

5. Environmental Analysis TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

The Initial Study, included as Appendix A, substantiates that the proposed project would not affect air traffic patterns. Therefore, Threshold T-3 will not be addressed in this EIR.

5.12.3 Environmental Impacts

The following impact analysis addresses thresholds of significance for which the Initial Study disclosed potentially significant impacts. The applicable thresholds are identified in brackets after the impact statement.

Impact 5.12-1a: The project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for standard performance of the City of Hermosa Beach circulation system during the morning one-hour peak period. [Threshold T-1]

Impact Analysis:

Approach

The approach for traffic impact analysis of development projects is typically to study the peak one-hour morning (7:00 AM to 9:00 AM) and/or afternoon (4:00 PM and 6:00 PM) conditions. For elementary school projects, the analysis is usually conducted for only the morning peak period, which would be the worst-case condition since vehicle trips generated by the school during morning drop-off activities would coincide with morning commuter traffic. Afternoon peak hour analysis is typically not conducted because school lets out between 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM, which is before the afternoon commuter peak period.

Impact 5.12-1a is based in part on *Traffic Impact Analysis for the Proposed North Elementary School – 417 25th Street – Hermosa Beach*, prepared by Garland Associates in April 2017 (2017 TIA), and revised in May 2018 (see Appendix M-1). The scope of the 2017 TIA traffic impact analysis—e.g., AM one-hour peak period and application of trip credits of operating uses at the project site—was based on consultation with the City of Hermosa Beach on March 27, 2017, and follow-up conversations with the Hermosa Beach Public Works Department. Once completed, the District submitted the traffic impact analysis to the City for review. In an email dated August 30, 2017, the City of Hermosa Beach Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer concurred with the technical findings of the 2017 TIA.

* Traffic counts for the peak one-hour analysis were taken from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM when District schools were in session: November 19, 2015; December 1, 2015; January 24, 2017; and January 26, 2017.

School Operations

Project-Generated Traffic

The trip generation rates and the anticipated volumes of traffic that would be generated by the project are shown in Table 5.12-3.