California Environmental Quality Act

Initial Study

(as required by Sec. 15063 of the Public Resources Code)

To be completed by the lead agency

1.	**Project Title:**	City of Sierra Madre 2008–2014 Housing Element Including: General Plan Amendment (GPA 13-01 A, B and C), Municipal Code Text Amendment (MCTA 13-01) and Zone Change No. 13-01
2.	**Lead Agency Name and Address:**	City of Sierra Madre Development Services Department 232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard Sierra Madre, CA 91024
3.	**Contact Person and Phone Number:**	Danny Castro, Director Development Services City of Sierra Madre (626) 355-7135
4.	**Project Location:**	City of Sierra Madre (refer to Figure 1)
5.	**Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**	City of Sierra Madre
6.	**General Plan Designation:**	All designations citywide
7.	**Zoning:**	All zones citywide

8. Description of Project:

The project involves a General Plan Amendment (13-01A) to adopt the 2008-2014 Housing Element, which is a state mandated general plan element. The Housing Element must be updated pursuant to California Government Code Section 65588 for the 2008-2014 planning period. The Housing Element identifies and assesses projected housing needs and provides an inventory of constraints and resources relevant to meeting these needs. Components of the housing element include: a housing needs assessment with population and household characteristics; identification of constraints to providing housing; an inventory of available sites for the provision of housing for all economic segments of the community; and a statement of goals, policies and programs for meeting the City's housing needs. The Element's goals, policies and programs focus on the following:

- Preserving housing assets
- Ensuring diversity
- Reducing governmental constraints

- Promoting equal housing opportunities
- Environmental sustainability

Implementation of the new Housing Element requires two additional general plan amendments (13-01B) to adopt a new Land Use Category RH1 (Residential High Density, up to 20 dwelling units/acre), and General Plan Amendment (13-01C) to change the Land Use designation of property located at 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from RH (Residential Medium/High Density, up to 13 dwelling units/acre) to RH1 (Residential High Density, up to 20 dwelling units/acre). The final aspect of the project includes a Municipal Code Text Amendment (MCTA 13-01) to add a new zoning category R-3H (Multiple Family Residential High) and a Zone Change (ZC 13-01) to rezone 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H.

As described in the draft Housing Element, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has assigned Sierra Madre a regional housing growth need (RHNA) of 138 new residential units for the 2008-2014 planning period. The City's RHNA is distributed among the following income groups: 36 very low income; 22 low income; 24 moderate income; and 56 above moderate income units. Sierra Madre plans on fulfilling its RHNA allocation as follows:

- ***Existing Building Permits:*** Residential development constructed during the RHNA "gap period" since January 2006 can be credited towards Sierra Madre's regional housing needs. Between January 2006 and August 2012, building permits for 63 units have been issued. Of these, 16 were for single-family homes or condominiums and will address the needs of above moderate income households. The Agency-assisted Sierra Vista Senior Housing Project provides 10 very low income and 36 low income units deed restricted as affordable for 55 years. One second unit was also permitted.

- ***Existing Residential Sites*****:** The residential sites inventory completed for the Housing Element identifies four vacant sites, accommodating the development of 48 single-family homes in the hillsides, four multi-family units, and 75 senior assisted living units. An additional seven underutilized R-3 sites were identified as suitable for intensification, yielding a net increase in 436 multi-family units at densities of 13 units per acre. In aggregate, 40 new multi-family units can be developed under existing zoning at densities suitable to accommodate housing for moderate income households.

- ***Residential Rezoning Program*****:** Because Sierra Madre has a shortfall in sites under existing zoning necessary to fulfill its total lower and moderate income RHNA needs, the City is proposing to rezone two parcels under common ownership at 271 (APN 5768-020-12) and 293 (APN 5768-020-13) Mariposa Avenue from R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) to R-3H (Multiple Family Residential High). Based on the State's default density criteria the R-3H zoning classification provides densities suitable to facilitate the provision of housing affordable to very low and low income households.

  Combined, the two Mariposa parcels total approximately 34,500 square feet (0.80 ac.). 271 Mariposa totals approximately 11,500 square feet (0.26 ac.) and is occupied with two detached units built in 1906 and 1942. 293 Mariposa totals approximately 23,000 square feet (0.53 ac.) and is occupied with two detached units built in 1901 and 1960. All four units are in a state of disrepair and due to extensive alterations have little to no

historic value. The new Zoning and General Plan designation would allow up to 16 total units on the combined site.

- ***Second Units:*** Sierra Madre has significant additional capacity to accommodate second units, and has initiated a program to revise its current standards and actively promote their development. The City estimates that approximately 2 new second units will be created annually under the program, for a total of 5 new second units during the remainder of the planning period (including the 3 applications currently being processed). In addition, the City anticipates the second unit amnesty program currently being implemented will, at a minimum, bring 8 previously unpermitted units not previously recorded by the census into the City's official housing stock.

- The Citywide second unit survey provides a means of gauging the rent structure and affordability of existing and future second units. Typically, a high proportion of units are made available free of charge to employees or relatives, helping to meet the needs of extremely low income households. In other cases, second units are often rented below the market price for a typical apartment. Based on the results of the City's survey of over 60 existing second units, the estimated affordability of the anticipated 13 second units is 32% very low income (4 units), 49% low income (6 units), and 19% moderate income (3 units).

Figure 2 in this document illustrates the City's residential sites inventory including the existing residential sites and the proposed locations under the residential rezoning program.

The actions taken together allow for adoption of the State mandated General Plan Housing Element and rezoning for future development of 16 units in order to meet the City of Sierra Madre's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

Analysis in this document is limited to the review of potential environmental impacts resulting from the adoption of the Housing Element and the minor zone change. No specific development proposal is contemplated as part of this project, and the environmental effects of any future development project is subject to separate CEQA review.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:
This is an amendment to the General Plan that is Citywide in application.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:
None.

Figure 1 – Regional Location Map

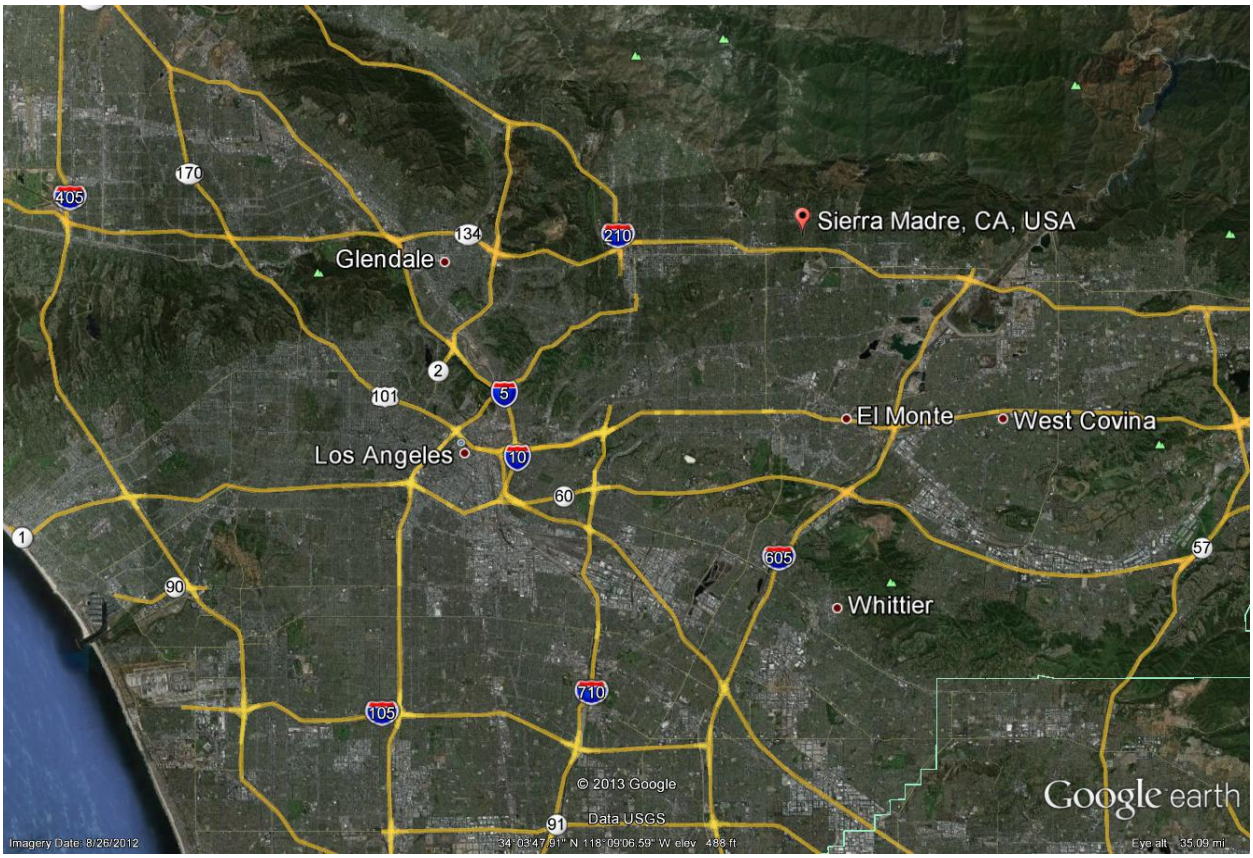
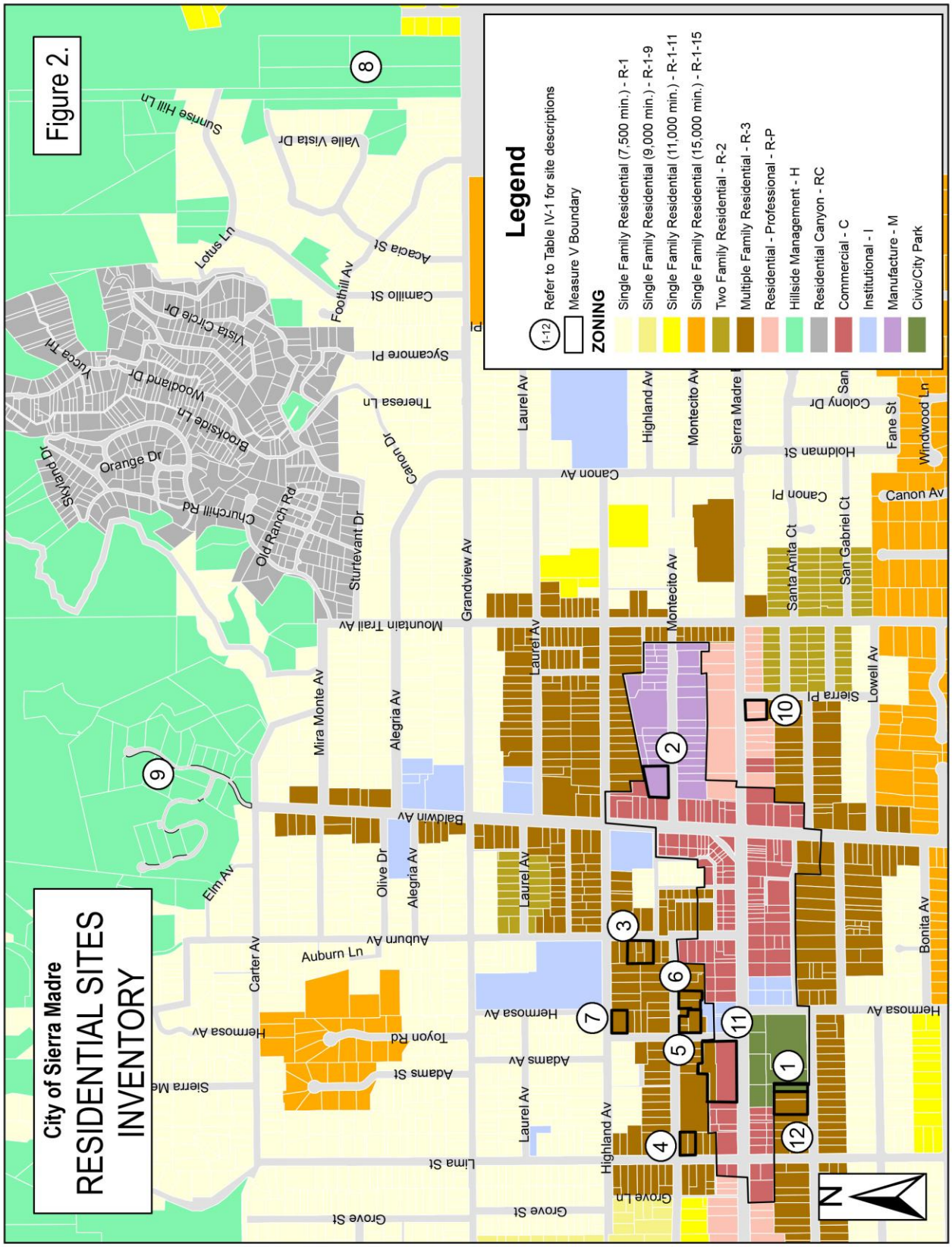


Figure 2 – Residential Sites Inventory



ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the Initial Study checklist.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology / Soils
☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology / Water Quality	■ Land Use / Planning
☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise	■ Population / Housing
☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation / Traffic
☐ Utilities / Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance	

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)
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 revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. 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 "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact 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 on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. 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, 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.

Danny Castro

March 13, 2013

Signature Date

Danny Castro

Printed name

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

    a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

    b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

    c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-c) Sierra Madre has many scenic resources including foothills, canyons, parks, and historical structures, although there are no State Scenic Highways. The General Plan includes many goals and policies to protect scenic resources and protect the small town charm of the community. The Housing Element includes policies and programs that focus on maintaining and enhancing the visual character of Sierra Madre (please see Policies 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.4, 2.5, 5.2 and Programs 1, 2 and 3).

The Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. Any proposal for residential development discussed in the Housing Element would be analyzed separately under CEQA as part of project-specific environmental review. The site-specific impacts, including affects on scenic vistas, scenic resources or the existing visual character would be assessed at that time. In addition, Sierra Madre requires either staff level or Planning Commission level design review prior to approval of development projects. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified during the individual project or plan review. Therefore, no impact to aesthetics is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

d) Please refer to the response above. All future development projects would need to be consistent with the City standards that require shielding, diffusing, or indirect lighting to avoid glare. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-c) As can be seen on Sierra Madre's General Plan Land Use map, no land is designated for agricultural uses. There are no Class I prime agricultural soils within Sierra Madre. Further, there are no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), according to maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, and there are no Williamson Act contracts within the City.

Therefore, no impact on agricultural resources is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element or rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

III. AIR QUALITY -- Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) 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 non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Result in a temporary increase in the concentration of criteria pollutants (i.e., as a result of the operation of machinery or grading activities)?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	■

f) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-d) The City of Sierra Madre is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which includes all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties. Air quality regulation in the Basin is administered by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The Final 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) was adopted by the SCAQMD Governing Board on June 1, 2007.

The South Coast Air Basin has been designated as non-attainment for Ozone (O_3), Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) based on State and Federal standards. The California Clean air Act requires that all reasonable stationary and mobile source control measures by implemented in non-attainment areas to help achieve a mandated, five percent per year reduction in ozone precursors.

Sierra Madre's Land Use and Circulation Elements include goals and policies that help to address air quality and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Many of these policies aim to reduce auto travel times while increasing opportunities for transit and pedestrian facilities. As described in the Housing Element, Sierra Madre has appointed a Green Advisory Committee to review green practices, policies and programs relating to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The Committee has developed a series of recommendations to further Sierra Madre's efforts in the areas of energy efficiency, waste reduction, recycling, clean energy, and sustainability.

The City of Sierra Madre is predominantly built-out. As described in the project description of this document, the Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. No specific development project is proposed at this time. Sierra Madre plans to fulfill its RHNA with sites already zoned for residential uses by rezoning two parcels on Mariposa Avenue to R-3H (density up to 20 units/acre, yielding a total of 16 units). The proposed rezoning fulfills Housing Program #8.

The specific air quality impacts of this future development, including: (1) any conflicts with an air quality plan, (2) an air quality standard violation, (3) a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment, and/or (4) a temporary increase in the concentration of criteria pollutants would be evaluated under CEQA as individual project proposals or plans are submitted. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified during the individual project or plan review, including compliance with the Housing Element policies and programs mentioned above. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

e) Sensitive receptors are defined as populations that are more susceptible to the effects of pollution than the population at large. Residential uses are considered sensitive because people in residential areas are often at home for extended periods of time and consequently could be exposed to pollutants for extended periods. However, as described above, the Housing Element does not include any physical development. At the time of a specific project review and corresponding CEQA preparation, any needed mitigation measures and conditions of approval

would be identified. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element or rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

f) Typically, residential uses do not create objectionable odors. Please see the responses above (a – e). Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element or the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	■
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, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-f) Sierra Madre retains a natural landscape that balances its urbanized character. Various recreational and natural open spaces, mature trees, undeveloped foothills, and ecologically significant habitats provide opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the region's Mediterranean climate. Sierra Madre and its citizens recognize the value of the natural environment through various stewardship and conservation efforts. The City of Sierra Madre has been designated a Wildlife Sanctuary since 1972 (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 7-2).

Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) and Natural Conservation Community Plans (NCCP) are administered by federal and state resource agencies and protect and preserve biological habitat in California. The City, including the natural hillside areas, is not within an established HCP or NCCP. Additionally, the City does not lie within a Significant Ecological Area (SEA), as designated by Los Angeles County. The Altadena SEA almost reaches the City's northwest corner, and extends from there northwest through the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains eight miles to the City of La Canada Flintridge. SEAs are ecologically important land and water areas that are valuable as plant and/or animal communities (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 7-10).

The City's Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance establishes standards and measures for preserving and protecting the City's public trees and protected trees, which include sycamores, black walnut, and the last vestiges of the City's landmark oak trees (coast live oak and engelman oak) located on undeveloped private property. Additionally, the Ordinance specifies the requirements for planting trees adjacent to newly planned residential developments.

The Housing Element is a policy document to help conserve and improve housing within the City. Any potential impacts related to biological resources, including the removal of trees protected by the Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance, would be analyzed in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time. Therefore, no impact on biological resources is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element or the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-d) Sierra Madre has a rich and nuanced built environment that includes an accretion of residential, industrial, and commercial structures dating from the late 19th century through to the present decade. Buildings of various ages, styles and size are intermingled throughout the town. Neighborhoods such as the Canyon reflect opportunities and constraints afforded by topography, changing purposes and stylistic preferences. Others – such as East Montecito – have evolved from the City's industrial and agricultural past. The City has numerous historic buildings that meet Secretary of the Interior's historic criteria; some are officially listed as historical, some de-listed, and others never listed.

Sierra Madre has a very active historic preservation community, known as the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society (SMHPS), which was formed in April of 1991 when the Preservation Society of Sierra Madre joined the Historical Society and together became the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society. The Society showcases the City's rich history through its historic archives collection (the Sierra Madre Historical Archives) housed at the Sierra Madre Public Library. Additionally, the City has a Historic Preservation Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapter 17.82), which serves to protect and preserve the City's historic landmarks (General Plan Technical Background Report p. 5-3).

The Land Use and Open Space/Conservation Elements of the General Plan contain policies regarding the protection of cultural resources in the City. In addition, the Housing Element has a policy that states to, "Support efforts to identify and preserve important examples of historic or architecturally significant residence" (Policy 1.3).

Sierra Madre plans to fulfill its RHNA with sites already zoned for residential uses and by rezoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue to R-3H (up to 20 units/acre, yielding a total of up to 16 units). The specific environmental effects of this future development would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as individual projects are proposed. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time, including compliance with the CEQA Guidelines and the protection of Native American artifacts outlined in the California Health and Safety Code. Therefore, adoption of the Housing Element and the related zone change at 271-293 Mariposa Avenue is not anticipated to have an impact on cultural resources.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☐	■
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	■
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	■
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-e) The General Plan includes the following information regarding geology and soils in Sierra Madre:

No areas of the City are within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The nearest active fault is the Sierra Madre Fault, which passes through the northern part of the City along the base of the San Gabriel Mountains in a west-northwesterly direction. This fault consists of several sub parallel branches found at the base of the mountains and within the one-quarter mile of slope above the mountain base. The Clamshell-Sawpit Fault, located approximately 1.5 miles east of Sierra Madre is an off -shoot branch of the Sierra Madre Fault and is considered a potentially active fault. Another active fault in proximity to the City is the Raymond Fault located approximately 1.5 miles to the south. The Raymond Fault is designated by the California Geologic Survey as an Alquist-Priolo Special Study Fault Zone.

Although the Sierra Madre, Clamshell-Sawpit and Raymond Faults are the primary faults that pose a hazard to the City, earthquakes occurring on other regional faults could also cause considerable damage. Other notable faults in the region include the San Andreas, Newport-Inglewood, Palos Verdes, Whittier and Malibu Coast Faults, all of which are considered to be

active. An earthquake along any of these faults would represent a hazard in the region, potentially causing many deaths and injuries, along with extensive property damage.

Landslides in the City typically occur at elevations of between 1,400 and 2,000 feet, well above the urban area of the City. A common type of landslide experienced in Sierra Madre is known as a mudflow. This type of landslide involves very rapid downslope movement of saturated soil, sub-soil and weathered bedrock. Large mudflows may have enough force to uproot trees and to carry along boulders several feet in diameter. Due to their fast speeds, mudflows can be very destructive, especially along the bottom and the mouths of canyons. Mudslides have generally occurred in several locations within the northern foothill areas of the City.

Historically, two major landslides have occurred in the northern hillside areas of Sierra Madre. In January 1954, 2,000 residents were urged to evacuate due to major landslide activity in the City's hillside areas and the damage was extensive. In March 1994, a cloudburst below Mount Wilson caused a flash flood and mudslide in Bailey Canyon claiming the lives of two hikers (General Plan Technical Background Report p. 6-11).

The Housing Element describes how the City plans on meeting its residential growth needs (RHNA) for this 2008-2014 housing cycle with sites already zoned for residential uses and by re-zoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue to R-3H (up to 20 units/acre, yielding a total of 16 units). The specific environmental effects of this future development would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as individual projects are proposed. Any potential impacts related to geologic hazards would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time. This includes compliance with the Safety Element, General Plan EIR and Los Angeles County Building Code described above. Therefore, adoption of the Housing Element and rezoning is not anticipated to have an impact on geology and soils.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of	☐	☐	☐	■

a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■

a – d) Assembly Bill (AB) 939 (Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1989), the Integrated Waste Management Act, requires every California city and county to divert 50 percent of its waste from landfills starting in the year 2000. In addition, AB 939 requires a Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP) for each county. The CIWMP must contain a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) for the county and each city within the county, identifying waste characterization, source reduction, recycling, composting, solid waste facility capacity, education and public information, funding, special waste (asbestos, sewage sludge, etc.), and household hazardous waste. The Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts) are responsible for implementation of the CIWMP and managing solid waste on a regional basis. The City of Sierra Madre is within the service boundary of District 15 (SDLAC). The Sanitation Districts operate three sanitary landfills, four landfill energy recovery facilities, two recycle centers, three materials recovery/transfer facilities, and participate in the operation of two refuse-to-energy facilities. The CIWMP must contain a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) for the county and each city within the county, identifying waste characterization, source reduction, recycling, composting, solid waste facility capacity, education and public information, funding, special waste (asbestos, sewage sludge, etc.), and household hazardous waste. The CIWMP must contain a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) for the county and each city within the county, identifying waste characterization, source reduction, recycling, composting, solid waste facility capacity, education and public information, funding, special waste (asbestos, sewage sludge, etc.), and household hazardous waste (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 7-23).

The Sierra Madre Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. Residential uses do not typically involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Substances used for maintenance and landscaping, such as common cleaners, solvents, paints, fertilizer, and pesticides, would be subject to all applicable regulations.

All future residential development discussed in the Housing Element would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time, including compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations concerning hazardous materials and/or waste. Therefore, adoption of the Housing Element is not anticipated to have an impact.

e) The Housing Element does not propose any physical development at this time. All future development projects would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project, therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and related zone change at 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

f) No private airstrips are located within the City of Sierra Madre. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

g -h) According to the Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map published by the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, the foothills within Sierra Madre are within three fire hazard severity zones: Moderate, High and Very High Fire Hazard Zones, with the very high being the highest designation possible.

Large fires have been part of southern California for many years. In April and May 2008, a fire raged through the foothills above Sierra Madre, forcing the evacuation of all the residents who lived on Grand View Avenue north to the foothills. This fire resulted in over 500 acres being burned, but no houses were destroyed (General Plan Technical Background Report page 6-13).

The City recognizes that its unique location places it at risk regardless of the precautionary steps it takes. Therefore, the City adopted a Multi-hazard Functional Emergency Operations Plan (MFEOP) and a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) in order to facilitate timely and orderly responses in disaster situations.

The 1996 MFEOP addresses the City's planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national security emergencies. The MFEOP requires emergency planning, training of full-time, auxiliary and reserve personnel in all City departments, public awareness and education, and assuring the adequacy and availability of sufficient resources to cope with emergencies.

The 2008 NHMP includes resources and information to assist City residents, public and private sector organizations, and others interested in participating in planning for natural hazards. The NHMP provides a list of action items that may assist the City in reducing risk and preventing loss from future natural hazard events. The action items address multi-hazard issues, as well as activities for earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, flooding, and wind storms.

The City supports a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) that is comprised of trained volunteers to assist the City's Emergency Operations Center and key community locations in the event of an emergency or disaster. Many of the CERT members have also received additional training in areas such as traffic control and are used as vital additional resources when needed (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 6-17).

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☐	■

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)?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
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 which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) Result in temporary modifications to existing drainage patterns that may increase the flow rate of stormwater, violate water quality discharge requirements, or result in substantial erosion on or off-site due to construction activities?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☐	■
h) 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?	☐	☐	☐	■
i) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	■
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	■
k) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-k) The City's water quality and supply is maintained by the Water Division, a water retail agency and a department within the Sierra Madre Public Works Department. The Water Division has two sources from which it pumps, treats and distributes water—four wells drawing from the Raymond Groundwater Basin, and two natural spring tunnels located in the City's foothills. Water pumped by the City is held in five reservoir sites and distributed to residential, commercial, industrial, and landscape irrigation connectors within the City. The five reservoirs provide a total storage volume of 6.7 million gallons. Currently, the City has 3,868 connections serving a population of approximately 10,927 people. The City does not provide water sales to other agencies on a regular basis, nor does it have additional water users. Emergency connections to the City of Arcadia and City of Pasadena water supplies are in place

should contamination or shortages in supply require Sierra Madre to draw from outside sources quickly. Groundwater pumped from the Santa Anita Subarea (Eastern Unit) of the Raymond Groundwater Basin (via the aforementioned wells) is the primary water supply for the City. As stated in the City's 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), through adjudication the City has the right to draw 1,764 acre feet of water per year from the aquifer. However, the 2010 UWMP notes that water from this source is not a reliable source of water in dry years or multiple dry years due to fluctuations in water level and the overall trend towards a decrease in water levels in the Eastern Unit. The City's other normal source of water is its horizontal wells (tunnels) in Little Santa Anita Canyon. Although the City has the right to operate these two spring tunnels, currently only the West Tunnel is in operation. This tunnel has a capacity of approximately 500 gallons per minute and is able to take advantage of gravity flows from higher elevations for distribution purposes. However, as noted in the 2010 UWMP, because production in the spring tunnels is dependent upon the hydrologic cycle, during dry years less water is available. If multiple dry years were to be experienced the tunnels would not provide a significant source of water supply.

The City's secondary source of water is through its membership in the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD). The other members of the District are the cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park and Azusa. SGVMWD's UWMP states that its supplies of imported State Water Project water will be adequate to serve member agencies for the next 20 years. Water imported by SGVMWD is placed in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin (Main Basin) via percolation. The City of Sierra Madre has no physical connection of its own to the Main Basin. In order to access its SGVMWD water in the Main Basin, Sierra Madre has to rely on the water system capacity of its neighboring city, Arcadia. In normal operations, Arcadia has system capacity to serve Sierra Madre and has historically done so via Sierra Madre's system interconnection with that city. However, Arcadia has indicated that under certain circumstances, its system may not have capacity to deliver adequate water to Sierra Madre. Therefore, the Sierra Madre source of water in the Main Basin is not completely reliable. Due to potentially unreliable groundwater supplies from the Raymond Groundwater Basin and the unreliability of the emergency connection with the City of Arcadia, SGVMWD is coordinating with Metropolitan Water District (MWD) to construct an emergency interconnection with the MWD Foothill Feeder, which runs through Sierra Madre. This would allow the City of Sierra Madre to access treated imported water directly from MWD. The proposed emergency connection would have a capacity of up to five cubic feet per second (cfs). Such water would be available only under emergency conditions when the City's wells cannot produce sufficient groundwater and emergency supplies are not available from the City of Arcadia. This water source cannot be used to facilitate additional development in Sierra Madre (General Pan Technical Background Report, page 7-14).

The City of Sierra Madre is not located within a 100-year flood zone as indicated on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) covering the City (FIRM Map Number 06037C1400F, effective September 26, 2008). The 2008 FIRM for Sierra Madre designates the majority of Sierra Madre as Flood Zone X, indicating that it is located outside of 100- and 500-year flood zones (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 6-6).

The City has several strategies that address hydrology and water quality. In addition to the Storm Drain Master Plan, NPDES requirements and Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

mentioned above, City Code Section 150.009 requires proposed developments that need either a building permit or grading plan approval to prepare a drainage plan or a drainage element. This drainage plan or element must be approved by the City Engineer prior to the issuance of any building permit or prior to the approval of any grading plan (please refer to discussion in the Housing Element, page 3-10).

The Sierra Madre Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. No physical development is proposed at this time. Any potential impacts related to water quality or drainage systems would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. This includes the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue (Housing Element Program #8). Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time, including compliance with the policies and programs mentioned above. Therefore, no impact on hydrology and water quality is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	■	☐
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■

a) As described in the project description of this document, the Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. In order to meet the RHNA, Sierra Madre has identified sites already zoned for residential uses and one additional site to be rezoned to 20 units/acre, accommodating a total of 16 units. Policy 1.1 in the Element calls for the City to, "Maintain sustainable neighborhoods with quality housing, infrastructure and open space that fosters neighborhood character and the health of residents". Any potential impacts on the existing community from future development would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project; including the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H (Housing Element Program #8). Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

b) As described in the 1996 General Plan EIR, the theoretical buildout of the General Plan is 10,186 dwelling units, however, the effective capacity is only 5,208 (1996 General Plan – FEIR, page 33). According to Table II-13 in the Draft Housing Element, there were 4,933 dwelling units in Sierra Madre in 2000 (U.S. Census) and 5,002 units in 2009 (California Department of Finance). As described in the Element, Sierra Madre has experienced a two percent increase in dwelling units since 2000, less than half the Countywide five percent housing growth rate. The City is currently undertaking a comprehensive update of the General Plan and will adjust residential buildout conditions accordingly.

In order to help meet Sierra Madre' RHNA of 138 units for the 2008-2014 planning period, the City intends to develop on sites already zoned for residential uses. In addition, the City is rezoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue to R-3H to accommodate 16 units (Housing Element Program #8). The potential environmental impacts from the development on residentially zoned sites and the rezoning process would be evaluated under separate CEQA review. The associated impacts from this increased number of residential units would be evaluated at that time and any appropriate mitigation measures would be identified. Therefore, a less-than-significant impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

c) Sierra Madre is not a part of any Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 7-10). No impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and the related rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-b) The General Plan Land Use map shows no areas designated for mineral resources. To meet the RHNA for the 2008-2014 planning period, the Housing Element has identified sites for housing development on sites currently zoned for residential use. Therefore, no impact on mineral resources is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

XI. NOISE – Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity due to construction activities above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of	☐	☐	☐	■

a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
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?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-d) The City of Sierra Madre is primarily a residential community nestled at the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. As with most communities, the primary source of noise is from passenger vehicles, trucks and buses traveling along local roadways. However, there are no major transportation corridors that traverse the City. Regional traffic on I-210 is audible through the daytime and clearly audible at nighttime in the City regardless of the distance from the freeway, with weather and geographic conditions causing some locations to be affected more than others. The residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, and the downtown commercial district also generate noise from equipment and other stationary sources of noise (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 6-23).

The City's General Plan Noise Element and Noise Ordinance of the Municipal Code (Chapter 9.32) noise standards for Sierra Madre. This includes community noise standards for land use compatibility, construction noise standards and both exterior and interior operational noise standards for residential uses.

The Housing Element is a policy document and any proposal for residential development discussed in the Element would be analyzed separately under CEQA as part of project-specific environmental review. This includes the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue (Housing Element Program #8). The site-specific noise conditions would be assessed at that time and any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified, including compliance with the General Plan Noise Element and the City's Noise Ordinance. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and related rezoning.

e) Sierra Madre is not located within 2 miles of a public or private airport and therefore would not expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels.

f) No private airstrips are located within the City of Sierra Madre. Therefore, no impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	■	☐
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	■

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	■

a) The City's RHNA for the 2008-2014 planning period is 138 residential units. Sierra Madre plans to accommodate residential development on sites currently designated for residential development and by rezoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 (13 units/acre) to R-3H (20 units/acre) to allow the development of 16 units (Housing Element Programs #8).

The Housing Element includes many policies to ensure that population growth in the City occurs in an orderly manner, is consistent with the character of existing residential neighborhoods and is coordinated with the provision of utilities and public services (please refer to policies 1.1, 2.1, 2.4, 5.2, 5.4)

The Housing Element is a policy document and does not include any specific development proposal. The potential environmental impacts from future residential projects would be evaluated under separate CEQA review. This includes the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H (Housing Element Program #8). Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time. Please refer to Section 9, Land Use and Planning, of this document for further information. Therefore, a less-than-significant impact is anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and the related rezoning.

b-c) As described in the Housing Element, Sierra Madre plans to fulfill its RHNA allocation through new development on vacant residential sites and rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 (13 units/acre) to R-3H (20 units/acre).

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of 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 public services:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	■
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	■
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	■

a) For many years SMFD was the only all-volunteer fire department in Los Angeles County; however, over the past years it has shifted from an all volunteer force to a combination force (paid and nonpaid). SMFD currently has a paid staff of 1 Fire Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 1 Fire Marshal, 1 Paramedic Coordinator, 6 Captains, 6 Engineers, and a

volunteer staff of 28 Shift-Auxiliary Firefighters, consisting of 5 crews on a rotating platoon basis (General Plan Technical Background Report 6-2).

The Sierra Madre Police Department (SMPD) provides police services to the City of Sierra Madre. SMPD has full- and part-time members including the Chief of Police, 4 sergeants, 2 corporals, 1 detective, 3 part-time officers, and 2 part-time cadets. They are supported by 4 non-sworn full-time and 2 non-sworn part-time dispatchers, 1 non-sworn code compliance/enforcement officer, 1 parking control officer, ten reserve police officers, and 10 volunteers. Reserve police officers volunteer their time by assisting with a variety of law enforcement duties, from providing additional staffing at special City functions to assisting after natural disasters. In a 24-hour period, officers respond to an average of 45 to 50 calls for service. Currently, the police officer to resident ratio in Sierra Madre is 1.7 police officers per 1000 residents (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 6-3).

The Pasadena Unified School District provides K-12 education to school-aged children in Sierra Madre, Pasadena and Altadena.

The City's General Plan has many goals and policies regarding public services (please refer to the Safety and Open Space/Conservation Elements). In addition, Policy 1.1 in the Housing Element calls for the City to, "Maintain sustainable neighborhoods with quality housing, infrastructure and open space that fosters neighborhood character and the health of residents".

The City's RHNA for the 2008-2014 planning period is 138 residential units. Sierra Madre plans to accommodate this new development on sites currently designated for residential development and by committing to rezone 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H to allow up to 16 residential units. Potential impacts to public services from these new units, including the construction of any new facilities, alteration of any existing facilities or a decline in the levels of service, would be analyzed in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified during each CEQA review. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and the related rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

XIV. RECREATION	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project 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?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-b) The City's parks provide an approximate total of 17.8 acres of public recreational open space to its residents. It was identified in the 1996 Sierra Madre General Plan that the City needs more park space, yet since that date no additional space has been added. As part of the ongoing effort to update the City of Sierra Madre's Parks and Facilities Master Plan, the City's Community Services Department has created an online survey to help the City identify the community's

needs for the parks and recreational facilities (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 4-3).

Any proposal for residential development discussed in the Housing Element would be analyzed separately under CEQA as part of project-specific environmental review. This includes the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue (Housing Element Program #8). The impacts on existing parks/recreational facilities or impacts from new or expanded facilities would be assessed at that time. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified, including compliance with General Plan policies. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element and the related rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
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)?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Result in the temporary street or lane closures that would result in either a change of traffic patterns or capacity that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system during construction activities (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)?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) 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?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Result in inadequate parking capacity resulting in an impact on traffic or circulation?	☐	☐	☐	■
h) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	■

a- h) As described in the General Plan Technical Background Report the majority of the streets in Sierra Madre fall under the Local Street classification. Local streets are two-lane roadways

without medians, and in some cases, without centerlines. Speed limits are typically 25mph or less, and there is a higher likelihood of cul-de-sacs, tight radius turns, and meandering alignments. Streets that fall into other categories include:

Michillinda Avenue – Major Street (4 lanes)
Sierra Madre Boulevard - Collector Street (2 lanes)
Baldwin Avenue – Collector Street (2 lanes)
Orange Grove Avenue – Local Collector (2 lanes)
Grand View Avenue – Local Collector
Lima Street – Local Collector
Mountain Trail Avenue – Local Collector

Total roadway capacity is based on a daily capacity of 7,500 vehicles per lane. This capacity value correlates to standards for similar facilities in neighboring jurisdictions (General Plan Technical Background Report, page 3-5).

The City's RHNA for the 2008-2014 planning period is 138 residential units. Sierra Madre plans to accommodate residential development on sites currently designated for residential development and by rezoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H to allow up to 16 dwelling units. Potential impacts related to transportation would be analyzed under CEQA in conjunction with the approval of a particular project. Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified during the individual project or plan review, including payment of applicable mitigation fees described above. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
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?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which 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?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-g Sierra Madre has no wastewater treatment capacity or facilities, only a wastewater collection system. The City's Sewer Division, a department within the Sierra Madre Public Works Department, manages, operates and maintains the City's wastewater collection system. The wastewater collection system is connected and discharged to sewer mains in the City of Arcadia and to Los Angeles County trunk mains in Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre Boulevard and East Orange Grove Avenue. Under contract with the City, the Sanitation Districts provides treatment and disposal of wastewater generated in the City. The wastewater from the City's service area, which is estimated at approximately one million gallons per day (MGD) or 365 million gallons annually, primarily flows to the Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant located in South El Monte. The City's 2009 Sewer Master Plan identified multiple minor deficiencies in the City's wastewater collection system. Currently, there are no plans to expand the City's wastewater collection facilities. However, it is anticipated that all existing deficiencies will be corrected during the life of the proposed General Plan Update. None are expected to be worsened by the General Plan Update. Sewer system expansions in Sierra Madre have historically been funded either by developers of housing tracts or by the formation of assessment districts. The City's Sewer Division does not fund construction of new infrastructure

SB 1087, effective January 2006, requires water and sewer providers to grant priority for service allocations to proposed developments that include units affordable to lower income households. Pursuant to these statutes, upon adoption of its Housing Element, Sierra Madre will immediately deliver the Element to local water and sewer providers, along with a summary of its regional housing needs allocation. In addition, policies 5.2 and 5.3 of the Housing Element call for environmental sustainability to be incorporated into housing projects.

The Sierra Madre Housing Element is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs to meet the existing and projected housing needs of the City. No physical development is proposed at this time. The specific environmental effects to utility and service systems from future residential development would be evaluated under separate CEQA review as individual project proposals or plans are submitted. This includes the rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue (Housing Element Program #8). Any needed mitigation measures or conditions of approval would be identified at that time. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated from adoption of the Housing Element.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project 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 a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Does the project 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)?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	■

a-c As described throughout this document, the Housing Element is one of the elements of the City's General Plan, and must be updated pursuant to California Government Code Section 65588 for the 2008-2014 planning period. The Housing Element identifies and assesses projected housing needs and provides an inventory of constraints and resources relevant to meeting these needs.

The City's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) for the 2008-2014 planning period is 138 residential units. The City's RHNA is distributed among the following income groups: 36 very low income; 22 low income; 24 moderate income; and 56 above moderate income units. The Element illustrates that Sierra Madre plans to accommodate residential development on sites currently designated for residential development and by rezoning 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 (13 units/acre) to R-3H (20 units/acre) to allow up to 16 units on the two lots.

Overall the project includes the adoption of the Housing Element, adoption of a new Land Use category and related Municipal Code Text Amendment and Zone Change. These actions collectively implement the Housing Element and allow the City to satisfy the RHNA goal established by the Southern California Association of Governments.

However, it should be noted that the Housing Element does not include any physical development. Rather, it is a policy document that includes goals, policies and programs. All environmental effects of future residential development would be evaluated as individual project proposals or plans are submitted to the City for consideration, pursuant to CEQA. Therefore, adoption of the Housing Element and the related rezoning of 271-293 Mariposa Avenue would not degrade the quality of the environment, result in cumulatively considerable impacts or cause substantial adverse effects on human beings.

City of Sierra Madre 2008-2014 Housing Element

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Materials listed in this bibliography are available for review at the City of Sierra Madre Planning and Development Department.

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4. City of Sierra Madre, "General Plan Technical Background Report", June 2012.