protection ordinance.

##### **Policy SS-3.2: Development in 100-year Floodplain**

The City shall prohibit development in the 100-year floodplain of streams to minimize safety hazards, property loss, environmental disruption, and to promote stream enhancement, improved water quality, recreational opportunities, and groundwater recharge.

##### **Policy SS-3.3: Natural Drainageways Enhancements**

The City should promote the aesthetic, environmental, and functional improvement of natural drainageways where water courses have been disrupted in such a manner as to balance the protection of abutting uses with the consideration of environmental, recreational, and open space needs.

#### Impact Analysis

Existing enforceable regulatory requirements at the federal, State, and local level are established to protect existing and proposed future recreation and park sites and downstream areas from environmental impacts related to flooding, and/or erosion and siltation resulting from the alteration of streams or rivers. Additional details applicable to Streambed Alteration impacts relevant to biological resources can be found in **Section 4.4** of this Initial Study. A detailed discussion of water quality is outlined in the discussions detailed within this section of the Initial Study. Compliance with existing regulations would ensure that potential impacts related to flooding and/or erosion and siltation would be minimized pursuant to current regulatory standards; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

- e) *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The storm drainage system for the City of Galt is operated and managed by the City's Department of Public Works. The system is composed of a series of collection and disposal facilities ultimately discharging to Dry Creek, Hen Creek, and Deadman's Gulch. The system also includes two pump stations. Storm water is collected by curbs and gutters and conveyed to catch basins directing water into a system of underground pipes. Storm water is conveyed via these pipes and discharged to one of the three drainages named above. Deadman's Gulch has been modified to function as a storm water detention and conveyance facility. One other detention basin within the City serves as a joint use facility/city park. Detained storm waters from this facility are pumped to and discharged into Hen Creek. Dry Creek remains in its natural condition (Mintier et al. 2008).

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to storm water drainage systems and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy PFS-4.4: Project Design**

The City should encourage project designs that minimize drainage concentrations and impervious surfaces.

#### **Policy PFS-4.8: Joint Use of Detention Facilities**

The City shall encourage stormwater detention facilities to be designed for multiple purposes, including recreational (e.g., parks, ball fields, etc.) stormwater quality improvement, and/or waterfowl habitat.

#### **Policy PFS-4.9: Detention Requirements**

The City should require detention storage with measured release to ensure that the capacity of downstream creeks and sloughs will not be exceeded. To ensure downstream capacity is not exceeded, the following measures will be applied:

- a. Outflow to creeks and sloughs should be designed and constructed to avoid exceeding downstream channel capacities; and
- b. Storage facilities should be designed and constructed to prevent problems caused by timing of storage outflows.

### Impact Analysis

The General Plan Implementation Program specifies that the City shall prepare, annually review, and update every five years a Storm Drainage Master Plan. Proposed improvements plans would be reviewed by the Department of Public Works for consistency with the City's Storm Drainage Master Plan. Park Planning Standards specify that facility development should be contingent upon the availability of infrastructure. Although, the General Plan land use diagram identifies approximate locations where most of the future parks would be located outside the current city limits, these park locations and parcel configurations are very general in nature due to the broad planning purposes served by a General Plan. Typically, it is too speculative to designate particular property boundaries and precise locations for future parks at the General Plan level. For example, many of Galt's future parks are planned to be joint use facilities with adjacent school sites planned to serve the same future population. Although the City worked with the school districts to identify future school locations on the General Plan land use diagram, the

school districts have not made any specific real estate and planning decisions and those sites will likely change somewhat as future development is proposed. Future locations for proposed recreational facilities remain unspecified at this time. The timing and location of future proposed facilities may warrant the preparation of site-specific drainage assessment, based on the City's Master Drainage Plan and the availability of infrastructure at the proposed time of construction. Therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measures HYDRO – 3 and HYDRO – 4 would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

*f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The City of Galt has a Phase 1 NPDES stormwater permit and is part of the Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership. The City of Galt is regulated by Order No. R5-2008-0142 NPDES No. CAS082597 "Waste Discharge Requirements for Cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Rancho Cordova, and County of Sacramento, Sacramento Storm Water Discharges From Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Sacramento County" issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. However, the City of Galt Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System is noncontiguous to other MS4s and is surrounded by rural and agricultural areas that are not subject to NPDES regulations. A detailed discussion of the regulatory provision pertaining to Water Quality is included above under subsection "a."

**Policy COS-1.7: Stormwater Quality Protection**

The City shall, through the development review process, ensure compliance with Federal and State stormwater quality standards and regulations.

**Policy COS-1.12: Best Management Practices**

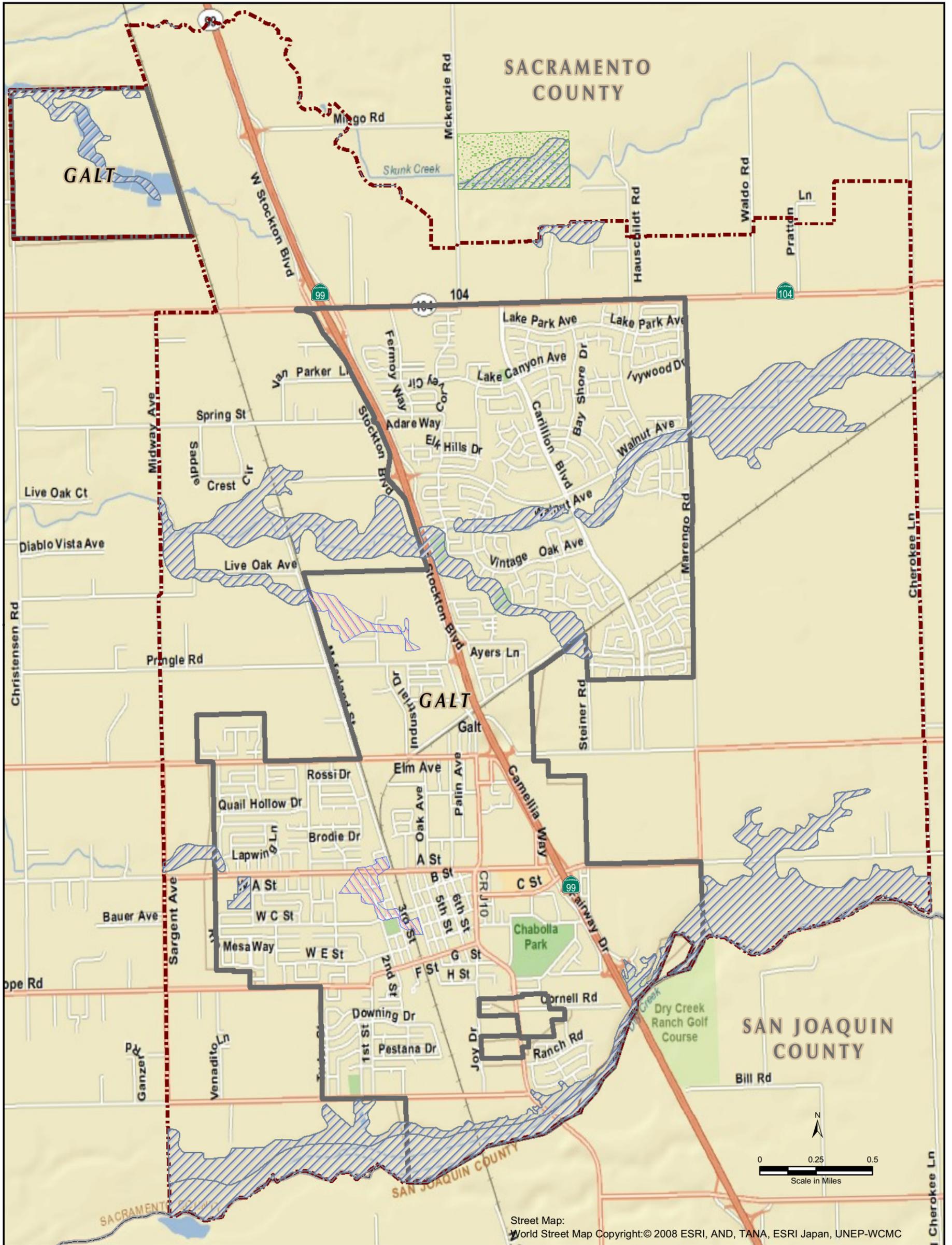
The City shall require all new development and redevelopment to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, the City shall require, as part of its Storm Water NPDES Permit and ordinances, to implement the Grading Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction activities of any improvement plans, new development and redevelopment projects for reducing pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

Impact Analysis

Individually proposed projects of one acre in size or greater, and/or part of a larger plan of development would be subject to regulation through the filing of an NOI and the preparation of a SWPPP. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of BMPs in site design as mandate by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition projects are subject to the local regulatory requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances therefore, impacts related to implementation of the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

*g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?*

**No Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of residential land uses or the construction of housing; therefore no impact would result from implementation of the Proposed Project.



LEGEND	
	100 Year Flood Plain
	100 Year Flood Plain Under Review
	2007 City Limits
	General Plan Area
	Future Park Outside of General Plan Area
	County

**CITY OF GALT  
PLANNING AREA FEMA  
100 YEAR FLOOD PLAIN ZONES**

FIGURE 4.8-1  
04/26/10

**FOOTHILL ASSOCIATES**  
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*h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?*

As shown on **Figure 4.8-1**, scattered areas of FEMA-mapped 100-year floodplain exist within the City's Planning Area. Title 19 of the City's Municipal Code establishes the City's Flood Control Ordinance. The intent of the Ordinance is to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas within the City. The following provisions are included within the Ordinance to reduce flood-related losses:

- A. Restricting or prohibiting uses which are dangerous to health, safety, and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or flood heights or velocities;
- B. Requiring that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- C. Controlling the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or channel floodwaters;
- D. Controlling filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage; and
- E. Preventing or regulating the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert floodwaters or which may increase flood hazards in other areas.

#### Regulatory Setting

##### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to flood hazards and relevant to the Proposed Project:

##### **Policy COS-1.4: Storm Flow Impacts**

The City will continue to ensure, through the development review process, that future developments do not increase peak storm flows and do not cause flooding of downstream facilities and properties.

**Goal SS-3: To protect the lives and property of residents and visitors to Galt from flooding hazards and manage floodplains for their open space and natural resource values.**

##### **Policy SS-3.1: Floodplain Mapping**

The City shall use the most current FEMA floodplain map to direct development outside of the 100-year floodplain.

##### **Policy LU-1.4: Northern Floodplain Urban Limit**

The City shall not permit development within the Laguna Creek or Skunk Creek 100- year FEMA floodplains.

## Impact Analysis

The construction of structures or the alteration of land within special flood hazard zones identified by the City are required to be reviewed by the City Engineer for compliance with the Flood Control Ordinance prior to project approval. The Flood Control Ordinance provides enforceable provisions including restricting land uses, requiring flood protection measures, controlling proposed flood plain alterations, controlling ground-disturbing activities within flood zones, and preventing or regulating the construction of flood control barriers, for activities proposed within special flood areas within the City; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

- i) *Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of a failure of a levee or dam?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** A system of levees and dikes for the streams and creeks draining to the Cosumnes River are generally found northwest of the City's Planning Area. Laguna Creek, located north of the Planning Area, could be considered a dam inundation area if the Rancho Seco Dam, located approximately 10 miles northeast of the City of Galt, ever experienced major failure (Mintier et al. 2008). However, no development proposed by the Master Plan would occur within these areas as they are located outside of the City's Planning Area.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy applicable to flooding hazards and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy LU-1.9: Growth in Hazard-Prone Areas**

The City shall limit urban growth in areas with hazardous conditions such as flooding and unstable soils.

## Impact Analysis

The potential for flood hazards associated with inundation resulting from levee or dam failure are considered a low threat in the City of Galt (Mintier et al. 2008); therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

- j) *Inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Lands within the City of Galt and its Planning Area are located within the greater Central Sacramento Valley, and inland of any coastal areas. Tsunami and seiches are not considered to be a significant threat to the City's Planning Area (Mintier et al. 2005). Similarly, mudflow is not considered a threat due to the lack of presence of volcanic activity, as well as the level topography within and surrounding the Planning Area; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

## Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure HYDRO – 1:** The City Department of Parks and Recreation shall maximize the incorporation of water conservation measures in new park facility design and construction pursuant to the Ground Water Protection Response Plan. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall coordinate the review of proposed improvement plans with the Building Division as well as the Department of

Public Works for suggested measures to conserve water and increase groundwater recharge potential. At a minimum, the following measures shall be incorporated into site design:

- Water-conserving building design and equipment in new construction;
- Water-conserving landscaping and other conservation measures as applicable to individual project sites; and
- Retrofitting of existing facilities with water-conserving devices.

Verification of water conservation coordination and integration of conservation measures in project design shall be documented by the Planning Division prior to project approval.

**Mitigation Measure HYDRO – 2:**

To the extent practicable, the City Parks and Recreation Department shall incorporate the use of reclaimed water in the design of irrigation systems for new recreational and park facilities as well as proposed improvements to existing recreational/park facilities.

**Mitigation Measure HYDRO – 3:**

The City Parks and Recreation Department shall coordinate the preparation of a drainage assessment report prepared by a qualified professional for new development sites. The drainage report shall evaluate site-specific characteristics and proposed project design for consistency with the City's Master Storm Drainage Plan, and shall identify anticipated storm water outflow volumes resulting from development of the Proposed Project. The drainage report shall also identify the required volume of storm water storage capacity necessitated by development of the Proposed Project and will identify the post-construction BMPs proposed to accommodate required detention/retention volumes.

**Mitigation Measure HYDRO – 4:**

The City Parks and Recreation Department shall design recreational improvements (e.g., parks, ball fields, etc.) to incorporate storm water detention facilities where practicable.

## 4.9 STORMWATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Result in an increase of erosion during the construction process?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in an increase of the level of pollutants in storm water runoff from the post-construction activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in an increase of the discharge of storm water from material storage areas, vehicle or equipment fueling, vehicle or equipment maintenance (including washing), waste handling, hazardous materials handling or storage, delivery areas or loading docks, or other outdoor work areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Cause the impairment of the beneficial uses of receiving waters or areas that provide water quality benefit or cause significant harm on the biological integrity of the waterways and water bodies by the discharge of storm water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Cause significant changes in the flow velocity or volume of storm water runoff to cause environmental harm and the potential for significant increases in erosion of the project site and surrounding areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### a) Result in an increase of erosion during the construction process?

Erosion refers to the detachment and transport of soil particles related to wind, water, or ice. The NRCS identifies ranges for soils erosion hazards based on soil properties as documented for individual soil series in data collected from the Soil Survey. The erosion potential of soils within the City's Planning Area can generally be characterized as having a slight to high potential for erosion. The erosion hazard potential and expansive soils properties of individual soil map units are identified in **Table 4-1**.

#### Regulatory Setting

##### **State Regulations**

State regulations pertaining to the management of erosion and sedimentation are described in **Section 4.8**, Hydrology and Water Quality. Although the primary purpose of these regulations and standards is the protection of water quality from adverse effects related to land development (such as turbidity caused by sedimentation), measures included in these regulations and

standards also reduce the potential for erosion. These regulations include, but are not limited to, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program for management of construction and municipal storm water runoff, as part of the federal Clean Water Act and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act. NPDES is implemented at the State and local level through issuance of permits and preparation of site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) as regulated by the RWQCB.

### ***Local Regulations***

#### *City of Galt Municipal Code*

Chapter 16.10 of the City's Municipal Ordinance establishes the Storm Water Protection Ordinance for the City of Galt. The Storm Water Protection Ordinance was established to protect to protect and enhance the water quality of the city's watercourses, water bodies, and wetlands pursuant to, and consistent with federal and State statutory requirements.

Chapter 16.30 of the City's Municipal Code established the Grading Ordinance of the City of Galt, enacted for the purpose of regulating grading on property within the city limits of the city to safeguard life, limb, health, property and the public welfare; to avoid pollution of watercourses with nutrients, sediments, or other materials generated or caused by surface water runoff; to comply with the City's NPDES permit and to ensure that the intended use of a graded site within the city limits is consistent with the city general plan, any specific plans adopted thereto and all applicable city ordinances and regulations. The grading ordinance is intended to control all aspects of grading operations within the city limits of the city.

#### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to erosion hazards and relevant to the Proposed Project:

##### **Policy SS-2.1: Geologic and Soils Information**

The City shall require soils reports for new projects and use the information to determine appropriate permitting requirements.

##### **Policy SS-2.3: Grading/Erosion Control**

The City shall require grading and erosion control plans to be prepared by a qualified engineer or land surveyor.

##### **Policy PFS-4.4: Project Design**

The City should encourage project designs that minimize drainage concentrations and impervious surfaces.

##### **Policy PFS-4.5: Grading During the Rainy Season**

The City shall prohibit grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities.

##### **Policy PFS-4.6: Erosion Control Plan**

The City shall require new development projects to prepare an erosion control plan.

## **Policy COS-1.12: Best Management Practices**

The City shall require all new development and redevelopment to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, the City shall require, as part of its Storm Water NPDES Permit and ordinances, to implement the Grading Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction activities of any improvement plans, new development and redevelopment projects for reducing pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

### Impact Analysis

**Less than Significant Impact.** Construction activities associated with implementation of Master Plan would be subject to compliance with the SWPPP prepared in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the RWQCB through NPDES, under the Construction General Permit. Potential impacts to water quality resulting from pollutant discharges, including sediments and soil particulate matter, are regulated by the City through implementation of the City's Storm Water Ordinance. In addition, the City regulates grading and excavation activities through implementation of the Grading Ordinance, which limits the season in which grading may occur and requires that erosion control plans be prepared by qualified professionals. Enforceable regulatory standards and requirements exist to prevent significant impacts related to erosion; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

*b) Result in an increase of the level of pollutants in storm water runoff from the post-construction activities?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Any discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. is unlawful unless the discharge is in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The City of Galt has a Phase 1 NPDES stormwater permit and is part of the Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership. The City of Galt is regulated by Order No. R5-2008-0142 NPDES No. CAS082597 "Waste Discharge Requirements for Cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Rancho Cordova, and County of Sacramento, Sacramento Storm Water Discharges From Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Sacramento County" issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. However, the City of Galt Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System is noncontiguous to other MS4s and is surrounded by rural and agricultural areas that are not subject to NPDES regulations.

### Regulatory Setting

#### **Federal Regulations**

The 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act (CWA), establishes the basic structure for the EPA to regulate discharges of pollutant into waters of the United States. The CWA's primary intent is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

Section 401 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to obtain a water quality certification that assumes the discharge would comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. This policy is intended to preserve wetland values or acres, and seeks to avoid adverse impacts and to offset unavoidable adverse impacts to existing aquatic resources through mitigation to achieve no net loss of wetland function and value.

The CWA was amended in 1987 with the addition of Section 402(p), which established a framework for regulating storm water discharges under NPDES. The NPDES permit system was

established in the CWA to regulate point source pollution such as municipal and industrial discharges to surface waters of the United States. In California, the EPA has given the state authority to administer the NPDES program, which is implemented by the SWRCB.

Nonpoint pollution sources originate over a wide area rather than from a definable point. Such nonpoint sources are generally exempt from federal NPDES permit program requirements with the exception of storm water discharges. Stormwater discharges during and after project construction can transport pollutants from impervious surfaces such as roads and parking lots to creeks and streams. NPDES municipal Phase II regulations require jurisdictions to initiate actions to prevent long term non-point pollution through appropriate design. The goal of the NPDES nonpoint source regulations is to improve the quality of storm water discharged to receiving waters to the "maximum extent practicable" through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

In accordance with NPDES regulations, to minimize the potential effects of construction runoff on receiving water quality, the SWRCB requires that any construction activity affecting one acre or more must obtain coverage under the General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit (General Permit). Permit applicants are also required to prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that specifies erosion and sediment control BMPs to reduce or eliminate construction-related impacts on receiving water quality. Examples of construction BMPs identified in SWPPPs include: using temporary mulching, seeding or other stabilization measures to protect uncovered soils; storing materials and equipment to ensure that spills or leaks cannot enter the storm drain system or surface water; developing and implementing a spill prevention and cleanup plan, installing traps, filters, or other devices at drop inlets to prevent contaminants from entering storm drains; and using barriers, such as straw wattles or silt fencing to minimize the amount of uncontrolled runoff that could enter storm drain inlets or surface water.

NPDES also mandates the identification of post-construction BMPs, including long-term monitoring and maintenance provisions.

Effective July 1, 2010 all Permittees are required to obtain coverage under the new Construction General Permit Order 2009-0009-DWQ adopted on September 2, 2009.

### ***State Regulations***

The SWRCB and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Boards) are designated responsibility for ensuring implementation and compliance with the provision of the federal CWA through the provisions of California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Regional Boards have the authority to implement water quality protection standards through the issuance of permits for discharges to waters at locations within their jurisdiction and through multiple enforcement mechanisms. The City's Planning Area is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### ***Local Regulations***

Chapter 16.10 of the City's Municipal Ordinance establishes the Storm Water Protection Ordinance for the City of Galt. The Storm Water Protection Ordinance was established to protect and enhance the water quality of the city's watercourses, water bodies, and wetlands pursuant to, and consistent with federal and State statutory requirements.

Chapter 16.30 of the City's Municipal Code established the Grading Ordinance of the City of Galt, enacted for the purpose of regulating grading on property within the city limits of the city to safeguard life, limb, health, property and the public welfare; to avoid pollution of watercourses with nutrients, sediments, or other materials generated or caused by surface water runoff; to comply with the City's NPDES permit and to ensure that the intended use of a graded site within

the city limits is consistent with the city general plan, any specific plans adopted thereto and all applicable city ordinances and regulations. The grading ordinance is intended to control all aspects of grading operations within the city limits of the city.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to stormwater quality and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal PFS-4:** To collect and dispose of stormwater in a manner that protects the city's residents and property from the hazards of flooding, manages stormwater in a manner that is safe and environmentally sensitive, and enhances the environment.

#### **Policy PFS-4.3:** Stormwater Quality

The City shall ensure compliance with Federal and State clean water standards by continuing to monitor and enforce provisions to control non-point source and point source water pollution contained in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NPDES program.

#### **Policy PFS-4.5:** Grading During the Rainy Season

The City shall prohibit grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities.

#### **Policy PFS-4.6:** Erosion Control Plan

The City shall require new development projects to prepare an erosion control plan.

#### **Policy PFS-4.7:** Mitigating Stormwater Runoff

The City shall require projects that have significant impacts on the quantity and quality of surface water runoff to incorporate mitigation measures for impacts related to urban runoff.

#### **Policy SS-2.3:** Grading/Erosion Control

The City shall require grading and erosion control plans to be prepared by a qualified engineer or land surveyor.

#### **Policy COS-1.7:** Stormwater Quality Protection

The City shall, through the development review process, ensure compliance with Federal and State stormwater quality standards and regulations.

#### **Policy COS-1.12:** Best Management Practices

The City shall require all new development and redevelopment to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, the City shall require, as part of its Storm Water NPDES Permit and ordinances, to implement the Grading Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction activities of any improvement plans, new development and redevelopment projects for reducing pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.

## Impact Analysis

The City of Galt has a Phase 1 NPDES stormwater permit and is part of the Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership. The City of Galt is regulated by Order No. R5-2008-0142 NPDES No. CAS082597 "Waste Discharge Requirements for Cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Rancho Cordova, and County of Sacramento, Sacramento Storm Water Discharges From Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Sacramento County" issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. However, the City of Galt Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System is noncontiguous to other MS4s and is surrounded by rural and agricultural areas that are not subject to NPDES regulations.

Individually proposed projects of one acre in size or greater, and/or part of a larger plan of development proposing ground disturbing activities would be subject to regulation through the filing of an NOI and the preparation of a SWPPP. Compliance with the City's Grading Ordinance would ensure that project construction areas are adequately stabilized to support post-construction development and operation following ground disturbing activities. In addition, individual project design proposals would be reviewed by the City for compliance with the SWMP provisions pertaining to post-construction BMPs. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of construction and post-construction BMPs in site design as mandated by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition, projects are subject to the local regulatory requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances therefore, impacts related to implementation of the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

*c) Result in an increase of the discharge of storm water from material storage areas, vehicle or equipment fueling, vehicle or equipment maintenance (including washing), waste handling, hazardous materials handling or storage, delivery areas or loading docks, or other outdoor work areas?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would not involve the development of facilities or land uses associated with hazardous materials handling, storage, or use, and existing federal, state and local regulations exist to ensure hazardous materials use, storage, and disposal associated with project area maintenance activities or adjacent facilities would not result in risk of hazardous materials exposure to humans or the environment. Best Management Practices would be implemented for construction activities to minimize impacts to the environment and public health. The transport, storage, and disposal of any hazardous materials used would be subject to federal, State, and local regulations. Temporary storage tanks necessary to store fuel and/or other flammable or combustible liquids required on the project site during construction would be regulated through the applicable federal, State and local regulations as well. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of BMPs in site design as mandated by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition projects are subject to the local regulatory requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

Additional relevant discussion and regulatory information can be found in Sections 4.7 and 4.8.

*d) Cause the impairment of the beneficial uses of receiving waters or areas that provide water quality benefit or cause significant harm on the biological integrity of the waterways and water bodies by the discharge of storm water?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Individually proposed projects of one acre in size or greater, and/or part of a larger plan of development would be subject to regulation through the filing of an NOI and the preparation of a SWPPP. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of BMPs in site design as mandated by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition projects are subject to the local regulatory

requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances

### Regulatory Setting

Please refer to Section 4.8, Hydrology and Water Quality, for a complete discussion of the regulations pertaining to water Quality relevant to the Proposed Project.

### **State Regulations**

The SWRCB and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Boards) are designated responsibility for ensuring implementation and compliance with the provision of the federal CWA through the provisions of California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Regional Boards have the authority to implement water quality protection standards through the issuance of permits for discharges to waters at locations within their jurisdiction and through multiple enforcement mechanisms. The City's Planning Area is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

#### *Central Valley Region Water Quality Control Plan (Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins)*

Regional Boards have the authority to implement water quality protection standards through the issuance of permits for discharges to waters at locations within their jurisdiction and through multiple enforcement mechanisms. Regional water quality objectives for all water bodies in the City's Planning Area are specified in the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins in compliance with the federal CWA and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Section III of the Basin Plan identifies both quantitative and qualitative water quality objectives that are intended to protect these beneficial uses. Water quality criteria contained in the Basin Plan have been developed to protect the designated beneficial uses.

### Impact Analysis

Individually proposed projects of one acre in size or greater, and/or part of a larger plan of development proposing ground disturbing activities would be subject to regulation through the filing of an NOI and the preparation of a SWPPP. In addition, individual project design proposals would be reviewed by the City for compliance with the SWMP provisions pertaining to post-construction BMPs. Existing federal and State regulatory requirements mandate the implementation, maintenance and monitoring of construction and post-construction BMPs in site design as mandate by the federal Clean Water Act. In addition projects are subject to the local regulatory requirements enforced by the City of Galt through implementation and enforcement of the City's Storm Water and Grading Ordinances. Existing regulatory standards are established and enforced to ensure that the beneficial uses, including biological values, of receiving waters are conserved within the project area. Impacts related to implementation of the Proposed Project are therefore considered less than significant.

- e) *Cause significant changes in the flow velocity or volume of storm water runoff to cause environmental harm and the potential for significant increases in erosion of the project site and surrounding areas?*

**Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** Proposed master Plan improvements may involve increased impervious surface area, potentially resulting in increased storm water volume and velocity within the area of individual projects. The General Plan Implementation Program specifies that the City shall prepare, annually review, and update every five years a Storm Drainage Master Plan. Proposed improvements plans would be reviewed by

the Department of Public Works for consistency with the City's Storm Drainage Master Plan. Park Planning Standards specify that facility development should be contingent upon the availability of infrastructure. Although, the General Plan land use diagram identifies approximate locations where most of the future parks would be located outside the current city limits, these park locations and parcel configurations are very general in nature due to the broad planning purposes served by a General Plan. Typically, it is too speculative to designate particular property boundaries and precise locations for future parks at the General Plan level. For example, many of Galt's future parks are planned to be joint use facilities with adjacent school sites planned to serve the same future population. Although the City worked with the school districts to identify future school locations on the General Plan land use diagram, the school districts have not made any specific real estate and planning decisions and those sites will likely change somewhat as future development is proposed. Future locations and design for proposed recreational facilities remain unspecified at this time. The timing, location, and design of future proposed facilities may warrant the preparation of site-specific drainage assessment, based on the City's Master Drainage Plan and the availability of infrastructure at the proposed time of construction. Site-specific drainage assessments would provide estimated storm water flow and velocity data to calculate necessary capacity and develop design details to accommodate projected storm water flows. Therefore impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measures HYDRO – 3 and HYDRO – 4 would reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Please refer to Section 4.8, Hydrology and Water Quality, subsection "e," for a full discussion and regulatory background information.

#### Mitigation Measures

#### **Mitigation Measures HYDRO – 3 and HYDRO – 4.**

## 4.10 LAND USE PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

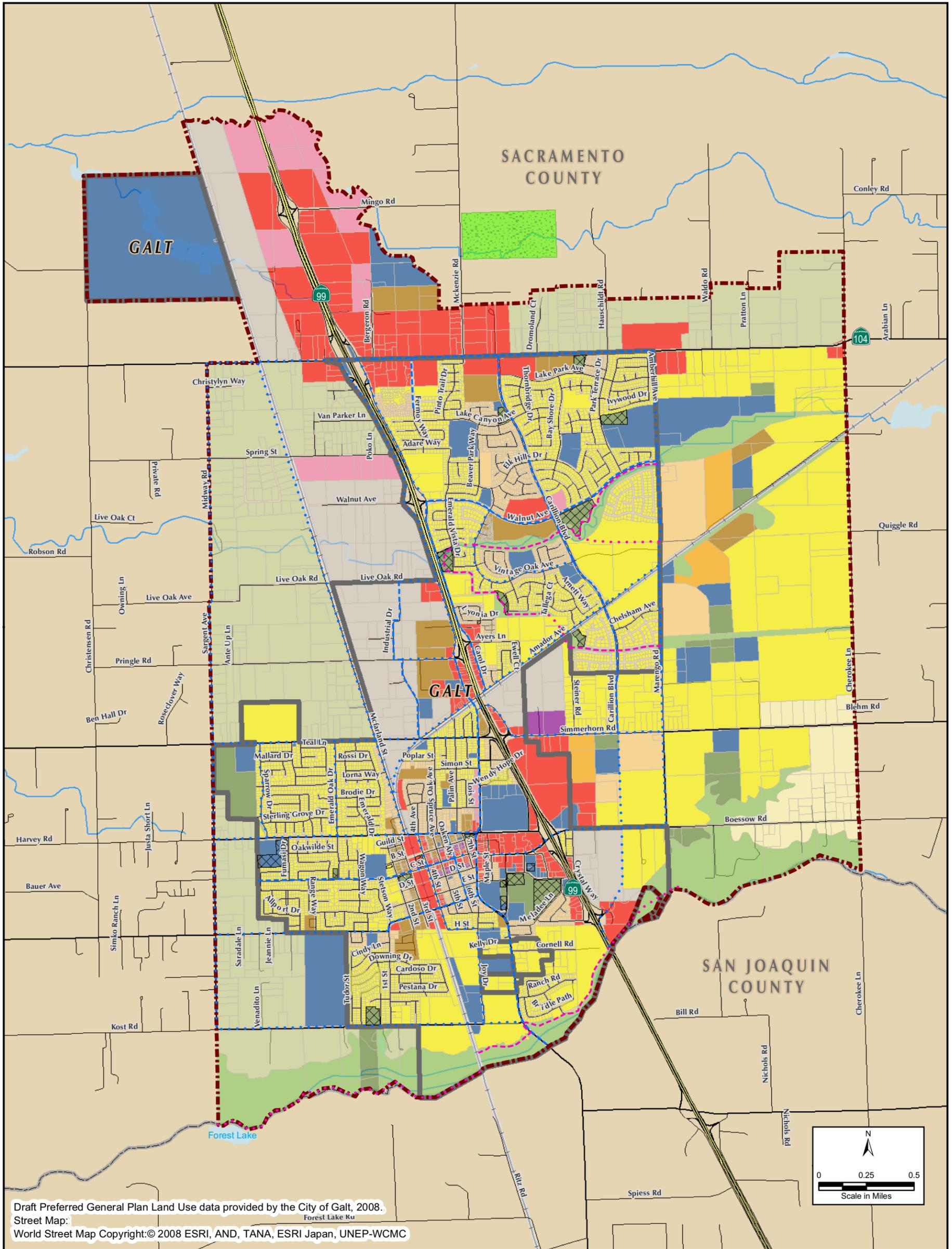
*a) Physically divide an established community?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt Parks Master Plan Update proposes a strategic direction for the provision and management of City recreation facilities and programs within the City's Planning Area. Implementation of the Master Plan would facilitate community facilities and programs serving local, as well as regional community members and would provide formalized facilities and services conducive to social interactions amongst community members and visitors alike. Future facilities would be located throughout portions of the City's Planning Area. Individual locations would be selected based on defined Park Planning Standards intended to provide access to recreation facilities, programs, and services to all neighborhoods within the City of Galt as well as the community at large. Park facilities within the City are typically located within residential developments (and often adjacent to school facilities) and are intended to provide recreational amenities and services encouraging neighborhood residents and community members to come together, interact, and participate in recreational activities. These facilities are designed to generally increase social interactions amongst City residents as well as visitors. Therefore, no impact related to the physical division of established communities would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

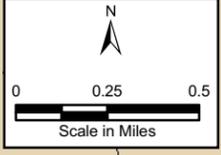
*b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The defined purpose of the Master Plan is to establish a strategic direction for the provision and management of City recreation facilities and programs in the area defined by the City of Galt and its Planning Area. The General Plan land use diagram identifies approximate locations where most of the future parks will be located outside the current city limits and within the City's Planning Area. (**Figure 4.10-1**). These park locations and parcel configurations are very general in nature due to the broad planning purposes served by a General Plan. Typically, it is too speculative to designate particular property boundaries and precise

locations for future parks at the General Plan level. For example, many of Galt's future parks are planned to be joint use facilities with adjacent school sites and are planned to serve the same



Draft Preferred General Plan Land Use data provided by the City of Galt, 2008.  
 Street Map:  
 World Street Map Copyright: © 2008 ESRI, AND, TANA, ESRI Japan, UNEP-WCMC



PEDESTRIAN/BIKE SYSTEM	GALT GENERAL PLAN LAND USE	OTHER FEATURES
--- Class I Trail	RR - Rural Residential	2009 City Limits
... Class I Proposed	RE - Residential Estate	General Plan Area
- - - Class II Lane	LDR - Low-Density Residential	Existing Parks
... Class II Proposed Lane	MDR - Medium-Density Residential	Future Park Outside of General Plan Area
	MHD - Medium-High Density Residential	
	HDR - High-Density Residential	
	MU - Mixed Use	
	C - Commercial	
	OP - Office Professional	
	LI - Light Industrial	
	PQP - Public/Quasi-Public	
	PK - Parks	
	OS - Open Space	
	<b>SACRAMENTO CO. LAND USE</b>	
	AG - Agricultural	

**CITY OF GALT  
 GENERAL PLAN  
 LAND USE DESIGNATIONS**

FIGURE 4.10-1  
 02/05/10

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future population. Although the City worked with the school districts to identify future school locations on the General Plan land use diagram, the school districts have not made any specific real estate and planning decisions and those sites will likely change somewhat as future development is proposed. Specific park locations will have to comply with the Park Site Characteristics identified in Section 5.6 of the Master Plan.

In acknowledgement of this typical planning dilemma, the Galt General Plan includes a policy (LU-1.1) that requires approval of Specific Plans prior to annexation of land for development. At the Specific Plan level of analysis, there is more neighborhood scale information about the types of development proposed, the location of planned infrastructure, specific needs for park locations and facilities, and how those locations will interface with the neighborhoods they are intended to serve. Consequently, the Specific Plan is the more appropriate level at which to fully evaluate and plan future park locations and design facilities.

Land dedication, or in-lieu fees, along with recreation impact fees would be used to acquire and improve the number of acres needed as future Specific Plans and/or subdivisions are approved and the population of the City increases. The General Plan land use diagram currently shows 38 acres less park land than will eventually be needed at build-out to meet the 5 acres per 1,000 people standard for the projected population in 2030. City Planning staff and Parks and Recreation staff will need to work together to evaluate future development proposals for additional park opportunities to make sure the level of service is maintained and residents continue to have access to adequate neighborhood and community park resources.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City of Galt General Plan identifies two land use designations directly relevant to the Master Plan.

#### *Parks*

The Parks (P) land use designation provides for active and passive recreational uses, habitat protection, and public/quasi-public uses. This use is located throughout the community.

#### *Open Space*

The Open Space (OS) land use designation Provides for passive outdoor recreational uses, habitat protection, watershed management, public and quasi-public uses, areas that contain public health and safety hazards such as floodways, and areas containing environmentally-sensitive features. This use is located throughout the community.

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to land use and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy LU-1.2: Proposed Development Consistency**

The City shall review development proposals in detail for consistency with General Plan policies.

#### **Policy LU-1.5: Sphere of Influence (SOI) Boundaries**

The City shall submit a formal application for an adjustment to the current (2007) sphere of influence boundary. This application may also include the detachment of land on the west side of the current (2007) Sphere of Influence between approximately Christensen Road and Sergeant Road/Midway Road.

**Policy LU-1.13: Zoning Consistency**

The City shall ensure that the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map are consistent with the General Plan.

**Policy LU-4.7: Public Spaces in High Density Developments**

High density residential developments shall include sufficient open space to balance the developed areas of the site and are strongly encouraged to provide ancillary uses and services that would be appropriate to the development type. Ancillary uses could include, but not be limited to, playgrounds, community centers, daycare, job training, and similar services on-site.

**Goal LU-9: To maintain and preserve agricultural and open space uses within and surrounding the Planning Area and promote the expansion of parkland.**

**Policy LU-9.1: Greenbelt**

The City should participate in regional efforts to establish a permanent agriculture, open space, and wildlife habitat greenbelt between the northern boundary of the Planning Area and the City of Elk Grove.

**Policy LU-9.3: Open Space Designation**

The City shall designate areas of the city for open space. The intent of this designation is to provide areas for passive outdoor recreational uses, habitat protection, watershed management, public and quasi-public uses, areas that contain public health and safety hazards such as floodways, and areas containing environmentally-sensitive features.

**Policy LU-9.4: Park Designation**

The City shall designate areas of the city for parks. The intent of this designation is to provide areas in the city for active and passive recreational uses, habitat protection, and public/quasi-public uses.

**Policy LU-10.3: Equitable Distribution of New Public Facilities and Services**

The City shall plan for the equitable distribution of new public facilities and services that increase and enhance the community's quality of life.

**Policy PFS-8.9: Park Siting**

The City should ensure that recreation facilities are sited to minimize negative impacts (i.e., parking, night lighting, and excessive noise) on surrounding neighborhoods and should strive to maintain a standard of one park within a ½-mile of all new homes.

**Policy PFS-8.11: Park Linkages**

The City shall encourage pedestrian and bicycle trail linkages between parks, open space areas, wildlife habitat, and significant community activity centers.

***City of Galt Zoning Ordinance***

Section 18.08.060 of the City of Galt Zoning Ordinance requires areas to be annexed by the City to be pre-zoned in accordance with Chapter 18.88 (Planning Commission and City Council Approval), and requires all pre-zoning to be consistent with the General Plan.

The Zoning Ordinance establishes two zoning districts directly relevant to the Master Plan (**Table 4-2**).

**Table 4-2 — City of Galt Zoning Recreation Districts**

Zoning District	Zone	Permitted Uses
OS	Open Space	This zoning district is designed to protect Persons from natural hazards, to provide for areas of relatively passive, nature-oriented recreational uses, to maintain or restore flora and fauna habitats, and to maintain open visual corridors free from urban development.
PQ	Public, Quasi-Public.	To provide an environment for uses that are public or quasi-public in nature. This zoning district is designed for institutional and public-oriented uses such as schools, libraries, community centers, places of worship, parking lots, wastewater treatment plants, and public parks to promote active recreational uses for the residents of Galt.

Source: City of Galt Zoning Ordinance, 2008

Impact Analysis

If growth occurs as projected, 20,000 new residents will be moving to the Planning Area by the end of the Parks Master Plan period (2025). An additional 86.96 acres of active use park land will need to be acquired by the City and added to the current 13.04 acre surplus to meet the acreage standard for this new population.

The Parks Master Plan addresses anticipated growth through 2025, while the City’s General Plan projects a build-out population in 2030 of 51,291. An additional 36.46 acres of park land will be needed to serve the additional 7,291 residents who are projected to move to the area between 2025 and 2030. This means a total of 123.42 more acres of active use park land will be needed to serve the build-out population. The Master Plan proposes that future acquisition of this acreage should be accomplished through land dedications or fees in-lieu of land dedication required as part of the development approval process.

The General Plan land use map designates 79.90 acres of additional land for neighborhood and community parks. Therefore 7.06 additional acres of park land would need to be located and designated for the projected 2025 population, or 43.52 additional acres for the 2030 population. The City currently owns an 80-acre site north of the General Plan area that was acquired with the intent of eventually developing a regional park.

As described in Sections 4.1 through 4.18, the Proposed Master Plan is consistent with the Conservation, Community Character, Historic Resources, Safety and Seismic, Public Facilities and Services, Land Use, Circulation, Noise elements of the General Plan. Relevant individual General Plan Goals, Policies, and Implementation Measures that would be implemented by the Master Plan are listed within the Regulatory Setting section by individual resource issue areas discussed in this IS. The proposed Master Plan purpose and objectives are consistent with the Galt General Plan goals, and policies.

Conceptual development of proposed future park and recreational facilities has been evaluated by the City at the General Plan level. The exact locations of proposed future facilities will be

contingent upon subsequent applications for Specific Plans submitted by private developers. General Plan Policy LU-1.5 requires the City to submit a formal application for an amendment to the City's Sphere of Influence boundaries. As the City's SOI is expanded and the City is able to begin annexing lands within the SOI, individual proposals for Specific Plans will be reviewed by the City Planning Division. At that time, the final configuration of proposed land uses will be evaluated for consistency with the General Plan. In addition, Specific Plan proposals will be evaluated pursuant to CEQA based on site-specific characteristics and a comprehensive description of the Specific Plan proposal, including proposed land uses, transportation corridors, public facilities, etc., and all required supporting technical studies, as required by the City.

However, the Master Plan identifies potential future recreation improvements on the 80-acre parcel known as the Hauschildt site located north of the City's Planning Area, and east of McKenzie Road on lands designated by the Sacramento County General Plan as General Agriculture, and zoned "AG20" Agriculture – 20-acre minimum. Public Parks and ancillary uses are permitted uses within the AG20 zoning district. Although this site is currently owned by the City, land use decisions are governed by the County of Sacramento. Development of recreational facilities on this site would require discretionary approvals by Sacramento County as part of the entitlement process. The City's proposed development design would be subject to comprehensive review by Sacramento County based on site-specific characteristics, proposed project design details, and supporting technical studies pursuant to CEQA.

Proposed development within the City's Planning Area would require site-specific environmental review and subsequent approval by the City as individual projects are defined and proposed. If applicable, mitigation measures would be imposed on projects to reduce any potentially significant impacts. Similarly, proposed improvements on the Hauschildt site would be subject to review and approval by Sacramento County, who would require mitigation for any potentially significant impacts resulting from development of recreational facilities. Proposed Master Plan purpose and objectives are consistent with the Galt General Plan goals, and policies. Impacts related to land use are therefore considered less than significant.

*c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?*

The SSHCP is not yet adopted, however General Plan policy COS-2.7 commits the City to future coordination efforts in the development of this long-term conservation strategy. The City's commitment for continued planning coordination efforts with the development of the SSHCP through adoption of General Plan Policy COS-2.7 would prohibit conflict with any habitat conservation plans. There are no natural community conservation plans currently proposed within the City's Planning Area. Therefore, no impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) *Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt and surrounding Planning Area are not mapped by Sacramento County as locations of regional or statewide important mineral resources (Sacramento County, 1993). Similarly, the 2030 Galt General Plan, does not identify the region as one of importance relevant to mineral resources (Mintier et al. 2009); therefore no impact to mineral resources of regional or statewide importance would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt and surrounding Planning Area are not identified by the Sacramento County General Plan as areas of known or potential mineral resource areas (Sacramento County, 1993). There are no mineral resource areas within the City or the Planning Area documented by the 2030 Galt General Plan (Mintier et al. 2009); therefore no impacts to mineral resources would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

### Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.12 NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project result in:</i></b>				
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or of applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Environmental Setting

Noise is commonly defined as unwanted sound in the environment. This definition reflects a subjective reaction to the characteristics of the physical phenomenon of noise. People judge the relative magnitude of sound sensation in subjective terms such as “noisiness” or “loudness.” Although elevated noise levels can result in physiological damage and hearing loss, excessive noise in the environment more commonly impairs general human well being by contributing to psychological stress and irritation. Such health effects can result when noise interferes with everyday human activities such as sleep, talking, recreation, relaxation, and tasks requiring concentration. When noise is either disturbing or annoying, whether by its pitch or loudness, it may be considered objectionable.

The overall noise level associated with a given noise environment is called the “ambient” noise level. Ambient noise can be generated by a number of sources, including mobile sources such as automobiles, trucks, trains, and airplanes, and stationary sources such as construction sites, machinery, and industrial operations. Other contributing noise sources, often referred to as

“background” sources, can include the sound of birds, people talking, occasional vehicles passing by, or televisions and radios.

Sound pressure magnitude is measured and quantified using a logarithmic ratio of pressures, the scale of which gives the level of sound in decibels (dB). Environmental sound levels are usually measured in A-weighted decibels, or dBA, which is a method of taking into account the sensitivity of the human ear to various frequencies in the sound spectrum. In general, a difference of three decibels is barely perceptible to the human ear, while a difference of 10 decibels is perceived as a doubling of loudness. A common statistical tool used to measure the ambient noise level is the average, or equivalent, sound level ( $L_{eq}$ ), which is the sound level corresponding to a steady-state, A-weighted sound level containing the same total energy as a time-varying signal over a given period (usually one hour).

Factors that affect the transmission of noise between the noise source and the receptor include:

- Line of sight: Barriers, such as topography, sound walls and other structures, between a noise source and recipient can provide varying degrees of noise attenuation, particularly when placed near the noise source.
- Distance: A reduction in noise level of roughly 6 dBA occurs with each doubling of distance from a noise source, depending on the hardness of intervening surfaces.

Existing noise sources within the City include both transportation sources and non-transportation sources. Transportation sources include roadway traffic, railroads, and airplane flights. Non-transportation sources include industrial facilities, commercial locations, outdoor recreational facilities, and HVAC units.

#### Regulatory Setting

**Federal** – The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) defines potentially harmful noise exposure (the level at which hearing loss may occur from long-term exposure) as exposure to greater than 90 dBA averaged over eight hours. For noise greater than 90 dBA, the allowable exposure time is correspondingly shorter.

**State** – The State of California sets interior residential standards for multifamily dwellings at 45 dBA Ldn. This interior residential standard is meant primarily for sleep and speech protection.

**Local** – The City of Galt addresses noise in both the General Plan Noise Element and Municipal Code Chapter 8.40, Noise Control Standards. General Plans typically recognize that different types of land uses have different sensitivities toward their noise environment with residential areas considered to be the most sensitive type of land use to noise and industrial/commercial areas considered to be the least sensitive (Mintier et al. 2008). Local noise ordinances typically set forth standards related to construction activities, and industrial property-line noise levels. Specific emphasis is given to noise sensitive land uses, typically defined as residential land uses, schools, health care facilities, libraries, and churches. The City of Galt General Plan Noise Element has established maximum permissible noise levels impacting residential land uses from non-transportation sources. The noise level performance standards are shown in **Table 4-3**.

**Table 4-3 — Noise Level Performance Standards**

<b>Noise Level Performance Standards for Residential Areas Affected by Non-Transportation Noise</b>		
<b>Noise Level Descriptor</b>	<b>Daytime (7:00a.m. – 10:00 p.m.)</b>	<b>Nighttime (10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.)</b>
Hourly $L_{eq}$ dB	50	45
Maximum Level, dB	70	65
Notes: These standards apply to new or existing residential areas affected by new or existing non-transportation sources.		

Source: City of Galt General Plan, 2008

Chapter 8.40 of the City Code, the City of Galt Noise Control Standards, defines enforceable standards and regulations pertaining to the generation of noise, and stipulates the conditions under which exceeding the defined standards constitutes a violation. Section 8.40.060 specifies that the exterior noise standards for zones R-1-A, R-1-B, R-1-C, R-2, R-3, C-R, and R-M shall be 55 dBA from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and 50 dBA from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Section 8.40.080 states that noise sources associated with construction, repair, demolition, remodeling, and paving or grading are exempt from the noise control standards provided such activities are restricted to six a.m. to eight p.m. on weekdays and to seven a.m. to eight p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Section 8.40.080 also specifies that “activities conducted on parks, public playgrounds and school grounds, provided such parks, playgrounds and school grounds are owned and operated by a public entity or private school” are exempt from the noise standards.

**City of Galt General Plan Policies**

The City’s General Plan identifies the following polices relevant to noise within the City’s planning area:

**Policy N-1.2: Noise Mitigation**

The City shall develop and implement effective strategies to abate and avoid excessive noise exposures in the city by requiring that effective noise mitigation measure be incorporated in the design of new noise-generating and new noise-sensitive land uses.

**Policy N-1.3: Neighborhood Noise Protection**

The City should protect areas within the city where the present noise environment is within acceptable limits.

**Policy N-1.4: Noise Level Performance Standards**

The City shall use noise level performance standards for reviewing development proposals.

**Policy N-1.6: Noise-Sensitive Land Separation**

The City shall separate noise-sensitive land uses from noise-impacted areas in new developments unless effective mitigation measures are provided and implemented. Noise-sensitive land uses include, but are not limited to, residential land uses, schools, health care facilities, libraries, and churches.

**Policy N-1.7: EIR Acoustical Analyses**

The City shall require project Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) to contain valid acoustical analysis where appropriate.

**Policy N-1.10: Noise Mitigation**

The City shall require noise mitigation in new development along major streets, highways, and railroad tracks.

**Policy N-1.11: Land Use Compatibility**

The City shall allow the development of noise sensitive land uses which include, but are not limited to, residential neighborhoods, schools, and hospitals, only in areas where existing or projected noise levels are “acceptable” according to the chart below. Noise mitigation measures may be required to reduce noise in outdoor activity areas and interior spaces to achieve these levels.

**Policy N-1.12: City Equipment/Noise Element Compliance**

The City shall ensure that City facilities and equipment are consistent with this element.

**Policy N-1.13: Construction Noise**

The City shall seek to limit the potential noise impacts of temporary construction activities on surrounding land uses by limiting hours of operation in accordance with City’s noise ordinance.

**Policy N-1.14: Zoning Ordinance Consistency**

The City shall ensure consistency between the Noise Element and the Zoning Ordinance.

Impact Analysis

*a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or of applicable standards of other agencies?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Noise sources from the Master Plan projects would consist of construction noise and noise from uses of the recreational facilities. The noise sources from use of the facilities would be a combination of traffic noise created by facility users and noise from the recreational activities themselves. Construction noise would be temporary and is exempt from the noise ordinance standards provided the activities are conducted within specific hours. The Master Plan includes both projects at existing facilities and construction of new facilities. Depending upon the specific location of proposed individual projects, construction noise could impact sensitive land uses. This would be a potentially significant impact without mitigation. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise – 1 would reduce impacts from construction noise to less than significant.

As described by the Master Plan, future new recreational facilities would be developed in concert with proposed residential and school development projects. As described in the introduction to this document, future park development projects would be individually reviewed based on site-specific conditions, as well as individual park design characteristics. However, in general, noise associated with use of Linear Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Park facilities would be associated with local residents and it is not anticipated that the use of these classifications would generate significant noise impacts. However, development of new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities may include improvements, amenities, and specialized facilities that

would result in use by non-residents and may include sports events and special events drawing large crowds. Although public recreational activities are exempt from the City Noise Control Standards, noise generated from the use of Community and Regional parks may result in levels that could be a significant impact, especially in the evening hours. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise – 2 would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

*b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Operation of the Master Plan projects, including ball fields, trails, and typical city park recreational activities, would not be likely to generate ground borne vibration and/or ground borne noise. However, construction activities may result in vibration and ground borne noise. Due to the minimal size of proposed ground disturbance activities for linear, pocket, and neighborhood parks, it is unlikely that construction activities would expose people to excessive ground borne vibration or excessive ground borne noise levels. However, development of new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities would include ground disturbances of greater acreages. Typical construction equipment can be surmised for such activities. However, as the location (and therefore site-specific conditions) of a number of the future facilities has not yet been determined, the exact types of construction activities and equipment cannot yet be determined. Therefore, exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground born vibration or ground borne noise, although unlikely, could result from implementation of the Master Plan. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise -2 would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

*c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** As described previously, permanent increases in noise would primarily be associated with traffic and use of the facilities. As described by the Master Plan, future new recreational facilities would be developed in concert with proposed residential and school development projects. Future park development projects would be individually reviewed based on site-specific conditions, as well as individual park design characteristics. In general, noise associated with use of Linear Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Park facilities would be associated with local residents and it is not anticipated that development of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities of these classifications would generate substantial permanent increases in ambient noise levels. However, development of new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities may include improvements, amenities, and specialized facilities that would result in use by non-residents and may include sports events and special events drawing large crowds and expanded hours. Although public recreational activities are exempt from the City Noise Control Standards, noise generated from the use of Community and Regional parks may result in levels that could be a significant impact, especially in the evening hours when ambient noise levels decrease. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise – 2 would reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

As described previously, permanent increases in noise would primarily be associated with traffic and use of the facilities. As described by the Master Plan, future new recreational facilities would be developed in concert with proposed residential and school development projects. Future park development projects would be individually reviewed based on site-specific conditions, as well as individual park design characteristics. In general, noise associated with use of Linear Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Park facilities would be associated with local residents and it is not anticipated that development of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities of these classifications would generate substantial permanent increases in ambient noise levels. However, development of new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities may include improvements, amenities, and specialized facilities that would result in use by non-residents and may include sports events and special events drawing large crowds and expanded hours. Although public recreational activities are exempt from the City Noise Control Standards, noise generated from

the use of Community and Regional parks may result in levels that could be a significant impact, especially in the evening hours when ambient noise levels decrease. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise – 2 would reduce the impacts to a less than significant level.

d) *A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The primary source of temporary noise levels due to implementation of the Master Plan would be construction noise. Construction noise would be temporary and is exempt from the noise ordinance standards provided the activities are conducted within specific hours. The Master Plan includes both projects at existing facilities and construction of new facilities. Depending upon the specific location of proposed individual projects, construction noise could impact sensitive land uses. This would be a potentially significant impact without mitigation. Compliance with Mitigation Measure Noise – 1 would reduce impacts from construction noise to a less than significant level.

e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project does not include the construction of residential uses. Visitors to park facilities and park facilities employees could be exposed to noise from area airport flights. Franklin Field, Mustang Airport, and Lodi Airport are located within the vicinity of the City's Planning Area. Franklin Field, a public airport, is located approximately six miles west of the City's Planning Area. Mustang Airport is located approximately one and one-half miles north of the City's Planning Area and is currently operating as a private airstrip. No adopted airport land use plan exists for Mustang Airport, as this facility is private, and therefore not subject to federal or State regulations pertaining to airport operations guidance. However, Mustang Airport has applied for public airport status, subject to final County review of the EIR and subsequent project approval by the Board of Supervisors. This change in status would result in the requirement of an Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Mintier et al. 2008). The Lodi Airport is also a private airport and is located approximately five miles south of the City's Planning Area.

The distance from the City's Planning Area (and therefore from the existing and future recreation facilities) to Franklin Field and Lodi Airport is greater than two miles and as such would not be expected to expose people to excessive noise levels from airport related noise. The Hauschildt site is greater than two miles from the Mustang Airport. The distance from potential recreational facilities, and the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan required for any change in status for Mustang Airport, would result in a less than significant impact from airport related noise.

f) *For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** See answer to checklist question e) above.

#### Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure Noise – 1:** a) Construction noise emanating from any construction activity shall only occur from: Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. This condition shall be noted on the Improvement Plans required for projects. Exceptions to these hours shall be evaluated on a case by case basis and require approval by the Department of Public Works.

b) All construction equipment shall be fitted with factory installed muffling devices and all construction equipment shall be maintained in good working order.

c) Locate stationary construction noise sources (e.g. generators, compressors) as far away from noise sensitive land uses as is feasible.

d) Locate equipment staging areas (e.g. equipment storage, warm-up areas) as far away from noise sensitive land uses as is feasible.

**Mitigation Measure Noise – 2:** Prior to approval of Community or Regional Parks proposing potential noise generating activities (baseball fields, basketball courts, group picnic facilities, etc.), an acoustical analysis shall be prepared by a qualified professional consistent with the requirements outlined in the Galt General Plan and Noise Control Standards. If potentially significant impacts are identified, the noise analysis will identify mitigation measures required to reduce all potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. The recommendations identified within the acoustical analysis shall be incorporated into final project design and shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Works and the City of Galt Planning Division prior to project approval.

## 4.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) *Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?*

**No Impact.** Implementation of the proposed Master Plan would not result in the construction of new homes or businesses and would not facilitate the extension of infrastructure, and would therefore not induce substantial growth, either directly or indirectly. No impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

**No Impact.** Implementation of the proposed Master Plan would not displace any existing housing and would therefore not result in the necessity for the construction of replacement housing at an alternate location(s). No impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

c) *Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

**No Impact.** Implementation of the proposed Master Plan would not result in the displacement of substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing in any other location(s). No impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

### Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project 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 following public services:</i></b>				
a. Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### a) Fire protection?

**No Impact.** The Cosumnes Community Services District (CCSD) Fire Department currently provides fire protection services, as well as emergency medical response, technical rescue, and fire prevention and education services, to the City. The CCSD was formed in November 2006 when the Elk Grove CDS Fire Department reorganized and joined the Galt Fire Protection District. The CCSD provides fire and life safety services to the City of Elk Grove and Galt, and parks and recreation services to Elk Grove and also extends some services to outlying areas of Elk Grove and Galt in Sacramento County.

The CCSD serves a population of approximately 180,000 in a 157-square mile service area. In addition, ambulance transport services cover other outlying cities and areas and include an emergency medical services delivery area of approximately 360 square miles. CCSD operates eight fire stations serving the cities of Galt, Elk Grove, and other unincorporated areas of Sacramento County with two fire stations located in Galt.

CCSD is currently adequately staffed for the City of Galt and surrounding areas, with the exception that there is no truck company stationed in the Galt city limits which creates a response time gap for incidents since the truck responders come from Elk Grove (Mintier et al. 2005). The District adopted a five-year Capitol Improvement Plan which includes the consideration of future fire station locations in the City of Galt as well as CCSD facilities serving the entire county. In addition, the Fire Department also has a Fire Station Concentration Policy that states, "The Fire Department constructs and staffs fire stations such that their distribution and location allows compliance with the Department's Response Time Policy, which further states..."the Fire Department shall arrive on-scene in urban areas of the CCSD within 6 minutes of initial dispatch, 90 percent of the time, and in rural areas within seven minutes, 90 percent of the time." (Mintier et al. 2005).

## ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to fire protection services and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal SS-4: To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, distress, and damage to property resulting from natural and human-made fires.**

### **Policy SS-4.2: Fire Protection for Public Buildings**

The City shall assist, if necessary, the Cosumnes Community Services District Fire Department in their efforts to ensure that existing and new buildings used for public assemblage comply with State codes and local ordinances for fire protection.

### **Policy SS-4.4: Water Supply for New Developments**

The City shall approve developments only if sufficient water supply and emergency vehicle access are available at the time combustible materials are brought on the construction site.

### **Policy SS-4.6: Fire Sprinklers**

The City shall require sprinkler systems in all new commercial, office, public, and industrial construction, in accordance with City ordinances. The City shall require fire sprinklers in all new residences.

**Goal PFS-7: To protect residents, employees, and visitors in Galt from injury and loss of life and to protect property from fires.**

### **Policy PFS-7.1: Fire Protection**

The City shall continue to support the Cosumnes Community Services District Fire Department for fire protection and emergency medical service capable of meeting the needs of the community based on the benefit received. In addition, the City shall work with the Cosumnes Community Services District regarding necessary public fire facilities, equipment, and operational costs for the provision of fire prevention, fire protection, and emergency medical services to Galt residents.

### **Policy PFS 7.3: Fire Code**

The City shall comply with the provisions of the California Fire Code (Title 24, Part 9) with City amendments.

### **Policy PFS-7.4: Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Facilities**

The City shall cooperate with CCSD in the development of a new master plan for fire and emergency medical facilities and services, which includes the City of Galt, and shall periodically review the city fire protection impact fee, based upon an updated Government Code 66000 (AB 1600) study to be completed by CCSD. In conjunction with the district, the City will review the City's public safety special tax applicable to new development.

The Proposed Project would not involve residential development and would not result in increased population. Development of the Proposed Project would result in the potential need for additional service calls related to fire protection and emergency medical services, however it is not anticipated that implementation of the Master Plan would result in a significant addition to the current number of calls to the CCSD or decreased response times. It is likely that the

development of future recreational facilities would be associated with proposed residential developments, and as such fire protection service standards would be maintained as mitigation and/or conditions of approval related to proposed future residential development. In addition, pursuant to General Plan policies SS-4.2, SS-4.4, and SS-4.6, as well as PFS-7.1, PFS-7.3, and PFS-7.4, future new structures would be constructed with fire protection measures and compliant with all State and local codes and the City will continue to coordinate with CCSD. Therefore, impacts related to the provision of fire protection and emergency medical services are considered less than significant. Wildland fire hazards are discussed in Section Seven, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, of this Initial Study.

*b) Police protection?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The City's police protection force was organized when the City incorporated in 1946. The current facility is located at 455 Industrial Drive. Funding for the Police Department comes from the City's General Fund. Additional funding for maintenance and operations is provided through Measure R, and funding for personnel is provided through Community Facilities District Number 2005-01 (Public Safety Services). Current City standards are based on the recommendations provided by the February 19, 2007 Management and Staffing Study of the Police Department, City of Galt, California, prepared by Matrix Consulting Group. .

In 1988, it was estimated that the Police Department provided up to 1.82 police officers per 1,000 residents. Currently, the Department provides approximately one (1) officer per 1,000 individuals. It is anticipated that another 17 officers will be needed by the year 2020 (Mintier et al. 2005). The Galt Police Department currently also assists with several special assignments and community service programs. The foreseeable needs of the police department are met with the anticipated construction of a new facility located at 455 Industrial Avenue and no planned facility improvements for the police department at this time (Mintier et al. 2005).

***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy applicable to Police Protection Services and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Policy PFS-6.3: Maintaining Service Standards**

The City shall strive to achieve and maintain staffing levels consistent with the adopted recommendations of the 2007 Matrix Report and provide necessary equipment and vehicles to ensure maximum efficiency within the City's overall budgetary constraints.

**Policy PFS-6.4: Reducing Crime through Site Design**

The City shall require developers to incorporate best available practices in residential and nonresidential site plan design and construction using principles of Crime Prevention through environmental design, Safescape, eyes-on-the-street design techniques, and related programs in order to minimize criminal activities including vandalism, graffiti, and burglary.

Impact Analysis

The Proposed Project would not involve residential development and would not result in increased population. Development of the Proposed Project is not likely to result in significant numbers of additional calls or decreased response times for police protection services. However, current recreation facilities have been subject to vandalism. The Master Plan proposes the development of a comprehensive parks security improvement program. The development of this comprehensive parks security program is expected to support current police protection services and reduce the incidence of vandalism at park facilities. In addition, site design for future

proposed recreational facilities will incorporate best available practices of Crime Prevention pursuant to General Plan Policy PFS-6.4. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*c) School Facilities?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt currently has two public school districts, Galt Joint Union Elementary School District and Galt Joint Union High School District. The Elementary School District encompasses the City of Galt and the surrounding areas in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties and operates 6 schools in this district. The High School District boundaries include the City of Galt, unincorporated communities of Thornton, Herald, Clay and Twin Cities, and rural areas in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties. This district operates two schools. Both the elementary and high school districts have new proposed school facilities including one high school, one elementary school, and two middle schools. Additionally, there are two private schools located in Galt (Mintier et al. 2005).

Currently school facilities are available for City recreation programs through formal joint use agreements with the City. These agreements also provide schools with access to certain City park facilities for use during school hours. The City and the districts share in various aspects of facility development, maintenance, and operations. These arrangements help maximize the public benefits from resources used to fund both schools and parks.

The Proposed Project would not involve residential development and would not result in increased population. The City and the school district have established joint use agreements for access to City and districts' facilities. It is likely that proposed recreation facilities would further contribute to these opportunities within the City's Planning Area under the terms of the joint use agreement and the City and districts share in the development, operation, and maintenance of shared facilities. Additionally, the Master Plan proposes the development of a comprehensive parks security improvement program to further contribute to the logistics of long-term management of shared facilities. Therefore, no impacts related to existing school facilities would result from project development. Development of the proposed project is not likely to result in a significant change to the existing school system, primarily the Galt Joint Union Elementary and High School Districts. Therefore, **no impact** related to school facilities would result from project development.

*d) Parks?*

**No Impact.** The City of Galt Parks and Recreation Department provides and organizes a variety of adult and youth leisure activities and programs and is responsible for the maintenance and scheduling of parks, pools, recreational programs, park information, and facility rentals (Mintier et al. 2005). The City of Galt manages 23 sites including parks, pools, and public facilities with community recreation programs. A complete review of the existing parks information and data relevant to the Proposed Project are discussed in detail in **Section 3.0** of this Initial Study

The Proposed Project would not involve residential development and would not result in increased population. Implementation of the Proposed Project is expected to improve or maintain the City's standard for park land dedication to five acres of improved park land for every 1,000 people. Implementation of the Proposed Project is expected to improve accessibility to park and recreation facilities and services within Galt communities. Therefore, **no impact** would result from implementation of the Master Plan. See additional discussion and analyses in **Section 4.15** of this Initial Study.

*e) Other public facilities?*

There are no hospitals located within the City of Galt; the nearest hospitals to serve Galt and its residents are located in Lodi, Sacramento, and Stockton, all which are located in a range from approximately 15 to 20 miles north and south of Galt. The City of Galt has one public library, the second oldest in Sacramento County. The Galt Library currently serves the communities of Clay, Wilton, Herald, and Acampo, and Lockeford (Mintier et al. 2005).

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project would not involve residential development and would not result in increased population; therefore, no impacts related to other public facilities would result from project development. Development of the proposed project is not likely to result in a significant change to the other existing public facilities including hospitals or libraries. Therefore, **no impact** related to other public facilities would result from project development.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

## 4.15 RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b><i>Would the project:</i></b>				
a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Include recreational facilities, or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The Master Plan proposes a strategic direction for the provision, expansion, and management of City recreation facilities and programs in the area defined by the City of Galt and the Planning Area based on the need anticipated in response to proposed residential growth identified by the General Plan. As proposed, recreational improvements identified by the Master Plan would include improvements to existing facilities and parks, as well as the construction of additional facilities, parks, and trails; designation of open space, expanded recreational programs, and administrative strategies. The Master Plan proposes a Capital Improvement Plan to fund capital improvements. The City of Galt Parks and Recreation Department currently derives funding from eight primary sources:

- The Galt Market
- Facility Rentals and Concessions
- Recreation Programs
- Aquatic Center
- Assessment Districts
- City General Fund
- Grants
- Development Fees

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goal and policies applicable to recreation and relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal PFS-8: To maintain and expand the public park system, recreational, and civic facilities suited to the needs of residents, employees, and visitors.**

**Policy PFS-8.1: Parks/Resident Ratio**

The City shall require new developments to provide for park acreages at a minimum of 5 acres/1,000 residents and make land acquisition for parks and open space a recreation priority.

**Policy PFS-8.2: Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch Recreation Areas**

The City shall require developers of land adjacent to Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch to provide a continuous pedestrian and bicycle trail system, set aside land for a dedicated wildlife habitat, and provide related amenities.

**Policy PFS-8.3: Park/Recreation Master Plan**

The City shall update the park and recreation master plan consistent with the General Plan.

**Policy PFS-8.4: Joint Use of Parks**

The City shall encourage neighborhood park development adjacent to school sites and similar community-oriented facilities (e.g., Boys and Girls Club, FFA, etc.) to maximize land and facility use and shall negotiate joint use agreements whenever possible.

**Policy PFS-8.5: Parks/Recreation Funding**

The City shall continue to explore sources of parks and recreation funding.

**Policy PFS-8.6: Galt Market Revenue**

The City shall continue to seek ways to increase revenue from Galt Market for parks and recreation funding.

**Policy PFS-8.7: Park Design Factors**

The City shall consider the following factors in the design of new parks:

- a. Safety
- b. Security
- c. Maintenance
- d. Accessibility
- e. Landscaping complimentary to the surrounding environment
- f. Travel distance of users
- g. Passive versus active use areas
- h. Restroom facilities
- i. Citizen input
- j. Adequacy of off-street parking
- k. Flexibility for programming activities
- l. Nature education opportunities
- m. Linkages to other parks, open space areas, and significant community activity centers

**Policy PFS-8.8: Service Clubs**

The City should encourage local service clubs and non-profit organizations to participate in the development and improvement of City parks and recreation facilities.

**Policy PFS-8.9: Park Siting**

The City should ensure that recreation facilities are sited to minimize negative impacts (i.e., parking, night lighting, and excessive noise) on surrounding neighborhoods and should strive to maintain a standard of one park within a ½-mile of all new homes.

**Policy PFS-8.10: Crime Prevention**

The City shall seek to protect the users of the parks, reduce vandalism, and work with law enforcement agencies to eliminate crime at parks and recreation facilities.

**Policy PFS-8.11: Park Linkages**

The City shall encourage pedestrian and bicycle trail linkages between parks, open space areas, wildlife habitat, and significant community activity centers.

**Policy PFS-8.12: Natural Resource Protection in Park and Open Space Design** The City shall incorporate natural resource protection, wildlife habitat, and stormwater quality techniques into parks and open space design to encourage sustainability.

**Policy PFS-8.13: Performing Arts Center**

The City should encourage the development of a performing arts center and related facilities in the community.

Impact Analysis

Proposed new facilities, improvements, program expansions and administrative strategies would be constructed based on City-defined level of service standards as defined by the General Plan, as well as the Parks Master Plan. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Master Plan would not increase the use of existing recreational facilities such that physical deterioration would occur or be accelerated. The City has existing funding sources for the construction of new facilities, as well as the operation and maintenance of existing recreational facilities. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*b) Include recreational facilities, or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** As proposed, recreational improvements identified by the Master Plan would include improvements to existing facilities and parks, as well as the construction of additional facilities, parks, and trails; designation of open space, expanded recreational programs, and administrative strategies. As previously discussed, the construction of these facilities would have the potential to result in adverse physical effects on the environment related to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems. However, mitigation measures have been proposed to reduce potentially significant effects resulting from implementation of the Master Plan to less than significant levels, and individually proposed projects would be subject to subsequent further detailed environmental review based on site-specific characteristics, and project design and construction details. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is warranted.

#### 4.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) *Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The City of Galt consists of intermingled land use development patterns and a system of local and regional roadways. Regional accessibility is available via two State Routes, State Route 99, bisecting the City, and State Route 104, traversing the current northern boundary of the City. The City street system consists of interconnected roadways connecting the City to surrounding County lands and facilitating inter-city travel (Mintier et al. 2005). The City's General Plan establishes a Level of Service "E" on all streets and intersections within a quarter-mile of State Route 99, along A Street and C Street between State Route 99 to the railroad tracks, and along Lincoln Way between Pringle Avenue to Meladee Lane. The General Plan establishes a Level of Service "D" for all other streets and

intersections. General Plan Policy C-1.9 requires analysis of the potential traffic effects related to major development projects.

### Regulatory Setting

#### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to Traffic and relevant to project-related increases in traffic:

#### **Policy C-1.3: Levels of Service**

The City should develop and manage its roadway system to maintain LOS "E" on all streets and intersections within a quarter-mile of State Route 99, along A Street and C Street between State Route 99 to the railroad tracks, and along Lincoln Way between Pringle Avenue to Meladee Lane. The City should develop a LOS "D" or better on all other streets and intersections.

#### **Policy C-1.9: Traffic Impact Analysis and Funding**

The City shall require an analysis of the effects of traffic from proposed major development projects. Each such project shall construct or fund improvements necessary to mitigate the effects of traffic from the project.

#### **Policy C-3.2: New Developments**

The City should consider the effects of new development on local streets in residential areas and require new development to mitigate significant impacts on residential neighborhoods.

### Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would involve improvements to existing recreational facilities as well as the development of new parks and recreation facilities within the City of Galt and the Planning Area. Although some facilities may be used by out-of-town visitors and other non-resident users, it is anticipated that community members will be the primary users of park facilities and improvements proposed by the Master Plan. The Master Plan targets neighborhood park use within ½-mile of new homes, and community park use within two miles of new homes. In general, traffic associated with use of Linear Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Park facilities would be associated with local residents and would not generate volumes of traffic, or increases in traffic in relation to existing traffic loads and capacity of existing streets. However, new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities may include improvements, amenities, and specialized facilities and public events that would result in use by non-residents and may include special events drawing large crowds. Development of Community and Regional parks may have the potential to result in periodic substantial increases in traffic volumes, vehicle trips, and/or congestion. Impacts related to the development of these facilities would be considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measure **TRAF – 1** would ensure that potential increases in traffic resulting from development of Community and Regional Parks are evaluated, and that feasible mitigation measures are implemented to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

b) *Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** As described by the Master Plan, future new recreational facilities would be developed in concert with proposed residential and school development projects. As described in the introduction to this document, future park

development projects would be individually reviewed based on site-specific conditions, as well as individual park design characteristics. However, in general, traffic associated with use of Linear Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Park facilities would be associated with local residents and it is not anticipated that development of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities of these classifications would generate volumes of traffic exceeding established level of service standards. In fact, parks of this nature generally encourage walking and bicycling rather than vehicle trips. However, as described above, development of new Community Parks and Regional Park Facilities may include improvements, amenities, and specialized facilities that would result in use by non-residents and may include sports events and special events drawing large crowds. Development of Community and Regional parks may have the potential to result in periodic substantial increases in traffic volumes, vehicle trips, and/or congestion. Impacts related to the development of these facilities would be considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Compliance with Mitigation Measure **TRAF – 1** would ensure that potential increases in traffic resulting from development of Community and Regional Parks are evaluated, and that feasible mitigation measures are implemented to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. Additional relevant discussion is presented above in subsection “a.”

*c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Franklin Field, Mustang Airport, and Lodi Airport are located within the vicinity of the City’s Planning Area. Franklin Field, a public airport, is located approximately six miles west of the City’s Planning Area, although the City’s Planning Area lies outside of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan boundary of Franklin Airport. Mustang Airport is located approximately one and one-half miles north of the City’s Planning Area and is currently operating as a private airstrip. No adopted airport land use plan exists for Mustang Airport, as this facility is private, and therefore not subject to federal or State regulations pertaining to airport operations guidance. However, Mustang Airport has applied for public airport status, subject to final County review of the EIR and subsequent project approval by the Board of Supervisors. This change in status would result in the requirement for the preparation of an Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Mintier et al. 2008). The Lodi Airport is also a private airport and is located approximately five miles south of the City’s Planning Area

#### Regulatory Setting

#### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City’s General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to Air Traffic Safety relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy C.7-2: Inter-Agency Coordination**

The City shall coordinate planning efforts with Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to ensure compatible land uses within airport overflight zones.

#### **Policy LU-1.15: Caltrans Handbook Reference:**

When reviewing proposed projects within a one mile radius of an airport (such as Mustang Airport, if approved for public use), the City shall refer to the Caltrans Airport Land Use Planning Handbook (2002) in order to identify any potential safety compatibility concerns between the airport and the proposed land use.

## Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would involve improvements to existing City recreational facilities as well as the development of future facilities. The Caltrans' California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook specifies that non-residential land uses are considered more acceptable near an airport, provided a number of factors are taken into consideration, including minimizing concentrations of people within the airspace of airport facilities. If future facilities were proposed within the overflight zones of either of these airports, consistency with the adopted airport land use plan would be required for all development. Galt General Plan Policy C.7-2 requires planning effort coordination between the City and Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to ensure land use compatibility for development within airport overflight zones. General Plan Policy LU-1.15 requires City reference to the 2002 Caltrans Airport Land Use Planning Handbook for any development projects proposed within a one-mile radius of a public airport. Therefore impacts related to implementation of the Master Plan are considered less than significant.

*d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Union Pacific rail lines bisect the City from north to south and a railroad spur runs parallel to Amador Avenue. While these rail lines are economically viable and important, they also pose safety hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists. Proposed recreational facilities may involve street crossings and other design features potentially resulting in hazards to pedestrians and bicyclists if not properly designed and constructed.

## Regulatory Setting

### **Local Regulations**

#### *City of Galt General Plan*

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to design features and potential traffic hazards relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal C-8: To promote the creation of complete streets throughout the community which provide safe access to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and bus riders of all ages and abilities.**

#### **Policy C-8.3: Street, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Facilities**

The City shall create a network of street, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities that provides for multiple safe routes between various origins and destinations.

#### **Policy C-8.4: Pedestrian and Bike Convenience at Intersections**

The City should design and build new intersections and redesign existing intersections (as opportunities arise) to maximize pedestrian and bike convenience and safety relative to automobile needs.

#### **Policy SS-6.4: Ensure Safe Routes to Schools**

As funding permits, continue to work with local transit providers, Union Pacific, and local school districts to ensure that railroad crossings include pedestrian crossings, bike safety, and handicapped accessibility features to improve safe walking and bicycling routes to school.

## Impact Analysis

Proposed routes (or modifications to existing routes) of ingress and egress for existing and proposed recreational facilities would be subject to consistency with the State and City-required standards, as defined by statute and the City's Municipal Code and General Plan. Site-specific consistency with these standards and regulations would be verified during development plan review and approval by the City Planning Department and the Department of Public Works, as well as the CCSD. The Master Plan also proposes improvements to, and new construction of Class I and Class II bike trails, including improved bike lanes, curbs and gutters, street crossings, and on-demand signals. While these features and improvements are intended to improve bicycle safety for bike trail users, proper design and construction of these improvements is necessary in order to ensure the safety of motorists as well as bicycle riders. Proposed details regarding the proposed bike trail alignment, configuration and design would be subject to review and approval by the Department of Public Works. As required by the City's Municipal Code and General Plan Policy C-6.7, proposed bike trail design would be required to be constructed according to the standards and specifications specified by Chapter 1000 of the Caltrans Highway Design Manual. In addition, General Plan policies C-8.3 and C-8.4 specifies that pedestrian and bike facilities shall be provided through multiple safe routes, maximizing convenience and safety relative to automobile needs. In addition, General Plan Policy SS-6.4 identifies coordination with local transit providers, Union Pacific Railroad and local school districts to create safe routes to school. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

### *e) Result in inadequate emergency access?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Although the individual locations for proposed future recreational facilities is currently unknown, any proposed facility would be subject to compliance with emergency access standards and requirements specified by State Fire Code, CCSD, and the City's Municipal Code (Zoning Code 18.36), as well as the City's General Plan.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy applicable to emergency access and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy SS-4.3: Variance Approval for Fire Vehicle Access**

The City shall not grant variances for width of public street frontage unless the applicant for such variances demonstrates that sufficient access for fire vehicles is available, consistent with the Fire Code as amended or demonstrates that a unique hardship exists under applicable regulations due to the physical characteristics of the parcel(s).

## Impact Analysis

Proposed site design and configuration would be subject to review by the City's Community Development Department, City of Galt Public Works Division, and CCSD for compliance with the standards and guidelines described above, assuring that proposed site configurations, points of ingress and egress, and circulation routes were adequate for the proposed use and would not result in inadequate emergency access. Similarly, any proposed modifications to points of ingress/egress or circulation routes would require review for compliance with State and City-required standards. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

### *f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The City's General Plan Policy C-4.1 requires the provision of adequate parking for existing and new development projects. Chapter 18.36 of the City's

Municipal Code specifies the standards for parking, based on proposed land uses. For example, Community Centers are required to provide one parking space for each three fixed seats, or one parking space for each 35 square feet of floor area in the main assembly room where there are no fixed seats, as well as one bicycle space for every 25 parking spaces (a minimum of two). Parking standards for parks or park-like facilities are not identified by the Municipal Code; however, the Municipal Code requires parking for "Other Uses" to be determined by best available practices by staff.

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to parking relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy C-4.1: Adequate Parking**

The City shall ensure that adequate on- and off-street parking is provided in existing and new development. The adequacy and appropriateness of parking requirements in the Zoning Ordinance shall be periodically reevaluated.

#### **Policy C-4.3: Pedestrian Safety**

The City shall require that parking lots and development projects are designed for separate, safe, attractive, and convenient pedestrian and handicapped access.

#### Impact Analysis

Although the location and design of proposed future facilities and improvements are not currently known, compliance with the parking standards specified by the General Plan and the Zoning Ordinance would be required pursuant to General Plan policies C-4.1 and C-4.3. Consistency with the City's adopted standards and regulations pertaining to parking would be verified by the Planning Department and the Department of Public Works prior to project approval. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

*g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?*

**No Impact.** The City's General Plan recommends that new development effectively link the east and west sides of the City, including non-motorized modes of travel. General Plan Goal 6.1 specifies that the City will provide a safe, comprehensive, and integrated system of facilities for non-motorized transportation, to meet the recreation and transportation needs of the community. In order to implement Goal 6.1, the General Plan identifies policies C-6.1 through C-6.11 addressing the establishment of a safe interconnected bike and pedestrian system throughout the City, regional bikeway connections, integrated bicycle systems, bikeway linkages, bicycle parking, and bike lanes, as well as pedestrian trail systems, pedestrian ways, and safety measures for pedestrian ways.

The adopted mission statement for the City of Galt Bicycle Transportation Plan reads as follows:

*"To improve the quality of life of Galt citizens by planning for and promoting a city-wide and regional trail linkage system that is bicycle-friendly, aesthetically pleasing, and safe for all forms of nonmotorized transportation."*

The Plan provides an in-depth review of existing and desired future bicycle transportation routes, and identifies funding sources and proposed future public outreach, as well as providing

the basis on which the City may emphasize and prioritize improvements and future trail connections.

The Deadman Gulch Trail system includes a Class I multi-use trail made up of three currently unconnected segments, providing access to four parks. The first segment runs along the north fork of Deadman Gulch from Marengo Road past Galt Community Park to Vintage Oak Avenue. This trail stops approximately one-fifth of a mile short of Emerald Vista Park due to existing topographic constraints. A proposed Class I trail would provide a continuous connection to a second segment of the trail which follows the south fork of Deadman Gulch from Emerald Vista Park past Canyon Creek Park. Developing the parcels south of the creek, as specified in the Bicycle Transportation Plan, will create an opportunity to continue this trail. The third segment of this Class 1 network is south of Roundstone Park north of Trafalgar Road and Paddington Road, ending at Marengo Road.

Existing and proposed Class II bike lanes throughout the city provide bicycle access to nine other existing park sites within the city limits, as well as the Walker Park, Kost Road, and Simmerhorn/Carillion park sites outside of the city limits. The City of Galt Bicycle Transportation Plan details the planned bike routes throughout the city. The Bicycle Transportation Plan includes existing and proposed Class I and Class II bike facilities. Class I routes are dedicated to bicycle and pedestrian use and are physically separated from vehicular roads. Class II bike lanes are striped on-street facilities in which cyclists share the road with motorists but have a dedicated lane for bicycle use only. Class II bike routes are not suitable for pedestrians unless a separate sidewalk is available. Currently, 3.66 miles of Class I and 12.01 miles of Class II bicycle routes are present in the Planning Area. Another 2.8 miles of Class I and 24.8 miles of Class II trails are proposed for future development.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following policies applicable to alternative transportation relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal C-5: To promote a safe and efficient transit system that will help reduce congestion, improve the environment, and provide viable non-automotive means of transportation in and through Galt.**

#### **Policy C-5.3: ADA Compliance**

The City shall consider the transit needs of senior, disabled, minority, low-income, and transit-dependent persons in making decisions regarding transit services and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **Policy C-5.4: Family Transit Needs**

The City shall consider families' needs in transportation planning efforts and shall promote safe and convenient methods of transportation between school, home, retail shopping, and child care.

#### **Policy C-6.1: Bike and Pedestrian System**

The City shall establish a safe interconnected bicycle and pedestrian system throughout Galt.

#### **Policy C-6.2: Regional Bikeway Connections**

The City should ensure that local bikeways are interconnected with regional bikeways, and identified through appropriate signage, in a manner that promotes their local and regional use.

**Policy C-6.3: Integrated Bike System**

The City shall continue to encourage a continuous, comprehensive, and safe system of recreational, commuter, and convenience bicycle routes that link neighborhoods and activity centers in the city and also provide linkages to the recreational trail system along Dry Creek and Deadman Gulch. The City shall also provide appropriate signage, in accordance with the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control, for easy rider way-finding through the system of City bikeways.

**Policy C-6.5: Bicycle Parking**

The City shall require the development of adequate, convenient, and secure bicycle parking at employment centers, recreational facilities, transit terminals, commercial businesses, and in other locations where people congregate.

**Policy C-6.6: Bike Lanes**

The City shall consider the needs of bicyclists when new roadways are constructed and existing roadways are upgraded. All collector streets and minor arterials with right-of-ways of 60 feet shall have striped and signed Class II bike lanes unless determined infeasible.

**Policy C-6.7: Pedestrian Trail Systems**

The City shall require developers to finance and install pedestrian pathways, bikeways, and multi-purpose paths in new development, as appropriate, following the standards in the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 1000.

**Policy C-6.8: Pedestrian Ways – Citywide**

The City shall develop safe and pleasant pedestrian ways. To this end, the City shall ensure sidewalks are wide enough for pedestrian convenience and conform to ADA standards.

**Policy C-6.10: Crosswalks and Pedestrian Safety Measures**

The City shall require crosswalks and other pedestrian safety measures be designed and installed according to City of Galt Ordinances and regulations.

**Policy C-6.11: Bike and Pedestrian Railroad Crossings**

The City shall create Class II bike lanes at all grade-separated (overpass/underpass) railroad crossings. The City should also work with the railroad to install pedestrian and bicycle crossings with appropriate safety devices at all crossings.

**Policy C-8.1: Attractive Streets**

The City shall provide attractive streets designed to serve a broad spectrum of travel modes (e.g., bikes, pedestrians, transit, and people with disabilities) as well as automobiles.

**Policy C-8.2: Bikeways along Major Streets**

The City should provide Class II bike lanes along all collector and minor arterial streets. Class I bike paths should be considered along major arterials and along certain minor arterials.

## ***City of Galt Bicycle Transportation Plan***

The City of Galt Bicycle Transportation Plan identifies the following Goals and Objectives relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal 1:** **Assure safe and convenient bicycle access to all areas of the city. This is consistent with the General Plan Goal: Develop a city-wide trail system that provides ease of access and linkage between all areas of the City for nonmotorized transportation.**

**Objective 1-1.** Provide bicycle lanes and/or paths along all collector and arterial streets as development occurs.

**Objective 1-2.** Within the financial resources of the city, retrofit existing collector and arterial streets in accordance with a prioritization schedule to be developed by the Public Works Department. Coordinate retrofit improvements with road pavement overlay or widening projects whenever possible.

**Objective 1-3.** Within the financial resources of the city, provide bicycle lanes and/or paths along both sides of all streets identified on the Circulation Map (Galt Parks Master Plan Diagram) as development occurs and by retrofitting in accordance with a prioritization schedule to be developed by the Public Works Department.

**Objective 1-5.** Improve bicycle access between the east and the west side of the city across Highway 99 and include recommended improvement projects in the city's Capital Improvement Plan.

**Objective 1-6.** Implement requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act when planning pedestrian/bicycle facilities.

**Objective 1-7.** Provide bike facilities and easy access to transit services and park and ride lots to encourage the use of mass transit. Work with Vanpool services and other mass transit operators to provide bicycle storage area on the vehicle.

**Objective 1-8.** Provide for the safest, most direct point-to-point travel to encourage ridership.

**Objective 1-10.** New subdivisions shall be designed to permit access to bikeways from interior residential streets (e.g. access ways at the ends of cul-de-sacs). Bicycle circulation should be included as part of the development review process to assure that bikeways are included as a major component of the circulation system.

**Goal 2:** **Provide bike facilities at all major activity centers including, but not limited to, employer sites, shopping/office areas, schools, and recreational facilities.**

**Goal 4:** **Eliminate physical barriers (obstacles) and linkage problems for non-motorized transportation within and around the City.**

**Objective 4-1.** Plan and develop bikeways to provide attractive, shaded linkages between destinations.

**Objective 9-1.** City should provide for adequate bicycle crossings and advance warning in locations where bike/automobile conflicts exist.

**Goal 13:** **Establish trail development standards that emphasize the safety of non-motorized transportation users.**

**Objective 13.1.** Design park/greenbelt facilities to allow for adequate access by public safety vehicles.

#### Impact Analysis

Improvements proposed by the Master Plan include components that would support Galt General Plan Goal C-5 and policies relevant to transit. Park service area standards specify that residents should live within one-half mile of a Pocket or Neighborhood park in order to accommodate the distance that one can reasonably expect children to walk or bike to get to a park. In addition, capitol improvement recommendations and planning strategies identified by the Master Plan include: Multi-use trails and footbridges, as well as ADA-compliant paths to increase pedestrian and cyclist accessibility for residents and visitors throughout the community. The Master Plan also identifies strategies and recommendations for requiring pedestrian and cyclist accessibility for new parks. Non-vehicular access standards identified by the Master Plan include provisions for new neighborhood parks to be located on an existing or proposed Class I multi-use trail or Class II bike route. In addition, the Master Plan specifies that neighborhoods that include new parks on Class II bike routes should have sidewalks connecting homes to the park. These standards are intended to facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and to make it feasible for children to visit neighborhood parks without being driven there. The Master Plan also encourages the development of regional linkages to Galt area Parks. Therefore, implementation of the Master Plan would assist implementation of transit policies C-5.3 and C-5.4 identified by Goal C-5 the City's General Plan.

The Master Plan proposes improvements to existing and the development of new alternative transportation routes throughout the City providing routes for community members and links to other regional trails, consistent with General Plan Goal 6.0, and the goals and objectives identified by the City's Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Improvements proposed by the Master Plan are consistent with City-defined goals, objectives and policies related to Transit and Non-motorized Transportation as identified by the General Plan and the City's Bicycle Transportation Plan. Therefore, no impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

#### Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure TRAF – 1:** Prior to approval of Community or Regional Park, a Traffic Study shall be prepared by a qualified professional consistent with the Traffic Study procedures identified by the Planning Department. The Traffic Study shall characterize existing conditions, and shall present a quantitative analysis of the proposed project based on site-specific conditions and shall identify trip generation and trip distribution/assignment based on individually proposed facilities. If potentially significant impacts are identified, the Traffic Study will identify mitigation measures required to reduce all potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. The recommendations identified within the Traffic Study shall be incorporated into final project design and shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Works and the Planning Department prior to project approval. If the requirements stipulated above for preparation of a Traffic Study have been met

through review and certification of a Specific Plan EIR which evaluated the development of a Community or Regional Park facility as an individual project component of the proposed specific plan, then the requirements specified above may be waived, as approved by the Planning Director.

## 4.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) *Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** The City of Galt Public Works Department currently operates the City's sanitary sewer and treatment system pursuant to Galt Municipal Code Chapter 14.04, 14.10, and 14.20. Due to the relatively flat topography of the City and surrounding areas, the sewage must be lifted by a sewage lift system of which there are 12 sanitary lift systems within the City. A force main approximately two miles long then transports sewage to the Galt Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) located north of the City, north of Twin Cities Road and west of the Union Pacific Railroad track. Per the NPDES permit, the WWTP is allowed to seasonally discharge effluent to Laguna Creek which is tributary to the Cosumnes

River. However, the City's current permit requires the City to review tertiary filtration techniques and devices to further protect the beneficial uses of Laguna Creek, to remove bacteria and parasites, and to achieve suspended solid limits (Mintier et al. 2005).

The WWTP operates under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the Central Valley Region of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) with a capacity of treating 3 million gallons per day (MGD). The WWTP currently operates at approximately 2.3 MGD and provides secondary treatment. The current capacity of the wastewater treatment facility is sufficient to meet the needs of current residents and businesses within city limits. However, this facility must be upgraded to meet current (2007) state water quality standards regardless of projected growth and new development will require construction of an expanded facility and new trunk lines to meet the needs of future population (Mintier et al. 2009).

The City of Galt's WWTP currently operates under the following orders issued by the RWQCB (Mintier et al. 2009):

- Order No. R5-2004-0001 (NPDES No.CA0081434) "Waste Discharge Requirements for City of Galt and Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento Wastewater Treatment Plant and Reclamation Facility Sacramento County"
- "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R5-2004-0001 (NPDES No.CA0081434) for City of Galt and Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento Wastewater Treatment Plant and Reclamation Facility Sacramento County"
- Order No. WQO 2005-003 remanding order R5-2004-0001 and vacating Cease and Desist Order R5-2004-0002.

The City's current WWTP operates under a remanded order to the Cease and Desist Order. Estimates indicate that full build-out of the City's General Plan within the current City limits may produce sewer flow around 5.6 MGD which exceeds the City's current WWTP capacity of 3.0 MGD. Therefore, the City has plans to expand the current WWTP which will require the construction of additional capacity improvements (Mintier et al. 2009).

The City has outlined an Implementation Program through their General Plan Policy Document to assist in the efforts to achieve compliance with RWQCB wastewater discharge requirements through implementation of a NPDES Permit Compliance Action Plan which outlines programs that will ensure adequate infrastructure financing programs to provide needed capitol wastewater system improvements to accommodate future growth (Mintier et al. 2009). In addition, the recently adopted Galt General Plan 2030 Policy Document outlines goals and policies addressing wastewater.

### Regulatory Setting

The RWQCB regulates discharges related to WWTPs. However, there are no federal or State regulations applicable to wastewater treatment requirements relevant to the Proposed Project.

### ***City of Galt General Plan***

The City's General Plan identifies the following goals and policies applicable to wastewater treatment relevant to the Proposed Project:

**Goal COS-1: To protect and enhance the qualities of the area's rivers, creeks, sloughs, and groundwater.**

## **Policy COS-1.5: Water Quality Control Board Regulations Compliance**

The City shall continue to comply with the Regional Water Quality Control Board's regulations concerning the operation of the City's wastewater treatment plant.

### Impact Analysis

Implementation of the Master Plan would not result in an increase in residential population or number of dwelling units. However, proposed facilities, including regional parks, may include restroom facilities, resulting in the creation of sewage and utilizing additional wastewater treatment capacity. According to the Master Plan, future park site development and improvements would be designed in such a manner as to ensure access to existing wastewater utilities. However, the necessary additional sewage treatment capacity remains unknown until such time as individual future facilities are proposed for development. While development of proposed recreational facilities would result in the need for increased wastewater treatment capacity it is not anticipated that the new facilities would generate sufficient volumes of sewage to require the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities. In addition, the City's implementation of the NPDES Permit Compliance Action Plan would outline the necessary steps and efforts needed to achieve compliance with RWQCB wastewater discharge requirements pursuant to the City's NPDES permit in terms of future development within the city limits. However, the timing of implementation of Master Plan components and the availability of wastewater capacity may not coincide, and the NPDES Permit Compliance Action Plan may not be approved prior to construction of proposed improvements and/or new facilities. As future recreational facilities are proposed, projected wastewater volumes would be calculated based on the type of facility proposed and evaluated through the environmental review process. Compliance with Mitigation Measure USS – 1 would ensure that wastewater treatment requirements of proposed park and recreational facilities would not exceed wastewater treatment capacity for City facilities, therefore reducing impacts to less than significant levels.

- b) *Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Details relevant to the City's wastewater treatment facilities are discussed in detail in subsection "a" above. Proposed facilities, including regional parks, may include restroom facilities, resulting in the creation of sewage and requiring some additional wastewater treatment capacity. Although the design and configuration of future facilities remains unknown at this time, it is not anticipated that implementation of the Master Plan would generate sufficient wastewater volume to require the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities.

The City of Galt relies upon groundwater from the Cosumnes Sub-basin (DWR Groundwater Basin Number 5-22.16) of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin as its sole source of domestic potable water. The Cosumnes Sub-basin is an un-adjudicated basin that supports both municipal and agricultural users (Mintier et al. 2008).

The water supply analysis within the General Plan EIR concluded that updates to the City's current Urban Water Management Plan addressing population growth projected by the General Plan in combination with the implementation of water conservation programs would reduce potential impacts related to the need for additional entitlements for water supply to less than significant levels. The General Plan EIR identifies an adequate groundwater supply to serve the City, therefore impacts related to water supply are considered less than significant (Mintier et al. 2008).

- c) *Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The storm drainage system for the City of Galt is operated and managed by the City's Department of Public Works. The system is composed of a series of collection and disposal facilities ultimately discharging to Dry Creek, Hen Creek, and Deadman's Gulch. The system also includes two lift stations. Storm water is collected by curbs and gutters and conveyed to catch basins directing water into a system of underground pipes. Storm water is conveyed via these pipes and discharged to one of the three drainages named above. Deadman's Gulch has been modified to function as a storm water detention and conveyance facility. One other detention basin within the City serves as a joint use facility/city park. Detained storm waters from this facility are pumped to and discharged into Hen Creek. Dry Creek remains in its natural condition (Mintier et al. 2008).

Future locations for proposed recreational facilities remain unspecified at this time. The timing and location of future proposed facilities may warrant the preparation of site-specific drainage assessment, based on the City's Master Drainage Plan and the availability of infrastructure at the proposed time of construction. The requirement to construct new storm drainage facilities or expand existing facilities would be determined during the review of future proposed facilities'. As previously discussed, environmental review pursuant to CEQA will be required on a project-by-project basis for all future proposed recreation and park facilities. The potential for environmental impacts related to the construction of new or the expansion of existing storm water facilities will be determined at the time of environmental review for individual projects and will be based upon site-specific characteristics (including off-site improvements) and a comprehensive description of the proposed project; therefore impacts related to the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

*d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** The water supply analysis within the General Plan EIR concluded that updates to the City's current Urban Water Management Plan addressing population growth projected by the General Plan in combination with the implementation of water conservation programs would reduce potential impacts related to the need for additional entitlements for water supply to less than significant levels. The General Plan EIR identifies an adequate groundwater supply to serve the City and Park Planning Standards specified by the Master Plan stipulate that park facilities would be developed only where existing infrastructure exists (including water), therefore impacts related to water supply are considered less than significant (Mintier et al. 2008).

*e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition of the provider's existing commitments?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Implementation of the Master Plan would not result in an increase in residential population or number of dwelling units. However, proposed future facilities, including regional parks, may include restroom facilities generating sewage and requiring some additional wastewater treatment capacity. According to the Master Plan, future park site development and improvements would be designed in such a manner as to ensure access to existing wastewater utilities, although the required additional capacity remains unknown until such time as individual future facilities are proposed for development. The City's implementation of the NPDES Permit Compliance Action Plan would outline the necessary steps and efforts needed to achieve compliance with RWQCB wastewater discharge requirements pursuant to the City's NPDES permit in terms of future development within the city limits. However, the timing of implementation of Master Plan components and the availability of wastewater capacity may not coincide, and the NPDES Permit Compliance Action Plan may not be approved prior to construction of proposed improvements and/or new facilities. As future recreational facilities are proposed, projected wastewater volumes would be calculated based on the type of facility proposed and evaluated through the environmental review process.

Compliance with Mitigation Measure USS – 1 would ensure that wastewater treatment requirements are met and would reduce impacts to less than significance. Additional information relevant to wastewater treatment is discussed in sub-sections “a” and “b.”

f) *Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?*

Existing solid waste collection services within Galt city limits are currently provided via a franchise agreement for residential and commercial waste through the California Waste Recovery Systems (CWRS) which is based in Lodi. The City currently has no landfills. Solid waste generated within city limits is disposed of at one of six regional landfills located in Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Kern counties (Mintier et al. 2005).

Based upon analysis of the build-out of the City's 2030 General Plan and the average 4.6 pounds per day rate, population growth associated with the Proposed Project would result in an additional 25,000 tons per year of solid waste, with industrial and commercial land uses producing additional amounts of solid waste per year. Added to current estimates of solid waste disposal, total annual production of solid waste by 2030 is expected to amount to an estimated 45,560 tons per year or 125 tons per day (Mintier et al. 2009).

### **City of Galt General Plan**

The City's General Plan identifies the following policy applicable to solid waste and relevant to the Proposed Project:

#### **Policy PFS-5.4: Solid Waste Recycling**

The City shall encourage recycling in public and private operations to reduce demand for solid waste disposal capacity.

#### Impact Analysis

While the City implements a number of programs designed to promote recycling and reduce solid waste disposal needs, the accommodation of future City waste disposal needs may require additional landfill capacity or waste disposal locations. The City has a contractual agreement with a waste disposal company which requires the company to haul City waste. It is assumed that the company contracted to provide waste management services would exercise options maximizing waste disposal efficiency and would plan for the future needs of customers by securing adequate disposal capacity (Mintier et al. 2008).

**Less than Significant.** Implementation and operation of the Master Plan would not result in an increase in residential population or number of dwelling units. However, park and recreational facilities would generate material for solid waste disposal facilities. The timing of implementation of Master Plan components and the subsequent availability of sufficient solid waste disposal capacity to accommodate those facilities are currently unknown. However, the City is currently contracted via private carrier to haul and dispose of solid waste. The private carrier assumes responsibility for solid waste disposal needs as generated throughout the City. It is anticipated that the City will continue to contract via private carrier for ongoing solid waste disposal needs, and six landfill facilities proximate to the City are currently permitted to accept solid waste and none have identified any capacity issues. Therefore, impacts related to adequate landfill capacity are considered less than significant.

*g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*

**No Impact.** Master Plan components would comply with existing federal, state, and local regulations related to solid waste. The Public Facilities and Services Element City of Galt General Plan update identifies Goal PFS-5, to ensure safe and efficient disposal and recycling of solid waste generated in Galt. The Proposed Project would comply with all City requirements related to this goal. Therefore, no impact would result from implementation of the Master Plan.

Mitigation Measures

**Mitigation Measure USS – 1:** Prior to project approval for any future facilities proposing wastewater disposal, the City Parks and Recreation Department will confirm the availability of adequate wastewater treatment capacity. Written documentation of the adequacy of wastewater capacity will be provided by the Department of Public Works to the Planning Division of the Community Development Department prior to project approval.

**Mitigation Measure USS – 2:** The City Parks and Recreation Department shall ensure that containers for recycling are provided in addition to solid waste disposal containers at all new City parks and recreational facilities.

## 4.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>Does the Project:</b>				
a. Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animals, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) *Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animals, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Implementation of the Proposed Project would have the potential to degrade the quality of the existing environment. Potential impacts have been identified related to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Noise, Transportation and Traffic and Utilities and Service Systems. Mitigation measures have been identified related to individual potential resource-specific impacts. Proposed mitigation measures would reduce the level of all project-related impacts to less than significant levels. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

b) *Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.*

**Less than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan would facilitate the continued provision of recreational facilities within the City of Galt pursuant to the standards established by

the Master Plan, within current City limits as well as within areas proposed for future annexation into the City, as defined by the City's General Plan. Where applicable, this Initial Study identifies Mitigation Measures by individual resource area as relevant to potential environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Master Plan. Mitigation measures are proposed to reduce all project-related environmental impacts to less than significant levels; therefore impacts are considered less than significant.

*c) Have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*

**Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed throughout this Initial Study, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in an adopted planning strategy for the provision and management of City recreation facilities and programs in the area defined by the City of Galt and its Planning Area. Compliance with Mitigation Measures AES-1 through AES-3 would reduce potential impacts related to Aesthetics to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measure AQ-1 would reduce potential impacts related to Air Quality to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-6 would reduce impacts related to Biological Resources to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measures CR-1 through CR-7 would reduce potential impacts related to Cultural and Paleontological Resources to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measures HYDRO-1 through HYDRO-4 would reduce potential impacts related to Hydrology and Water Quality to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measures Noise-1 and Noise-2 would reduce potential impacts related to Noise to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measure TRAF-1 would reduce potential impacts related to Traffic/Transportation to less than significant levels. Compliance with Mitigation Measures USS-1 and USS-2 would reduce potential impacts related to Utilities and Service Systems to less than significant levels. Therefore, impacts resulting from implementation of the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

## 5.0 CEQA DETERMINATION

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On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on the attached sheets have been added to the project (see following pages). A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based upon the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets, if the effect is a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated." An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that, although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project. Nothing further is required.



Signature

Printed Name

Sandra Kiriu AICP, Principal Planner



Date

For:

The City of Galt

## 6.0 REPORT PREPARATION AND REFERENCES

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### 6.1 REPORT PREPARATION

#### 6.1.1 Lead Agency:

City of Galt Planning Department  
Sandra Kiriu, Principal Planner

Boyce W. Jeffries, Parks and Recreation Director

#### 6.1.2 Document Prepared by:

##### Foothill Associates

Kyrsten Shields, Project Manager - Environmental Planner/Regulatory Specialist  
Joe Looney, Assistant Project Manager/Regulatory Specialist  
Amy Golden, Project Biologist/ISA Arborist  
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### 6.2 REFERENCES

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## **Appendix A — Mitigation Monitoring Plan**

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To be Provided Following Public Comments

## **Appendix B — Special-Status Species Table**

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**SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING  
WITHIN THE STUDY AREA**

Special-Status Species	Regulatory Status (Federal; State; Local; CNPS)	Period of Identification	Habitat Requirements
<b>Plants</b>			
Dwarf downingia <i>Downingia pusilla</i>	--;--;--;2	March - May	Dwarf downingia is known to occur in vernal pools and mesic valley and foothill grassland areas at elevations of 3-1500 feet above MSL.
Legenere <i>Legenere limosa</i>	--;--;--;1B	April - June	Legenere is known to occur in vernal pools at elevations of 3 to 3,000 feet above mean sea level.
Mason's lilaepsis <i>Lilaeopsis masonii</i>	--;CR;--;1B	April - November	Marshes and swamps, riparian scrub from 0 to 30 feet elevation.
Pincushion navarretia <i>Navarretia myersii</i> spp. <i>myersii</i>	--;--;--;1B	May - June	Pincushion navarretia is known to occur in vernal pools at elevations of 65-1100 feet above MSL.
<b>Wildlife</b>			
<b>Fish</b>			
Sacramento splittail <i>Pogonichthys macrolepidotus</i>	--;CSC;--;--	Year-round	Currently found in portions of the San Francisco Bay, the Delta, the estuaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and the Napa and Petaluma Rivers.
<b>Invertebrates</b>			
Midvalley fairy shrimp <i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i>	FSC;--;--;--	Vernal pool wet-season	Shallow vernal pools, vernal swales and various artificial ephemeral wetland habitats.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle <i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	FT;--;--;--	Year-round	Complete life cycle associated with its host plant, elderberry shrubs ( <i>Sambucus</i> sp.).
Vernal pool fairy shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	FT;--;--;--	Vernal pool wet-season	Vernal pools, swales, and ephemeral freshwater habitat.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp <i>Lepidurus packardi</i>	FE;--;--;--	Vernal pool wet-season	Vernal pools, swales, and ephemeral freshwater habitat.
<b>Amphibians/Reptiles</b>			
California tiger salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	FT;CSC;--;--	Vernal pool wet-season	Breeds in temporary rain pools and permanent waters of grassland and open woodland of low hills and valleys. Require mammal burrows within the adjacent uplands for summer refugia.

Special-Status Species	Regulatory Status (Federal; State; Local; CNPS)	Period of Identification	Habitat Requirements
Giant garter snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	FT;CT;--;--	Year-round	Agricultural wetlands and other wetlands such as irrigation and drainage canals, low gradient streams, marshes, ponds, sloughs, small lakes, and their associated uplands.
<b>Birds</b>			
Swainson's hawk <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	--;CT;--;-- (Nesting)	April - September	Breeding resident in the Central Valley. Breeds in stands with few trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and in oak savannah. Forage in adjacent grasslands or suitable grain fields and pastures.
Tricolored blackbird <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	--;CSC;--;-- (Nesting colony)	March - September	Nests in dense thickets of blackberry, cattails, willow, or wild rose within emergent wetland habitats within the Central Valley and surrounding foothills.
Western burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia hypugaea</i>	--;CSC;--;-- (Burrow sites)	Year-round	Open low-growing grasslands with suitable burrow sites.
White-tailed kite <i>Elanus leucurus</i>	--;CFP;--;-- (Nesting)	Year-round	Yearlong resident in valley and coastal lowlands and is rarely found away from agricultural areas.
Other Raptors (Hawks, Owls and Vultures)	MBTA and §3503.5 Department of Fish and Game Code	Year-round	Nests in a variety of communities including oak woodland, mixed coniferous forest, chaparral, montane meadow, riparian, and urban.
<b>Federally Listed Species:</b> FE = federal endangered FT = federal threatened	FC = candidate PT = proposed threatened FPD = proposed for delisting FD = delisted	<b>California State Listed Species:</b> CE = California state endangered CT = California state threatened CR = California state rare CSC = California Species of Special Concern CFP = California Fully Protected	<b>CNPS* List Categories:</b> 1A = plants presumed extinct in California 1B = plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere 2 = plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but common elsewhere 3 = plants about which we need more information 4 = plants of limited distribution  <b>Other Special-status Listing:</b> SLC = species of local or regional concern or conservation significance
<i>Source: Foothill Associates</i>			