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## 6.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

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This section identifies the cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. Cumulative impacts are the result of combining the potential effects of the project with other planned developments, as well as foreseeable development projects. The following discussion considers the cumulative impacts of the relevant environmental issue areas.

### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) contain an assessment of the cumulative impacts that could be associated with the proposed project. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a), "an EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable." "Cumulatively considerable means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects" (as defined by Section 15130).

As defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15355, a cumulative impact consists of an impact that is created as a result of the combination of the project evaluated in the EIR together with other projects causing related impacts. A cumulative impact occurs from:

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

In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(b) identifies elements that are necessary for an adequate cumulative analysis, including:

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

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

## 6.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

This EIR utilizes both the “list” and the “general plan” approaches described above in the cumulative analysis.

### 6.2 CUMULATIVE SETTING

**Table 6.0-1** provides a general description of planned roadway development projects in the City of Elk Grove that are near the proposed project. **Table 6.0-2** provides a general description of approved and proposed development projects in the City of Elk Grove that are near the proposed project. Development of these projects would contribute to growth anticipated in the cumulative setting.

In the City of Elk Grove, the Elk Grove General Plan provides for the long-range direction and development of land within the City. The General Plan and the General Plan Land Use Map identify and plan for future development densities and intensities throughout the City. The Circulation Element of the General Plan provides a roadway master plan (Figure CI-2 of the Elk Grove General Plan Circulation Element), which includes Franklin and Elk Grove Boulevards as 6-lane arterials, as proposed for the Franklin Boulevard Widening project.

Full discussions of cumulative impacts, as well as a general description of the cumulative setting, is provided under each environmental issue area in Sections 5.1 through 5.12 of this Draft EIR.

**TABLE 6.0-1  
PLANNED ROADWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Project Location	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Anticipated Completion Date
Franklin Boulevard	Francesca to Elk Grove Boulevard	2006
Poppy Ridge Road	Construct new road to four lanes from Franklin Boulevard to Bruceville Road	2006
	Widen from two to four lanes from Bruceville Road to West Stockton Boulevard	2008
Bruceville Road	Widen from two to four lanes from Poppy Ridge Road to Elk Grove Boulevard	2008
Elk Grove Boulevard Frontage Improvements Adjacent to Valley Hi Country Club	Widen westbound Elk Grove Blvd. from two to three lanes Between Franklin Blvd. and Laguna Lake Way	2006

*Source: The projects contained in this table are approved roadway projects in the immediate vicinity of the Franklin Boulevard Widening project. The information was derived from the City of Elk Grove General Plan (Circulation Element), the City of Elk Grove Five Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2002-2007, and the SACOG 2025 MTP.*

**TABLE 6.0-2  
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>LAND USE</b>	<b>Location</b>
Franklin Meadows	283 single-family lots on 133 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: northeast corner of Poppy Ridge Road and Franklin Boulevard
Franklin Meadows II	Subdivide 52 acres for single-family lots, multi-family lots, and a shopping center	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: northeast corner of Poppy Ridge Road and Franklin Boulevard
Elk Grove Meadows	140 single-family lots and one multi-family lot on 22.10 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Poppy Ridge Road
Elk Grove Meadows II	108 single-family lots on 19 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Poppy Ridge Road
Elk Grove Meadows III	428 single-family lots on 102 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Poppy Ridge Road
Franklin 51	224 single-family lots on 51 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: east of Franklin Boulevard and south of Elk Grove Boulevard
Backer Ranch	496 single-family lots on 40 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southwest corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Bruceville Road
Laguna Estates	253 single-family lots on 86 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Franklin Boulevard
The Grove	98 single-family lots on 21 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southwest corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Bruceville Road
Elk Grove Greens	360 single-family lots on 84 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south of Elk Grove Boulevard and east of Franklin Boulevard
Cresleigh Ranch	School site	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south of Elk Grove Boulevard and east of Franklin Boulevard
Laguna Creek South	842 single-family lots on 270 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: Bruceville Road and Poppy Ridge Road
Gillam Meadows Unit I	338 single-family lots on 73 acres, commercial, fire station, continuation school, sewer lift station	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south side of Poppy Ridge Road approximately 1,800 feet east of Franklin Boulevard
Gillam Meadows Unit II	353 single-family lots on 80 acres, park	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south side of Poppy Ridge Road approximately 1,800 feet east of Franklin Boulevard
South Meadows Unit I	231 single-family lots on 66 acres, school	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: north side of Bilby Road approximately 800 feet east of Franklin Blvd.
Agave Apartments	188 unit apartment complex with 9 buildings on 9 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Poppy Ridge Road
Raleys Shopping Center	Commercial on 10 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southeast corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Franklin Boulevard
Franklin Crossings	240 single-family lots on 86 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south of Bilby Road east of the Southern Pacific Railroad
Machado Unit	49 single-family lots on 10 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: east of Franklin High Road and south of Machado Ranch Drive

## 6.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

Monterey Village	114 single-family lots, 150 townhouse lots, 1 condominium lot on 52 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: northeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Poppy Ridge Road
Schula Ranch	120 single-family lots on 26 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: southwest corner of Bruceville Road and Poppy Ridge Road
Poppy Ridge Plaza	6 commercial parcels on 14 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: Poppy Ridge Road
Tuscan Ridge	226 single-family lots on 60 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: Poppy Ridge Road
Maderia South	417 single-family lots on 120 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: Poppy Ridge Road
Elk Grove Greens	360 single-family lots on 84 acres	East Franklin Specific Plan Area: south of Elk Grove Boulevard and east of Franklin Boulevard
Stratton Properties-Stone Lake	4 retail buildings on 4.5 acres	South side of Elk Grove Boulevard east of W. Taron Drive
Elliot Ranch East	56 single-family lots on 56 acres	Southwest corner of Elliot Ranch Road and Franklin Boulevard
Raleys Center	Subdivide 12.3 acres into 5 parcels for commercial	Southeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Elk Grove Boulevard
Stone Lake Landing	Commercial development on 11.81 acres	Southwest corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and West Taron Drive
Metsoma Laguna	Subdivide 41 acres for future residential and commercial development	Northwest corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Bruceville Road
Valley Hi	Subdivide 167 acres into 5 lots and a parcel for future development	Northeast corner of Elk Grove Boulevard and Franklin Boulevard
Retreat Valley Hi Club	61 single-family lots on 17 acres	Northeast corner of Franklin Boulevard and Elk Grove Boulevard
Harris Ranch	113 single-family lots on 21 acres	Between Franklin Boulevard and Union Pacific Railroad, north of Elk Grove Blvd.

Source: *The projects contained in this table are approved projects in the immediate vicinity of the Franklin Boulevard Widening project. The information was derived from official projects from the City of Elk Grove Planning Database, the Elk Grove General Plan EIR (2003), and the East Franklin Specific Plan (2000).*

### 6.3 CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Identified below is a compilation of the cumulative impacts that would result from the implementation of the project and future development in the vicinity. As described above, cumulative impacts are two or more effects that, when combined, are considerable or compound other environmental effects. Each cumulative impact is determined to have one of the following levels of significance: less than significant, significant, or significant and unavoidable. The reader is referred to Sections 5.1 through 5.12 for a complete discussion of the project's impacts.

SECTION 5.1 LAND USE

**Impact 5.1.3 Cumulative Land Use Impacts**

PP, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the proposed project would widen existing roadways, which is consistent with the City of Elk Grove General Plan. Therefore, cumulative land use impacts are considered **less than significant**.

AA Under the No Project alternative, Franklin Boulevard and Elk Grove Boulevard would not be widened or improved and would maintain their existing conditions. Therefore, cumulative land use impacts are considered **less than significant**.

SECTION 5.2 VISUAL RESOURCES/LIGHT AND GLARE

**Impact 5.2.3 Degrade Visual Character/Create Substantial Light and Glare**

PP, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the proposed project in combination with other approved and proposed projects would result in the further conversion of the area's rural landscape to residential, commercial, and other land uses with a more urbanized landscape. This would contribute to the alteration of some of the visual resources in the region. This is considered a **less than significant cumulative significant** impact.

AA Under the No Project Alternative, the project would not be constructed and therefore would not contribute to the degradation of visual resources or result in the creation of additional light and glare. There would be **no cumulative impact**.

SECTION 5.3 HAZARDS/RISK OF UPSET

**Impact 5.3.4 Cumulative Hazardous Materials, Natural Hazards and Public Health Impacts**

PP, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the proposed project could contribute to exposure of the public to hazards during construction and operation. This is considered a **less than significant cumulative** impact.

AA Under the No Project alternative the project would not be constructed so there would be no risk of exposure of the public to hazards. Therefore, there is **no impact**.

SECTION 5.4 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

**Impact 5.4.4 Cumulative Traffic Impacts on Local Roadways**

PP, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the General Plan as well as future development within the City and adjacent areas would contribute to the degradation of the project study intersections and roadway segments to unacceptable LOS conditions under cumulative conditions. However, the proposed roadway improvements would serve to alleviate some of the congestion caused by

## 6.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

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build-out of the City as planned under the General Plan. This is considered a **less than significant** cumulative impact.

AA Under the No Project alternative, increases in traffic volumes and congestion are predicted for most intersection and roadway segments within the project area by Year 2025 due to cumulative growth. Existing lane geometrics and controls with no improvements would cause a **cumulatively significant impact** to traffic operations, level of service, and safety.

No mitigation measures are available other than the project to mitigate for AA impact.

### SECTION 5.5 NOISE

#### Impact 5.5.3 Permanent Cumulative Noise Increase: Traffic

PP, AA, AB, AC, AD Growth and development in the project area will continue to generate increased traffic on Franklin Boulevard. Implementation of the proposed project and alternative AD would not move traffic closer to sensitive receptors along the roadway. Alternatives AB and AC would result in moving traffic closer to sensitive receptors on the east side of Franklin Boulevard. The project, along with approved and planned development and transportation projects in the area, would increase traffic volumes within the project area, which would increase transportation related noise levels in excess of the City of Elk Grove noise standards. This would result in a **less than significant** cumulative noise impact.

### SECTION 5.6 AIR QUALITY

#### Impact 5.6.4 Cumulatively Considerable Net Increase of Criteria Pollutants: Ozone and PM<sub>10</sub>

PP, AA, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the proposed project along with expected growth in the area could exacerbate existing regional problems with ozone and particulate matter. This is considered a **less than significant cumulative** impact.

### SECTION 5.7 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

#### Impact 5.7.4 Regional Water Quality and Runoff Patterns

PP, AB, AC, AD The project could contribute to the cumulative effects of degradation of regional water quality, changes to runoff patterns, and the potential for increased flooding. This would be a **potentially significant** cumulative impact.

AA Under the No Project alternative, there would be no increases in the volume of storm water runoff, as there would not be any road widening. There would be **no cumulative impact** to water quality and runoff.

**MM 5.7.4** Implementation of mitigation measures MM 5.7.1 and MM 5.7.2 would reduce the project's contribution to cumulative groundwater, water quality, and flooding impacts to less than significant.

SECTION 5.8 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

**Impact 5.8.3 Cumulative Unstable and Expansive Soils and Soil Erosion Impacts**

PP, AB, AC, AD The proposed roadway improvements could incur significant damage as a result of underlying expansive or unstable soil properties. Individual projects must comply with city requirements for roadways. Therefore, cumulative geology and soils impacts are considered **less than significant**.

AA Under the No Project alternative, there would be **no impact** regarding cumulative unstable and expansive soils because there would be no construction.

SECTION 5.9 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

**Impact 5.9.10 Cumulative Biological Resources Impact**

PP, AB, AC, AD Development of the project could result in disturbance to local special status species and removal of up to seven Valley oak trees. This would be considered a **potentially significant** cumulative impact.

AA Under the No Project alternative, construction would not occur and site conditions would not change. Therefore, there would be **no cumulative impact**.

**MM 5.9.10** Implementation of mitigation measures MM 5.9-1 through MM 5.9.9 in this section, MM 5.1.1, and MM 5.2.1 would reduce the overall contribution to cumulative biological resource impacts resulting from completion of the project. Therefore, proposed project contributions to the potential loss and/or restriction of biological resources in the region are considered **less than significant**.

SECTION 5.10 CULTURAL RESOURCES

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

**Impact 5.10.3 Cumulative Impacts to Cultural Resources**

PP, AB, AC, AD Implementation of the proposed project is not anticipated to disturb any known historical, archaeological, paleontological, or other cultural resources on the project site. Therefore, cumulative impacts to such resources are considered **less than significant**.

AA Under the No Project alternative, there would be **no impact** to known or unknown historical, archaeological, paleontological, or other cultural resources because there would be no construction.

## 6.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

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### SECTION 5.11 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Impact 5.11.2 Cumulative Loss of Agricultural Land

PP, AB, AC, AD The project would convert approximately 1.22 acres of Grazing Land to urban uses. The alternatives AB, AC, and AD would convert 0.95 acre to 3.02 acres of Grazing Land to urban uses. This loss would contribute to the cumulative loss of farmland in the region. This would result in a **less than significant** impact.

AA Under the No Project alternative, there would be **no cumulative impact** to or loss of agricultural lands because there would be no widening of the roadway into SLNWR lands.

### SECTION 5.12 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

#### Impact 5.12.4 Cumulative Public Services and Utilities Impacts

PP, AB, AC, AD The project in combination with other proposed and approved projects, would incrementally increase the demand for maintenance of the roadway, storm water drainage, and landscaped areas. Provision of service occurs on a project-by-project basis. Therefore, cumulative impacts to public services and utilities are considered **less than significant**.

AA Under the No Project Alternative, there would be **no cumulative impact** on public services and utilities, because the project would not be constructed.