

5.11 Population and Housing

5.11.1 INTRODUCTION

This section examines the existing population, housing, and employment conditions in the City of Redlands and assesses the Project's impacts related to direct and indirect growth and potential displacement of people and housing. The demographic data and analysis in this section is based, in part, on the following documents and resources:

- *2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy*, SCAG, September 2020
- *Local Profiles Report 2019, Profile of the City of Redlands*, SCAG, May 2019
- *Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State*, California Department of Finance (DOF), May 2021
- *City of Redlands 2035 General Plan*, 2017
- *City of Redlands General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Report (GP EIR)*, 2017

Although evaluation of population, housing, and employment typically involves economic and social, rather than physical environmental issues, population, housing, and employment growth are often precursors to physical environmental impacts. According to Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines, “[a]n economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant impact on the environment.” Socioeconomic characteristics should be considered in an EIR only to the extent that they create adverse impacts on the physical environment.

5.11.2 REGULATORY SETTING

5.11.2.1 State Regulations

California Housing Element Law

California planning and zoning law requires each city and county to adopt a general plan for future growth (California Government Code Section 65300). This plan must include a housing element that identifies housing needs for all economic segments and provides opportunities for housing development to meet that need. At the state level, the California Department of Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) estimates the relative share of California's projected population growth that would occur in each county based on Department of Finance (DOF) population projections and historical growth trends. These figures are compiled by HCD in a Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) for each region of California. Where there is a regional council of governments, HCD provides the RHNA to the council. Such is the case for the City of Redlands, which is a member of SCAG. The council, in this case Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), then assigns a share of the regional housing need to each of its cities and counties. The process of assigning shares gives cities and counties the opportunity to comment on the proposed allocations. HCD oversees the process to ensure that the council of governments distributes its share of the state's projected housing need.

Southern California Association of Governments

SCAG is a council of governments representing Orange, Imperial, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. It is the federally recognized metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for this region,

which encompasses over 38,000 square miles. SCAG actions in Orange County are partially the result of input from the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG), which offers recommendations regarding SCAG's initiatives.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) is mandated by state housing law as part of the periodic process of updating housing elements of local general plans. State law requires that housing elements identify RHNA targets set by HCD to encourage each jurisdiction in the state to provide its fair share of very low, low, moderate, and upper income housing. The RHNA is intended to provide a long-term outline for housing within the context of local and regional trends and housing production goals.

SCAG determines total housing need for each community in southern California based on three general factors: 1) the number of housing units needed to accommodate future population and employment growth; 2) the number of additional units needed to allow for housing vacancies; and 3) the number of very low, low, moderate, and above-moderate income households needed. All cities are required to ensure that sufficient sites are planned and zoned for housing, such that area would be available to accommodate the projected housing needs, and to implement proactive programs that facilitate and encourage the production of housing commensurate with its housing needs.

For the 2021–2029 planning period, SCAG determined that the City of Redlands RHNA allocation for very low-income housing units is 967; as shown in Table 5.11-1, 45 percent are allocated to extremely low through low income housing.

Table 5.11-1: City of Redlands SCAG Regional Housing Needs Allocation, 2021-2029

Category	Percent of County Median	2021 Household Income	2021-2029 Housing Need
Extremely Low-Income	Less than 30%	Less than \$26,500	483 (14%)
Very Low-Income	30-50%	\$26,500 - \$39,500	484 (14%)
Low-Income	50-80%	\$39,500 - \$63,200	615 (17%)
Moderate Income	80-120%	\$63,200 - \$93,000	652 (19%)
Above Moderate Income	Over 120%	More than \$93,000	1,282 (36%)
Total	--		3,516

Source: City of Redlands 2021-2029 Housing Element

5.11.2.2 Regional/Local Regulations

City of Redlands General Plan Housing Element

The Housing Element include the following policies related to population and housing and the Project:

Policy 1.1 Provide adequate capacity to meet the Sites Inventory for Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

Policy 1.2 Increase capacity and access to opportunities and services through the adoption of the Transit Villages Specific Plan.

Policy 1.3 Provide housing capacity near public services.

Policy 1.4 Realize capacity potential through minimum densities.

Policy 1.5 Maintain an up-to-date residential sites inventory and provide to interested developers with information on available development incentives.

Policy 1.6 Support the assembly of small vacant or underutilized parcels to enhance the feasibility of infill development.

Policy 1.7 Ensure that residential development sites have appropriate and adequate services and facilities, including water, wastewater, and neighborhood infrastructure.

Policy 1.8 Incentivize the development of Accessory Dwelling Units as a means of providing a diversity in housing types in all areas within the City.

Policy 1.9 Incentivize efficient buildings and conservation.

City of Redlands General Plan Transit Villages Element

The Transit Villages Element provides for new jobs, housing, and entertainment opportunities in compact, walkable environments; support multiple modes of transit, car travel, walking, and bicycling; and provide new development and infill opportunities include the following policies related to population and housing and the Project:

Policy 4-P.42 Provide for new jobs, housing, and entertainment opportunities in compact, walkable environments.

Policy 4-P.49 Allow residential and mixed-use projects in the Mixed Use Core at densities up to the High Density Residential standard.

5.11.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The TVSP area includes approximately 947 acres of urban land that is divided into three planning areas (transit villages). The City of Redlands General Plan 2035 (GP2035) designates the TVSP area with a mix of land uses including: Medium Density Residential (up to 15 dwelling units per acre), High Density Residential (up to 27 dwelling units per acre), Office, Commercial, Commercial/Industrial, Industrial, Public/Institutional, and Parks.

Most of the New York Street/Esri Transit Village area consists of non-residential land use designations except for the multi-family residential area in the southern portion of the village. The Downtown Transit Village area is also primarily non-residential, with multi-family allowed along the eastern edge. Land use designations in the University Street Transit Village are primarily medium and high density residential, except the institutional designations associated with the University of Redlands campus to the north of the station site. There are a number of vacant parcels located within the TVSP area, mostly concentrated along and near the railroad right-of-way.

Population

The California Department of Finance (DOF) estimates that the City of Redlands population is 71,154, representing approximately 3.3 percent of the County's total population. SCAG estimates that the City will have a population increase of 13.6 percent between 2021 and 2045, and the County will have population growth rate of over 29 percent over the same period. Table 5.11-2 provides population figures for the City of Redlands and the County in 2021, and SCAG projections for year 2045.

Table 5.11-2: Population Estimates and Projections, 2021–2045

	2021 ¹	2045 ² Projection	2021-2045 Change
City of Redlands	71,154	80,800	13.6%
San Bernardino County	2,175,909	2,815,000	29.4%

¹ California Department of Finance, E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2021.

² SCAG 2045 Growth Forecasts.

Housing and Households

The DOF estimates that there were 27,214 housing units in Redlands in 2021, which is 3.7 percent of the County total. The City's housing stock is 64 percent single-family residential and is estimated to be 93.4 percent occupied. The DOF estimated persons per household is 2.71.

Table 5.11-3: City of Redlands Existing Housing Stock, 2021

Residence Type	Number	Percentage
Single-Family Detached	17,451	64.1%
Single-Family Attached	1,202	4.4%
Two to Four Units	3,144	11.6%
Five Plus	4,331	15.9%
Mobile Homes	1,086	4.0%
Total	27,214	100%
Occupied	25,405	93.4%
Vacancy	1,809	6.6%

California Department of Finance, E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2021.

According to SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS, the City of Redlands is projected to add approximately 5,395 households by 2045 (Table 5.11-4). This averages approximately 225 new households annually through 2045.

Table 5.11-4: SCAG Household Projections, 2021–2045

	2021 ¹ Households	2045 ² Households	2021-2045 Increase
City of Redlands	25,405	30,800	21.2%
San Bernardino County	649,259	875,000	34.8%

¹ California Department of Finance, E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2021.

² SCAG 2045 Growth Forecasts.

Employment

According to SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS, the number of jobs within the City is projected to increase from 42,600 jobs in 2016 to 56,300 jobs in 2045 (Table 5.11-5). This represents an increase of over 32 percent, and an average of 472 jobs annually through the year 2045.

Table 5.11-5: SCAG Projected Employment Trends, 2016-2045

	2016	2045	2016 – 2045 Increase
City of Redlands	42,600	56,300	13,700 (32.2%)
San Bernardino County	791,000	1,064,000	273,000 (34.5%)

Source: SCAG 2045 Growth Forecasts.

In addition, the 2020 Census estimates that 63 percent of the City's residents that are over 16 years of age are in the labor force and have an average 26.9-minute commute. This is similar to San Bernardino County as a whole, where 60.3 percent of residents over 16 years old are in the labor force and the average commute time was 31.6 minutes.

Jobs – Housing Balance

The jobs-housing ratio is a general measure of the “balance” between the number of jobs and number of housing units within a geographic area, without regard to economic constraints or individual preferences. The ratio expresses quantitatively the relationship between the number of people working and number of dwelling units housing the people living in a given area. Additionally, a well-balanced ratio of jobs and housing reduces commuting trips because more employment opportunities are closer to residential areas. Such a reduction in vehicle trips lowers air pollutant emissions (including lower greenhouse gas emissions) and causes less congestion on area roadways and intersections. A major focus of SCAG's regional planning efforts has been to improve this balance. SCAG defines the jobs-housing balance as follows:

Jobs and housing are in balance when an area has enough employment opportunities for most of the people who live there and enough housing opportunities for most of the people who work there. The region as a whole is, by definition, balanced.... Job-rich subregions have ratios greater than the regional average; housing-rich subregions have ratios lower than the regional average. Ideally, job-housing balance would... assure not only a numerical match of jobs and housing but also an economic match in type of jobs and housing.

SCAG considers an area balanced when the jobs-housing ratio is 1.36; communities with more than 1.36 jobs per dwelling unit are considered jobs-rich; those with fewer than 1.36 are “housing rich,” meaning that more housing is provided than employment opportunities in the area (SCAG 2004).

As described above and shown in Table 5.11-6, the City currently has approximately 25,405 households and approximately 34,900 jobs (2022 State of California Employment Development Department Labor Force data), which results in a jobs-to-housing ratio of 1.37 jobs per household. SCAG projects a jobs-to-housing ratio of 1.83 in 2045, which indicates that employees would be commuting into the City for employment, and that additional housing would improve the jobs to housing balance within the City. The City is projected to have a higher percentage of jobs to households in comparison to the County, which is projected to have a jobs to housing ratio of 1.22 in 2045. Table 5.11-6 provides the existing and projected jobs-to-housing ratios for the City and the County.

Table 5.11-6: Existing and Projected Jobs - Housing Balance in the City and County

	Year	Employment	Households	Jobs-Housing Ratio
City of Redlands	2022 ¹	34,900	25,405	1.37
	2045	56,300	30,800	1.83
San Bernardino County	2022 ¹	940,800	649,245	1.45
	2045	1,064,000	875,000	1.22

Sources: ¹Employment Development Department, 2022.
SCAG 2020

5.11.4 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Appendix G of State CEQA Guidelines indicates that a project could have a significant effect if it were to:

- POP-1 Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure); or
- POP-2 Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

The Initial Study established that the proposed Project would not result in impacts related to Threshold POP-2; and no further assessment of this impact is required in this EIR.

5.11.5 METHODOLOGY

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(e) states that a social or economic change generally is not considered a significant effect on the environment unless the changes can be directly linked to a physical adverse change. Additionally, CEQA Guidelines Appendix G indicates that a project could have a significant effect if it would induce substantial unplanned 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). Therefore, population impacts are considered potentially significant if growth associated with a project would exceed projections for the area and if such an exceedance would have the potential to create a significant adverse physical change to the environment.

The methodology used to determine population, housing, and employment impacts includes data collection of population and housing trends, which was obtained from DOF, the General Plan, and SCAG. The determination of impacts is based on an analysis of the number of residents and employees anticipated at buildout of the proposed Project. The scale of population at buildout is then compared with growth forecasts for the project area. Growth is considered in the context of local and regional plans that include population projections for the City and the County. The SCAG population projections are used to prepare the Regional Transportation Plan /Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) which sets forth land use strategies that help the region achieve state greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and assist the South Coast Air Quality Management District prepare its Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) If projected growth within the Project area from implementation of the Project would exceed SCAG growth projections, resulting in the project being in conflict with the RTP/SCS and the AQMP, growth would be considered “substantial,” and a significant impact may result.

5.11.6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

As detailed in Section 3.0, *Project Description*, the proposed Project would provide a form-based code that would allow development of up to 2,400 residential units; 613,000 square feet of retail commercial, hotel, and office space; and 280,000 square feet of open space and parks within the TVSP area. However, the timing of development and operation of the development pursuant to the TVSP would be dependent upon market conditions and development applications for new projects.

IMPACT POP-1: THE PROJECT WOULD NOT INDUCE SUBSTANTIAL UNPLANNED POPULATION GROWTH IN AN AREA, EITHER DIRECTLY (FOR EXAMPLE, BY PROPOSING NEW HOMES AND BUSINESSES) OR INDIRECTLY (FOR EXAMPLE THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF ROADS OR OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE).

Less Than Significant Impact. The TVSP provides for infill development, redevelopment, and development of a number of vacant parcels located within the Project area. The maximum development that would occur from buildout of the TVSP is 2,400 residential units and 613,000 square feet of retail commercial, hotel,

and office space. This amount of new development could currently be constructed in the Project area under the current GP2035 land use designations and zoning designations. Buildout pursuant to the TVSP would be within the buildout provided for within the GP2035. However, the proposed TVSP would provide a form-based code to achieve preferred building forms and design, promote compact and walkable urban form in the vicinity of the train stations, introduce a greater variety of transportation options (and reduce vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled), and provide more public open space and amenities that provides aesthetic and community benefits. Therefore, the Project would not induce population growth, it would just provide for the form and function of future development.

Table 5.11-7 shows that based on the General Plan buildout estimates (General Plan Revised Draft EIR Tables ES-1 and ES-2) of 2.65 persons per household and one employee for every 500 square feet of non-residential space, buildout of the proposed TVSP would accommodate 6,360 residents and 1,226 employees.

Table 5.11-7: TVSP Proposed Buildout Population & Employee Increase

	Units at Buildout	Quantifier	Total
Residential	2,400 units	2.65 persons per household	6,360 residents
Retail Commercial	265,000 SF	1 employee for every 500 SF	530 employees
Office	238,000 SF	1 employee for every 500 SF	476 employees
Hotel	110,000 SF	1 employee for every 500 SF	220 employees
Total			6,360 residents 1,226 employees

Residential Development. Table 5.11-7 lists that buildout of the proposed TVSP would result in a population increase of 6,360 residents, which is a citywide increase of 8.9 percent over the 2021 estimated population of 71,154. As listed previously in Table 5.11-2, SCAG forecasts that the City's population will increase by 13.6 percent (9,646 residents) between 2021 and 2045. The additional 6,360 residents that would be accommodated by buildout of the proposed TVSP would not exceed the amount of growth anticipated to occur within the City. Also, as shown in Table 5.11-4, SCAG household growth projections estimate that by 2045 the number of households within the City will grow by 21.2 percent (5,395 households), and that growth within the County will be higher at 34.8 percent. Assuming that the maximum number of residential units in the proposed TVSP are developed and occupied (no vacancy), the 2,400 additional households in the TVSP area would consist of a 9.4 percent increase of households citywide, which is within the SCAG anticipated growth of both the City and the County. Therefore, the Project would not induce unplanned population growth.

The residential development pursuant to the TVSP would consist mostly of infill, mixed-use, and redevelopment projects that are market and need dependent. Development that would occur under the proposed TVSP would help the City accommodate and balance the land use of anticipated growth as opposed to substantially increasing growth. The residential development that would occur under the proposed Project would help to meet housing demands from projected employment growth in the City while maintaining a healthy vacancy rate. As further described below, implementation of the proposed TVSP would assist to balance the need for additional housing related to employment growth and to improve the future jobs-to-housing balance. Overall, impacts related to residential growth would be less than significant.

Non-Residential Development. Implementation of the TVSP would result in long-term employment opportunities that would be generated from approximately 265,000 square feet of new retail commercial, approximately 238,000 square feet of new office uses, and approximately 110,000 square feet of new hotel uses. Because the future tenants are unknown, the number of jobs generated from operation cannot be precisely determined. However, based on the General Plan estimate of one employee for every 500 square

feet of non-residential uses, the Project is estimated to result in approximately 1,226 job opportunities. As described in Table 5.11-5, SCAG projects an increase of 13,700 jobs in the City by 2045. The jobs provided through the TVSP would accommodate 8.9 percent of the anticipated growth. Therefore, the Project would not induce unplanned business or employment growth.

Also, Table 5.11-6 shows that the number of new jobs is anticipated to outpace the number of new households by 2045. The residential units generated from the proposed Project would provide for a balanced ratio of jobs and housing and provide for housing near transit and in a walkable environment. Thus, the housing that would be accommodated by the proposed TVSP would result in a beneficial impact related to the balance of jobs and housing; and impacts related to the jobs-housing balance from implementation of the proposed TVSP would be less than significant.

Construction. Construction of projects that would occur as a result of the proposed TVSP would include a need for construction labor. Due to the employment patterns of construction workers in Southern California, and the large market for construction labor in San Bernardino County, construction workers are not likely to relocate their households as a consequence of the job opportunities presented by construction projects in the TVSP area. The construction industry differs from most other industry sectors in several important ways that are relevant to potential impacts on housing:

- There is no regular place of work. Construction workers commute to job sites that change many times in the course of a year. These often-lengthy daily commutes are made possible by the off-peak starting and ending times of the typical construction work day.
- Many construction workers are specialized (e.g., crane operators, steel workers, masons), and move from job site to job site as dictated by the demand for their skills.
- The work requirements of most construction projects are also specialized and workers are employed on a job site only as long as their skills are needed to complete a particular phase of the construction process.

It is reasonable to assume that construction workers for developments that would occur pursuant to the proposed TVSP would be drawn from the existing labor force in the surrounding area, and, because a typical construction worker would be employed at several different construction sites during any given year, would not relocate their households' places of residence as a consequence of working at a particular construction site in the City of Redlands. Therefore, construction related employment that would be generated from implementation of the proposed TVSP would not induce substantial unplanned and impacts would be less than significant.

Infrastructure. The Project provides a framework for development of a walkable, mixed-use environment around the three new Arrow stations. A key component of this framework is a network of complete, multi-modal streets that provide for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit patrons, and motorists that includes various roadway improvements, pedestrian improvements, and bicycle route improvements. These circulation improvements do not provide accessibility in new areas that would result in additional growth; these improvements would enhance the existing circulation system to provide for multi-model transportation. The Project includes water system infrastructure improvements to potable and non-potable water mains due to age and size to provide reliable fire suppression and adding non-potable water mains to serve the New York Street/Esri and Downtown station areas. Similarly, sewer system improvements would include replacement of existing lines. The utility improvements included in the Project, do not provide for development in new areas that would result in additional growth. The utility improvements are needed due to aged infrastructure and to provide for the anticipated growth within the urban and developed area of the City on undeveloped and underdeveloped parcels that are within walking distance of transit and employment

opportunities. Therefore, the proposed infrastructure included in the TVSP would not induce unplanned population growth either directly or indirectly that could cause substantial adverse physical changes in the environment, and impacts would be less than significant.

5.11.7 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Impacts from cumulative population growth are considered in the context of their consistency with local and regional planning efforts. As discussed, SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS sets forth land use strategies that help the region achieve state greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and assist the South Coast Air Quality Management District prepare its Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The Project would not exceed the SCAG population, housing, and employment growth projections for the City. Based on the growth projections analyzed in SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS, full buildout of the Project, including buildout of up to 2,400 additional dwelling units and 613,000 square feet of retail commercial, hotel, and office space would represent approximately 8.9 percent of projected employment growth and 9.2 percent of projected housing growth in the City through 2045. The project is within the growth projections used to prepare RTP/SCS and AQMP. Thus, impacts related to cumulative growth would be less than significant and not cumulatively considerable.

5.11.8 EXISTING REGULATIONS, STANDARD CONDITIONS, AND PLANS, PROGRAMS OR POLICIES

Existing Regulations

None.

Standard Conditions

None.

Plans, Programs, or Policies

None.

5.11.9 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE BEFORE MITIGATION

Impact POP-1 would be less than significant.

5.11.10 MITIGATION MEASURES

No mitigation measures are required.

5.11.11 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

No significant unavoidable adverse impacts related to population and housing would occur.

REFERENCES

California Department of Finance. E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2011-2021 with 2010 Census Benchmark (DOF 2021). Accessed: <http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Estimates/E-5/>.

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