CITY OF WOODLAND
GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT: POLICY 2.A.1
PUBLIC DRAFT
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

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ACRONYMS AND OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

µm	micrometer
2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Report
A-1	Agricultural General
AB	Assembly Bill
AFY	acre feet per year
ALUCP	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
AMM	avoidance and minimization measures
A-N	Agriculture
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
CAAP	Climate Action & Adaptation Plan
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model
CALGreen	California Green Building Standards
CalRecycle	California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
CalTrans	California Department of Transportation
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CASQA	California Stormwater Quality Associations
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Valley RWQCB	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
CEQA Guidelines	California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines
City	City of Woodland
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	carbon monoxide
CO_2	carbon dioxide
CO_2e	carbon dioxide-equivalents
County	Yolo County
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
CVFPP	Central Valley Flood Protection Plan
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibels
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DPM	diesel particulate matter
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
DWWSP	Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project
EC	electroconductivity
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EO	Executive Order
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

g	ground acceleration
General Plan amendment	Policy 2.A.1 in the General Plan
GHGs	greenhouse gases
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
GWP	global warming potential
I	Interstate
I-H	Industrial
IS	Initial Study
LAFCo	Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission
lbs/day	pounds per day
L_{eq}	Equivalent Sound Level
LID	Low Impact Development
M-2	Heavy Industrial
MEI	maximally exposed individual
mgd	million gallons a day
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MS4 Permit	Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
MT	metric tons
MTP	Metropolitan Transportation Plan
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NOP	notice of preparation
NOX	nitrogen oxides
NO_X	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWIC	Northwest Information Center
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
OS	Open Space
P	Primary Number
PHMSA	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
PM10	particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 microns
PM2.5	particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 microns
proposed project	Policy 2.A.1 in the General Plan
PVC	polyvinyl chloride
ROG	reactive organic gases
RWTF	Regional Water Treatment Facility
SACOG	Sacramento Area Council of Governments
SB	Senate Bill
SCS	Sustainable Communities Strategy
SEIR	Supplemental EIR
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SOI	sphere of influence
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TACs	toxic air contaminants
TMDLs	Total Maximum Daily Loads
tpy	tons per year

U.S. EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
UCMP	University of California Museum of Paleontology
ULL	Urban Limit Line
USA North 811	Underground Service Alert of Northern California
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WPCF	Water Pollution Control Facility
Yolo HCP/NCCP	Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan
YSAQMD	Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This summary is provided in accordance with Section 15123 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA Guidelines). As stated in Section 15123(a), "an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) shall contain a brief summary of the proposed action and its consequences. The language of the summary should be as clear and simple as reasonably practical." As required by the CEQA Guidelines, this chapter includes (1) a summary description of the proposed project, (2) a synopsis of environmental impacts and recommended mitigation measures, (3) identification of the alternatives evaluated and of the environmentally superior alternative, and (4) a discussion of the areas of controversy associated with the project.

As explained in more detail in Chapter 1, this is a Supplemental EIR (SEIR) that supplements the previously certified City of Woodland (City) 2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Report (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR continue to have utility in addressing direct, reasonably foreseeable indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with implementing the General Plan and cited mitigation measures continue to apply to implementation of the City's General Plan. As provided in CEQA Guidelines Section 15163, this SEIR provides the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the proposed project. The proposed project evaluated in this SEIR includes potential amendment to the City's General Plan Policy 2.A.1, as described below in more detail.

1.2 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City has proposed an amendment to Policy 2.A.1 in the General Plan ("the proposed project" or General Plan amendment). As described in Chapter 3, "Project Description" and Chapter 6, "Other CEQA Considerations", of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the City's ultimate boundaries are circumscribed by a permanent Urban Limit Line (ULL) established by a vote of the people in 2006. The approved initiative placed restrictions on the provision of services outside of the ULL. The ULL boundary and provisions of services outside the ULL may only be modified by another vote by the people.

The City received applications to extend utilities past the ULL, the extension of which would require a ballot measure amending existing General Plan Policy 2.A.1. The amendment would permit the extension of sewer, water, and recycled water utility facilities to serve existing commercial facilities up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026.

It is anticipated at this time that two existing commercial facilities would make use of the utility extension if the ballot measure passes. These two existing commercial facilities are Bayer U.S. Crop Science, LLC (located at 37437 CA-16, Woodland, CA 95695; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN]: 025-470-038-000) and Clark Pacific (located at 40600 County Road 18C, Woodland, CA 95776; APN: 027-250-028-000) Figure 1.2-1). The ballot measure would not require either Bayer or Clark Pacific to extend utility facilities and services.

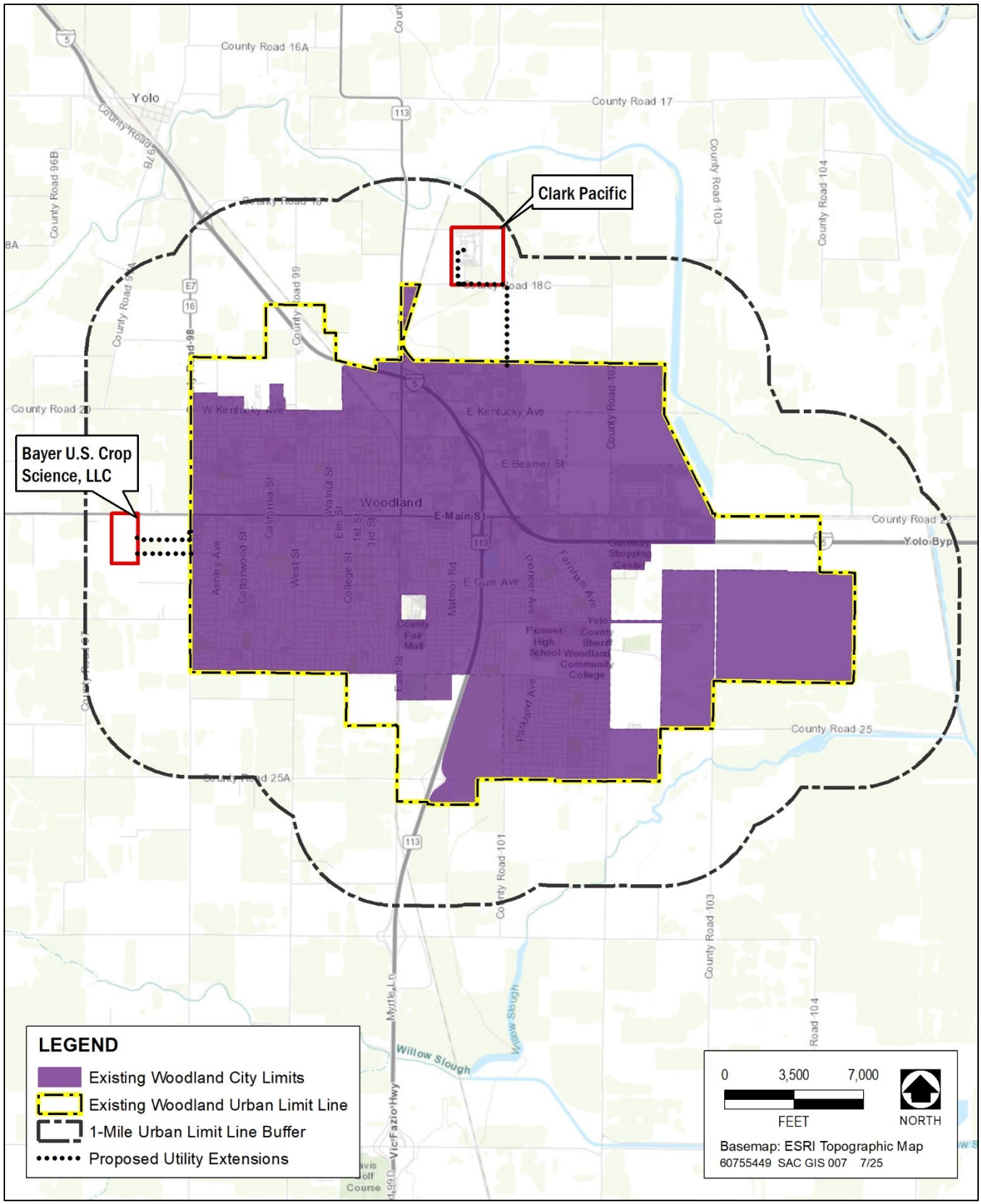

Figure 1.2-1 Proposed Project Vicinity Map

Bayer and Clark Pacific are seeking extension of the City's water and wastewater services beyond the ULL for several reasons. In the case of Bayer, the existing source of potable and processing water is groundwater, which is high in nitrates, boron, as well as other constituents of concern (e.g., hexavalent chromium). The groundwater is pumped via existing wells and requires treatment to meet the Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) drinking water guidelines as well as extensive buffering to minimize damage to laboratory equipment and other mechanical systems. Bayer's septic system and retention pond are also at capacity. Clark Pacific is experiencing similar issues with both the quality of well water and septic system capacity. Clark Pacific is also interested in recycled water for processing needs. Extending the City's water and wastewater services would allow a reduction of the use of groundwater because potable water would be supplied by the City; an improvement in groundwater quality because the septic systems of both commercial facilities would no longer be used; more efficient use of onsite space by eliminating the physical space required by wells and purification systems; and, an increase in the revenue of the City through the payment of water and wastewater rates by Bayer and Clark Pacific. In addition, the extension of utilities and the use of City water and wastewater services by Bayer and Clark Pacific is consistent with state and regional activities related to safe drinking water and groundwater management. The extension of utilities is consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Central Valley RWQCB) support of consolidation of systems in support of reliable water supplies and an increase in water quality in California. The extension of utilities is also consistent with the Yolo Sustainable Groundwater Agency activities in reducing groundwater demands within the groundwater basin.

1.3 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The proposed General Plan amendment is consistent with the Project Objectives that were included in the City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. As noted in Section 3 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, "Project Description," the project objectives include the City's Vision Statement and Guiding Principles for the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The vision statement is an aspirational description of what the community would like to be in the future, in this case, looking forward to 2035, and represents a compilation of input from the community through the public process. Guiding principles are shared values that will be used to develop policies that would, once implemented, achieve the vision.

1.4 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Implementation of the City's existing General Plan would result in a number of significant impacts on the environment. At the same time, the General Plan includes many policies that are intended to minimize or mitigate these potential impacts. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR summarized the impacts and mitigation measures of the City's existing General Plan. Please see Appendix A of this SEIR, which is Table 2-1 from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Each of the mitigation measures identified in the General Plan and CAP EIR, as applicable, would continue to apply to the proposed project, if applicable.

The analysis in this SEIR considers the policies set forth in the 2035 General Plan and CAP in evaluating impacts and providing supplementation information necessary to address the impacts of the General Plan amendment. The analysis in this SEIR shows the General Plan amendment will have no new significant impacts and no increase in severity in impacts from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

1.4.1 SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR summarized the impacts and mitigation measures certified and approved by the City as part of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (see Appendix A). This SEIR provides information necessary to address the impacts of the General Plan amendment.

The following environmental topic areas are not the focus of this SEIR as the General Plan amendment would not affect these resources and there would be no new significant impacts and no increase in severity in impacts previously disclosed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (discussed further in Section 1.1.4, *Other Environmental Topics Not Discussed in Detail in this Supplemental EIR*).

- Aesthetics
- Mineral Resources
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Wildfire
- Alternatives

1.4.2 SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

The City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified the following areas where, after implementation of feasible mitigation measures, implementation of the General Plan may nonetheless result in impacts that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level.

The City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified the following resource areas where, even with feasible mitigation measures, implementation of the General Plan may nonetheless result in impacts that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level (pages 6-51 to 6-52):

- Aesthetics and Visual Resources: Impact 4.1-3 and 4.1-4
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources: Impact 4.2-1 and 4.2-3
- Air Quality: Impact 4.3-1, 4.3-2, and 4.3-3
- Cultural Resources: Impact 4.6-1 and 4.6-2
- Hydrology, Flooding and Water Quality: Impact 4.9-7
- Land Use Planning, Population and Housing: Impact 4.10-2 and 4.10-3
- Noise and Vibration: Impact 4.11-1, 4.11-2, and 4.11-3

Therefore, as concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the impacts identified above would be significant and unavoidable (pages 6-51 to 6-52). These conclusions would not change as a result of the proposed project as documented in Chapter 4 of this SEIR and the proposed project would not result in new significant and unavoidable impacts on these resources. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

1.5 ALTERNATIVES

CEQA requires the EIR to analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project that (1) meet most or all of the project's objectives; (2) substantially reduce one or more of its significant effects; and (3) are potentially feasible. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15163, the supplement to the EIR need contain only the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised.

Rather than analyze one specific project, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR analyzes two alternative ways in which growth and development could occur through the planning horizon year (2035). While the Project Alternatives use the same Land Use Diagram, they offer different approaches regarding the timing, location, and sequence under which the Planning Area could build out through 2035, particularly in terms of "greenfield" growth in Specific Plan areas. One Alternative introduces new greenfield growth in the East while the other continues to concentrate new greenfield growth in the South. Hence the two Alternatives are termed the East Alternative and the South Alternative. The vast majority of policies in the 2035 General Plan were the same for both the East and South Alternatives, including Policy 2.A.1.

The proposed General Plan amendment would not increase the severity of any impacts as they were disclosed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Since there are no new impacts associated with the proposed project and since there are no impacts that would increase in severity with implementation of the proposed project, this SEIR does not include any new alternatives for analysis. There are no alternatives that were determined to be infeasible at the time of drafting the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (Chapter 5, Alternatives, page 5-5 through 5-7) that would address any potentially significant impact, and that are now feasible. This is because the alternatives that were determined to be infeasible (General Plan Scenario 1: High Infill; No New Greenfield Development and General Plan Scenario 3: Moderate Infill; New Greenfield Growth in the South and North) would have resulted in more new development than the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not make the alternatives analysis provided in Chapter 5 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR inadequate, and no changes to Chapter 5 are needed.

1.6 POTENTIAL AREAS OF CONTROVERSY/ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123 recommends that the Executive Summary include a summary of areas of controversy known to the lead agency. A notice of preparation (NOP) on this SEIR was prepared that requested comments from affected agencies and the public regarding the scope and content of the SEIR (Appendix B). The City circulated the NOP for a 30-day review period starting on August 12, 2025. The City invited additional comments on the scope of the SEIR at virtual public meeting held on August 19, 2025. Appendix B of this SEIR includes comments received on the NOP. No comments were received at the scoping meeting. NOP comments have been considered and addressed in the respective technical sections in Chapter 4, "Impact Analysis," of this SEIR and are summarized in Section 2.1.3, "Scope and Focus of this Supplemental EIR" of this SEIR. Topics mentioned in response to the NOP include:

- Potential impacts to agricultural resources
- Potential growth inducing effects
- Potential land use effects
- Potential cultural resources and Tribal Cultural Resources effects
- Potential surface water and water quality effects

- Potential cumulative effects
- Project approvals and use of an SEIR

1.7 HOW TO COMMENT ON THIS DRAFT SEIR

This Supplemental EIR is being circulated for a 45-day public review period. During this time, members of public and agencies can submit written comments on the Supplemental EIR to the address provided below.

Erika Bumgardner, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director
City of Woodland
300 1st Street, Woodland CA, 95695
erika.bumgardner@cityofwoodland.gov

Comments should be focused on the adequacy and completeness of the SEIR. "Adequacy" is defined as the thoroughness of the EIR in addressing significant adverse physical environmental effects, identifying mitigation measures for those impacts, feasible alternatives that would reduce or avoid potentially significant effects, and supplying enough information for public officials to make decisions about the merits of the project.

After the end of the public review period and as part of preparing the Final SEIR, the City will prepare written responses to all comments pertaining to the adequacy of the Draft SEIR in addressing potentially significant adverse environmental effects associated with the proposed project. The Final SEIR will consist of the Draft SEIR, comments received, written responses to comments, and a list of commenters. It may also contain additional information necessary to respond to the comments.

The City Council will consider certification of the Final SEIR prior to taking action on the General Plan amendment. At that time, the Council will adopt findings regarding the disposition of each significant effect identified in the Final SEIR, if necessary, as well as a statement of overriding considerations describing the specific benefits that outweigh the proposed project's significant and unavoidable impacts, if necessary.

2 INTRODUCTION

The City of Woodland (City) is proposing to amend Policy 2.A.1 in the General Plan ("the proposed project"). The amendment would allow the City to provide utilities up to one mile beyond the Urban Limit Line (ULL) to commercial facilities operating prior to November 3, 2026. The City's ultimate boundaries are circumscribed by a permanent ULL established by a vote of the people in 2006. The approved initiative placed restrictions on the provision of services outside of the existing ULL. The ULL boundary and provisions of services outside the ULL may only be modified by another vote by the people. The City is considering and evaluating an amendment to Policy 2.A.1 in this Supplemental General Plan Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) to potentially include a ballot measure on the November 2026 ballot that would amend the existing ULL to allow the expansion of existing utilities to existing commercial facilities operating prior to November 3, 2026, and located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL.

This SEIR has been prepared to provide additional information needed to address the proposed project, in addition to that which was provided in the City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

2.1 THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

This SEIR was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq*.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 *et seq*.).

The lead agency is the public agency with primary responsibility over the proposed project. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15051(b)(1), "the lead agency will normally be the agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose." The City of Woodland, as the lead agency, directed the preparation of this SEIR to evaluate the environmental impacts of implementation of the proposed project.

2.1.1 TYPE OF EIR

CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 through 15164 set forth the criteria for determining the appropriate additional environmental documentation, if any, to be completed when there is a previously certified EIR covering the project for which a subsequent discretionary action is required. According to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162(a) and 15163, when an EIR has been certified for a project, no subsequent or supplement to an EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in light of the whole public record, one or more of the following:

(1) substantial changes are proposed in the project that will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects;

(2) substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or

(3) new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete, shows any of the following:

(A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR.

(B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR.

(C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives.

(D) Mitigation measures or alternatives that are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

Section 15163 of the CEQA Guidelines states that a lead agency may choose to prepare a supplement to an EIR rather than a subsequent EIR if:

(1) any of the conditions described above for Section 15162 would require the preparation of an SEIR, and

(2) only minor additions or changes would be necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation.

Section 15163 of the CEQA Guidelines also identifies that a supplemental EIR need contain only the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised. A supplemental EIR may also be circulated for public and agency review by itself without recirculating the previous draft or final EIR.

This SEIR supplements the previously certified City of Woodland 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (State Clearinghouse #2013032015). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR continue to have utility in addressing direct, reasonably foreseeable indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with implementing the General Plan and General Plan amendment to Policy 2.A.1. Mitigation measures imposed as a part of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR continue to apply to implementation of the City's General Plan.

2.1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The CEQA Guidelines charge public agencies with the responsibility of avoiding or minimizing environmental damage that could result from implementation of a project, where feasible. As part of this responsibility, public agencies are required to balance various public objectives, including economic and social issues, in addition to the environmental issues addressed in a CEQA document.

The purpose of an EIR is neither to recommend approval nor denial of a project. An EIR is an informational document used in the planning and decision-making process by the lead agency and responsible and trustee agencies. An EIR describes the significant environmental impacts of a project, identifies potentially feasible measures to mitigate significant impacts, and describes potentially feasible alternatives to the project that can

reduce or avoid significant environmental effects. CEQA requires decision-makers to balance the benefits of a project against its unavoidable environmental effects in deciding whether to carry out a project.

If significant environmental effects are identified, the lead agency must adopt findings indicating whether feasible mitigation measures or alternatives exist that can avoid or reduce those effects. If the environmental impacts are identified as significant and unavoidable, the lead agency may still approve the project if it determines that social, economic, legal, technological, or other factors override the unavoidable impacts. The lead agency would then be required to prepare a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" that discusses the specific reasons for approving the project.

In making its decision about the proposed project, the City considers the information in this SEIR, comments received on the SEIR, and responses to those comments, information in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and technical appendices, along with materials cited in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and this SEIR, to support the analysis presented herein.

2.1.3 Scope and Focus of this Supplemental EIR

Pursuant to Section 15143 of the CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency may limit an EIR's discussion of environmental impacts to specific issue areas where significant impacts on the environment may occur. This principle has been used to organize the information presented in this SEIR.

The City used a variety of information to determine which issue areas may require relatively more or less information in supplement to the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR in order to address the proposed project. This information included review of proposed project characteristics, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and comments received from members of the public and from agencies.

A notice of preparation (NOP) on the SEIR was prepared that requested comments from affected agencies and the public regarding the scope and content of the SEIR. The City circulated a NOP for this SEIR starting on August 12, 2025 and ending on September 12, 2025. In addition, the City invited additional comments on the scope of the SEIR at a public meeting held on August 19, 2025. Appendix A of this SEIR includes each comment received on the NOP, along with comments received at the scoping meeting. NOP comments have been considered and those relevant to the environmental analysis have been addressed in this SEIR, as appropriate.

As a result of the review of existing information and the scoping process, it was determined that the following resource areas would have dedicated sections in this SEIR where supplementary information will be provided:

- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources
- Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use Planning and Population and Housing
- Noise and Vibration

- Utilities
- Other CEQA Required Sections, including Growth Inducing Effects

2.1.4 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL IN THIS SUPPLEMENTAL EIR

As discussed above, the focus of this SEIR is on those environmental topics listed above where additional information is needed as a supplement to the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR to address the proposed project. The following discussion describes other environmental topics that are not the focus of this SEIR, since the proposed changes to 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR would clearly have no bearing on these environmental impacts. Implementation of the proposed project would not change impacts related to the following environmental topics from what has already been analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Therefore, these environmental topics are briefly discussed below and are not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Aesthetics and Visual Resources**: The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined there would be less than significant impacts on scenic vistas and scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State Scenic Highway. The proposed project would not change these impact determinations or increase the severity of them because as identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR there are no designated or eligible State Scenic Highways in the vicinity of Woodland and none within the proximity to the proposed project (page 4.1-22). And as noted in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, Woodland's relatively flat topography results in few scenic vistas (page 4.1-22) and the proposed project would not interfere with views of the flat agricultural lands or foothills to the east or west. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts on existing visual character or quality of the site and surroundings would be significant and creation of new sources of substantial light or glare would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated. The proposed project would not change the impact determination associated with light or glare or increase the impact severity because the proposed project would not use nighttime lighting and because the proposed project consists of installation of underground pipelines in existing agricultural fields or public rights of way. Finally, once constructed, the proposed project would consist of underground pipelines that would have no ability to affect scenic vistas, State Scenic Highways, visual resources, visual character or quality, or light or glare. Aesthetics and visual resources are not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Mineral Resources:** The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined there would be no impacts to mineral resources because there are no areas of known mineral resources within the General Plan Planning Area (i.e., areas that have been classified as MRZ-2 by the California Division of Mines and Geology). The General Plan amendment does not propose any new areas for development, including areas that may otherwise be available for mineral resource extraction. There is an existing area to the north/northwest that is within 1 mile of the ULL that is classified as MRZ-2 and/or within the area covered by the Cache Creek mining plan; this is not within the proposed utility extension alignments for either Bayer or Clark Pacific. If another existing commercial business located north/northwest and within 1 mile of the existing ULL were to request underground utility service, construction could occur within the MRZ-2 area. However, utilities would be installed within existing road rights-of-way, through existing agricultural land, or within private land areas owned by the individual commercial facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any new significant impacts or a change to the conclusions identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR with respect to mineral resources. This topic is not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Public Services and Recreation:** The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts to fire protection services, police protection services, and parks and recreation services would be less than significant. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts to schools and other public facilities would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated. The proposed project would not change these impact determinations or increase the severity of them because the proposed project would not use existing fire services, police services, school services, or other governments services, given the proposed project would extend existing underground utilities to commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL within existing agricultural lands or public rights of way and extending utilities would not require public services. Furthermore, county land use designations and zoning would not change, no new school students would be generated and thus there would be no effect on the need for school facilities or services. Public Services is not discussed further in this SEIR. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts related to increased use of existing parks and recreational facilities or impacts related to recreational facilities would be less than significant. The proposed project would not change these impact determinations or increase the severity of them because the proposed project would not affect existing or proposed recreational facilities, given it would extend existing underground utilities to commercial facilities outside the ULL within existing agricultural lands or public rights of way and utility extensions would not use recreational facilities. Recreation is not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Transportation and Circulation:** The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts on transportation and circulation would be less than significant or less than significant with mitigation incorporated. The proposed project would not change these impact determinations or increase the severity of these impacts. The proposed project would result in minor construction worker trips during construction of the underground pipelines but would not substantially increase Vehicle Miles Traveled because these would not be permanent trips and because once operational the proposed project would not generate trips. Furthermore, the construction of utilities will be required to implement traffic control plans consistent with City policies/standard practices which are designed to avoid temporary traffic hazards. Finally, area roadways would not be modified and thus there would be no increase in hazards due to a design feature. Transportation and circulation are not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Hazardous Materials and Toxics: Wildfire:** The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR evaluated the potential for wildfire risk, finding a less-than-significant impact. The 2035 General Plan explains how Goal 5.B and Policies 5.B.1 through 5.B.10, and Goal 8.C and Policies 8.C.1 through 8.C.5 which relate to the provision of adequate fire protection facilities and services, work to avoid a significant impact. The California State Fire Marshall updated the Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones across the state in 2025, including the County and the City. The City of Woodland has no Fire Hazard Severity Zone in a Local Responsibility Area, and remains outside of a designated very high, high, or moderate fire hazard severity zone in either local responsibility area or state responsibility area (CalFire 2025). The proposed project would be constructed in existing agricultural lands that are regularly maintained or existing public rights-of-way. Once operational, the utilities would be underground. Construction and operation of the proposed project would have no impact on exacerbating wildfire risk, and it would not result in any new significant impacts or a change to the conclusions identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR with respect to wildfire risk. This topic is not discussed further in this SEIR.

- **Alternatives**: The General Plan amendment does not change the findings regarding potentially significant impacts associated with implementing the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. As such, there is no need for any

new alternative that would reduce potential impacts that have arisen based on the proposed changes. The alternatives analysis in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains adequate for addressing General Plan amendment and a supplemental alternatives analysis is not included as part of this SEIR.

2.1.5 DOCUMENT FORMAT

The content and format of this SEIR is designed to meet the requirements of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Sections 15122 through 15132). This SEIR is organized into the following chapters so that the reader can easily obtain information about the proposed project and its environmental issues:

- **Chapter 1, "Executive Summary**" presents an overview of the project and alternatives and associated environmental impacts/consequences; a listing of environmental impacts/consequences and mitigation measures; and known areas of controversy and issues to be resolved.

- **Chapter 2, "Introduction,"** explains the purpose and intended use of this SEIR, provides a brief summary of the project that is being evaluated, identifies the scope and focus of this SEIR, outlines the organization of the document, and provides information on public review process.

- **Chapter 3, "Project Description,"** describes the regional location and setting, background and history, project objectives, project characteristics, and the relationship of the proposed project to related plans and regulations.

- **Chapter 4, "Impact Analysis,"** is divided into sections corresponding to the environmental topics listed above. The introduction to the Impact Analysis explains the approach to the environmental setting, identifies the documents incorporated by reference, presents the section contents, and provides definitions of the types of environmental impacts. The impact analysis examines the impacts that would occur with implementation General Plan amendment and compares the impacts of the General Plan amendment to those previously analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The analysis incorporates by reference applicable portions of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Each of the remaining sections is devoted to a particular environmental topic area and describes the baseline, or existing environmental setting; regulatory setting; thresholds for determining significance; and then provides an analysis of environmental impacts, identifies mitigation measures that would avoid, eliminate, or reduce potentially significant or significant impacts to a less-than-significant level, where available and feasible; and identifies the significance of the proposed project after implementation of mitigation.

- **Chapter 5, "Alternatives Analysis"** addresses the relative impacts of alternatives to the proposed project. As noted, the alternatives analysis in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains adequate for addressing General Plan amendment and a supplemental alternatives analysis and has not been revised as a part of this SEIR.

- **Chapter 6, "Other CEQA Considerations,"** addresses cumulative impacts, the potential for the project to foster economic or population growth, or remove obstacles to growth, discusses any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts that would result from project implementation, and discusses any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources that could be caused by the project.

- **Chapter 7, "List of Preparers,"** lists individuals who were involved in preparing this SEIR.

- **Chapter 8, "References,"** provides a bibliography of sources cited in the SEIR.

2.2 INTENDED USE OF THIS EIR

The City Council will use the SEIR to inform themselves of the physical environmental impacts of the proposed project before considering a recommendation or an action on the proposed project. The City Council will also consider other information and testimony submitted during deliberations on the proposed project. This SEIR is prepared for the purpose of analyzing the environmental impacts of the General Plan amendment to Policy 2.A.1 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. In addition, the following is a list of agencies that may utilize this EIR.

- Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (Responsible Agency: service boundary change approval under Government Code 56133);
- Yolo County (issuance of grading permits);
- State Water Resources Control Board (approval of petition of water right change to change the urban boundary for water use limited to Bayer and Clark Pacific); and
- Yolo Habitat Conservancy (implementation of Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan & Natural Community Conservation Plan).

2.2.1 MAKING EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

The City will accept written comments during the review period described below. Please focus your comments on the adequacy of the Draft SEIR.

2.2.2 SUBMITTING COMMENTS

The Draft SEIR will be available for public review for the statutory 45-day public review period. During that time, agency representatives and members of the public will have the ability to submit written comments on the Draft SEIR to the address provided below.

Erika Bumgardner, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director
City of Woodland
300 1st Street, Woodland CA
erika.bumgardner@cityofwoodland.gov

2.3 FINAL EIR

After the end of the public review period and as part of preparing the Final SEIR, the City will prepare written responses to all environmental issues raised through the public review process. The Final SEIR will present the comments received, written responses to comments, a complete list of commenters, and revisions made to the Draft SEIR in response to comments received. It may also contain additional information necessary to respond to the comments.

The City of Woodland City Council will consider certification of the Final SEIR prior to considering any action on the proposed project. The City Council will consider the adoption of findings regarding the disposition of each

significant effect identified in the Final SEIR, if necessary, as well as a statement of overriding considerations describing the specific benefits that outweigh significant and unavoidable impacts, if necessary.

3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is an update to the 2035 General Plan and CAP to amend Policy 2.A.1.

3.1 PROJECT SETTING

3.1.1 BACKGROUND

The City has proposed an amendment to Policy 2.A.1 in the General Plan ("the proposed project" or General Plan amendment). As described in Chapter 3, "Project Description" and Chapter 6, "Other CEQA Considerations", of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the City's ultimate boundaries are circumscribed by a permanent Urban Limit Line (ULL) established by a vote of the people in 2006. The approved initiative placed restrictions on the provision of services outside of the ULL. The ULL boundary and provisions of services outside the ULL may only be modified by another vote by the people.

The City received applications to extend utilities past the ULL, the extension of which would require a ballot measure amending existing General Plan Policy 2.A.1. The amendment would permit the extension of sewer, water, and recycled water utility facilities to serve existing commercial facilities up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026. It is anticipated at this time that the two existing commercial facilities to use the utility extension if the ballot measure passes would be Bayer U.S. Crop Science, LLC (Bayer) and Clark Pacific. The ballot measure would not require either Bayer or Clark Pacific to extend utility facilities and services.

The two commercial facilities have been located outside of the City for decades. Bayer Crop Science's site is located west of Woodland on Highway 16 and develops new fruit and vegetable varieties for growers in California, the United States and around the world. The facility employs 230 full-time employees and contractors with more than one hundred additional seasonal contractors during peak periods. Approximately 72 employees and contractors have a Woodland address. Clark Pacific is a full-scale design-manufacturer-builder and delivers prefabricated building systems for the West Coast. Located on the historic Spreckels Sugar and Best Ranch property to the north of Road 18C, Clark Pacific employs over 300 engineers, plant, and field personnel with approximately 80 living within Woodland city limits. Bayer and Clark Pacific regularly engage with local venders. In 2023, Bayer spent approximately $1,450,513 on goods and services from Woodland businesses, with Clark Pacific spending an additional $1,440,000.

Bayer and Clark Pacific are seeking extension of the City's water and wastewater services beyond the ULL for several reasons. In the case of Bayer, the existing source of potable and processing water is groundwater, which is high in nitrates and boron, as well as hexavalent chromium. The groundwater is pumped via existing wells and requires treatment to meet the U.S. EPA's drinking water guidelines as well as extensive buffering to minimize damage to laboratory equipment and other mechanical systems. Bayer's septic system and retention pond are also at capacity. Clark Pacific is experiencing similar issues with both the quality of well water and septic system capacity. Clark Pacific is also interested in recycled water for processing needs. Extending the City's water and wastewater services to these commercial facilities would allow a reduction of the use of groundwater because potable water would be supplied by the City, which receives its water supply primarily from the surface water of the Sacramento River through the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency; an improvement in groundwater quality because the septic systems of both commercial facilities would no longer be used; more efficient use of onsite

space by eliminating the physical space required by wells and purification systems; and, increase the utility revenue of the City through the payment of water and wastewater rates by Bayer and Clark Pacific. In addition, having Bayer and Clark Pacific use existing City water and wastewater is consistent with the SWRCB and Central Valley RWQCB's support of consolidation of systems in support of reliable water supplies and an increase in water quality in California.

It is expected the City and applicant(s) would entertain a will-serve agreement or a utility services agreement. Under an agreement, the City would consent to allow the applicant to connect to the City's existing utility infrastructure (i.e., potable water, non-potable water, recycled water, and/or sewer). The extension of water and wastewater services would be the responsibility of the applicant, and the agreement would only obligate the City, should the applicant make the connection (consistent with the City's public works improvement standards), to deliver the agreed upon amount/volume of water and recycled water and collection and treatment of waste water.

The setting and background described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is relevant and was used to inform the analysis presented in this SEIR.

3.1.2 LOCATION

The City of Woodland is located in Yolo County, approximately 20 miles north of Sacramento. The Planning Area for the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was defined as: limits of the existing Urban Limit Line, which included some lands within the County at the time of the preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project includes a project area within one mile of the existing ULL and utility extension alignments from the City limits extending west to Bayer and north to the Clark Pacific Facility. The Bayer facility is located to the west of Woodland on Highway 16 and County Road 98 (37437 CA-16, Woodland, CA 95695; APN: 025-470-038-000). It is approximately 210 acres. The Clark Pacific facility is located on the north side of Road 18C (located at 40600 County Road 18C, Woodland, CA 95776; APN: 027-250-028-000) and is approximately 143 acres (Figure 3.1-1). The Bayer utility alignments would extend from approximately Road 98 and West Lincoln Avenue west across an existing agricultural field (Figure 3.1-2). The Clark Pacific utility alignments would extend north from the intersection of Churchill Downs Road and Road 101 to the intersection of Road 18C and Road 101 and turn westward along Road 18C until it reached Clark Pacific (Figure 3.1-3). The Bayer utility alignments are approximately 6,000 feet in length and the Clark Pacific utility alignments are approximately 8,700 feet in length.

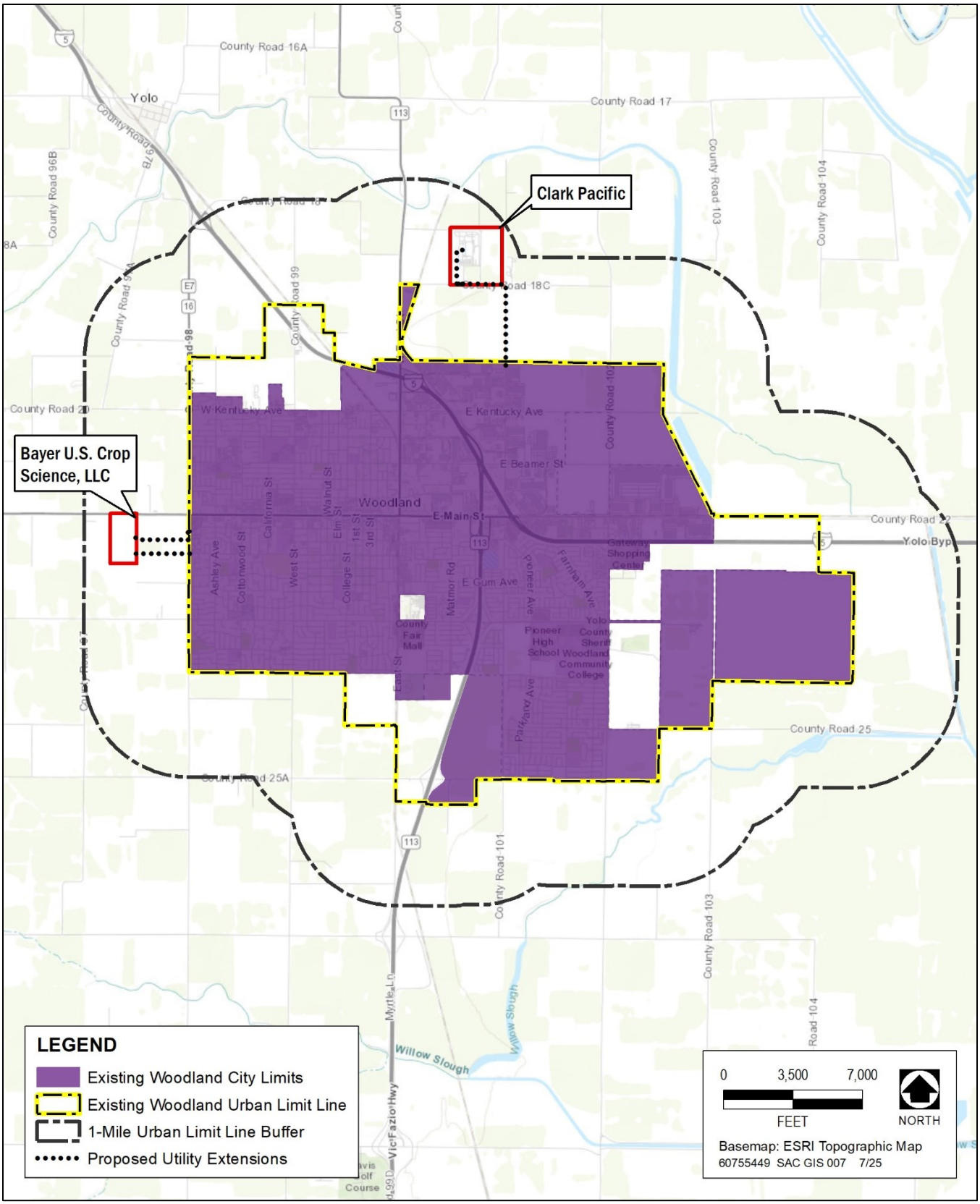

Figure 3.1-1 Proposed Project Vicinity Map

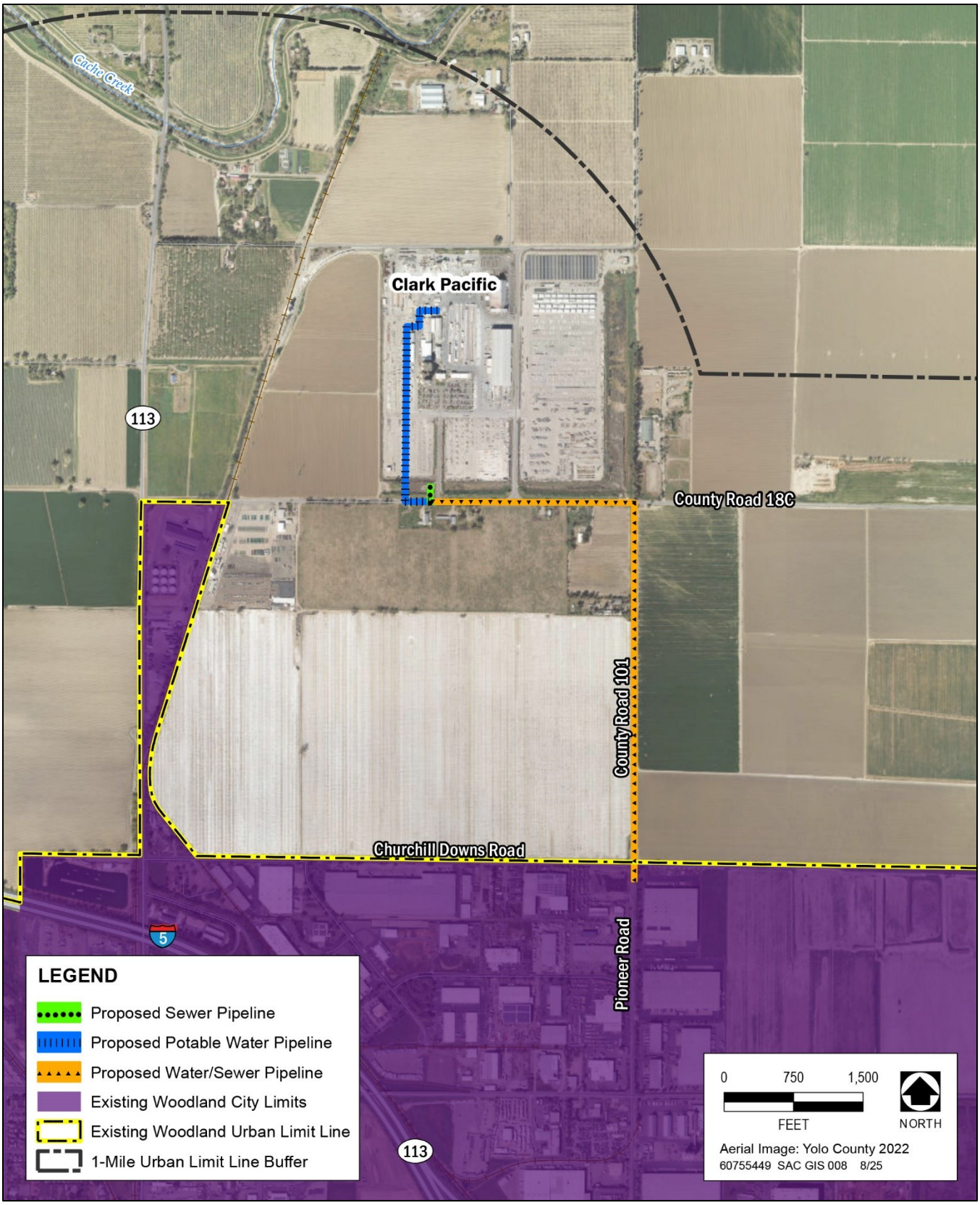

Figure 3.1-2 Proposed Project Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignments

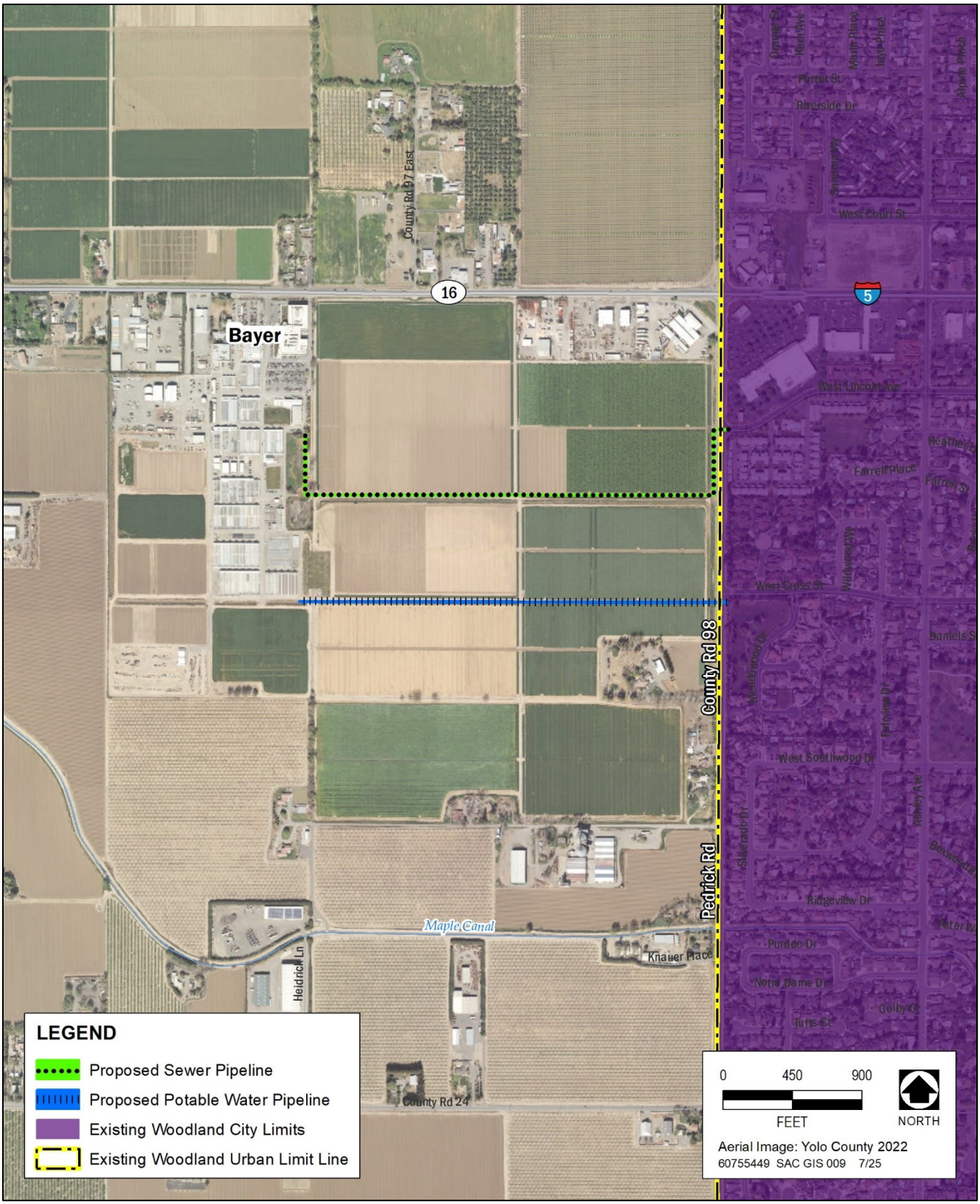

Figure 3.1-3 Proposed Project Bayer Utility Extension Alignments

3.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

As noted in Section 3 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, "Project Description," the project objectives include the City's Vision Statement and Guiding Principles for the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The vision statement is an aspirational description of what the community would like to be in the future, in this case, looking forward to 2035, and represents a compilation of input from the community through the public process. Guiding principles are shared values that will be used to develop policies that would, once implemented, achieve the vision. These are included below. The General Plan amendment evaluated in this SEIR is consistent with the following applicable Project Objectives that were included in the City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR: Quality and Character, Economic Development, Agricultural Heritage, Environmental Stewardship, and Health and Recreation (see Table 3-1). This is because the proposed project would continue to support the economic diversity of the City of Woodland and the agricultural heritage of the surrounding area because existing commercial facilities support agriculture; use of groundwater would decrease, and the groundwater quality would increase; and the overall quality of drinking water at existing commercial facilities would improve.

3.2.1 GENERAL PLAN VISION STATEMENT

The 2035 General Plan Vision Statement is:

> In 2035, Woodland is a highly desirable community to live, learn, work and recreate. It has maintained its small-town feel while maturing into an attractive, vibrant, and sustainable city that celebrates its architectural heritage and cultural diversity. Woodland is a healthy community with livable neighborhoods, a thriving downtown, well maintained infrastructure, excellent schools and recreational amenities connected by a seamless network of trails and paths.
>
> The city is the region's center of agricultural technology and food production and is recognized globally as a leader in sustainable agriculture. The community is prosperous and fiscally sound, offering abundant employment opportunities to its diverse and creative workforce.
>
> Woodland has become a destination for visitors seeking to experience its unique agricultural, historical, recreational, cultural and entertainment amenities.

3.2.2 GENERAL PLAN'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The General Plan's Guiding Principles highlight the most critical shared values that were used in developing the policies and implementation measures in the 2035 General Plan. The applicable guiding principles to the proposed project are described below in Table 3.2-1.

Table 3.2-1 Summary

Guiding Principals	Proposed Project Applicability
Quality and Character: Retain and enhance Woodland's quality of life, its distinctive identity and small-town characteristics	Existing commercial facilities receiving City utilities would continue to support the economic diversity of the City of Woodland.
Economic Development: Foster economic growth and diversification with a range of employment opportunities for all residents	Existing commercial facilities receiving City utilities would continue to support the economic diversity of the City of Woodland.
Agricultural Heritage: Preserve and protect prime agricultural lands and their uses within and surrounding the community	Existing commercial facilities that could be served by the general plan amendment (e.g., Bayer) include those that support the agricultural heritage surrounding the community.
Environmental Stewardship: Foster a sustainable community for the next generation and protect and improve the quality of the natural environment	Use of City utilities would reduce the volume of groundwater pumped, resulting in better conditions for the groundwater basin and would reduce the use of septic tanks, overall reducing the amount of nutrients entering the groundwater basin.
Health and Recreation: Provide all residents with opportunities to live an active, healthy, and green lifestyle	Drinking water quality of existing commercial facilities would be improved through the use of City water supply.

Table Note
City = City of Woodland

The guiding principles that are not applicable to the proposed project include those listed below. The principles are not applicable because the proposed project does not include changes in land use or zoning; the development of houses, or the public services, education services or safety services that support housing development; and, would not be located in historic downtown.

- Orderly Development: Promote new growth while achieving an orderly pattern of community development, consistent with economic, social, fiscal and environmental needs.
- Mobility Options: Coordinate land use and transportation planning to provide a range of attractive and viable transportation options, such as bicycle, pedestrian, and transit.
- Housing Choice: Provide a variety of housing types to meet the needs for all generations and income levels.
- Historic Downtown: Strengthen the historic downtown district as the City's center of shopping, dining, entertainment and employment.
- Public Services: Provide realistic, supportable and appropriate levels of public service that are sustainable and fiscally sound.
- Safety: Ensure that Woodland remains a safe place to live, protected from natural and manmade hazards.
- Quality Education: Foster quality educational and enrichment opportunities.

3.3 PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project evaluated in this SEIR includes General Plan amendment to Policy 2.A.1 and the construction and operation of extended utility pipelines to Bayer and Clark Pacific.

3.3.1 CHANGES TO POLICY 2.A.1

The proposed general plan amendment would add the following text to existing Policy 2.A.1:

> A permanent Urban Limit Line (ULL) is established around Woodland to permanently circumscribe urban development and comply with provisions for agricultural lands. Public services and facilities shall not extend beyond the permanent Urban Limit Line, with the exception of sewer, water, and recycled water facilities to serve existing commercial facilities located on parcels with a boundary that falls wholly or partially within one mile of the ULL and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026…

Appendix C includes draft ballot measure text.

3.3.2 EXTENSION AND USE OF UTILITIES

The proposed project would allow existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, to extend and use City utilities. The proposed project would apply to commercial facilities meeting the following definition: a business located in a commercial or industrial building typically involving (but not limited to) the sale of goods or provision of services, manufacturing or processing materials, R&D, and/or indoor production/office functions, with on-site employees and regular operating hours. There would be no land use designation, prezoning, or zoning change under the proposed project that would allow additional development. The County of Yolo would have authority over activities within their jurisdiction and may have ministerial approval or discretionary approval associated with the construction or operation of utility extensions. Land use and zoning designations within one mile of the existing ULL are primarily agriculture land use (AG) and Agriculture Intensive (A-N) zones (Yolo County 2025a and Yolo County 2025b).

The City would evaluate potential utility extension alignments through an application process and would execute a service agreement with a potential applicant. The application process and service agreement would confirm utility extensions that could be provided by the City and confirm consistency with City General Plan policies, as well as establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction or connection to the City existing utilities. Under the proposed project, a utility extension would be sized to serve only the respective existing commercial facility of an applicant because the proposed project is applicable to existing commercial facilities in operation prior to November 3, 2026. It is reasonable to assume the proposed project would primarily disturb areas along the public right-of-way of existing roads and areas within the footprint of existing commercial facilities in operation prior to November 3, 2026 because extension of utilities would connect to existing utilities, which are typically located along roads and within intersections. Clark Pacific and Bayer are currently the two project applicants with commercial facilities applying for utility extensions at the time of the preparation of this SEIR as part of the proposed project. It is unknown if utilities would be extended to other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL, which type of utilities might be extended, and the location to which utilities would be extended. This information is unknown because the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors (Section 6.2, Growth-Inducing Impacts, of this SEIR). Therefore, the details associated with the utility extension alignments of Clark Pacific and Bayer are further described below and evaluated in this SEIR.

Figure 3.1-1, Figure 3.1-2, and Figure 3.1-3 depict the utility extension alignments of Clark Pacific and Bayer. Extension of utility pipelines for each existing commercial facility would be within one mile of the existing ULL

and would traverse lands that are primarily adjacent to existing roads (within the public-right-of-way) or existing agricultural land within the County. Table 3.3-1 summarizes the existing land use, existing land use designation, and Existing Zoning of each utility extension alignment.

Table 3.3-1 Summary of Proposed Utility Extensions and Existing Land Uses

Proposed Utility Extension	Existing Land Use	Existing Land Use Designation	Existing Zoning
Bayer Facility	Agricultural R&D Facility	AG	Agricultural Intensive (A-N)
Bayer Alignment Road 98 Sewer Pipeline	Developed Road	AG	Agricultural Intensive (A-N)
Bayer Sewer Pipeline Alignment	Agriculture	AG	Agricultural Intensive (A-N)
Bayer Water Pipeline Alignment	Agriculture	AG	Cities Jurisdiction & Agricultural Intensive (A-N)
Clark Pacific Facility	Pre-Fabricated Building Materials Commercial Facility	IN	Heavy Industrial (I-H)
Clark Pacific Alignment Road 101 and Road 18C Water/Sewer Pipeline	Developed Road/ Agriculture	AG, OS, IN	Agricultural Intensive (A-N), Heavy Industrial (I-H), Public Open Space (POS)

Source: AECOM 2025
Table Notes: County land use designations and zoning
AG = agriculture
City = City of Woodland
IN = Industrial
OS = open space

Construction may not occur at the same time for each commercial facility, and the timing would be determined by each business. Construction of the pipeline alignments would require a disturbance of a total of 25 feet in width (typically 5 feet one side and 20 feet other side). Pipelines would be buried at depths of approximately 3 to 8 feet deep. This depth would be suitable for infrastructure operation and would allow continued land uses (e.g., agriculture) to occur on the surface. For the purposes of the proposed project, it is assumed that construction would take place within a single construction period during May through November, and would occur after November 2026. Construction would require the following types of pieces of equipment: graders, rollers, excavators, crawler tractors, signal boards, dozers, forklifts, pumps, air compressors, generators, and paving equipment. Construction is expected to require between 7 and 33 construction workers per day for extension of the utilities to the Bayer property and between 6 and 19 construction workers per day for extension of the utilities to the Clark Pacific Property. The pipelines are anticipated to range in diameter of 4'' to 8'' of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) material, with the water pipeline being the largest. The pipelines would be installed following the City's Engineering Standards. For the purposes of this environmental document, it is assumed that construction of the Bayer utilities would occur independently from the Clark Pacific utilities. It is assumed that approximately 400 to 500 feet of pipeline could be installed per day, with several days for connections and pressure testing and several days for land clearing and repaving, as needed. Therefore, it is anticipated construction for the Bayer utility extension would be between 17 and 20 working days and construction for Clark Pacific utility extension would be between 25 and 29 working days. Once construction is complete, the land surface would be returned to its current uses (e.g., farm road, public road shoulder).

It is anticipated, for the purposes of the proposed project, that potable water would be provided to both commercial facilities, non-potable recycled water would be provided to Clark Pacific, and wastewater services would be provided to both commercial facilities. The extension of utilities would cover anticipated current and future water and non-potable recycled water demand, and wastewater generation. Table 3.3-2 provides a summary

of anticipated current and future annual potable water demand and Table 3.3-3 provides wastewater generation. Clark Pacific would use non-potable recycled water for processing purposes. Clark Pacific estimates approximately 32 acre feet per year (AFY) of process water is currently needed and approximately 48 AFY of process water would be needed in the future. Clark Pacific future water use and wastewater generation are constrained by the limits of the existing plant site. By eliminating the existing septic system and groundwater wells, onsite space would be more efficiently used and allow a slight incremental increase in future water use, but future wastewater generation would remain approximately the same. Similarly, Bayer is limited by the existing agricultural land, and therefore a slight increase in water use and wastewater generation is anticipated.

Table 3.3-2 Current and Future Annual Potable Water Demand (AFY)

Company	Current	Future
Bayer	25	31
Clark Pacific	5	7

Table Note: AFY = acre feet per year

Table 3.3-3 Current and Future Wastewater Generation (GPD)

Company	Current	Future
Bayer	5,080	5,932
Clark Pacific	4,333	4,333

Table Note: GPD = gallons per day

Currently there are two groundwater wells at Bayer and three groundwater wells at Clark Pacific. These wells are generally located inside the facilities and adjacent to agricultural fields. One of the groundwater wells at Bayer would be decommissioned, and two of the groundwater wells at Clark Pacific would be decommissioned. The septic systems located at each facility are also located away from facilities and in adjacent agricultural fields to provide for sufficient distance for the leach fields. There is one retention pond on site at Bayer, also away from existing facilities. The retention pond is currently unlined and retains water from Bayer processes. It is approximately 250 feet in length, 25 feet wide, by 10 feet deep.

It is anticipated that the decommissioning of existing groundwater wells and wastewater utility facilities at the two existing commercial facilities would ultimately occur, but the timing of such decommissioning is unknown. The County of Yolo would have jurisdiction associated with the decommissioning of existing water well(s), septic system(s), or Bayer's retention pond at the site(s). Existing well(s) would be decommissioned pursuant to the Water Well Abandonment Permit to be granted by the Yolo County Department of Community Services Environmental Health Division, which is not a discretionary action by the County. The method for decommissioning the groundwater wells would depend on the characteristics of each well (e.g., depth, diameter, and type of casing) and a technical inspection prior to decommissioning; however, it is assumed the pump would be removed, part of the casing would be removed, and the groundwater wells would be filled with concrete. Existing septic system(s) would be decommissioned pursuant to the Septic Abandonment Permit to be granted by the Yolo County Department of Community Services Environmental Health Division, which is not a discretionary action by the County. It is assumed the septic tanks would be pumped out and then abandoned in place (burial method), as this is the most common method. It is assumed existing leach fields would remain in the ground as built as it is not generally a requirement of Yolo County Environmental Health to remove a leach field. Should the retention pond be decommissioned it would be filled in with soil fill and compacted. It is assumed the retention pond would be decommissioned for the purposes of this environmental document.

3.4 REQUIRED APPROVALS

This SEIR is prepared in accordance with the requirements of CEQA (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations (CCR] Section 15000 *et seq.*). The City of Woodland, as lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA, has the principal responsibility for certification of the SEIR and adopting and implementing the General Plan amendment.

4 IMPACT ANALYSIS

4.0 APPROACH TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Sections 4.1 through 4.14 of the City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR describe impacts associated with implementation of the City's existing General Plan. This SEIR uses this same organization, including the numbering of environmental impact sections, though, as noted above under Section 1.4.1, for several environmental topic areas, there are no new significant impacts and no increase in severity in impacts.

Based on the analysis presented in Section 1.4.1, and given the nature of the proposed project, the focus of analysis and reporting in this SEIR is on the following topics[1]. The topics follow the organization of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, however, may have different section numbers in this SEIR because of resources that were dismissed in Section 1.4.1.

- Agricultural Resources (Section 4.2 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Air Quality (Section 4.3 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Biological Resources (Section 4.4 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy (Section 4.5 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources (Section 4.6 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources (Section 4.7 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Section 4.8 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Hydrology and Water Quality (Section 4.9 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Land Use Planning/Population and Housing (Section 4.10 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Noise and Vibration (Section 4.11 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)
- Utilities (Section 4.14 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR)

Chapter 5 of this SEIR addresses alternatives and Chapter 6 of this SEIR includes a discussion of other analyses required under CEQA, including cumulative and growth-inducing impacts.

4.0.1 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

CEQA Guidelines Section 15150 encourages incorporation by reference of previously analyzed and publicly circulated information. CEQA Guidelines Section 15150(c) states that the incorporated part of the referenced document shall be briefly summarized, where possible, or briefly described if the data or information cannot be summarized, and the relationship between the incorporated part of the referenced document and the EIR shall be described.

This SEIR hereby incorporates by reference the *2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan Final Environmental Impact Report* (*S*tate Clearinghouse #2013032015).

[1] Since the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was certified, the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G checklist was updated. Among those updates was the additional of questions related to energy use, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. Energy is addressed in the greenhouse gas emissions section of this SEIR. Also added as a part of these relatively recent changes was a new section with questions related to wildfire. Wildfire is addressed in this SEIR under the heading, hazardous materials and toxins, in Section 1.1.4. Tribal cultural resources was added as a separate section in Appendix G and is addressed as a part of cultural resources in this SEIR. If thresholds were updated they are noted in each of the resource sections in Chapter 4.

Digital copies of the General Plan EIR are on the City of Woodland's website, at https://www.cityofwoodland.gov/1000/Documents.

This document is also available for review at the City of Woodland during normal business hours:

Community Development Department, Planning Division
300 First Street
Woodland, CA 95695

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR analyzed the adoption and implementation of the *City of Woodland 2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan*. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR provides a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impacts resulting from development accommodated under the General Plan and implementation of policies established within the General Plan. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR presents feasible mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant and significant impacts. Each mitigation measure is a procedure, program, or technique that requires City action, either alone or in collaboration with other agencies or organizations. Some of the implementation programs are processes or procedures that the City currently administers (such as development project review), while others identify new programs or projects.

Where information from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is incorporated by reference in this SEIR, the relationship of the referenced material to the analyses in this SEIR is explained in each topic-specific resource section and page numbers are provided. Updates to environmental setting, impact, and mitigation discussions in this SEIR are provided where information has been modified since preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR that is relevant to the impact analysis. Updates are focused on utility placement beyond the Planning Area addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. This is consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15163, "Supplement to an EIR."

4.0.2 SECTION CONTENTS

Sections 4.1 through 4.11 of this SEIR are each organized into the following major components:

- **Existing Conditions (Regulatory Setting and Environmental Setting):** This subsection describes federal, State, regional, and local plans, policies, regulations, and laws that may apply to the environmental topic under evaluation as it relates to the proposed project. This SEIR summarizes updated federal, State, regional, and local plans, policies, regulations, and laws that have been adopted since preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. This subsection also provides an overview of the existing physical environmental setting (i.e., the environmental baseline) as it relates to the proposed project. This SEIR provides updates to the environmental setting where changes have occurred since the adoption of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, if relevant to the proposed project.

- **Environmental Impacts (Significance Thresholds, Environmental Impacts, and Mitigation Measures):** The significance criteria (or "thresholds of significance") are provided to define the level at which an impact would be considered potentially significant or significant in accordance with CEQA. Thresholds may be quantitative or qualitative. They may be based on agency or professional standards or on legislative or regulatory requirements relevant to the impact analysis. Generally, the thresholds of significance are derived from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, as amended; factual or scientific information and data; and regulatory standards. The thresholds used in this SEIR are either consistent with, or the same as, those

thresholds used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. If modifications to thresholds were made for the purposes of this SEIR, this subsection describes the modifications relative to each resource. This subsection also provides analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project described in Chapter 3, "Project Description," of this SEIR. The impact analysis examines the impacts that would occur with implementation of the proposed project. The analysis evaluates potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The analysis broadly addresses potential impacts associated with extending existing utilities within one mile of the existing ULL as proposed under the change to Policy 2.A.1, with a focus on the proposed utility alignment extensions of Clark Pacific and Bayer. Finally, as necessary, this subsection identifies feasible mitigation measures. For this SEIR, these mitigation measures are primarily the same as those measures included in the General Plan EIR; however, mitigation measures specific to the General Plan amendment are identified where needed to reduce impacts. Given the scope of the proposed project evaluated in this SEIR mitigation measures and mitigating programs that are relevant for extension of utilities are discussed. The mitigation measures identified in this SEIR would equally apply to, and would reduce or avoid impacts associated with, possible future uses of the General Plan amendment to extend utilities to commercial facilities not specifically identified in this SEIR that exist prior to November 3, 2026 within one mile of the existing ULL. Therefore, the environmental impact analysis and proposed mitigation measures in this SEIR broadly address the proposed change to Policy 2.A.1.

4.0.3 DETERMINING THE LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

For each potential environmental impact identified in this SEIR, a statement of the level of significance of the impact is provided, as was provided in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Impacts are assessed as one of the following categories:

- The term "no impact" is used when the environmental resource being discussed would not be adversely affected by implementation of the proposed project. It means no change from existing conditions. This impact level does not need mitigation.

- A "less-than-significant impact" would cause a minor, but acceptable change in the physical environment. This impact level does not require mitigation, even if feasible, under CEQA.

- A "significant impact" would have a substantial adverse effect on the physical environment, but can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with mitigation. Impacts may also be considered "potentially significant" if the analysis cannot definitively conclude that an impact would occur as a result of the implementation of the proposed project. Under CEQA, mitigation measures must be provided, where feasible, to reduce the magnitude of significant or potentially significant impacts.

- A "significant and unavoidable impact" would cause a substantial adverse effect on the environment, and no known feasible mitigation measures are available to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level. Under CEQA, a project with significant and unavoidable impacts may be approved, but the lead agency (in this case, the City) must prepare a "statement of overriding considerations" in accordance with Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines, explaining how the benefits of the project outweigh the potential for significant impacts.

4.1 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Section 4.2, "Agriculture and Forestry Resources," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR described the agricultural and forestry resources within the Planning Area, analyzed the potential impacts on agricultural resources from the 2035 General Plan and CAP, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts, where applicable (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.2-1 through 4.2-42). That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.1.1 Existing Conditions

Regulatory Setting

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.2.3 on pages 4.2-11 through 4.2-27).

Updates to the Regulatory Setting

No updates to the regulatory setting are required.

Environmental Setting

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.2-1 through 4.2-10), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides information related to the locations and acreages of Important Farmland classifications assigned by the California Department of Conservation (DOC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) for the City and the Planning Area based on 2012 data (Exhibit 4.2-1 and Table 4.2-1 on pages 4.2-3 and 4.2-5, respectively). The setting also provides data related to the change in acreage of agricultural land uses in the Planning Area between 1984 and 2014, as well as the market value of agricultural products sold in Yolo County from 1994 to 2014 (page 4.2-6 and 4.2-7). The setting included data showing that although there were no Williamson Act contracts within the Planning Area as of 2016, there were several Williamson Act contracts outside of but adjacent to the Planning Area (Exhibit 4.2-2 on page 4.2-9).

Updates to the Environmental Setting

Table 3.2-1 in this SEIR (Chapter 3, "Project Description,") summarizes the existing land use, existing land use designation of the County, and existing zoning of the County for the existing and proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities. Land use and zoning designation within one mile beyond the existing ULL is similar to those presented in Table 3.2-1 of this SEIR and is primarily comprised of unincorporated county land designated as agriculture land use and agriculture intensive, or heavy industrial. These land use and zoning designations have not changed since the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was prepared.

Important Farmland is classified by the DOC as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance. Under CEQA, Important Farmland consists of the DOC

designations for Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland (defined as "agricultural land" or "farmland" in California Public Resources Code Sections 21060.1 and 21095, and CEQA Guidelines Appendix G). Important Farmland data from the DOC's FMMP for the County was most recently updated in 2020. A review of this data indicates that most land within one mile outside of the ULL to the north, west, and south of the City is classified as Prime Farmland, while land east of the City is primarily classified as Unique Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance (DOC 2020a).

The acreages of Important Farmland (as defined by CEQA) for the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments are shown in Table 4.1-1. As described in Chapter 3, "Project Description," the proposed pipelines would consist of 4-inch and 8-inch diameter PVC; however, the total width of construction disturbance for the pipeline alignments would be 25 feet. The acreages shown in Table 4.1-1 include this 25-foot-wide corridor for all pipeline alignments.

Table 4.1-1 CEQA Important Farmland[1]—Bayer and Clark Pacific Utility Alignments

Alignment	Location	Prime Farmland (Acres)	Unique Farmland (Acres)	Farmland of Statewide Importance (Acres)
Bayer Water Main	West of County Road 98	3.869	0	0
Bayer Sewer Main	West of County Road 98	3.089	0.025	0
Bayer Total		**6.958**	**0.025**	**0**
Clark Pacific Water/ Sewer Main	South of County Road 18C, East and West of County Road 101	8.898	0	0
Clark Pacific Total		**8.898**	**0**	**0**
Total Both Facility Alignments		**15.856**	**0.025**	**0**

Table Notes
CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act
DOC = California Department of Conservation
[1] Important Farmland consists of the DOC designations for Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland (defined as "agricultural land" or "farmland" in California Public Resources Code Sections 21060.1 and 21095, and CEQA Guidelines Appendix G).
Source: Data Compiled by AECOM in 2025

The approximately 15.8 acres of Prime Farmland in the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments represents approximately 0.006 percent of the total Prime Farmland countywide.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the approximately 6.9 acres of Prime Farmland and 0.02 acre of Unique Farmland in the Bayer utility line alignments consist of land that is owned by Bayer as part of its Vegetables Research and Development Center, which is centered around development of new vegetable varieties while seeking new solutions to help achieve more sustainable harvests. The Bayer farming team at the Woodland facility has implemented a 'green farm strategy,' which is a holistic approach employing more efficient use of irrigation and fertilization, reduced tillage, plus companion cropping for integrated pest management and improved biodiversity and soil health. Improved agricultural practices can have multiple benefits including reduced greenhouse gas emissions plus carbon dioxide (CO_2) removal, thereby contributing to reducing climate change.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR presented data related to changes in Important Farmland mapped by the DOC in the County from 1984 to 2014. Farmland conversion data for the County is currently available through 2020 (DOC 2020b). Table 4.1-2 shows the conversion of Important Farmland (as defined by CEQA) mapped by

the DOC in the County between 2014 and 2020. As shown in Table 4.1-2, between 2014 and 2020, the amount of land classified as Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland in the County decreased slightly, while the amount of land classified as Farmland of Statewide Importance increased slightly. Agricultural land conversion (both increases and decreases) can occur from a variety of factors, including redistribution of farmland between categories; conversion of fallow land to irrigated cropland after a long drought; conversion due to land left idle or used for dryland grain production for three or more DOC update cycles; installation of new orchards, irrigated pastures, and row crops; and development of agricultural land with urban uses.

Table 4.1-2 Summary of Important Farmland Conversion in Yolo County 2014–2020

Important Farmland Type	2014 (acres)	2016 (acres)	2018 (acres)	2020 (acres)	Net 6-Year Change (acres)	6-Year Change (percent)
Prime Farmland	250,345	250,558	243,961	243,748	-6,597	-2.6
Unique Farmland	44,604	46,095	43,932	44,467	-137	-0.3
Farmland of Statewide Importance	18,861	19,529	19,320	19,985	1,124	5.9

Source: DOC 2020b

Based on the most recent data from the County, most of the land surrounding the City's Planning Area is held under Williamson Act contracts, including some areas that are within one mile outside of the ULL. However, the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments would not be installed within land held under a Williamson Act contract (Yolo County 2024).

4.1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the proposed project, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact related to agriculture would occur if the proposed project would:

- convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use;
- conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract; or
- involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.

Conflict with Existing Zoning for Timberland or Forest Land, Loss or Conversion of Timberland, and other Changes that Could Result in Conversion of Forest Land to Non-Forest Use—As described in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Section 4.2.2.4 (pages 4.2-7 and 4.2-8), there are no areas of timberland within the Planning Area. There are also no areas of timberland or forest land within the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility line alignments. Within one mile outside the ULL, there are no areas of timberland but there are areas of

forest land[2] along the banks of Willow Slough and Cache Creek, and within the Cache Creek Settling Basin. However, urban development (such as buildings that would require utility lines) is not permitted in the Cache Creek Settling Basin, which is a State Plan of Flood Control facility that was constructed to preserve the floodway capacity of the Yolo Bypass. At the time of the release of the NOP for this SEIR, there is no commercial or industrial development on the north side of Cache Creek or the southeast side of Willow Slough within one mile outside the ULL (Figure 6.2-1). Finally, the land that encompasses Willow Slough is zoned for Agriculture-Intensive and the land that encompasses Cache Creek is zoned for Public Open Space[3]. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would have no impact related to conflicts with existing zoning for timberland or forest land, or conversion of forest land to non-forest use, and this impact is not addressed further in this EIR.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.1-1: Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as Shown on the Maps Prepared Pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to Non-Agricultural Use

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.2-28 through 4.2-35), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in the conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance in areas that are currently used for agriculture in the new growth areas (SP-1, SP-2, and SP-3, shown on 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 3.7-1 (page 3-23]) within the City's Planning Area. The 2035 General Plan Policy 2.A.1 states that public services and facilities shall not extend beyond the permanent ULL; this policy was enacted, in part, to protect existing agricultural land and can only be changed by a ballot measure supported by a vote of the people. Policy 2.A.3 requires one acre to be permanently conserved for every acre of Important Farmland converted to urban development and the City's Municipal Code Agricultural Mitigation Section 15.33 specifies requirements for permanent conversion of Important Farmland, which implements Policy 2.A.3 of the General Plan. The focus of the 2035 General Plan on infill and compact development in strategic new growth areas within the ULL aims to minimize the magnitude of farmland conversion and to help protect large tracts of farmland in agricultural areas. However, future development within the new growth areas would result in the conversion of Important Farmland to non-agricultural uses (i.e., urban development), which would be a significant impact. Consistent with the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the project applicants for new development on Important Farmland would be required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.1-1 to apply the 2035 General Plan Policy 2.A.3 with adopted amendments, which requires one acre of Important Farmland to be permanently conserved for every one acre converted to urban development, and requires that the Farmland to be conserved be of the same type as the Farmland converted, and located as close to Woodland as possible. However, it is not possible to fully mitigate for the loss of Prime Farmland, and no other feasible mitigation measures are available; therefore, this impact is significant and unavoidable.

Installation of most of the proposed Bayer utility pipelines would occur in existing dirt farm roads within a 25-foot-wide corridor surrounded by Bayer cropland, which is classified as approximately 6.9 acres of Prime

[2] Forest land is defined by Section 12220(g) of the California Public Resources Code as "land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits."
[3] Major publicly owned open space lands, major natural water bodies, agricultural buffer areas, and habitat preserves.

Farmland (Table 4.1-1). The west end of both Bayer utility pipeline alignments would be situated within the existing developed area of the Bayer facility, which is classified as approximately 0.02 acre of Unique Farmland (Table 4.1-1). The proposed Bayer utility pipeline alignments from the eastern tie-in point and within the County Road 98 right-of-way are classified as Urban and Built-Up Land[4], which is not Important Farmland (DOC 2020a). The proposed Clark Pacific utility pipelines would be installed within a 25-foot-wide corridor that includes the road rights-of-way of County Roads 18C and 101. Portions of the land adjacent to and south of County Road 18C are classified as Prime Farmland, and all of the land on both sides of County Road 101 is classified as Prime Farmland (DOC 2020a). Approximately 8.8 acres of Prime Farmland along these roadways would be disturbed for the proposed pipeline installation (Table 4.1-1). The remaining areas of disturbance along the proposed Clark Pacific utility alignment are classified primarily as Urban and Built-Up Land, with a small area of Other Land[5] (DOC 2020a). Therefore, in total, the proposed project would result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 15.8 acres of Prime Farmland and 0.02 acre of Unique Farmland. The approximately 15.8 acres of Prime Farmland in the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments represents approximately 0.006 percent of the total Prime Farmland countywide. The Prime Farmland for the Bayer utility alignment is owned by Bayer as part of its vegetable crop research and development center in Woodland. Once construction of the utility lines is complete, land would be restored, and surface activities would resume. Therefore, the proposed project would not permanently convert Important Farmland to non-Farmland Uses as a result of the extension of utilities to Bayer or Clark Pacific. Similarly, it would be expected extension of utilities to other existing business operating prior to November 3, 2026 within one mile of the existing ULL would primarily follow existing public road rights of ways because they would need to connect to existing utility pipelines. If routes through designated Farmland were needed, the disturbance would be temporary, and the utilities would be placed such that agricultural land uses would continue to occur.

General Plan Policy 2.A.1 prohibits City public services and facilities beyond Woodland's ULL to support the preservation of agricultural land, unless allowed by a vote of the people. However, as described in Chapter 3, "Project Description," a measure will be placed on the 2026 election ballot to allow the proposed utility extensions for any facility that is operating by November 2026 and within one mile outside of the ULL and if approved by the City Council and the voters, the proposed project would be consistent with the policy. General Plan Policy 2.A.3 with adopted amendments, is applicable to agricultural lands within the existing ULL and the existing ULL is not being modified nor would agricultural lands within the existing ULL be converted to urban development. Important Farmland outside the existing ULL and under jurisdiction of the County would be required to comply with the County's ag mitigation requirements if a permanent conversion of Important Farmland occurred. The County's agricultural conservation ordinance (Section 8-2.404 and Section 8.2-405 of the Yolo County Code), which requires replacement of Prime Farmland at a ratio of three acres of conserved farmland to one acre of converted land and replacement of other types of farmland at a ratio of two acres to one; small projects of less than 20 acres may pay an in-lieu fee rather than conserve farmland directly. However, as noted above, the proposed project would not permanently convert Important Farmland to non-Farmland Uses and therefore would not be required to mitigate for the permanent conversion of Important Farmland within the County. Furthermore, as addressed in Section 4.9, "Land Use and Planning, Population and Housing" of this

[4] Land occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. This land is used for residential, industrial, commercial, construction, institutional, public administration, railroad and other transportation yards, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, water control structures, and other developed purposes.

[5] Land that does not meet the criteria of any of the other FMMP categories. Includes low-density rural developments; brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing, confined livestock, poultry or aquaculture facilities; strip mines; borrow pits; water bodies smaller than forty acres; and vacant and non-agricultural land larger than 40 acres and surrounded on all sides by urban development.

SEIR, the proposed project would be consistent with Agricultural Conservation Policies (Section 4.4 Review Criteria) and LAFCo would consider their Agricultural Conservation Policy when determining to approve the extension of services outside the existing ULL.

Given the above, impacts on Important Farmland would not be significant and unavoidable as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.1-2: Conflict with Existing Zoning for Agricultural Use, or a Williamson Act Contract

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.2-36 through 4.2-38), the 2035 General Plan does not designate land as Agricultural in the Planning Area. However, there are two parcels in the Planning Area that are zoned Agriculture in the Woodland Zoning Code, and there is land within the Planning Area designated by the Yolo County 2030 General Plan for Agriculture. There are no active Williamson Act contracts in the Planning Area. 2035 General Plan Policies 7.C.3, 7.C.4, and 8.G.10 reduce the impact of development within the ULL on surrounding farmland. The 2035 General Plan proposes land use designations for land currently within the unincorporated area of the County that would conflict with the land use designations in the Yolo County 2030 General Plan. However, the City's proposed land use changes would have no effect unless annexation occurred in which case the City would then have jurisdiction, which would ultimately result in rectifying the discrepancy between County and City land use plans in terms of zoning and land use designations, ultimately resulting in a less-than-significant impact (physical environmental impacts from loss or conversion of agricultural land are evaluated in Impacts 4.1-1 and 4.1-3). There is no impact from potential conflicts with Williamson Act contracts.

Table 3.3-1 in this SEIR (Chapter 3, "Project Description,") summarizes the existing land use, existing land use designation of the City or the County, and existing zoning of the City or the County for the existing and proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities. Most of the proposed utility alignments consist of land that is zoned and designated for agricultural use. The land uses and zoning designations within one mile beyond the existing ULL is similar to those presented in Table 3.3-1 and is primarily comprised of unincorporated county land designated as agriculture and agriculture intensive, or heavy industrial. The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed underground, and the existing land use and zoning designations would not change. Furthermore, there are no Williamson Act contracts on the parcels where the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed. Even if other utility alignments within one mile of the existing ULL were presented to the City for potential approval with installation in parcels under Williamson Act contracts, because the utility lines would be installed underground agriculture would continue on the affected parcels and the Williamson Act status would not be affected. Therefore, as concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, there would be no impact related to conflicts with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.1-3: Involve Other Changes in the Existing Environment that, Due to Their Location or Nature, Could Result in Conversion of Farmland to Non-Agricultural Use

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.2-38 through 4.2-41), urban development has the potential to divide large tracts of agricultural land leaving smaller, less viable tracts of land for farming. Urban

development can result in conflicts at the urban edge with adjacent agricultural practices, and lead to restrictions on the use of agricultural chemicals, complaints regarding noise, dust and odors, trespassing, and vandalism. The Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner requires a buffer between pesticide application and environmentally sensitive areas including residential developments. The farmer has responsibility for providing this buffer, and therefore the buffer potentially limits the amount of land that can be used for agriculture. These conflicts may increase costs of agricultural operations and, together with other factors, encourage the conversion of additional farmland to urban uses. In addition, urban growth may increasingly compete with agriculture for the use of water resources, and may conflict with farm-to-market use and/or operational use of area roadways. 2035 General Plan Policy 7.C.4 requires the City to ensure that urban development within the ULL does not affect the economic viability of adjacent farms outside of the ULL. 2035 General Plan Policies 2.D.2, 6.C.1, and 4.G.2 help strengthen specific segments of the agricultural industry. Policy 4.C.9 explicitly supports the continuation and development of the agricultural industry in Woodland, and Policy 8.G.10 requires the City's support for both the City's and the County's right to farm ordinances. Policy 7.C.2 helps protect existing agriculture within the ULL, and Policy 7.C.3 requires the City to support the County's agricultural conservation efforts. However, farmland in the Woodland area could still be adversely affected by new development along the urban fringe. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR adopted Mitigation Measure 4.2-3, which added 2035 General Plan Policy 7.C.5 requiring new development that occurs at the edge of the ULL to be set back a minimum of 150 feet from adjacent agricultural land to provide an agricultural buffer. However, adverse impacts could still occur and no other feasible mitigation measures are available. Therefore, the impact is significant and unavoidable (page 4.2-41).

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be designed with sufficient capacity only to serve each respective facility. Similarly, if other utility line alignments within one mile of the existing ULL were presented to the City for potential approval, they would be sized to serve only the respective facility. Because the pipelines would be installed underground, and because they would be sized to serve only the respective facility, the proposed project would not involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. Given the above, impacts related to other changes in the existing environment that could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use would not be significant and unavoidable, as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.2 AIR QUALITY

Air quality is defined by the concentration of pollutants related to human and environmental health. Concentrations of air pollutants are determined by the rate and location of pollutant emissions released by pollution sources, and the atmosphere's ability to transport and dilute such emissions. Natural factors that affect transport and dilution include terrain, wind, and sunlight. Therefore, ambient air quality conditions within an air basin are influenced by such natural factors as topography, meteorology, and climate, in addition to the amount of air pollutant emissions released by air pollutant sources.

Section 4.3, "Air Quality," of 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.3-1 to 4.3-48) described the existing air quality conditions, summarized applicable regulations, analyzed the potential short-term construction and long-term operational air quality impacts associated with implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts, where applicable. That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.2.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was presented on pages 4.3-14 to 4.3-18. The regulatory setting is updated in the material that follows. The information provided below does not lead to a new impact or increase in severity of any impact in relation to the proposed project.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

The General Plan Planning Area and proposed project are in the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD). Since certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the air quality plans for the region have been updated. The most current update for the YSAQMD Air Quality Attainment Plan to address the regional nonattainment status for the California Ambient Air Quality Standards was adopted in May 2019 (YSAQMD 2019). Additionally, YSAQMD worked with the other local air districts within the Sacramento Region[6] to develop the Sacramento Regional 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards 8-Hour Ozone Attainment and Reasonable Further Progress Plan (SMAQMD 2017) and the Sacramento Regional 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards Attainment and Reasonable Further Progress Plan (SMAQMD 2023). These regional plans describe and demonstrate how the Sacramento Federal Nonattainment Area is meeting requirements under the federal Clean Air Act in demonstrating reasonable further progress and attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone. These regional plans primarily target long-term operational sources, particularly stationary and industrial sources, as well as mobile source emissions, but also include strategies to reduce construction-related emissions. The respective air districts develop Rules and Regulations to implement the air quality plans and achieve the federal and State ambient air quality standards. The updates to the regional air

[6] El Dorado County Air Quality Management District, Feather River Air Quality Management District, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD).

quality plans and air district Rules and Regulations have not substantively changed in any way that affects the regulatory setting or findings of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.3-1 to 4.3-13), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides an overview of the climate, topography, and meteorology in the region; describes emissions sources and health effects of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants (TACs), in addition to sources of odors; summarizes ambient air quality data, the attainment status of air pollutants, and emissions inventories within the region; and describes odor sources within the Planning Area.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

While the ambient air quality monitoring data and emissions inventories presented in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.3-9 to 4.3-13) were based on data from 2012 to 2014, incremental changes in ambient air quality data and emissions inventories year over year would not occur at a level that would lead to a new impact or increase the severity of an existing impact in relation to the proposed project.

While the proposed project would include the provision of services outside the ULL, and thereby outside the City's Planning Area as analyzed under the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the environmental setting described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is applicable to the proposed project because air quality is evaluated on a regional basis due to the cumulative nature of emissions, the transport of emissions over long distances, and the effect of local meteorology and atmospheric conditions.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR evaluated growth and development that could occur through the General Plan planning horizon in locations across the Planning Area and did not identify specific sensitive receptors. The proposed project would allow for the extension of utilities to existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL through primarily rural land. The environmental setting for the proposed project is similar to the rural areas described and evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. For the purposes of this SEIR analysis, nearby sensitive receptors have been identified and would be similarly representative of sensitive receptors within one mile of the existing ULL. There are sensitive receptors within 400 feet of the utility extension to Bayer near County Road 98 and within 350 feet of the utility extension to Clark Pacific along County Roads 101 and 18c. The closest sensitive receptors to the Bayer utility extensions are multi-family residences located adjacent to County Road 98, approximately 90 feet from the location of part of the proposed sewer pipeline. The closest sensitive receptors to the Clark Pacific utility extensions are single family residences located along County Roads 101 and 18c, approximately 70 feet from a portion of the proposed sewer and water pipelines. This analysis considers these nearby receptors in the context of, but greater detail, than was possible at the time of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR[7]. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact to air quality would occur if the proposed project would:

- conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan;
- result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard;
- expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or
- result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people.

As detailed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and identified above, the proposed project is located within the YSAQMD jurisdictional boundary. Pursuant to the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds for evaluating project-related air quality impacts, implementation of the proposed project would be considered significant if it would (YSAQMD 2007):

- generate construction-related criteria air pollutant or precursor emissions that exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of 10 tons per year (tpy) of reactive organic gases (ROG), 10 tpy of nitrogen oxides (NO_X), and 80 pounds per day (lbs/day) of particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 microns (PM_{10}), or result in a violation of the CO California Ambient Air Quality Standards;
- generate long-term regional criteria air pollutant or precursor emissions that exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of 10 tpy of ROG, 10 tpy of NO_X, and 80 lbs/day of PM_{10}, or result in a violation of the CO California Ambient Air Quality Standards;
- expose the maximally exposed individual (MEI) to TAC emissions that exceed an incremental increase in cancer risk of more than 10 in one million[8] and/or a ground-level concentration of non-carcinogenic TAC emissions that would result in a Hazard Index equal to 1 or greater; or
- generate odorous emissions in such quantities as to cause detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which may endanger the comfort, repose, health, or safety

[7] Appendix G, III. Air Quality, was revised in 2018 following certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR; this revision removed the impact of "violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or project air quality violation" from consideration and revised the impact of "create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people". These changes do not substantively change the approach to analysis applied to the 2035 General Plan EIR and the approach presented in this SEIR evaluation of potential air quality impacts.

[8] The YSAQMD notes that this threshold was adopted specifically for the evaluation of stationary source impacts and that it believes that this threshold can provide an accurate and conservative assessment of the significance of mobile source-related impacts from air toxics from mobile sources, such as diesel particulate matter. The YSAQMD also notes that no specific threshold of significance for toxic impacts has been adopted for mobile sources and that the 10 in one million threshold has been used by lead agencies for assessing mobile source impacts.

of any such person or the public, or which may cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property.

For cumulative impacts, YSAQMD states that if a project would be significant on the project-level (i.e., exceed any of the thresholds listed above), it would also be considered significant on a cumulative level (YSAQMD 2007).

As with the approach in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, since there is considerable overlap between the above mentioned threshold questions, this section has been reorganized to improve clarity and readability into four impact statements addressing:

- short-term, construction-related emissions
- long-term, operational emissions
- exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; and
- exposure to objectionable odors.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.3-1: Generation of Short-Term Construction-Related Emissions of Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.3-21 to 4.3-25) implementation of the 2035 General Plan would include construction-related activities such as site preparation, demolition and renovation, building construction, and grading. Construction activities would result in the generation of temporary exhaust emissions (i.e., ROG, NO_X, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) from the use of off-road equipment, material delivery trucks, and construction worker vehicles. Fugitive dust (i.e., PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) would also be generated from construction vehicle and equipment travel on paved and unpaved roadways and from earthwork and material movement, and off-gassing emissions of ROG from the application of architectural coatings (e.g., paint) and asphalt paving. Construction-related emissions associated with implementation of the 2035 General Plan were quantified based on an assumed level of development that could occur within one year (2017) and were found to exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of significance. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified 2035 General Plan policies and additional mitigation measures incorporated into the Final 2035 General Plan that would reduce construction-related impacts. However, because the ability of the General Plan policies and mitigation measures to reduce construction-related emissions was unknown, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found that impacts associated with short-term construction related emissions would be significant and unavoidable.

The proposed project would result in short-term temporary emissions of criteria air pollutants and ozone precursors during construction of the extension of utilities associated with the use of off-road equipment, material delivery trucks, and construction worker vehicles for activities such as demolition, site preparation (e.g., grubbing and land clearing), grading and excavation, installation of underground pipelines, and paving.

The California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) Version 2022.1.1.29 was used to model construction emissions associated with the proposed project. As described in Section 3.3.2, it is assumed that construction would take place within a single construction period during May through November and would occur after November 2026; therefore, the construction emissions modeling assumes that construction would start in May 2027. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that approximately 400 to 500 feet of pipeline could be installed per day,

with several days for land clearing and grubbing and paving. Therefore, there would be a total anticipated construction duration of 20 days for the utility extensions to Bayer and 29 days for the utility extensions to Clark Pacific. It is assumed decommissioning of onsite groundwater wells and wastewater utility facilities at both Bayer and Clark Pacific would occur after construction of the utility extensions is complete, as the extended utilities would need to be in place for each business to continue operating. The construction equipment inventory for the proposed project was developed based on CalEEMod defaults for linear projects based on the length of pipelines for each business and assuming a 25-foot width of horizontal disturbance[9]. The number of construction worker one-way trips per day is determined based on the number of pieces of equipment by each phase multiplied by 2.5, consistent with the CalEEMod User Guide (California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA] 2022). Excavated soil material associated with trenching for the utility extension alignments is assumed to be re-used and there would be no import or export of soil materials or associated haul truck trips. Due to the proximity of the utility extension alignments to existing roads, it is conservatively assumed that 25 percent of the total utility extension area would be repaved following installation of the utility extensions. Decommissioning of the existing retention pond at the Bayer facility is assumed to require import of 2,315 cubic yards of material to fill the volume of the existing pond. Decommissioning of the groundwater wells and wastewater facilities at each business is assumed to require minimal construction equipment associated with removal of the groundwater well casings and pumps and abandoning septic tanks in place. 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Mitigation Measure 4.3-1a required Implementation Program Air Quality 1, as incorporated into the Final 2035 General Plan (as Implementation Program 7.18), which included, among other requirements, the requirement of twice daily watering for those projects that could result in short-term impacts to air quality. Therefore, this SEIR analysis incorporates twice daily watering of unpaved roads and exposed construction areas. Additional inputs and assumptions are included in Appendix D.

Table 4.2-1 and Table 4.2-2 summarize the modeled emissions of ROG, NO_X, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ associated with the proposed project for the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities, respectively, and compare the proposed project emissions to the YSAQMD thresholds of significance. Table 4.2-3 presents the total maximum daily emissions assuming concurrent construction of the utility extensions to both Bayer and Clark Pacific. Model reports showing emissions inputs and outputs are included in Appendix D.

Table 4.2-1 Bayer Construction-Related Emissions

Project Component	ROG (tons per year)	NO_X (tons per year)	PM_{10} (pounds per day)	$PM_{2.5}$ (pounds per day)
Utility Extension	0.04	0.4	35.4	5.3
Groundwater Well Decommissioning	0.0004	0.002	0.1	0.06
Septic Tank Decommissioning	0.001	0.01	0.3	0.2
Retention Pond Decommissioning	0.0005	0.01	6.1	1.9
Total Maximum Daily Emissions [a, b]	**0.05**	**0.4**	**42.0**	**7.5**
YSAQMD Threshold	10	10	80	--
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	--

Source: Appendix D, modeled by AECOM in 2025. YSAQMD 2007

Table Notes: NO_X = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 microns; ROG = reactive organic gases; YSAQMD = Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

[a] Total maximum daily emissions assume the potential maximum daily emissions associated with each project component would occur on the same day.

[b] Totals may not sum due to rounding.

[9] The equipment list proposed in Section 3.3.2 "Extension and Use of Utilities" of this SEIR is slightly different from that which was modeled (i.e., dozers would likely be used instead of scrapers and scrapers were modeled). However, the difference in modeled equipment does not influence the findings presented in Section 4.2, "Air Quality" or Section 4.4, "Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy" of this SEIR and does not result in emissions exceedances.

Table 4.2-2 Clark Pacific Construction-Related Emissions

Project Component	ROG (tons per year)	NO_X (tons per year)	PM_{10} (pounds per day)	$PM_{2.5}$ (pounds per day)
Utility Extension	0.03	0.3	2.6	1.1
Groundwater Well Decommissioning	0.0004	0.02	0.1	0.1
Septic Tank Decommissioning	0.001	0.01	0.3	0.2
Total Maximum Daily Emissions [a, b]	**0.03**	**0.3**	**3.1**	**1.4**
YSAQMD Threshold	10	10	80	--
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	--

Source: Appendix D, modeled by AECOM in 2025.
Table Notes: NO_X = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 microns; ROG = reactive organic gases; YSAQMD = Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
[a] Total maximum daily emissions assume the potential maximum daily emissions associated with each project component would occur on the same day.
[b] Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Table 4.2-3 Total Construction-Related Emissions

Facility	ROG (tons per year)	NO_X (tons per year)	PM_{10} (pounds per day)	$PM_{2.5}$ (pounds per day)
Bayer	0.05	0.4	42.0	7.5
Clark Pacific	0.03	0.3	3.1	1.4
Total Maximum Daily Emissions [a, b]	**0.08**	**0.7**	**45.1**	**8.9**
YSAQMD Threshold	10	10	80	--
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	--

Source: Appendix D, modeled by AECOM in 2025.
Table Notes: NO_X = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 microns; ROG = reactive organic gases; YSAQMD = Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
[a] Total maximum daily emissions assume the potential maximum daily emissions associated with each facility would occur on the same day.
[b] Totals may not sum due to rounding.

As shown in Table 4.2-1 and Table 4.2-2, construction-related emissions associated with the proposed project would not exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of significance, which have been developed with the intent of ensuring attainment, or to work toward attainment, of the federal and State ambient air quality standards, consistent with the regional air quality plans. If a project would exceed the YSAQMD mass emission thresholds, it may be considered to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the YSAQMD air quality planning efforts. Therefore, because construction-related emissions would not exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of significance, construction of the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan or result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. These types and levels of air quality emissions would be similar to those that could occur if other existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, extend utilities under the proposed project. Given the above, impacts related to short-term construction related emissions would not be significant and unavoidable as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts related to short-term construction-related emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors nor such impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.3-2: Generation of Long-Term Operational Emissions of Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.3-25 to 4.3-27), implementation of development considered under the 2035 General Plan would include new buildings, structures, paved areas, roadways, utilities, and other improvements which would generate operational emissions from mobile, energy, and area sources. Operational emissions associated with implementation of the 2035 General Plan were quantified based on the anticipated types and sizes of land uses for the development scenarios considered in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and were found to exceed the YSAQMD-recommended thresholds of significance. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified General Plan policies and additional mitigation measures that would reduce operational impacts. However, because the ability of the General Plan policies and mitigation measures to reduce operational emissions to levels below the significance thresholds was unknown, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found that impacts associated with long-term operational emissions would be significant and unavoidable.

The proposed project would operate utility extensions, connecting existing commercial facilities to the City's existing water and wastewater systems. Water and wastewater services provided by the City through the proposed utility extensions would be within the capacity of the City's existing water and wastewater systems as described in Section 4.11, "Utilities" of this SEIR, and would not generate operational emissions. As described in Section 3.3.2 of this SEIR and shown in Table 3.3-1 and Table 3.3-2, future annual potable water demand is anticipated to increase slightly at both Bayer and Clark Pacific and future wastewater generation is anticipated to increase slightly at Bayer. However, decommissioning of existing water and wastewater facilities at the two existing commercial facilities would ultimately occur, eliminating related long-term operational emissions from groundwater pumping and eliminating wastewater. Furthermore, extending utilities would not alter the anticipated development capacity of the City within the City's planning horizon; therefore, extending utilities would not result in a change in total annual operational emissions as analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Any potential increase in operations at Bayer and Clark Pacific associated with increased potable water consumption or wastewater treatment would be minimal compared to existing conditions. Similarly, should other existing commercial facilities extend utilities within one mile of the existing ULL, there would not be a change in total annual operational emissions, as analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan or result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. Given the above, impacts related to long-term construction related emissions would not be significant and unavoidable as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts related to long-term operational emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors nor such impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.3-3: Expose Sensitive Receptors to Substantial Pollutant Concentrations

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR evaluated the potential for vehicle trips associated with development anticipated under the 2035 General Plan to cause carbon monoxide (CO) hotspots and for construction and operation associated with development anticipated under the 2035 General Plan to generate localized air pollutant emissions that could affect existing and proposed sensitive receptors (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages, 4.3-33 to 4.3-45). Consistent with YSAQMD-recommended screening levels, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found that CO emissions from local mobile sources would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial

pollutant concentrations and impacts related to CO hotspots would be less than significant. As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, construction activities associated with development anticipated under the 2035 General Plan could generate diesel particulate matter (DPM), identified as a TAC by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), from the use of heavy-duty construction equipment, haul trucks, on-site generators, and construction worker vehicles. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR acknowledged that construction emissions would be intermittent and temporary and that DPM is highly dispersive. However, because the duration of construction activities and exact location of sensitive receptors relative to anticipated development could not be known at the time of analysis, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR conservatively assumed that certain construction activities could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. General Plan policies and mitigation measures were identified to reduce construction impacts to a less than significant level.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.3-37 to 4.3-45) discusses potential impacts related to exposure of sensitive receptors to operational TACs, including mobile source emissions along roadways and due to proximity to operational sources of TACs associated with specific future land uses. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found impacts related to exposure of existing and future sensitive land uses to substantial TAC concentrations would be potentially significant; General Plan Policies 7.F.2 and 7.F.3. and Mitigation Measures 4.3-3c and 4.3-3d (implemented as part of the Final General Plan as Implementation Programs 7.17 and 7.19, respectively) were found to reduce operational impacts related to TACs to a less than significant level.

Proposed Project Construction

The proposed project would require short-term construction activities associated with the utility extensions and minor construction activities onsite at Bayer and Clark Pacific to decommission existing groundwater and wastewater facilities. For both Bayer and Clark Pacific, construction activities associated with the utility extensions would occur closer to sensitive receptors than on-site construction activities related to decommissioning of groundwater and wastewater facilities. The closest sensitive receptors to the Bayer utility alignments are multi-family residences located adjacent to County Road 98, where a portion of the proposed sewer pipeline would be constructed. The closest sensitive receptors to the Clark Pacific utility alignments are single family residences located along County Roads 101 and 18c, where a portion of the proposed sewer and water pipeline would be constructed.

Construction would generate DPM emissions from the use of off-road diesel-powered equipment and any diesel-powered trucks serving construction activities. These activities may expose nearby residences to TACs during construction activities, primarily in the form of DPM. More than 90 percent of DPM is less than 1 micrometer (μm) in diameter and thus is a subset of $PM_{2.5}$. Health risk is a function of the concentration of contaminants in the environment and the duration of exposure to those contaminants. Even in intensive phases of construction, there would not be substantial pollutant concentrations, with the potential exception of the immediate vicinity of the construction site. As shown in the detailed emissions outputs in Appendix D, daily $PM_{2.5}$ exhaust emissions are estimated to be a maximum of 1.82 pounds per day and an average of approximately 0.08 pounds per day. Concentrations of mobile-source DPM emissions are typically reduced by approximately 60 percent at a distance of around 300 feet (100 meters) (Zhu and Hinds 2002). While construction of the utility extensions to both Bayer and Clark Pacific may occur within 80 feet of sensitive receptors, construction and associated off-road equipment use would occur linearly at a rate of approximately 400 to 500 feet per day and would extend up to approximately 2,600 feet away from sensitive receptors, limiting the duration of emissions generated at any single location.

The risks estimated for an exposed individual are higher if a fixed exposure occurs over a longer period of time. Health effects from TACs are often described in terms of individual cancer risk, which is based on a 30-year lifetime exposure to TACs (Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA] 2015). As described above, construction of the utility extensions to the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities would occur over approximately 20 days and 29 days, respectively, or less than 0.3 percent of the 30-year lifetime exposure period of evaluation. Construction activities for the proposed project would be short-term and temporary, would vary in activity and equipment intensity over that time, and would take place linearly across the entire utility extension alignments, thereby limiting the amount of time that emitting equipment would be within a distance that would expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Due to the short-term, intermittent, and temporary nature of construction activities, dispersive nature of TACs, and the fact that construction would occur linearly and not concentrated near sensitive receptors, short-term construction would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial DPM concentrations that would result in a health hazard.

For the reasons described above related to TAC emissions associated with construction of the proposed project, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts related to the potential exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations nor such impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Proposed Project Operations

The proposed project would not generate operational TAC emissions, as described above in Impact 4.3-2. Any slight increase in potable water consumption at existing commercial facilities due to the transition from on-site septic or water supply systems to connection with the City utility systems, as that described for Bayer and Clark Pacific in Section 3.3.2, would not result in a substantial increase in TAC emissions. Therefore, the proposed project's potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations from long-term operational emissions sources is not discussed further. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Proposed Project-Related CO Hotspots

Vehicle trips during construction activities would be limited, temporary, and not concentrated at roadways or other areas in which CO concentrations may become elevated. Additionally, there would be no change in long-term operational trips associated with implementation of the proposed project. Therefore, there would be no impact related to CO hotspots and given the above, impacts related to CO hotspots and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure(s) reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR are not required for the proposed project. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.3-4: Objectionable Odors Affecting a Substantial Number of People

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.3-45 to 4.3-48) discusses potential impacts related to exposure of a substantial number of people to objectionable odors. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified construction of proposed land uses, including exhaust odors from diesel engines and volatile organic compound emissions associated with asphalt paving and the application of architectural coatings, as minor sources of odors associated

with implementation of development under the 2035 General Plan that may be considered offensive odors to some individuals. However, because odors associated with diesel fumes would be temporary and would disperse rapidly with distance from the source, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined that construction-generated and mobile-source odors would not result in the frequent exposure of on-site receptors to objectionable odor emissions. The General Plan EIR also identified operational sources of odors, such as garbage collection areas and charbroilers associated with commercial uses, as potential minor sources of odors that may be relevant to the existing or future development within the Planning Area. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that compliance with permitting requirements, air district rules and regulations, and state and local requirements would reduce potential odor-related impacts, and impacts would be less than significant.

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would predominantly use diesel engines. Exhaust odors from diesel engines and emissions associated with asphalt paving may be considered offensive to some individuals. Surrounding residents may be exposed to such construction-related odors. However, the odors would be short-term and temporary as construction would progress linearly along the alignment or at the existing Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities and would disperse rapidly with distance from the source. Therefore, construction-generated odors would not result in the frequent exposure of receptors to objectionable odor emissions. Furthermore, the proposed project would be required to comply with applicable portions of YSAQMD Regulation II Rule 2.5 (Nuisance), which would help ensure that odors generated by short-term construction would not affect a substantial number of people.

Operation of the proposed extended utility pipelines themselves would not be a source of odors. Additionally, as described above, water and wastewater services provided by the City through the proposed utility extensions would be within the capacity of the City's existing water and wastewater systems and would not result in any new operational emissions sources. The YSAQMD CEQA Handbook (YSAQMD 2007) identifies common types of facilities known to produce odors, such as wastewater treatment facilities; chemical and fiberglass manufacturing facilities; landfills and transfer stations; painting and coating operations; composting and food processing facilities; and petroleum refineries and asphalt plants. As described in Section 3.3.2, the proposed project would allow for the extension of utilities to existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL, and specifically to Bayer and Clark Pacific, which are not typical odor-generating facilities as identified in the YSAQMD CEQA Handbook. Any potential odors generated by other existing commercial facilities that may extend utilities would be required to comply with YSAQMD rules and permit requirements already applicable to the existing operations of the facilities. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. As concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR impacts related to odor would be less than significant, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts related to objectionable odors nor such impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Section 4.4, "Biological Resources," of 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.4-1 to 4.4-60) described the existing special status species and habitat conditions, summarized applicable regulations, analyzed the potential impacts of the 2035 General Plan and CAP on biological resources, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts, where applicable. That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.3.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was presented on pages 4.4-20 to 4.4-28 and is hereby incorporated by reference. The regulatory setting is updated in the material that follows.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the major federal legislation governing water quality, providing guidance for the restoration and maintenance of the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters, which is described in the Regulatory Setting of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Section 404 of the CWA requires a project applicant to obtain a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) before engaging in any activity that involves any discharge of dredged or fill material placed in waters of the United States, including wetlands. Section 401 of the CWA requires an applicant applying for a Section 404 permit that may result in a discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S. to obtain Section 401 water quality certification (or certification waiver), thereby ensuring that the discharge will comply with provisions of the CWA. The SWRCB and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) administer the 401-certification program in California. Section 402 of the CWA establishes a permitting system for the discharge of any pollutant (except dredged or fill material) into waters of the U.S.

The definition of waters of the U.S. establishes the geographic scope for authority under Section 404 of the CWA; however, the CWA does not specifically define "Waters of the United States," leaving the definition open to statutory interpretation and agency rulemaking. The definition of what constitutes "Waters of the United States" (provided in 33 CFR Section 328.3(a]) has changed multiple times over the past few decades starting with the *United States v. Riverside Bayview Homes, Inc.* court ruling in 1985. Subsequent court proceedings, rule makings, and congressional acts in 2001 (*Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. United States Army Corps of Engineers*), 2006 (*Rapanos v. United States*), 2015 (Clean Water Rule), 2018 (suspension of the Clean Water Rule), 2019 (formal repeal of the Clean Water Rule), 2020 (Navigable Waters Protection Rule), and 2021 (*Pasqua Tribe et al v. United States Environmental Protection Agency* resulting in remand and vacatur of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule and a return to "the pre-2015 regulatory regime") have attempted to provide greater clarity to the term and its regulatory implementation. A Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States" rule (Rule) (88 CFR 3004–3144) became effective on March 20, 2023, restoring federal jurisdiction over waters that were protected prior to 2015 under the CWA for traditional navigable waters, the territorial seas, interstate waters, and upstream water resources that significantly affect those waters. The Rule represented a re-

expansion of federal jurisdiction over certain water bodies and wetlands previously exempt pursuant to the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule. The Rule also considered various subsequent court decisions including two notable Supreme Court decisions. However, the applicability of the Rule was substantially affected by a subsequent May 2023 Supreme Court ruling, which reinstated the "Significant Nexus" test and adopted the "Relatively Permanent Standard" test. On May 25, 2023, in *Sackett v. USEPA,* the Supreme Court issued an opinion in a case concerning the applicability of the term "Waters of the United States" in the CWA to wetlands adjacent to other waters. The USACE and the U.S. EPA issued the Final Rule on August 29, 2023, to address the Sackett decision and amend the revised definition of "Waters of the United States." The Final Rule was published in the Federal Register and became effective on September 8, 2023.

The City amended the tree ordinance (Title 12 Chapter 12.48 of City of Woodland Municipal Code) in December 2022. The ordinance identifies that the planting and preservation of trees sustains public health by supporting relaxation and reducing stress, increases life-giving oxygen, promotes ecological balance and biodiversity, improves air quality, and tempers the effect of extreme temperatures. Section 12.48.140 of the ordinance specifically discusses encroachment into the drip line area of protected trees during construction. This section states that the existing ground surface within drip line (measured horizontally) of any heritage oak tree[10], specimen tree, landmark tree, or established tree[11] shall not be excavated, filled, compacted or paved without the consultation and consent of the Community Development Director. Tree wells may be used when advisable. Excavation adjacent to any heritage oak tree shall not be permitted where material damage to the root system may result, unless approved by an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist. Excavation within an oak tree dripline when approved by the City, may only be performed by a contractor that has an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist on staff and based on a plan prepared by consulting International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist that has been submitted to and approved by the City in advance.

The Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan promotes voluntary efforts to conserve and enhance the county's existing oak woodlands to help minimize the effects of land conversion and other factors that disturb the health and longevity of existing oak woodlands.

The Yolo Habitat Conservancy completed the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (Yolo HCP/NCCP) in 2018 and began Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation in January 2019 (Yolo Habitat Conservancy n.d.). The Yolo HCP/NCCP is a countywide conservation plan to provide Endangered Species Act permits and associated mitigation for infrastructure (e.g., roads and bridges) and development activities identified for construction over the next 50 years in Yolo County (Yolo Habitat Conservancy n.d.). The Yolo HCP/NCCP coordinates mitigation to maximize benefits to species as well as conserve habitat above and beyond required mitigation for the following 12 identified species: palmate-bracted bird's beak (*Chloropyron palmatum*), valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*), and tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*). (Yolo Habitat

[10] Heritage oak tree: any valley oak tree (*Quercus lobata*), with a trunk diameter of 33 inches or more at Diameter at Breast Height which is of good quality in terms of health, vigor, growth and conformity to generally accepted horticultural standards of shape for its species.
[11] Established Tree: tree of any species with trunk diameter of 12 inches or more at Diameter at Breast Height which is of good quality in terms of health, vigor, growth and conformity to generally accepted horticultural standards of shape for its species.

Conservancy n.d.). The Yolo Habitat Conservancy is a joint powers agency comprised of the County of Yolo, and the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland (Yolo Habitat Conservancy n.d.).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.4-1 to 4.4-20), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting describes habitat types, as well as special-status plant and wildlife species and their potential for occurrence within the Planning Area of the General Plan. Habitat types identified in Table 4.4-1 2035 of the General Plan and CAP EIR includes: Developed, Agriculture (other than rice), Rice, Water, Annual Grassland, Detention Basins, Alkali Prairie, Freshwater Wetland, Riparian Forest, and Vernal Pool Complex. Developed (7,953 acres) and agriculture (3,041 acres) make up the largest portion of the Planning Areas habitat types. Results based on the database searches and literature review conducted for the 2035 General Plan and CAP, identified 11 special-status plant species documented or reported in the Planning Area or the vicinity of the County. Of these, eight species are either known to occur or have the potential to occur in suitable habitat within the Planning Area (Exhibit 4.4-3, Table 4.4-12, pages 4.4-11 and 4.4-12). In addition, the results identified 28 wildlife species documented or reported in the Planning Area or the vicinity of the County. Of these, 24 are either known to occur or have the potential to occur in suitable habitat within the Planning Area, including 13 wildlife species listed under CESA or ESA, while the remaining nine are recognized as Species of Special Concern or Fully Protected under California law (Exhibit 4.4-3, Table 4.4-3, pages 4.4-15 to 4.4-20).

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Although biological resource conditions have evolved since certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, none of those changes would lead to a new impact or increase in severity of any impact in relation to the proposed project. Information contained in this section is based on a biological reconnaissance field survey, updated database searches, review of the General Plan and CAP EIR and a review of the Yolo HCP/NCCP and Yolo HCP/NCCP EIS/EIR. Information from both the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and the Yolo HCP/NCCP is used to characterize the environmental setting because the proposed project is an amendment to the existing City of Woodland General Plan that would allow activities within County lands under the jurisdiction of the HCP/NCCP. A biological reconnaissance field survey was conducted on July 30, 2025, by AECOM field biologist of the proposed Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments, which included a 500-foot survey buffer. Appendix E, Biological Reconnaissance Survey Results, of this SEIR documents the survey. The habitat types documented in the field were generally mapped to General Plan habitat types. A desktop review was also conducted of the Yolo HCP/NCCP land cover types and modeled habitat for the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments. A desktop review was also performed of the Yolo HCP/NCCP to identify common habitat types described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR that could be within one mile of the existing ULL and the land cover types described in the Yolo HCP/NCCP mapped within one mile of the existing ULL. Finally, a desktop review was performed to identify Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for covered species within one mile of the existing ULL. Species analysis was based on updated database searches of California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), California Native Plant Society (CNPS), USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC), and Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat.

The Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments are located in Yolo HCP/NCCP Planning Unit 11 and the area within one mile of the existing ULL is located in Planning Units 7, 11, 17, and 19 (City of Woodland).

Natural Communities and habitat types identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and the Yolo HCP/NCCP are summarized below in Table 4.3-1 and Table 4.3-2 of this SEIR. Habitat types identified in the Clark Pacific alignment along County Road 101, County Road 18C, and within the Clark Pacific facility include developed land including horticulture, agriculture, annual grassland, and waters (existing retention pond). The annual grasslands to the north side of Road 18C adjacent to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment are highly disturbed through regular maintenance via mowing and the retention pond is primarily located behind a locked gate on the north side of Road 18C. The Bayer utility extension alignment is primarily within an agricultural field that is owned and maintained by Bayer. Habitat types identified in the Bayer alignment include developed land, agriculture, annual grassland, riparian forest, and waters (existing retention pond). Seed processing operations at the adjacent Bayer Crop Science facility require water and the use of an onsite wastewater discharge site in the form of a retention pond. The retention pond is located along the east-central edge of the facility. Water is discharged from the Bayer Crop Science facility into this retention pond, which includes aerators spaced approximately 50 feet apart, is approximately 20 feet wide and extends southward for approximately 650 feet. A row of sixteen 20- to 30-foot-high Freemont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*) occurs along the west side of the retention pond (riparian woodland), which is otherwise sparsely vegetated. Figure 4.3-1 and Figure 4.3-2 identify the habitat types mapped within and adjacent to the proposed utility extension alignments. Figure 4.3-3 and Figure 4.3-4 depicts the Yolo HCP/NCCP land cover types and natural communities along the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments.

Table 4.3-1 Natural Communities and Habitat Types: Clark Pacific and Bayer Utility Extension Alignments

Natural Community[1]/ Habitat Type[2]	Description
Developed[1]/ Developed Land[2]	Developed land is the primary habitat within and adjacent to the two proposed utility extension alignments. Developed areas are highly modified consisting of man-made structures and surfaces with landscaped vegetation in maintained areas and weedy vegetation in areas that are subject to frequent ground disturbance. Developed land includes urban vegetation and all areas with structures, graded lots, road and highway medians, anthropogenic drainage canal vegetation, rail rights-of-way, and sewage treatment ponds that do not provide habitat (Yolo County 2018). Wildlife typically observed in disturbed landscapes consists of common species that are well adapted to man-made infrastructure and that take advantage of opportunities for foraging or nesting created as a byproduct of the infrastructure. Disturbed land cover rarely provides suitable habitat for special-status species although they may use it during movement or migration. The horticultural area within the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment is part of developed land because it is landscaping around existing developed areas. These areas are maintained with ornamental trees, shrubs, and turf grass, providing minimal habitat value beyond occasional nesting or roosting opportunities for common bird species. Large trees in landscaped areas may offer raptor perching or nesting potential, but overall horticultural lands are considered highly disturbed and provide only marginal ecological function.
Cultivated Lands Seminatural Community[1,] Other Agriculture[1], Semiagricultural and Incidental to Agriculture[1]/ Agricultural Lands (excluding Rice) [2]	The Bayer utility extension alignment lies within an agricultural field managed for cover crops or hay on a rotational basis, subject to regular disturbance through annual tilling and harvest. Habitat value is limited due to the highly disturbed area, though large trees bordering the field provide passerine and raptor nesting potential. The nearby retention pond offers supplemental, marginal aquatic habitat, given the highly disturbed and developed nature of the facility surrounding the retention pond. Within the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment, agricultural habitat is bordered by drainage ditches and orchards. These areas provide low-value habitat but serve as foraging grounds for raptors.
Water[2]	Water consists of constructed ponds, including treatment ponds, retention basins, and farm/stock ponds (page 4.4-5). Features identified as water typically contain some amount of permanent surface water. The retention pond at Bayer has no inlet or outlet and retains water from the existing seed processing at Bayer, as needed. The retention pond at Clark Pacific was behind a locked gate and appeared to collect runoff from the adjacent Clark Pacific facility. While the vegetation in these locations provides some substrate for nesting birds, the absence of dense emergent cover such as rushes (*Juncus* spp.) or cattails (*Typha* spp.), combined with the artificial design and periodic drainage of the wetland and basin, limits habitat quality. As a result, these features are generally considered of low habitat value for most special-status species, including giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*) and California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), which depend on more consistent hydrology and well-developed wetland structure to complete their life cycles.

Natural Community[1]/ Habitat Type[2]	Description
Annual Grasslands[2]	Grasslands are primarily represented by mowed annual grasslands associated with leach fields and roadside rights-of-way. Within the Bayer utility extension alignment, grassland areas are limited because the alignment is largely contained within an agricultural field that is tilled or harvested annually for cover crops or hay. These disturbed conditions result in narrow strips of weedy vegetation along the gravel access road and mowed grassland around facility leach fields. Although habitat value is low, small mammal burrows were noted near the retention pond banks and in soil piles on the western side of the facility, though no special-status species or sign were observed. Large trees in and adjacent to the field provide nesting potential for raptors; one pair of Swainson's hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*) were observed soaring over the northern portion of the field during the survey. Within the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment, marginal grassland habitat occurs primarily in the mowed leach field north of County Road 18C and in patches of annual grassland interspersed with Fremont cottonwoods (*Populus fremontii*) and large valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) along the road corridor. This grassland is highly disturbed due to its proximity to developed land uses, roadside drainage ditches, and adjacent residential areas. Sporadic small mammal burrows were recorded in the drainage ditch, but no special-status species or their sign were observed. Despite the low habitat quality of these disturbed grasslands, the presence of large trees and open foraging space contributes to potential raptor use.
Riparian Woodland[2]	Riparian Woodland adjacent to the Bayer utility extension alignment is limited to a narrow slip of Fremont cottonwood trees. Despite being fragmented, these areas provide important structural diversity that supports a variety of wildlife. During surveys, Swainson's hawk and white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) were observed soaring near riparian edges, while species such as Modesto song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia mailliardi*), yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), and loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) may utilize riparian thickets for foraging or nesting. Elderberry shrubs (*Sambucus nigra*) recorded within the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment also provide potential habitat for the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), though sign of the species was not identified.

Table Notes
[1] Natural Communities are listed in this table as defined in Chapter 2, Existing Ecological Conditions, of the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan.
[2] Habitat Types are listed in this table as defined in Section 4.4.2.1, Common Habitat Types in the Planning Area and Section 4.4.2.2, Sensitive Habitat Types in the Planning Area and Vicinity of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and based on conditions observed during the field survey. (page 4.4-6.)
Source: 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2017) and Yolo Habitat Conservancy Geomapper (2025).

Table 4.3-2 Natural Communities and Habitat Types: Within One Mile of the Existing Urban Limit Line

Natural Communities[1]/ Habitat Types[2]	Description
Developed[1]/ Developed Land[2]	There is developed land within one mile of the existing ULL. Developed areas are highly modified consisting of man-made structures and surfaces with landscaped vegetation in maintained areas and weedy vegetation in areas that are subject to frequent ground disturbance. Developed land includes urban vegetation and all areas with structures, graded lots, road and highway medians, anthropogenic drainage canal vegetation, rail rights-of-way, and sewage treatment ponds that do not provide habitat (Yolo County 2018). Depending on their specific conditions, developed areas can support a number of common native and nonnative wildlife species (e.g., barn swallow [*Hirundo rustica*], house finch [*Haemorhous mexicanus*], raccoon [*Procyon lotor*], Virginia opossum [*Didelphis virginiana*] and black rat [*Rattus rattus*]). (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Large trees in urban lands support roosting and nesting of the white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) and Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), and the western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) may be found in remnant fields within urban lands (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Cultivated Lands Seminatural Community[1]/ Agricultural Lands (including Rice) [2]	Cultivated lands seminatural community and agricultural lands (including rice) is the primary natural community/habitat type within one mile of the existing ULL. Crop types on cultivated lands change over time with changes in demand, price, and other factors related to the wide variety of food and fiber crops grown in Yolo County (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Crop types include alfalfa, rice, field crops, tuck and berry crops, grain and hay crops, and pastures (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Depending on the crop type and season, cultivated fields can provide marginal or high-value foraging habitat for raptors and special status wildlife species such as the white-tailed kite and Swainson's hawk (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Freshly cultivated fields, before crop development, provide habitat for mountain plover (*Charadrius montanus*), and Swainson's hawk (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Local barren areas around irrigation facilities can also provide habitat for burrowing owls (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Rice provides valuable habitat that varies seasonally for a range of special status wetland and upland special status wildlife species including giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*), northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), and white-tailed kites (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). These features also serve as habitat corridors that allow them to disperse and move among habitat areas (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Other Agriculture[1], Semiagricultural and Incidental to Agriculture[1]/ Agricultural Lands (excluding Rice) [2]	There are substantial agricultural lands (excluding rice) that comprise other agriculture, semiagricultural and incidental to agriculture within one mile of the existing ULL. Most of the lands within semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural consists of farmsteads and field edges, which provide habitat for Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, and western burrowing owl (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Other agricultural land lands can provide buffers between natural communities and nearby development (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Orchards can also support the pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Water[2]	There is water, consisting of constructed ponds, including treatment ponds, retention basins, and farm/stock ponds (page 4.4-5) within one mile of the existing ULL. Features identified as water typically contain some amount of permanent surface water (page 4.4-5). The types of features that are artificial provide generally marginal habitat for special status species because they frequently lack the type of vegetation needed to support special status wildlife species life cycle requirements. Furthermore, artificial ponds in or adjacent to urban areas often support nonnative species, such as red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) and American bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), that out-compete or are predators of native species such as northwestern pond turtle (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).

Natural Communities[1]/ Habitat Types[2]	Description
Annual Grassland[1]/Annual Grasslands[2]	There are some annual grasslands within one mile of the existing ULL, primarily to the south and east of Woodland. Grasslands are generally subject to some level of periodic maintenance or other types of disturbance, such as disking, mowing, and grazing by cattle or other domestic animals (page 4.4-5). Grasslands are generally found in areas where trees account for less than 10 percent of the cover and the topography consists of flat plains or gently rolling foothills (Yolo County Conservatory 2018). Plants are typically less than three feet tall (Yolo County Conservatory 2018). Most grasslands consist of annual grassland, dominated by nonnative species (Yolo County Conservatory 2018). These nonnative grasses include: foxtail barley (*Hordeum murinum*), Mediterranean barley (*H. marinum* ssp. *gussoneanum*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft chess (*B. hordeaceous*), Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*), and oat (*Avena* spp.). Commonly observed forbs include nonnative species such as cutleaf geranium (*Geranium dissectum*) and redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and native wildflowers such as valley tassels (*Castilleja attenuata*), clovers (*Trifolium fucatum, T. depauperatum*, and *T. willdenovii*), sea muilla (*Muilla maritima*), hayfield tarplant (*Hemizonia congesta*), and several species of peppergrass (*Lepidium nitidum, L. latipes*, and *L. dictyotum*) (page 4.4-5). Native herbaceous species associated with grassland include rancher's fireweed (*Amsinckia menziesii*), miner's lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata ssp. Perfoliate*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), miniature lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*), baby blue-eyes (*Nemophila menziesii*), California plantain (*Plantago erecta*), vinegar weed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*), tomcat clover (*Trifolium willdenovii)*, butter-and-eggs (*Linaria vulgaris*), Ithuriel's spear (*Triteleia laxa*), and small fescue (*Vulpia microstachys*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Grasslands can serve as foraging habitat for special status wildlife species, including the pallid bat, purple martin (*Progne subis*), yellow-headed blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*), northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*), western burrowing owl, Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, tricolored blackbird, badger (*Taxidea taxus*), and California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Detention Basins[2]	There are some detention basins within one mile of the existing ULL. Detention Basins are artificially created depressions in the landscape designed to impound stormwater for short duration in urban or agricultural areas. These basins, therefore, may be temporarily inundated for short periods during and immediately following storms, but they are designed to empty out within a few days and do not hold water for long enough periods to support wetland vegetation or to be categorized as open water. Most of the time, these basins are characterized by ruderal (i.e., weedy) vegetation or agricultural crop. (page 4.4-5.) Given the infrequency in which these features are filled and the typical ruderal vegetation, these features may provide marginal habitat to special status wildlife species. Furthermore, artificial ponds in or adjacent to urban areas often support nonnative species, such as red-eared sliders and American bullfrogs, that out-compete or are predators of native species such as northwestern pond turtle (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Freshwater Marsh[2]	There very little freshwater marsh within one mile of the existing ULL; this type of habitat is primarily located adjacent to the southern edge Woodland, north of Willow Slough (page 4.4-6.). Freshwater marsh and associated wetlands form in permanently, or nearly permanently, flooded or saturated soils in depressions or at the edges of streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes, as well as ditches and canals. Distinct vegetation zones often form, as rings, strips, or patches, in response to varying water depths and hydroperiods. Freshwater marshes are dominated by large, perennial herbaceous plants, particularly hardstem bulrush (*Schoenoplectus acutus* var. *acutus*) and cattail (*Typha* spp.). Cattail and bulrush species typically create dense monotypic stands of vegetation with few herbaceous species present in the understory.

Natural Communities[1]/ Habitat Types[2]	Description
Fresh Emergent Wetland and Vernal Pool Complex[1]/Freshwater Wetlands[2]	There is very little freshwater emergent wetland, vernal pool complex and freshwater wetlands within one mile of the existing ULL. A vernal pool complex occurs at Woodland Regional Park, southeast of Woodland, within one mile of the existing ULL (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Fresh emergent wetlands and freshwater wetlands also occur southeast of Woodland within one mile of the existing ULL. Fresh emergent wetlands include aquatic and semiaquatic vegetation types (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Freshwater wetlands, also often called seasonal wetlands, form in seasonally flooded or saturated soils in depressions or at the edges of streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes, as well as ditches and canals (page 4.4-6). Perennially flooded areas are typically dominated by cattails, tule (*Schoenoplectus acutus var. occidentalis*), and California bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*) that can reach up to 12 feet in height (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Seasonally saturated or inundated areas contain much shorter vegetation and are more variable in the composition of their plant species (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Dominant species in many lower elevation seasonal wetlands include swamp timothy (*Crypsis schoenoides*), Baltic rush (*Juncus balticus*), and spikerushes (*Eleocharis macrostachya*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The fresh emergent wetland natural community supports a number of common wildlife species and many species of wintering waterfowl in large numbers (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Fresh emergent wetlands provide habitat for the following special status species: northern harrier, least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), tricolored blackbird, giant garter snake, and northwestern pond turtle (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Vernal pools are types of freshwater wetlands (page 4.4-6). Vernal pools are ephemeral wetlands that form in shallow depressions underlain by an impervious or restrictive soil layer near the surface that restricts the percolation of water (page 4.4-7). These wetland types support low-growing, herbaceous plant communities dominated by annual plants and typically characterized by a high percentage of native plant species, many of which may be endemic (restricted) to vernal pools (page 4.4-7). Other seasonal wetlands that are not underlain by claypan and that are characterized by generalist wetland plant species rather than vernal pool or alkali sink endemics may also be present (page 4.4-7). It is often difficult to distinguish between vernal pool complex natural community and alkali prairie natural community. The following special status wildlife species are known to use these features: vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardi*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The upland portions of vernal pools also provide foraging habitat for the Swainson's hawk, whitetailed kite, and western burrowing owl (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Special status plant species that occur in the vernal pool complex include Ferris' milk-vetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *Ferrisae*), alkali milk-vetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *Tener*), brittlescale (*Atriplex depressa*), San Joaquin spearscale (*Extriplex joaquinana*), Heckard's peppergrass (*Lepidium latipes* var. *heckardii*), Colusa grass (*Neostapfia colusana*), Solano grass (*Tuctoria mucronata*), and Baker's navarretia (*Navarretia leucocephala* ssp. *bakeri*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Alkali Sink[1]/Alkali Prairie[2]	There is very little alkali sink and alkali prairie within one mile of the existing ULL, in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park and Maupin Unit of the Alkali Sink Preserve. It primarily occurs within the City of Woodland. The alkali prairie community occurs on seasonally flooded, saline-alkaline clay soils with salts that include sodium, magnesium, and boron. Salt encrustations are often deposited on the surface as the soil dries (page 4.4-7). Typical salt-tolerant plants found in the alkali prairie habitat include saltgrass (*Distichlis spictata*), alkali heath (*Frankenia salina*), common spikeweed (*Centromadia pungens*), Parish's glasswort (*Arthrocnemum subterminale*), and bush seepweed *(Suaeda nigra*). Low areas, or sinks, with a relatively impermeable surface layer retain ponded water through spring into early summer and are generally devoid of perennial vegetation (page 4.4-7). Some areas also include flat-face downingia (*Downingia pulchella*), gumplant (*Grindelia camporum*), alkali coyote thistle (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Very small patches of alkali-adapted species are present in the natural community and include pickleweed (*Salicornia virginica*), bush seepweed (*Suaeda nigra*), alkali heath (*Frankenia salina*), and annual hairgrass (*Deschampsia danthonioides*) (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The following special status wildlife species are known to use these features: vernal pool fairy shrimp, and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The upland portions of alkali prairie also provide foraging habitat for the Swainson's hawk and the white-tailed kite (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Habitat for the special status species palmate-bracted bird's beak is also found (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).

Natural Communities[1]/ Habitat Types[2]	Description
Valley Foothill Riparian[1]/Riparian Forest[2]	There is very little Valley Foothill Riparian and Riparian Forest within one mile of the existing ULL; it exists in the south along Willow Slough southeast of Woodland and to the east in the Cache Creek Settling Basin adjacent to the Yolo Bypass (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Riparian forests are structurally diverse, tree-dominated habitats that occur along the margins of perennial water bodies (page 4.4-7). The valley foothill riparian natural community consists of a multilayered woodland plant community with a tree overstory and diverse shrub layer (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Canopy species include mature valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii)*, ash (*Fraxinus* spp.), and willows (*Salix* spp.). In a mature riparian forest, canopy heights reach approximately 100 feet, and canopy cover ranges from 20 to 80 percent (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). California rose (*Rosa californica*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*) may form dense thickets in the understory of mature riparian forests (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). California grape (*Vitis californica*) creates a dense network of vines in the canopy (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The valley foothill riparian natural community is usually associated with streams and creeks with low-velocity flows, floodplains, and low topography (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). Special status species that can be found in Valley foothill riparian/Riparian forest is rose mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus* var. *occidentalis*), pallid bat, yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), northwestern pond turtle, Swainson's hawk, western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis)*, white-tailed kite, and least Bell's vireo (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). The California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) has potential to occur in the valley foothill riparian natural community, although there are no known occurrences of the California red-legged frog in this natural community in Yolo County (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).
Lacustrine and Riverine[1]/Waterways[2]	Lacustrine and riverine habitat and waterways exist within one mile of the existing ULL. These include waterways consisting of perennial streams and other drainages, primarily agricultural ditches (page 4.4-9). Willow Slough is also located to the south of Woodland is partially within one mile of the exiting ULL. (page 4.4-8). Turbidity, water temperature, and oxygen content affect the quality of habitat for many plant and animal species within these features (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). These features can provide breeding and foraging habitat for the following special status wildlife species the northwestern pond turtle, giant garter snake, and California tiger salamander (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018). While agricultural ditches generally provide lower habitat quality than streams, agricultural ditches can support giant garter snake or provide dispersal habitat for this species (page 4.4-9). The vegetation can also provide foraging or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawk and numerous species of migratory birds. Artificial ponds in or adjacent to urban areas often support nonnative species, such as red-eared sliders and American bullfrogs, that out-compete or are predators of native species such as northwestern pond turtle (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2018).

Table Notes
1 Natural Communities are listed in this table as defined in Chapter 2, Existing Ecological Conditions, of the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan.
2 Habitat Types are listed in this table as defined in Section 4.4.2.1, Common Habitat Types in the Planning Area and Section 4.4.2.2, Sensitive Habitat Types in the Planning Area and Vicinity of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.4-6).
Source: 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2017) and Yolo Habitat Conservancy Geomapper (2025).

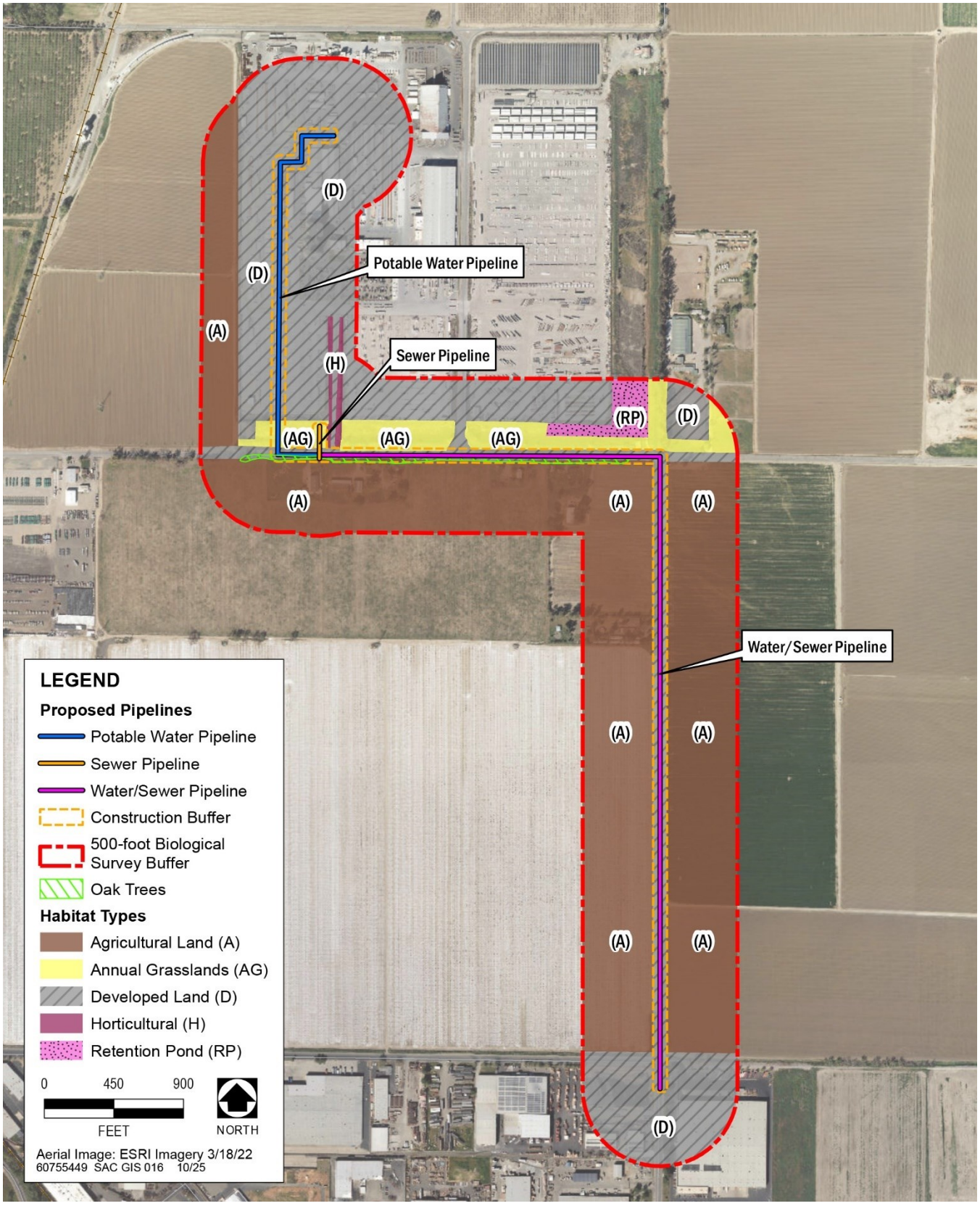

Figure 4.3-1 Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignments and General Plan Habitat Types

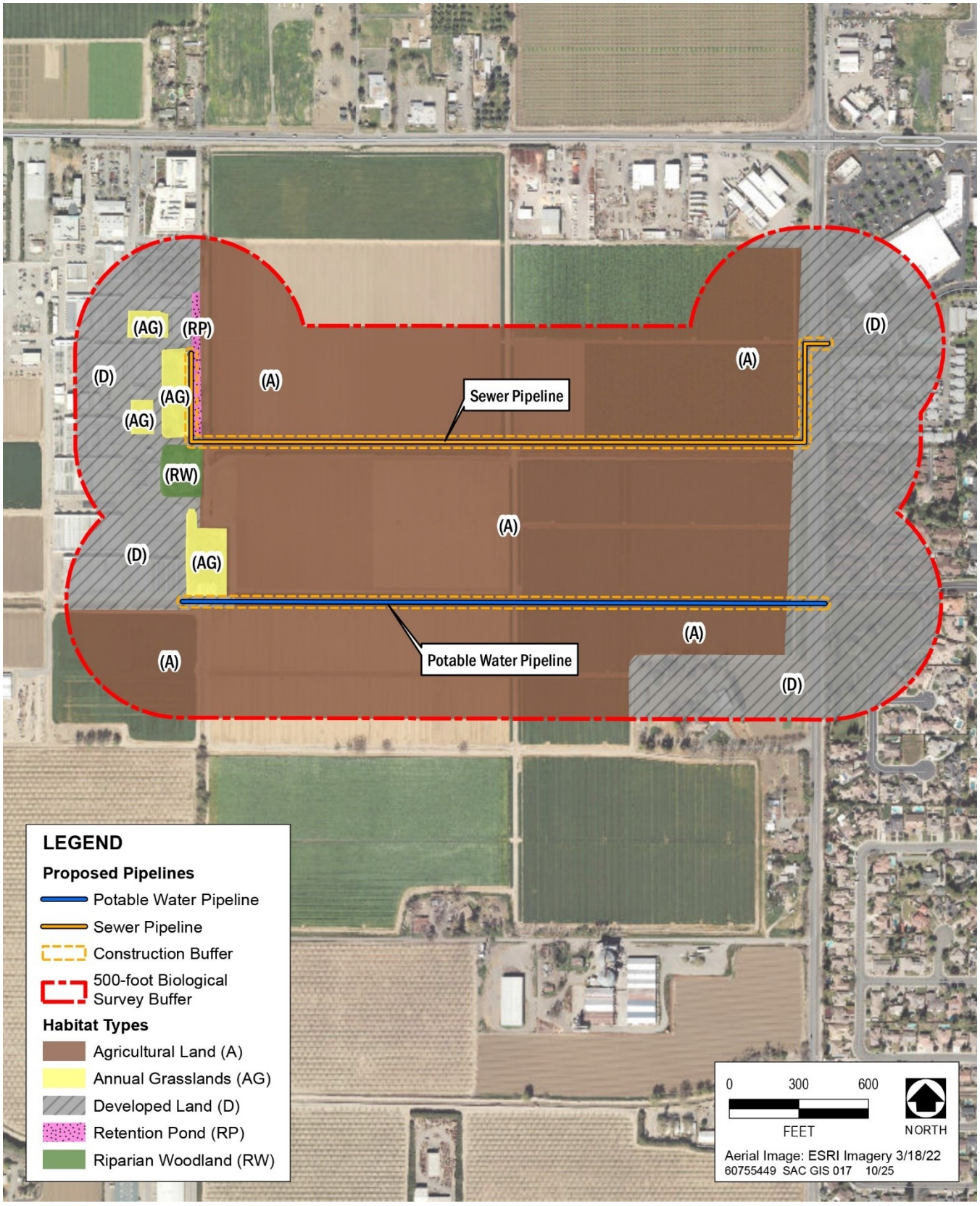

Figure 4.3-2 Bayer Utility Extension Alignments and General Plan Habitat Types

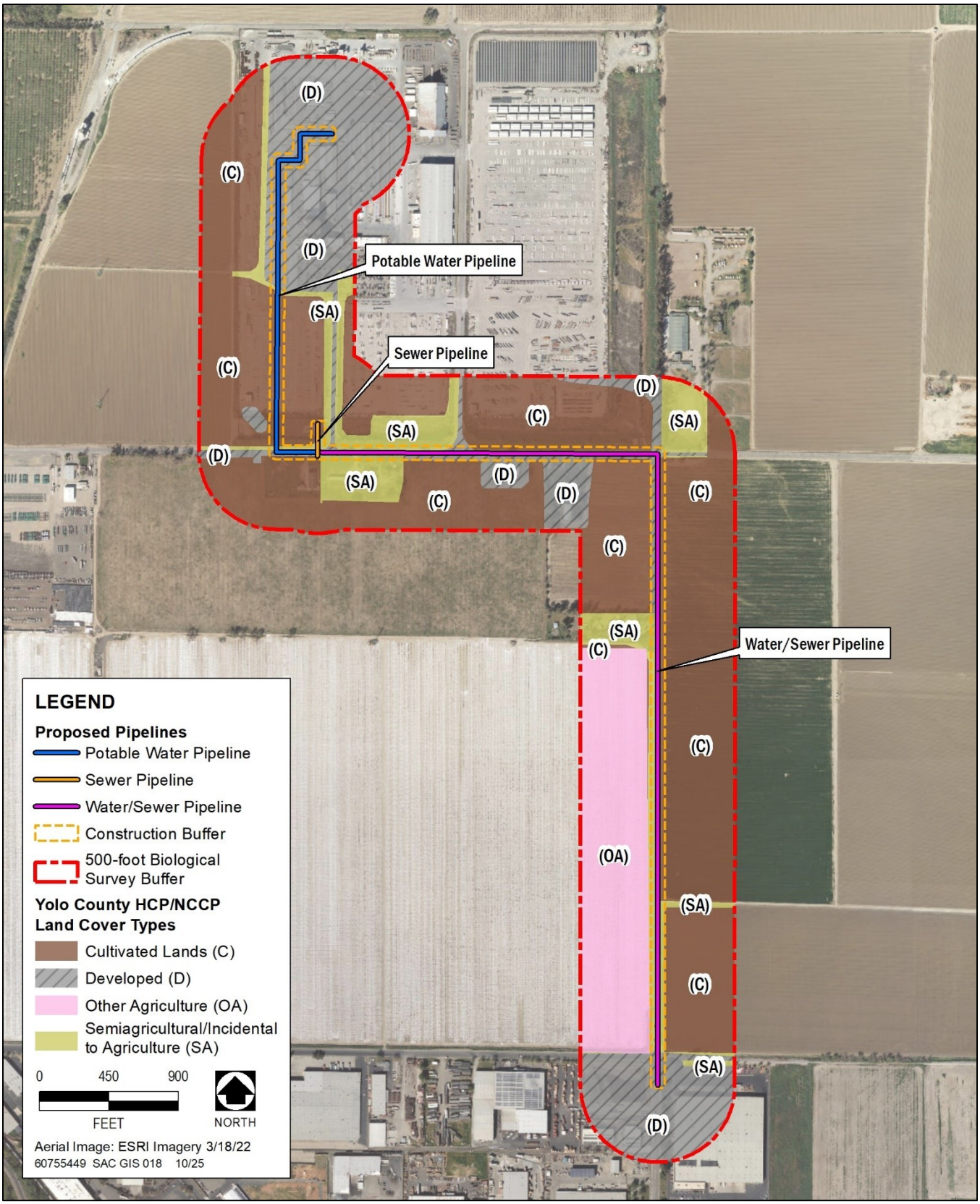

Figure 4.3-3 Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignments and Yolo HCP/NCCP Land Cover Types

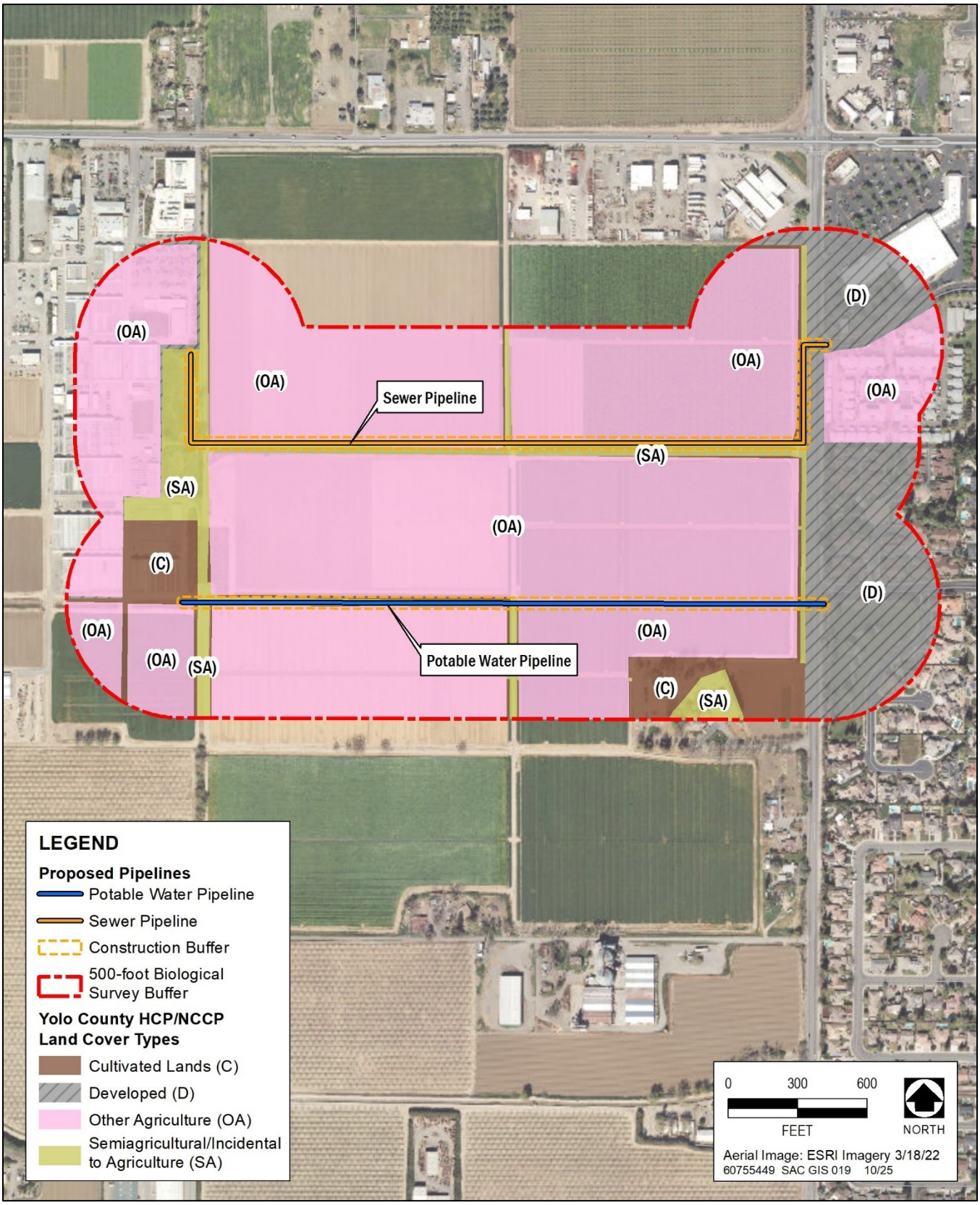

Figure 4.3-4 Bayer Utility Extension Alignments and Yolo HCP/NCCP Land Cover Types

Table 4.3-3 of this SEIR summarizes the presence of modeled habitat for covered special-status species in the Yolo HCP/NCCP related to the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments and within one mile of the existing ULL. Only two species have modeled habitat attributable to both utility extension alignments and a total of four species have modeled habitat attributable to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment.

Table 4.3-3 Presence of Yolo HCP/NCCP Modeled Habitat for Covered Special-Status Species

Special Status Species	Clark Pacific Presence	Bayer Presence	Presence within One Mile of ULL
Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)	No	No	No
California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*)	No	No	No
Giant Garter Snake (*Thamnophis gigas*)	No	No	Yes
Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)	No	No	Yes
Palmate-bracted Bird's Beak (*Chloropyron palmatum*)	No	No	Yes
Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*)	Yes	No	Yes
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*)	No	No	Yes
Western Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)	Yes	No	Yes
Northwestern Pond Turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*)	No	No	Yes
White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*)	No	No	Yes

Table Notes
ULL = Urban Limit Line; Yolo HCP/NCCP = Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan
Presence: if modeled habitat is present within the 25-foot construction buffer and the 500-foot survey area of the Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments.
Source: Yolo Habitat Conservancy Geomapper (2025)

Figure 4.3-5 depicts the CNDDB occurrences of special-status species reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (Exhibit 4.4-3, page 4.4-13) and current CNDDB occurrences within this same area. The species are the same as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with the addition of a green sturgeon - southern distinct population segment (DPS) (*Acipenser medirostris* pop. *1*) occurrence to the very east of the Planning Area and ULL in the Yolo Bypass.

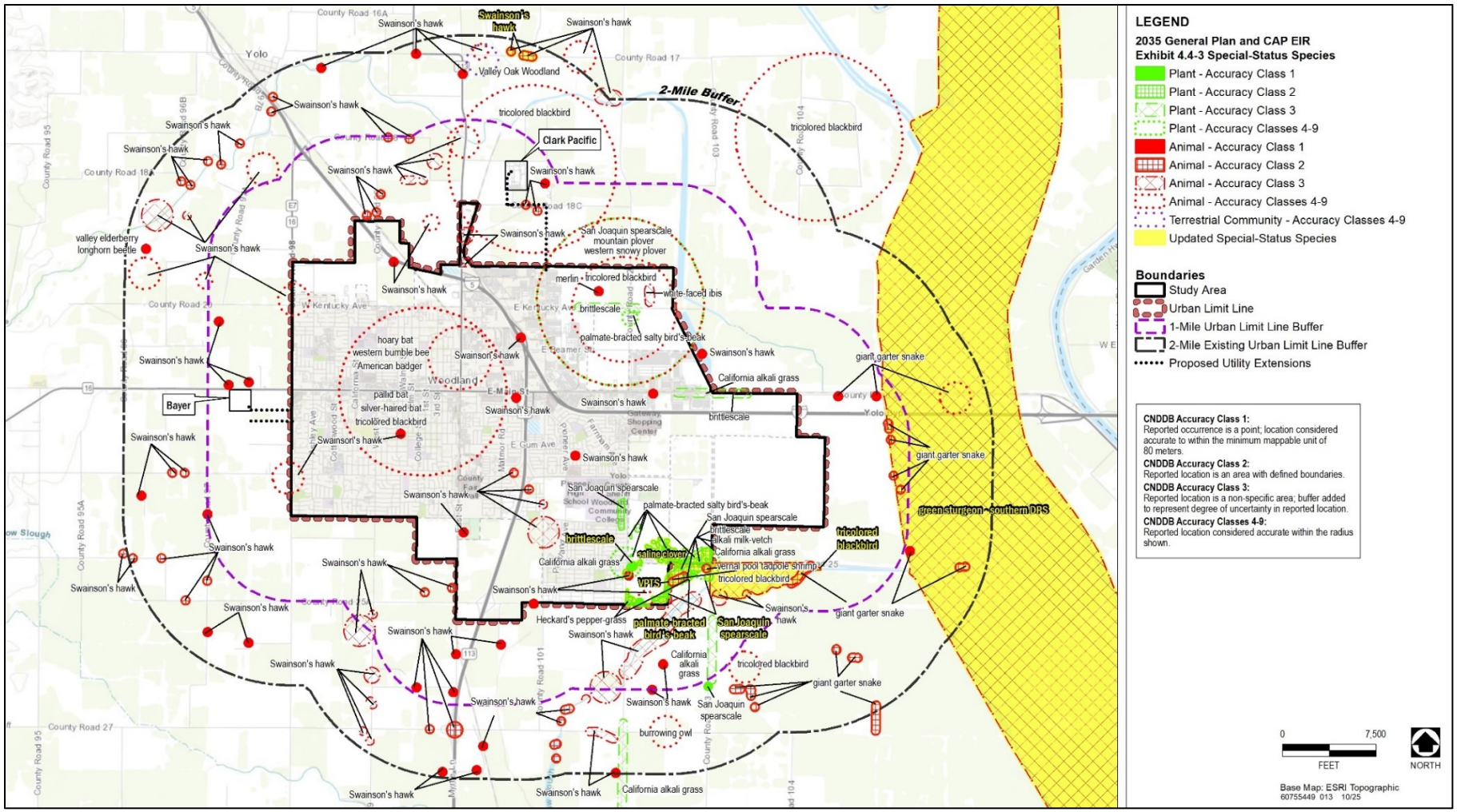

Figure 4.3-5 CNDDB Occurrences

SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES

Based on the updated database queries and the results of the field survey, the special-status plant species potential-to-occur table presented in the Table 4.4-2 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, has been revised to reflect current conditions. Table 4.3-4 of this SEIR provides the updated potential-to-occur information, incorporating data from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and expanded to include the Clark Pacific utility extension alignments and Bayer utility extension alignments. These revisions are based on the information presented in Figure 4.3-1 and Figure 4.3-2 together with findings from the recent field survey.

Since the approval of the SEIR, the following species have had CNDDB occurrences in the region and are now included in Table 4.3-4.

- Baker's navarretia (*Navarretia leucocephala* ssp. *bakeri*)- California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1B.1
- Keck's checkerbloom (*Sidalcea keckii*) - CRPR 1B.2
- Pappose tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *parryi*) CRPR 1B.2

Based on updated database queries and the results of the field survey, no special-status plant species have the potential to occur within the utility extension alignments.

Table 4.3-4 Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

Species	Federal	State[1,2]	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Ferris' milk-vetch *Astragalus tener* var. *ferrisae*	—	1B.1	Subalkaline flats and mesic sites in valley and foothill grassland, meadows and seeps; 15 to 250 foot elevation. Bloom: April–May.	**Could occur.** Potentially suitable habitat is present in the alkali prairie and annual grassland habitats in the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Alkali milk-vetch *Astragalus tener* var. *tener*	—	1B.2	Alkaline soils within playas, vernal pools, and adobe clay valley and foothill grassland habitats; 0 to 196-foot elevation. Bloom: March–June	**Known to occur.** Two occurrences documented within the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Heartscale *Atriplex cordulata* var. *cordulata*	—	1B.2	Saline or alkaline flats or scalds in chenopod scrub, desert scrub, or meadow, and grassland habitats in sandy soils; 1 to 500 foot elevation; Blooms April–October.	**Could occur.** Potentially suitable habitat is present in the alkali prairie and annual grassland habitats in the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.

Species	Federal	State[1,2]	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Brittlescale *Atriplex depressa*	—	1B.2	Alkaline clay soils within chenopod scrub, meadow and seeps, playas, vernal pools, and valley and foothill grassland habitats; 0 to 1,050 foot elevation. Bloom: April–October	**Known to occur.** Four occurrences documented within the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Pappose tarplant *Centromadia parryi* ssp. *parryi*	—	1B.2	Chaparral, Coastal prairie, Marshes and swamps (coastal salt), Meadows and seeps, Valley and foothill grassland (vernally mesic); Alkaline (often); 0-1380 feet elevation. Bloom: May-November	Not previously evaluated.	**Unlikely to occur:** Although grassland habitat is present near the alignment, the required habitat is not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Required habitat is not present within or near the alignment.
Palmate-bracted bird's beak *Chloropyron palmatum*	E	E 1B.1	Alkaline soils in seasonally flooded lowlands; 16 to 510 foot elevation. Bloom: May–October	**Known to occur.** Three occurrences documented within the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
San Joaquin spearscale *Extriplex joaquinana*	—	1B.2	Alkaline soils on chenopod scrub, meadow and seeps, playas, and valley and foothill grassland; 3 to 2,740 foot elevation. Bloom: April–October	**Known to occur.** Three occurrences documented within the Planning Area and one occurrence documented within two miles of the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Woolly rose-mallow *Hibiscus lasiocarpus* var. *occidentalis*	—	1B.2	Marshes and swamps (freshwater); from 0 to 320 feet in elevation. Blooms June to September.	**Unlikely to occur.** Marsh habitat is very limited in the Planning Area and of marginal quality.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Heckard's pepper-grass *Lepidium latipes* var. *heckardii*	—	1B.2	Alkaline flats in valley and foothill grassland; 6 to 656 foot elevation. Bloom: March–May	**Known to occur.** Two occurrences documented within the Planning Area and one occurrence documented within two miles of the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable alkaline habitat is not present within the survey buffer.

Species	Federal	State[1,2]	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Baker's navarretia *Navarretia leucocephala* ssp. *bakeri*	—	1B.1	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools; Mesic. 15-5710 feet elevation. Bloom: April-July.	Not previously evaluated.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
California alkali grass *Puccinellia simplex*	—	1B.2	Saline flats, mineral springs; below 3,000 feet elevation. Bloom: March–May.	**Known to occur.** Suitable habitat is present in the alkali prairie and annual grassland habitats in the Planning Area and this species has been previously documented at two locations in the southeast portion of the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat is not present within the survey buffer.
Keck's checkerbloom *Sidalcea keckii*	—	1B.1	Cismontane woodland, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay, Serpentinite; 245-2135 feet elevation. Bloom: April-May	Not previously evaluated.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable soils and substrate are not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable soils and substrate are not present within the survey buffer.
Suisun Marsh aster *Symphiotrichum lentum*	—	1B.2	Brackish and freshwater marshes and swamps; 0–10 foot elevation; Blooms: May–November.	**Unlikely to occur.** Marsh habitat is very limited in the Planning Area and of marginal quality. This species is restricted to the Suisun Marsh and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.	**No potential to occur.** Alignment is not within elevation range for this species.	**No potential to occur.** Alignment is not within elevation range for this species.
Saline clover *Trifolium hydrophilum*	—	1B.2	Marshes and swamps, vernal pools, and mesic, alkaline valley and foothill grassland; 0 to 984-foot elevation. Bloom: April–June	**Known to occur.** One occurrence documented within the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable swamps, vernal pools or alkaline grassland habitat is not present within the survey buffer.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable swamps, vernal pools or alkaline grassland habitat is not present within the survey buffer.

Table Notes
CAP = Climate Action Plan; EIR = Environmental Impact Report
[1] State: E = Listed as endangered under CESA.
[2] California Rare Plant Ranks and extensions
1B = Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere.
.1 = Seriously endangered in California (>80 percent of occurrences are threatened and/or high degree and immediacy of threat).
.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20 to 80 percent of occurrences are threatened).
Sources: Table 4.4-2 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, CNDDB 2025, CNPS 2025; compiled by AECOM in 2025

SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES

Based on the updated database queries and the results of the field survey, the special-status wildlife species potential-to-occur table presented in Table 4.4-3 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR has been revised to reflect current conditions. Table 4.3-5 of this SEIR provides the updated potential-to-occur information, incorporating data from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and expanded to include the Clark Pacific utility extension alignments and Bayer utility extension alignments. The following species have been listed either under federal or state listing or have had their listing modified and these species are included in Table 4.3-5 of this SEIR:

- Northwestern Pond Turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) – Federal Potentially Threatened
- Western Spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*) – Federal Potentially Threatened
- Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) – Federal Potentially Threatened
- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*)– State Candidate Endangered
- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) – State Candidate Endangered
- Western bumblebee (*Bombus occidentalis occidentalis*) – State Candidate Endangered

As noted in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, there are no special-status fish species that are known to occur in the Planning Area and no critical habitat for special status fish species is found in the Planning Area or the surrounding radius of two miles (page 4.4-15). Three fish species listed as threatened under the federal ESA, delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificaus*), steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), and green sturgeon - southern DPS (*Acipenser medirostris* pop. *1*) were identified in the database queries. However, the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments and the area within one mile of the existing ULL is outside of the known range of delta smelt, which is restricted to San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta. Willow Slough is located within one mile of the existing ULL, but the natural channel has been blocked off and replaced with the Willow Slough Bypass, which flows directly east to the Western Edge of the Yolo Bypass, and special status fish species have not been documented in it (Figure 4.3-5). Part of the Yolo Bypass within one-mile of the existing ULL has been documented for green sturgeon - southern DPS (Figure 4.3-5); however, there are no existing commercial facilities in that area. Therefore, Table 4.3-5 does not include special-status fish species.

Table 4.3-5 Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Invertebrates						
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*	T	_	Blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*) shrubs (the host plant species), typically as an abundant component in dense riparian habitat below 3,000 feet in elevation; on slightly higher and older floodplain surfaces without saturated soils.	**Could occur.** Elderberry shrubs that could support valley elderberry longhorn beetle may be present in the Planning Area. Nearest known records are from Cache Creek approximately 1.75 miles northwest of the Planning Area.	**Could occur.** Two blue elderberry shrubs on the northern edge of the leach field; no sign of valley elderberry longhorn beetle exit holes on shrubs.	**Unlikely to occur.** Required habitat is not present within or adjacent to the alignment; no blue elderberry shrubs present.
Crotch's bumble bee *Bombus crotchii*	_	CE	Open grassland and scrub; nests underground. Food plants include: milkweed, lupine (*Lupinus* spp.), burclover (*Medicago* spp.), phacelia (*Phacelia* spp.), and sage (*Salvia* spp.).	Not previously evaluated; **Could Occur**. Open grassland and scrub could support this species and may be present.	**Could occur.** Marginal habitat is present near the alignment.	**Could occur.** Marginal habitat is present near the alignment.
Monarch butterfly *Danaus plexippus*	PT	_	Open habitats including fields, meadows, weedy areas, marshes, and roadsides. Monarch butterflies roost in wind-protected tree groves (such as eucalyptus) with nectar and water sources nearby. Caterpillar host plants are milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.).	Not previously evaluated; **Could Occur**. Suitable habitat may be present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat (milkweed) was not identified within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable habitat (milkweed) was not identified within the alignment.
Western bumblebee *Bombus occidentalis*	_	CE	Nests underground. Visits a wide variety of wildflowers. In California, this species is currently observed in high elevation meadows, forests, riparian areas in the Sierra Nevada and Cascades as well as in coastal grasslands in northern California.	Not previously evaluated; **Unlikely to occur.** Outside of this species current known range.	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside this species' current known range.	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside this species' current known range.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Vernal pool fairy shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi*	T	_	Vernal pool habitats ranging from small, clear pools in sandstone rock outcrops to large, turbid, and/or alkaline vernal pools. Most commonly in grass- or mud-bottomed basalt flow depression pools in unplowed grasslands.	**Could occur.** Vernal pools are present in the Planning Area. There are a total of 10 CNDDB occurrence records in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Vernal pools are not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Vernal pools are not present within the alignment.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp *Lepidurus packardi*	E	_	Vernal pools or swales that form in slight depressions after being inundated following fall and winter rains. The pools contain clear to highly turbid water and have an impervious hardpan, claypan, or basalt layer beneath the soil surface that retains the water for a few months at a time.	**Likely to occur.** Vernal pools are present in the Planning Area. This species is known to occur in the alkali grassland preserve adjacent to the Planning Area at the southwest corner of County Road 25 and County Road 103. There are a total of 7 CNDDB occurrence records in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Vernal pools are not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Vernal pools are not present within the alignment.
Amphibians and Reptiles						
California red-legged frog *Rana draytonii*	T	SSC	Foothill streams with dense shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation, minimum 11–20 weeks of water for larval development, and upland refugia for aestivation.	**Unlikely to occur.** The Planning Area is outside this species' currently known occupied range. Nearest known occurrences are approximately 25 miles southwest of the Planning Area in Napa County. This species is not known to disperse at distances over 2.25 miles and is believed to have been completely eliminated from the Valley floor.	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside this species' currently known occupied range.	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside this species' currently known occupied range.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
California tiger salamander *Ambystoma californiense*	T	T	Vernal pools and seasonal wetlands with a minimum 10-week inundation period and surrounding uplands, primarily grasslands, with burrows and other belowground refugia (e.g., rock or soil crevices).	**Could occur.** Seasonal wetlands and ponds that may provide suitable breeding habitat for this species are present in the Planning Area and this species could also be present in underground refugia in annual grassland and alkali prairie habitats within 1.3 miles of breeding habitat. The only known record of this species from the nine quad search area is a 1993 record from the City of Davis. There are eight CNDDB occurrence records of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable vernal pool and seasonal wetland habitat is not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable vernal pool and seasonal wetland habitat is not present within the alignment.
Northwestern pond turtle *Actinemys marmorata*	PT	SSC	Permanent and nearly permanent waters, including ponds, lakes, marshes, slow-moving streams, rivers, sloughs, and irrigation canals/ditches with open bank areas, emergent vegetation, and logs or boulders for basking. Nests along the aquatic habitat shore or in adjacent uplands in sunny, open hillsides or fields, as long as appropriate soil moisture and warmth are present. Generally nest within 325 feet of aquatic habitat, but has been reported to nest up to 1,600 feet from water.	**Could occur.** Potentially suitable aquatic habitat is present in and near the Planning Area and there is potential for this species to nest in undeveloped grassland and alkali prairie habitats in the Planning Area. There are a total of two CNDDB occurrence records documented in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat is not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat is not present within the alignment.
Western spadefoot *Spea hammondii*	PT	SSC	Shallow streams with riffles and seasonal wetlands, such as vernal pools in annual grasslands and oak woodlands, also temporary rainpools.	Not previously evaluated; **Could Occur**. Suitable habitat may be present adjacent to existing vernal pools and annual grasslands.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat is not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat is not present within the alignment.
Giant garter snake *Thamnophis gigas*	T	T	Cultivated rice, freshwater marsh, and slow moving streams, ditches, or canals.	**Likely to occur.** Nine occurrences documented within two miles of the Planning Area and suitable habitat is present. There are a total of 54 CNDDB occurrence records documented in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat and connectivity are not present within the alignment.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable aquatic habitat and connectivity are not present within the alignment.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Birds*						
Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni* (nesting)	_	T	Nests in riparian forest and isolated trees, open woodlands, and woodland margins; nests and forage in grasslands and agricultural fields.	**Known to occur.** Suitable nesting and foraging habitat are present. Numerous occurrences documented throughout Planning Area. There are a total of 516 CNDDB occurrence records documented in Yolo County.	**Known to occur.** Numerous large trees are present adjacent to the alignment for nesting potential; foraging habitat present; documented presence during field survey.	**Known to occur.** Numerous large trees are present adjacent to the alignment for nesting potential; foraging habitat present; documented presence during field survey.
Northern harrier *Circus hudsonius* (nesting)	_	SSC	Nests and forages in grasslands, agricultural fields, and marshes. Nests on the ground within patches of dense, often tall, vegetation in undisturbed areas.	**Could occur.** Suitable nesting and foraging habitat is present in and adjacent to the Planning Area. There is one CNDDB occurrence record of this species in Yolo County.	**Could occur. S**uitable habitat is present near alignment.	**Could occur. S**uitable habitat is present near alignment.
White-tailed kite *Elanus leucurus* (nesting)	_	FP	Forages in grasslands and agricultural fields; nests in riparian zones, oak woodlands, and isolated trees.	**Could occur.** Suitable nesting and foraging habitat is present in and adjacent to the Planning Area. There are five CNDDB occurrence records of this species in Yolo County.	**Could occur.** Foraging habitat and isolated nesting trees are present near alignment.	**Could occur.** Foraging habitat and isolated nesting trees are present near alignment.
Least bittern *Ixobrychus exilis* (nesting)	_	SSC	Nests in freshwater and brackish marshes with tall, dense emergent vegetation with clumps of woody plants over deep water.	**Unlikely to nest.** This species may nest adjacent to the Planning Area in suitable habitat along Cache Creek and Willow Slough, but there is no suitable nesting habitat in the Planning Area.	**Unlikely to nest:** Suitable nesting habitat is not present due to lack of deep-water bodies.	**Unlikely to nest:** Suitable nesting habitat is not present due to lack of deep-water bodies.
Western snowy plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* (nesting)	T	SSC	Nests and forages on sandy and gravelly beaches along the coast and the shores of inland alkali lakes. Has also been documented nesting on levees of artificial ponds in Yolo County, including sewage treatment ponds. Needs sandy or gravelly, friable soils for nesting.	**Could occur.** One record of nesting in the Planning Area at the Woodland Sugar Ponds in 1970 and has been documented nesting in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area as recently as 2006. These are the only two CNDDB records of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat is not present due to lack of sandy or gravelly, friable soils for nesting.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat is not present due to lack of sandy or gravelly, friable soils for nesting.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Mountain plover *Charadrius montanus* (wintering)	_	SSC	Forages in short grasslands and plowed agricultural fields where vegetation is sparse and trees are absent.	**Likely to occur.** One occurrence documented within the Planning Area. There are a total of 11 CNDDB records of this species in Yolo County.	**Could occur.** Foraging habitat is present near the alignment.	**Could occur.** Foraging habitat is present near the alignment.
Western yellow-billed cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus occidentalis* (nesting)	T	E	Nests in large blocks of deciduous riparian thickets or forests with dense, low-level or understory foliage adjacent to slow-moving watercourses, backwaters along broad, lower floodplains of larger river systems. Willow and cottonwood are almost always a component of the vegetation. In the Sacramento Valley, also utilizes adjacent walnut orchards.	**Unlikely to nest.** Could possibly nest in riparian habitats adjacent to the Planning Area along Cache Creek or Willow Slough, but there is no suitable habitat present in the Planning Area. The species known range of distribution is limited to the Upper Sacramento, Lower Feather, South Fork Kern, Amargosa, Santa Ana, and Colorado Rivers.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable riparian habitat is not present in or near the alignment. The alignment is outside the species' current breeding range.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable riparian habitat is not present in or near the alignment. The alignment is outside the species' current breeding range.
Grasshopper sparrow *Ammodramus savannarum* (nesting)	_	SSC	Forages and nests in dense grasslands; favors a mix of native grasses, forbs, and scattered shrubs. Nests in depressions on the ground at the bases of grass clumps. Prefers large tracts of habitat.	**Could occur.** This species could nest in the annual grassland or alkali prairie habitats in the Planning Area. This species has not been documented in the Planning Area. There is one documented occurrence in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Large tracts of suitable habitat in large tracts of dense grasslands with a mix of native grasses, forbs and scattered shrubs are not present .	**Unlikely to occur.** Large tracts of suitable habitat in large tracts of dense grasslands with a mix of native grasses, forbs and scattered shrubs are not present.
Song sparrow – "Modesto" population (*Melospiza melodia pop. 1*) (year round)	_	SSC	Nests and forages primarily in emergent marsh, riparian scrub, and early successional riparian forest habitats in the north-central portion of the Central Valley; infrequently in mature riparian forest and sparsely vegetated ditches and levees. Forages primarily on exposed ground or in leaf litter.	**Could occur.** This species is unlikely to nest in the Planning Area due to a lack of suitable marsh and riparian habitat, but may nest adjacent to the Planning Area and forage within the Planning Area. There are four documented occurrences in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** This species is unlikely to nest due to a lack of suitable marsh and riparian scrub habitat.	**Unlikely to occur.** This species is unlikely to nest due to a lack of suitable marsh and riparian scrub habitat.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Purple martin *Progne subis* (nesting)	_	SSC	Nests in tree cavities, bridges, freeway overpasses, utility poles, lava tubes, and buildings. Forages in foothill and low montane oak and riparian woodlands; less frequently in coniferous forests and open or developed habitats.	**Could occur.** This species could potentially nest under I-5 or SR 113 overpasses or in other man-made structures in the Planning Area. The potential for this species is low however because the only known breeding colony in the region is in the City of Sacramento where they nest in weep holes in a hollow-box bridge over I-5.	**Unlikely to occur.** Lack of known breeding colonies within the alignment and existing trees provide marginal nesting habitat.	**Unlikely to occur.** Lack of known breeding colonies within the alignment and existing trees provide marginal nesting habitat.
Bank swallow *Riparia riparia* (nesting)	_	T	Nests in colonies in unvegetated vertical banks or cliffs with fine-textured, sandy soils, typically next to streams, rivers, or lakes. Forages in a variety of habitats near nests.	**Unlikely to nest.** Could nest in riparian habitats adjacent to the Planning Area along Cache Creek or Willow Slough if suitable vertical bank structure is present, but there is no suitable nesting habitat present in the Planning Area. There have been 18 occurrences of this species documented in the CNDDB in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat along vertical banks or cliffs are not present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat along vertical banks or cliffs are not present.
Tricolored Blackbird *Agelaius tricolor* (nesting)	_	T/SSC	Forages in agricultural lands and grasslands; nests in marshes, riparian scrub, and other areas that support cattails or dense thickets of shrubs or herbs.	**Could occur.** There is a very limited amount of potential breeding habitat in the Planning Area, but breeding habitat is abundant in the immediate vicinity along Cache Creek and Willow Slough. Three occurrences have been documented in the vicinity of the Planning Area, including a large, active nesting colony southeast of the Planning Area on the north side of Willow Slough. There are 23 CNDDB occurrence records of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat, such as blackberry thickets and cattails, is not present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat, such as blackberry thickets and cattails, is not present.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Yellow-headed blackbird *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* (nesting)	_	SSC	Nests in marshes with tall, dense emergent vegetation, most commonly at the edges of lakes, reservoirs, or ponds with relatively deep water. Forages in freshwater marshes, and sometimes in nearby open fields, preferably with moist ground.	**Unlikely to occur.** This species may nest in freshwater marsh habitats in the vicinity, but there is no suitable nesting habitat in the Planning Area. May forage in grassland and alkali prairie habitat within the Planning Area. There is only one CNDDB record of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat in the form of marshes and tall dense emergent vegetation and deep water is not present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable nesting habitat in the form of marshes and tall dense emergent vegetation and deep water is not present.
Loggerhead shrike *Lanius ludovicianus* (nesting)	_	SSC	Forages and nests in grasslands, shrublands, and open woodlands. Nests in trees and shrubs.	**Could occur.** The annual grassland and alkali prairie habitats in the Planning Area provide suitable foraging habitat and this species could nest in trees or shrubs in or near these habitats. There are no CNDDB records of this species in Yolo County.	**Could occur. S**uitable nesting habitat is present adjacent to the alignment .	**Could occur. S**uitable nesting habitat is present adjacent to the alignment.
Yellow-breasted chat *Icteria virens* (nesting)	_	SSC	Forages and nests in riparian thickets of willow, blackberry, and wild grape within 10 feet of the ground.	**Could occur.** Suitable habitat is present in and adjacent to the Planning Area but there are no CNDDB records of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable riparian scrub habitat is not present=.	**Unlikely to occur.** Suitable riparian scrub habitat is not present.
Yellow warbler *Setophaga petechial* (nesting)	_	SSC	Nests in riparian vegetation such as willows, cottonwoods, and alders.	**Unlikely to nest.** The Planning Area is outside this species' current breeding range. There are no CNDDB records of this species in Yolo County.	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside the species' current breeding range .	**Unlikely to occur.** The alignment is outside the species' current breeding range .
Western burrowing owl *Athene cunicularia hypugaea* (year round)	_	CE/SSC	Nests and forages in grasslands, agricultural lands, open shrublands, and open woodlands with existing ground squirrel burrows or friable soils.	**Could occur.** Suitable habitat is present in the Planning Area in grasslands, alkali prairie and agricultural habitats. One occurrence documented within 2 miles of the Planning Area. There have been 39 CNDDB occurrences of this species documented in Yolo County.	**Could occur:** No suitable burrows detected along alignment. Suitable foraging habitat is present near alignment.	**Could occur:** Burrows were detected within the retention pond area, though no sign of the species was detected. Suitable foraging habitat is present near alignment.

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Least Bell's vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus* (nesting)	E	E	Nests and forages in low, dense riparian vegetation along perennial or intermittent streams.	**Unlikely to nest.** The Planning Area is outside this species' current breeding range and suitable nesting habitat is lacking within the Planning Area. Potentially suitable nesting habitat is present near the Planning Area along Cache Creek and Willow Slough. Species has been observed in Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area (2011 CNDDB record) presumably attempting to establish first nesting territory in Yolo County in decades.	**Unlikely to occur.** Alignment is outside the species' current breeding range and lacks suitable nesting habitat.	**Unlikely to occur.** Alignment is the species' current breeding range and lacks suitable nesting habitat.
Mammals						
American badger *Taxidea taxus*	_	SSC	Drier open shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats with friable soils for digging burrows.	**Unlikely to occur.** Requires extensive patches of open, undisturbed habitat. The small habitat patch size, lack of connectivity to suitable large patches of habitat, and surrounding agriculture and urban development in the Planning Area make it unsuitable for this species. Last record from the area was 1997 roadkill record from junction of County Road 31 and County Road 97D west of Davis. There is a U.C. Davis museum specimen that was collected from the City of Woodland, but the date of collection is unknown.	**Unlikely to occur.** Extensive patches of undisturbed habitat are not present; burrows present were not large enough for badger use.	**Unlikely to occur.** Extensive patches of undisturbed habitat are not present; burrows present were not large enough for badger use
Pallid bat *Antrozous pallidus*	_	SSC	Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts in rock crevices, oak hollows, bridges, or buildings.	**Could occur.** This species could roost under bridges or in other man-made structures in the Planning Area. There is one CNDDB record of this species in the Planning Area from 1957.	**Could occur. S**uitable habitat present; oak hollows present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Required habitat is not present within the alignment; no oak hollows, rocks, or woodlands

Species	Federal Listing Status[1]	State Listing Status[2]	Habitat	Potential to Occur Documented in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR	Clark Pacific Utility Extension Alignment	Bayer Utility Extension Alignment
Western red bat *Lasiurus blossevilli*	_	SSC	Roosts primarily in dense tree foliage, especially in cottonwood, sycamore, and other riparian trees or orchards. Prefers habitat edges and mosaics with trees that are protected from above and open below and open areas for foraging, including grasslands, shrublands, and open woodlands.	**Unlikely to occur.** Maternity and roosting colonies unlikely to occur in the Planning Area because of lack of suitable habitat; however, this species may roost in adjacent riparian habitats along Cache Creek and Willow Slough and this species could forage in the Planning Area. The only recent record of this species in the area is a 1999 record from the Sacramento River near Knights Landing.	**Unlikely to occur.** Required habitat is not present.	**Unlikely to occur.** Required habitat is not present.

Table Notes

CAP EIR =Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Report; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database; I-5 = Interstate 5; SR = State Route

[1] Federal: T = Listed as threatened under ESA; E = Listed as endangered under ESA

[2] State: T = Listed as threatened under CESA; E = Listed as endangered under CESA; C = Candidate for listing under CESA; FP = Fully Protected under California Fish and Game Code; SSC = Considered a species of special concern by CDFW

* Because the distribution and abundance of individual bird species varies seasonally, the season, or life phase, during which the species is of conservation concern in California is provided in parentheses beneath the bird species scientific name. There is potential for any of these bird species to fly over or pass through the Planning Area and proposed project area, however, these species would not be at risk of adverse effects unless nesting on or otherwise residing in the Planning Area or proposed project area during the season or life phase when the species is of conservation concern in California.

A nine-quadrant search was used for CNDDB.

Source: Table 4.4-3 of 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR; CNDDB 2025, USFWS 2025; CNPS 2025, compiled by AECOM in 2025.

Based on updated database queries and the results of the field survey, the following special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within the utility extension alignments:

- Along the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment, nine special-status wildlife species have potential to occur. These include valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Crotch's bumble bee, Swainson's hawk, northern harrier, white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike, yellow-breasted chat, burrowing owl, and pallid bat. Potential habitat for these species occurs within or adjacent to annual grassland, riparian vegetation, and mature trees along the alignment. Two elderberry shrubs near the leach field provide potential host plants for valley elderberry longhorn beetle, although no sign of beetle activity was detected.

- Along the Bayer utility extension alignment, seven special-status wildlife species have potential to occur. These include Crotch's bumble bee, Swainson's hawk, northern harrier, white-tailed kite, loggerhead shrike, yellow-breasted chat, and burrowing owl. Foraging and nesting habitat for these species occurs primarily within open agricultural lands, scattered trees, and along the retention pond margins where small mammal burrows were also observed, although no sign of burrowing owl activity was detected.

4.3.2 Environmental Impacts

Thresholds for Determining Significance

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, except where noted below. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact to biological resources would occur if the proposed project would:

- have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS;

- have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS;

- have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrologic interruption, or other means;

- 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;

- conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance;

- conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR include the following threshold, which is currently not part of Appendix G but is included in the impact analysis of this SEIR to align with the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and comprehensively analyze the proposed project.

- 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; or substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.4-1: Loss of Special-status Plants and Loss of Special-status Plant Habitat

GENERAL PLAN

The General Plan concentrates future development in areas that are primarily used for agriculture and therefore have a low potential to support special-status plants and minimizes the potential for direct removal of special-status plants by designating most of the known occupied habitat and suitable habitat as open space and focusing new development on agricultural lands (page 4.4-31 and 4.4-32). The 2035 General Plan (and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR) includes Goal 7.B establishes policies to ensure that the City maintains and protects its biological resources, including special-status plant species through coordinated conservation planning and sensitive site design. It emphasizes the use of the Yolo HCP/NCCP for project consistency (Policy 7.B.1) and requires the protection of sensitive habitat types (Policy 7.B.2) and special-status species (Policy 7.B.3). Policies also support the preservation of fish and wildlife resources (Policy 7.B.4), the designation and maintenance of open space for conservation (Policy 7.B.5), and the protection of Woodland Regional Park as a preserve for wildlife and rare plants (Policy 7.B.7). Finally, the plan calls for sensitive site planning (Policy 7.B.11) to avoid or minimize impacts on native trees, special-status species, and critical habitats during new development. Goal 7.B Maintain and Protect Biological Resources, Policy 7.B.1 Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, Policy 7.B.2 Sensitive Habitat Types, Policy 7.B.3 Special-Status Species, Policy 7.B.4 Fish and Wildlife, Policy 7.B.5 Open Space for Conservation, Policy 7.B.7 Woodland Regional Park, and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (pages 4.4-42 and 4.4-43). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR also includes the following mitigation measures (pages 4.4-34 and 4.4-36) to reduce potentially significant impacts associated with the loss of special-status plants and loss of special-status plant habitat including:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a – Implementation Program Biological Resources 1 (pages 4.4-34 and 4.4-35) This measure requires biological inventory surveys conducted according to applicable standards and protocols for projects that may affect special-status species or habitats.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1b – Amend Policy 7.B.5., Policy 7.B.7, and Policy 7.B.11. strengthens General Plan policies to permanently protect sensitive habitat types—including alkali sink and prairie, freshwater wetlands, freshwater marsh, riparian forest, and drainages—as well as special-status plant occurrences.

Implementation of these mitigation measures combined with current laws, regulations, and policies would reduce impacts because the General Plan would preserve the majority of the known special-status plant occurrences and

suitable habitat in the Planning Area, within designated Open Space land uses that would be protected under permanent conservation easements (page 4.4-36). These provisions would require new developments to identify and avoid special-status plant populations and their habitats to the extent feasible and compensate for the loss of special-status plants through establishment of new populations or other appropriate measures in coordination with state and federal agencies (page 4.4-36). Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated (page 4.4-36).

PROPOSED PROJECT

There is a relatively low potential of adversely affect special-status plant species during construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments given the lack of suitable habitat (Table 4.3-1 and Table 4.3-4). As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas typically have marginal habitat for special status plant species due to the high level of disturbance, use of fertilizers and pesticides and other activities that regularly occur in these lands. There are some existing businesses to the south of Woodland in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park and Maupin Unit of the Alkali Sink Preserve. These areas are designated as open space and are permanently preserved under conservation easements (City of Woodland Preserve and Spring Lake Alkali Sink Preserve). The proposed project would not develop lands or disturb areas within these preserved locations; therefore, the proposed project would not impact these areas or special-status plant species that may be present. The City would evaluate other potential utility extension alignments through the application process and execution of a service agreement to confirm a utility extension could be provided, and confirm consistency with the existing general plan policies, and establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction. The proposed project would continue to implement the 2035 General Plan's multiple goals and policies as identified and evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, to reduce impacts to special-status plant species, including the following: Goal 7.B Maintain and Protect Biological Resources, Policy 7.B.1 Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, Policy 7.B.2 Sensitive Habitat Types, Policy 7.B.3 Special-Status Species, Policy 7.B.4 Fish and Wildlife, Policy 7.B.5 Open Space for Conservation, Policy 7.B.7 Woodland Regional Park, and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (pages 4.4-42 and 4.4-43). Although unlikely, there is a potential presence of special-status plant species within one mile of the existing ULL; therefore, consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a – Implementation Program Biological Resources 1 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures. These mitigation measures incorporate standard survey requirements for special-status plant species and standard best management practices and avoidance and minimization measures prior to and during construction. Some of these measures are identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP EIS/EIR Appendix C, which is contained in Appendix F of this SEIR.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a – Implementation Program Biological Resources 1
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c General Avoidance and Minimization Measures:
    - GM01: Preconstruction Survey. Before the start of repair activities, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey to identify special-status plant and wildlife species and associated habitats. Surveys will be conducted within the project footprint and staging/equipment storage area(s). If required,

special-status species and/or buffers will be marked in the field by a qualified biologist, using temporary fencing, high-visibility flagging, or other means that are equally effective. Preconstruction surveys for special-status plant species will incorporate blooming period surveys if utility extensions occur in areas other than developed or agricultural lands.

- GM02: Construction Site Trash Maintenance. All project-related trash items, such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps, will be collected in closed containers that are removed from the rehabilitation site each day and disposed at an appropriate off-site location, to minimize attracting wildlife to work areas.

- GM03: Yolo HCP/NCCP avoidance and minimization measures (AMM)3, Confine and Delineate Work Area**.** Where natural communities and covered species habitat are present, workers will confine land clearing to the minimum area necessary to facilitate construction activities. Workers will restrict movement of heavy equipment to and from the project site to established roadways to minimize natural community and covered species habitat disturbance. The project proponent will clearly identify boundaries of work areas using temporary fencing or equivalent and will identify areas designated as environmentally sensitive. All construction vehicles, other equipment, and personnel will avoid these designated areas.

- GM04: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM4, Cover Trenches and Holes during Construction and Maintenance. To prevent injury and mortality of special-status species, including: giant garter snake, northwestern pond turtle, and California tiger salamander, workers will cover open trenches and holes associated with implementation of covered activities that affect habitat for these species or design the trenches and holes with escape ramps that can be used during non-working hours. The construction contractor will inspect open trenches and holes prior to filling and contact a qualified biologist to remove or release any trapped wildlife found in the trenches or holes.

- GM05: Equipment Inspection. Inspections will be conducted under all vehicles and heavy equipment for the presence of wildlife before the start of each workday, when equipment is staged overnight. In addition, a search for wildlife will be conducted in all pipes, culverts, and similar structures that have been stored on site for one or more nights, before they are buried, capped, or moved.

- GM06: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM6, Conduct Worker Training**.** All construction personnel will participate in a worker environmental training program approved/authorized by the Conservancy and administered by a qualified biologist. The training will provide education regarding sensitive natural communities and covered species and their habitats, the need to avoid adverse effects, state and federal protection, and the legal implications of violating the FESA and NCCPA Permits. A pre-recorded video presentation by a qualified biologist shown to construction personnel may fulfill the training requirement.

- GM07: Clearing and Grubbing Best Management. Clearing of vegetation will be kept to the minimum necessary, especially the clearing around native oaks.

- GM08: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM8, Avoid and Minimize Effects of Construction Staging Areas and Temporary Work Areas. Project proponents should locate construction staging and other temporary work areas in areas that will ultimately be a part of the permanent project development footprint. If construction staging and other temporary work areas must be located outside of permanent project footprints, they will

be located either in areas that do not support habitat for covered species or are easily restored to prior or improved ecological functions (e.g., grassland and agricultural land). Construction staging and other temporary work areas located outside of project footprints will be sited in areas that avoid adverse effects on the following.

- Serpentine, valley oak woodland, alkali prairie, vernal pool complex, valley foothill riparian, and fresh emergent wetland land cover types.
- Occupied western burrowing owl burrows. Occupied for the purpose of AMM8 means at least one burrowing owl has been observed occupying the burrow within the last three years. Occupancy of a burrow may also be indicated by owl sign at the burrow entrance, including molted feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, eggshell fragments, or excrement at or near a burrow entrance or perch site.
- Nest sites for covered bird species and all raptors, including noncovered raptors, during the breeding season.
- Project proponents will follow specific AMMs for sensitive natural communities and covered species in temporary staging and work areas (see below and Impact 4.4-2). For establishment of temporary work areas outside of the project footprint, project proponents will conduct surveys to determine if any of the biological resources listed above are present. Within one year following removal of land cover, project proponents will restore temporary work and staging areas to a condition equal to or greater than the covered species habitat function of the affected habitat. Restoration of vegetation in temporary work and staging areas will use clean, native seed mixes approved by the Conservancy that are free of noxious plant species seed

In addition, project applicants will also implement to avoid and minimize potential adverse effects on special-status plant species using the following mitigation measures:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-1f: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM11, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Palmate-Bracted Bird's Beak

Similar to the analysis contained in the 2035 General Plan, these mitigation measures would reduce, avoid, or minimize impacts because they would identify or avoid special-status plant habitat or populations and their habitats during construction of utility extension alignments. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-2: Loss and Degradation of Habitat for Special-status Wildlife Species and Potential Direct Take of Individuals

The 20235 General Plan and CAP EIR provides a detailed evaluation of eight CESA or ESA listed species: Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB), vernal pool branchiopods, California tiger salamander, northwestern pond turtle, giant garter snake, special-status migratory birds, Pallid bat and considers impacts on the 12 additional special-status wildlife species that are not officially listed under CESA or ESA (Table 4.4-3, pages 4.4-15 to 4.4-20). Special-status wildlife species could be affected by proposed land use changes either directly during land conversion or indirectly through modification of suitable habitat, changes in vegetation as a result of land development, and habitat fragmentation. Wildlife could be killed or injured, and nests destroyed at the time of conversion to urban or other development (page 4.4-36). Specifically:

- **Valley elderberry longhorn beetle:** Elderberry shrubs may be present within the Planning Area in a number of locations (e.g. fence rows, roadways, drainage ditches) (page 4.4-37). Elderberry shrubs within areas that could be developed could be removed resulting in the loss of beetle larva and habitat (page 4.4-37).

- **Vernal Pool Branchiopods:** Implementing the General Plan would allow development in areas that could support vernal pools that have potential to support vernal pool fairy shrimp and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (page 4.4-38). Vernal pool tadpole shrimp is known to occur in the Maupin Unit of the Alkali Sink Preserve just east of the Woodland Regional Park (page 4.4-38). The majority of vernal pool habitat in the Planning Area is within the Woodland Regional Park and adjacent parcels to the north that are designated as Open Space under the Proposed Project, and that are proposed to be permanently preserved under a conservation easement (page 4.4-38). Although the majority of potential habitat for vernal pool branchiopods would be preserved under the General Plan, potential habitat may be present at other locations in the Planning Area that would be subject to development, including annual grassland habitat. Conversion of vernal pool habitat, if it is present, to developed land uses could result in direct take of vernal pool branchiopods listed under the ESA if they are present (page 4.4-38).

- **California Tiger Salamander:** Implementation of the General Plan would develop areas that hat support freshwater wetlands and ponds that could provide suitable breeding habitat for California tiger salamander, and in grasslands that provide potential upland habitat for this species; however, there are no current or historic records of this species occurring in or near Woodland, except a 1993 record of a single California tiger salamander from the city of Davis (page 4.4-38).

- **Northwestern Pond Turtle:** Ponds, drainages, and marshes in and adjacent to the Planning Area provide suitable habitat for northwestern pond turtle; however, the likelihood of resident populations of this species occurring in the Planning Area is low due to a lack of adequately sized water bodies with suitable hydrology and vegetation (page 4.4-39).

- **Giant Garter Snake:** Implementing the General Plan would allow development in areas containing agricultural ditches and other waterways that provide dispersal habitat and possibly resident habitat for giant garter snake (page 4.4-39). Draining, grading, or filling aquatic habitat during construction, as well as construction activities within 200 feet of suitable aquatic habitat, could result in direct take of giant garter snake if they are present and permanent loss of habitat (page 4.4-39).

- **Special-Status and Migratory Birds:** the special-status and migratory birds are know or have the potential to nest and forage in the Planning Area and development could reduce nesting habitat suitable for these species (page 4.4-40). In addition, Construction resulting from implementation of the General Plan could disturb active bird nests in and near a construction area, potentially resulting in nest abandonment by the adults and mortality of chicks and eggs (page 4.4-40). Finally, annual grassland and agricultural habitat important foraging grounds for some species (e.g., Swainson's hawk) would be removed (page 4.4-40).

- **Pallid bat:** Implementing the General Plan would allow development that could result in the removal of human-made structures that may support bat roosts (page 4.4-40). If these structures are used by bats as a day roost, hibernation roost, or maternity colony roost, implementation of General Plan could result in injury and mortality (page 4.4-40).

The 2035 General Plan (and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR) includes multiple goals and policies to reduce impacts to wildlife species including: Goal 7.B Maintain and Protect Biological Resources, Policy 7.B.1 Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, Policy 7.B.2 Sensitive Habitat Types, Policy 7.B.3 Special-Status Species, Policy 7.B.5 Open Space for Conservation, Policy 7.B.6. Open Space Buffer, Policy 7.B.7 Woodland Regional Park, Policy 7.B.8 Native and Compatible Non-Native Plant Species, Policy 7.B.9. Tree Canopy, Policy 7.B.10. Urban Forest Management Plan, and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (pages 4.4-42 and 4.4-43). Furthermore, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR included the following mitigation measures to reduce impacts on habitat for special-status wildlife Species and potential direct take of individuals:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2a – Policy 7.B.6, Open Space Buffer, was amended to include "existing wildlife and habitat values" between County Roads 27 and 29.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2a – Policy 7.B.8, Native and Compatible Non-Native Plant Species, was amended to include benefits for native wildlife and ensure that a variety of plants suited to the region are maintained.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4.1a.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2c – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4.1b.

With implementation of these mitigation measures, impacts would be reduced because these provisions would preserve the majority of sensitive habitats (e.g., alkali prairie and vernal pools) that could support special-status wildlife within the Open Space land use designation, would require development projects to identify and avoid special-status wildlife or provide compensation for loss of habitat (page 4.4-44). Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated (page 4.4-44).

PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project has the potential to result in direct or indirect adverse effects on special-status wildlife species, if they are present during temporary construction activities, or their habitat, if present along utility extension alignments. Specific species are discussed below, as was done in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, based on the information contained in Updates to the Environmental Setting section for the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments and other potential commercial facility alignments. The proposed project would continue to implement the 2035 General Plan multiple goals and policies as identified and evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR to reduce impacts to special-status wildlife species, including the following:

Goal 7.B Maintain and Protect Biological Resources, Policy 7.B.1 Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, Policy 7.B.2 Sensitive Habitat Types, Policy 7.B.3 Special-Status Species, Policy 7.B.5 Open Space for Conservation, Policy 7.B.6. Open Space Buffer, Policy 7.B.7 Woodland Regional Park, Policy 7.B.8 Native and Compatible Non-Native Plant Species, Policy 7.B.9. Tree Canopy, Policy 7.B.10. Urban Forest Management Plan, and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (pages 4.4-42 and 4.4-43). Where appropriate, Mitigation Measures from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the Yolo HCP/NCCP EIS/EIR Appendix C (contained in Appendix E of this SEIR), or other specific mitigation measures are incorporated for the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments and/or other potential commercial facility alignments to avoid, reduce, or minimize potential impacts of the proposed project on habitat and special-status species.

- **Valley elderberry longhorn beetle:** Suitable blue elderberry habitat for VELB does not exist within or adjacent to the Bayer utility extension alignment. Suitable habitat for VELB does exist within the existing leach field of Clark Pacific; however, signs of VELB activity on the existing blue elderberry shrubs were not observed. Furthermore, the proposed project would not result in disturbance of the leach field. Therefore, construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species. There is Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled VELB habitat within one mile of the existing ULL, and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that VELB could occur in areas where suitable habitat is present, which includes dense riparian habitat (Table 4.3-2, Table 4.3-3 and Table 4.3-5). As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas would generally have a low potential for suitable VELB habitat. There are some existing businesses to the south of Woodland in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park. This area has riparian habitat and is permanently preserved under conservation easements (City of Woodland Preserve and Spring Lake Alkali Sink Preserve). The proposed project would not develop lands or disturb areas within these preserved locations; therefore, the proposed project would not impact VELB habitat if it occurred within the riparian areas along Willow Slough. Nonetheless, given the modeled VELB habitat and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities; and, Mitigation Measure 4.4-2h, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM12, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle to reduce potential significant construction impacts on habitat or this special-status species.

- **Crotch's bumble bee:** Crotch's bumble bee was not designated as a special-status species at the time of the preparation or certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. According to Bumble Bee Watch there have been no records of Crotch's bumble bee within or around the City (Bumble Bee Watch, n.d.). The open grassland and shrubs adjacent to the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments present marginally suitable habitats for this species. The habitat is marginal given the level of disturbance and the general lack of wildflowers that the species prefer. Given the distances the species travel to forage and the fact that the bumble bees nest underground, there could be direct but temporary construction effects, if the species are present within either of the utility extension alignments. Furthermore, there may be suitable foraging or

nesting habitat for this species within one mile of the existing ULL. Therefore, project applicants will be required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures and Mitigation Measure 4.4-2h Crotch's to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this special-status species.

- **Monarch Butterfly:** Monarch Butterfly was not designated as a special-status species at the time of the preparation or certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR**.** Suitable habitat for this special-status species was not identified within the Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments and therefore construction of the utilities extension alignments would not result in substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas generally have a low potential for Monarch Butterfly habitat; however, milkweed can exist in disturbed areas. Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures and Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo County HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities, to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this specials-status species.

- **Vernal Pool Branchiopods:** Vernal pools were not observed during the field survey either within or adjacent to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment or the Bayer utility extension alignment. Construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species or direct impacts to individual branchiopods. As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas generally have a low potential for suitable vernal pool branchiopods habitat. There are documented vernal pools in the southeastern corner of the City limits and within one mile of the ULL in the Alkali Sink Preserve just east of the Woodland Regional Park and in the Woodland Regional Park. The proposed project would not involve development in the preserve or the Woodland Regional Park. If existing businesses located in the southeast within one-mile of the existing ULL extended utilities, they would do so along existing roads and the public right of way to connect to existing utilities and would likely avoid any potential vernal pool habitat and therefore construction of utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species. Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures for other special-status species that would also benefit vernal pool branchiopods: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo County HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities.

- **California Tiger Salamander:** The Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments do not offer suitable vernal pool or seasonal wetland habitat with surrounding upland habitat suitable for California tiger salamander. There is no Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for California Tiger Salamander within or adjacent

to the two utility extension alignments. Construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species or direct impacts to individual California tiger salamanders. There is no Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled California tiger salamander habitat within one mile of the existing ULL (Table 4.3-3). There are documented vernal pools in the southeastern corner of the City limits and within one mile of the ULL in the Alkali Sink Preserve just east of the Woodland Regional Park and in the Woodland Regional Park. The proposed project would not involve development in the preserve or the Woodland Regional Park. If existing commercial facilities located in the southeast within one mile of the existing ULL extended utilities, they would do so along existing roads and the public right of way to connect to existing utilities and would likely avoid any suitable vernal pool or upland habitat; therefore, construction of utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species. California tiger salamanders are unlikely to occur along utility extension alignments in unsuitable habitat but may pass through the work area during overland travel if construction of utility extension alignments occurs adjacent to suitable habitat (e.g., habitat in the Alkali Sink Preserve). Direct impacts to California tiger salamanders could occur if individuals are physically harmed by construction vehicles or equipment. Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures for other special-status species that would also benefit California tiger salamanders: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo County HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities. Implementation of these measures, which include preconstruction surveys, equipment inspection, and covering trenches and holes, would avoid or minimize potential direct impacts to California tiger salamanders in the unlikely event they pass through the work area during construction activities.

- **Northwestern Pond Turtle:** The retention ponds at Bayer and Clark Pacific are artificially constructed and lack a hydrologic connection to any natural drainage, stream, or wetland. These features are generally considered of low habitat value for the northwestern pond turtle, and no suitable upland or aquatic habitat for the species is present in their vicinity. There is no Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for Northwestern Pond turtle associated with the Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments (Table 4.3-3 in this SEIR). Construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in substantial loss or degradation of northwestern pond turtle habitat or direct impacts to individual northwestern pond turtles. There is Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled northwestern pond turtle habitat within one-mile of the existing ULL and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that northwestern pond turtle could occur in areas where suitable habitat is present, which includes permanent and nearly permanent waters canals/ditches with open bank areas, emergent vegetation, and logs or boulders and upland areas within 325 feet of suitable aquatic habitat (Table 4.3-2, Table 4.3-3 and Table 4.3-5 in this SEIR). As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas generally have a low potential for suitable northwestern pond turtle habitat. There are some existing businesses to the south of Woodland in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park, which has riparian habitat and are permanently preserved under conservation easements (City of Woodland Preserve and Spring Lake Alkali Sink Preserve). The proposed project would not develop lands

or disturb areas within these preserved locations; therefore, the proposed project would not impact northwestern pond turtle habitat if it occurred along Willow Slough. Northwestern pond turtles are unlikely to occur along utility extension alignments in unsuitable habitat but may pass through the work area during overland travel if construction of utility extension alignments occurs adjacent to suitable habitat (e.g., City of Woodland Preserve). Direct impacts to northwestern pond turtle could occur if individuals are physically harmed by construction vehicles or equipment. Given the modeled northwestern pond turtle habitat within one mile of the ULL and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this specials-status species: Mitigation Measure 4.4.1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities; and, Mitigation Measure 4.4-2i, Yolo County HCP/NCCP AMM14, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Northwestern Pond Turtle. Implementation of these measures, which include preconstruction surveys, equipment inspection, and covering trenches and holes, would avoid or minimize potential direct impacts to northwestern pond turtle in the unlikely event they pass through the work area during construction activities.

- **Western Spadefoot:** This species was not designated as special status at the time of the preparation or certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The retention ponds at Bayer and Clark Pacific are artificially constructed and lack a hydrologic connection to any natural drainage, stream, or wetland. These features are generally considered of low habitat value for western spadefoot, and no suitable upland or aquatic habitat for the species is present in their vicinity. Construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in substantial loss or degradation of western spadefoot habitat or direct impacts to the species. As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas would generally have a low potential for suitable western spadefoot habitat. Western spadefoot occur in shallow streams with riffles and seasonal wetlands, such as vernal pools in annual grasslands and oak woodlands (Table 4.3-2 and Table 4.3-5) and this type of habitat is generally present in the southeastern part of the ULL around Woodland Regional Park. The proposed project would not involve development in the preserve or the Woodland Regional Park. If existing businesses located in the southeast within one-mile of the existing ULL extended utilities, they would do so along existing roads and the public right of way to connect to existing utilities and would likely avoid any potential habitat; therefore, construction of utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of habitat for this special-status wildlife species. Western spadefoot are unlikely to occur along utility extension alignments in unsuitable habitat but may pass through the work area during overland travel if construction of utility extension alignments occurs adjacent to suitable habitat (e.g., habitat around Woodland Regional Park). Direct impacts to western spadefoot could occur if individuals are physically harmed by construction vehicles or equipment. Consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures for other special-status species that would also benefit western spadefoot: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization

Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo County HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities. Implementation of these measures, which include preconstruction surveys, equipment inspection, and covering trenches and holes, would avoid or minimize potential direct impacts to western spadefoot in the unlikely event they pass through the work area during construction activities.

- **Giant Garter Snake:** The retention ponds at Bayer and Clark Pacific are artificially constructed and lack a hydrologic connection to any natural drainage, stream, or wetland. These features are generally considered of low habitat value for giant garter snake, which depends on more consistent hydrology and well-developed wetland structure to complete their life cycles. Furthermore, there is no Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for giant garter snake associated with the Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments (Table 4.3-3). Construction of the Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments would not result in substantial loss or degradation of giant garter snake habitat or direct impacts to individual giant garter snakes. As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas generally have a low potential for suitable giant garter snake habitat. There is Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled giant garter snake habitat within one-mile of the existing ULL and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that giant garter snake could occur in areas where suitable habitat is present, which includes freshwater marsh, and slow moving streams, ditches, or canals (Table 4.3-2 and Table 4.3-5 in this SEIR). There are some existing businesses to the south of Woodland in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park, which has freshwater marsh habitat and are permanently preserved under conservation easements (City of Woodland Preserve and Spring Lake Alkali Sink Preserve). The proposed project would not develop lands or disturb areas within these preserved locations; therefore, the proposed project would not impact giant garter snake habitat if it occurred along Willow Slough. Giant garter snake are unlikely to occur along potential utility extension alignments in unsuitable habitat but may pass through the work area during overland travel if construction of utility extension alignments occurs adjacent to suitable habitat (e.g., habitat around the City of Woodland Preserve). Direct impacts to giant garter snake could occur if individuals are physically harmed by construction vehicles or equipment. Given the modeled habitat within one mile of the ULL and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this specials-status species: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2f – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters; and, Mitigation Measure 4.4-2j, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM15, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Giant Garter Snake. Implementation of these measures, which include preconstruction surveys, equipment inspection, and covering trenches and holes, would avoid or minimize potential direct impacts to giant garter snake in the unlikely event they pass through the work area during construction activities.

- **Special-status and migratory birds.** There is suitable nesting and foraging habitat within and adjacent to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment and the Bayer utility extension alignment for a wide variety of

special status and migratory birds (Table 4.3-1, Table 4.3-2 and Table 4.3-5). In addition, there is Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for Swainson's Hawk and white-tailed Kite associated with the Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments and within one mile of the existing ULL (Table 4.3-3). Construction is anticipated to occur May through November and therefore could result in indirect and temporary construction impacts associated with noise, presence of construction workers and equipment on nesting special-status and migratory birds, including Swainson's Hawk, White-tailed Kite, least Bell's vireo, and tricolored blackbird, should those birds be present. Given the presence of suitable migratory bird and special-status bird habitat and the potential presence for the special-status bird species habitat within one mile of the existing ULL and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or special-status or migratory bird species: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2f – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2k, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM16, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2l, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM19, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Least Bell's vireo; and Mitigation Measure 4.4-2m, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM21, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Tricolored Blackbird.

- **Western Burrowing Owl:** There is suitable nesting and foraging habitat for western burrowing owl associated with the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment and the Bayer utility extension alignment (Table 4.3-5). In addition, there is Yolo HCP/NCCP modeled habitat for western burrowing owl associated with the Clark Pacific utility extension alignments and within one mile of the existing ULL (Table 4.3-3) and 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that western burrowing owl could occur in areas where suitable habitat is present, which includes grasslands, agricultural lands, shrublands, with existing ground squirrel burrows and friable soils (Table 4.3-5). Construction could result in indirect and temporary construction impacts associated with noise, presence of construction workers and equipment if burrows are occupied or the species is present foraging. In addition, impacts could occur if burrows are occupied adjacent to the retention pond at Bayer and the pond is filled in. As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. These areas generally support suitable western burrowing owl habitat. Given the presence of suitable burrowing owl habitat and the potential presence for the species within one mile of the existing ULL and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this special-status species: Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities; and Mitigation Measure 4.4-2n, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM18, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl.

- **Pallid bat:** There is suitable roosting habitat for the pallid bat associated with the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment and the Bayer utility extension alignment (Table 4.3-5). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that the pallid bat could occur in areas where suitable habitat is present, which includes roosting in rock crevices, oak hollows, bridges, or buildings (Table 4.3-5). Given the presence of suitable rooting habitat and the potential presence for the species within one mile of the existing ULL and consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant construction impacts on habitat or this special-status species Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures; Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities and Mitigation Measure 4.4-2o, Bat Protection and Roost Avoidance.

The City would evaluate other potential utility extension alignments through the application process and execution of a service agreement to confirm a utility extension could be provided, and confirm consistency with the existing general plan policies, and establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction. The proposed project would continue to implement the 2035 General Plan multiple goals and policies as identified and evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR to reduce impacts to special-status wildlife species, including the following: Goal 7.B Maintain and Protect Biological Resources, Policy 7.B.1 Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, Policy 7.B.2 Sensitive Habitat Types, Policy 7.B.3 Special-Status Species, Policy 7.B.5 Open Space for Conservation, Policy 7.B.6. Open Space Buffer, Policy 7.B.7 Woodland Regional Park, Policy 7.B.8 Native and Compatible Non-Native Plant Species, Policy 7.B.9. Tree Canopy, Policy 7.B.10. Urban Forest Management Plan, and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (pages 4.4-42 and 4.4-43). Furthermore, consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, and as identified above for special-status species, project applicants will be required to implement the following mitigation measures which incorporated standard best management practices and avoidance and minimization measures, with respect to special-status wildlife species and habitat prior to and during construction.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2a – Implement Mitigation Measures 4.4-1a, Implementation Program Biological Resources 1
- Mitigation Measure 4.4.2d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2f – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2g, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM12, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2h, Perform visual presence surveys for Crotch's bumble bee and their nests during the active flight season between April and September, in accordance with the Survey Considerations for California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Candidate Bumble Bee Species (CDFW 2023).If an individual is

believed to be identified, the surveyor shall take photographs showing the head, body, and back and send photographs to either Xerces or a qualified bumble bee biologist for species verification. If bumble bee nests are identified, aa minimum 50- foot buffer between construction and documented nest location will be established until the species can be verified either by Xerces or a qualified bumble bee biologist. This buffer distance may need to be increased if it is determined by the qualified biologist to not be sufficient to avoid impacting the species.

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2i, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM14, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Northwestern Pond Turtle
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2j, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM15, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Giant Garter Snake.
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2k, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM16, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2l, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM19, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on least Bell's vireo
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2m, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM21, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Tricolored Blackbird
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2n, Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM18, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-2o, Bat Protection and Roost Avoidance: a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction bat habitat assessment of all trees and structures within 100 feet of proposed construction areas. The assessment will identify potential roosting features. If suitable root habitat is present, the biologist shall conduct evening and/or dawn acoustic emergency surveys within 14 days before the start of construction to determine occupancy. If active day or maternity roosts are identified a no-disturbance buffer of at least 100 feet will be established around the roost until it is no longer in use.

Similar to the analysis contained in the 2035 General Plan, these mitigation measures would reduce, avoid, or minimize impacts because they would identify or avoid special-status wildlife species and their habitats during construction of utility extension alignments. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-3: Loss and Degradation of Riparian Habitat or Other Sensitive Natural Communities

GENERAL PLAN

Changes in land use designations that would occur with implementation of General Plan would allow development in areas that contain ponds and waterways, both natural and manmade, that support small strips of riparian forest habitat (page 4.4-44). While the majority of riparian forest habitat and alkali prairie habitat would be preserved in within the Woodland Regional Park and adjacent City of Woodland Preserve and Spring Lake

Alkali Sink preserve to the southeast of the City of Woodland, development could occur in areas outside the preserves that could result in removal of riparian forest and/or alkali prairie vegetation or further habitat degradation from pollutants transported by urban runoff, changes in vegetation as a result of changes in land use and management practices, and altered site hydrology from the construction of adjacent urban development and roadways (page 4.4-45). The 2035 General Plan (and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR) includes multiple goals and policies to reduce impacts to wildlife species including those summarized under Impact 4.4-2 (pages 4.4-42 to 4.4-43, and 4.4-45 to 4.4-46). Furthermore, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR included the following mitigation measures to reduce impacts on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3a – Implement Implementation Program Biological Resources 2
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3b – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3c – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1b
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-2a

With implementation of these changes, impacts would be reduced because these provisions would preserve the majority of sensitive habitats (e.g., alkali prairie and riparian forest) within the Open Space land use designation, and would require development projects to identify and avoid sensitive habitats or provide compensation for loss of habitat (page 4.4-47). Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated (page 4.4-47).

PROPOSED PROJECT

The Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments are primarily comprised of common habitat types typically associated with cultivated and active agricultural land (Figure 4.3-1, Figure 4.3-2, Figure 4.3-3 and Figure 4.3-4). There is limited riparian woodland habitat adjacent to the Bayer alignment would not be disturbed by construction of the alignment. There are no riparian or sensitive natural communities identified by the Yolo HCP/NCCP within the Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments (Figure 4.3-3 and Figure 4.3-4). Therefore, construction of these utility extension alignments would not result in a substantial loss or degradation of riparian or sensitive natural community habitat. The proposed project would primarily disturb areas along the public right-of-way of existing roads and areas within the footprint of existing commercial facilities in operation prior to November 3, 2026 because any extension of utility alignments must connect to existing utilities, which are typically located along roads and within intersections. It is unknown if any additional existing commercial facilities beyond Clark Pacific and Bayer would pursue extending utilities given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. There are multiple existing businesses located to the west of Woodland or to the north of Woodland and surrounded by active agricultural lands and disturbed cultivated areas, and generally lacking riparian or other sensitive natural communities. There are some existing businesses to the south of Woodland in general proximity to Willow Slough and the existing Woodland Regional Park and Maupin Unit of the Alkali Sink Preserve, which contain riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities. However, the proposed project would not develop lands or disturb areas within these preserved locations; therefore, the proposed project would not impact these areas or riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities in these areas. The City would evaluate other potential utility extension alignments through the application process and execution of a service agreement to confirm a utility extension could be provided, and confirm consistency with the existing general plan policies, and establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction. The proposed project would continue to

implement the 2035 General Plan multiple goals and policies as identified and evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, to reduce impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities including those identified in Impact 4.4.-1 and Impact 4.4-2. Furthermore, consistent with Mitigation Measure 4.4-2b – Implementation Program Biological Resources 1, project applicants will be required to implement the following standard best management practices and avoidance and minimization measures, some of which are identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP EIS/EIR Appendix C, which is contained in Appendix F of this SEIR as identified below, with respect to riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities prior to and during construction:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-3f – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters

Similar to the analysis contained in the 2035 General Plan, these mitigation measures would reduce, avoid, or minimize impacts because they would identify or avoid riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities during construction of utility extension alignments. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-4: Loss and Degradation of Federally Protected Wetlands

GENERAL PLAN

Implementing the General Plan would allow development in areas that currently support, or may support, wetlands and other waters, including vernal pools and other freshwater wetlands, ponds, and drainage canals. Impacts on wetlands and other waters could occur through habitat conversion, encroachment, routine maintenance, or other activities in the immediate vicinity of waterways and in habitat supporting wetlands (page 4.4-47). Some waters within the Planning Area would be under the jurisdiction of USACE and qualify as waters of the United States due to hydrological connectivity to navigable waters; however, others might be excluded from USACE jurisdiction due to intermittent flow or disconnection, and these would be subject to regulation by the state (Central Valley RWQCB or SWRCB) as waters of the State (page 4.4-47). The 2035 General Plan (and the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR) includes multiple goals and policies to reduce impacts to wildlife species including those summarized under Impact 4.4-2 (pages 4.4-42 to 4.4-43, and 4.4-48 to 4.4-49). Furthermore, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR included the following mitigation measures to reduce impacts on wetlands:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a – Implement Implementation Program Biological Resources 3

With implementation of these changes, impacts would be reduced because the majority of wetland and aquatic habitats (e.g., alkali sink and freshwater wetlands) within the Open Space land use designation would be preserved and would require development projects to identify and avoid wetland habitats or provide compensation

resulting in no net loss of habitat functions and values (page 4.4-50). Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated (page 4.4-50).

PROPOSED PROJECT

The Clark Pacific and Bayer utility extension alignments are primarily comprised of common habitat types typically associated with cultivated and active agricultural land (Table 4.3-1 and, Figure 4.3-1, Figure 4.3-2, Figure 4.3-3 and Figure 4.3-4). There were no aquatic features identified within either utility extension alignment. The retention pond adjacent to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment would not be disturbed by the proposed project. The Bayer retention pond would be filled in as part of the proposed project. The Bayer retention pond has no inlet or outlet and retains water from the existing seed processing at Bayer, as needed. Given the existing vegetation and the lack of connectivity to other aquatic features it is likely the retention pond would not be subject to USACE jurisdiction. Furthermore, because the retention pond is artificial and less than one acre it would likely not meet the definition of the waters of the state (SWRCB 2021).

Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a, Implement Implementation Program Biological Resources 3, of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR requires applicants to complete a delineation of waters of the United States according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' methods, and to submit the completed delineation to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for jurisdictional determination if a project would result in ground disturbance on sites containing waterways or other aquatic habitats. It is likely that the retention pond at Bayer will not meet regulatory definitions of USACE or the Central Valley RWQCB for wetlands, Waters of the U.S., or waters of the State, given its size, lack of connectivity, and characteristics; however, given the requirement of Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a and the presence of the retention pond at Bayer, Bayer will implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-4b, Coordinate with Regulating Agencies, to confirm the need to implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a. Mitigation Measure 4.4-4b if a qualified biologist identifies waterways or other aquatic habitats within a utility extension alignment that would be disturbed and to confirm the waterway or other aquatic habitat feature requires a delineation. Bayer would implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-4b prior to filling in the retention pond with soil. Should jurisdiction be confirmed, Mitigation Measures 4.4-4a, 4.4-4c, 4.4-4d, and 4.4-4e will be implemented to reduce the loss or degradation of wetlands, along with mitigation ratios per the determination by the USACE or the Central Valley RWQCB to compensate for the loss, if the retention pond is deemed jurisdictional.

As described in Section 3.3.2, it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would pursue extending utilities within one mile of the existing ULL given the decision to extend utilities represents a cost and is a unique and individual business decision influenced by multiple factors. Most of the area within one mile of the existing ULL is cultivated lands, agricultural lands, or other agriculture/semiagricultural and incidental to agricultural lands. Although these areas are highly disturbed, they can support wetland features (Table 4.3-2). Other utility extension alignments could have waterways, other aquatic habitat, or aquatic features that meet jurisdictional criteria that would need to be avoided or potentially mitigated. The City would evaluate other potential utility extension alignments through the application process and execution of a service agreement to confirm a utility extension could be provided, and confirm consistency with the existing general plan policies, and establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction. Project applicants will implement the following Mitigation Measures to reduce and avoid loss or degradation of wetlands, some of which are identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and some of which are identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP EIS/EIR Appendix C, which is contained in Appendix F of this SEIR:

- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a – Implement Implementation Program Biological Resources 3
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4b – Coordinate with Regulatory Agencies: if a qualified biologist identifies waterways or other aquatic habitats within a utility extension alignment that would be disturbed, applicants will coordinate with the Central Valley RWQCB and USACE. The required coordination with these regulatory agencies will confirm the identified waterway(s) or other aquatic habitat(s) require a delineation and confirm implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4-4a.
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4c – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1c, General Avoidance and Minimization Measures
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4d – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1d: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM9, Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities
- Mitigation Measure 4.4-4e – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.4-1e: Yolo HCP/NCCP AMM10, Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters

Similar to the analysis contained in the 2035 General Plan, these mitigation measures would reduce, avoid, or minimize impacts because they would identify, avoid loss and degradation, or compensate for the loss of federal wetlands during construction of utility extension alignments. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-5: Interference with Wildlife Movement Corridors and Nursery Sites

GENERAL PLAN

The City of Woodland is located within the Pacific flyway, which is a major north-south route for migratory birds along western North America. Large numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds may move through the area seasonally and may congregate and forage in different habitats (page 4.4-50). However, implementation of the General Plan would not create a barrier to movement of migratory species or alter the character of existing habitat available to migrating birds such that it would no longer function as a migratory corridor because there still would be abundant agricultural habitat of equal or better value to migrating birds surrounding the Planning Area and this agricultural habitat, along with Cache Creek, Willow Slough, and the Yolo Bypass would continue to support the needs of migratory birds and provide wildlife movement opportunities for other native resident or migratory wildlife species in the area (page 4.4-50). The Planning Area does not provide an important connection between any areas of natural habitat that would otherwise be isolated, and the Planning Area is not located within any of the ecological corridors identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP as important to maintaining connectivity between communities, habitat patches, species populations, or the Yolo HCP/NCCP proposed reserve system (pages 4.4-50 and 4.4-51). No native wildlife nursery sites have been identified in the Planning Area (page 4.4-51). Therefore, implementation of the General Plan would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites and impacts would be less than significant (page 4.4-51).

PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project would result in the construction of underground utility pipelines primarily within the right-of-way of existing roads and would not interfere with the Pacific Flyway or existing agricultural habitat, Willow Slough or the Yolo Bypass areas that might be regularly used by wildlife. Once constructed the pipelines would not interfere with wildlife movement. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-6: Conflict with Local Ordinances Protecting Biological Resources

GENERAL PLAN

Implementing the General Plan would allow development in areas containing street trees, heritage trees, landmark trees, specimen trees, or other trees protected under the City of Woodland Tree Ordinance (page 4.4-52). The General Plan (and 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR) reference a number of policies that are meant to protect trees including: Policy 7.B.9, Tree Canopy; Policy 7.B.10, Urban Forest Management Plan; and Policy 7.B.11 Sensitive Site Planning (page 4.4-53). Implementation of the General Plan and City of Woodland Tree Ordinance would result in impacts that are less than significant on protected trees.

PROPOSED PROJECT

The City updated and amended the Tree ordinance after the certification and approval of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR pursuant to Policies 7B.9 and 7.B.10 of the 2035 General Plan. The tree ordinance identifies measures to protect large trees. There are no large trees with driplines within or immediately adjacent to the Bayer utility extension alignment construction area (Appendix E). There are a number of large valley oak trees to the south side of Road 18C within or immediately adjacent to the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment construction area (Appendix E). The dripline of these trees could be affected by excavation of a utility trench up to a depth of eight feet on the south side of the road if the utility trench is too close to the dripline of the trees. The north side of Road 18C has no large valley oak trees within the construction area, is regularly maintained (the adjacent annual grasslands are regularly mowed) and only one large eucalyptus tree on the north side of the intersection of Road 18C and Road 101. Therefore, the proposed project would be able to avoid the existing large valley oaks on the south side of Road 18C by locating the utility extension alignment either fully on the north side Road 18C or within Road 18C and out of the dripline of the existing trees. In addition, the City would require compliance with the updated Tree Ordinance (see Section 4.3.1 of this SEIR) as conditions of approval for the project, including:

- consultation and consent of the Community Development Director will occur prior to ground disturbance
- tree wells may be used when advisable
- excavation adjacent to any heritage oak tree shall not be permitted where material damage to the root system may result, unless approved by an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist
- excavation within an oak tree dripline when approved by the City, may only be performed by a contractor that has an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist on staff and based on a plan prepared by

consulting International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist that has been submitted to and approved by the City in advance

There are numerous large trees along existing roads within one mile of the existing ULL. Given that the pipelines are relatively small in diameter, the limited construction footprint width of 25 feet, and the difficulty of constructing pipeline trenches in tree roots, if other utility extension alignments are pursued by existing commercial facilities in operation prior to November 3, 2026 within one mile of the existing ULL large trees would be avoided if large trees exist along other alignments. The City would evaluate other potential utility extension alignments through the application process and execution of a service agreement to confirm the utility extensions could be provided, confirm consistency with the existing tree ordinance, and establish any conditions of approval that may be needed prior to construction, such as the requirements identified in the updated tree ordinance.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.4-7: Conflict with an Adopted Habitat Conservation Plan Natural Community Conservation Plan

GENERAL PLAN

The Yolo HCP/NCCP was not adopted at the time of the preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.4-55). However, the 2035 General Plan includes specific policies to maintain consistency with the Yolo HCP/NCCP and to fully implement the plan once adopted (page 4.4-55). The General Plan was designed for consistency with the current working draft of the proposed Yolo HCP/NCCP and has designated the Woodland Regional Park and parcels to the north as Open Space land for conservation of sensitive habitat and special-status plants known to occur there (page 4.4-55). These are the only lands within the Planning Area that are identified in the proposed Yolo HCP/NCCP as a part of the future reserves system (page 4.4-55). Mitigation Measures 4.4-7a – Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.4-1a, Mitigation Measure 4.4-7b – Implement of Mitigation Measure 4.4-1b, and Mitigation Measure 4.4-7c – Implement Mitigation Measure 4.-2a cited in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR would reduce impacts to less than significant because these provisions would ensure that growth projected under the Proposed Project would not conflict with the goals and objectives of the Yolo HCP/NCCP because it would preserve habitat identified for preservation under the current Draft Yolo HCP/NCCP and would require project applicants to participate in the Plan, if adopted, to mitigate impacts on covered species and habitats consistent with the Yolo HCP/NCCP conservation strategy (page 4.4-55). Therefore, impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated (page 4.4-55).

PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project would be implemented in accordance with incorporation of avoidance and minimization measures that are part of the Yolo HCP/NCCP. Through payment of Yolo HCP/NCCP fees or equivalent mitigation, the proposed project would contribute to the Yolo HCP/NCCP's conservation strategy, thereby benefiting the following covered species evaluated in this SEIR: Palmate-bracted bird's beak, VELB, northwestern pond turtle, Swainson's hawk, White-tailed kit, Western burrowing owl, Least Bell's vireo, and Tricolored blackbird. Therefore, with incorporation of Yolo HCP/NCCP fees or equivalent mitigation and

adherence to other Yolo HCP/NCCP avoidance and minimization measures, the proposed project would not conflict with an adopted habitat conservation plan/natural community conservation plan and impacts would be less than significant.

Impact 4.4-8: Substantial Reduction in the Habitat of a Fish or Wildlife Species, Cause a Fish or Wildlife Population to Drop Below Self-Sustaining Levels, Eliminate a Plant or Animal Community, or Substantially Reduce the Number or Restrict the Range of an Endangered, Rare, or Threatened Species

GENERAL PLAN

The majority of the Planning Area consists of developed and agricultural land that provides limited habitat values to most species (page 4.4-57). There is a limited amount of natural habitat in the Planning Area to support native species (page 4.4-57). The General Plan Land Use Designations would ensure the majority of known occupied and potential habitat for special-status plants and wildlife that currently exists within the Planning Area would remain in open space land uses for conservation of these species (page 4.4-57). The General Plan goals and policies cited in Impact 4.4-2, Impact 4.4-3, Impact 4.4-6, and Impact 4.4-6 reduce potential impacts on wildlife species and habitat (page 4.4-58). Impacts would be less than significant (page 4.4-58).

PROPOSED PROJECT

As demonstrated in Impact 4.4-1 through Impact 4.4-7, the proposed project would continue to implement the policies of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and implement mitigation measures where required to avoid, reduce or minimize impacts on species. The proposed project would not result in a substantial reduction in the habitat of a fish or wildlife Species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, eliminate a plant or animal community, or substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.4 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND ENERGY

Emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) have the potential to adversely affect the environment because such emissions contribute cumulatively to the significant cumulative impact of global climate change. Cumulative emissions from many projects and activities affect global GHG concentrations and the climate system. GHG emissions disperse broadly and are a global concern because of their relatively long atmospheric lifetimes. Therefore, the total amount and types of GHG emissions, regardless of their location, have the most significant effect on climate change globally.

Section 4.5, "Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.5-1 to 4.5-66) described existing GHG emissions and energy usage, provided a summary of applicable regulations, analyzed the potential short-term construction and long-term operational GHG emissions and energy impacts from implementation of the City's General Plan, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant GHG emissions impacts, where applicable. That information is hereby incorporated by reference into this SEIR.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.4.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the General Plan EIR was presented on pages 4.5-12 to 4.5-15. The regulatory setting is updated in the material that follows. The information provided below does not lead to a new impact or increase in severity of any impact in relation to the proposed project.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

Since certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, several state regulations have been adopted related to statewide GHG emissions reductions across all sectors with targets for the years 2030 and beyond. Executive Order (EO) B-30-15 established a statewide GHG emissions reduction goal of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, which was codified by the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 32 in 2016. For the post-2030 period, EO B-55-18 established a new statewide goal to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter. Assembly Bill (AB) 1279, signed in 2022, codified EO B-55-18 and requires that statewide GHG emissions are reduced to at least 85 percent below 1990 levels by 2045. Additionally, CARB is required to update the Climate Change Scoping Plan at least once every five years, with the most recent update completed in 2022. The 2022 Scoping Plan (CARB 2022) identifies an action to have 25 percent of energy demand from construction equipment electrified by 2030 and 75 percent by 2045; however, this action is meant to be achieved on a statewide level, not for individual construction projects. While updated statewide GHG reductions targets and updates to the Scoping Plan have been adopted since the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was certified, none of those changes would lead to a new impact or increase in severity of any impact in relation to the proposed project.

Yolo County's 2030 Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) was adopted in December 2024; this plan is not a qualified GHG reduction plan under CEQA Guidelines §15183.5. The GHG reduction measures and strategies

in the Yolo County CAAP are generally not applicable to the activities associated with the proposed project, focused on reducing operational emissions through decarbonization, increasing energy efficiency, optimizing water use, minimizing waste, and achieving carbon sequestration. Furthermore, while construction activities associated with the proposed project would temporarily result in the generation of exhaust GHG emissions within unincorporated areas of Yolo County, the proposed project would not affect land uses and associated long-term operational emissions assumptions applicable to Yolo County's CAAP For these reasons, the Yolo County CAAP is not applicable to the proposed project and is not evaluated for the purposes of this SEIR analysis.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.5-2 to 4.5-7), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting describes the greenhouse effect, GHG sources and sectors, summarizes GHG emissions inventories for California and the City of Woodland, and summarizes energy consumption within the Pacific Gas & Electric service territory. As described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, page 4.5-2), prominent GHGs contributing to the earth's greenhouse effect are CO_2, methane, nitrous oxide, and high-global warming potential (high-GWP)[12] GHGs. The concept of CO_2-equivalents (CO_2e) is used to account for the different potentials of GHGs to absorb infrared radiation and is based on the global warming potential (GWP) of a GHG. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, page 4.5-1) also describes that emissions of GHGs have the potential to adversely affect the environment because such emissions contribute cumulatively to global climate change. Cumulative emissions from many projects and activities affect global GHG concentrations and the climate system. Unlike criteria air pollutants and TACs that tend to have more localized or regional impacts, GHG emissions tend to disperse more broadly and are more of a global concern because of their relatively longer atmospheric lifetimes compared to air quality emissions. Therefore, the total amount and types of GHG emissions, regardless of their location, have the most significant effect on climate change globally.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

State and local GHG emissions inventories and energy consumption data are updated periodically, typically annually or every few years. The environmental setting information presented in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR related to existing GHG emissions and energy consumption is sufficient to inform the analysis for the proposed project and any incremental change would not lead to a new impact or increase in severity of an existing impact in relation to the proposed project.

4.4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR[13]. These

[12] Examples of high-GWP GHGs are hydrofluorocarbons used in refrigerants.

[13] Following certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, VI. "Energy" was added to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines in 2019; this revision updated the impact questions previously included in Appendix F of the CEQA Guidelines of "develop land uses and patterns that cause wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary energy consumption" and "require or result in the construction of new energy production and/or transmission facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects". These changes do not substantively change the approach to analysis between that applied to the 2035 General Plan EIR and that presented in this SEIR evaluation of potential energy impacts.

thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would be considered to have a significant effect if it would result in any of the conditions listed below.

- generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or
- conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases; or
- result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation; or
- conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.5-1: Generation of GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Impact 4.5-1 (pages 4.5-20 to 4.5-41) discusses potential impacts related to generation of GHG emissions from implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP and is incorporated by reference. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR estimates the maximum annual and total GHG emissions from development throughout the Planning Area anticipated under the 2035 General Plan, in addition to short-term emissions associated with equipment upgrades, renewable energy facility installations, energy efficiency building upgrades, tree planting, and other measures included in the City's 2035 CAP. Maximum annual emissions (operations plus amortized annual construction emissions) and the projected service population within the Planning Area for the year 2035 were used to estimate the GHG efficiency rate for implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found that emissions associated with implementation of the 2035 General Plan would exceed the GHG efficiency rate and the impact would be cumulatively considerable. General Plan Policy 2.C.2 requires new development to be consistent with the objectives and targets of the City's CAP. Ultimately, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined that implementation of the CAP would achieve local annual reductions that, when combined with estimated future anticipated statewide reductions, would achieve a GHG efficiency per service population that would contribute a fair share of the emissions reductions required by the State's emissions reductions consistent with AB 32, EO B-30-15 (since signed into law via SB 32), and Executive Order S-3-05 emissions reductions, based on the contemplated land use within the 2035 General Plan, and this impact would be less than cumulatively considerable.

CEQA Guidelines 15183.5(b) states "a lead agency may determine that a project's incremental contribution to a cumulative effect is not cumulatively considerable if the project complies with the requirements in a previously adopted plan or mitigation program under specified circumstances." The City adopted its CAP in 2017, which can be relied on for CEQA review of subsequent plans and projects that are consistent with the GHG reduction

strategies and targets in the CAP. According to the CAP, if a project is consistent with the General Plan, is not exempt from CEQA, falls within the assumptions of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and is consistent with the CAP, GHG-related impacts associated with the project are determined to be less than significant, and further CEQA analysis for the area of impact is generally not required. The CAP describes that to be determined consistent with the CAP, a project must demonstrate that it is included in the growth assumptions upon which the CAP modeling is based and that it incorporates applicable strategies and measures from the CAP as binding and enforceable components of the project.

The proposed project would construct and operate utility extensions to existing commercial facilities up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026 and, therefore, would not alter the existing land use designations, as the facilities must be existing. Additionally, the proposed project would be consistent with General Plan policies, including Policy 5.G.5, "Recycled Water," by expanding the recycled water system through allowing the provision of recycled water service to existing commercial facilities within one mile of the ULL. Implementation of the proposed project would not introduce new development beyond what was analyzed and assumed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and therefore would be within the growth assumptions upon which the CAP modeling is based . Most of the strategies in the CAP are not applicable, as the proposed project would not result in new long-term emissions sources, and only those strategies that are applicable are discussed herein, which is: CAP Strategy MO-3, "Increased Energy Efficiency and Use of Renewable Energy". CAP Strategy MO-3 seeks to reduce GHG emissions associated with the City's municipal operations through a variety of actions, including through reduced reliance on potable water supply by expanding the distribution and use of recycled water to industrial uses and landscaped areas. Operation of the proposed project would include provision of recycled wastewater services to Clark Pacific, which would support CAP Strategy MO-3. Therefore, because the proposed project would not induce growth beyond the growth assumptions upon which the CAP is based and would be consistent with applicable CAP strategies, the proposed project is consistent with the CAP.

In order to demonstrate project-level compliance relevant to GHG emissions and climate change impacts, in accordance with the CAP and pursuant to Section 15064.4(a)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines, the level of GHG emissions that would result from implementation of the proposed project were estimated. The proposed project would temporarily generate construction GHG emissions associated with extension of the utilities to Bayer and Clark Pacific and minimal onsite activities to decommission existing groundwater and wastewater facilities. Construction-related GHG emissions would be generated primarily from exhaust emissions associated with off-road construction equipment, construction worker commutes, and vendor and haul truck trips, and would cease following construction of the proposed project. Construction-related GHG emissions were modeled using the same methods and assumptions as those described in Section 4.2, "Air Quality" of this SEIR. In addition to criteria air pollutants, CalEEMod also estimates GHG emissions associated with construction activities. Proposed project construction GHG emissions associated with utility extensions to Bayer and Clark Pacific would be approximately 108 metric tons (MT) CO_2e and 73 MT CO_2e, respectively[14]. These levels of GHG emissions would be similar to those that could occur if other existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, extend utilities under the proposed project. Operation of the utility extensions to provide water and wastewater services to Bayer and Clark Pacific is within the operational capacity of the City's water distribution and wastewater treatment facilities and would not result in increased operational GHG emissions. Additionally, the anticipated utility extensions would not alter the

[14] Appendix D provides detailed model inputs, assumptions, and outputs.

anticipated development capacity for the City within the City's planning horizon and, therefore, would not result in a change in total annual operational emissions as analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. As described in Impact 4.3-2, any slight increase in potable water consumption at Bayer and Clark Pacific would not result in a substantial increase in long-term operational emissions. Similarly, should other existing commercial facilities extend utilities within one mile of the existing ULL, there would not be a change in total annual operational emissions as analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

As described above, the proposed project is consistent with the General Plan and CAP. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded impacts related to the generation of GHG emissions would be less than cumulatively considerable and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.5-2: Conflict with an Applicable Plan, Policy, or Regulation Adopted for the Purpose of Reducing the Emissions of Greenhouse Gases.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.5-41 to 4.5-43) discusses potential impacts related to conflicts with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR describes the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) developed by the local Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG). The MTP/SCS is a long-range planning document for the Sacramento region links land use, air quality, and transportation needs and identifies policies and strategies to reduce GHG emissions from passenger vehicles to targets set by CARB in accordance with SB 375. As part of development of the MTP/SCS, SACOG develops population and employment projections that inform land use and transportation planning throughout the region, which differ from the City's estimate of development capacity under the 2035 General Plan due to differences in methodology and the purposes of the estimates. For development projects that seek to utilize the CEQA streamlining allowed under SB 375 and other related legislation, it will be necessary to demonstrate project-level consistency with the MTP/SCS. The City has structured the 2035 General Plan and 2035 CAP to provide a level of GHG emission reductions consistent with State reduction targets. However, neither the 2035 General Plan nor the 2035 CAP contains specific policy or implementation guidance to ensure that consistency with the MTP/SCS is achieved on a project basis for projects seeking to utilize available CEQA streamlining. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified Mitigation Measure 4.5-2, which requires projects seeking to utilize available CEQA streamlining to determine project consistency with the MTP/SCS as a component of application review, and reduced impacts to a less-than-significant level.

The proposed project is amending an existing General Plan policy and is not a land use development project, would not result in any new operational vehicle trips, and is not seeking to utilize streamlining in accordance with SB 375. Additionally, as described above in Impact 4.5-1, the proposed project would not introduce new development or induce population growth beyond what was analyzed and assumed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would also not conflict with the CAP, as described in Impact 4.5-1 above, and would support implementation of applicable objectives and strategies in the CAP to reduce GHG emissions. For the reasons described above, the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing GHG emissions. Given the above, impacts related to plans, policies, or regulations related to reducing GHGs would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not

required for the proposed project. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.5-3: Develop Land Uses or Development Patterns that Cause Wasteful, Inefficient, or Unnecessary Consumption of Energy.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.5-43 to 4.5-63) discusses potential impacts related to the consumption of energy from implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP. Estimates of the maximum annual energy demand in the form of natural gas, electricity, and fuel associated with future operations within the Planning Area with implementation of the 2035 General Plan are provided in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR also discusses the anticipated construction-related energy demand associated with development with implementation of the 2035 General Plan. With regard to construction-related energy consumption, development under the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was not anticipated to have any unusual characteristics that would necessitate the use of construction equipment or methods that would be less energy-efficient than at comparable construction sites. With regard to operational energy consumption, General Plan policies encourage minimizing energy and water demand and wastewater generation and encourage methods to minimize solid waste generation and increase waste diversion systems. Policy 2.C.2 also requires new development to be consistent with the objectives and targets of the City's CAP, which specifically provides objectives, strategies, and implementation measures to reduce energy demand associated with the Planning Area. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined that implementation of the General Plan and CAP would improve overall energy efficiency on a per-service population basis compared to existing conditions. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant.

Implementation of the proposed project would increase the consumption of energy for the duration of construction, primarily in the form of fossil fuels (e.g., gasoline, diesel fuel) to power construction vehicles and equipment operating on-site, trucks delivering equipment and supplies to the site, and construction workers driving to and from the site. Table 4.4-1 presents the total fuel consumption anticipated for the proposed construction activities, which was estimated based on the emissions calculations for proposed construction activities modeled using CalEEMod, as further detailed in Section 4.2 "Air Quality" and Impact 4.5-1 in this SEIR, and application of the EIA CO_2 emissions coefficients (EIA 2024) to estimate fuel consumption from proposed project construction activities.

Table 4.4-1 Modeled Construction Fuel Consumption

Energy Consuming Component	Diesel (gallons)	Gasoline (gallons)
Bayer		
On-Site Equipment Use	9,065	0
Off-Site On-road Vehicles	926	598
Bayer Subtotal	**9,991**	**598**
Clark Pacific		
On-Site Equipment Use	6,696	0
Off-Site On-road Vehicles	40	520
Clark Pacific Subtotal	**6,737**	**520**
Total	**16,728**	**1,118**

Modeled by AECOM in 2025. See Appendix D for detailed emissions modeling and energy calculations.

Fuel consumption rates would vary over the duration of construction based on the intensity of construction activities. This includes factors such as the amount and duration of equipment use, as well as the number of vehicle trips and distances traveled during each phase of construction. The proposed construction-related activities and associated equipment use are necessary to implement the proposed project. Related fuel consumption would be temporary, ceasing after the completion of construction, and would not represent a significant demand on available energy resources beyond normal construction fuel usage. Additionally, proposed project construction activities would be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including applicable federal, state, and local laws that are intended to promote efficient utilization of resources, such as California Code of Regulations Title 13 Sections 2449 and 2485, which prohibit diesel-fueled commercial motor vehicles and off-road diesel vehicles from idling for more than five minutes.

Construction equipment and vehicle activity and related energy consumption would be typical of that associated with construction of the types of projects in the region and of similar type and scale to the proposed project. The proposed project does not include unusual characteristics that would necessitate the use of construction equipment that would be less energy-efficient than at comparable construction sites. Therefore, construction associated with the proposed project would not result in inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary use of fuel or other energy sources or conflict with or obstruct implementation of a plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Additionally, the incremental increase in construction energy consumption associated with the proposed project would be minimal compared to the construction energy consumption associated with development anticipated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and would not be inefficient compared to what was analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Operation of the utility extensions to provide water and wastewater services to Bayer and Clark Pacific would be accommodated by the existing energy infrastructure in place and would not require the expansion of energy infrastructure. Additionally, as described above in Impacts 4.5-1 and 4.5-2, the proposed project would be consistent with General Plan Policy 5.G.5, “Recycled Water” and CAP Strategy MO-3, “Increased Energy Efficiency and Use of Renewable Energy” through the provision of wastewater service to Clark Pacific, which would reduce operational energy consumption associated with the City’s water supply. Finally, the utility extensions allowing connection to the City’s existing water and wastewater systems and associated energy infrastructure would result in increased energy efficiency compared to existing groundwater and well water pumping at Bayer and Clark Pacific. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not result in inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary use of fuel or other energy sources or conflict with or obstruct implementation of a plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded impacts related to energy would be less than significant, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project for the reasons described above. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy nor such impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources and tribal cultural resources include archaeological traces such as Native American occupation sites and artifacts, historic-era buildings and structures, and places used for traditional Native American practices or other properties with special cultural significance.

Section 4.6, "Cultural Resources," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.6-1 to 4.6-32) described cultural resources and addressed potential impacts associated with the implementation of the General Plan and CAP on identified and previously undiscovered cultural resources and human remains, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts, where applicable. That information is hereby incorporated by reference. This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

As described below, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Notice of Preparation was released prior to changes to existing regulations and certified prior to changes in CEQA Appendix G checklist to include an evaluation of tribal cultural resources. Therefore, this section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects on tribal cultural resources attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.5.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was presented on pages 4.6-10 to 4.6-16. Assembly Bill 52 (effective July 1, 2015) did not apply to the 2035 General Plan because the process was initiated in 2013; however, subsequent projects implementing the 2035 General Plan are subject to the requirements.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

AB 52, Public Resources Code Section 21074 was presented in Section 4.6 "Cultural Resources" on page 4.6-12 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. No updates to the regulatory setting is required.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.6-1 to 4.6-9), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable with the proposed project to historical resources and archaeological resources, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides precontact and historic-period context related to known cultural resources, as well as the potential to encounter previously undiscovered archaeological resources that could be adversely affected by direct physical impacts or by changes to the setting from future development.

Tribal cultural resources were not discussed within Section 4.6 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The following environmental setting provides context for tribal cultural resources that may be encountered in the project area.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

In order to characterize the environmental setting for cultural resources, including built environment (i.e., architectural), archeological resources (both precontact and historical), and tribal cultural resources of the proposed project, AECOM conducted a cultural resources record search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) at Sonoma State University on July 24, 2025 to identify previously recorded cultural resource records within a quarter of a mile of the proposed utility extension alignments for Bayer and Clark Pacific (NWIC File No. 25-0097). AECOM also submitted a Sacred Lands File search request to the Native American Heritage Commission on July 28, 2025, In addition, on July 30, 2025 AECOM Archaeologist Zenzi Moore-Dawes surveyed the proposed utility alignments for the Woodland Urban Limit project. The results of the record search, Sacred Lands File search, Native American consultation, and field survey are described below. In addition, as noted above, tribal cultural resources were not discussed in the certified 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR because Appendix G was not amended to include tribal cultural resources as a stand-alone environmental factor separate from cultural resources until 2016, after the adoption of Assembly Bill 52 which added a definition of tribal cultural resources. Therefore, contextual information has been added below as the potential for a new impact in relation to the proposed project.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Based on the results of the cultural resources records search, no archaeological resources (precontact or historic-age) were identified within the proposed project area or within a 0.25-mile search radius buffer. The Sacred Lands File search results provided by the Native American Heritage Commission on July 29, 2025 were negative and Native American consultation efforts did not identify tribal cultural resources.

As observed during the pedestrian field survey conducted in July 2025, the majority of the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment is within highly-disturbed areas and covered in gravel or agricultural dirt. No cultural materials were observed during the field survey.

The Bayer utility alignment is proposed under an existing dirt road flanked by agricultural fields. During the field survey, the archaeologist conducted boot scrapes at random intervals and bioturbation from burrowing mammals was inspected for cultural materials. No cultural materials were observed during the pedestrian survey of the Bayer utility extension alignment.

Based on the records search results, outreach efforts, and field surveys, the project area for Bayer and Clark Pacific lacks known precontact or historic-age archaeologically sensitive sites or tribal cultural resources.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT RESOURCES

Per the record search results of the project area and 0.25-mile search radius (NWIC File No. 25-0097), the Clark Pacific facility contains National Register of Historic Places-eligible buildings and structures associated with the 1937-constructed Spreckels Sugar Factory (recorded as Primary Number (P]-57-00792). A two-story Moderne-style Office Building, a three-story Moderne-style Sugar Refining Plant (no longer extant), and nine bulk bins (concrete silos) were found to be historically significant at the local level for the economic contribution to the County. In addition, the Moderne-style buildings were designed by notable architect George Kelham of San Francisco, who designed buildings for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition and the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The buildings were noted as some of the few examples of Moderne architecture in the County (Les 1986). The

historical significance of the property is physically conveyed through the character-defining features of the extant Moderne-style Office Building including its rectangular plan, symmetry, projecting pilasters on the primary façade with entry projection below, and horizontal banding encircling the cornice. Four historic-age built resources were identified with the 0.25-mile search buffer. The National Register of Historic Places-listed Nelson Ranch is on the adjacent parcel to the east of the Clark Pacific facility. The property contains an 1872-constructed house. The other cultural resources with the search radius are the alignment of the former California Pacific Railroad route through Yolo County, a former settlement site along the Southern Pacific Railroad, and an electrical transmission line.

Per the record search results of the project area and 0.25-mile search radius (File No. 25-0097) for the Bayer facility, no previously recorded historic architecture resources are on the Bayer facility, or within the footprint of proposed utility pipelines, and the Bayer facility itself is not recommended as meeting the requirements of a historical resource. Sixteen previously recorded historic-age built environment resources were identified within 0.25 mile of the proposed utility alignments and associated project components.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Tribal cultural resources are resources that have cultural value to a California Native American tribe. Tribal Cultural Resources could include any site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object. Such resources must be listed or eligible for listing in the California or National registers or can be identified at the discretion of the lead agency. These can include Native American archaeological sites, ethnobotanical resources, Native American ceremonial or sacred areas, and Native American human remains.

As noted above, the Sacred Lands File search results provided by the Native American Heritage Commission on July 29, 2025 for the project area were negative.

Contemporary Native American Setting

Prior to the appearance of European American explorers and settlers, the Upper Sacramento Valley within Yolo County was occupied by Wintun, specifically the Patwin, who occupied the southernmost extent of Wintuan speakers. The Patwin lived in what is now Yolo, Colusa, and Solano counties.

Archaeologists routinely focus on traditional Native American culture and ignore current and vibrant Native American culture. This approach is not sufficient to provide a context or set of values maintained by the current Native American community related to their history and the landscape. Tribes view themselves as contemporary stewards of their culture and the landscape, representing a continuum from time immemorial to the present. They are resilient, vibrant, and active in the community. Tribes maintain their connection to their history and ongoing culture by practicing traditional ceremonies, engaging in traditional practices (e.g., basketry), and contributing to public education and interpretation. California has acknowledged the importance and contributions of Native American history, traditional knowledge and cultural practices, as well as the persistence of Tribes and the Tribal community (Executive Order B-10-11 and N-15-19).

Today, Tribes are actively involved in defining their role as stewards of their ancestral sites and homelands including subject matter expertise on the identification of tribal cultural resources. Tribal cultural resources represent areas of cultural significance that are rooted in, or contribute to, cultural practices, traditional stories,

traditional knowledge, and cultural identity. Tribal cultural resources provide the backdrop to religious understanding, traditional stories, knowledge of resources such as varying landscapes, bodies of water, animals and plants, and self-identity. Wintun stories passed down through generations through spoken word feature the animals, plants, and geographical features of their traditional lands. Knowledge of place is central to the continuation and persistence of culture, even if former Tribal occupants live removed from their traditional homeland. Tribal groups view these interconnected sites and places as living entities; their associations and feelings persist and connect with descendant communities (Yocha Dehe 2025).

Tribal Consultation

As a part of this environmental review, the City sent invitations to consult pursuant to SB 18 and AB 52 to all Native American tribal representatives identified by the Native American Heritage Commission and all Native American tribal representatives that have indicated to the City that they wish to be invited for consultation for projects subject to CEQA review. Certified letters to contacts with mailing addresses were sent via United States Postal Service on August 14, 2025 and emails to contacts with email addresses were sent on August 15, 2025. These tribes included: Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Cortina Rancheria - Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians, Grindstone Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki, United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria, Wilton Rancheria, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, Ione Band of Miwok Indians and Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. Wilton Rancheria responded on August 21, 2025 that they have no comments and do not wish to open consultation at this time. The City called all other Tribes that did not respond on September 26, 2025. The Yoche Dehe Wintun Nation provided a letter to the City on October 2, 2025 identifying that the proposed project is within the aboriginal territories of the Yoche Dehe Wintun Nation and requesting to receive updates on the project. The City followed up with Yoche Dehe Wintun Nation on October 14, 2025 and as of the preparation of this Draft SEIR, has not received a response.

4.5.2 Environmental Impacts

Thresholds for Determining Significance

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of cultural resource impacts for this analysis are based on the environmental checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.[15] These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the proposed project, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact to cultural resources would occur if the proposed project would:

- cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5;
- cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5;
- disturb any human remains, including those interred outside formal cemeteries.

[15] Appendix G, V. Cultural Resources was revised in 2016 and the certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, which removed the paleontological impact of "directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature" and "eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory" from consideration.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR did not include an evaluation of potential effects to tribal cultural resources, because the Notice of Preparation was prepared prior to the requirement to evaluate tribal cultural resources. Since the certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G checklist was revised to include the bullet list below, pertaining specifically to tribal cultural resources. Therefore, these thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the proposed project, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact on tribal cultural resources would occur if the proposed project would:

- cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe, and that is:

    - listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

    - a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American Tribe.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.6-1: Cause a Substantial Adverse Change in the Significance of Archaeological or Historical Resources as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5

Tribal cultural resources, per the definition in Section 21074, can be determined as historical resource as defined under Section 15064.5 pursuant to Section 5020.1, or deemed significant under Section 5024.1 as presumed to be historically or culturally significant unless the preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that the resource is not historically or culturally significant. A historical resource, as described in Section 21084.1, is a unique archaeological resource as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 21083.2, or a "nonunique archaeological resource" as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 21083.2 may also be a tribal cultural resource if it conforms with the criteria of subdivision (a). Therefore, this impact analysis includes archaeological resources, historical resources, and tribal cultural resources.

As discussed in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.6-21 to 4.6-22) projects proposed for implementation under the 2035 General Plan include the construction of new buildings and structures, modification of existing buildings and structures, and infrastructure improvements involve intensive grading, trenching, excavation, soil stockpiling, and other earthmoving activities that could impact previously unknown cultural resources. Although no previously recorded archaeological resources were identified in the Planning Area for the General Plan, projects involving ground disturbance could impact previously unrecorded cultural resources and/or tribal cultural resources. Therefore, implementation of projects under the General Plan have the potential to damage or destroy archaeological resources and/or tribal cultural resources that qualify as historical resources or unique archaeological resources under CEQA. Projects under the General Plan also have the potential to affect

unidentified built-environment cultural resources, like barns and residences on rural properties that may presently or in the future have cultural significance, through either direct physical impacts or by changes to the setting. The significance of such cultural resources could be materially impaired because their ability to convey significance could be destroyed or diminished. This impact would be significant and unavoidable even after implementation of Mitigation Measures Mitigation Measure 4.6-1a, 4.6-1b, 4.6-1c, and 4.6-1d.

The proposed project includes extension of existing utilities along the alignments shown in Figure 3.1-2 and Figure 3.1-3 to the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities and decommissioning of existing infrastructure. Extension of the utility pipelines for each business would be less than one mile and would traverse primarily adjacent to existing roads (within the public right-of-way) or existing agricultural land. Construction of the pipeline alignments would require a horizontal area disturbance of a total of 25 feet in width (typically 5 feet one side and 20 feet other side) and a buried maximum depth of approximately 8 feet below ground surface. The decommissioning of existing groundwater wells and wastewater utility facilities at the two existing commercial facilities would ultimately occur.

As described in Section 4.5.1, the Clark Facility contains National Register of Historic Places-eligible buildings and structures associated with the former Spreckels Sugar Factory. While the property has a loss of historic integrity of association, as it no longer processes sugar beets, and loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship with the demolition of the three-story Moderne-style Sugar Refining Plant, the extant Moderne-style Office Building and concrete bulk bins still physically convey historical and architectural significance. Therefore, they are considered historical resources for the purposes of CEQA. No archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources have been identified with the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment or facility. The ground-disturbing elements of the proposed project are not sited near the historically significant concrete silos or the Moderne-style Office Building; therefore, there would be no direct physical impacts to these historic architectural resources. The well decommissioning activities and leach field abandonment, likewise, would not adversely affect the historical resources. These utility elements are ubiquitous infrastructure that are necessary for an industrial facility, and they do not contribute to the historical significance of the property. None of the proposed elements of the project within the Clark Pacific facility (former Spreckels Sugar Factory) would result in either direct physical impacts or changes to the setting during construction or operation. The historical and architectural significance of the resources would not be materially impaired or diminished through damage or destruction. No mitigation measures are required to reduce impacts on historic architectural resources that qualify as historical resources.

No previously recorded historic architecture resources are located at the Bayer facility, or within the Bayer utility extension alignment, and the Bayer facility itself is not recommended as meeting the requirements of a historical resource. None of the proposed project elements for the Bayer facility would result in direct physical impacts to any known historic architecture resources. No archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources have been identified with the associated Bayer Facility project elements. There are no known historical resources; therefore, there would be no impact. No mitigation measures are required.

Construction and operation of the proposed project would include ground-disturbance and excavation that could impact previously unidentified archaeological resources and/or tribal cultural resources. There is a low potential for unidentified archaeological resources and/or tribal cultural resources to exist along the utility extension alignments for Bayer and Clark Pacific because the extension of the utility lines would occur within highly disturbed areas of the public rights-of-way of existing roads, disturbed existing agricultural fields, or within

developed areas. Furthermore, the record search, pedestrian survey, and Native American consultation did not identify archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources that would be impacted by these two utility extension alignments. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.6-1d: Implementation Program Cultural 3 (Implementation Program 7.13 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017) would minimize and reduce potential impacts on unidentified archaeological resources during construction by stopping work and protecting or removing the resource.

If other commercial facilities located within one mile of the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, extend utilities, the types of impacts described above for historic architectural resources and unidentified archeological resources and/or tribal cultural resources for Bayer and Clark Pacific would be similar because proposed utility extension alignments would occur within highly disturbed areas of the public rights-of-way of existing roads, disturbed agricultural fields, or within developed areas and because utility elements are typically ubiquitous infrastructure that are necessary for industrial or commercial facilities that generally do not contribute to the historical significance of a property. However, the 2035 General Plan policies and mitigation measures implementing existing regulations and laws to reduce potential impacts to archaeological resources, historical resources, and tribal cultural resources would be applicable to the proposed project:

- Mitigation Measure 4.6-1b: Implementation Program Cultural 1 (Implementation Program 7.11 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017)
- Mitigation Measure 4.6-1c: Implementation Program Cultural 2 (Implementation Program 7.11 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017)
- Mitigation Measure 4.6-1d: Implementation Program Cultural 3 (Implementation Program 7.13 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017)

Given the above, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.6-2: Disturb human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR on pages 4.6-29 to 4.6-31, projects implemented under the 2035 General Plan involve grading, trenching, excavation, soil stockpiling, and other earthmoving activities during construction that could impact human remains. Although there is no indication that any particular area in the General Plan area has been used for human burial purposes outside of designated cemeteries in the recent or distant past, there is nonetheless the potential for discovery during construction of development and infrastructure projects facilitated under the 2035 General Plan. Therefore, this impact is considered significant and unavoidable even with implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.6-2.

Construction and operation of the proposed project involves excavation that could impact human remains. There is a very low likelihood of disturbing unknown human remains during the construction of the proposed utility extensions for Bayer and Clark Pacific, or for other commercial facilities located within one mile of the existing ULL, because the alignments would be placed in the public-rights-of-way of existing roads that are highly disturbed, or agricultural fields/dirt roads that are also highly disturbed. However, the 2035 General Plan policies and mitigation measures implementing existing regulations and laws to reduce potential impacts to unknown or

undiscovered human remains would be applicable to the proposed project in the unlikely event human remains were discovered:

- Mitigation Measure 4.6-2: Implementation Program Cultural 4 (Implementation Program 7.14 of the 2035 General Plan, City of Woodland 2017)

Given the above, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.6 GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Section 4.7, "Geology, Soils, Mineral Resources, and Paleontological Resources," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.7-1 to 4.7-36) described soils, geologic, and seismic conditions along with a paleontological resources sensitivity assessment, addressed potential impacts associated with the implementation of the General Plan and CAP, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts, where applicable. That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable. As noted in Section 2.1.4, "Other Environmental Topics Not Discussed in Detail in this Supplemental EIR," mineral resources were dismissed from further discussion in this SEIR and therefore are not addressed in this section.

4.6.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains primarily unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.7.3, pages 4.7-21 to 4.7-26). There have been no substantive changes to federal, state, or county regulations regarding seismic hazards or soils. There have been several updates to the numbering of local municipal codes since the certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, but these changes do not substantively alter the contents of the codes. These include:

- The City of Woodland Building Division implements the 2022 California Building Standards Code as adopted by Woodland Municipal Code Title 15, Chapter 15.1, Section 15.04.010 (and as locally amended by Section 15.04.030), and will implement future versions of the California Building Standards Code, as applicable.
- City's Grading Ordinance Woodland Municipal Code Title 15 Chapter 15.12, which (1) establish standards and procedures for grading and excavation, and (2) ensure that projects will be free from harmful effects of runoff, including inundation and erosion, and that neighboring and downstream property will be protected from drainage problems resulting from new development.
- Title 8 Chapter 8.08 of the Woodland Municipal Code regulates discharges into the municipal storm drain system including compliance with applicable provisions of construction NPDES permit requirements.

In addition to the updates to the local municipal codes, the County has requirements related to abandoning wells and septic systems. A County water well abandonment permit can be granted by the Yolo County Department of Community Services Environmental Health Division without a discretionary action by the County. Existing septic system(s) can be abandoned pursuant to the Septic Abandonment Permit also granted by the Yolo County Yolo County Department of Community Services Environmental Health Division.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.7-1 to 4.7-17), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable the proposed project, and is hereby

incorporated by reference. The environmental setting provides a description of existing, geologic and seismic conditions (Sections 4.7.2.1 through 4.7.2.3), soils (Section 4.7.2.5), and paleontological resources (Section 4.7.2.7). The General Plan Planning Area could be subject to a moderately low level of seismic ground shaking from known active faults in the Coast Ranges (approximately 25–30 miles west); or from segments 3 and 4 of the Great Valley Fault Zone, which is a blind-thrust fault belt located along the margin between the Central Valley and the Coast Ranges (approximately 6 miles west) (pages 4.7-5 and 4.7-6). The General Plan Planning Area could also be subject to liquefaction hazards in areas where the groundwater table is high and which are composed of unconsolidated, water-saturated sediments (page 4.7-6). Soils within the General Plan Planning Area are rated with a low wind erosion hazard and a slight to moderate water erosion hazard (page 4.7-8). In addition, soils have low to high shrink-swell rating, depending on the location (pages 4.7-8 through 4.7-11). Two of the geologic formations within the General Plan Planning Area (i.e., the Modesto and Riverbank Formations) have a high sensitivity for paleontological resources (page 4.7-17). The text below provides updated information regarding geology, soils, and paleontological resources within the proposed project area, which is similar to information provided in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The information provided below does not lead to a new impact or increase in severity of any impact in relation to the proposed project.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Earthquake shaking hazards have been calculated by the Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities by projecting earthquake rates based on earthquake history and fault slip rates, the same data used for calculating earthquake probabilities. The probabilistic *Earthquake Shaking Potential for California* (Branum et al. 2016) indicates that the proposed project area is rated with a moderately low potential shaking hazard intensity (i.e., an estimated peak horizontal ground acceleration ranging from approximately 0.55 to 0.65*g*). Regions with these ratings are distant from known, active faults and will experience lower levels of shaking less frequently. In most earthquakes, only weaker, masonry buildings would be damaged. However, very infrequent earthquakes could still cause strong shaking (Branum et al. 2016).

Soil liquefaction potential depends on the type of soil, the level and duration of seismic ground motions, and the depth to groundwater. The locations that are most susceptible to liquefaction-induced damage have loose, water-saturated, granular sediment that is within 40 feet of the ground surface. Recent data from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR 2024) indicates that the depth to groundwater in the vicinity of Woodland is greater on the west side and becomes shallower towards the east. Groundwater depths range from 50 feet below the ground surface approximately one mile west of the ULL, to 10 feet below the ground surface approximately one mile east of the ULL (DWR 2024). The depth to groundwater in the proposed project area along the Bayer utility extension alignment is approximately 50 feet below the ground surface, and the depth to groundwater in the proposed project area along the Clark Pacific utility extension alignment is approximately 20–30 feet below the ground surface (DWR 2024).

The same soils that are present within the existing ULL are also present in the areas of the proposed project (Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS] 2024). In general, soils within the existing ULL and outside the ULL are rated with a low wind erosion hazard, and a slight to moderate water erosion hazard (NRCS 2024). The soils in the proposed project area along the Bayer utility extension alignment consist of soils found within the ULL and include Rincon silty clay loam and Myers clay, which have a high and very high shrink-swell rating, respectively (NRCS 2024). Similarly, soils in the proposed project area along the Clark Pacific utility extension

alignment are also found within the ULL and consist of Reiff very fine sandy loam, Sycamore silt loam, Merritt silty clay loam, and Yolo silt loam; these soils have a low to moderate shrink-swell rating (NRCS 2024).

An updated records search of the University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) collections database yielded information regarding a number of vertebrate fossil localities referable to either the Modesto or the Riverbank Formations (UCMP 2025), which is consistent with the information contained in Section 4.7.2.7 of the 2035 General Plan EIR and CAP. Because of the number of vertebrate fossils that have been recovered from the Modesto and Riverbank Formations, they are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity (page 4.7-17).

4.6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Geology, Soils, and Seismicity

A significant impact related to geology, soils, or seismicity would occur if the proposed project would:

- expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse impacts, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
    - 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;
    - strong seismic ground shaking;
    - seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction; or
    - landslides;
- result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;

- 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;
- 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; or
- result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Landslide Hazards—As identified in the 2023 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-24), the land in Woodland and up to one mile beyond the existing ULL is nearly flat, with grades ranging from 0–4 percent; therefore, landslides would not represent a hazard and are not discussed further in this SEIR.

Loss of Availability of Known Mineral Resources—Impacts related to mineral resources are discussed in Section 2.1.4, "Other Environmental Topics Not Discussed in Detail in this Supplemental EIR."

Inundation by Seiche, Tsunami, or Mudflow—These impacts are addressed in Section 4.9, "Hydrology, Flooding, and Water Quality," consistent with the current version of the Appendix G checklist.

Paleontological Resources

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact on paleontological resources if it would directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site. A "unique paleontological resource or site" is one that is considered significant under the following professional paleontological standards.

An individual vertebrate fossil specimen may be considered unique or significant if it is identifiable and well preserved, and it meets one of the following criteria:

- a type specimen (i.e., the individual from which a species or subspecies has been described);
- a member of a rare species;
- a species that is part of a diverse assemblage (i.e., a site where more than one fossil has been discovered) wherein other species are also identifiable, and important information regarding life history of individuals can be drawn;
- a skeletal element different from, or a specimen more complete than, those now available for its species; or
- a complete specimen (i.e., all or substantially all of the entire skeleton is present).

The value or importance of different fossil groups varies depending on the age and depositional environment of the rock unit that contains the fossils, their rarity, the extent to which they have already been identified and documented, and the ability to recover similar materials under more controlled conditions (such as for a research project). Marine invertebrates are generally common; the fossil record is well developed and well documented, and they would generally not be considered a unique paleontological resource. Identifiable vertebrate marine and terrestrial fossils are generally considered scientifically important because they are relatively rare.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.7-1: Seismic Hazards Related to Surface Fault Rupture, Strong Seismic Ground Shaking, and Liquefaction

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-31), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan could lead to an increase in the number of people and structures exposed to hazards associated with strong seismic ground shaking and liquefaction. Although there are no faults present within the city of Woodland, people and structures within city boundaries could experience seismic ground shaking or liquefaction as a result of earthquakes in the Coast Ranges. However, implementation of 2035 General Plan Policy 8.A.1 and Policy 8.A.2, in combination with compliance with existing geologic and seismic regulations and policies, would reduce the potential for adverse impacts to people or structures related to seismic shaking and liquefaction. The city would enforce existing seismic safety standards by requiring development to be designed to minimize risk related to earthquakes, and would require preparation of site-specific geotechnical reports to identify methods to reduce hazards. Impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed project does not involve the construction of facilities that would be inhabited by people and therefore would not expose people to seismic hazards. However, the construction of the proposed project would include ground-disturbance and excavation that would be required to follow the existing geologic and seismic regulations and policies described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, to ensure that operation of the pipelines would not result in seismic hazards for the surrounding population. The City would enforce existing seismic safety standards as applicable to underground pipeline installation, particularly the City's Engineering Standards: Design Standards, Standard Details and Construction Specifications. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.7-2: Impacts Related to Soil Erosion.

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-30), development planned as part of the 2035 General Plan could have the potential to cause an increase in soil erosion due to increased grading, excavation, and other development-related construction activities. However, compliance with existing stormwater, grading, and erosion control regulations and implementation of policies in the 2035 General Plan would reduce the impact by requiring applicants to develop a SWPPP, implement BMPs, and obtain a grading permit, all of which are specifically designed to minimize soil erosion to the maximum extent feasible. Impacts would be less than significant.

The construction of the proposed project would include ground-disturbance and excavation that would be required to follow existing stormwater, grading, and erosion control regulations, and implementation of policies in the 2035 General Plan would reduce the impact by requiring applicants to follow develop a SWPPP, implement BMPs, and obtain a grading permit, described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, given the potential area of disturbance is anticipated to be greater than 1 acre for Bayer (approximately 1.5 acres) and Clark Pacific (approximately 10 acres). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project

would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.7-3: Geologic Hazards Related to Unstable Soils, Expansive Soils, and Soil Unsuitable for Septic Systems

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-32), buildings and infrastructure planned as part of the 2035 General Plan could potentially be placed on unstable soils, expansive soils, or soils unsuitable for septic systems. Based on a review of soil data, there are areas that contain unstable soils with low strength, subsidence potential, and ponding; expansive soils with high shrink-swell potential; and soils unsuitable for septic systems due to their low permeability rates. Implementation of policies in the 2035 General Plan combined with current geologic laws, regulations, and policies would reduce impacts related to unstable and expansive soils by requiring construction follow geologic stability standards, prepare site-specific geotechnical reports to identify soil shrink-swell potential, and follow design specifications to prevent impacts associated with these limitations. However, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined impacts to be less than significant with mitigation regarding soils unsuitable for septic systems because septic systems could be implemented as part of the General Plan and required implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.7-3a, 2035 General Plan should be amended to include the following new implementation program (Implementation Program Soils 1).

The construction of the proposed project would include ground-disturbance and excavation that would be required to implement policies in the 2035 General Plan combined with current geologic laws, regulations, and policies, which reduce impacts related to unstable and expansive soils by requiring that construction follow geologic and soil stability standards. The proposed project would not require the development of septic systems and would remove existing septic systems. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 4.7-3a proposed as part of the 2035 General Plan EIR and CAP is not applicable to the proposed project and is not required. Impacts related to geologic hazards related to unstable soils, expansive soils, and soil unsuitable for septic system and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not required for the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.7-4: Loss or Damage to Paleontological Resources During Earth-Moving Activities

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan EIR and CAP (page 4.7-35), various vertebrate specimens have been discovered within the vicinity of Woodland and throughout the Central Valley in the Modesto and Riverbank Formations; therefore, these geologic formations are of high paleontological sensitivity. Policies in the 2035 General Plan would reduce the potential for impacts to paleontological resources by ensuring their evaluation and protection, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable federal and State laws and regulations if resources are discovered. However, Mitigation Measure 4.7-4, *2035 General Plan should be amended to include the following new implementation program (Implementation Program Paleontological Resources 1)*, was identified to specify additional detailed resource protection measures. With implementation of this mitigation measure, impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level because earth-moving activities in paleontologically sensitive rock formations would be subjective to requirements consisting of construction worker personnel education, halting of work in the vicinity of fossil specimen(s) uncovered, evaluation of the specimen by a paleontologist, and preparation of a recovery plan for said specimen(s) if necessary.

Construction of the proposed Bayer utility extension alignment would occur within Holocene-age Levee and Channel Deposits, and a mixture of the Pleistocene-age Modesto and Riverbank Formations. Construction of the proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment would occur within Holocene-age Basin Deposits (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, Exhibit 4.7-1, page 4.7-3). As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-17), Holocene-age deposits contain only the remains of extant, modern taxa (if any resources are present), which are not considered "unique" paleontological resources. Therefore, construction in these Holocene deposits would have no impact on unique paleontological resources. However, because the Modesto and Riverbank Formations are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity, construction of the water and sewer pipelines for the Bayer facility would have the potential to accidentally damage or destroy unique paleontological resources. However, consistent with the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the project applicant would be required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.7-4, to apply the 2035 General Plan Implementation Program Paleontological Resources 1 (Implementation Program 7.15 of the 2035 General Plan, City of Woodland 2017), during construction activities. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.7 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Section 4.8, "Hazardous Materials and Toxics," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.8-1 through 4.8-46) described potential hazards related to hazardous materials, airports, and also includes information about emergency preparedness in Woodland, provided a summary of applicable regulations, analyzed the potential hazards from implementation of the City's General Plan, and identified mitigation measures to reduce significant hazard impacts. That information is hereby incorporated by reference into this SEIR.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable. As noted in Section 2.1.4, "Other Environmental Topics Not Discussed in Detail in this Supplemental EIR," wildfires were dismissed from further discussion in this SEIR and therefore are not addressed in this section.

4.7.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.8.3, pages 4.8-13 through 4.8-27).

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

No updates to the regulatory setting are required.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.8-1 through 4.8-13), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides information related to the locations and types of known hazardous materials sites on the Cortese List (California Government Code Section 65962.5), as well as other types of hazardous materials release sites. Both open active and closed (remediated) sites as of 2016 were included (pages 4.8-1 through 4.8-10). As shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.8-2, most of the hazardous material release sites were located along Main Street and East Street, with several small clusters of sites along East Beamer Street and East Kentucky Avenue (page 4.8-5). The setting also identified the potential for agricultural chemicals to affect people and the environment through "drift" of the pesticide through the air from the target area to other areas, and through residual pesticides in agricultural soils (particularly in areas of orchard cultivation) (page 4.8-1). As shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.8-1, there are several major natural gas transmission pipelines through Woodland along County Road 101 south of downtown, along Farnham Avenue, and along County Road 98 north of downtown (pages 4.8-2 and 4.8-3). Major routes in Woodland where hazardous materials could be transported, including roadways and rail lines, are also identified on 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.8-1 (page 4.8-3). The setting also identifies airport safety hazards associated with the Sacramento International Airport. The eastern end of the City is situated within the airport's Secondary Approach Area, where aircraft regularly fly below 3,000 feet. As discussed in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for

the Sacramento International Airport, a recorded Overflight Notification is required for land uses in this area (pages 4.8-10 and 4.8-11).

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Known Hazardous Materials Release Sites

In 2025, AECOM performed an updated search of publicly available databases maintained under Public Resources Code Section 65962.5 (i.e., the "Cortese List") to determine whether any known hazardous materials are present either in or within 0.25 mile of the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility alignments. These searches included the EnviroStor database maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC 2025), and the GeoTracker database maintained by the SWRCB (SWRCB 2025). Sites with closed cases are not part of the Cortese List, but may still be relevant if land use controls are in place, or if the case was closed recently with low levels of contamination still present but assuming no land disturbance would occur. Both of these databases also include sites that are not on the Cortese List (such as the SWRCB's Cleanup Program), but these sites are relevant to the analysis since they involve releases of hazardous materials. A brief summary is provided below.

There are currently are six open, active hazardous materials cases in Woodland, all of which are administered under the SWRCB's Cleanup Program (SWRCB 2025). None of the sites associated with these open, active Cleanup Program cases are located along the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments, and are also not located within one mile outside the ULL.

There is one hazardous materials case that was investigated and closed in 1996, located at George Aoki Farms, 37899 Highway 16, approximately 820 feet north of the proposed Bayer sewer pipeline alignment. This site involved a minor piping leak during removal of an underground storage tank, and after investigation it was determined that no further action was necessary (SWRCB 2025).

There are three hazardous materials cases related to leaking underground storage tanks used to store fuel and waste oil that were associated with the former Spreckels Sugar facility, now the site of the Clark Pacific facility. When the tanks were removed, it was discovered that soil and groundwater contamination had occurred. The constituents of concern included total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline, diesel, and motor oil; benzene; ethylbenzene; toluene; and xylene. The cases were closed in 2008 and 2010, respectively and no land use controls are in place (SWRCB 2025). The Spreckels Sugar facility, which operated from 1937 to 2002, also formerly contained approximately 23 acres of settling ponds for precipitated calcium carbonate.[16] After Clark Pacific assumed ownership of the facility in 2008, they removed the precipitated calcium carbonate material over a period of approximately 6 years under an agreement with the Central Valley RWQCB (DTSC 2025). By 2014, removal of the material was complete and the former settling pond area was graded flat for Clark Pacific facility use. There is also one Cleanup Program case that was closed in 2021, Western Wood Treating located at 1492 Churchill Downs Avenue, approximately 460 feet west of the south end of the alignment for the Clark Pacific water and sewer pipelines along County Road 101. This site has land use controls in place (SWRCB 2025).

[16] Precipitated calcium carbonate is a byproduct of the sugar manufacturing process. Calcium oxide and carbon dioxide are injected into extracted juice to form calcium carbonate, which causes impurities to precipitate from the juice from which sugar is extracted. Historically, precipitated calcium carbonate has been stockpiled over time near the site of sugar factories.

Hazardous Materials Pipelines

Based on a review of mapping available from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA 2025) Public Map Viewer, there is a major natural gas pipeline that supplies the Clark Pacific facility; however, this pipeline is located within Best Ranch Road approximately 600 feet north of the proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment and the work areas associated with proposed closure of the on-site groundwater wells. The natural gas pipeline that runs through Woodland along Farnham Avenue extends northwest through the ULL, crosses Cache Creek, and eventually parallels Interstate 5 to the north; this pipeline also extends southeast through the ULL to Interstate 80 (PHMSA 2025). Finally, there is a major natural gas line pipeline along County Road 98 (PHMSA 2025); this pipeline is approximately 450 north of the proposed Bayer sewer pipeline. No known high-pressure pipeline ruptures or accidents have occurred in the vicinity of Woodland (PHMSA 2025).

Schools

Since the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was certified, the Spring Lake Elementary School has been constructed at 2209 Miekle Avenue, within the Spring Lake development in southeast Woodland. However, there are no schools within 0.25 mile of the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments, or within the one-mile area beyond the ULL.

Airports

The Watts-Woodland Airport is approximately 2.6 miles west from the one-mile area beyond the ULL, and is approximately 3 miles and 6 miles west, respectively, from the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments. The land areas considered in this SEIR are not within the Watts-Woodland airport influence area (SACOG 1993).

4.7.2 Environmental Impacts

Thresholds for Determining Significance

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. A significant impact related to hazards and hazardous materials would occur if the proposed project would:

- create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials;
- 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;
- emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school;

- result in a project 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 create a significant hazard to the public or the environment;
- result in a safety hazard for people residing or working within an airport land use plan area;
- result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in a project area located within the vicinity of a private airstrip;
- impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; or
- expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.

Safety Hazards in the Vicinity of a Private Airstrip—In 2019, the CEQA Appendix G checklist was amended to remove the threshold related to safety hazards in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Nevertheless, for purposes of full disclosure and consistency with the 2023 General Plan and CAP EIR, the following information is provided. As identified in the 2023 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.7-29), there are no private airstrips within the General Plan Planning Area, or within one mile of the ULL. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of a private airstrip and there would be no impact. This impact is not discussed further in this SEIR.

Wildland Fire Hazards—Impacts related to wildland fire hazards are discussed in Section 2.1.4, "Other Environmental Topics Not Discussed in Detail in this Supplemental EIR."

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.8-1: Create a Significant Hazard to the Public or the Environment through the Routine Transport, Use, or Disposal of Hazardous Materials

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-29 through 4.8-31), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would include future construction activities that would use small quantities of hazardous materials, such as fuels and oils, for construction equipment, and would include future land uses that would require the routine use, transport, and disposal of hazardous material and waste and may increase exposure to risk of hazards. However, implementation of 2035 General Plan Policies such as 8.E.1 through 8.E.5, in combination with compliance with existing federal, state, and local laws and regulations (discussed in detail in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR pages 4.8-13 through 4.8-27) that govern hazardous materials, would reduce the potential for adverse impacts to people or the environment from the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Impacts would be less than significant.

Construction associated with the proposed project would require the use of small amounts of hazardous materials such as fuel and oil for construction equipment, but would be required to follow the federal, state, and local regulations and policies that govern the routine use, transport, and disposal of hazardous material and waste

described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Operation of the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities would not change from existing conditions, and to extent that hazardous materials are used, transported, or disposed of during facility operations, both facilities are responsible for obtaining appropriate permits and operating their facilities in compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.8-2: 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

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-32 through 4.8-34), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan could include new facilities such as dry cleaners, gas stations, or industrial manufacturers that use hazardous materials, and therefore could result in upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. However, individual site-specific future projects would require a project-level environmental review at the time they are proposed. Although the risk of upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment cannot be completely eliminated, it can be reduced to a manageable level through required compliance of all business operators with federal, state, and local laws and regulations that govern hazardous materials (discussed in detail in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR pages 4.8-13 through 4.8-27), and compliance with 2035 General Plan Policies 8.E.1 through 8.E.5. Because future site-specific development under the 2035 General Plan would be required by law to be compliant with safety standards; because the City would require detailed planning for new uses that propose to generate or use hazardous materials and require that a buffer is provided between hazardous materials uses and sensitive receptors; and the City would track data on hazardous materials to inform risk management and emergency response providers, impacts would be less than significant.

Although there are several major hazardous materials pipelines within the City and within one mile outside of the ULL, there are no major hazardous materials pipelines within 450 feet of either the Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments, and no known high-pressure pipeline ruptures or accidents have occurred in the vicinity of Woodland (PHMSA 2025). Furthermore, the construction contractor for the proposed utility extensions would be required to follow standard procedures before the start of construction (as included in the contract bid specifications) to contact Underground Service Alert of Northern California (USA North 811) to verify the location(s) of all buried underground lines of any kind in the construction areas, and to flag and avoid the locations of any buried lines during construction activities. As discussed in Impact 4.8-1 above, construction of the proposed project would require the use of small amounts of hazardous materials such as fuel and oil for use in construction equipment. However, the project applicants and their construction contractors are required to follow federal, state, and local laws and regulations (discussed in detail in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR pages 4.8-13 through 4.8-27), which are designed to reduce the potential for a hazardous materials spill. To the extent that the Bayer or Clark Pacific facilities would use hazardous materials during operation, both facilities would continue to be required to obtain permits and comply with appropriate regulatory agency standards designed to avoid hazardous waste releases and protect the public health. Regulated activities would be managed by the Yolo County Department of Environmental Health (the designated Certified Unified Program Agency), and would be required to comply with CCR Title 8, "Industrial Relations," for workplace regulations addressing hazardous materials, as well as Title 26, "Toxics." Title 26, Division 6 contains requirements for California Highway Patrol enforcement of hazardous materials storage and rapid-response cleanup in the event of a leak or spill. The 2035

General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.8-3: Emit Hazardous Emissions or Handle Hazardous or Acutely Hazardous Materials, Substances, or Waste within One-Quarter Mile of an Existing or Proposed School

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-34 through 4.8-38), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan could result in the use of hazardous materials within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school, although there are no areas that are designated for Industrial uses with 0.25 mile of existing schools. The 2035 General Plan specifies that new schools would have to be built to serve new population growth, as needed, which would most likely be in new growth areas. In the case of a new school, the California Department of Education regulates the siting of schools, including new facilities and upgrading construction projects. New facilities would not be allowed within 0.25 mile of facilities emitting or handling hazardous materials, consistent with California Department of Education requirements. Construction and operation of site-specific projects are required to follow federal, state, and local laws and regulations (discussed in detail in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR pages 4.8-13 through 4.8-27), and must comply with 2035 General Plan Policies 8.E.1 through 8.E.5, all of which are designed to reduce the potential for hazardous materials spills, including spills that might occur near school facilities. Impacts would be less than significant.

Since the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was certified, the Spring Lake Elementary School has been constructed at 2209 Miekle Avenue, within the Spring Lake development in southeast Woodland. However, there are no schools within the one-mile area beyond the ULL, or within 0.25 mile of the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and the impact attributable to the proposed project would not occur, given the lack of schools. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.8-4: 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 Create a Significant Hazard to the Public or the Environment

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-38 through 4.8-40), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan anticipates infill development in areas along Main Street and East Street where the largest concentration of hazardous materials sites is known to be present. Future development could also occur in other areas of the City where hazardous materials release sites are known to have occurred. Several of the sites listed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, from 2016, had reported releases that resulted in soil and groundwater contamination and which were subject to various state and federal laws and regulators, including U.S. EPA, DTSC, and the RWQCB. Development of sites with existing soil or groundwater contamination could potentially pose a significant hazard to the public or the environment through releases of hazardous materials into the environment. However, before contaminated sites can be redeveloped, remediation of the hazardous materials must occur as required by the appropriate federal or state agency. Furthermore, future site-specific projects would be required to implement policies 8.E.1 through 8.E.5 in the 2035 General Plan, which are designed to lessen the impact of sites contaminated with hazardous materials. Impacts would be less than significant.

Based on a records search conducted in 2025, there are no open active hazardous materials sites in the City that are on the Cortese List (DTSC 2025, SWRCB 2025). Currently, there are six open, active hazardous materials cases in Woodland, all of which are administered under the SWRCB's Cleanup Program (SWRCB 2025). None of the sites associated with these open, active Cleanup Program cases are located within one mile outside the ULL, or along either the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility extension alignments. There are three closed hazardous materials cases related to soil and groundwater contamination that occurred from former leaking underground storage tanks that were associated with the former Spreckels Sugar facility, now the site of the Clark Pacific facility: (1) former tanks between the former maintenance shop and plate shop (Case No. T0611345442 closed in 2008); (2) former tanks at the former farm shop (Case No. T10000000458 closed in 2010); and (3) former tanks at the former agricultural repair shop (Case No. T0611374000 closed in 2010). Based on a review of detailed site maps showing the locations of contamination associated with these sites (SWRCB 2025), the proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment would avoid all three sites. No land use controls are in place for any of these three cases (SWRCB 2025). Furthermore, given the low levels of contamination that were present in 2008 and 2010 following remedial activities, natural attenuation over the last 15–17 years would have reduced the remaining constituents of concern to levels that are likely so low as to be undetectable. Finally, the primary media that was affected by the former contamination was groundwater, which was present at depths ranging from 15 to 30 feet below the ground surface (SWRCB 2025). The maximum depth of project-related excavation for the proposed utility lines would be approximately 8 feet, and therefore would not be deep enough to encounter groundwater. The other closed hazardous materials sites (George Aoki Farms and Western Wood Treating) are far enough from the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments such that any residual contaminants that may be present would not be encountered by project-related construction. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.8-5: For a Project Located within and 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 within an Airport Land Use Plan Area

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-40 through 4.8-41), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan included a small area of potential future growth in the eastern portion of the City that is within the Sacramento International Airport Influence Area, Referral Area 2, according to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan policy boundaries. A recorded Overflight Notification is required for land uses in this area (SACOG 2013). The City requires review of consistency between the Sacramento International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and all proposed major projects within the Airport Influence Area. Furthermore, 2035 General Plan Policies 3.J.1, 3.J.2, 8.D.2, and 8.D.3 would also reduce airport safety hazard areas by ensuring site-specific project consistency with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Sacramento International Airport, discouraging the development of new airports or landing strips within one mile of the ULL, and requiring disclosure about the presence of nearby airports to prospective buyers of existing or new residential properties located within the Sacramento International Airport Influence Area. Impacts would be less than significant.

As noted above, the Watts-Woodland Airport is approximately 2.6 miles west from the one-mile area beyond the ULL, and is approximately 3 miles and 6 miles west, respectively, from the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments. The land areas considered in this SEIR are not within the Watts-Woodland airport

influence area (SACOG 1993). The western boundary of the Sacramento International Airport Influence Area travels north-south through Woodland, following the western edge of the property that houses the City's Water Pollution Control Facility (wastewater treatment plant), as shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.8-3 (page 4.8-11). The Sacramento International Airport Influence Area includes the eastern side of the one-mile area outside the existing ULL, which primarily consists of agricultural land but also includes an area of industrial and warehouse uses adjacent to and southwest of the Cache Creek Settling Basin. The City requires review of consistency between the Sacramento International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and all proposed major projects within the Airport Influence Area to ensure compatibility; however, the extension of utility lines would not require Airport Land Use Commission review because a land use or zoning change would not occur, the utility lines would be installed underground, and tall cranes would not be required as part of the construction process. The northern and western portions of the one-mile area outside of the ULL, including the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments, are not within the Sacramento International Airport Influence Area. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.8-6: Impair Implementation of or Physically Interfere with an Adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.8-42 through 4.8-43), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in population growth, resulting in an increase in demand for emergency services, which could affect implementation of the *City of Woodland Emergency Operations Plan* (City of Woodland adopted in 2010, updated in 2017). The Emergency Operations Plan addresses the City's planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with any type of natural disaster, technological incident, or state of war emergency. The 2035 General Plan includes policies that would reduce the potential impact. Policy 8.F.4 ensures that critical facilities, such as hospitals and dispatch centers, are sited in locations that have minimal exposure to flooding, seismic and geological effects, fire, and explosions. Policy 8.F.5 requires areas susceptible to hazards have emergency access and evacuation routes that are clearly marked with consistent signage. Policy 8.F.2 supports the continued coordination between the City and relevant agencies in preparing for and operating during an emergency. Policy 8.F.3 aims to improve public education and awareness of emergencies. The City includes a grid network of local roadways that provide access to high volume highways for use in an emergency evacuation situation. Impacts would be less than significant.

All construction equipment, materials, and personnel necessary for work associated with the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extensions would be staged and stored within the existing respective facilities. However, during construction, temporary short-term lane closures would be required along portions of County Roads 18C, 98, and 101 as shown in Figure 3.1-2 and Figure 3.1-3 of this SEIR and discussed in detail below.

If emergency evacuation were required in the vicinity of the proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment, short-term and temporary lane closures along County Road 18C and County Road 101 would have no effect on evacuation because the temporary one-lane roadway could accommodate the limited traffic from the few rural residences and businesses in the project vicinity. Emergency evacuation traffic in the vicinity of County Road 101 and Churchill Downs Avenue would be unaffected because all lanes would be available on both of these roadways to the south and west, respectively. Furthermore, emergency vehicle access for first responders would

still be available at all times through the temporary one-lane construction closure areas by using the other open lane. Therefore, construction of the proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment would have no impact related to interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

If an emergency evacuation were required in the vicinity of the proposed Bayer utility extension alignment, County Road 98 would provide one of the primary northbound means of vehicular access to Interstate (I) 5 (north of Woodland) as well as southbound access to I-80 (southwest of Davis). County Road 98 also provides vehicular access to a network of other east-west roadways within and near Woodland (such as Main Street, West Gibson Road, and County Road 25A) that in turn provide access to State Route 113 (a major north-south highway between I-5 and I-80). However, the City requires that Traffic Control Plans must be prepared, and then submitted for review and approval by the City Traffic Engineer (City of Woodland 2025). Traffic Control Plans must provide for the safe and efficient movement of vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians through or around construction activities while also protecting the construction workers and equipment. The City requires that all Traffic Control Plans comply with the California Department of Transportation's (CalTrans) *California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways*, Part 6 - Temporary Traffic Control, Revision 9 (CalTrans 2025). Furthermore, there is a grid network of other north-south roadways south of Main Street (for example, Ashley Avenue and Cottonwood Street) that could also be used in the event of an evacuation, in addition to County Road 98.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and given the analysis above of the proposed project there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.8 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Section 4.9, "Hydrology, Flooding and Water Quality," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.9-1 through 4.9-63) described existing conditions with regard to surface water and groundwater resources related to implementation of the General Plan, summarized the regulatory and planning framework, and analyzed the impacts on surface water and groundwater resources associated with implementation of the General Plan. The section also discussed and evaluated the potential environmental impacts from flooding in the Planning Area that may be associated with implementation of the General Plan. Where appropriate, mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts were identified. That information is hereby incorporated by reference into this SEIR.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.8.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR was presented on pages 4.9-16 through 4.9-31. The regulatory setting is updated in the material that follows.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains primarily unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.9.3, pages 4.9-16 through 4.9-31). Updates to State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances since the certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR are briefly summarized below.

Basin Plan

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Basins* (Basin Plan) identifies the beneficial uses of water bodies and provides water quality objectives and standards for waters of the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River hydrologic regions, which include waters near Woodland. The Basin Plan was updated in 2019 (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB] 2019).

Statewide Stormwater General Permits

The SWRCB's National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) *General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated With Construction and Land Disturbance Activities* (Construction General Permit) was amended in 2022 (Order WQ 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES Permit No. CAS000002). The Construction General Permit is applicable to all construction activities that would disturb one acre of land or more. Construction activities subject to the general construction activity permit include clearing, grading, stockpiling, and excavation. Dischargers are required to eliminate or reduce non-stormwater discharges to storm sewer systems and other waters. The Construction General Permit requires preparation of a SWPPP and implementation of associated BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce construction-related erosion (SWRCB 2022).

The SWRCB's NPDES *Waste Discharge Requirements For Storm Water Discharges From Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems* (Phase II Small MS4 General Permit), Water Quality Order 2013-0001-DWQ was amended in 2019 (Order WQ 2019-0009-EXEC). The Phase II permit program applies to small municipality areas of less than 100,000 persons and establishes NPDES permit requirements for operation of municipal systems that are designed or used to collect or convey storm water (including storm drains, pipes, ditches, etc.) that is discharged to waters of the United States (SWRCB 2019).

The *Statewide General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities*, Order 2014-0057-DWQ NPDES Permit CAS000001, was amended in 2018 (WQ 2018-0028-DWQ) (Industrial General Permit), and implements the federally required stormwater regulations in California for stormwater associated with industrial activities discharging to waters of the United States. The Industrial General Permit regulates discharges associated with 9 federally defined categories of industrial activities, such as cement and fertilizer manufacturing, mining, hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities, landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and recycling facilities (SWRCB 2018). The City's Water Pollution Control Facility (wastewater treatment plant) operates under an NPDES permit for waste discharge that specifies treatment measures prior to discharge of tertiary treated wastewater into the Tule Canal. The permit was most recently updated in 2020 (Central Valley RWQCB 2020).

Waste Discharge Requirements for Construction Dewatering

The Central Valley RWQCB has adopted a general NPDES permit for short-term discharges of small volumes of wastewater that is clean or relatively pollutant-free that pose little or no threat to water quality from a variety of types of activities including construction dewatering. Permit conditions for the discharge of these types of wastewater to surface waters are specified in the *Waste Discharge Requirements for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Water*, which was amended in 2024 (Order No. R5-2022-0006-03 as amended by Order No. R5-2024-0044, NPDES No. CAG995002, Central Valley RWQCB 2024).

Senate Bill (SB) 5, Urban Level of Flood Protection and the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan

SB 5 enacted the Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008. SB 5 required DWR and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board to prepare and adopt a Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). The CVFPP was prepared by DWR and adopted in 2012, and is updated every 5 years as required by the Act. The CVFPP guides the State's participation in managing flood risk in areas protected by the State Plan of Flood Control. The CVFPP recommends actions and policies informed by engagement with stakeholders and partners and prioritizes investments over a 30-year horizon. The most recent CVFPP update in 2022 (DWR 2022) evaluates progress made since passage of major State bonds in 2007 and recommends future management actions led by State, federal, and local partners to continue implementation of the CVFPP. The 2022 CVFPP Update focuses on three key themes: climate resilience, performance tracking, and alignment with other state efforts.

Lower Cache Creek Flood Risk Management Project

Cache Creek poses a significant flood risk from both 100- and 200-year flooding to portions of the City of Woodland. Cache Creek carries water from Clear Lake into the Cache Creek Settling Basin (north and east of I-5) and eventually into the Yolo Bypass. The creek has a long history of flooding; it has overtopped its banks and levees more than 20 times since 1900. The existing levees along Cache Creek only provide approximately a 10-year level of flood protection. The City is engaged in partnerships with the USACE, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, and DWR to identify projects to reduce that risk. In 2021, the USACE completed its feasibility

study and certified the associated Environmental Impact Statement that evaluated options to provide 100-year flood protection to Woodland. The approved Lower Cache Creek Flood Risk Management plan includes construction of nearly 5.6 miles of new levee and seepage berms, improving about 2.3 miles of existing levee by installing seepage cutoff walls, developing up to 5.6 miles of draining channel, constructing a 3,000-foot-long inlet weir, and installing an estimated four closure structures across roads and railways. The new flood risk management features would substantially reduce the likelihood of flooding in the City of Woodland. The USACE Chief's Report recommending implementation of the project was signed in 2021, and the USACE is in the process of procuring congressional authorization and funding. The Lower Cache Creek Flood Risk Management Project is a partnership between USACE, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, and the City of Woodland (USACE 2021). However, during the March 2024 election, Measure M, which would have allowed the City to accept state and federal funding and amend the City's zoning code to proceed with the project, failed to pass by the voters. The City is continuing to engage with the USACE, CVFPP, and DWR to study a flood risk management project that consistent with the results of the Measure M ballot measure. The study would consider both levee raise in place and an option with setback levels along Cache Creek.

City of Woodland Flood Risk Management Project

In 2021, the City certified an EIR and adopted the proposed Woodland Flood Risk Management Project, which would expand on the USACE's Lower Cache Creek Flood Risk Management Project by adding measures to reduce flood stages and duration of flooding for agricultural properties north of the City. Actions for these properties could include raising or flood-proofing structures, establishing flow easements, and subsidizing flood insurance. The project would also comply with California's flood protection requirements under SB 5 to provide a 200-year level of protection (City of Woodland Community Development Department 2025). However, during the March 2024, Measure M, which would have allowed the City to accept state and federal funding and amend the City's zoning code to proceed with the project, failed to pass by the voters.

City of Woodland Municipal Code

There have been several updates to the numbering of local municipal codes since the certification of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, but these changes do not substantively alter the contents of the codes. These include:

- City Grading Ordinance, Woodland Municipal Code Title 15 Chapter 15.12, which (1) establishes standards and procedures for grading and excavation, and (2) ensures that projects will be free from harmful effects of runoff, including inundation and erosion, and that neighboring and downstream properties will be protected from drainage problems resulting from new development.

- City Wastewater Discharge and Treatment Ordinance, Title 8 Chapter 8.04 of the Woodland Municipal Code, regulates industrial discharges and requires implementation of pre-treatment measures prior to discharge.

- City Urban Stormwater Quality Management and Discharge Control Ordinance, Title 8 Chapter 8.08 of the Woodland Municipal Code, regulates discharges into the municipal storm drain system including compliance with applicable provisions of construction and operational NPDES permit requirements.

- City Flood Management Ordinance, Title 17 Chapter 17.88 of the Woodland Municipal Code, establishes standards and procedures for development in special flood hazard areas identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.9-1 through 4.9-16), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. As discussed in the setting (pages 4.9-1 through 4.9-5), Woodland lies within portions of four major watersheds: Sacramento River, Cache Creek, Putah Creek, and Willow Slough. Surface water in the Woodland area generally drains to the east towards the Yolo Bypass, following the Sacramento Valley topography. There are no natural surface water features within the City limits. While a variety of manmade canals in the Woodland area such as the South Fork Ditch typically serve irrigation uses, they are also used to manage runoff from rainfall during the winter. None of the manmade canals are in vicinity of the proposed Clark Pacific or Bayer utility extension alignments.

Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to identify waters where the permit standards, any other enforceable limits, or adopted water quality standards are still unattained. The law requires states to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to improve the water quality of impaired water bodies. TMDLs are the quantities of pollutants that can be safely assimilated by a water body without violating water quality standards. TMDLs are developed for impaired water bodies to maintain beneficial uses, achieve water quality objectives, and reduce the potential for future water quality degradation. The NPDES permits for stormwater discharges (for both construction and operation) must take into account the pollutants for which a water body is listed as impaired. Table 4.9-1 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.9-15), provided information for several waterbodies in the vicinity of Woodland that were listed on the SWRCB's 303(d) list in 2015 (i.e., Sacramento River, Cache Creek, and Willow Slough). The SWRCB assesses water quality data every 2 years.

The setting describes the potential for flooding in Woodland from Cache Creek to the north and northwest and the Yolo Bypass/Sacramento River system to the east. In the event of a severe storm, these water bodies can overtop creek banks and levees, or levees could fail; these flood situations are known to have occurred in the past and there are problems with the existing levees. The location of levees and the levee inundation areas are shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-2 (page 4.9-9). As shown therein, northeastern areas of the City are at risk of levee inundation up to three inches and eastern areas are at risk of inundation up to 20 inches. As further detailed in the setting (page 4.9-8), typical flood hazards in Woodland generally consist of shallow sheet flooding from surface water runoff from large rainstorms with depths generally less than 2 feet. However, in larger storm events, there are large areas within the Planning Area on the north and east sides that are also affected by flooding from Lower Cache Creek. Floodplain maps published by FEMA and DWR show areas that would be inundated by 100-year and 200-year flood events, respectively. As shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-3 (page 4.9-11), 45 percent of the Planning Area is located in the Cache Creek and/or Yolo Bypass 200-year floodplains. Furthermore, substantial portions of the City in the north, northeast, east, and southeast are situated within either FEMA 100-year floodplains (Special Flood Hazard Zone AE) or FEMA Zone X (areas of moderate flood hazard, usually the area between the limits of the 100-year and 500-year flood zones; also designates areas of shallow flooding areas with average depths of less than 1 foot or drainage areas less than 1 square mile).

Woodland is situated within the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin, Yolo Subbasin (DWR Groundwater Basin Number 5-21.67). The setting in the 2035 General Plan and CAP describes the features of this groundwater subbasin including the average depth to groundwater, water-bearing formations, groundwater and surface water connections, groundwater storage, groundwater quality, and subsidence (pages 4.9-5 through 4.9-7). This data was obtained from sources prior to the adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Surface Water Resources

There are several surface water features present in the one-mile area outside the ULL. As shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-1 (page 4.9-3), these include the South Fork Ditch to the west; Farmers Central Ditch to the south; Willow Slough to the southeast; Cache Creek to the north; Cache Creek Settling Basin to the northeast; and Yolo Bypass to the east. The Tule Canal and the Sacramento River are located approximately 2.3 and 3.5 miles to the east, respectively.

The proposed water and sewer utility extension alignments for the Bayer facility would be installed approximately 0.4 and 0.5 mile north and east of the South Fork Ditch. The northern end of the proposed utility extension alignment for the Clark Pacific facility would be installed approximately 0.5 mile south of Cache Creek. The surface water features (which were settling ponds for precipitated calcium carbonate) shown on 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-1 (page 4.9-3) at the former Spreckels Sugar facility (now Clark Pacific) are no longer present; by 2014, this area had been graded flat and was being used for facility storage and operations as it is today. A remnant surface water feature encompassing approximately 14 acres is still present today along the eastern side of the Clark Pacific facility between Best Ranch Road on the north, Sugarland Ranch on the east, and County Road 18C on the south. This area provides stormwater detention during the winter rainy season, and standing water may be present throughout the year in the southeast corner near County Road 18C.

Surface Water Quality

The SWRCB's Section 303(d) list was most recently adopted and approved by U.S. EPA in 2024. The Cache Creek Settling Basin is not on the Section 303(d) list. Cache Creek is listed as impaired for two additional constituents that have been added since 2015: pH, and dissolved oxygen. The Tule Canal (along the east side of the Yolo Bypass) is listed as impaired for boron, indicator bacteria, and salinity. The Sacramento River (from Knight's Landing to the Delta) is listed as impaired for one additional constituent that has been added since 2015: water temperature. Willow Slough is listed as impaired for the same two constituents that were identified in 2015: toxicity and boron (SWRCB 2024).

Flooding

As shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-3 (page 4.9-11), the one-mile area outside the ULL to the north, east, and southeast of Woodland is within the Cache Creek and/or Yolo Bypass/Willow Slough 200-year floodplains, with potential flood depths ranging from approximately 1 foot to over 7 feet.

The proposed Clark Pacific utility extension alignment would be installed approximately 0.5 mile south/southeast of Cache Creek at the closest point (within the existing Clark Pacific facility). The proposed utility extension alignment within County Road 18C is approximately 0.75 mile southeast of Cache Creek. Based on a review of FEMA (2012) Flood Insurance Rate Maps, nearly the entire proposed Clark Pacific utility line extension would be installed within a 100-year flood hazard zone (Zone AE) (excepting only the northeast end of the utility line at the tie-in point within the Clark Pacific facility). Furthermore, the proposed Clark Pacific utility line extension along County Road 101 would be subject to 200-year flooding with depths ranging from less than 1 foot to 5 feet (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-3 (page 4.9-11]).

The northeast end of the proposed Bayer sewer extension alignment would be installed within an area classified by FEMA as Zone X—an area of moderate flood hazards (FEMA 2012). The remaining portions of the proposed Bayer sewer utility extension and all of the proposed water utility extension would not be situated within any type of flood hazard zone (FEMA 2012, 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 4.9-3 (page 4.9-11]).

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability

Groundwater in Woodland and the surrounding region is subject to the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and is managed by the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency as the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Groundwater is managed under the adopted *Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan* (GSP) (Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency 2022), which was approved by DWR in 2023.

DWR determined that the Yolo Subbasin is a high priority basin, but is not in a state of critical overdraft (DWR 2019). As discussed in the GSP, water resource managers in the County have been monitoring groundwater elevations since the 1950s, although the most robust data collection began in the 1970s; therefore, the Yolo Subbasin GSP is based on physical groundwater data from the years 1971 through 2018. In addition to the collection of observed data, the Yolo Subbasin GSP includes a water budget that quantifies inflows and outflows to balance resource availability with the overall goals of the water budget. Surface water and groundwater budgets were created for historical, current, and future scenarios. In the Yolo Subbasin, groundwater storage changes are positive in wet years and negative in dry years, with no significant declining trend over the past 50 years. Historically, conjunctive management (which relies on a combination of surface water and groundwater to meet water demands) in the Yolo Subbasin has been sustainable. The GSP includes a list of existing and ongoing projects and management actions that will contribute to sustainability in the Yolo Subbasin, including additional groundwater monitoring wells, groundwater recharge projects, water conservation, and pilot projects demonstrating the benefits of regenerative agriculture (Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency 2022).

4.8.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR[17]. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would result in a significant impact related to hydrology and water quality if it would:

- violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade water quality;

[17] The thresholds of significance for hydrology and water quality impacts used in this analysis reflect the current CEQA Appendix G Environmental Checklist. While these thresholds have been updated in format and wording since adoption of the 2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan (CAP) EIR, they have not substantively changed. The new Appendix G checklist threshold e) related to potential conflicts with or obstruction of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan is evaluated in the first two thresholds above. The analysis in this document continues to evaluate all hydrology and water quality issues considered in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for consistency and a comprehensive environmental review.

- substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a substantial lowering of the level of the local groundwater table (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted);
- 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 that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on-site or off-site;
- 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 that would result in flooding on- or off-site;
- 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;
- place housing within a 100- or 200-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map;
- place within a 100- or 200-year flood hazard area, structures which would impede or redirect flood flows;
- 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; or
- expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death or risk release of pollutants involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Contribute Stormwater Runoff that would Exceed the Capacity of Stormwater Drainage Systems—Please see Impact 4.14-3 in Section 4.14, "Utilities," for the analysis of this issue.

Inundation By Seiche, Tsunami, or Mudflow—Because of the City of Woodland's distance from the Pacific Ocean, tsunamis would not represent a hazard. The City is protected from exposure to seiches by levees on both the east and west sides of the Yolo Bypass (which lies between the city and the Sacramento River), as well as levees on the west side of the Sacramento River. In addition, the Planning Area's topography is relatively level, ranging from 0-4 percent, and not subject to mudflow. Therefore, inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow would not pose a hazard and there would be no associated risk from release of pollutants and this impact is not addressed further in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR or this SEIR.

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.9-1: Violate Water Quality Standards

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-33 through 4.9-39), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in an increase in long-term operational discharges of urban contaminants into the stormwater drainage system and ultimate receiving water bodies (including Cache Creek, the Tule Canal, the Sacramento River, and Willow Slough), as compared to existing conditions. However, the

City's Urban Stormwater Quality Management and Discharge Control Ordinance (Woodland Municipal Code Title 8 Chapter 8.08) requires implementation of BMPs where a discharge has the potential to cause or contribute to pollution or contamination of stormwater, the City's storm drainage system, or receiving waters. To obtain coverage under the City's NPDES Phase II MS4 permit, applicable projects within the City of Woodland are required to comply with the City's *Post Construction Standard Plan* (2015) to reduce post-construction runoff in through the incorporation of BMPs, Low Impact Development (LID) features, and hydromodification management techniques. Industrial or commercial facilities require appropriate NPDES permits/waste discharge requirements, and implementation of BMPs consistent with the California Stormwater Quality Association's (CASQA) BMP Handbooks (CASQA 2025), including annual reporting of any structural control measures and treatment systems. Also, the SWRCB's Industrial Pretreatment Program would apply to certain facilities in accordance with State and federal requirements. In addition, compliance with General Plan Policies 5.H.1, 5.H.6, 5.H.10, 5.I.1, 5.I.2, 5.I.4, 5.I.6, 5.I.8, 5.J.5, 7.A.1, 7.A.4, 8.E.1, 8.E.2, 8.E.3, 8.E.4, 8.E.5, and 8.E.6 would reduce impacts from transport of pollutants in stormwater during operation of new land uses. Compliance with these federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies would protect surface water and groundwater quality and therefore new development would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Central Valley RWQCB 2019). Impacts were determined to be less than significant following implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.9-1, which required a minor change to the language of 2035 General Plan Policy 5.I.4 clarifying that low impact development runoff requirements were intended to reduce runoff rates, filter out pollutants, and facilitate groundwater infiltration.

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed underground; therefore, the proposed project would not result in any long-term operational stormwater water quality impacts and would not affect the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems. In terms of long-term facility operations, the existing source of potable and processing water for Bayer facility operations is groundwater, which is high in nitrates, boron, as well as other constituents of concern (e.g., hexavalent chromium). The groundwater is pumped via existing wells and requires treatment to meet the U.S. EPA drinking water guidelines as well as extensive buffering to minimize damage to laboratory equipment and other mechanical systems. Bayer's septic system and retention pond are also at capacity. Clark Pacific is experiencing similar issues with both the quality of well water and septic system capacity. The proposed project includes decommissioning of the on-site groundwater wells and the on-site septic systems at both facilities. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would improve drinking water quality conditions at both facilities, and would improve groundwater quality by decommissioning the existing septic systems. These impacts would be beneficial. Improvements to drinking water quality would be similar to those that could occur if other existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, extend utilities under the proposed project through the reduction in use of groundwater wells and the decommissioning of septic systems. The proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Central Valley RWQCB 2019). Impacts related to water quality standards and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not required for the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-2: Construction-Related Water Quality Impacts

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-40 through 4.9-43), construction and grading activities during development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan could result in excess runoff, soil erosion, and stormwater discharges of suspended solids and increased turbidity. Such activities could mobilize other pollutants from project construction sites as contaminated runoff to on-site and ultimately off-site drainage channels. Many construction-related wastes have the potential to degrade existing water quality. Construction activities that are implemented without mitigation could violate water quality standards or cause direct harm to aquatic organisms. However, a grading and drainage plan must be submitted to the City in support of the grading permit application. The plan must incorporate stormwater pollution control to reduce construction-related runoff from the project site. Projects that disturb more than 1 acre of land must apply for coverage and comply with the requirements in the SWRCB's Construction General Permit, including the preparation of a SWPPP. A SWPPP must identify the BMPs that would be employed to prevent soil erosion and discharge of other construction-related pollutants, such as petroleum products, solvents, paints, and cement, that could contaminate nearby surface water and groundwater resources. All NPDES permits also have inspection, monitoring, and reporting requirements to ensure that BMPs are implemented according to the SWPPP and are effective at controlling discharges of stormwater-related pollutants. The 2035 General Plan Policy 5.I.5 prohibits grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities. The 2035 General Plan Policy 7.A.4 requires the use of feasible and practical BMPs and promotes LID features to protect receiving waters from the adverse effects of construction activities and urban and agricultural runoff. Compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including acquisition of appropriate regulatory permits and preparation and implementation of a SWPPP and BMPs, along with 2035 General Plan policies, would reduce potential impacts related to erosion and water quality during construction and would ensure that construction of new development would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Central Valley RWQCB 2019). Impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.9-1, which required a minor change to the language of 2035 General Plan Policy 5.I.4 clarifying that low impact development runoff requirements were intended to reduce runoff rates, filter out pollutants, and facilitate groundwater infiltration.

Construction of the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would disturb more than 1 acre of land. Therefore, the project applicants would be required to prepare a SWPPP and implement BMPs that are specifically designed to reduce construction-related erosion and transport of sediments and other pollutants. The Construction General Permit also requires preparation of a spill prevention plan as part of the SWPPP. Construction techniques that could be implemented to reduce the potential for stormwater runoff may include minimizing site disturbance, controlling water flow over the construction site, stabilizing bare soil, and ensuring proper site cleanup. BMPs that could be implemented to reduce erosion may include silt fences, staked straw bales/wattles, silt/sediment basins and traps, geofabric, trench plugs, terraces, water bars, soil stabilizers, and re-seeding and mulching to revegetate disturbed areas. In addition, as required by the City of Woodland Municipal Code Title 15 Chapter 15.12, the project applicants must also prepare a grading and drainage plan for City approval, as part of the grading permit application, that must incorporate stormwater pollution control to reduce construction-related runoff from the project site. The erosion and sediment control plan must contain appropriate site-specific construction site BMPs, the rationale used for selecting or rejecting BMPs, a quantification of expected soil loss where necessary, a list of applicable permits directly associated with applicable grading activity, and evidence that those permits have been obtained. BMPs must be implemented to the satisfaction of the City in order to ensure that the discharge of pollutants from a construction site will be effectively prohibited and

will not cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or to an exceedance of water quality standards. The 2035 General Plan Policy 5.I.5 prohibits grading activities during the rainy season, unless adequately mitigated, to avoid sedimentation of storm drainage facilities. As described above in Chapter 3, "Project Description," project-related construction would take place within a single construction period during May through November, and therefore would not occur during the winter rainy season. These types of construction-related water quality impacts would be similar to those that could occur if other existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, extend utilities under the proposed project because of the likely disturbance of more than 1 acre of land and the installation of underground utilities. Compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including acquisition of appropriate regulatory permits and preparation and implementation of a SWPPP and BMPs, along with 2035 General Plan Policies 5.I.5 and 7.A.4, would reduce potential impacts related to erosion and water quality during construction and would ensure that construction of utilities would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* (Central Valley RWQCB 2019). Impacts related to construction-related water quality impacts and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not required for the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-3: On-Site and Downstream Erosion and Sedimentation and Alteration of Drainage Patterns

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-43 through 4.9-47), development and land use changes consistent with the 2035 General Plan would increase the amount of impervious surfaces, thereby increasing surface runoff. This increase in surface runoff would result in an increase in both the total volume and the peak discharge rate of stormwater runoff, and therefore could result in greater potential for erosion, sedimentation, and hydromodification. However, implementation of the policies and actions in the 2035 General Plan, combined with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies that require implementation of LID technologies, BMPs, and hydromodification management techniques to protect receiving water quality, mitigate excessive runoff, and mimic the runoff of a natural environment, would substantially reduce the level of impact. Impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.9-1, which required a minor change to the language of 2035 General Plan Policy 5.I.4 clarifying that low impact development runoff requirements were intended to reduce runoff rates, filter out pollutants, and facilitate groundwater infiltration.

The proposed Bayer utility lines would be installed within the right-of-way of County Road 98, and within flat agricultural fields that are part of the Bayer facility. The proposed Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed within the right-of-way of County Roads 101 and 18C, and along the west side of the paved Clark Pacific facility. Other existing commercial facilities located up to one mile beyond the existing ULL, and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026, would likely extend utilities within the right-of-way of existing public roads or through flat agricultural fields because connections to existing water, wastewater, and recycled water infrastructure would be needed and they are located within and adjacent to existing roads and because the majority of the land within one mile of the existing ULL is flat agricultural land. Therefore, project-related alteration of existing drainage patterns would not occur. For the same reasons described in detail in Impacts 4.9-1 and 4.9-2 above, the proposed project would not result in substantial on-site or downstream erosion and sedimentation. Impacts related to erosion and sedimentation and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035

General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not required for the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-4: Interference with Groundwater Recharge or Substantial Depletion of Groundwater Supplies

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-47 through 4.9-50), the major groundwater recharge areas in the vicinity of Woodland are the Sacramento River and other active stream channels in the County such as Cache Creek and Willow Slough. Groundwater recharge also occurs from rainfall infiltrating through the soil to the aquifer. When new urban infrastructure (e.g., buildings, roads, parking areas) is built on top of a soil with a high infiltration rate, it can result in a reduction in groundwater recharge. New development in existing rural areas associated build-out of the 2035 General Plan would result in a net increase in impervious surfaces, with an associated potential reduction in groundwater recharge potential. However, most soils within the City's Planning Area are loams and clays, which typically have a low infiltration rates. As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 4.9-48), the City is a participant in the Woodland-Davis Regional Water Supply Project, which provides Woodland with direct use of surface water, as well as the ability to store some of the treated surface water in the aquifer during low water demand months to be recovered and distributed to customers during high water demand months under the City's aquifer storage and recovery program. Furthermore, implementation of 2035 General Plan Policies 5.G.4, 5.G.5, 7.A.1, 7.A.2, and 4.C.12 would help preserve the minimal groundwater recharge potential of the Planning Area through the implementation of LID techniques and encourage water conservation/demand management. Impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed project would not result in the creation of any new impervious surfaces, and therefore would not impede groundwater recharge. Currently there are two groundwater wells at Bayer and three groundwater wells at Clark Pacific. One of the groundwater wells at Bayer would be decommissioned, and two of the groundwater wells at Clark Pacific would be decommissioned. Water supply in the future would be provided by the City conveyed by new underground utility pipelines. As noted above, the City participates in the Woodland-Davis Regional Water Supply Project, which provides Woodland with direct use of treated surface water from the Sacramento River. The City has indicated that it has sufficient surface water supplies available to meet the Bayer and Clark Pacific water demands in all water year types (see Impact 4.14-4 in Section 4.11, Utilities of this SEIR). Table 3.3-2 in Chapter 3, "Project Description," provides a summary of anticipated current and future annual potable water demand for the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities that would be satisfied by City surface water as part of the proposed project. In addition to City-supplied surface water for potable water needs, Clark Pacific would also use non-potable recycled water (supplied by the City) for processing purposes, instead of pumping groundwater from the existing on-site water supply wells. Bayer would use the potable water supplied by the City for both drinking water and process water demands. Although the total water demands from both facilities could increase slightly over time as shown in Table 3.3-2, the use of recycled water by Clark Pacific would reduce the project's overall water demands by an estimated 32–48 AFY. Furthermore, because the existing groundwater at both facilities requires treatment to meet the U.S. EPA drinking water guidelines as well as buffering to minimize damage to laboratory equipment and other mechanical systems, eliminating the groundwater pumping would reduce effects related to groundwater quality and would result in an overall reduction in the volume of groundwater currently pumped by the two existing facilities. In 2022, the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency adopted the Yolo Subbasin GSP, which was approved by DWR in 2023. As explained in the Yolo Subbasin GSP, groundwater in the basin is managed through conjunctive use, which includes a mix of both surface water and

groundwater to meet water demands. The water demand and supply projections in the GSP include the future build-out scenarios for all the incorporated cities in the subbasin (including the Woodland 2035 General Plan), as well as existing and projected development in the unincorporated areas of the subbasin (including the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities). The Yolo Subbasin is not in a condition of overdraft, and the GSP includes a program of management actions designed to ensure groundwater sustainability during the plan's mandated planning timeframe (Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency 2022). For the reasons explained above, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Yolo Subbasin GSP. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-5: Place Housing Within a 100- or 200-Year Flood Hazard Area As Mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary Or Flood Insurance Rate Map or Other Flood Hazard Delineation Map

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-50 through 4.9-58), new development could be proposed for areas of the City that are subject to 100- and/or 200-year flood hazards. However, all proposed development within 100-year flood zones is required to comply with the City's Flood Management Ordinance, Title 17 Chapter 17.88 of the Woodland Municipal Code, which establishes specific standards and procedures for development. As required by SB 5, 2035 General Plan Policy 8.B.3 prohibits subdivisions, development agreements, or permits that would place development within a 200-year flood hazard zone unless the City makes explicit findings that either existing flood management facilities provide an adequate level of protection from flooding, the City has conditioned the project to provide an adequate level of protection, or the local flood management agency has made adequate progress on the construction of a flood protection system that will provide adequate protection. General Plan Policy 8.B.4 requires project applicants to secure an encroachment permit from the CVFPB for any project that falls within the jurisdiction of the Board (e.g. levees, regulated streams, and designated floodways). General Plan Policy 8.B.5 requires installation of protective structures or other design measures to protect proposed building and development sites from the effects of flooding (similar to the requirements of Woodland Municipal Code Title 17 Chapter 17.88). General Plan Policy 8.B.6 prohibits the construction of facilities essential for emergencies and large buildings of public assembly in the 200-year floodplain, unless the structure and road access are free from flood inundation. General Plan Policy 8.B.7 requires that new flood management projects or development within areas subject to flooding ensure that floodwaters will not be diverted into adjacent property to increase flood hazards on properties located elsewhere unless secured through a flood easement or fee title buyout. Impacts would be less than significant.

Although some of the area within one mile of the existing ULL lies within 100- and 200-year flood zones as described in the *Updates to the Environmental Setting* section, the proposed project does not include the construction of housing. For example, most of the Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed within 100- and 200-year flood zones, but does not include the construction of housing. Similarly, housing is not proposed as part of the Bayer utility improvements. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and the impact attributable to the proposed project would not occur, given housing would not be developed. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-6: Place Within a 100- or 200-year Flood Hazard Areas Structures Which Would Impede or Redirect Flood Flows

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-58 through 4.9-60), and for the same reasons described above in Impact 4.9-5, impacts from placing buildings or other structures associated with new development under the 2035 General Plan that could impede or redirect flood flows within 100- or 200-year flood hazard areas would be less than significant.

Where construction of pipelines would occur within 100- and 200- year flood zones, as described in Impact 4.9-5 for Clark Pacific alignment, pipelines would not impede or redirect flood flows because they would be installed underground. Construction of a utility extension alignment to an existing business that could be located to the northeast, east, or southeast, could occur in a flood zones, and thus there is a risk for release of pollutants during construction if the area were to be inundated. Applicants are required to notify the County (as part of permit application) whether any materials would be stockpiled or stored in a floodplain and if so, requires containment measures like temporary berms to prevent releases of pollutants. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and the impact attributable to the proposed project would not occur, given the pipelines would be underground. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.9-7: 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

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.9-61 through 4.9-63), new development in the city's Planning Area could be proposed within areas that are classified as 100- or 200-year flood zones, or that are subject to flooding from failure of existing levees, or (although highly unlikely) flooding from failure of the Indian Valley Dam. All new development proposed within FEMA special flood hazard zones (i.e., 100-year flood hazard) would be subject to the requirements contained in the City's Flood Management Ordinance, Title 17 Chapter 17.88 of the Woodland Municipal Code, which establishes specific standards and procedures for development. SB 5 established a 200-year flood (0.5 percent annual exceedance probability) as the minimum urban level of flood protection. It also required cities and counties in the Central Valley to amend their general plans and their zoning ordinances to conform to the CVFPP. SB 5 restricts approval of development agreements and subdivision maps in CVFPP 200-year flood hazard zones with a potential flood depth of 3 feet or more, unless certain findings are made. Per SB 5, the City may not issue building permits within 200-year flood zones designated by the CVFPP where the predicted flood depth would be 3 feet or more unless the Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria developed by DWR (DWR 2013) has been provided; unless the City certifies based on substantial evidence that "adequate progress" has been made toward provision of the Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria; or that conditions imposed on the project will provide for an urban level of flood protection. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (Exhibit 4.9-3 on page 4.9-11, and Exhibit 4.9-5 on page 4.9-53) identifies the 200-year floodplain which is potentially subject to Urban Level of Flood Protection requirements (i.e., where flood depths of 3 feet or greater could occur). As required by SB 5, 2035 General Plan Policy 8.B.3 prohibits subdivisions, development agreements, or permits that would place development within a 200-year flood hazard zone can be approved unless the City makes explicit findings that either existing flood management facilities provide an adequate level of protection from flooding, the City has conditioned the project to provide an adequate level of protection, or the local flood management agency has made adequate progress on the construction of a flood protection system that will provide adequate protection. The 2035 General Plan also includes other policies

that would reduce flood risks including 8.B.11 (conduct a site-specific analysis related to potential levee failure) and 8.A.4 (require new development in dam inundation areas to consider risks from dam failure), along with Policies 8.B.1 through 8.B.10. Impacts would be less than significant.

Although most of the proposed Clark Facility utility line alignment is within both a 100-year floodplain and a 200-year floodplain with a potential flood depth of 3 feet or more, the proposed project does not include the construction of housing or any other buildings. Similarly, although the northernmost end of the proposed Bayer sewer pipeline alignment would be installed within an area classified by FEMA as a moderate flood hazard (Zone X), the proposed project does include the construction of housing or any other buildings. As noted in Chapter 3, "Project Description," project-related construction would occur from May to November, and therefore would not occur during the winter rainy season when flooding could occur. Furthermore, because the proposed utility pipelines of Clark Pacific, Bayer, or an existing commercial facility within one mile of the existing ULL and in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026 would be installed underground, operation of the pipelines would not be subject to flood hazards. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.9 LAND USE AND PLANNING, POPULATION AND HOUSING

Section 4.10, "Land Use Planning, Population and Housing," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.10-1 through 4.10-32) described existing conditions with regard to land use in the Planning Area from implementation of City's General Plan. This section also identified population, housing conditions, and employment in Woodland and analyzed the potential for the General Plan to affect population, housing conditions, and employment. Where appropriate, mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts were identified. That information is hereby incorporated by reference into this SEIR.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.9.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.10.3 on pages 4.10-8 through 4.10-20). Sections title "Yolo County 2030 General Plan" (pages 4.10-10 to 4.10-16) and "City of Woodland General Plan" (pages 4.10-16 to 4.10-20) describe various General Plan policies that govern development within each jurisdiction. The regulatory setting is also updated in the material that follows to include specific regulations related to the proposed project.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

Government Code section 56133 requires that districts and cities obtain the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approval of any new or extended services outside the agency's existing boundaries. For the Commission to approve any requests, the area to be served must either be (1) within the sphere of influence ("SOI") of the agency and annexation of the territory is anticipated; or (2) services are needed outside an agency's SOI to respond to an existing or impending public health or safety threat (e.g. failing well or septic system). Projects must comply with LAFCo's Out of Agency Service Review policies (Section 3.0) and Agricultural Conservation Policies (Section 4.0) (LAFCo 2025a). The City must apply for and obtain LAFCo approval before providing new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundaries. Initiation of the process can also be made by application from the prospective recipient of the services with agreement of the agency. These policies are included below.

Section 3.3 Standards of Evaluation

a) Whether annexation is a reasonable and preferable alternative to LAFCo allowing extended services outside the agency's jurisdictional boundaries

b) The growth inducing impacts of any proposal

c) Whether the proposed extension of services promotes logical and orderly development of areas within the SOI (i.e. islands, strips and corridors are disfavored)

d) The agreed upon timetable and stated expectation for annexation to the agency providing the requested service

e) The proposal's consistency with the policies and plans of all affected agencies

f) The ability of the local agency to provide service to the proposed area without detracting from current service levels

g) Whether the proposal contributes to the premature conversion of agricultural land or other open space land

h) Whether the proposal conflicts with or undermines adopted Municipal Service Review determinations and/or recommendations

i) Other factors determined to be relevant by the Commission or staff

LAFCo's Agricultural Policy Statement is: "Agriculture is a vital and essential part of the Yolo County economy and environment. Agriculture shapes the way Yolo County residents and visitors view themselves and the quality of their lives. Accordingly, boundary changes for urban development should only be proposed, evaluated, and approved in a manner which, to the fullest extent feasible, is consistent with the continuing growth and vitality of agriculture within the county." LAFCo's review criteria to support the agricultural policy statement includes:

a) Existing developed areas should be maintained and renewed

b) Vacant land within developed areas should be developed before agricultural land is annexed for non-agricultural purposes

c) Land substantially surrounded by existing agency boundaries should be annexed before other lands

d) Urban development should be restricted in agricultural areas. For example, agricultural land should not be annexed for non-agricultural purposes when feasible alternatives exist

e) The continued productivity and viability of agricultural land surrounding existing communities should be promoted, by preventing the premature conversion of agricultural land to other uses and, to the extent feasible, minimizing conflicts between agricultural and other land uses

f) Development near agricultural land should not adversely affect the economic viability or constrain the lawful, responsible practices of the agricultural operations

g) Where feasible, non-prime land should be annexed before prime land

h) A land's current zoning, pre-zoning, or land use designation is one of the factors the Commission will consider in determining whether mitigation will be required for the loss of agricultural land. A land's zoning, pre-zoning, or land use designation in the city's or County's general plan does not automatically exempt it from mitigation.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.10-1 through 4.10-8), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides data related to the acres and percentages of the different types of land uses within the City's Planning Area (Table 4.10-1, page 4.10-2) and a discussion of the existing pattern of development in the City related to each of these land uses (pages 4.10-2 through 4.10-5). The setting also provides data related to the number and type of housing units in the City, the number and types of jobs in the City, and the relationship between jobs and housing (pages 4.10-5 through 4.10-8).

As noted in the environmental setting, the majority of land surrounding Woodland is designated Agriculture by the Yolo County General Plan (pages 4.10-11). There are some parcels to the east and northwest of Woodland that are designated Industrial, Public and Quasi-Public, Commercial General, or Residential Rural (pages 4.10-11). The entire General Plan Land Use Map is shown in Exhibit 4.10-2 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and the areas of the County Land Use Map that are within the 2035 General Plan Planning Area are shown in Exhibit 4.10-3 of the 2035 CAP EIR (pages 4.10-11 and 4.10-12).

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

No updates to the environmental setting are required.

4.9.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would result in a significant impact related to land use or population and housing if it would:

- Physically divide an established community;
- 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 plan, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect;
- Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan;
- Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure);
- Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere; or
- Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

Impacts associated with conflicts with an applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan are addressed in Section 4.3, "Biological Resources."

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.10-1: Physically Divide an Established Community

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.10-22 through 4.10-24), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would not introduce new development, in either the form of new communities or major transportation facilities, that would physically divide an established community. New development projected in the 2035 General Plan is primarily focused on infill and redevelopment. There are three projected new growth areas (SP-1, SP-2, and SP-3, as shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 3.7-1 (page 3-23]), but these areas are contiguous with the existing developed areas of the City. New roadway improvements are mostly in undeveloped areas where new infrastructure would not divide existing communities. Policy 2.A.8 requires the City to transform corridors to connect the city's neighborhoods, and Policy 3.A.10 requires the City to eliminate barriers and gaps in the existing transportation network to improve multi-modal connectivity. Policies 2.I.6 and 3.I.5 require the City to pursue the option of relocating the railroads in the city to locations outside of existing neighborhoods. Policy 3.A.8 discourages the construction of six-lane roads, which due to their width have the potential to divide communities. Policy 3.I.1 requires the City to work with the County on developing truck routes for areas adjacent to the City, rather than through the City, which would otherwise have a greater potential to impact existing communities. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact of physical division of an existing community would be less than significant.

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed underground in rural areas comprised of agricultural and industrial land uses. Other areas within one mile outside of the ULL where utility lines could be installed also consist primarily of agricultural land with a few industrial land uses; these areas do not include any established communities. Therefore, the proposed project would not physically divide an established community. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.10-2: 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

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.10-24 through 4.10-26), the County has jurisdiction over unincorporated land, including that which lies inside the Planning Area. The Yolo County 2030 General Plan and County regulations apply in these unincorporated areas within the City's Planning Area (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibits 4.10-2 and 4.10-3 (pages 4.10-12 and 4.10-13]). Some of the City's proposed land use designations differ from the County General Plan. Through the master planning and annexation process, this discrepancy would be rectified when growth in unincorporated areas is pursued in the future. The 2035 General Plan Policy 2.B.6 prevents conflict between land use designations by requiring annexation, or that a conditional service agreement be executed agreeing to annex when deemed appropriate by the City, before provision of City services to unincorporated areas. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to conflicts with policies and regulations would be less than significant. Conflicts with policies would not generally

lead to an adverse physical environmental impact. The City will require the proposed project to demonstrate compliance with applicable regulations and to be consistent with the City's General Plan. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and this SEIR present a comprehensive assessment of environmental impacts, and there is no conflict with any plan, policy, or regulation that would lead to a significant impact that is not addressed in the resource-specific analysis sections.

The proposed project would not change the boundary of the existing ULL and would not annex existing County lands to the City. Policy 2.B.6, Other Development in Unincorporated Areas within the ULL, is not applicable to the proposed project because the proposed project would maintain the existing ULL and would not change the land uses or zoning designations of the parcels to which utilities are extended. For example, the land use designations and zoning of Clark Pacific and Bayer (Agriculture (A-N], Industrial (I-H] Table 3.3-2 in this SEIR) would remain and the County would continue to have jurisdiction over these areas. There would be no conflict between the City General Plan and the County General Plan.

Pursuant to Government Code section 56133, the City would apply for and obtain LAFCo approval before providing new or extended services outside the existing ULL to Clark Pacific, Bayer, or any other existing commercial facility in operation prior to November 3, 2026 within one mile of the existing ULL. The potable water interruptions and reductions in potable water quality associated with the use of groundwater wells at Clark Pacific and Bayer and the lifespans of the septic systems constitute an on-going and impending public health or safety threat (e.g. failing well or septic system) pursuant to Government Code section 56133. Without connection to the City utilities, each facility would continue to face substantial challenges without significant upgrades or expansions to the existing groundwater wells and septic systems at both locations.

As described in Chapter 3, "Project Description, Clark Pacific and Bayer experienced decreasing water quality recently and have taken their groundwater wells off-line multiple times. Bayer performs weekly internal tests for nitrates, and their water system operator conducts monthly testing for other drinking water contaminants of concern, which is a condition of Bayer's state drinking water permit (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). Since 2021, there have been three occasions when outside water has been brought to Bayer, while the groundwater well(s) are off-line (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). These interruptions lasted from a day to three weeks until the system is repaired and certified as meeting applicable safety standards (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). Two of the occasions were due to de-pressurization events and one was due to a line break. Under these scenarios, contaminants can infect the entire water system (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). When such an interruption occurs, Bayer automatically issues boiled water notice until testing results indicate that it is safe to resume consumption (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). Clark Pacific has also experienced an increase in frequency of water supply disruptions due to the aging groundwater wells (Winje, pers. comm. 2025). Potable water is provided through the use of five water softeners and five reverse osmosis systems to reduce high levels of total dissolved solids and nitrates. These systems require substantial maintenance to remain compliant and operational (Winje, pers. comm. 2025). The casing on a fire suppression well is currently deteriorating, and over the past five years, significant service work has been performed to keep it operational in case of a fire emergency (Winje, pers. comm. 2025).

In addition to the water supply issues, both facilities have experienced a decrease in the performance of the septic systems. Bayer's septic system ages in range from 53 to 12 years old (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). The age has resulted in the need for substantial maintenance recently and a need for replacement to maintain existing capacity (Gough, pers. comm. 2025). The septic system at Clark Pacific operates beyond its design capacity because of fluctuating staff levels and the age of the system (Winje, pers. comm. 2025). Continual maintenance is required to

keep it operational, and without City's existing utilities, increasing the capacity of the leach field and expanding the septic system would be required (Winje, pers. comm. 2025).

Table 4.9-1 demonstrates that the proposed project is consistent with LAFCo's Out of Agency Review policies (Section 3.3 Standards of Evaluation) and Table 4.9-2 demonstrates that the proposed project is consistent with Agricultural Conservation Policies (Section 4.4 Review Criteria) of LAFCo. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Table 4.9-1 LAFCo Out of Agency Service Review Policies - Standards of Evaluation

Section	Description	Evaluation
3.3a	Whether annexation is a reasonable and preferable alternative to LAFCo allowing extended services outside the agency's jurisdictional boundaries	Annexation of land is not a reasonable and preferrable alternative to extending utilities within one mile beyond the existing ULL because annexation would create disjointed isolated islands or corridors of City jurisdiction outside the existing City ULL, which is disfavored under Section 3.3c, and since the City does not wish to establish prezoning or take other actions that would lead to development outside of the ULL.
3.3b	The growth inducing impacts of any proposal	As noted in the Section 6.2, Growth Inducing, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce growth because utilities would be sized to meet the needs of existing commercial facilities; the utilities would only be extended to existing commercial facilities and there are relatively few existing businesses located within a mile of the existing ULL and even fewer businesses that would meet the definition of a commercial facility; there would be no land use designation, prezoning, or zoning change under the proposed project that would allow additional development; the existing land and commercial facilities would remain under the land use authority and within the jurisdiction of the County.
3.3c	Whether the proposed extension of services promotes logical and orderly development of areas within the SOI (i.e. islands, strips and corridors are disfavored	The proposed project would not result in the direct development of areas within the SOI or outside of the SOI because of the reasons identified above.
3.3d	The agreed upon timetable and stated expectation for annexation to the agency providing the requested service	The proposed project would not include annexation; therefore, this standard of review is not applicable.
3.3e	The proposal's consistency with the policies and plans of all affected agencies	Approval of the proposed project by the City Council is required to allow the people of the City of Woodland to vote on extending utilities past the existing ULL to existing commercial facilities, as allowed under Policy 2.A.1. Upon approval of the general plan amendment by the City Council and approval by voters in November of 2026, the proposed project would be consistent with the policies and plans of the City. The proposed project does not include or require any change to Yolo County General Plan land use designations or zoning.
3.3f	The ability of the local agency to provide service to the proposed area without detracting from current service levels	As described in Section 4.11, Utilities, the City can provide services to Clark Pacific, Bayer, or other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL without detracting from current service levels.

Section	Description	Evaluation
3.3g	Whether the proposal contributes to the premature conversion of agricultural land or other open space land	The proposed project would not contribute to the premature conversion of agricultural land or other open space land because the proposed project is not changing land use designations or zoning and utility extensions would be underground such that surface activities like agricultural production could occur and/or would occur primarily within the rights-of-way of existing roads, where agricultural land is limited. As discussed in Section 4.1, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, the proposed project would not result in a permanent conversion or loss of agricultural land.
3.3h	Whether the proposal conflicts with or undermines adopted Municipal Service Review determinations and/or recommendations	The proposed project would not conflict or undermine the adopted Municipal Service Review determinations or recommendations associated with water services, recycled water services, or wastewater services in the 2018 Final Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the City of Woodland (LAFCo 2019) or in the recent LAFCo Municipal Services Review/Sphere of Influence Study (LAFCo 2025b)

Notes:
LAFCO = Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission; UUL = Urban Limit Line

Table 4.9-2 LAFCo Agricultural Conservation Policies - Review Criteria

Section	Description	Evaluation
4.4a	Existing developed areas should be maintained and renewed	Existing developed areas would be maintained under the proposed project.
4.4b	Vacant land within developed areas should be developed before agricultural land is annexed for non-agricultural purposes	The proposed project would not involve development or annexation of vacant land; therefore, this review criteria is inapplicable.
4.4c	Land substantially surrounded by existing agency boundaries should be annexed before other lands	The proposed project does not involve annexation; therefore, this review criteria is inapplicable.
4.4d	Urban development should be restricted in agricultural areas. For example, agricultural land should not be annexed for non-agricultural purposes when feasible alternatives exist	The proposed project would not involve urban development and agricultural lands would not be annexed for non-agricultural purposes under the proposed project; therefore, this review criteria is inapplicable.
4.4e	The continued productivity and viability of agricultural land surrounding existing communities should be promoted, by preventing the premature conversion of agricultural land to other uses and, to the extent feasible, minimizing conflicts between agricultural and other land uses	The proposed project would not result in premature conversion of agricultural land to other uses and would not conflict with existing agricultural land as discussed in Section 4.1, Agriculture and Forestry Resources; the proposed project would support the agricultural land surrounding the Bayer facility.
4.4f	Development near agricultural land should not adversely affect the economic viability or constrain the lawful, responsible practices of the agricultural operations	The proposed project would not involve development and would support the economic viability of the agricultural land surrounding the Bayer facility.
4.4g	Where feasible, non-prime land should be annexed before prime land	The proposed project would not annex land; therefore, this review criteria is inapplicable.
4.4h	A land's current zoning, pre-zoning, or land use designation is one of the factors the Commission will consider in determining whether mitigation will be required for the loss of agricultural land. A land's zoning, pre-zoning, or land use designation in the city's or County's general plan does not automatically exempt it from mitigation	The proposed project would not change existing land use designations or zoning and as discussed in Section 4.1, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, the proposed project would not result in a permanent conversion or loss of agricultural land.

Notes:
City = City of Woodland, County = Yolo County; LAFCO = Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission; UUL = Urban Limit Line

Impact 4.10-3: Impacts Related to Inducing Population Growth

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.10-26 through 4.10-30), the 2035 General Plan plans for population growth associated with future development of residential land uses and indirectly through future development of commercial, retail, office, and industrial uses throughout the City's Planning Area. The General Plan Land Use Element encourages infill development – particularly in the Downtown Area and along mixed-use transportation corridors. The 2035 General Plan also anticipates development of currently undeveloped areas (SP-1, SP-2, and SP-3, as shown in 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Exhibit 3.7-1 (page 3-23]), but these areas are contiguous with the existing developed areas of the City. 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Table 4.10-7 (page 4.10-27) shows the existing and planned population growth through the General Plan planning horizon. The goals, policies, and implementation programs of the 2035 General Plan provide a framework to accommodate long-term growth and conservation within the City's Planning Area. However, population growth could exceed the SACOG regional planning projections and such growth could result in indirect physical environmental impacts. Because the purpose of the 2035 General Plan itself is to provide for future development of new housing and employment opportunities, there is no feasible mitigation available. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that this impact is significant and unavoidable.

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be designed with sufficient capacity only to serve each respective facility. Similarly, if other requests for extension of utility lines within one mile of the existing ULL were presented to the City for potential approval, though none are anticipated by the City at this time, such extensions would be sized to serve only the respective facility. Because the pipelines would be sized to serve only each individual facility, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce substantial population growth, and thus there would be no impact. Furthermore, the proposed project would not alter the anticipated development capacity for the City within the City's planning horizon, and thereby would not result in a change in population growth. Given the above, impacts related to inducing population growth would not be significant and unavoidable as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.10-4: Displace Substantial Numbers of People or Existing Housing, Necessitating the Construction of Replacement Housing Elsewhere

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.10-31 through 4.10-32), the 2035 General Plan does not propose converting established residential areas to a nonresidential land use or changing the land use or development character of existing developed residential areas. Rather, the 2035 General Plan includes policies and programs that facilitate additional residential development opportunities and a variety of housing types on undeveloped land, vacant land, underutilized parcels, and through infill and redevelopment within opportunity sites. Compliance with the 2035 General Plan policies such as 9.A.3, 9.A.10, 9.B.1, and 9.D.2 would ensure that new development would not displace substantial numbers of people or housing. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to displacement of people or existing housing would be less than significant.

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed underground within agricultural cropland and industrial facilities, and therefore would not displace any people or housing. Because the land one mile from the existing ULL consists primarily of agricultural land and a few industrial facilities, if other utility line alignments within one mile of the existing ULL were presented to the City for potential approval, they also would

not displace any people or housing. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and the impact attributable to the proposed project would not occur, given the location of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.10 NOISE AND VIBRATION

Section 4.11, "Noise and Vibration," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR included a summary of noise fundamentals, a description of ambient noise conditions, a summary of applicable regulations related to noise and vibration, and an analysis of the potential impacts resulting from the implementation of the General Plan (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, 4.11-1 to 4.11-90). That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.10.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The "Regulatory Setting" in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR remains unchanged as it relates to potential effects associated with the proposed project and is hereby incorporated by reference (Section 4.11-3 in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR). The regulatory setting describes the policies of the Yolo County General Plan and City of Woodland General Plan related to noise, as well as the noise ordinance of the City of Woodland (pages 4.11-31 to 4.11-36).

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

The proposed project area overlaps with unincorporated Yolo County and is therefore subject to the noise standards established in the Yolo County Code of Ordinances, Section 10-8.416 (Noise: General Standard). This section sets enforceable exterior noise limits for all properties in the County. During daytime hours, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., noise levels may not exceed 80 A-weighted decibels (dBA) Equivalent Sound Level (L_{eq}) at property boundaries and may not exceed 60 dBA L_{eq} at off-site residences or other noise-sensitive land uses. During nighttime hours, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., noise levels may not exceed 65 dBA L_{eq} at property boundaries. In addition, noise levels at residential properties may not exceed 60 dBA Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), measured at the property line or occupied structures. These standards are intended to ensure compatibility between land uses and protect sensitive receptors throughout unincorporated Yolo County. Compliance with these thresholds is required for all projects, including temporary construction activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in 2035 General Plan and CAP (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.11-1 through 4.11-27), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable to the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference. The setting provides fundamentals of environmental noise, existing noise-sensitive uses, existing noise sources, and existing ambient noise levels. Specifically, Section 4.11.2.2 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR describes noise generating activities in more rural parts of the Planning Area (including 25% of the Planning Area being located in unincorporated Yolo County). The primary sources of noise related to farming activity include tractors, harvesters, and crop-dusting aircraft (page 4.11-25). Typical noise levels from tractors, as measured at a distance of 50 feet, range from about 75 decibel (dB) to 95 dB with an average of 84 dB (page 4.11-25). These noise levels should be representative of noise levels from other wheeled and tracked farm equipment. Using a source level of 84 dB at 50 feet, and assuming nominal point-source at attenuation of 6 dB per doubling of distance, the distance to noise level contours are as shown in Table 4.11-5 (page 4.11-25). Some agricultural operations can occur during noise sensitive times of the day and involve

substantial noise levels (page 4.11-27). The operation of heavy-duty equipment associated with agricultural activities typically results in noise levels of approximately 75 dB L_{eq} at 50 feet (page 4.11-27). The closest distances between proposed noise-sensitive land uses and agricultural land uses would be approximately 50 to 200 feet in several locations (page 4.11-27). Based on the above noise levels and a typical noise-attenuation rate of 6.0 dB per doubling of distance, existing exterior noise levels at noise-sensitive receptors approximately 50 to 200 feet from existing agricultural activities could exceed 75 and 63 dB L_{eq}, respectively (page 4.11-27). Sensitive receptors described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR include single family and multi-family residences (page 4.11-7). Exhibit 4.11-3 identifies existing noise sensitive uses in Woodland. Exhibit 4.11-4 identifies residential areas that represent noise sensitive uses, along with commercial, agricultural, industrial, and other uses that could be sources of noise.

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

At noted above and described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the propose project area is primarily comprised of existing agricultural lands and land uses or surrounded by existing agricultural lands. As described in Section 4.2 "Air Quality" of this SEIR there are sensitive receptors within 400 feet of the utility extension to Bayer near County Road 98 and within 350 feet of the utility extension to Clark Pacific along County Roads 101 and 18c. The closest sensitive receptors to the Bayer utility extensions are multi-family residences located adjacent to County Road 98, approximately 90 feet from the location of part of the proposed sewer pipeline. The closest sensitive receptors to the Clark Pacific utility extensions are single family residences located along County Roads 101 and 18c, approximately 70 feet from where a portion of the proposed sewer and water pipelines. These sensitive land uses (i.e., residents) are similar to those described in the environmental setting of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR and are subjected to the types of noise generated uses described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.10.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR[18]. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the proposed project, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would have a significant impact if it would result in:

- generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies;

- generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels;

[18]The thresholds of significance for noise impacts used in this analysis reflect the current CEQA Appendix G Environmental Checklist. While these thresholds have been updated in format and wording since adoption of the 2035 General Plan and Climate Action Plan (CAP) EIR, they have not substantively changed. The analysis in this document continues to evaluate all temporary or permanent noise-related issues and potential ground-born vibration issues considered in the General Plan EIR for consistency and a comprehensive environmental review.

- exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive airport or aircraft noise levels (for a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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).

To improve the readability of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the City organized the checklist questions into four impacts addressing: (1) short-term, construction-related impacts; (2) long-term noise exposure impacts; (3) vibration-related impacts; and (4) airport compatibility related impacts. Therefore, the impacts and the numbering in the section below correspond to those impacts and numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.11-1: Temporary Construction Noise

As described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, temporary construction noise near sensitive receptors would be reduced through implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.11-1: Implementation Program Noise 1 (Implementation Program 8.13 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017) because it would limit construction activities to designated timeframes, reduce idling times for equipment, and require all feasible strategies to reduce noise exposure for noise-sensitive uses within certain distances of construction (page 4.11-50). However, for construction sites that are adjacent to noise-sensitive uses, there still could be a substantial temporary increase in noise levels that could lead to adverse noise-related impacts, particularly those areas that would facilitate infill development in the Downtown area and along major corridors (page 4.11-51). Therefore, impacts associated with exposing noise-sensitive land uses to short-term (construction) noise would remain significant and unavoidable (page 4.11-51).

Construction activities along the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments would generate temporary, noise levels above ambient standards in proximity to sensitive receptors. Table 4.10-1 summarizes modeled maximum noise levels by proposed construction activity based on the standard equipment and rate of pipeline installation. At both sites, the loudest activities include grading, excavation, and sub-grade utility installation, with noise levels of approximately 87 dBA L_{eq} at 50 feet. Other activities, such as paving, decommissioning existing infrastructure, and clearing, range between 72 and 85 dBA L_{eq} at 50 feet. Given that nearby residential receptors would be located 50 to 100 feet from pipeline installation, modeled levels would remain in a similar range (attenuating by roughly 3 to 6 dB with doubling of distance). With respect to short-term increases above ambient noise levels, the proposed project area is located near Monitoring Location ST-08, where short-term ambient noise measurements ranged from 53 to 61 dBA L_{eq} (as shown in Table 4.11-3 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR). Construction noise levels generated by the proposed project would exceed these existing ambient levels.

Table 4.10-1 Modeled. Construction Noise Levels at 50 Feet (L_{eq}) by Activity

Activity	Bayer	Clark Pacific	Sensitive Receptors Present
Groundwater Well decommissioning	72	72	No
Septic tank decommissioning	84	84	No
Retention pond decommissioning	82	--	No
Pipeline Installation: Grubbing & Land Clearing	82	82	Yes
Pipeline Installation: Grading & Excavation	87	87	Yes
Pipeline Installation: Drainage, Utilities, & Sub-Grade	87	87	Yes
Pipeline Installation: Paving	85	85	Yes

Table Note: L_{eq} = Equivalent Sound Level

The Woodland General Plan establishes that non-transportation noise sources should not exceed 70 dBA during the day and 65 dBA at night at noise-sensitive receptors. Construction noise is inherently temporary and is typically exempt from these operational noise limits. Measured or modeled noise levels during extension of the utilities would exceed 70 dBA at nearby residences during daytime work, representing a potentially significant temporary noise impact. The City of Woodland Municipal Code restricts construction to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays, unless a permit for extended hours is granted. Yolo County Code Section 10-8.416 limits exterior noise levels to 80 dBA L_{eq} during daytime hours (6:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.) and 65 dBA L_{eq} at night (6:00 p.m.–6:00 a.m.), with a maximum of 60 dBA L_{eq} or CNEL at noise-sensitive land uses at any time. Compliance with these standards and required construction hours would minimize disruption to nearby sensitive receptors during nighttime periods. Furthermore, implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.11-1: Implementation Program Noise 1 (Implementation Program 8.13 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017) from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, which includes standard noise-reducing practices, including equipment mufflers, stationary equipment placement away from property lines, and compliance with required work hours, would minimize construction noise exposure. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.11-2: Operational Noise

Implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP would result in development throughout the Planning Area that would result in a permanent increase in ambient noise in some areas (pages 4.11-52 to 4.11-60). Long-term noise exposure impacts by establishing noise compatibility standards and requiring new development to include certain measures and strategies to achieve acceptable noise environments, wherever feasible (page 4.11-58). Despite the implementation of policies in the 2035 General Plan and Mitigation Measures 4.11-2a and 4.11-2b the City cannot demonstrate that adverse operational noise exposure impacts could be avoided in all cases; therefore, impacts associated with permanent increases in ambient noise due to operations would be significant and unavoidable (page 4.11-60).

The proposed project involves temporary construction activities and would not include any new permanent facilities or features (e.g., stationary noise-generating equipment or mechanical systems) that would generate operational noise. The proposed project does not include any changes in land use designations or zoning that would result in a potential permanent change in existing ambient noise levels. As such, there would be no long-

term operational noise sources associated with the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would result in no operational noise impact. Impacts related to operational noise and the proposed project would not be less than significant with mitigation as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, as the mitigation measure reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is not required for the proposed project. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.11-3: Groundborne Vibration from Construction Activities

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined that construction vibration may cause short-term annoyance at nearby receptors but would not result in structural damage when activities are conducted in accordance with standard construction practices and applicable regulations (page 4.11-60 to 4.11-63). Construction and demolition activities associated with future projects implemented have the potential to result in varying degrees of temporary groundborne vibration, depending on the specific construction equipment used, the location of construction activities relative to sensitive receptors, and operations/activities involved (page 4.11-60). Vibration generated by construction equipment spreads through the ground and diminishes in magnitude with increases in distance (page 4.11-60). The type and density of soil can also affect the transmission of energy (page 4.11-60). Construction of could cause temporary, short-term disruptive vibration for locations near sensitive receptors (page 4.11-62). Impacts associated with ground-born vibrations were determined to be significant and unavoidable even with implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.11-3a, Implementation Program Vibration 1, and Mitigation Measure 4.11-3b, Implement Mitigation Measure 4.11-1.

The proposed project would involve typical construction equipment such as dozers, excavators, graders, pavers, and trucks, which can generate localized groundborne vibration. The nature and scale of construction activities are similar to those analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, except that there would be no pile driving associated with the proposed project. Thus vibration levels generated by the project would be lower than those described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The rate of construction would be approximately 400 to 500 feet of pipeline installation per day and would only occur during daytime hours, thus minimizing the duration of groundborn vibration within the construction areas and to daytime. Impacts related groundborn vibrations and the proposed project would not be significant and unavoidable as reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR because of the nature of construction. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new or more severe vibration impacts than those previously addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.11-3: Excessive Airport Noise

There are several airports within the vicinity of the Planning Area evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Watts Woodland Airport is located approximately 3.1 miles west of the Woodland city limits. The Sacramento International Airport is situated roughly five miles northeast of the city limits, and Yolo County Airport is approximately five miles southwest of the city limits. As shown in Exhibit 4.8-3, there is a small portion of the eastern side of the Planning Area within the "Secondary Approach Area" defined in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) as having "locations where aircraft regularly fly below 3,000 feet. The most recent noise contour data for Watts Woodland Airport and Yolo County Airport, as provided in the Yolo County 2030 General Plan (2009a) and General Plan EIR (2009b), and noise contours for Sacramento International Airport from the Sacramento International Airport Master Plan (Sacramento County 2004) indicate the General Plan Planning Area is outside of the 60 dB CNEL noise contour for all three airports and impacts related to excessive airport noise would be less than significant.

Because the proposed project would not include new facilities or land uses that would generate or attract substantial aviation activity, the proposed project would not result in new or increased exposure of people to excessive aircraft noise. Additionally, the proposed project does not include any changes in land use designations or zoning that would result in a potential conflict with airport land use plan noise contours or noise impacts. Finally, the proposed project area is not within two miles of a public airport, or in the vicinity of a private airstrip and no new sensitive receptors would be introduced in these areas. As reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR the conclusion of impacts related to excessive airport noise would be less than significant, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts related to severe noise from aircraft, airport, or airstrip operations that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

4.11 UTILITIES

Section 4.14, "Utilities," of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR included a description of conditions of public utilities, including water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste disposal in Woodland, and identified the related potential environmental impacts and development constraints upon implementation of the General Plan (2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, pages 4.14-1 to 4.14-56). That information is hereby incorporated by reference.

This section provides updated information related to the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, and potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to the proposed project, where applicable.

4.11.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

REGULATORY SETTING

The regulatory setting in the General Plan EIR was presented on pages 3.12-7 to 3.12-10 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. With respect to wastewater, water supply, stormwater, and solid waste, the 2035 General Plan includes policies that ensure adequate public facilities and services, including wastewater and wastewater infrastructure and treatment facilities. The regulatory setting is updated in the material that follows.

UPDATES TO THE REGULATORY SETTING

Since the preparation of the General Plan EIR, the City updated the Urban Water Management Plan in 2020, as Urban Water Management Plans are required to be updated every five years. Additional details regarding the Urban Water Management Plan are provided in the section below titled *Updates to the Environmental Setting*.

As noted in Section 4.8 of this SEIR, Hydrology and Water Quality, groundwater is managed under the adopted *Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan* (GSP) (Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency 2022), which was approved by DWR in 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The existing environmental setting is described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.14-1 to 4.14-15), is current as it relates to potential effects attributable the proposed project, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

Water Supply and Demand

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR describes the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency's Regional Water Treatment Facility (RWTF) as the primary source of drinking water for Woodland residents and has a dedicated capacity of 18 million gallons a day (mgd) of supply from the water treatment plant and an additional 2,000,000 gallons of storage.[19] The City operates three aquifer storage & recovery wells as a backup to the surface water supply and supplements surface water during times of high demand or reduced surface water availability. The

[19] The Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency is a joint powers authority responsible for managing the surface water supply for the Cities of Woodland and Davis and UC Davis. It was formed in 2009 to construct and manage the Regional Water Treatment Facility (State Clearinghouse #2006042175). It owns and operates the existing surface water diversion, conveyance system, RWTF, and several existing aquifer storage and recovery wells that were developed after 2015 (State Clearinghouse #: 2015012062). The Agency serves more than two-thirds of the urban population of Yolo County, CA. It also serves UC Davis. In March of 2020, the Joint Powers agreement was amended to include Yolo County (Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency, 2020).

City further operates several groundwater wells to supplement was supply during a severe drought or emergency. Table 4.14-2 summarizes the volumes of existing water supply for the City of Woodland (page 4.14-4). Based on the analysis in the 2015 UWMP that assumes a population of 75,000 in Woodland in 2035, the supply of surface water and groundwater meets water demand through 2035, as shown in Tables 4.14-4 and 4.14-5 (page 4.14-47).

Wastewater Treatment and Capacity

Woodland's wastewater collection system conveys wastewater by gravity pipelines to the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) located east of the city along County Road 24, where it is treated and then discharged to a large, unimproved channel (page 4.14-7). Treated wastewater eventually drains to the Tule Canal on the east side of the Yolo Bypass (page 4.14-7, and Exhibit 4.14-2, City's existing wastewater infrastructure system). The wastewater treatment capacity is approximately 10.4 mgd (page 4.14-7). Wastewater quality has historically had high electroconductivity (EC), but improved after switching to surface water (page 4.14-11). Expansion of the WPCF is required to be completed over the planning horizon of the General Plan. The current conditions, current capacity, and future capacity of the WPCF are shown in Table 5-21 of the General Plan and CAP EIR, which documents the average inflow of the WPCF is 5 MGD, with an existing capacity of 6.1 MGD and a proposed future capacity of 9.2 MGD (page 5-60).

Stormwater and Solid Waste

The existing setting of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR also describes the existing stormwater facilities and solid waste facilities that serve the City (pages 4.14-11 to 4.14-15). The storm drain system is a combination of gutters, ditches, and catch basins throughout the City (Exhibit 4.14-3). Solid waste disposal is provided by an agreement with Waste Management and solid waste is processed at the Yolo County Landfill, which has a 79-year disposal capacity (page 4.14-15).

UPDATES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The 2020 UWMP projects potable water demand to be 12,596 AFY in 2025 and 15,646 AFY in 2045 (Table 4-3, City of Woodland 2020). The water supply provided by the RWTF would have a reasonably available volume of 20,160 AFY in 2025 and 24,440 AFY in 2045 (Table 6-12, City of Woodland 2020). These more recent estimates indicate the City's demand for potable water remains below the projected supply. This excess potable supply is estimated to be approximately 7,600 AF in 2025 and 8,800 AF in 2045.

The City has completed an effort to evaluate all the WPCF major assets and remaining service life and replacement schedule and there is no planned increase in WPCF treatment capacity (Busch, pers. comm. 2025a). The WPCF has a permitted capacity of 10.2 MGD and a hydraulic capacity of 14.7 MGD and is currently operating in the range of 4-5 MGD (Busch, pers. comm. 2025a). The City will need additional solids handling treatment capacity, but the major infrastructure is already in place, and the City will install air piping and diffusers (Busch, pers. comm. 2025a). The City is collecting development fees for the addition of the 4th aeration ditch to the WPCF treatment system, which would increase solids handling capacity by installing air piping and a diffuse at an existing ditch (Busch, pers. comm. 2025a).

Please see Section 4.8, "Hydrology and Water Quality," for updated information regarding groundwater contained in the Yolo Subbasin GSP.

4.11.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

The thresholds for evaluating the significance of impacts for this analysis are based on the checklist in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and are the same as those used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. These thresholds are used to evaluate potential adverse physical environmental effects attributable to implementation of the proposed project, with a focus on impacts beyond those addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The proposed project would have a significant impact if it would:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.
- Not have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or 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 a sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs; or
- Violate federal, State, or local statutes and regulations related to solid waste

The impact numbering in the section below corresponds to those numbers used in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR for ease of reference.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 4.14-1: Exceed Wastewater Treatment Requirements of the Applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board

Implementation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP would result in new residential, commercial, office, and industrial development in the Planning Area. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR analyzed the potential increase in volume of wastewater as a result of this growth and if the potential to exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is associated with potential increases in wastewater effluent and a decrease in quality of wastewater effluent (pages 4.14-32 to 4.14-36). Expansion of the WPCF is required to be completed over the planning horizon of the General Plan. The current conditions, current capacity, and future capacity of the WPCF are shown in Table 5-21 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 5-60). The WPCF is permitted to treat 10.4 MGD and has a total capacity of approximately 14.7 MGD. At the time of the preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the City was increasing the solids capacity of the

WPCF to serve a residential population[20] of 70,000 (13,300 lb./day) (pages 4.14-1 and 4.14-50). In addition, with future conversion of a fourth oxidation ditch to biological treatment technology, the WPCF can treat up to 19,900 lb./day, which could serve approximately 105,000 residents (page 4.14-50). With additional upgrades and modifications to the plant the WPCF could reach its practical limit of 26,000 lb./day (page 4.14-50). Current daily inflows are approximately 4.2 MGD (Busch pers. comm. 2025b). This is generally consistent with the information provided in Table 5-21 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, which presented an average inflow of 5 MGD(Busch pers. comm. 2025b). The upgrades to the WPCF are improving the quality of treated wastewater. The quality of treated wastewater would further improve through the continued use of the Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project (DWWSP) by providing a water supply with low EC content (page 4.14-33). The 2035 General Plan includes policies that ensure adequate public facilities and services, including wastewater infrastructure and treatment facilities, including:

- General Plan Goal 5.H ensures that wastewater treatment facilities are provided in a timely fashion to serve existing and future needs
- General Plan Policies 5.F.1, 5.H.1 and 4.C.10 ensure that there would be sufficient public services, including wastewater treatment facility capacity, to serve existing and new development in Woodland
- General Plan Policies 5.F.2, 5.F.3, 5.F.4, and 5.F.5 address fiscal and funding impacts of new development to ensure there is funding available to support public facilities and services
- General Plan Policies 5.H.2, 5.H.3, 5.H.4, and 5.H.5 address the need to plan for wastewater needs by requiring updates to the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan, consideration of the wastewater needs in amendments to the adopted General Plan, active planning for maintenance and repairs, and evaluation and updates to the Capital Improvement Program
- General Plan Policy 5.H.9 requires a reduction in wastewater system demand
- General Plan Police 5.H.10 requires continuation of the industrial pretreatment program.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR determined the impact regarding exceeding wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control Board would be less than significant.

The proposed project would result in a slight increase in the wastewater effluent treated by the City (see Impact 4.14-5, Wastewater Treatment Capacity Impacts). Bayer and Clark Pacific, and any other existing commercial business within one mile of the existing ULL would be required to comply with existing local, state, and federal regulations for processed wastewater. Furthermore, the City would continue to treat the wastewater from existing commercial facilities at the WPCF, consistent with existing capacity, planned maintenance and upgrades, and local state and federal regulations (see Impact 4.9-1: Violate Water Quality Standards, in Section 4.8, Hydrology and Water Quality). Finally, use of City water supply would improve the quality of the wastewater from Bayer and Clark Pacific because of the lower EC as a result of the DWWSP. While there are very few other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the ULL that could benefit from the extension of water and sewer service, if this was to occur, and if the subject facilities discontinued the use of groundwater, this could additionally improve water supply quality and the quality of wastewater. Therefore, as with the 2035 General Plan

[20] Residential population is typically used as a proxy to estimate wastewater treatment capacities for non-residential uses.

and CAP, the proposed amendments to the General Plan would not result in exceeding wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control Board. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR found this impact to be less than significant and there is no change to this conclusion attributable to the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-2: 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

As discussed in Impact 4.14-1 and Impact 4.14-4, implementation of the General Plan would accommodate future residential, commercial, and industrial land uses in the Planning Area, resulting in additional residents and workers, which would increase the demand for potable water and wastewater services (page 4.14-37 and 4.14-38). Based on the supply of surface water and groundwater, the City is expected to successfully meet water demand through 2035 (Table 4.14-3). As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the placement of wastewater infrastructure needed for planned development is considered a component of the General Plan and secondary impacts on different environmental resources are addressed in respective 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR sections (page 4.14-38). Multiple goals and policies in the General Plan would reduce water use and ensure water system facilities are provided:

- Goal 5.G is to provide adequate potable water supply and delivery system to meet the needs of the city.
    - Policy 5.G.1 directs the City to provide an adequate water supply
    - Policy 5.G.3 requires connection to the City's water system, unless the City has determined a connection to the City's potable water system would be infeasible
    - Policy 5.G.2 requires preparation of a Water Supply Assessment for significant projects.
    - Policy 5.G.4 requires periodic updates to the UWMP and the Groundwater Management Plan and is implemented by Implementation Program 5.6
    - Policy 5.G.6 requires that water production and supply facilities are in place as a condition of development approval, and is implemented by Implementation Program 5.8
    - Policy 5.G.8 and Implementation Program 5.9 supports updates to the Capital Improvement Program to ensure delivery of necessary water infrastructure
    - Policies 5.G.5, 5.G.7, 5.G.9, and 7.A.5 reduce the demand on potable water production and delivery systems by requiring the expansion of the recycled water system, maintenance of existing facilities, coordination with regional partners to improve water efficiency and conservation, and updated landscaping regulations
    - Policy 7.A.1 requires the City to continue to cooperate with partners on the Surface Water Project to maintain its surface water supply
    - Policy 7.A.5 encourages efficient use of water in landscaping. The CAP sets an Objective to support reduced water demand, which is supported by a number of Actions.

Given the evaluation summarized above and in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, impacts would be less than significant (page 4.14-42)

Based on the analysis contained Impacts 4.14-1, 4.14-4, and 4.14-5 there is sufficient water supply and wastewater treatment capacity to serve Clark Pacific and Bayer. Therefore, the City would not need to construct new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects. Similar to the analysis contained in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, this SEIR evaluates potential secondary environmental effects on multiple resources of the construction and operation of the new utility pipelines that would be required under the proposed project to convey water and wastewater. As described in Chapter 3, the City has discretion as to whether to extend utility services to other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL, and the discretion would be based on the City's projected volume of water supply and the City's water infrastructure, consistent with General Plan Policy 5.G.3, which requires the City to determine if a connection to the City's potable water system would be infeasible. The discretion would also be based on the volume of wastewater generated and the City's wastewater treatment infrastructure, consistent with General Plan Goal 5.H, which requires the City ensures that wastewater treatment facilities are provided in a timely fashion to serve existing and future needs. Furthermore, a utility service agreement would be required, obligating the City to deliver an agreed upon amount/volume of utility services. The utility services agreement would not be executed without the City confirming the service could be provided within the existing water supply and wastewater treatment capacity. Therefore, as concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, this impact would be less than significant, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-3: Impacts Related to Construction or Expansion of Stormwater Facilities

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.14-42 through 4.14-46), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in an increase in impervious surfaces, which would in turn increase the amount of stormwater runoff. In the new growth areas (SP-1, SP-2, and SP-3), new infrastructure would be needed to accommodate infiltration of stormwater or to convey stormwater to detention basins to prevent flooding. Infill development within the ULL would also increase the amount of stormwater runoff. In addition, the Browns Corner and West Street areas require new or expanded stormwater drainage infrastructure to address ongoing street flooding from excess stormwater runoff. Construction of new or expanded stormwater infrastructure could have adverse effects on the physical environment; however, many of the required improvements would occur within public road rights-of-way and other already disturbed areas within the development footprint of the existing ULL. Within the new growth areas (SP-1, SP-2, and SP-3), new stormwater infrastructure would be installed underground, but construction activities could have adverse environmental impacts. The City has a Storm Drainage Facilities Master Plan and requires site-specific operational stormwater compliance with its Post-Construction Standards Plan to reduce potential environmental impacts. Site-specific operational compliance with the City's stormwater program under the NPDES General Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4 Permit) includes requirements for Low Impact Development and hydromodification management that would include facilities designed to reduce peak stormwater flows. 2035 General Plan Policies 5.I.1 through 5.I.8 would reduce the demand for stormwater facilities and require construction of appropriate stormwater systems. Physical environmental impacts associated with construction of stormwater infrastructure are evaluated throughout all environmental topic areas as part of the overall

development that could occur under the 2035 General Plan. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that there are no significant adverse environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of stormwater facilities beyond that addressed in detail throughout the environmental topic-specific sections of the EIR and that the impact was considered less than significant.

The proposed project would not result in the creation of any new impervious surfaces and therefore would not increase stormwater runoff. The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific sewer and water pipelines, and any other sewer or water pipelines that may be proposed within one mile of the existing ULL, would be installed underground. The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing stormwater facilities, and thus there would be no impact. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-4: Water Supply Impacts.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concludes that the potable water supply exceeds demand under the development anticipated by the General Plan during normal water years, single dry years and multiple dry years (page 4.14-49). The potable water demand and supply in a single dry year, meaning a year with the lowest supply available, is shown in Table 4.14-4, which demonstrates that supply exceeds demand between 1,773 AFY and 5,589 AFY depending on the year of the single dry year (page 4.14-47). As shown in Table 4.14-5, Woodland's water supply is sufficient to meet demand over multiple dry years, as well (page 4.14-47). Furthermore, as identified in Impact 4.14-2, the 2035 General Plan includes goals and policies, and implementation programs, requiring the promotion of water conservation to reduce impacts and the protection of water quality: Goal 7.A protects the qualities and quantities of water resources; Policy 7.4.A supports watershed protection efforts; and, Policies 7.A.2 and 7.A.4 require strategic groundwater management and use of best management practices to protect water quality and are supported by Implementation Program 7.1 (page 4.14-49). The analysis in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR demonstrates there is sufficient water supply to meet the water needed for the growth forecasted in the General Plan (page 4.14-49). Impacts regarding water supply would be less than significant (page 4.14-49).

Table 4.11-1 shows the estimated current and estimated annual potable water use of Bayer and Clark Pacific.

Table 4.11-1 Current and Future Annual Potable Water Demand (AFY)

Company	Current	Future
Bayer	25	31
Clark Pacific	5	7

Table Note: AFY = acre feet per year

Using the more recent 2020 UWMP information, the current and future potable water demand of these two commercial facilities is less than 1% of the projected 2025 City potable water demand of 12,596 AFY and of the projected 2045 City potable water demand of 15,646 (Table 4-3, City of Woodland 2020 and Table 6-12, City of Woodland 2020). The current and future potable water demand of these two commercial facilities is less than 1% of the reasonable available volume of potable water supplied of 20,160 AFY in 2025 and 24,440 AFY in 2045 (Table 6-12, City of Woodland 2020). The current and future water demand of these two commercial facilities are also less than 1% of the projected 2025 and 2045 excess water supply for the City. The City's potable water demand has typically been lower than that reported in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (i.e., calendar year

2023 potable water demand was 9,091 AF and 10,043 AF in 2024) and has seen a slight decline in overall potable water demand even with population growth (Busch pers. comm. 2025b). The City projects the demand for potable water would continue to remain below the expected supply, as documented in the 2020 UWMP. Given the very small amount of potable water needed by each business and the excess water supply of the City, there is sufficient current and future potable water supply to meet the current and potential future demand of each business. It is speculative to quantify any future volume of potable water other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL may receive from the City because it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would make the business decision to incur the cost to extend existing potable water services to their location and because the volume of water that a commercial facility uses is specific to their processes and needs. However, as described in Chapter 3, the City has discretion as to whether to extend services and their discretion would be based on the City's projected volume of water supply, consistent with General Plan Policy 5.G.3, which requires the City to determine if a connection to the City's potable water system would be infeasible. Furthermore, a utility service agreement would be required, obligating the City to deliver an agreed upon amount/volume of water. The utility service agreement would not be executed without the City confirming water could be provided within the existing water supply. Therefore, the proposed project would not exceed existing or future water. Therefore, as concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, this impact would be less than significant, and this conclusion would not change as a result of the proposed project. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-5: Wastewater Treatment Capacity Impacts

Implementation of the 2035 General Plan would accommodate new residential, commercial, office, and industrial development in the Planning Area, which would increase the demand for wastewater treatment (page 4.14-49). The projected future hydraulic capacity of the WPCF is about 9.2 mgd for average wastewater flows, which could serve up to 105,000 residents. As detailed in Appendix A to the 2035 General Plan, the City anticipates a maximum of 7,000 new dwelling units under the 2035 General Plan. If each of those dwelling units accommodated the current average household size of 2.71, the maximum buildout could accommodate an additional 19,000 new residents, which, when added to the existing population of approximately 62,000 residents, would not approach the projected hydraulic capacity of the WPCF. There is sufficient hydraulic capacity to serve accommodate projected growth (4.14-40). In addition, the City evaluated projects that would increase the solid capacity and additional improvements to the WPCF (page 4.14-50). The policies in the 2035 General Plan require adequate public facilities and services for all new and existing development in the Planning Area, including wastewater treatment facilities (page 4.14-51). The upgrades in conjunction with the General Plan policies would accommodate additional future growth in the Planning Area City over the planning horizon (page 4.14-51). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that this impact would be less than significant.

Woodland's current population as of January 2025 is 61,623 (California Department of Finance 2025). The City has continued to plan for wastewater infrastructure since the preparation of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR to accommodate the growth forecasted in the General Plan. The recent master planning effort of the WPCF includes a comprehensive evaluation of the WPCF's various assets, an assessment of improvements needed to continue providing treatment for Woodland's growing population, and a prognosis of current regulations and permits and future effects on the City's wastewater treatment plant. Phase I was completed in Spring 2022 and Phase II was completed in 2024. Increases in WPCF capacity are not expected as a result of the master facility planning efforts (Busch pers. comm. 2025a). Bayer generates approximately 5,080 GPD, of wastewater and Clark

Pacific generates approximately 4,333 GPD of wastewater. Bayer anticipates future wastewater generation to be approximately 5,932 GPD and Clark Pacific anticipates no change in future wastewater generation. There is sufficient permitted unused capacity because the wastewater generation of each business is less than 1% of the available permitted unused capacity of the WPCF. Similar to water supply evaluated under Impact 4.14-4, it is speculative to quantify any future volume of wastewater that might be generated by other existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL because it is unknown if other existing commercial facilities would make the business decision to incur the cost to extend existing wastewater services to their location and the wastewater generated by an individual commercial facility is specific to their business use and processes. However, as described in Chapter 3, the City has discretion as to whether to extend services and their discretion would be based on the projected volume of wastewater that would need to be treated. Furthermore, a utility service agreement would be required, obligating the City to deliver adequate wastewater services, which would not be executed without the City confirming wastewater services could be provided within the existing wastewater treatment capacity. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to wastewater treatment capacity would be less than significant. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-6: Solid Waste Disposal Capacity Impacts

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.14-51 through 4.14-55), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in an increase in the total population and the number of jobs, thereby increasing the amount of solid waste that would be generated. Solid waste in Woodland that is not diverted is hauled to the Yolo County Central Landfill. The Yolo County Central Landfill had a remaining municipal solid waste disposal capacity of 33,140,373 cubic yards as of July 2022 (California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle] 2022). Based on historical rates of disposal and projected population, the Central Landfill is expected to reach capacity in the year 2124 (CalRecycle 2022). 2035 General Plan Policies 5.J.1 through 5.J.7 promote the reduction of solid waste, encourage recycling facilities, and require that all development complies with the City of Woodland Source Reduction and Recycling Element. The impact is less than significant.

Project-related construction would result in site clearing and generation of various construction-related waste, including asphalt pavement, cardboard, wood pallets, scrap metal, and common trash. Most of the soil that is excavated for utility pipeline installation would be reused to backfill the utility line trenches. The remaining soil would be stockpiled for agricultural reuse. The construction contractor would be required to comply with the California Green Building Standards (CALGreen) Code, which requires that at least 65 percent of construction and demolition waste be diverted from landfills. A Waste Management Plan must be approved that identifies a waste hauler and a construction and demolition sorting facility and waste log must document the 65 percent diversion requirement. The proposed project must also comply with City of Woodland Municipal Code Chapter 13.40 that regulates recycling of construction and demolition debris. Because the proposed project consists of underground utility lines, project operation would have no effect on landfill capacity. Any other utility pipelines that may be installed within one mile of the existing ULL would be subject to the same conditions as above. Because the Yolo County Central Landfill had a remaining municipal solid waste disposal capacity of 33,140,373 cubic yards, the landfill has sufficient capacity to accept construction debris from the proposed project. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to solid waste disposal capacity would be less than

significant. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Impact 4.14-7: Compliance with Federal, State and Local Statutes and Regulations related to Solid Waste

As discussed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 4.14-55 through 4.14-56), development planned as a part of the 2035 General Plan would result in would result in future residential, commercial, and industrial land uses in the City's Planning Area, resulting in an increased number of residents and workers. Development and growth would increase the amount of solid waste. CalRecycle estimated that Woodland had a 2023 solid-waste disposal generation rate of 12.1 pounds per employee per day, and an adult population generation rate of 5.5 pounds per person per day (CalRecycle 2023). The City of Woodland Municipal Code (Chapter 13.36) regulates solid waste disposal services and recyclable materials, and Chapter 13.40 regulates recycling of construction and demolition debris. The CALGreen Code requires that 100 percent of trees, stumps, rocks, and associated vegetation and soils resulting primarily from land clearing be reused or recycled, and requires that at least 65 percent of construction and demolition waste be diverted from landfills. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 requires local agencies to implement source reduction, recycling, and composting that would result in a minimum of 50 percent diversion of solid waste from landfills, thereby extending the life of landfills. Assembly Bill 341 subsequently established that at least 75 percent of the solid waste that is generated must be source-reduced, recycled, or composted by the year 2020. 2035 General Plan Policies 5.J.1 through 5.J.7 promote the reduction of solid waste, encourage recycling facilities, and require that all development complies with the City of Woodland Source Reduction and Recycling Element. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to compliance with solid waste regulations would be less than significant.

Project-related construction would result in site clearing and generation of various construction-related waste, including asphalt pavement, cardboard, wood pallets, scrap metal, and common trash. Most of the soil that is excavated for utility pipeline installation would be reused to backfill the utility line trenches. The remaining soil would be stockpiled for agricultural reuse. The construction contractor and the project applicant would be required to comply with the CALGreen Code, which requires that at least 65 percent of construction and demolition waste be diverted from landfills, along with City of Woodland Municipal Code Chapter 13.40 that regulates recycling of construction and demolition debris. Because the proposed project consists of underground utility lines, project operation would not generate solid waste. Any other utility pipelines that may be installed within one mile of the existing ULL would be subject to the same conditions as above. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded that the impact related to compliance with solid waste regulations would be less than significant. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

5 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

CEQA requires the EIR to analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project that (1) meet most or all of the project's objectives; (2) substantially reduce one or more of its significant effects; and (3) are potentially feasible.

5.1 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

As noted in Chapter 5 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, "Alternatives," the project objectives include the City's Vision Statement and Guiding Principles for the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. The vision statement is an aspirational description of what the community would like to be in the future, in this case, looking forward to 2035, and represents a compilation of input from the community through the public process. Guiding principles are shared values that will be used to develop policies that would, once implemented, achieve the vision. These are included below.

5.1.1 GENERAL PLAN VISION STATEMENT

The 2035 General Plan Vision Statement is:

> In 2035, Woodland is a highly desirable community to live, learn, work and recreate. It has maintained its small-town feel while maturing into an attractive, vibrant, and sustainable city that celebrates its architectural heritage and cultural diversity. Woodland is a healthy community with livable neighborhoods, a thriving downtown, well maintained infrastructure, excellent schools and recreational amenities connected by a seamless network of trails and paths.
>
> The city is the region's center of agricultural technology and food production and is recognized globally as a leader in sustainable agriculture. The community is prosperous and fiscally sound, offering abundant employment opportunities to its diverse and creative workforce.
>
> Woodland has become a destination for visitors seeking to experience its unique agricultural, historical, recreational, cultural and entertainment amenities.

5.1.2 GENERAL PLAN'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The General Plan's Guiding Principles highlight the most critical shared values that were used in developing the policies and implementation measures in the 2035 General Plan. They include:

1. Quality and Character: Retain and enhance Woodland's quality of life, its distinctive identity and small-town characteristics.

2. Orderly Development: Promote new growth while achieving an orderly pattern of community development, consistent with economic, social, fiscal and environmental needs.

3. Historic Downtown: Strengthen the historic downtown district as the City's center of shopping, dining, entertainment and employment.

4. Economic Development: Foster economic growth and diversification with a range of employment opportunities for all residents.

5. Mobility Options: Coordinate land use and transportation planning to provide a range of attractive and viable transportation options, such as bicycle, pedestrian, and transit.

6. Housing Choice: Provide a variety of housing types to meet the needs for all generations and income levels.

7. Agricultural Heritage: Preserve and protect prime agricultural lands and their uses within and surrounding the community.

8. Safety: Ensure that Woodland remains a safe place to live, protected from natural and manmade hazards.

9. Environmental Stewardship: Foster a sustainable community for the next generation and protect and improve the quality of the natural environment.

10. Public Services: Provide realistic, supportable and appropriate levels of public service that are sustainable and fiscally sound.

11. Health and Recreation: Provide all residents with opportunities to live an active, healthy, and green lifestyle.

12. Quality Education: Foster quality educational and enrichment opportunities.

The General Plan amendment is consistent with the Project Objectives that were include in the City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

5.2 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15163, the supplement to the EIR need contain only the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised. The proposed project would not increase the severity of any impacts as they were disclosed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Since there are no new impacts associated with the proposed project and since there are no impacts that would increase in severity with implementation of the proposed project, this SEIR does not include any new alternatives for analysis. There are no alternatives that were determined to be infeasible at the time of drafting the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (Chapter 5, Alternatives, page 5-5 through 5-7) that would address any potentially significant impact, and that are now feasible. This is because the alternatives that were determined to be infeasible (General Plan Scenario 1: High Infill; No New Greenfield Development and General Plan Scenario 3: Moderate Infill; New Greenfield Growth in the South and North) would have resulted in more new development than the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not make the alternatives analysis provided in Chapter 5 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR inadequate, and no changes to Chapter 5 of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR are needed.

6 OTHER CEQA CONSIDERATIONS

This chapter presents discussions of additional topics required by CEQA: cumulative impacts, growth-inducing impacts, significant and unavoidable impacts, and significant irreversible environmental changes.

6.1 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Section 15130 of the CEQA Guidelines requires the analysis of all cumulatively considerable impacts resulting from a proposed project. Section 15355 defines a cumulative impact as "two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts." Cumulative impacts can originate from one project or from separate projects. Cumulative impacts result when two or more impacts of a project combine and increase the severity or significance of either impact. Cumulative impacts can also be created when impacts from separate projects combine to make a compound impact that is more severe than the impacts would have been had the projects occurred in isolation.

Pursuant to Section 15130 of the CEQA Guidelines, "(t)he discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great detail as is provided for the effects attributable to the project alone." According to State guidance, the discussion in this section is guided by the standards of practicality and reasonableness and focuses on the cumulative impacts to which the identified other projects contribute rather than the attributes of other projects which do not contribute to the cumulative impact.

The cumulative analysis examines impacts of a proposed project taken together with past, present, and probable future projects producing related impacts. The analysis in this section includes:

- a determination of whether the long-term impacts of all related past, present, and future plans and projects would cause a cumulatively significant impact; and
- a determination as to whether implementation of the proposed project would have a "cumulatively considerable" contribution to any significant cumulative impact.

The two above determinations are evaluated throughout the Cumulative Effects analysis using two key terms (1) Cumulative Context and (2) Cumulative Impact. These terms are defined below.

6.1.1 CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

The cumulative context represents past, present, and probable future projects that may have impacts to which a proposed project would contribute. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and this SEIR analysis, uses the plan method based on regional growth projections, which include the City and the County (page 6-2 to 6-3 and Exhibits 6-1 and 6-2) to establish the cumulative context. Now that the 2035 General Plan has been adopted and is being implemented by the City, the development occurring under the General Plan is part of the cumulative context and the cumulative scenario that was previously evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR is part of the overall cumulative context for this SEIR. The cumulative scenario evaluated in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR considered buildout of the Planning Area for the City (page 6-3 to 6-9), which is part of the cumulative context for this SEIR analysis. The cumulative context for the County remains as described in the 2035 General Plan EIR and CAP, based on growth projections for the area. Using the plan method is appropriate for a General

Plan and General Plan amendment given general plans support the planning and development of the City and County. The cumulative context does not include the proposed project (i.e., the proposed amendment to the General Plan and the proposed extension of utilities to Bayer or Clark Pacific).

In addition to planned method described above, a review of the discretionary actions of the County was conducted to determine if commercial facilities are planned within one mile of the existing ULL (Yolo County. n.d). Only one project, Harlan Ranch cell phone tower project for installation of a 140-foot-tall monopole cell tower was identified. The County released a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration on July 2, 2025 for this project (Yolo County 2025a). Given there were no significant impacts or impacts that needed mitigation in the Negative Declaration, and the fact that it would result in highly limited spatially and temporally construction impacts, this project would not contribute to the types impacts for which the proposed project was evaluated and this project combined with the proposed project would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts on resources evaluated for the proposed project in this SEIR. Therefore, the Harlan Ranch cell phone tower project is not considered further as part of the cumulative context.

The cumulative context also includes consideration of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects related to either Clark Pacific or Bayer. The following past projects were identified with respect to Clark Pacific.

- On April 1, 2008, the County certified an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) (SCH #2008022124) for the Clark Pacific Project (Zone File 2007- 078), which included approval of a General Plan Amendment of 90 acres from AG to IN, a Rezone from Agricultural General (A-1) to Heavy Industrial (M-2), and a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) requesting a change from one nonconforming use to another nonconforming use and a Development Agreement (Doc. No. 2008-0012768).

- On July 24, 2012, the County certified the Clark Pacific Expansion Project EIR (SCH# 2011092080), which included the expansion of the Clark Pacific facility to the west, resulting in its existing size and form (Zone File 2011-0029). The Clark Pacific Expansion Project included a Rezone of 58.6 acres from A-1 to M-2, 20 acres from A-1 to Open Space (OS), and six acres from M-2 to OS, consistent with the land use designations in the General Plan. The Clark Pacific Expansion Project also required approval of a Tentative Subdivision Map, an amendment to the existing Development Agreement (Doc. No. 2012- 0028850), and the termination of components of the previously approved CUP, such as the operation hours.

- On March 28, 2025, the County released an NOP/IS for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project (ZF #2023-0005), which would include the expansion of the adjacent existing Clark Pacific facility and subdivision of the site into seven parcels ranging in size from 10.01 to 13.25 acres (Yolo County 2025b). Although the proposed Clark Pacific expansion does not include specific development plans at this time, the future facilities are anticipated to be developed similar to the existing Clark Pacific facility (Yolo County 2025b). Additionally, the proposed project would include associated internal roadway improvements, utility improvements, and landscaping (Yolo County 2025b). The project would require County approval of a General Plan Amendment, Rezone, and a Tentative Subdivision Map. Utilities development of each of the seven proposed parcels would include installation of a private well to establish water service. Installation of new private wells is subject to the Yolo County Water Well Program and review and approval by the Yolo County Environmental Health Division (Yolo County 2025b). With respect to wastewater disposal services, development of each of the seven proposed parcels would include installation of a leach field (Yolo County

2025b). Installation of new septic systems is subject to the Yolo County Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Program and review and approval by Yolo County Environmental Health Division (Yolo County 2025b).

Given the first two projects were to align existing uses with the General Plan and allow uses that were already existing, these projects would not contribute to the types impacts for which the proposed project was evaluated. Therefore, these two projects are not further considered in the cumulative context. However, the Clark Pacific Expansion Project has the potential to result in similar types of impacts as the proposed project that when viewed together may be cumulative. Thus, this project is discussed further below in the cumulative context.

The following past projects were identified with respect to Bayer.

- Discretionary approvals have been approved by the County over the years to allow for agricultural research uses, including office and laboratory buildings, conference center, greenhouses, warehouses, and other agricultural structures at the Bayer location.
- On October 8, 2009, the County approved a Use Permit Modification and adopted a Negative Declaration (SCH # 1999082018) on October 8, 2009, to allow for the addition of approximately 168,000 square feet of building area to the agricultural research facility.
- On May 11, 2022, the County filed a Notice of Determination for an IS/MND for the Bayer Woodland Solar Farm project, which included a use permit to construct and operate a 10.8 acre solar energy system on a 39-acre agricultural parcel (SCH # 2022030767).

The first two projects allowed for use and development within the existing footprint of the Bayer facilities. Given there were no significant impacts or impacts that needed mitigation as part of the Negative Declaration, and the fact that these projects resulted primarily in spatially and temporally limited construction impacts, these projects combined with the proposed project would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts on resources and are not considered further as part of the cumulative context. The Bayer Woodland Solar Farm Project IS/MND concluded that the project would have no significant cumulative impacts (Yolo County 2022). Therefore, this project is not considered further as part of the cumulative context.

6.1.2 CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The cumulative impact for the proposed project is the incremental contribution of potential impacts of proposed project on resources when considering the above-described cumulative context. The proposed project does not include land use or zoning designation changes. The proposed project would only be applicable to existing commercial facilities located within one mile of the existing ULL in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026. The proposed project includes the extension of existing utilities from the City to existing Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities and other potential existing commercial facilities. However, as noted in Section 3.3.2 it is unknown which businesses and the location of potential utility extension alignments and therefore the cumulative analysis does not speculate regarding exact locations.

6.1.3 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS would include land use changes and transportation projects that could convert several thousand acres of Important Farmland to non-agricultural uses (page 6-13). Even though the MTP/SCS makes efforts to create a compact land use pattern, its development footprint has the potential to conflict with several thousand acres of agricultural zoning, and hundreds of acres of farmland under active Williamson Act contracts (page 6-13). The SACOG MTP/SCS EIR includes a recommendation to reduce this regional impact by requiring permanent protection of in-kind farmland at a 1:1 ratio. In addition, by focusing on providing small-lot and attached housing, maximizing infill and redevelopment opportunities, and planning for communities with a mix of uses, the proposed MTP/SCS is intended to help facilitate a relatively more compact land use pattern, reducing impacts on agricultural land (page 6-13). Consistent with the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, development that results in permanent conversion of Important Farmland as a result of implementation of the 2035 General Plan is required to implement Mitigation Measure 4.1-1 to apply the 2035 General Plan Policy 2.A.3 with adopted amendments, which requires one acre of Important Farmland to be permanently conserved for every one acre converted to urban development, and requires that the Farmland to be conserved be of the same type as the Farmland converted, and located as close to Woodland as possible. However, it is not possible to fully mitigate for the cumulative loss of Prime Farmland and no other feasible mitigation measures are available; therefore, this impact would be cumulatively significant and unavoidable. As noted in the NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project, that project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts on agricultural resources (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the permanent conversion of Important Farmland because of the expansion. As with the implementation of the 2035 General Plan, mitigation measures would be required if permanent conversion occurred; however, these measures would not replace the permanently converted farmland therefore resulting in a cumulative impact. The permanent conversion of Important Farmland in the region, the County, and within the Planning Area of the City, as well as conflicts with agricultural zoning and Williamson Act contracts, constitutes a significant and unavoidable cumulative impact.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

Implementing the proposed project would not permanently convert Prime Farmland or Unique Farmland as a result of the installation of utility lines. The proposed project would result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 0.006 percent of the total Prime Farmland countywide and the Prime Farmland for the Bayer utility extension alignment is owned by Bayer as part of its vegetable crop research and development center in Woodland. Because most of the land within one mile outside of the ULL is classified by the FMMP and under CEQA as Important Farmland, extension of any other utility lines that could be requested would also result in the temporary disturbance of Important Farmland. The temporary disturbance would not contribute to the significant cumulative impact on Important Farmland because permanent conversion would not occur. As a result, cumulative impacts on Important Farmland would be less than significant. The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed underground, and the existing agricultural and industrial land use and zoning designations would not change. Furthermore, there are no Williamson Act contracts on the parcels where the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be installed. Even if other utility line alignments within one mile of the existing ULL were presented to the City for potential approval with installation in parcels under Williamson Act contracts, because the utility lines would be installed underground agriculture would continue on

the affected parcels and the Williamson Act status would not be affected. Finally, since the utility pipelines would be sized to serve only each respective facility, there would be no potential to cause additional conversion of surrounding agricultural land. Thus, there would be no cumulative impact related to conflicts with agricultural zoning, Williamson Act contracts, or indirect conversion of agricultural land.

6.1.4 AIR QUALITY

The YSAQMD significance thresholds are intended to be used to determine whether or not the subject project would have a cumulatively considerable impact. The YSAQMD also uses its significance thresholds as a proxy for determining whether projects are accommodated within in the applicable air quality plan.

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

The geographic scope for air quality consists of the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (pages 6-14 through 6-18) analyzed cumulative impacts to air quality. The proposed project area is outside of the planning area for the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, but within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. By its nature, air pollution is largely a cumulative impact (page 6-14). The implementation of plans and projects within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin would contribute to this impact on a cumulative basis (page 6-14). The emissions of an individual project may be individually limited but cumulatively considerable when taken in combination with past, present, and future development projects (page 6-14). Construction and operation of new development within the City and the County that is planned for via their General Plans and growth projections would result in an increase in air pollutant emissions that would contribute to cumulative air quality impacts (page 6-14). The nonattainment status of regional pollutants is a result of past and present development within the air basin, and this regional impact is a significant cumulative impact (page 6-14). Existing TAC sources include mobile sources, stationary sources, and areawide sources, which all cumulatively contribute to the existing TAC concentrations and the associated health risk (page 6-15). As noted in the NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project, that project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts on air quality (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the construction and operation of the expansion. Similar to the implementation of the 2035 General Plan and other development projects in the County these emissions would contribute to cumulative air quality impacts.

Odor impacts are generally localized and do not combine with odor impacts in nearby jurisdictions to increase the severity of impacts (page 6-18). Because odor emissions from various land uses differ in nature, these emissions would not cumulatively contribute to each other to expose residents (page 6-18). There is no significant cumulative impact (page 6-18).

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The proposed project would not result in either City or County land use or zoning changes and thus would not result in development that has not already been planned for by the City or County. Proposed utility extensions would occur to serve existing commercial facilities under the proposed project. The extension of utilities, as represented by such to Bayer and Clark Pacific, as part of the proposed project would temporarily generate criteria air pollutant and toxic air contaminant (i.e., diesel particulate matter) emissions. However, emissions would be below applicable thresholds (Table 4.2-1, Table 4.2-2 and Table 4.2-3), and resultant diesel particulate matter would be minimal, disperse quickly with distance from equipment and vehicle activity, and occur for a limited duration in proximity to any individual receptor due to the linear nature of utility construction. Furthermore, there

would be no operational emissions, and there would be no odors beyond that associated with limited temporary construction exhaust emissions. In developing its recommended thresholds of significance, YSAQMD considers levels at which project emissions would be cumulatively considerable. The project-level criteria pollutant thresholds therefore represent the maximum emissions the project may generate before contributing to a cumulative impact on regional air quality. Emissions below these thresholds, such as the proposed project (Table 4.2-1, Table 4.2-2 and Table 4.2-3), are considered to be not cumulatively considerable. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact. As a result, the cumulative impact for air quality emissions, toxic air contaminants, and other emissions, such as those leading to odors, is less than significant.

6.1.5 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Past and present actions by humans have substantially altered biological resources in the Central Valley region of California and the County, specifically, compared to historical conditions (page 6-18). Among the most important of these past actions have been conversion of natural vegetation and habitats to agricultural and developed land uses; flood control projects; and the introduction of nonnative species, which, in many cases, have competed with, preyed upon, and degraded habitat for native species (page 6-18). Overall, impacts on the following species have been cumulatively considerable and significant given the loss and degradation of habitat and the special-status of these species associated with the broader development of the Central Valley and County: palmate-bracted bird's beak, alkali prairie and sink, vernal pools and vernal pool species, giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk (pages 6-19 to 6-24). The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on biological resources and specifically identified multiple mitigation measures to reduce, avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on biological resources (Yolo County 2025b). Thus it is not anticipated this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding biological resources. Implementation of the 2035 General Plan includes the preservation of occurrences of palmate-bracted bird's beak in the Planning Area; preservation of the known remaining alkali prairie/sink habitat and the and the majority of known occurrences of these special-status plant species – alkali milk-vetch, brittlescale, San Joaquin spearscale, and Heckard's peppergrass; preservation of the known remaining vernal pool habitat in the Planning Area; and policies and commitments to implement the Yolo HCP/NCCP resulting in the establishment of habitat for giant garter snake and Swainson's Hawk (pages 6-19 to 6-24). These activities contribute to reducing the loss and adverse effects on biological resources associated with the 2035 General Plan (pages 6-19 to 6-24).

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The proposed project would not develop land or change land use or zoning such that the loss of habitat for special status species would occur. The proposed project would continue to implement the policies and goals of the general plan and would not develop or otherwise alter lands that have been preserved for special status species. The proposed project has incorporated multiple mitigation measures from the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the Yolo HCP/NCCP, and mitigation measures consistent with both planning documents, such that impacts on habitat and special-status species would be reduced to less than significant. Furthermore, the proposed project will be implemented in accordance with the Yolo HCP/NCCP avoidance and minimization measures. Through payment of Yolo HCP/NCCP fees or equivalent mitigation, the proposed project would contribute to the Yolo HCP/NCCP's conservation strategy, thereby benefiting the covered species evaluated in this SEIR. Therefore,

with incorporation of Yolo HCP/NCCP fees or equivalent mitigation and adherence to other Yolo HCP/NCCP avoidance and minimization measures, the proposed project's individual impacts and its contribution to cumulative impacts to covered species under the HCP/NCCP are less than significant (i.e., palmated-bracted bird's beak, Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, northwestern pond turtle, giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk, White-tailed kite, Western burrowing owl, least Bell's vireo, and Tricolored blackbird). Incorporation of mitigation measures for construction related impacts on non-covered species (i.e., Monarch butterfly, Crotch's bumble bee, and pallid bat) would reduce, avoid, or minimize construction related impacts. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on biological resources. As a result, the cumulative impact for biological resources is less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

6.1.6 CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Cultural resources are degraded or destroyed as cumulative development in the region proceeds (page 6-29). Development of projects and plans has the potential to result in the discovery of undocumented subsurface cultural resources or unmarked historic-era or prehistoric Native American burials (page 6-29). Cumulative gains in population, households, and jobs require a commensurate increase in infrastructure, capital facilities, services, housing, and commercial uses in the City and the County (page 6-29). Each of these increases carries with it a corresponding increase in the magnitude of ground disturbance and the construction of new buildings and structures and other site development activities (page 6-29). The impact on archaeological deposits, human remains, and potential historic resources would be substantial given the past extent of urban development, and anticipated gains in population, jobs, and housing (page 6-29). There is the potential for significant cumulative impact on cultural resources as a result of the implementation of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects (page 6-29). The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project as having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on cultural resource or Tribal Cultural Resources and specifically identified multiple mitigation measures to reduce, avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts (Yolo County 2025b). Thus it is not anticipated that this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding cultural resources or Tribal Cultural Resources.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The proposed utility extension alignments would not affect the significance of the National Register of Historic Places-eligible buildings and structures associated with the former Spreckels Sugar Factory at the Clark Pacific facility and there is no previously recorded historic architecture resource at Bayer. Implementation of the proposed project could result in an extension of existing utilities to existing commercial facilities beyond Bayer and Clark Pacific that may have historic architecture; however, it is likely that utility elements would be ubiquitous infrastructure that are necessary for an industrial or commercial facility, and they likely would not contribute to the historical significance of a property, similar to those utility elements of the Clark Pacific facility. Furthermore, Mitigation Measure 4.6-1b: Implementation Program Cultural 1 (Implementation Program 7.11 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017) would reduce impacts to less than significant if historic architecture resources were identified. Implementation of the proposed project would disturb ground along the Bayer and Clark Pacific utility extension alignments. The proposed project has the potential to disturb ground if other existing commercial facilities extend utilities. Ground disturbance has the potential to affect

unknown archaeological resources or unknown human remains. Ground disturbance would likely occur within the right of way of existing roads or disturbed agricultural areas. Implementation of the Mitigation Measure 4.6-1c: Implementation Program Cultural 2 (Implementation Program 7.11 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017), Mitigation Measure 4.6-1d: Implementation Program Cultural 3 (Implementation Program 7.13 of the 2035 General Plan, Appendix A, City of Woodland 2017), and Mitigation Measure 4.6-2: Implementation Program Cultural 4 (Implementation Program 7.14 of the 2035 General Plan, City of Woodland 2017) would reduce impacts to less than significant. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on cultural resources. As a result, the cumulative impact for cultural resources is less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

6.1.7 GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS would involve development in areas with geologic and soils constraints, and in areas that could result in soil erosion. However, impacts for these topics are site-specific and there is no additional cumulative impact that results from the combined geologic or soils conditions of past, present, and future projects. There is no significant cumulative impact (page 6-30). The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on geology or soils (Yolo County 2025b).

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS would include construction-related earthmoving activities throughout the region. Particularly during the winter rainy season, earthmoving activities such as excavating and grading, along with uncovered material stockpiles, have the potential to result in erosion from stormwater runoff, which could in turn result in the transport of sediment and other pollutants into receiving water bodies. The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on hydrology and water quality, which is resource evaluated for erosion from stormwater runoff (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the construction and operation of the expansion. This is a significant cumulative impact.

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS would involve development in geologic formations such as the Modesto and Riverbank (along with others) that have a high paleontological resources sensitivity. Paleontologically sensitive geologic units are widespread in the Sacramento region, particularly in valley areas and adjacent lower foothills. Land use change and infrastructure improvements throughout the region have the potential to damage or destroy buried paleontological resources. Since most paleontological resources are buried under the ground surface, it is difficult to predict the location of resources in the context of site planning, and therefore difficult to avoid in project designs. The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on paleontology and specifically identified mitigation measures to reduce, avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on paleontological resources (Yolo County 2025b). Thus it is not anticipated that this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding paleontological resources. However, overall, given the sensitivity of the existing geologic formations in the region, impacts on paleontological resources are considered significant cumulative impacts (page 6-31).

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The proposed project would result in the construction of underground utility lines, which would occur in the same geologic region and the same soil types that were analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Any other underground utility infrastructure that could be installed within one mile of the existing ULL would also be constructed in the same geologic region and the same or similar soil types with similar geologic issues that were analyzed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Construction issues associated with geologic and seismic constraints are based on site-specific conditions and are addressed through site-specific geotechnical reports, and City, State, and federal building code requirements; there is no cumulative impact that results from the combined geologic or soils conditions of past, present, and future projects when considered in combination with the proposed project.

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would result in earthmoving activities including grading and excavation. These activities would increase the potential for soil erosion, which could also increase the potential for transport of sediment and other pollutants into local drainages from stormwater runoff, that could in turn adversely affect water quality in downstream water bodies. However, all projects that disturb one acre or more of land, including the proposed project, are required to comply with the SWRCB's Construction General Permit, including preparation of SWPPPs and implementation of site-specific BMPs specifically designed to control soil erosion at each construction site and protect the quality of receiving water bodies. Therefore, the cumulative impacts from construction-related erosion associated with the proposed project would be less than cumulatively considerable.

Construction of a portion of the proposed Bayer utility extension alignment would occur within a mixture of the Pleistocene-age Modesto and Riverbank Formations, which are of high paleontological sensitivity. Construction of other utility pipelines within one mile outside the ULL could also occur in these paleontologically sensitive formations. However, all project applicants would be required to implement 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR Mitigation Measure 4.7-4, to apply the Implementation Program Paleontological Resources 1 (Implementation Program 7.15 of the 2035 General Plan), during construction activities. Because Implementation Program 7.15 requires construction worker personnel education, stopping work in the vicinity of any fossils that may be encountered, evaluation of the fossils by a qualified paleontologist, and recovery and curation of any fossil specimens, the impacts of the proposed project from potential damage to or destruction of unique paleontological resources would be cumulatively less than considerable and the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on paleontological resource.

6.1.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND ENERGY

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Emissions of GHGs have the potential to adversely affect the environment because such emissions contribute cumulatively to global climate change (page 6-24). It is unlikely that a single project will contribute significantly to climate change, but cumulative emissions from many projects and activities affect global GHG concentrations and the climate system (page 6-24). This is a significant cumulative impact (page 6-24). As noted in the NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project, that project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts on greenhouse gas emissions (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the construction and operation of the expansion. Similar to the implementation of the 2035 General Plan and other development projects in the County these emissions would contribute to cumulative greenhouse gas emissions.

The County and the cities within the County implement general plans that include goals and policies to reduce energy demands through the use of design features, building materials, and building practices; encourage the use of renewable energy sources; promote land uses and patterns that would not cause wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy; and ensure adequate electricity and natural gas and related distribution systems are available to meet energy demands (page 6-25). The California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission have roles in regulating energy supply and ensuring reliable and sufficient supplies as the state grows (page 6-25).

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The discussion of GHG emissions associated with the proposed project in Section 4.4 of this SEIR is inherently a cumulative impact analysis. The proposed project would not alter land use designations or introduce new development beyond what was analyzed and assumed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, and therefore would be within the growth assumptions upon which the CAP modeling is based. The proposed project would not result in any new operational emissions sources and would not cause wasteful, inefficient or unnecessary consumption of energy. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact with respect to GHGs or energy. As a result, the cumulative impact for GHG and energy is less than significant.

6.1.9 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND TOXICS

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS and by implementation of the 2035 General Plan is not anticipated to present a public health hazard to residents or workers (page 6-31). New development in the region and within the Planning Area would likely result in an increase in routine use, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials, as well as handling of hazardous materials near existing and proposed schools. However, existing federal, State, and local regulations create and enforce standards for these activities. Upset or accident conditions, emissions of hazardous materials near schools, and development on a site listed as containing hazardous materials occurs on a project-by-project basis and the impacts are site-specific, rather than cumulative. Individual projects in the County and nearby cities would be required to comply with federal, State, and local regulations. The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on hazards and hazardous materials (Yolo County 2025b). Thus it is not anticipated that this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding hazards and hazardous materials. There are no cumulative impacts (page 6-31).

There are 14 airports in the Sacramento region. SACOG serves as the Airport Land Use Commission and has developed ALUCPs for almost all of the airports. Compliance with the ALUCPs and existing federal, State, and local laws protect the safety of people near airports and private airstrips. The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on airports and is not located within close proximity to an airport (Yolo County 2025b). Thus, it is not anticipated that this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding airports. The cumulative impact regarding airports and airstrips is less than significant (page 6-31).

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The project applicants and construction contractors for the proposed project and any other utility lines within one mile outside the ULL are required by law to comply with the extensive federal, State, and local regulations regarding the use, handling, storage, disposal, and transport of hazardous materials. There are no schools within 0.25 mile of the proposed Bayer or Clark Pacific utility line alignments, and proposed utility line installation would not occur within areas that contain hazardous materials. Upset or accident conditions, emissions of hazardous materials near schools, and development on a site listed as containing hazardous materials occurs on a project-by-project basis and the impacts are site-specific, rather than cumulative. Therefore, the proposed project would not have a cumulatively considerable contribution and would have no cumulative impact.

None of the land areas within one mile outside the ULL, including the proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments, would be situated within the airport influence area of the Watts-Woodland Airport. The Sacramento International Airport Influence Area includes the eastern side of the one-mile area outside the existing ULL, which primarily consists of agricultural land but also includes an area of industrial and warehouse uses adjacent to and southwest of the Cache Creek settling basin. The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility line alignments would not be situated within the Sacramento International Airport Influence Area; however, other utility line alignments within one mile outside the ULL could be. The City requires review of consistency between the Sacramento International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and all proposed major projects within the Airport Influence Area to ensure compatibility. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant cumulative impact related to airport safety hazards.

6.1.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND BASIN PLANNING

Cumulative Context

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS and development planned for in the 2035 General Plan would include construction-related earthmoving activities. Particularly during the winter rainy season, earthmoving activities such as excavating and grading, along with uncovered material stockpiles, have the potential to result in erosion from stormwater runoff, which could in turn result in the transport of sediment and other pollutants into receiving water bodies. Regional development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS and development under the 2035 General Plan would also include additional stormwater runoff from new impervious surfaces that could transport pollutants into receiving water bodies (page 6-32). All construction activities are required in order to comply with the SWRCB's statewide NPDES Construction General Permit for general construction activity, and any other necessary site-specific waste discharge requirements or waivers under the Porter-Cologne Act, as well as local agency public works construction standards and applicable ordinances that regulate construction discharges. Operation of site-specific projects are required to comply with County and City's stormwater programs under the NPDES General Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4 Permit), which includes requirements for Low Impact Development, hydromodification management, and operational stormwater pretreatment. Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations related to construction and operational stormwater detention and pre-treatment would ensure that projects would not violate water quality standards and would not impede implementation of the Basin Plan. The cumulative impact would be less than significant.

Cumulative Impact

The proposed project would involve earthmoving activities of more than one acre of land during pipeline installation, which could result in pollutant mobilization and transport in stormwater runoff, thus potentially degrading the water quality in receiving water bodies. A similar level of disturbance, with a similar level of impact, could result from any other pipelines installed within one mile outside the ULL. However, all projects that disturb one acre or more of land, including the proposed project, are required to comply with the SWRCB's Construction General Permit, including preparation of SWPPPs and implementation of site-specific BMPs specifically designed to control soil erosion at each construction site and protect the quality of receiving water bodies, and therefore would not impede implementation of the Basin Plan. Because the proposed pipelines would be installed underground, there would be no operational water quality impacts. Compliance with federal, state, and local regulations would result in a cumulatively less-than-significant impact related to water quality.

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE, SUPPLY, AND SUSTAINABILITY

Cumulative Context

Development forecast under SACOG's MTP/SCS throughout the region and implementation of the 2035 General Plan would add areas composed of impervious surfaces (e.g., buildings, parking areas, roadways), which, depending on the specific location of such development, could adversely affect groundwater recharge. Furthermore, new development in the region could increase the demand for potable water supply from groundwater. However, in 2022, the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency adopted the Yolo Subbasin GSP, which was approved by DWR in 2023. As explained in the Yolo Subbasin GSP, groundwater in the basin is managed through conjunctive use, which includes a mix of both surface water and groundwater to meet water demands. The water demand and supply projections in the GSP include the future build-out scenarios for all the incorporated cities in the subbasin (including the Woodland 2035 General Plan), as well as existing and projected development in the unincorporated county areas of the subbasin (including the Bayer and Clark Pacific facilities). The IS/MND for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project identified permanent buildings and development would result in impervious surfaces which could interfere with groundwater recharge and new groundwater wells would be required that could substantially decrease groundwater supplies (Yolo County 2025b). Therefore, the project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts related to hydrology and water quality (Yolo County 2025b). However, the Yolo Subbasin is currently not in a condition of overdraft, and the GSP includes a program of management actions designed to ensure groundwater sustainability during the plan's mandated planning timeframe. Therefore, until the analysis of the Clark Pacific Expansion Project is complete and the volume of exiting groundwater supplies compared to the needs of the project are quantified, the Yolo Subbasin is being managed so as not to be substantially depleted. Thus the cumulative impacts related to groundwater supply, demand, and sustainability would be less than significant.

Cumulative Impact

The proposed project would not result in the creation of any new impervious surfaces, and therefore would not impede groundwater recharge. Currently there are two groundwater wells at Bayer and three groundwater wells at Clark Pacific. One of the groundwater wells at Bayer would be decommissioned, and two of the groundwater wells at Clark Pacific would be decommissioned. Water supply in the future would be provided by the City through new underground pipelines. The City participates in the Woodland-Davis Regional Water Supply Project, which provides Woodland with direct use of surface water. In addition to City-supplied surface water for potable

water needs, Clark Pacific would also use non-potable recycled water (supplied by the City) for processing purposes, instead of pumping groundwater from the existing on-site water supply wells. Bayer would use the potable water supplied by the City for both drinking water and process water demands. Although the total water demands from both facilities could increase slightly over time as shown in Table 3.3-2, the use of recycled water by Clark Pacific would reduce the project's overall groundwater demands by an estimated 32–48 AFY. Furthermore, because the existing groundwater at both facilities requires treatment to meet the U.S. EPA drinking water guidelines as well as buffering to minimize damage to laboratory equipment and other mechanical systems, eliminating the groundwater pumping would reduce impacts related to groundwater quality. Other utility pipelines that could be installed within one mile outside the ULL would also support groundwater sustainability by using City water instead of groundwater and would not result in the creation of new impervious surfaces. Therefore, the proposed project's impacts related to groundwater supply, demand, and sustainability would be cumulatively less than significant.

FLOODING

Cumulative Context

At a regional level, development forecast in the SACOG MTP/SCS includes more than 75,710 dwelling units in a 200-year flood hazard area (Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties) and 597 units will be located in a 100-year flood hazard area (El Dorado and Placer counties). In addition, implementation 2035 General Plan would result in new development in areas currently considered within the flood hazard area (page 6-34). Development in flood hazard areas can have a cumulative impact, because development can impede and redirect floodwater flow, change drainage patterns, and increase impervious surfaces. In addition, climate change may increase the magnitude and frequency of extreme precipitation events may increase, leading to greater flood risk. These scenarios would place more pressure on California's levees and overall flood control system. Development in flood hazard zones represents a potentially significant cumulative impact. Furthermore, the IS/MND for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project identified permanent buildings and development would occur within a Special Flood Hazard Area and the project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts related to hydrology and water quality (Yolo County 2025b). With respect to implementation of 2035 General Plan, Policy 2.B.2 in the 2035 General Plan requires an approved and funded comprehensive flood solution before any development could occur in the new growth areas in the 100-year flood hazard area (page 6-34) which would reduce a potentially significant cumulative impact in the Planning Area (page 6-34). The City anticipates development in the levee inundation area and cannot guarantee that levees will not fail (page 6-34). The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified there is no additional feasible mitigation beyond that proposed in the 2035 General Plan to address this impact and it would be significant and unavoidable.

Cumulative Impact

Although most of the proposed Clark Facility utility line alignment is within both a 100-year floodplain and a 200-year floodplain with a potential flood depth of 3 feet or more, the proposed project does not include the construction of housing or any other buildings. Similarly, although the northernmost end of the proposed Bayer sewer pipeline alignment would be installed within an area classified by FEMA as a moderate flood hazard (Zone X), the proposed project does include the construction of housing or any other buildings. As noted in Chapter 3, "Project Description," project-related construction would occur from May to November, and therefore would not occur during the winter rainy season when flooding could occur. Although other utility pipelines could be installed within one mile outside of the ULL potentially within 100- and/or 200-year flood hazard areas, because

the proposed utility pipelines would be installed underground, operation of the pipelines would not be subject to flood hazards, and there would be no new buildings or other structures that could impede flood flows. Therefore, proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on flooding. As a result, the cumulative impact on flooding is less than significant.

6.1.11 LAND USE PLANNING, POPULATION, AND HOUSING

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Cumulative Context

In the context of past and proposed plans and projects in the SACOG region, there are no plans or projects that would disrupt or divide established communities. Although individual plans and projects may have significant impacts, they usually occur on a project-by-project basis, rather than in a cumulative manner. At the regional level, the MTP/SCS EIR concludes that the MTP/SCS complies with the objectives of California's SB 375. The implementation of the 2035 General Plan does not include linear projects that would physically divide an existing community. There is no significant cumulative impact (page 6-35). The NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project did not identify the project as having the potential to result in cumulative impacts on land use and planning (Yolo County 2025b). Thus it is not anticipated that this project would contribute to the cumulative context regarding land use and planning.

Cumulative Impact

The proposed project involves the installation of underground utility pipelines, primarily in areas of agricultural land and two commercial facilities. Other areas within one mile outside of the ULL where utility lines could be installed also consist primarily of agricultural land; these areas do not include any established communities. Therefore, the proposed project would not physically divide an established community, and there would be no cumulative impact.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Cumulative Context

Population growth, by itself, is not an environmental impact. However, the direct and indirect effects, such as housing and infrastructure needs that are related to population growth, can lead to physical environmental effects. Yolo County's population is anticipated to continue to grow, along with employment through 2035. Furthermore, at the regional level, the population and the number of jobs in the six-county SACOG region is forecast to increase during the planning horizon of the MTP/SCS. Increased population and employment in the region could generate the need for additional housing and infrastructure, which could lead to conversion of undeveloped land and associated adverse physical environmental impacts of the sort that are considered in this environmental topic-specific sections of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. As shown on Table 6-6, the population, housing, and employment projections under implementation of the 2035 General Plan would be substantially larger than the SACOG projections (page 6-36). It is possible that there could be some incentive for additional housing development within the Planning Area or in the vicinity of the Planning Area to accommodate new employees for non-residential developments in the Planning Area (page 6-36 and 6-37). Considering the indirect effects from past, present, and future development under the cumulative plans, and the potential increase land use density/intensity by the City to allow for additional development to meet demand and/or neighboring jurisdictions

may experience increased demand for additional development, this is a significant cumulative impact (pages 6-35, 6-36, and 6-37).

Cumulative Impact

The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be sized only to serve each respective facility. Similarly, if other requests for extension of utility lines within one mile outside the ULL were presented to the City for potential approval, they would be sized to serve only the respective facility. Because the pipelines would be sized to serve only each individual facility, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce substantial population growth. The proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on population and housing and there would be no cumulative impact (page 6-36 and 6-37).

6.1.12 NOISE AND VIBRATION

CUMULATIVE CONTEXT

Construction noise is generally a localized impact that does not have regional or cumulative considerations. Stationary noise sources within the Planning Area would not generally combine with noise sources outside the Planning Area to create a cumulative increase in stationary noise (page 6-37). Although ambient noise is increasing in urbanized areas over time as a result of increased development, there is no significant cumulative impact (page 6-37). Traffic noise generated by implementation of the 2035 General Plan and generated by development that is forecasted under the MTP/SCS would result in a significant cumulative impact to noise (page 6-37). As noted in the NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project, that project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts on noise (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the construction and operation of the expansion. Similar to the implementation of the 2035 General Plan and other development projects in the County these impacts would contribute to cumulative noise impacts.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The proposed project would generate temporary increases above ambient noise levels during construction for a short-duration. The noise generated by construction would be localized and would cease once construction is done because the underground pipelines would not generate noise. Furthermore, the proposed project would not generate permanent traffic resulting in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels. The proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact to noise and there would be no cumulative impact.

6.1.13 UTILITIES

WATER SUPPLY

Cumulative Context

Growth in the region will result in increased water demand from additional development (page 6-46). Available supply is dictated by water purveyor sources and purveyors who may have different demands, water supplies, water rights, and water quality challenges (page 6-46). The City has supported efforts to reduce water demand through conservation and other measures, which would lessen the demand for new water supply and water supply

treatment facilities (page 6-46). Nevertheless, the City identified a significant cumulative impact related to water supply as a part of the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR (page 6-47). As noted in the NOP/IS Checklist for the Clark Pacific Expansion Project, that project has the potential to result in cumulative impacts on water supply (Yolo County 2025b). Cumulative impacts could occur because of the need for groundwater during normal, dry, and multiple dry years, although the County GSP shows that the storage capacity of the Yolo Subbasin has historically remained stable (Yolo County 2025b). Thus, the proposed use of groundwater could contribute to significant cumulative water supply impacts, as identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

Cumulative Impact

Since the preparation of the 2035 General Plan, the City prepared a more recent Urban Water Management Plan that evaluates water supply and demand to 2045 under different water year types. This planning document indicates the City would have sufficient water supplies to meet demands. The proposed project would result in a nominal increase in the use of potable water through the connection of Clark Pacific and Bayer; however, the increase would be satisfied within the available water supply and not substantially increase overall demand as discussed in Impact 4.14-2, and Impact 4.14-4. The City would use discretion as to whether to extend services to other commercial facilities existing within one mile of the existing ULL prior to November 2026 based on the City's projected volume of water supply, consistent with General Plan Policy 5.G.3, and through the requirement of a utility service agreement which would not be executed without the City confirming the utility could be provided within the existing water supply. Therefore, proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on water supply. As a result, the cumulative impact on water supply is less than significant.

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Cumulative Context

Growth in the region is expected to increase demand for wastewater management services because of increased amounts of wastewater effluent (page 6-47). Increased population from cumulative growth may result in the need for construction of new facilities for utilities and service systems (page 6-47). The wastewater services provided as a result of implementation of the 2035 General Plan would not have impacts that would cumulatively compound with impacts related to the expansion of wastewater services in the region as they would be separated by geography and could occur at different times. Furthermore, while increased development and thus increased wastewater would occur as a result of implementation of the 2035 General Plan, the existing WPCF can serve projected development and capacity is being increased where needed (page 6-47). Therefore, cumulative impacts would be less than significant (page 6-47).

Cumulative Impact

The proposed project would result in a nominal increase in wastewater generation through the connection of Clark Pacific and Bayer to City services; however, the increase would be satisfied within the wastewater treatment capacity and not substantially increase overall wastewater volumes as discussed in Impact 4.14-1 and Impact 4.14-2. The City would use discretion as to whether to extend services to other commercial facilities existing within one mile of the existing ULL prior to November 2026 based on the City's wastewater treatment capacity, consistent with General Plan Goal 5.H, and through the requirement of a utility service agreement which would not be executed without the City confirming the utility could be provided. Therefore, proposed project would not

result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on wastewater capacity. As a result, the cumulative impact on wastewater is less than significant.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING

Cumulative Context

Growth in the region is expected to increase demand for solid waste management and recycling due to an increase in the amount of solid waste generated and requiring disposal. Additional landfills may be needed to ensure sufficient capacity on the regional scale. Any new landfill would be required to comply with relevant federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to permitting and operation prior to construction and operation. Implementation of the 2035 General Plan would increase the generation of solid waste; however, the Yolo County Central Landfill's disposal capacity is sufficient to absorb that increase, as well as projected increases from population growth in the rest of the County (6-47).

Cumulative Impact

The proposed project would result in a nominal increase in various construction-related waste, including asphalt pavement, cardboard, wood pallets, scrap metal, and common trash during construction. The proposed project would be required to comply with the CALGreen Code, which requires that at least 65 percent of construction and demolition waste be diverted from landfills, along with City of Woodland Municipal Code Chapter 13.40 that regulates recycling of construction and demolition debris. Because the proposed project consists of underground utility lines, project operation would not generate solid waste. Therefore, proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact on solid waste. As a result, the cumulative impact on solid waste is less than significant.

6.2 GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS

According to Section 15126.2(d) of the CEQA Guidelines, an EIR should:

> (d]iscuss ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. Included in this are projects that would remove obstacles to population growth (a major expansion of a wastewater treatment plant might, for example, allow for more construction in service areas). Increases in the population may tax existing community service facilities, requiring the construction of new facilities that could cause significant environmental effects. Also discuss characteristics of some projects that may encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment, either individually or cumulatively. It must not be assumed that growth in any area is necessarily beneficial, detrimental, or of little significance to the environment.

A project has the potential to induce growth both directly and indirectly. As identified in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, direct growth inducement would result if a project involved construction of new housing (page 6-48). Indirect growth inducement would result, for instance, if implementing a project resulted in substantial new permanent employment opportunities (e.g., commercial, industrial, or governmental enterprises); or a construction effort with substantial short-term employment opportunities that indirectly stimulates the need for additional housing and services to support the new employment demand; and/or removal of an obstacle to additional growth

and development, such as improving the capacity of a public utility or service (e.g., construction of a major sewer line with excess capacity through an undeveloped area) (page 6-48).

Growth inducement itself is not an environmental effect but may lead to environmental effects (page 6-48). These environmental effects may include increased traffic and noise, degradation of air or water quality, degradation or loss of plant or animal habitats, permanent conversion of agricultural and open space land to urban uses directly from population and employment growth or indirectly from development associated with goods and services needed by such growth (page 6-48).

Based on the definition of growth inducement, a general plan could be viewed as inherently growth-inducing because it must, by law, accommodate a jurisdiction's assigned share of regional housing demand. The existing 2035 General Plan provided the framework by which public officials will be guided in making decisions relative to future development in Woodland. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified that the General Plan includes policies for both infill and new development that would avoid unplanned development that could be induced through infrastructure expansion into new growth areas (page 6-48). These policies reduce the potential for unplanned, induced growth and the existing ULL constrains growth outside of the boundary of the City (page 6-48). However, the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR ultimately concludes that direct and indirect growth would occur because of the additional growth/development that could occur beyond what the General Plan planned for, as described in Section 6.1.11, "Land Use Planning, Population and Housing", of this SEIR, and the elimination of growth obstacles facilitated by the 2035 General Plan (page 6-49).

The proposed project would not facilitate growth directly because the proposed project would not develop houses or businesses, would not change land uses or zoning outside of the existing ULL, would not change the location of the existing ULL, and would not annex land into the City limits.

The proposed project would allow the potential extension of utilities to existing commercial facilities within one mile of the existing ULL that are in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026. Figure 6.2-1 identifies the existing commercial facilities that have registered business licenses with the State of California within one mile of the existing ULL at the time of the preparation of the NOP for this SEIR. A total of 62 businesses are located within one mile of the existing ULL, and of those, approximately 21 businesses applied for a business license in the eight years since the certification of the 2035 General Plan and Final EIR (between May 2017 and August 2025). Not all of the existing businesses within one mile of the existing ULL would meet the definition of commercial facilities as described in Chapter 3, "Project Description" of this SEIR: a business located in a commercial or industrial building typically involving (but not limited to) the sale of goods or provision of services, manufacturing or processing materials, R&D, and/or indoor production/office functions, with on-site employees and regular operating hours. This is because not all businesses located within one mile of the existing ULL are located in a commercial or industrial building, some are home businesses, and some do not have on-site employees or regular operating hours. Furthermore, not all businesses that fit the definition of a commercial facility would decide to incur the cost of extending existing utilities to their location within one mile of the existing ULL. The decision to extend utilities would be a business decision based on the unique needs of the existing commercial facility. The business decision may include considerations such as: current source(s) of potable water and wastewater treatment; the volume of water and wastewater treatment needed; current business practices and the potential need for different source(s) of potable water and wastewater treatment; location of existing utilities that would potentially be tied into and the distance for conveyance pipelines; current profits and losses; and, other priorities the business may need to accomplish.

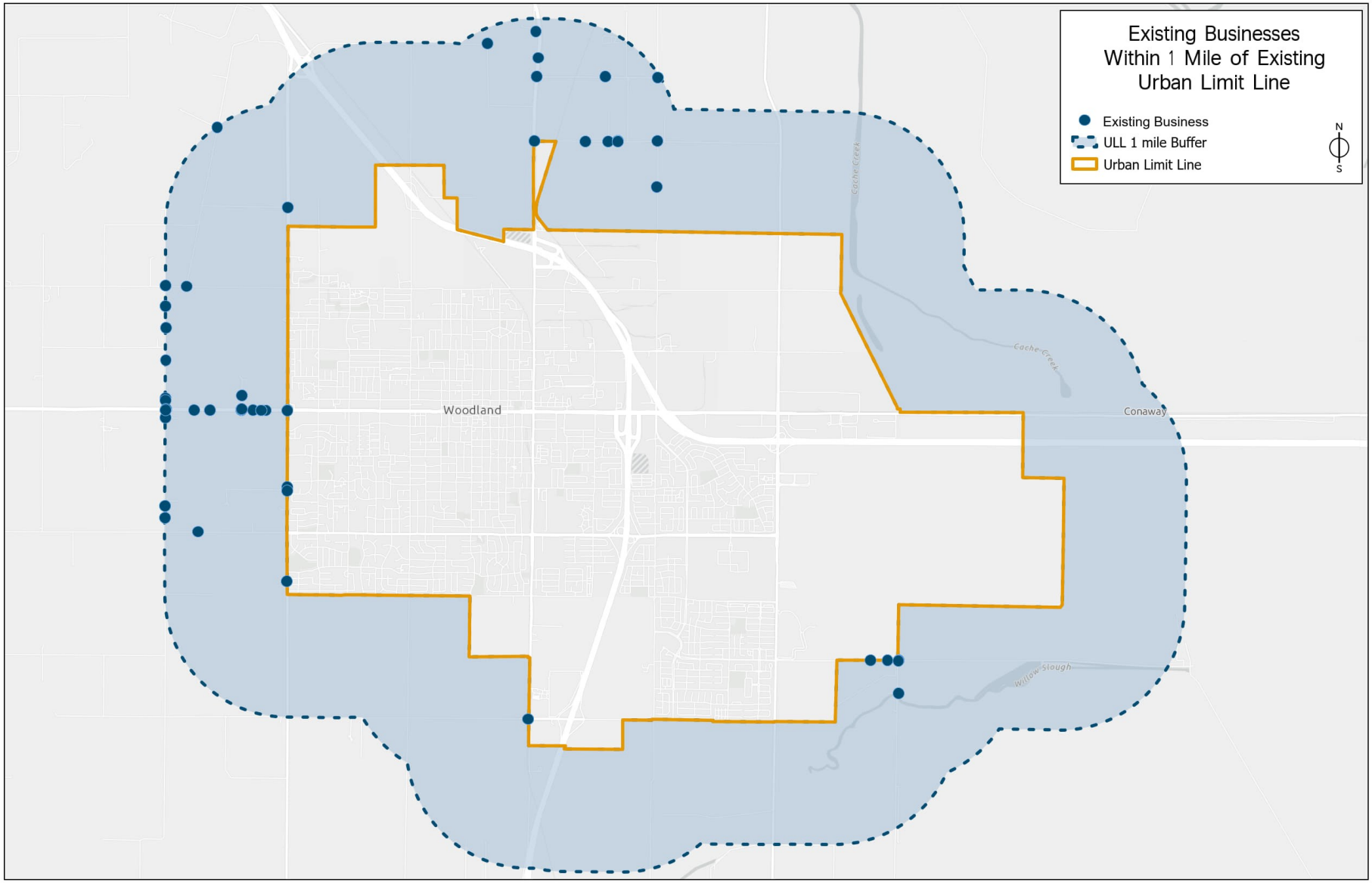

Figure 6.2-1 Existing Businesses within One Mile of Existing Urban Limit Line

In addition, changes to the operations of businesses related to utility service are subject to compliance with applicable County code and policy which considers multiple factors, including appropriate development within agricultural zones, and changes to the operations of businesses related to utility service would not be contingent upon utility service availability alone. Therefore, there is a finite and smaller subset of the existing businesses located within one mile of the existing ULL in operation on or prior to November 3, 2026 that may decide to extend utilities under the proposed project. The proposed project limits the extension of utilities to existing businesses, which naturally constrains the number of businesses that could extend utilities (i.e., businesses that may be developed or exist after November 3, 2026 would not be subject to the proposed amendment and could not extend utilities). Finally, because the proposed project requires the application process and execution of a service agreement with the City (as described in Chapter 3), utility lines would be appropriately sized to serve the existing commercial business needs at the time of the application and service agreement (i.e., utility lines would not be oversized to potentially accommodate potential future growth). Should one of the existing businesses in the smaller subset of businesses decide to extend existing utilities, as described in Chapter 3, "Project Description", the applicant would be required to apply to the City of Woodland for the extension and enter into a service agreement with the City. If approved by the City, the extension of utilities would be required to be consistent with all existing, applicable regulations of Yolo County, including County code and policy which takes into account appropriate development within agricultural zones in particular, and other agencies that may have regulatory oversight as described within this SEIR (e.g., YSAQMD, CDFW, CARB, and the Central Valley RWQCB).

Currently, only two businesses, Clark Pacific and Bayer, meet the City's definition of commercial facilities and are identified as applicants to extend existing utilities as part of the proposed project. The information within this SEIR demonstrates that Bayer and Clark Pacific are requesting the extension of their utilities to satisfy current business needs and that the extension of utilities would not induce an expansion of the businesses (see Section 3.3.2, Table 3.3-2 and Table 3.3-3, and Impact 4.10-2 in this SEIR). The proposed Bayer and Clark Pacific utility lines would be designed with sufficient capacity only to serve each respective facility. As noted in Section 6.1, the County released an NOP for the Clark Pacific expansion project, which would include expansion of existing Clark Pacific facilities and subdivision of the land adjacent to the existing facility. The County's Initial Study Checklist identifies that water supply and wastewater treatment for this expansion would be supplied by new groundwater wells and new septic systems (Yolo County 2025b). This expansion is separate and independent from the proposed project. The proposed project would not support or allow any future proposed expansion of Clark Pacific because (1) the County released the NOP before the release of the SEIR NOP and expansion approval is subject to the County and must be in compliance with adopted County policy, (2) the proposed expansion would not rely on City provided utilities, and (3) the proposed project would require sizing utilities to meet the needs of the existing Clark Pacific facility.

Extending utilities further beyond one mile from the existing ULL is not part of the proposed project and is considered speculative. The City is not considering extending utilities even further beyond one mile of the existing ULL as part of the General Plan amendment evaluated in this SEIR and no other commercial facility has applied for extension of utility services in this area. Amending the General Plan to accommodate this consideration would require separate CEQA, approval of the City Council, and a vote of the citizens.

Given the above, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce growth. The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR concluded there would be indirect and direct growth inducement resulting in a significant and unavoidable impact; however, there would be no growth inducing effect attributable to the proposed project. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be

substantially increased in severity as compared with those direct or indirect growth inducing effects addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

6.3 SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Section 15126.2(b) of the CEQA Guidelines requires EIRs to include a discussion of any significant environmental impacts that cannot be avoided if the proposed project is implemented.

Chapter 4 of this SEIR provides a detailed analysis of significant and potentially significant environmental impacts related to approval of the proposed project; identifies feasible mitigation measures, where available, that could avoid or reduce these significant and potentially significant impacts; and presents a determination whether these mitigation measures would reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. Cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project, including significant impacts, are summarized in Chapter 6 of this SEIR.

The City's 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR identified the following resource areas where, even with feasible mitigation measures, implementation of the General Plan may nonetheless result in impacts that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level (pages 6-51 to 6-52):

- Aesthetics and Visual Resources: Impact 4.1-3 and 4.1-4
- Agricultural Resources: Impact 4.2-1 and 4.2-3
- Air Quality: Impact 4.3-1, 4.3-2, and 4.3-3
- Cultural Resources: Impact 4.6-1 and 4.6-2
- Hydrology, Flooding and Water Quality: Impact 4.9-7
- Land Use Planning, Population and Housing: Impact 4.10-2 and 4.10-3
- Noise and Vibration: Impact 4.11-1, 4.11-2, and 4.11-3

Therefore, as concluded in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR, the impacts identified above would be significant and unavoidable (pages 6-51 to 6-52). These conclusions would not change as a result of the proposed project, as documented in Chapter 4 of this SEIR, and the proposed project would not result in new significant and unavoidable impacts related to these resources. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Significant cumulative impacts are summarized in Section 6.1 of this SEIR.

6.4 SIGNIFICANT IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED IF THE PROJECT IS IMPLEMENTED

CEQA requires EIRs to address significant irreversible environmental changes caused by a proposed project. Specifically, the EIR must consider whether "uses of nonrenewable resources during the initial and continued phases of the project may be irreversible since a large commitment of such resources makes removal or nonuse thereafter unlikely" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2[c]). Nonrenewable resources, as used in this discussion, refer to the physical features of the natural environment: land, air, and waterways.

The 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR documented multiple significant and irreversible environmental changes that would occur as a result of development allowed under the General Plan (pages 6-49 to 6-50). Significant and irreversible environmental changes to the environment include:

- use both renewable and nonrenewable natural resources for construction and operation of projects
- changes likely to occur as a result of future excavation, grading, and construction activities associated with development of land uses
- increasing allowable land use densities and intensities allowing development on sites that are presently undeveloped
- additional transportation demand, construction, energy demand, and other activities that would increase air pollutants and generation of noise
- permanent conversion of important farmland and change in aesthetics due to conversion to urban uses
- generation of greenhouse gas emissions

The City acknowledges that there could be significant irreversible environmental changes given the activities described above (page 6-52). There is no feasible mitigation without changing the purposes of the 2035 General Plan. The impact is significant and unavoidable (page 6-52). These conclusions would not change as a result of the proposed project, as documented in Chapter 4, and the proposed project would not result in new or additional significant and irreversible environmental changes as compared to those described in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR. Implementation of the proposed project would not result in new impacts nor impacts that would be substantially increased in severity as compared with that addressed in the 2035 General Plan and CAP EIR.

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