4.9 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

4.9.1 Environmental Setting

Police Services[1]

Public safety services for the West Valley College campus include police protection by the West Valley - Mission Community College District Police Department. The department is comprised of 21 law enforcement and civilian personnel. Staffing levels entail one chief, one lieutenant, one investigator, and six officers.[2] Additionally, the College employs eight parking enforcement officers and four administrative staff. The police chief and investigator are headquartered on the West Valley College campus, along with three officers. The District Police Department uses four patrol vehicles to provide patrol services for West Valley and Mission colleges; an unmarked sedan is also available for police protection activities.

Police protection on the campus includes two patrol shifts for the 19.5-hour period of 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. One officer staffs each vehicle patrol shift. From 2:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m., the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department provides police protection services. Calls for police assistance are routed to the Santa Clara County Communications Department for the dispatch of appropriate response personnel to incidents on the campus. The District Police Department has a mutual aid agreement with the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department office serving the campus is located at 1601 South De Anza Boulevard in Cupertino, approximately 3.5 miles from the college.

The activities of the District Police Department on the West Valley Campus are distributed over several building locations in addition to the main office in the Campus Center. The Department has indicated that space limitations at the Campus Center and the dispersion of Department staff on the campus reduce the efficiency of department operation at the campus.

Fire Protection Services

The Saratoga Fire District provides fire protection services to the West Valley College campus area. The District is a jurisdictional agency separate from the City of Saratoga, and operates under the provisions of Part 2.7 of Division 12 of the Health and Safety Code (Sections 13801 through 13999). The District has been reorganized several times; the latest reorganization in 1962 was in accord with Health and Safety Code sections 14001 through 14306 (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

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[1] Police Service issues are discussed here because they are of interest to the public and are important from a public policy standpoint. Because they do not involve impacts on the physical environment, however, these issues are not subject to CEQA requirements. (See *City of Pasadena v. State of California* (1993) 14 Cal.App.4th 810, 829-833.)

[2] Telephone communication on February 2, 2005 with Maggie Gould, Office Coordinator, West Valley College.

The Saratoga Fire District provides fire protection services to approximately 12 square miles encompassing one-half of the City of Saratoga and sections of the unincorporated areas to the south. Approximately 20,000 people reside within the service area. Annexation of the Bohlman Road and Mt. Eden Road areas has been completed, adding approximately 2,729 acres to the District service area (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

The District employs 24 full-time firefighting personnel and approximately 25 volunteer firefighters. In addition, District staff includes a fire chief, a business manager, assistant chief, fire prevention inspector, an administrative assistant. The District maintains a fire station at 14380 Saratoga Avenue and operates two "on-line" Class A pump trucks (1,500 gallons per minute [gpm]), one reserve pump truck with equal capabilities, one command vehicle, a multipurpose truck which performs rescue and serves as an additional source of air and light, and two administrative cars. Fire protection services encompass three shifts per day; each shift is staffed with four personnel per engine for each of the two engines (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

In the fall of 2002, the Fire Department retired its reserve engine and added a new Type I engine and a 4-wheel drive Type III/Rescue engine. The District has recently purchased all new SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) equipment (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

The District has RED NET capability, involving access to radio frequencies used in all mutual aid calls, and direct phone lines to County Communications. A back-up generator keeps all emergency equipment running in case of a power failure. Currently, the Santa Clara County Fire Department provides dispatch services for the Saratoga Fire District. The County Fire Department staff also currently fills the District's fire chief position on an interim basis (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

To further enhance service to the community, the District administers an Early Warning Alarm System (EWAS). The EWAS is a city-mandated ordinance that requires a fire detection system in newly constructed homes over 5,000 square feet, remodeled homes expanded over 50% of the original square footage, any new construction in the Hazardous Hillside Area, and new commercial construction. The advantage of the system is its capacity to detect fires in the incipient stage and immediately notify the Saratoga Fire District through the combination telephone dialer and radio frequency transmitter. Currently there are approximately 700 alarm accounts on-line (Saratoga Fire Department 2005).

The West Valley College fire alarm system provides two mechanisms[3] for reporting fire incidents. First, there are manual (hand pulled) alarms in all buildings. These alarms are connected to telephone dialers that report fire alarms to the Saratoga Fire District contract monitoring service in San Mateo. The monitoring center notifies the District immediately about the location of the fire alarm, specifically which building on campus has reported a fire incident. The District then responds to the fire alarm call.

[3] Telephone communication on February 1, 2005 with Hall Netter, Fire Prevention Inspector, Saratoga Fire District.

A fire alarm initiated on campus also registers with a campus fiber optic network system that includes a separate set of dialers at a central location on-site. This central system alerts the District's monitoring service to initiate a response from the District's fire protection services.

The Saratoga Fire District dispatches an engine company once each year to inspect the campus fire protection facilities. The West Valley College campus also serves the Fire District through the provision of campus parking lots as a staging area for mutual aid drills with other fire protection agencies in the county; these drills are conducted annually. In the past, the campus parking lots have served as staging areas for District engine companies' response to wild land fires in the hillside areas of Saratoga. The Saratoga General Plan designates the West Valley College campus as one of three Primary Places of Assembly within the community in the event of disaster emergencies, such as wild land fires.

Fire flows to the campus are provided through a 10-inch water line located in Allendale Avenue. The campus operates a loop pipe system that connects to the 10-inch water line and carries fire flows throughout the campus. The District uses an access map provided by the College to respond to fire alarms from the campus.

Water Service

Water service to the project area is provided by the San Jose Water Company (SJWC). The company supplies domestic water to Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Campbell, Saratoga, and Cupertino. Water supply sources include ground water, mountain surface water, imported surface water, and the Cupertino Water System. Groundwater is pumped from over 100 wells that draw water from the Santa Clara Groundwater Basin. During 2000, groundwater pumped from deep wells was approximately 39 percent of SJWC's supply (San Jose Water Company 2005).

Imported surface water is provided by Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), a wholesale supplier. Surface water imported from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and purchased from the SCVWD comprises 51 percent of SJWC's supply. A majority this water originates as Sierra snowmelt, and travels through the State and Federal water projects before treatment at the District's three treatment plants. A smaller portion is impounded in local reservoirs in Santa Clara County (San Jose Water Company 2005). As the wholesale water supplier for all of Santa Clara County, supplying more than 3,000 af of urban water annually, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) is required to prepare an UWMP. The District prepared an UWMP in 1985 and revisions in 1990, 1995, and 2001 for both District and regional water supply planning purposes. The UWMP describes SCVWD's service area, water use by customer class, water supply and demand, water service reliability and shortage response options, water transfer and exchange opportunities, water recycling efforts, and conservation measures.

Local mountain surface water is collected from the local watershed in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and treated at two treatment plants. Local surface water from the watershed in the Santa Cruz Mountains is 10 percent of SJWC's supply. The Company has indicated that there are no water supply constraints to providing new water service to the project area (San Jose Water Company 2005). Additionally, the Company's contracts for water supplies from its sources extend to 2051.

SJWC operates water service lines in the vicinity of the West Valley College campus. Presently, there are water service lines in Fruitvale Avenue, Allendale Avenue, and Harleigh Drive. Allendale Avenue contains a 12-inch water main, along with a 10-inch fire service line and a 6-inch general metered water line. Fruitvale Avenue carries a 6-inch domestic and irrigation water line. To the north of the campus and Allendale Avenue, Harleigh Drive contains a 10-inch fire service line and a 6-inch general metered water line.[4]

Wastewater Service

The West Valley Sanitation District (WVSD) provides wastewater collection and treatment services in the project area. Wastewater flows from the project area are collected and conveyed to the San Jose/Santa Clara County Water Pollution Control Plant. The Water Pollution Control Plant has the capacity to treat 167 million gallons of wastewater per day (mgd), with a treatment capacity of 1.95 mgd available in reserve.. It is located in Alviso, at the southernmost tip of the San Francisco Bay. Originally constructed in 1956, the Plant had the capacity to treat 36 mgd and only provided primary treatment. In 1964, the Plant added a secondary treatment process to its system. In 1979, the Plant upgraded its wastewater treatment process to an advanced, tertiary system (San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant 2005).

Most of the final treated water from the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant is discharged as fresh water through Artesian Slough and into South San Francisco Bay. About 10 percent is recycled through South Bay Water Recycling pipelines for landscaping, agricultural irrigation, and industrial needs around the South Bay (San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant 2005).

West Valley Sanitation District contracts with the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant for wastewater treatment and disposal. In this past year, the District collected and conveyed 11 million gallons per day of wastewater to the treatment plant. The plant, located on Zanker Road in north San Jose, treats the wastewater so that it can be safely discharged into the San Francisco Bay. The District accounts for approximately 10% of the treatment capacity at the plant (West Valley Sanitation District 2005).

The District was formed in 1948 as County Sanitation District No. 4 of Santa Clara County under the provisions of the California County Sanitation District Act. In 1988 the District changed its name to West

[4] Telephone communication on January 25, 2005 with Jim Bariteau, San Jose Water Company.

Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County, to reflect its geographical service area (West Valley Sanitation District 2005).

Beginning with a population of 20,000 in 1948, the District now serves approximately 118,500 persons. The District's 1948 service area encompassed 23,000 acres. As unincorporated areas were absorbed into the City of San Jose, the district's service area gradually decreased to its current level of 18,477 acres, or approximately 29 square miles (West Valley Sanitation District 2005).

At the District's inception in 1948 its wastewater collection system consisted of twelve miles of sewer lines. At present the collection system maintained and operated by the District consists of 320 miles of main and trunk sewers and 182 miles of sewer laterals, for a total of 502 miles of sewer lines (West Valley Sanitation District 2005).

West Valley Sanitation District provides wastewater collection and disposal services for the cities of Campbell, Monte Sereno, Los Gatos, two-thirds of Saratoga, and the intervening unincorporated areas of the county in the West Valley. At present, there are sewer lines in Fruitvale and Allendale avenues serving the vicinity of the West Valley College campus.[5]

As indicated in the Initial Study for the proposed project, West Valley College is located within the Vasona Creek watershed. Runoff generated on the campus drains to surface drainage facilities that discharge into this creek and eventually into the San Francisco Bay. With respect to non-point sources of storm runoff, new, more stringent water quality regulations of the Clean Water Act have recently been triggered because the NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit program has failed to protect beneficial uses of Santa Clara County's creeks and the South San Francisco Bay. Evidence includes violations of ambient water quality criteria, high concentrations of toxic substances, and fish consumption health advisories. These new regulations require that all discharges shall comply with Provision C.3, New and Redevelopment Performance Standards of Order No. 01-024 of the NPDES permit program.

Solid Waste

The Green Valley Disposal Company collects and disposes solid waste from West Valley College. The College has two commercial accounts with the Company for the collection of solid waste materials. The collection of materials from the College's 34 cubic yard (cy) compactor requires a roll-off container serviced on a weekly basis. A second collection of regular (non-compacted) waste is conducted with a standard front-load truck.[6]

[5] Telephone communication on January 26, 2005 with Jonathan Lee, West Valley Sanitation District.

[6] Telephone communication on January 25. 2005 with Reggie Williams, Green Valley Disposal Company.

For 2004, operation of the campus generated an average 59.5 cy of compacted solid waste per month; the college disposed of an average 13 cy of regular solid waste each month as well. Solid waste collection occurs on a weekly basis, with an additional pick-up of 40 cy of miscellaneous rubbish from the maintenance yard approximately twice a year.

The College participates in a recycling program that is also serviced by Green Valley Disposal. The Company collects an average 30.3 cy of recycled materials each month from the campus, with collection occurring once a week. Recyclable materials are transported to the Company's materials recycling facility in San Jose at Coleman Road and Camden Avenue.

Santa Clara County sponsors a hazardous waste clean-up program that is held once a year on the West Valley College campus. An independent contractor provides a vacuum truck to collect the hazardous materials for appropriate disposal and Green Valley Disposal hauls the containers to its facilities.

Solid waste collected from Saratoga is deposited in the Guadalupe Rubbish Disposal Site at 15999 Guadalupe Mines Road. The Disposal Site is a refuse landfill that has been in operation since 1931 and occupies the site of a former cinnabar mine. The landfill site is anticipated to operate until 2013 under its current permits.

The landfill has been assessed under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) program, but was not placed on the National Priority List for cleanup. At present, a methane gas recovery project is installed on the inactive portion of the landfill and leachate ponds are in place. Since the responsible party has been identified and is taking fiscal responsibility for the environmental site work, this case does not represent an off-site Recognized Environmental Condition (REC) for the site. RECs are defined as the presence or likely presence of regulated hazardous substances, wastes, or petroleum products that indicate a release or material threat of a release to the soil or groundwater at the site (Petrini 2004).

4.9.2 Conformance with Local Plans and Policies

Saratoga General Plan

The Saratoga General Plan meets all of the requirements for general plans as stipulated by State law, including the seven mandatory elements (chapters): land use, circulation, housing, public safety, conservation, open space, and noise. The General Plan does not include a specific element that defines goals and policies for public facilities and services, including infrastructure, police and fire protection, educational facilities, civic institutions, cultural support facilities, and parks and recreation. The Saratoga General Plan does include the mandatory Safety Element and this component of the planning document addresses public safety issues, including fire protection goals and policies.

The Safety Element identifies geological, seismic, flood, and fire hazards as well as emergency preparedness and disaster planning issues. The element's assessment of fire risk for the city's urban areas indicates that fire hazard risk in the flat urbanized areas of Saratoga is relatively low. The element cites City programs that reduce fire risk, quick Fire District response times, and more than adequate fire flow and water supplies as effective measures that limit fire hazards in this area. The requirements for an Early Warning Alarm System (EWAS) and domestic sprinkler systems in certain residential structures further reduce fire hazards.

The complex legal principles governing the extent to which the West Valley College may be exempt from complying with the City's land use plans, policies, or ordinances are set forth at length in Chapter 4.1. However, it is the West Valley–Mission Community College District's policy to try to conform to local plans and ordinances whenever possible. Therefore, pertinent City policies and standards are outlined below.

General Plan Policies	**Project Analysis**
Safety Element	
4.0 (Goal): To reduce the danger of property damage and loss of life due to fire in both urban and rural areas of the City. *4.2 (Policy): The Chief of the fire district having jurisdiction should be authorized to require the installation of an early warning fire alarm system in any new commercial structure or community facility, or expansion of an existing commercial structure by fifty percent or more in gross floor area, whenever the Chief deems such requirement to be necessary or appropriate on the basis of facts and circumstances in each individual case.* *4.4 (Policy): The City shall continue to enforce its existing regulations pertaining to hazardous fire areas, fire retardant construction and landscaping.*	*The LRDP improvement projects would be incorporated into the existing early warning alarm system to ensure that new facilities' have a high level of fire protection. The proposed construction projects would comply with State building codes for fire retardant construction and landscaping, consistent with City policies.*
5.0 (Goal): To develop and maintain an emergency preparedness plan which will provide effective response in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. *5.2 (Policy): The City shall coordinate its plan with local jurisdictions and regional agencies to anticipate cumulative impacts during times of disaster.*	*The WVMCCD coordinates the availability of West Valley College campus facilities (e.g. parking lot areas) for use by local jurisdictions in emergency preparedness planning and training.*
Conservation Element	
CO.3.4 (Policy): The City shall minimize the impact that development may have on the quantity of water consumed by the development.	*The design of LRDP projects would include low-flow fixtures to restrict the overall use of domestic water supplies, consistent with the City's policy. Increased domestic water demand in expanded/new buildings would also be partially offset by reductions in landscape irrigation requirements.*

4.9.3 Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

Based upon the criteria presented in Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, a project will normally have a significant impact on public services or utilities if the proposed project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the 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: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, other public facilities;
- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- 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;
- 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;
- Require a water provider to obtain new entitlements or new water resources in order to serve the project;
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project, that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the providers existing commitments;
- Be served by a landfill without sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs; or
- Fail to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Impacts on Emergency Services

Impact 4.9-1: Implementation of the LRDP projects would require the extension of fire protection services for public safety on property improvements. (Less than Significant)

The LRDP proposes the replacement of four campus buildings, the expansion of four additional buildings, and the construction of a new Fox Center building. The replacement and expansion of existing campus buildings along with the development of one new building would require the extension of the existing early warning alarm system facilities to provide adequate fire protection services to the proposed campus facilities.

The Saratoga Fire District has indicated that the current early warning system provides adequate coverage for fire protection services to the campus. However, the District is recommending that the project design process incorporate an addressable fire alarm warning system into the future design for renovated and reconstructed buildings, and new construction on the campus. While the current campus alarm system

identifies a specific college building in which a fire event occurs, newer alarm systems have the capability of identifying the location of a fire within the building itself. Such systems allow District firefighters to respond more quickly to the exact location of the fire within a building.

The Saratoga Fire District has specific requirements for roadway access and turnarounds, road widths, emergency/access gates, fire hydrant location and spacing, fire lanes, building access, water supply, and sprinkler systems. The proposed project designs will be required to meet all Department requirements, which would mitigate the project's increased demand on fire protection services.

The campus site and adjacent residential areas are located in a relatively low fire hazard area, given the relatively flat, urbanized character of the campus vicinity. Fire hazards would be increased temporarily at the site during project construction. Over the long-term, fire hazards would be remain limited to the campus area which includes a substantial buffer area in the form of parking lots and sports fields between campus buildings and nearby residential uses. Saratoga Fire District requirements for provision of fire equipment access, fire hydrants, adequate water supply, and structural sprinkler systems would help reduce the fire hazard risks. These requirements would ensure that fire hazard risks remain less than significant.

Mitigation Measure 4.9-1: None required.

Impacts on Water Service

Impact 4.9-2: The proposed LRDP projects would incrementally increase domestic water demand within the service area of the San Jose Water Company. (Less than Significant)

The proposed building expansions and new Fox Center structure would require additional domestic water service for restroom improvements, drinking fountains, and maintenance areas. The required provision of fire flows for new facilities would call for the extension and/or expansion of on-site water service facilities to serve the LRDP projects.

The 10-inch water line in Allendale Avenue provides fire flows to the campus loop system that serves all of the buildings on the campus. The extension of fire flow water lines and the installation of additional fire hydrants on campus to meet state and local fire protection code requirements would not directly increase the demand for water supply.

The LRDP facilities would require additional water service upon completion of all projects during the Plan's 10-year schedule. The San Jose Water Company has indicated that it has sufficient water supplies to serve the proposed project after District's completion of the required on-site infrastructure.[7]

[7] Jim Bariteau, San Jose Water Company, telephone communication, February 3, 2005.

Mitigation Measure 4.9-2: None required.

Impacts on Wastewater Service

Impact 4.9-3: Increases in enrolled students would generate additional wastewater collection and treatment demands on the West Valley Sanitation District and the San Jose/Santa Clara County Water Pollution Control Plant. (Less than Significant)

The development of the project site with LRDP projects would result in an increased generation of wastewater flows, requiring treatment at the regional pollution control plant. The Pollution Control Plant has a 165 mgd tertiary treatment capacity. Of this capacity, the Sanitation District's allotment is 13.05 mgd. The District is presently discharging an average of 11.1 mgd to the plant, with a 1.95 mgd reserve available. Based on the available reserve capacity, the District would have adequate capacity to serve the proposed residential development.[8] The District has indicated that the sewer system downstream from the campus is at approximately 75 percent of maximum capacity during dry weather, and has sufficient reserve capacity to accommodate the proposed project.

Mitigation Measure 4.9-3: None required.

Impacts on Solid Waste Service

Impact 4.9-4: The proposed project would generate 58,344 pounds of additional solid waste per year for disposal at the Guadalupe Rubbish Disposal Site. (Potentially Significant)

The new residential project would be expected to generate approximately 21 cy of additional compacted solid waste and five cy of regular solid waste per month. This amount of solid waste could be reduced through the recycling program implemented by the college and operated by the Green Valley Disposal Company. The Company has an extensive recycling collection program that includes metals, plastics, glass, paper products, grass and garden cuttings, larger yard clippings, larger appliance, automotive products, and construction waste.

In addition to the solid waste stream resulting from campus operations, construction materials will be generated through the partial or complete demolition of existing buildings. These materials will need to be assessed for their composition to determine the potential for hazardous materials content.

Mitigation Measure 4.9-4: The proposed LRDP development shall participate in the recycling program implemented by the District and operated by the Green Valley Disposal Company. The promotion of recycling services will reduce the solid waste stream requiring disposal at the Guadalupe landfill, extending the useful life of the landfill site and reducing overall solid waste levels from the college.

[8] Jonathan Lee, West Valley Sanitation District, telephone communication, January 26. 2005.

Demolished materials free of hazardous materials shall be transported to the materials recycling facility at Guadalupe Landfill for sorting and, ultimately, re-use.

Hazardous demolition materials would need to be disposed of in an appropriate manner at facilities classified to receive such materials, such as Waste Management's Kettleman Hills Landfill in Kings County. This facility accepts Class I, II, and III waste. The Class I landfill is permitted for and will accept all hazardous wastes except radioactive, compressed gases, medical, and unexploded ordinance (UXO); this landfill has permitted capacity of 10.7 million cubic yards with a remaining capacity of 7.3 million cubic yards as of June 2003. The Hazards and Hazardous Materials section (Section 4.4) of this DEIR addresses appropriate treatment of these materials.

Impact Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

References - Public Services and Utilities

San Jose Water Company, 2005. Information provided through the San Jose Water Company website (http://www.sjwater.com/). Accessed on January 26, 2005.

Saratoga Fire Department, 2005. Information provided through Saratoga Fire Department website (http://www.saratogafire.com). Accessed on January 25, 2005.

San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant, 2005. Information provided through the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant website (http://www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/wpcp.htm). Accessed on January 25, 2005.

West Valley Sanitation District, 2005. Information provided through the West Valley Sanitation District website (http://www.westvalleysan.org/). Accessed on January 25, 2005.