Appendix C Senate Bill 226 Provisions

Appendic	es
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State CEQA Guideline Section 15183.3. Streamlining for Infill Projects

- (a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to streamline the environmental review process for eligible infill projects by limiting the topics subject to review at the project level where the effects of infill development have been addressed in a planning level decision or by uniformly applicable development policies.
- (b) Eligibility. To be eligible for the streamlining procedures prescribed in this section, an infill project must:
- (1) Be located in an urban area on a site that either has been previously developed or that adjoins existing qualified urban uses on at least seventy-five percent of the site's perimeter. For the purpose of this subdivision "adjoin" means the infill project is immediately adjacent to qualified urban uses, or is only separated from such uses by an improved public right-of-way;
- (2) Satisfy the performance standards provided in Appendix M; and
- (3) Be consistent with the general use designation, density, building intensity, and applicable policies specified for the project area in either a sustainable communities strategy or an alternative planning strategy, except as provided in subdivisions (b)(3)(A) or (b)(3)(B) below.
- (A) Only where an infill project is proposed within the boundaries of a metropolitan planning organization for which a sustainable communities strategy or an alternative planning strategy will be, but is not yet, in effect, a residential infill project must have a density of at least 20 units per acre, and a retail or commercial infill project must have a floor area ratio of at least 0.75.
- (B) Where an infill project is proposed outside of the boundaries of a metropolitan planning organization, the infill project must meet the definition of a small walkable community project in subdivision (f)(5), below.
- (c) Streamlined Review. CEQA does not apply to the effects of an eligible infill project under two circumstances. First, if an effect was addressed as a significant effect in a prior EIR for a planning level decision, then, with some exceptions, that effect need not be analyzed again for an individual infill project even when that effect was not reduced to a less than significant level in the prior EIR. Second, an effect need not be analyzed, even if it was not analyzed in a prior EIR or is more significant than previously analyzed, if the lead agency makes a finding that uniformly applicable development policies or standards, adopted by the lead agency or a city or county, apply to the infill project and would substantially mitigate that effect. Depending on the effects addressed in the prior EIR and the availability of uniformly applicable development policies or standards that apply to the eligible infill project, streamlining under this section will range from a complete exemption to an obligation to prepare a narrowed, project-specific environmental document. A prior EIR will be most helpful in dealing with later infill projects if it deals with the effects of infill development as specifically and comprehensively as possible. With a good and detailed analysis of such development, the effects of many infill projects could be found to have been addressed in the prior EIR, and no further environmental documents would be required.
- (d) Procedure. Following preliminary review of an infill project pursuant to Section 15060, the lead agency must examine an eligible infill project in light of the prior EIR to determine whether

the infill project will cause any effects that require additional review under CEQA. Determinations pursuant to this section are questions of fact to be resolved by the lead agency. Such determinations must be supported with enough relevant information and reasonable inferences from this information to support a conclusion, even though other conclusions might also be reached. (See Section 15384.)(1) Evaluation of the Infill Project. A lead agency should prepare a written checklist or similar device to document the infill project's eligibility for streamlining and to assist in making the determinations required by this section. The sample written checklist provided in Appendix N may be used for this purpose. A written checklist prepared pursuant to this section should do all of the following:

- (A) Document whether the infill project satisfies the applicable performance standards in Appendix M.
- (B) Explain whether the effects of the infill project were analyzed in a prior EIR. The written checklist should cite the specific portions of the prior EIR, including page and section references, containing the analysis of the infill project's significant effects. The written checklist should also indicate whether the infill project incorporates all applicable mitigation measures from the prior EIR.
- (C) Explain whether the infill project will cause new specific effects. For the purposes of this section, a new specific effect is an effect that was not addressed in the prior EIR and that is specific to the infill project or the infill project site. A new specific effect may result if, for example, the prior EIR stated that sufficient site-specific information was not available to analyze the significance of that effect. Substantial changes in circumstances following certification of a prior EIR may also result in a new specific effect.
- (D) Explain whether substantial new information shows that the adverse environmental effects of the infill project are more significant than described in the prior EIR. For the purpose of this section, "more significant" means an effect will be substantially more severe than described in the prior EIR. More significant effects include those that result from changes in circumstances or changes in the development assumptions underlying the prior EIR's analysis. An effect is also more significant if substantial new information shows that: (1) mitigation measures that were previously rejected as infeasible are in fact feasible, and such measures are not included in the project; (2) feasible mitigation measures considerably different than those previously analyzed could substantially reduce a significant effect described in the prior EIR, but such measures are not included in the project; or (3) an applicable mitigation measure was adopted in connection with a planning level decision, but the lead agency determines that it is not feasible for the infill project to implement that measure.
- (E) If the infill project will cause new specific effects or more significant effects, the written checklist should indicate whether uniformly applicable development policies or standards will substantially mitigate those effects. For the purpose of this section, "substantially mitigate" means that the policy or standard will substantially lessen the effect, but not necessarily below the level of significance. The written checklist should specifically identify the uniformly applicable development policy or standard and explain how it will substantially mitigate the effects of the infill project. The explanation in the written checklist may be used to support the finding required in subdivision (d)(2)(D) below.

- (2) Environmental Document. After examining the effects of the infill project in light of the analysis in any prior EIR and uniformly applicable development policies or standards, the lead agency shall determine what type of environmental document shall be prepared for the infill project.
- (A) No Further Review. No additional environmental review is required if the infill project would not cause any new specific effects or more significant effects, or if uniformly applicable development policies or standards would substantially mitigate such effects. Where the lead agency determines that no additional environmental review of the effects of the infill project is required, the lead agency shall file a Notice of Determination as provided in Section 15094. Where the lead agency finds that uniformly applicable development policies substantially mitigate a significant effect of an infill project, the lead agency shall make the finding described in subdivision (d)(2)(D).
- (B) Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration or Sustainable Communities Environmental Assessment. If the infill project would result in new specific effects or more significant effects, and uniformly applicable development policies or standards would not substantially mitigate such effects, those effects shall be subject to CEQA. If a new specific effect is less than significant, the lead agency may prepare a negative declaration. If new specific effects or more significant effects can be mitigated to a less than significant level through project changes agreed to prior to circulation of the written checklist, the lead agency may prepare a mitigated negative declaration. In these circumstances, the lead agency shall follow the procedure set forth in Sections 15072 to 15075. Alternatively, if the infill project is a transit priority project, the lead agency may follow the procedures in Section 21155.2 of the Public Resources Code. In either instance, the written checklist should clearly state which effects are new or more significant, and are subject to CEQA, and which effects have been previously analyzed and are not subject to further environmental review. Where the lead agency finds that uniformly applicable development policies or standards substantially mitigate a significant effect of an infill project, the lead agency shall make the finding described in subdivision (d)(2)(D).
- (C) Infill EIR. If the infill project would result in new specific effects or more significant effects, and uniformly applicable development policies or standards would not substantially mitigate such effects, those effects are subject to CEQA. With respect to those effects that are subject to CEQA, the lead agency shall prepare an infill EIR if the written checklist shows that the effects of the infill project would be potentially significant. In this circumstance, the lead agency shall prepare an infill EIR as provided in subdivision (e) and, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall follow the procedures in Article 7. Where the lead agency finds that uniformly applicable development policies or standards substantially mitigate a significant effect of an infill project, the lead agency shall make the finding described in subdivision (d)(2)(D).
- (D) Findings. Any findings or statement of overriding considerations required by Sections 15091 or 15093 shall be limited to those effects analyzed in an infill EIR. Findings for such effects should incorporate by reference any such findings made in connection with a planning level decision. Where uniformly applicable development policies or standards substantially mitigate the significant effects of an infill project, the lead agency shall also make a written finding, supported with substantial evidence, providing a brief explanation of the rationale for the finding.
- (e) Infill EIR Contents. An infill EIR shall analyze only those significant effects that uniformly

applicable development policies or standards do not substantially mitigate, and that are either new specific effects or are more significant than a prior EIR analyzed. All other effects of the infill project should be described in the written checklist as provided in subdivision (d)(1), and that written checklist should be circulated for public review along with the infill EIR. The written checklist should clearly set forth those effects that are new specific effects, and are subject to CEQA, and those effects which have been previously analyzed and are not subject to further environmental review. The analysis of alternatives in an infill EIR need not address alternative locations, densities, or building intensities. An infill EIR need not analyze growth inducing impacts. Except as provided in this subdivision, an infill EIR shall contain all elements described in Article 9.

- (f) Terminology. The following definitions apply to this section:
- (1) "Infill project" includes the whole of an action consisting of residential, commercial, retail, transit station, school, or public office building uses, or any combination of such uses that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in subdivision (b). For retail and commercial projects, no more than one half of the project area may be used for parking. "Transit station" means a rail or light-rail station, ferry terminal, bus hub, bus transfer station, or bus stop, and includes all streetscape improvements constructed in the public right-of-way within one-quarter mile of such facility to improve multi-modal access to the facility, such as pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements and traffic-calming design changes that support pedestrian and bicycle access.
- (2) "Planning level decision" means the enactment or amendment of a general plan or any general plan element, community plan, specific plan, or zoning code.
- (3) "Prior EIR" means the environmental impact report certified for a planning level decision, as supplemented by any subsequent or supplemental environmental impact reports, negative declarations, or addenda to those documents.
- (4) "Qualified urban use" is defined in Public Resources Code Section 21072.
- (5) "Small walkable community project" means a project that is all of the following:
- (A) In an incorporated city that is not within the boundary of metropolitan planning organization;
- (B) Within an area of approximately one-quarter mile diameter of contiguous land that includes a residential area adjacent to a retail downtown area and that is designated by the city for infill development consisting of residential and commercial uses. A city may designate such an area within its general plan, zoning code, or by any legislative act creating such a designation, and may make such designation concurrently with project approval; and
- (C) Either a residential project that has a density of at least eight units to the acre or a commercial project with a floor area ratio of at least 0.5, or both.
- (6) The terms "sustainable communities strategy" and "alternative planning strategy" refer to a strategy for which the State Air Resources Board, pursuant to subparagraph (H) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 65080 of the Government Code, has accepted a metropolitan planning

organization's determination that the sustainable communities strategy or the alternative planning strategy would, if implemented, achieve its greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

(7) "Uniformly applicable development policies or standards" are policies or standards adopted or

enacted by a city or county, or by a lead agency, that reduce one or more adverse environmental effects. Examples of uniformly applicable development policies or standards include, but are not

limited to:

(A) Regulations governing construction activities, including noise regulations, dust control,

provisions for discovery of archeological and paleontological resources, stormwater runoff treatment and containment, protection against the release of hazardous materials, recycling of construction

and demolition waste, temporary street closure and traffic rerouting, and similar regulations.

(B) Requirements in locally adopted building, grading and stormwater codes.

(C) Design guidelines.

(D) Requirements for protecting residents from sources of air pollution including high volume

roadways and stationary sources.

(E) Impact fee programs to provide public improvements, police, fire, parks and other open space,

libraries and other public services and infrastructure, including transit, bicycle and pedestrian

infrastructure and traffic calming devices.

(F) Traffic impact fees.

(G) Requirements for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as set forth in adopted land use plans,

policies, or regulations.

(H) Ordinances addressing protection of urban trees and historic resources.

(8) "Urban area" is defined in Public Resources Code Section 21094.5(e)(5).

Authority: Public Resources Code 21083, 21094.5.5

Reference: Public Resources Code Sections 21094.5 and 21094.5.5

Appendix M: Performance Standards for Infill Projects Eligible for Streamlined Review

I. Introduction

Section 15183.3 provides a streamlined review process for infill projects that satisfy specified performance standards. This appendix contains those performance standards. The lead agency's determination that the project satisfies the performance standards shall be supported with substantial evidence, which should be documented on the Infill Checklist in Appendix N. Section II defines terms used in this Appendix. Performance standards that apply to all project types are set forth in Section III. Section IV contains performance standards that apply to particular project types (i.e., residential, commercial/retail, office building, transit stations, and schools).

II. Definitions

The following definitions apply to the terms used in this Appendix.

"High-quality transit corridor" means an existing corridor with fixed route bus service with service intervals no longer than 15 minutes during peak commute hours. For the purposes of this Appendix, an "existing stop along a high-quality transit corridor" may include a planned and funded stop that is included in an adopted regional transportation improvement program.

Unless more specifically defined by an air district, city or county, "high-volume roadway" means freeways, highways, urban roads with 100,000 vehicles per day, or rural roads with 50,000 vehicles per day.

"Low vehicle travel area" means a traffic analysis zone that exhibits a below average existing level of travel as determined using a regional travel demand model. For residential projects, travel refers to either home-based or household vehicle miles traveled per capita. For commercial and retail projects, travel refers to non-work attraction trip length; however, where such data are not available, commercial projects reference either home-based or household vehicle miles traveled per capita. For office projects, travel refers to commute attraction vehicle miles traveled per employee; however, where such data are not available, office projects reference either home-based or household vehicle miles traveled per capita.

"Major Transit Stop" means a site containing an existing rail transit station, a ferry terminal served by either a bus or rail transit service, or the intersection of two or more major bus routes with frequencies of service intervals of 15 minutes or less during the morning and afternoon peak commute periods. For the purposes of this Appendix, an "existing major transit stop" may include a planned and funded stop that is included in an adopted regional transportation improvement program.

"Office building" generally refers to centers for governmental or professional services; however, the lead agency shall have discretion in determining whether a project is "commercial" or "office building" for the purposes of this Appendix based on local zoning codes.

"Significant sources of air pollution" include airports, marine ports, rail yards and dist ibution centers that receive more than 100 heavy-duty truck visits per day, as well as stationary sources that are designated major by the Clean Air Act.

A "Traffic Analysis Zone" is an analytical unit used by a travel demand model to estimate vehicle travel within a region.

III. Performance Standards Related to Project Design

To be eligible for streamlining pursuant to Section 15183.3, a project must implement all of the following:

Renewable Energy. All non-residential projects shall include on-site renewable power generation, such as solar photovoltaic, solar thermal and wind power generation, or clean back- up power supplies, where feasible. Residential projects are also encouraged to include such on-site renewable power generation.

Soil and Water Remediation. If the project site is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, the project shall document how it has remediated the site, if remediation is completed. Alternatively, the project shall implement the recommendations provided in a preliminary endangerment assessment or comparable document that identifies remediation appropriate for the site.

Residential Units Near High-Volume Roadways and Stationary Sources. If a project includes residential units located within 500 feet, or other distance determined to be appropriate by the local agency or air district based on local conditions, of a high volume roadway or other significant sources of air pollution, the project shall comply with any policies and standards identified in the local general plan, specific plan, zoning code or community risk reduction plan for the protection of public health from such sources of air pollution. If the local government has not adopted such plans or policies, the project shall include measures, such as enhanced air filtration and project design, that the lead agency finds, based on substantial evidence, will promote the protection of public health from sources of air pollution. Those measure may include, among others, the recommendations of the California Air Resources Board, air districts, and the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association.

IV. Additional Performance Standards by Project Type

In addition to the project features described above in Section III, specific eligibility requirements are provided below by project type.

Several of the performance standards below refer to "low vehicle travel areas". Such areas can be illustrated on maps based on data developed by the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) using its regional travel demand model.

Several of the performance standards below refer to distance to transit. Distance should be calculated so that at least 75 percent of the surface area of the project site is within the specified distance.

A. Residential

To be eligible for streamlining pursuant to Section 15183.3, a project must satisfy one of the following:

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Projects achieving below average regional per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT). A residential project is eligible if it is located in a "low vehicle travel area" within the region.

Projects located within % mile of an Existing Major Transit Stop or High Quality Transit Corridor. A residential project is eligible if it is located within Yz mile of an existing major transit stop or an existing stop along a high quality transit corridor.

Low-Income Housing. A residential or mixed-use project consisting of 300 or fewer residential units all of which are affordable to low income households is eligible if the developer of the development project provides sufficient legal commitments to the lead agency to ensure the continued availability and use of the housing units for lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, for a period of at least 30 years, at monthly housing costs, as determined pursuant to Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

B. Commercial/Retail

To be eligible for streamlining pursuant to Section 15183.3, a project must satisfy one of the following:

Regional Location. A commercial project with no single-building floor-plate greater than 50,000 square feet is eligible if it locates in a "low vehicle travel area."

Proximity to Households. A project with no single-building floor-plate greater than 50,000 square feet located within one-half mile of 1800 households is eligible.

C. Office Building

To be eligible for streamlining pursuant to Section 15183.3, a project must satisfy one of the following:

Regional Location. Office buildings, both commercial and public, are eligible if they locate in a low vehicle travel area.

Proximity to a Major Transit Stop. Office buildings, both commercial and public, within % mile of an existing major transit stop, or X mile of an existing stop along a high quality transit corridor, are eligible.

D. Transit

Transit stations, as defined in Section 15183.3(e)(1), are eligible.

E. Schools

Elementary schools within one mile of fifty percent of the projected student population are eligible. Middle schools and high schools within two miles of fifty percent of the projected student population are eligible. Alternatively, any school within % mile of an existing major transit stop or an existing stop along a high quality transit corridor is eligible.

Additionally, in order to be eligible, all schools shall provide parking and storage for bicycles and scooters and shall comply with the requirements in Sections 17213, 17213.1 and 17213.2 of the California Education Code.

F. Small Walkable Community Projects

Small walkable community projects, as defined in Section 15183.3, subdivision (e)(6), that implement the project features described in Section III above are eligible.

G. Mixed-Use Projects

Where a project includes some combination of residential, commercial and retail, office building, transit station, and/or schools, the performance standards in this Section that apply to the predominant use shall govern the entire project.

Authority: Public Resources Code 21083, 21094.5.5

Reference: Public Resources Code Sections 21094.5 and 21094.5.5

Proposed Appendix N: Infill Environmental Checklist form

NOTE: This sample form is intended to assist lead agencies in assessing infill projects according to the procedures provided in Section 21094.5 of the Public Resources Code. Lead agencies may customize this form as appropriate, provided that the content satisfies the requirements in Section 15183.3 of the CEQA Guidelines.

1.	Project title:
2.	Lead agency name and address:
3.	Contact person and phone number:
4.	Project location:
5.	Project sponsor's name and address:
6.	General plan designation: 7. Zoning:
8.	Prior Environmental Document(s) Analyzing the Effects of the Infill Project (including State Clearinghouse Number if assigned):
9.	Location of Prior Environmental Document(s) Analyzing the Effects of the Infill Project:
10.	Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or offsite features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.)
11.	Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings, including any prior uses of the project site, or, if vacant, describe the urban uses that exist on at least 75% of the project's perimeter:
12.	Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)
	TISFACTION OF APPENDIX M PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
	vide the information demonstrating that the infill project satisfies the performance standards in Appendix M below. For mixed-use projects , the dominant use will determine which performance standards apply to the entire project.
1. [loes the non-residential infill project include a renewable energy feature? If so, describe below. If not, explain below why it is not feasible to do so.
or c	f the project site is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, either provide documentation of remediation lescribe the recommendations provided in a preliminary endangerment assessment or comparable document that will be implemented as part of the ect.

3. If the infill project includes residential units located within 500 feet, or such distance that the local agency or local air district has determined is appropriate based on local conditions, a high volume roadway or other significant source of air pollution, as defined in Appendix M, describe the measures that the project will implement to protect public health. Such measures may include policies and standards identified in the local general plan, specific plans, zoning code or community risk reduction plan, or measures recommended in a health risk assessment, to promote the protection of public health. Identify the policies or standards, or refer to the site specific analysis, below. (Attach additional sheets if necessary.)
4. For recidential projects, the project extining which of the following?
4. For residential projects, the project satisfies which of the following?
Located within a low vehicle travel area, as defined in Appendix M. (Attach VMT map.)
Located within ½ mile of an existing major transit stop or an existing stop along a high quality transit corridor. (Attach map illustrating proximity to transit.)
Consists of 300 or fewer units that are each affordable to low income households. (Attach evidence of legal commitment to ensure the continued availability and use of the housing units for lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, for a period of at least 30 years, at monthly housing costs, as determined pursuant to Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.)
 For commercial projects with a single building floor-plate below 50,000 square feet, the project satisfies which of the following?
Located within a low vehicle travel area, as defined in Appendix M. (Attach VMT map.)
The project is within one-half mile of 1800 dwelling units. (Attach map illustrating proximity to households.)
6. For office building projects, the project satisfies which of the following?
Located within a low vehicle travel area, as defined in Appendix M. (Attach VMT map.)
Located within ½ mile of an existing major transit stop or within ¼ of a stop along a high quality transit corridor. (Attach map illustrating proximity to transit.)
7. For school projects, the project does all of the following:
The project complies with the requirements in Sections 17213, 17213.1 and 17213.2 of the California Education Code.
The project is an elementary school and is within one mile of 50% of the student population, or is a middle school or high school and is within two miles of 50% of the student population. Alternatively, the school is within ½ mile of an existing major transit stop or an existing stop along a high quality transit corridor. (Attach map and methodology.)
The project provides parking and storage for bicycles and scooters.
8. For small walkable community projects , the project must be a residential project that has a density of at least eight units to the acre or a commercial project with a floor area ratio of at least 0.5, or both.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The infill project could potentially result in one or more of the following environmental effects.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology /Soils
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality
	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
	Population / Housing		Public Services		Recreation
	Transportation/Traffic		Utilities / Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance
DETE	RMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead	Agend	у)		
On the	e basis of this initial evaluation:				
prior E	EIR or that are more significant than previous	ously	nave any significant effects on the environme analyzed, or that uniformly applicable devel QA does not apply to such effects. A Notice	lopme	nt policies would not substantially mitigate.
prior E to CE	EIR, and that no uniformly applicable develop	ment be s	policies would substantially mitigate such effe gnificant and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION	ects.	or are more significant than described in the With respect to those effects that are subject if the project is a Transit Priority Project a
prior E signific propor	EIR, and that no uniformly applicable develocant, there will not be a significant effect in	pmen this	policies would substantially mitigate such e	ffects have	or are more significant than described in the . I find that although those effects could be been made by or agreed to by the project INABLE COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENTAL
the pr	ior EIR, and that no uniformly applicable de	evelop	•	uch e	EIR, or are more significant than described in ffects. I find that those effects WOULD be ubject to CEQA.
					<u> </u>
Signat	hure		 Date		_
	UATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPAC	TS O			

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) For the purposes of this checklist, "prior EIR" means the environmental impact report certified for a planning level decision, as supplemented by any subsequent or supplemental environmental impact reports, negative declarations, or addenda to those documents. "Planning level decision" means the enactment or amendment of a general plan, community plan, specific plan, or zoning code. (Section 15183.3(e).)
- 4) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur as a result of an infill project, then the checklist answers must indicate whether that impact has already been analyzed in a prior EIR. If the effect of the infill project is not more significant than what has already been analyzed, that effect of the infill project is not subject to CEQA. The brief explanation accompanying this determination should include page and section references to the portions of the prior EIR containing the analysis of that effect. The brief explanation shall also indicate whether the prior EIR included any mitigation measures to substantially lessen that effect and whether those measures have been incorporated into the infill project.

- 5) If the infill project would cause a significant adverse effect that either is specific to the project or project site and was not analyzed in a prior EIR, or is more significant than what was analyzed in a prior EIR, the lead agency must determine whether uniformly applicable development policies or standards that have been adopted by the lead agency, or city or county, would substantially mitigate that effect. If so, the checklist shall explain how the infill project's implementation of the uniformly applicable development policies will substantially mitigate that effect. That effect of the infill project is not subject to CEQA if the lead agency makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that the development policies or standards will substantially mitigate that effect.
- 6) If all effects of an infill project were either analyzed in a prior EIR or are substantially mitigated by uniformly applicable development policies or standards, CEQA does not apply to the project, and the lead agency shall file a Notice of Determination.
- 7) Effects of an infill project that either have not been analyzed in a prior EIR, or that uniformly applicable development policies or standards do not substantially mitigate, are subject to CEQA. With respect to those effects of the infill project that are subject to CEQA, the checklist shall indicate whether those effects are significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. If there are one or more "Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an infill EIR is required. The infill EIR should be limited to analysis of those effects determined to be significant. (Sections 15128, 15183.3(d).)
- 8) "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures will reduce an effect of an infill project that is subject to CEQA from "Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how those measures reduce the effect to a less than significant level. If the effects of an infill project that are subject to CEQA are less than significant with mitigation incorporated, the lead agency may prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration. If all of the effects of the infill project that are subject to CEQA are less than significant, the lead agency may prepare a Negative Declaration.
- 9) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to an infill project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 10) The explanation of each issue should identify:

to agricultural resources are significant

- a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
- b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Issues:

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?					
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?					
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?					
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?					
II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts					

Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation

Significant Impact Incorporated

No Impact

Analyzed in the Prior EIR Substantially
Mitigated by
Uniformly
Applicable
Development
Policies

environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?					
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?					
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?					
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?					
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?					
III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:					
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?					
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?					
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?					
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?					
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a					

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substantial number of people?					
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?					
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?					
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?					
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?					
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?					
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?					

		Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation		Analyzed in the	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development
	Significant Impact	Incorporated	No Impact	Prior EIR	Policies
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:					
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?					
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?					
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?					
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?					
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:					
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:					
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.					
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?					
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?					
iv) Landslides?					
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?					
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onor off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?					

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?					
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?					
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?					
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?					
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:					
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?					
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?					
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?					
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?					

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?					
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?					
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?					
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?					
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:					
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?					
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?					
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?					

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?					
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?					
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?					
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?					
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?					
i) 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?					
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?					
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:					
a) Physically divide an established community?					
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?					

	Significant Impact	Less Than Significant or Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	No Impact	Analyzed in the Prior EIR	Substantially Mitigated by Uniformly Applicable Development Policies
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?					
$\underline{\text{XI. MINERAL RESOURCES.}} \ \text{Would the project:}$					
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?					
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?					
XII. NOISE Would the project result in:					
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?					
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?					
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?					
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?					
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?					
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?					

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XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	,	·	·		
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?					
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?					
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?					
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.					
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:					
Fire protection?					
Police protection?					
Schools?					
Parks?					
Other public facilities?					
XV. RECREATION.					
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?					

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b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?					
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:					
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?					
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?					
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?					
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?					
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?					
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?					

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VV/II LITILITIES AND SEDVICE SVSTEMS	Significant Impact	Incorporated	No Impact	Prior EIR	Policies
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:					
 a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? 					
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?					
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?					
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?					
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?					
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?					
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?					
XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.					
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?					
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project					

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are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?					
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?					

Authority: Public Resources Code 21083, 21094.5.5

Reference: Public Resources Code Sections 21094.5 and 21094.5.5