

3.12 Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems

This section discusses existing utilities and public services in the vicinity of the proposed project, presents the associated regulatory framework, and provides an analysis of potential impacts to public services and utilities that would result from construction and implementation of the proposed project. Public utilities in the project area include water, wastewater, electricity, and natural gas conveyance facilities. For the purposes of this project, public services discussed include solid waste disposal, police, and fire protection services.

3.12.1 Environmental Setting

Public Services

Fire Protection

In cooperation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) provides fire protection services to residents of unincorporated areas of Riverside County and 22 partner cities, including the City of Perris. The nearest station, Battalion 1, is located at 210 West San Jacinto Avenue, in Perris, California (RCFD, 2013).

Police Protection

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RCSD) serves 17 cities, 1 tribal community, and various unincorporated areas in the county. RCSD is contracted by the City of Perris to provide police services in the City. The station that would service the project area is located at 137 N. Perris Boulevard in Perris, and serves both the city and nearby portions of Riverside County.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is responsible for the enforcement of traffic-related offenses in the County's unincorporated areas. State Park Rangers are responsible for safety within the Lake Perris State Recreation Area (SRA).

Schools and Hospitals

Schools in the vicinity of the project area include two schools in the Perris area, two schools in the Nuevo area, and eight schools in the Moreno Valley area. The closest full-service hospitals to the project area are about 3.8 miles away—the Moreno Valley Community Hospital in Moreno Valley—and about 4.5 miles away—the Riverside County Regional Medical Center in Moreno Valley.

Public Utilities and Services

Water Facilities

The Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) provides potable water, wastewater treatment, and recycled water services for portions of Riverside County, including the cities of Perris, Moreno Valley, San Jacinto, and Temecula. EMWD is a member agency of Metropolitan Water District (MWD), and its supply is a combination of imported, ground, and recycled water. In 2015, 50 percent of EMWD's potable water was imported Resources (DWR) and MWD. Of the

remainder, 15 percent was supplied by local groundwater and desalters and 35 percent was recycled water (EMWD, 2013).

While the City of Perris operates water and sewer services in a portion of the city, it also purchases approximately 640 million gallons of water each year from EMWD, which is then distributed to approximately 2,300 customers through a 37-mile distribution system (City of Perris, 2013).

Stormwater

Regional flood control planning is under the jurisdiction of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFCWCD). The RCFCWCD is responsible for implementation and enforcement of the Riverside County Drainage Area Management Plan for the Santa Ana Region, which includes the project area. Specifically, the proposed project is located in the Perris Valley Area Drainage Plan.

In October 1989, RCFCWCD adopted the Master Drainage Plan for the Perris Valley Channel (Master Drainage Plan). The Master Drainage Plan addresses the current and future drainage needs along the Perris Valley Channel. The Perris Valley Channel was a drainage ditch constructed in the mid-1950s to alleviate drainage problems associated with the expanding March Air Force Base. The RCFCWCD owns right-of-way and maintains the channel along its entire reach from the San Jacinto River to Mariposa Avenue in the city of Moreno Valley. The Master Drainage Plan serves as a long-term guide to the design and construction of the ultimate channel. It also assists in the location and sizing of local drainage facilities to be constructed by developers and others within the area. When the channel is fully completed, the existing 100-year flood plain, as delineated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will be eliminated.

Solid Waste Management

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) maintains a Solid Waste Information System (SWIS) that lists disposal sites in Riverside County by disposal facility activity, regulatory status, and operational status. According to SWIS, there are three active Class III landfills (landfills that are only permitted to accept nonhazardous solid waste) within a 20-mile radius of the proposed project that conduct solid waste disposal activities and accept construction and demolition material. These landfills are the El Sobrante, Badlands Sanitary, and Lamb Canyon Landfills. The nearest landfill to the proposed alignment is the Badlands Sanitary Landfill, located at 31125 Ironwood Avenue in Moreno Valley. **Table 3.12-1** lists the closure dates, daily permitted capacities, remaining permitted capacities, and proximity to the alignment of the nearest Class III solid waste landfills.

Waste Management of the Inland Empire is the local division of Waste Management Inc., which provides waste and recycling services to Riverside County. It operates the El Sobrante Landfill in Corona, which processes about 43 percent of the county's annual waste and can currently receive up to 70,000 tons of waste per week (Waste Management, 2013). Riverside County has adopted the California Green Building Standards Code, which includes mandatory construction and demolition recycling.

**TABLE 3.12-1
 LANDFILLS IN PROXIMITY TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT**

Facility Name	Closure Date	Daily Permitted Capacity (tons/day)	Remaining Permitted Capacity (cubic yards)	Approximate Distance from Project (miles)
Badlands Sanitary Landfill	01/01/2024	4,000	14,730,025	8
Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill	04/30/2021	3,000	18,955,000	13
El Sobrante Landfill	01/01/2045	16,054	103,950,000	16

*Max permitted daily throughput

SOURCE: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, *Solid Waste Information System (SWIS)*, 2013

The Greenstone Materials and Recycling Facility in the city of Perris accepts many of the materials that will be produced from the demolition and renovation of existing emergency release facility structures as well as the construction of the proposed project. Additionally, Waste Management provides construction and demolition debris collection and recycling services.

3.12.2 Regulatory Framework

State

California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Public Resources Code [PRC] Division 30), enacted through Assembly Bill (AB) 939 and modified by subsequent legislation, requires all California cities and counties to implement programs to reduce, recycle, and compost at least 50 percent of waste. The State determines compliance with this mandate to “divert” 50 percent of generated waste (which includes both disposed of and diverted waste) through a complex formula. This formula requires cities and counties to conduct empirical studies to establish a “base year” waste generation rate against which future diversion is measured. The actual determination of the diversion rate in subsequent years is arrived through deduction, not direct measurement. The city or county calculates the diversion rate by tracking the amount of material disposed at landfills, and then subtracts the disposed amount from the base year amount. The difference is assumed to be diverted (PRC Section 41780.2).

Senate Bill 63

On July 28, 2009, Senate Bill (SB) 63 was approved and filed, allowing the abolishment of the California Integrated Waste Management Board and transfer of its duties and responsibilities to a new department, CalRecycle. Effective on January 1, 2010, this legislation was passed in order to combine the State’s solid waste and recycling programs. CalRecycle brings together California’s recycling and waste management programs, helping the state achieve a 65 percent recycling rate for all materials.

3.12.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

This section addresses potential impacts of the proposed project on public services, utilities, and service systems in the project area. The impact significance criteria are based on guidance provided by Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines regarding significant environmental effects. For this Draft EIR, the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or 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 stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects
- Not have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or if new or expanded entitlements are needed
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments
- Not be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs
- Not comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste
- Encounter buried utilities

Impact Analysis

Impact 3.12-1: The project could have a significant impact if it would result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities.

The proposed project would not require the provision of, or need for, new or physically altered government facilities. Police, fire protection, schools, parks, and other public facility requirements are based on the number of residents and workers in a service area. Service demand is primarily tied to population, not building size or construction footprint. For example, because emergency calls typically make up the majority of responses provided by the police and fire departments, as the number of residents and workers increases, so does the number of emergency calls. There are no residential structures on-site, and none would be constructed under the proposed project. No new permanent employees would be located on-site after construction. Therefore, no new residents or employees would occupy the project site and service demands per person would not increase.

The addition of construction and operational personnel to the area could result in a temporary demand for government services, primarily police and fire protection services, to accommodate fire suppression and emergency calls. Under the proposed project, the on-site assembly and construction workforce is estimated to be at its peak 120 employees. The presence of construction workers on the site would be temporary, lasting up to 36 months for construction of the project. The facilities would be periodically maintained and there would be no daily on-site employees. Construction and operation of the proposed project would generate truck and employee traffic along haul routes and at the project site, which could temporarily increase the accident potential in these areas, but is not expected to interfere with police or fire protection services. New or physically altered government facilities would not be required to accommodate this temporary increase in demand.

Construction of the proposed project would result in full closure of Avalon Parkway north of Ramona Expressway, and partial lane or full roadway closures at the intersections of Lake Perris Drive and Ramona Expressway and Evans Road and Ramona Expressway, depending on the bridge construction option selected for the project. Lane closures have the potential to increase traffic, alter the levels of service of these intersections, and possibly disrupt or delay the response times of emergency responders. During partial road closures, impacts on emergency responders would be limited since passage through intersections would be maintained. During full road closures, emergency access would be diverted along planned detour routes. These detour routes would be provided to each of the emergency services providers in advance. In addition, DWR would implement **Mitigation Measure UTIL-1** requiring a temporary emergency vehicle access connecting Evans Road to Lake Perris Drive for use by emergency responders, when needed. The required Traffic Management Plan will identify specific traffic control measures to ensure access and safety on the local roadway network (Ramona Expressway, Avalon Parkway, Lake Perris Drive, and Evans Road) and within the Lake Perris SRA and Lake Perris Fairgrounds are maintained and that appropriate agencies and personnel (CAL FIRE, RCFD, RCSO, CHP, and State Park Rangers) are contacted ahead of the closures. With implementation of the Traffic Management Plan impacts would be considered less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

UTIL-1: DWR shall create a temporary emergency access road for use only by emergency responders on an as-needed basis. This road would connect Evans Road and Lake Perris Drive during full closure (Option B) of the bridge construction at Evans Road. If Option B, is chosen, DWR shall provide the location of the temporary road to appropriate emergency responders within the local area.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant with Mitigation.

Impact 3.12-2: The project could have a significant impact if it would exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The proposed project consists of modifying the existing emergency release structure, and constructing water conveyance improvements that would reliably control a reservoir release and convey emergency flows from Lake Perris in the event of an emergency drawdown. No treatment of wastewater would be required as part of the implementation of the proposed project. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Significance Determination: No Impact.

Impact 3.12-3: The project could have a significant impact if it would 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.

The proposed project consists of modifying the existing emergency release structure, and constructing water conveyance improvements that would reliably control a reservoir release and convey emergency flows from Lake Perris in the event of an emergency drawdown. This facility would only be used in the event that an emergency drawdown of Lake Perris is required. No water or wastewater treatment would be required as part of the proposed project. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Significance Determination: No Impact.

Impact 3.12-4: The project could have a significant impact if it would 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.

The proposed project would connect the emergency release facility with the Perris Valley Channel. None of the components of the project would increase runoff or require increased stormwater conveyance capacity. Some drainages from the SRA toward the Perris Valley Channel would be modified, including the small drainage that currently parallels the Ramona

Expressway. As part of the project, the storm flow in these areas would be rerouted appropriately to the Perris Valley Channel. A more detailed discussion regarding the Perris Valley Channel's capacity to accept an emergency release can be found in Section 3.8 *Hydrology, Water Quality and Groundwater*. Impacts to the storm sewer capacity would be less than significant.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant.

Impact 3.12-5: The project could have a significant impact if it would not have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or if new or expanded entitlements are needed.

During construction, water needs for the proposed project would be temporary and used for dust control for open excavations or stockpiles. Water would be obtained from the City of Perris water utility or from the Perris Dam drain-lines, and transported throughout the project area via water trucks. During operation, the proposed project would not require an external water supply or service. Therefore, impacts would be considered less than significant and no mitigation is required.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant.

Impact 3.12-6: The project could have a significant impact if it would result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.

The proposed project consists of modifying the existing emergency release structure, and constructing water conveyance facility improvements that would reliably control a reservoir release and convey emergency flows from Lake Perris in the event of an emergency drawdown. The proposed project would not generate wastewater treatment demands. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Significance Determination: No Impact.

Impact 3.12-7: The project could have a significant impact if it would not be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

Construction of the proposed project would require excavation of materials. Soils would be used within the confines of the project area. Topsoil would be stockpiled and re-placed on the levee walls and within unlined channels at the end of the project. The excavated soils from the channel would be reused for construction of the levees. The proposed project could result in other construction-related debris that would require disposal at regional landfills serving the project

area. Debris generated during construction is anticipated to be minimal and would not result in a significant impact on the permitted capacity of landfills serving the project area. The landfill serving the project area has sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed project's solid waste disposal needs. Impacts would be considered less than significant.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant.

Impact 3.12-8: The project could have a significant impact if it would not comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Construction of the proposed project would result in some solid waste debris. Recycling and disposal materials would comply with local applicable solid waste statutes and regulations. In addition, the proposed project would also comply with the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which ensures that all construction debris is hauled away to local landfills serving the project area. Compliance with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste would ensure impacts would be less than significant.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant.

Impact 3.12-9: The project could have significant impact if it would encounter buried utilities.

The proposed project extends from the southeastern corner of the dam parallel to the Ramona Expressway to the Perris Valley Channel. The project would traverse three roadways and the Lake Perris Fairgrounds. Within 200 feet of the Ramona Expressway, numerous underground utilities exist, including water mains and backflow devices, high voltage electricity lines, sanitation sewer lines, gas lines, irrigation system pipelines, lighting, electronic message center, and control fencing. Prior to construction of the project, DWR would conduct an underground utilities search to identify utilities potentially in the construction footprint. The search would also include consultation with Lake Perris Fairgrounds to determine any site-specific utility infrastructure that could be impacted. After utilities and utility owners are identified, DWR would contact all local utilities and include the information in detailed project designs. As part of the proposed project, any utilities in the project vicinity would be avoided or rerouted during construction to maintain services, and DWR would continue to consult with the utilities providers during construction to ensure avoidance and protection of these utilities.

If temporary service interruptions are necessary, or buried utilities that have not been identified are impacted, DWR would coordinate with the utilities to minimize the temporary nuisance on their customers. Interruption of utility services, if required, would be temporary and brief and would not substantially interfere with overall service. Consultation with area utility providers required by **Mitigation Measure UTIL-2** would ensure these services are protected and any potential interference with utility services during construction is minimal, and impacts to service would be short-term and restored as soon as possible.

Mitigation Measures

UTIL-2: During design and prior to construction, an underground utilities search will be conducted to compile available information on utility locations.

Significance Determination: Less than Significant with Mitigation.

References

- California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). *Solid Waste Information System (SWIS)*. 2011. Accessed May 8, 2013. www.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/Directory/.
- City of Perris Public Works. *Water Service*. Accessed May 8, 2013. www.cityofperris.org/residents/water.html.
- Eastern Municipal Water District. *Maximizing EMWD's Resources* (brochure). 2012. Accessed May 11, 2016. <http://www.emwd.org/home/showdocument?id=47>.
- Riverside County Fire Department. *Fire Stations*. Accessed May 22, 2013. www.rvcfire.org/stationsandfunctions/firestations/Pages/default.aspx
- Waste Management. *El Sobrante*. Accessed May 8, 2013. www.wm.com/location/california/inland-empire/corona/el-sobrante.jsp.