

6.1 Introduction

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines require an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to discuss the ways in which a project could foster economic or population growth or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment. This includes ways in which a project would remove obstacles to population growth or trigger the construction of new community-services facilities that could cause significant effects (CEQA Guidelines § 15126.2).

To address this issue, potential growth-inducing effects are examined through the following considerations:

- Removal of obstacles to growth (e.g., through the construction or extension of major infrastructure facilities that do not presently exist in a project area or through changes in existing regulations pertaining to land development);
- Expansion requirements for one or more public services to maintain desired levels of service as a result of a project or alternatives;
- Facilitation of economic effects that could result in other activities that could significantly affect the environment; or
- Setting a precedent that could encourage and facilitate other activities that could significantly affect the environment.

Growth-inducing effects are not to be construed as necessarily beneficial, detrimental, or of little significance to the environment. This issue is presented to provide additional information about ways in which the West Harbor Modification Project (Proposed Project) could contribute to significant changes in the environment, beyond the direct consequences of developing the Amphitheater, Ferris Wheel, Amusement Attractions, and the 208 E. 22nd Street Parking Lot that were examined in the preceding sections of this Subsequent EIR (SEIR).

The analysis presented below focuses on whether the Proposed Project would directly or indirectly stimulate or accommodate growth in the surrounding area.

6.2 Growth-Inducing Impacts

As stated in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, the overall purpose of the Proposed Project is to enhance and revitalize the existing San Pedro waterfront area by including an outdoor concert Amphitheater, a 175-foot diameter Ferris Wheel and Amusement Attractions for patrons to enjoy, thereby increasing the positive public visibility of San Pedro in general and the waterfront specifically. In addition, the Proposed Project has an objective to update previously adopted mitigation measures to reflect changes made since their consideration, including the addition of the 208 E. 22nd Street parking lot improvements.

Given this overall purpose, the Proposed Project would be designed to not only improve the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) itself, but also foster private-sector economic investment and growth by making the waterfront more attractive and user-friendly for residents of the area and visitors. Due to the desirability of being located near the improved waterfront, a more attractive and user-friendly waterfront could encourage the development of residential and commercial properties in the nearby community. The Proposed Project would also introduce new employment opportunities in the short term from construction activities and in the long term from operation of the Proposed Project. It is anticipated that the majority of new employees would come from the diverse worker population already residing within Southern California; the Proposed Project would not require a substantial influx of new residents into the area to fill new jobs. The Proposed Project would not include the development of new housing nor infrastructure that would directly induce population growth. As such, the Proposed Project would not adversely affect the existing housing stock in the surrounding area.

The Proposed Project could indirectly result in economic growth by increasing the number of patrons along the waterfront and in downtown San Pedro. Sales would be generated by businesses that would be engaged in supplying services and materials to the visiting patrons attending Amphitheater events, as well as businesses in the San Pedro area that would supply services to the Amphitheater for hosting events. Amphitheater attendees eating at a local restaurant and/or shopping at a local store would create direct economic benefits for those businesses. This could, in turn, lead to more investment and growth in the waterfront and downtown area, the impacts of which were analyzed and addressed in the *2009 San Pedro Waterfront (SPW) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/EIR* (2009 SPW EIS/EIR) and *2016 Addendum to the 2009 San Pedro Waterfront Project Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the San Pedro Public Market Project* (2016 SPPM Addendum).

The other impacts of growth associated with the Proposed Project, such as those related to air quality, traffic, noise, public services, and utility consumption, were addressed throughout this SEIR and the Initial Study (IS)/Notice of Preparation (NOP) provided in Appendix A.