

This section of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR; DEIR) summarizes the cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project that are identified in environmental issue areas in Section 4.0. Cumulative impacts are the result of combining the potential effects of the projects with other planned developments, as well as foreseeable development projects. The following discussion considers the cumulative impacts of the relevant environmental issue areas.

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an environmental impact report (EIR) contain an assessment of the cumulative impacts that could be associated with the proposed project. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a), an EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable. "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual 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 (as defined by Section 15130). As defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15355, a cumulative impact consists of an impact that is created as a result of the combination of the project evaluated in the EIR together with other projects causing related impacts. A cumulative impact occurs from:

. . . the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

In addition, Section 15130(b) identifies that the following three elements are necessary for an adequate cumulative analysis:

- 1) Either:
  - a. A list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the agency.
  - b. A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document, or in a prior environmental document which has been adopted or certified, which described or evaluated regional or area wide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact. Any such planning document shall be referenced and made available to the public at a location specified by the lead agency.
- 2) A summary of the expected environmental effects to be produced by those projects with specific reference to additional information stating where that information is available; and
- 3) A reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects. An EIR shall examine reasonable, feasible options for mitigating or avoiding the project's contribution to any significant cumulative effects.

Where a lead agency is examining a project with an incremental effect that is not cumulatively considerable, a lead agency need not consider that effect significant, but shall briefly describe its basis for concluding that the incremental effect is not cumulatively considerable.

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### 5.2 CUMULATIVE SETTING

A general description of the cumulative setting is provided in Section 4.0, Introduction to the Environmental Analysis and Assumptions Used, as well as **Table 4.0-1**. In addition, each environmental issue area evaluated in the DEIR identifies its own cumulative setting.

### 5.3 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ANALYSIS

Identified below is a compilation of the cumulative impacts that would result from the implementation of the project and future development in the vicinity. As described above, cumulative impacts are two or more effects that, when combined, are considerable or compound other environmental effects. Each cumulative impact is determined to have one of the following levels of significance: less than significant, significant, or significant and unavoidable. The specific cumulative impacts for each environmental issue area are identified in the technical sections of Section 4.0.

#### SECTION 4.1 LAND USE

##### Cumulative Land Use Impacts

**Impact 4.1.4** When considered with existing, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the region, implementation of the proposed project has the potential to contribute to cumulative land use conditions, resulting in significant impacts to the physical environment. The proposed project would have a **less than cumulatively considerable** contribution to this impact.

#### SECTION 4.2 POPULATION/HOUSING/EMPLOYMENT

##### Cumulative Population and Housing Increases

**Impact 4.2.3** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would not result in substantial population, housing, and employment increases in Contra Costa County and the Bay Area. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

#### SECTION 4.3 AIR QUALITY

##### Result in a Cumulatively Considerable Net Increase of Nonattainment Criteria Pollutants and Precursors

**Impact 4.3.7** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with cumulative development in the SFBAAB, would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone and coarse and fine particulate matter. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.4 TRAFFIC AND CIRCULATION

**Cumulative Transportation Impacts**

**Impact 4.4.7** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would result in cumulative transportation impacts. This impact is considered **cumulatively considerable**.

**Cumulative Conflicts with an Applicable Congestion Management Plan**

**Impact 4.4.8** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would conflict with the multimodal transportation service objectives (MTSOs) identified in the West County Action Plan. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

**Cumulative Roadway Hazards or Incompatible Uses**

**Impact 4.4.9** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with pending or approved major projects within the city as well as consideration of regional activities, would result in changes to the circulation network. The changes are not anticipated to increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. Therefore, this impact is considered to be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

**Cumulative Emergency Access**

**Impact 4.4.10** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with pending or approved major projects within the city as well as consideration of regional activities, would result in an increase in vehicular traffic and changes to the roadway network, which may potentially increase emergency access conflicts. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

**Cumulative Conflicts with Programs Supporting Alternative Transportation**

**Impact 4.4.11** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) in combination with pending or approved major projects within the city as well as consideration of regional activities, would support continued and expanded transit use, bicycling, and walking throughout the city, although changes to the roadway network may potentially affect bus operations. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.5 NOISE

**Cumulative Transportation Noise Impacts**

**Impact 4.5.7** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with other development in nearby areas in Contra Costa County, would increase

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transportation noise along area roadways. This would be a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

### SECTION 4.6 HUMAN HEALTH/RISK OF UPSET

#### Cumulative Hazards and Health Risks

**Impact 4.6.5** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would not cumulatively contribute to regional hazards. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

### SECTION 4.7 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### Cumulative Impacts to Special-Status Species

**Impact 4.7.6** Implementation of the proposed General Plan and associated project components (Three Corridors Specific Plan and Zoning Code Update), together with past, present, and probable future projects in the Planning Area and larger regional context, would result in a cumulatively significant loss of biological resources in the region. The project's incremental contribution to this significant cumulative impact is **less than cumulatively considerable**.

### SECTION 4.8 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

#### Cumulative Geologic, Soils, and Seismic Impacts

**Impact 4.8.5** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with existing, planned, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable development, would not contribute to cumulative geologic, seismic, and soil impacts, as the impacts would be site-specific and not additive in character. Thus, this impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

### SECTION 4.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

#### Cumulative Water Quality Impacts

**Impact 4.9.7** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with other development activities within the watershed, would contribute to a cumulative degradation of water quality from construction activities and increased urban runoff. This is considered a **potentially cumulatively considerable** impact.

#### Cumulative Flooding Impacts

**Impact 4.9.8** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) could increase impervious surfaces and alter drainage conditions and rates in the Planning Area, which could contribute to cumulative flood conditions in the Pinole Creek

watershed and San Pablo Bay. This impact is considered **cumulatively considerable**.

#### SECTION 4.10 CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

##### **Cumulative Impacts to Prehistoric Resources, Historic Resources, and Human Remains**

**Impact 4.10.3** Adoption of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update,) along with foreseeable development in the region, could result in the disturbance of cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric sites, historic sites, and isolated artifacts and features) and human remains. This contribution is considered **cumulatively considerable**.

##### **Cumulative Impacts to Paleontological Resources**

**Impact 4.10.4** Adoption of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), along with any foreseeable development in the region, could result in the potential disturbance of paleontological resources (i.e., fossils and fossil formations). This contribution is considered **cumulatively considerable**.

#### SECTION 4.11 VISUAL RESOURCES/LIGHT AND GLARE

##### **Cumulative Impacts to Visual Resources and Visual Character**

**Impact 4.11.4** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), along with foreseeable development in the region, would not result in the significant conversion of the city's visual character. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

#### SECTION 4.12 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

##### **Cumulative Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**

**Impact 4.12.1.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan and Zoning Code Update), along with other planned development and redevelopment within the GPU Planning Area, would contribute to the cumulative demand for fire protection and emergency medical services. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

##### **Cumulative Law Enforcement Impacts**

**Impact 4.12.2.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan and Zoning Code Update), along with other planned development and redevelopment within the GPU Planning Area, would contribute to the cumulative demand for law enforcement services. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

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### Cumulative Public School Impacts

**Impact 4.12.3.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), as well as potential development within the cumulative setting area, would result in cumulative public school impacts. These cumulative public school impacts are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

### Cumulative Park and Recreation Impacts

**Impact 4.12.4.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), in combination with other reasonably foreseeable development, would require additional park and recreation facilities within the GPU Planning Area. This would be a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

### Cumulative Water Supply and Water Supply Infrastructure Impacts

**Impact 4.12.5.2** Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update and its associated project components would contribute to the cumulative demand for water supply and associated infrastructure in EBMUD's service area. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

### Cumulative Wastewater Service Impacts

**Impact 4.12.6.3** Implementation of the General Plan Update, Three Corridor Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update, as well as existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the City of Pinole Public Works Department and West County Wastewater District wastewater service areas, would increase wastewater flows and require additional infrastructure and treatment capacity to accommodate anticipated demands. The proposed project's contribution to this impact is considered to be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

### Cumulative Solid Waste Impacts

**Impact 4.12.7.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridor Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), along with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority service area, would result in cumulative solid waste impacts. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

### Cumulative Electrical, Natural Gas, and Telephone Service Impacts

**Impact 4.12.8.2** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update), as well as potential development in the surrounding areas, would result in an increase in cumulative utility service demands. The proposed project would have a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact on electrical, natural gas, telephone, and cable television services.

SECTION 4.13 CLIMATE CHANGE

**Generate Greenhouse Gas Emissions that May Have a Significant Impact on the Environment or Conflict with Applicable Adopted Reduction Measures**

**Impact 4.13.1** Implementation of the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would result in greenhouse gas emissions that would not be anticipated to conflict with the goals of AB 32 nor result in a significant impact on the environment. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

**Climate Change Environmental Effects on the City**

**Impact 4.13.2** Environmental effects of climate change are not currently expected to result in adverse impacts to the General Plan Update Planning Area. This impact is considered to be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

**Inefficient, Wasteful, and Unnecessary Consumption of Energy**

**Impact 4.13.3** Development under the proposed project (General Plan Update, Three Corridors Specific Plan, and Zoning Code Update) would increase the consumption of energy associated with electrical, natural gas, and vehicle fuel. This is considered to be a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.