This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

**PROJECT LABEL:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>APN</th>
<th>0254-081-03.04</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>County of San Bernardino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>City of Colton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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<td>Project No</td>
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<td>Proposal</td>
<td>Arrowhead Regional Medical Office Building</td>
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<td>San Bernardino South</td>
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<td>1S 5W Sec. 24 NE</td>
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<td>Zoning</td>
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<td>Supervisory District</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

- **Lead agency:** County of San Bernardino  
  385 N. Arrowhead Avenue  
  San Bernardino, CA 92415-0184

- **Contact person:** Shellie Zias-Roe, Assistant Planner  
  Phone No: (909) 387-4124  
  Fax No: (909) 387-3223  
  E-mail: sziasroe@lusd.sbcounty.gov

- **Project Sponsor:** County of San Bernardino  
  Architecture and Engineering Department  
  385 N. Arrowhead Avenue  
  San Bernardino, CA 92415

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE PROJECT:**

The purpose of this Initial Study/Negative Declaration is to address and disclose any potentially significant impacts associated with the construction of a new Medical Office Building (MOB).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Arrowhead Regional Medical Centers' new Medical Office Building (MOB) provides for the construction of a modern facility and is a cost-effective long-term solution to the problem of permanent space for ARMC's medical and administrative staff, who have been displaced in a modular building for more than three years. The proposed location for the new building is an existing green belt between the Nursing Tower and the Behavioral Health Building, providing direct covered access to either building without taking up valuable parking space.
KEY IMPROVEMENTS TO ARMC INCLUDE:

- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified Silver
- Adds 24 additional dialysis stations
- Staff will have efficient access to the main hospital
- Maximizes use of available space
- Once the existing temporary modular buildings are removed following construction, there will be a substantial increase in patient parking.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map (Not to Scale)
Figure 2: Site Location Map (not to scale)
CITY OF COLTON SUPER BLOCK
Preliminary Master Land Use Plan

Prepared by:
JHA Consulting, Inc.
Community Planning and Design
Strategic Management
425 Cambridge, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92612
Date: December 3, 2008

Figure 3: City of Colton Super Block Master Land Use Plan

= Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Figure 4: Site Plan (not to scale)
Project Design and Construction Features:

The proposed project will include design features to avoid significant impacts to the environment. Because these design features have been incorporated into the proposed project design, they are not considered mitigation measures.

General Measures

- The proposed project will be designed and implemented in accordance with the provisions of the “Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction” (the Greenbook), prepared and promulgated by the Southern California Chapters of the American Public Works Association and the Associated General Contractors of California.

- The project will comply with applicable local ordinances, standards, and procedures for public facility design, construction, and operation.

- It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County that the design, construction, and operation of all new buildings and major renovations of county-owned facilities, 5,000 square feet or larger, meet LEED Silver certification standards whenever fiscally sensible. Any waiver of compliance with achieving this standard will require a specific finding by the Board of Supervisors that the long-term environmental and energy savings benefits are outweighed by the costs of construction and/or operation of the facility.

- This project is designed to follow a LEED certification protocol which requires strict adherence to maximum environmental quality standards. LEED is the acronym for Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design developed by the U.S. Green Building Council and encompasses a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable construction.

Infection Control for Construction and Renovation

- The project will comply with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, San Bernardino County Policy Number 322, which states the following: “Construction, renovation or demolition projects will be conducted with strict adherence to recommended infection control guidelines, policies and procedures to minimize the risk of patient, visitor and employee exposure to potentially pathogenic microorganisms released during any project.”

- The purpose of the Infection Control Manual is to outline methods to prevent the acquisition of Healthcare-Acquired Infections (HAIs) in patients, visitors, and healthcare workers during hospital construction and renovation projects. The Infection Control Manual applies to all renovation and
• construction activities involving general and prime contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, vendors, working on site (including Family Health Centers), and/or Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC), Facilities Management (FM) staff, Nurse Epidemiologist (NE), the Infection Control Nurse (ICN), Hospital Administration and other critical staff members.

• A copy of the Infection Control Manual has been given to the County of San Bernardino Architecture and Engineering Department and Land Use Services Department Advance Planning Division in addition to those mentioned above. Due to air pollution causing health risks to the human population, effects upon sensitive receptors are analyzed with more scrutiny on sites in which there is a reasonable expectation of continuous human exposure. Since this project is located on a hospital campus, which is a sensitive receptor, the hospital has established construction guidelines to prevent the acquisition of infections due to the secondary effects of increased air pollution that may be caused by construction activity.

Air Quality

• The proposed project is required to comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403 “Fugitive Dust Control,” which requires implementation of feasible measures to reduce and control fugitive dust emissions, including, but not limited to, watering on site, using soil stabilizers, utilizing wheel washers for construction vehicles, and reducing vehicle speeds.

• During construction, street sweeping will be conducted at least daily, and as needed, along site access roadways to remove dirt dropped by construction vehicles or dried mud carried off by trucks moving dirt or bringing construction materials. Site access driveways and adjacent streets will be washed if there are visible signs of any dirt track-out at the conclusion of any work day.

• Construction equipment will be maintained and operated so as to minimize exhaust emissions. For example, during construction, trucks and vehicles on site will be parked with their engines off rather than idling to reduce vehicle emissions.

• Construction operations will be phased and scheduled to avoid emissions peaks and discontinued during smog alerts. In addition, all equipment will be properly tuned and maintained in accordance with manufacturer’s specifications.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

• Given the prudent air quality measures established for construction activities on the hospital campus, project design features and all construction activities as detailed in ARMC’s Policy Number 322 will be incorporated. In addition, the County has recently established guidelines
which limit idling of engines to help improve the quality of air for the entire region. These measures may contribute to the minimization of Carbon Dioxide (CO$_2$), Methane (CH$_4$), Nitrous Oxide (N$_2$O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC’s), Perfluorocarbons (PFC’s), and Sulfur hexafluoride (SF$_6$), regulated pollutants under AB 32 (2006), in addition to the following Criteria Pollutants: Carbon Monoxide (CO), Ozone (O$_3$), Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), and Oxides of Sulfur (SOx). In addition, the county has recently established guidelines that limit idling of engines to help improve the quality of air for the entire region.

Geology and Soils

- The building materials, design, and construction methods will conform to the California Building Code and local building and construction standards.

Lighting

- Permanent security lighting will be shielded away from adjacent properties and directed downward and into the project site per City of Colton Municipal Code 18.42.090 and County of San Bernardino Development Code 83.07.

Noise

- Construction activities will be limited to daytime hours between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and will conform to local noise standards per City of Colton Municipal Code 18.42.040 and County of San Bernardino Development Code 83.01.080.

- The proposed project design incorporates noise attenuation features including insulation, construction of perimeter walls, and/or special low noise generating equipment.

ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>EXISTING LAND USE</th>
<th>CITY of COLTON LAND USE DISTRICT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Arrowhead Regional Medical Center</td>
<td>Specific Plan Overlay (SP)/Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>City - Residential</td>
<td>PA 29/Residential-Multiple Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>City – Retail</td>
<td>PA 36/Retail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>City – Open Space/Cemetery</td>
<td>PA 31/Open Space-Hospital and Cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>City- Retail</td>
<td>PA 38/Retail</td>
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</table>
Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

State of California: Department of Corrections

RWQCB: Amendment to Site NPDES Permit
EVALUATION FORMAT

This initial study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000, et seq.). Specifically, the preparation of an Initial Study is guided by Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based upon its effect on seventeen (17) major categories of environmental factors. Each factor is reviewed by responding to a series of questions regarding the impact of the project on each element of the overall factor. The Initial Study Checklist provides a formatted analysis that provides a determination of the effect of the project on the factor and its elements. The effect of the project is categorized into one of the following four categories of possible determinations:

| Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant | Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated | No Impact |

Substantiation is then provided to justify each determination. One of the four following conclusions is then provided as a summary of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

1. **No Impact**: No impacts are identified or anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

2. **Less than Significant Impact**: No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

3. **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated**: Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measures are required as a condition of project approval to reduce these impacts to a level below significant. The required mitigation measures are: (List mitigation measures)

4. **Potentially Significant Impact**: Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (Listing the impacts requiring analysis within the EIR).

At the end of the analysis the required mitigation measures are restated and categorized as being either self-monitoring or as requiring a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- Aesthetics
- Biological Resources
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Mineral Resources
- Public Services
- Utilities / Service Systems
- Agriculture Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Noise
- Recreation
- Mandatory Findings of Significance
- Air Quality
- Geology / Soils
- Land Use / Planning
- Population / Housing
- Transportation / Traffic

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

  Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

  The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

  Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature (prepared by Shellie Zias-Roe, Assistant Planner)  
Date: December 3, 2008

Signature: Carrie Hyke, AICP, Principal Planner  
Date
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? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check ☐ if project is located within the view-shed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan):

   a) No Impact. The proposed project is not located within a designated Scenic Corridor and will not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista as there are none identified within the vicinity of the project site that would be affected by the proposed project.

   b) No Impact. The proposed project will not substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway, because the site is not adjacent to a state scenic highway and there are no trees, rock outcroppings or historic buildings on the project site.

   c) No Impact. The proposed project will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings because the project is consistent with the existing visual character of the area. No regulated plants or trees exist on the project site. The proposed project will be an improvement to the existing site. The project design includes proposed enhancements to the living environment and aesthetics of the facility.

   d) Less than Significant Impact. The proposed project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Although security lighting will be installed, it will be shielded away from adjacent buildings and directed downward into the project site. Construction activities will not be carried out at night; therefore, there will not be a need for any construction night lighting. None of the proposed improvements will reflect substantial sunlight off site or otherwise contribute to
glare. Accordingly, no light or glare impacts will result from project implementation. Project design features will incorporate lighting that will minimize light or glare impacts to less than significant.

II. **AGRICULTURE RESOURCES** - In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:

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) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use? □ □ □ ☒

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check ☑ if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

a-c) **No Impact.** There are no agricultural resources or operations at, or in the vicinity of, the project site. In addition, the project site is not located in an area identified as prime farmland, nor is the site being used for or zoned for agricultural use. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

III. **AIR QUALITY** - Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district might 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?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</th>
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<td>Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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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 substantial number of people?

**SUBSTANTIATION:** *(Discuss conformity with the Mojave Air Quality Management Plan, if applicable):*

a-c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Southern California area is divided into a number of geographical air basins for the purpose of air quality planning and management. The project site is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The SCAQMD enforces the Clean Air Act’s air quality standards for this region.

There are no sources of potential long-term air impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project. The ARMC does not currently use any chemicals (except for regular domestic chemical products used for cleaning, disinfection etc.) and the proposed modifications would not require any introduction of harmful chemicals; therefore, no significant air contaminants would be released into the atmosphere during project operation.

Air quality impacts from construction activities are difficult to quantify because they occur on a temporary basis and fluctuate in relative strength. There would be some exhaust emissions from the operation of mobile construction equipment such as backhoes and bulldozers. There would also be some exhaust emissions from the cars of the construction crews commuting to the site. In addition, soil disturbance activities, such as excavation, equipment operation, and vehicle travel on unpaved roads, represent sources of windblown...
dust (which includes PM$_{10}$). These construction emissions are of potential concern because the proposed project is in a non-attainment area for ozone and PM-10; however, construction-related increases in emissions of fugitive dust, exhaust from construction equipment, and employee commute vehicles, would be temporary and localized during the 19 months of total construction time. In addition, the County has recently established guidelines which limit idling of engines to help improve the quality of air for the entire region. The proposed project would also include dust abatement measures that would limit the generation of pollutants, including particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter (PM$_{10}$), consistent with Rule 403 *Fugitive Dust Control for the South Coast Planning Area*. In the context of the project design and construction features, as well as applicable air quality plans (SCPA Attainment Plan or applicable portions of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP), which addresses requirements under the federal Clean Air Act, and the Regional Air Quality Strategies (RAQS) which addresses requirements under the California Clean Air Act), proposed project construction-related air quality impacts would be negligible.

In September 2006 Governor Schwarzenegger signed the Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill 32), which was created to address the Global Warming situation in California. The Act requires that the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. This is part of a larger plan in which California hopes to reduce its emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This reduction will be accomplished through an enforceable statewide cap on GHG emissions that will be phased in starting in 2012 and regulated by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). With this Act in place, CARB is in charge of setting specific standards for different source emissions, as well as monitoring whether they are being met.

Currently, there are no established thresholds or standards for determining whether a project’s GHG emissions are significant; therefore, the analysis of GHG within the CEQA process is overly speculative. However, GHG emissions tend to follow similar patterns as those of criteria air pollutants (including carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NO$_x$), volatile organic compounds (VOC), oxides of sulfur (SO$_x$), and particulate matter). As such, since the proposed project is anticipated to have less than significant impact for criteria pollutants due to the incorporated design and construction features, as well as compliance with applicable federal and state regulations, it is reasonable to assume that its impact on
GHG emissions would also be less than significant. Furthermore, the main contribution of GHG emissions is considered to be from motor vehicles (AEP, 2007); however, because the proposed project is an expansion of an already existing use, it neither increases the area’s dwelling unit density, produces “new” or increased/longer vehicle trips, nor does it increase vehicle miles traveled longer trips. As such, the contribution of GHG emissions from vehicles traveling to and from the project site is anticipated to be negligible (see also Section XV, Transportation/Traffic).

d) **No Impact.** Although the project is located within a sensitive receptor, the project would not generate significant levels of pollutants. The project will comply with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, San Bernardino County Policy Number 322, which states the following: “Construction, renovation or demolition projects will be conducted with strict adherence to recommended infection control guidelines, policies and procedures to minimize the risk of patient, visitor and employee exposure to potentially pathogenic microorganisms released during any project.” Construction activities would require the execution of procedures that minimize dust generation during construction, providing an active means to minimize dust generation and migration into the atmosphere. For example, construction dust and debris will be controlled and safety netting, which will be utilized as a barrier to prevent dust from migrating to other hospital buildings, containment in covered containers or covered with a moistened sheet before transporting for disposal, and dust control by water-misting of work surfaces while cutting.

The purpose of the Infection Control Manual is to outline methods to prevent the acquisition of Healthcare-Acquired Infections (HAIs) in patients, visitors, and healthcare workers during hospital construction and renovation projects. The Infection Control Manual applies to all renovation and construction activities involving general and prime contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, vendors, working on site (including Family Health Centers), and/or Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC), Facilities Management (FM) staff, Nurse Epidemiologist (NE), the Infection Control Nurse (ICN), Hospital Administration and other critical staff members.

The Epidemiology Department is to be included in design and planning meetings with pertinent hospital department staff and architects and contractors prior to the start of any
project. The Nurse Epidemiologist is to be consulted and allowed to review all construction/renovation activities prior to starting a project to determine risk level and class. Facilities Management will consult the Nurse Epidemiologist to complete a signed Infection Control Risk Assessment/Infection Control Construction Permit (ICRA/Permit) before construction/renovation begins. The ICRA/Permit must be completed whether work is performed by external contractor or by ARMC Facilities Management employees. An ICRA/Permit is required with the appropriate signatures of responsible parties from general contractor and any prime contractor, and ARMC Facilities Management Project Manager. The ICRA/Permit must be displayed near the entrance to the work area during the entire construction period.

Construction activities require consultation with the Nurse Epidemiologist (NE) based upon the activity type and the level of risk to patients/visitors/staff described in the Infection Control Risk Group detailed in the Infection Control Manual. Facilities Management and the Nurse Epidemiologist are responsible for making work site visits to determine compliance of protocols listed in the “Manual.” Facilities Management and the Nurse Epidemiologist have the authority to halt all work on a project if a hazardous Infection Control deficiency exists.

A copy of the Infection Control Manual has been given to the County of San Bernardino Architecture and Engineering Department and Land Use Services Department Advance Planning Division in addition to those mentioned above. Because air pollution can directly cause health risks to the human population, sensitive receptors are analyzed with more scrutiny as they are sites for which there is a reasonable expectation of continuous human exposure during the period coinciding with peak pollutant concentrations. Since this project is located on a hospital campus, which is a sensitive receptor, the hospital has established construction guidelines to prevent the acquisition of infections due to the secondary effects of increased air pollution that may be caused by construction activity. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no additional mitigation measures are required.

e) **No Impact.** Potential odor generation associated with the proposed project would be limited to construction sources such as diesel exhaust, paint and other coatings. No significant odor impacts related to project implementation are anticipated due to the nature and short-term extent of potential sources minimized through the compliance with
Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, San Bernardino County Policy Number 322.

Furthermore, none of the actions associated with the operation of the project involve activities or processes that would generate objectionable odors to sensitive receptors or a substantial number of people in the vicinity of the project area. Accordingly, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no additional mitigation measures are required.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:

a) Have substantial adverse effects, 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, and 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? □ □ □ ☒
SUBSTANTIATION:  (Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database [ ]): Category N/A

a) **No Impact.** The project site has long been disturbed and devoid of any vegetation due to the operation of existing facilities. It is not anticipated that there will be any impact to sensitive or listed species or associated habitat.

b) **No Impact.** The project site is devoid of native vegetation, 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 United States Fish and Wildlife Services. Accordingly, no impacts to sensitive or regulated habitat will result from implementation of the proposed project.

c) **No Impact.** There are no wetlands, drainage courses, or streambeds on site. Accordingly, no impacts to federally protected wetlands will result from implementation of the proposed project.

d) **No Impact.** The project site is in a disturbed condition and currently no areas of sensitive or regulated habitat exist on site. The project site is not a part of wildlife movement corridor. Therefore, the project will not interfere substantially with movement of any wildlife species, with any established wildlife corridor, or with the use of any wildlife nursery site. Accordingly, no impacts to this topic will result from implementation of the proposed project.

e) **No Impact.** For the reasons described in response to questions IV a-d above, implementation of the proposed project will not result in direct impacts to any natural biological resources; therefore, development of the proposed project will not conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting such resources.

f) **No Impact.** The project area is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. The current project is located within the campus of a regional medical center in which the undisturbed land prior to the medical center’s development was known
to be considered habitat of the Delhi Sands Flower Loving Fly. However mitigations for this species and habitat were addressed in the original Environmental Impact Report dated: 1991, reference # SCH90021046, under the name: San Bernardino County Medical Center. The agreed upon mitigation measures in the form of habitat conservation land have been since established adjacent to the hospital campus.

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?

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check if the project is located in the Cultural or Paleontologic Resources overlays or cite results of cultural resource review):

a, b) No Impact. No known or pending historic or archaeological resources exist on the project site. In addition, there is little or no potential for the discovery of historic or archaeological resources on the project site due to extensive previous site disturbances from the construction and operation of the existing Arrowhead Regional Medical Center campus; therefore, no impacts to historical or archaeological resources are anticipated.

c) No Impact. The underlying native soils of the project site were comprised predominantly of poorly graded sand with silt (SP-SM) with interbedded lenses of silty sand and sand (SM and SP) (pg. 4 Geotechnical Study, 2007). Paleontological resources are typically found in sedimentary rock, and since that was not encountered, implementation of the proposed project is not anticipated to cause a significant impact to a paleontological resource.
d) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within a known cemetery, and no human remains are anticipated to be disturbed during the construction phase. However, in accordance with applicable regulations, construction activities would halt in the event of discovery of human remains, consultation and subsequent action would occur, as prescribed by law.

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 on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the California Building Code (2001) creating substantial risks to life or property?

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?


**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check □ if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District):

a. i) **Less than Significant Impact.** The site is not located within or adjacent to an Alquist Priolo Fault Zone (pg. 10, Geotechnical Study, 2007). No evidence of active faulting through the site or vicinity was found during the Geotechnical Study prepared by C.H.J. Incorporated for this project.

a. ii) **Less than Significant Impact.** The entire San Bernardino County area is particularly susceptible to strong ground shaking and significant earthquake damage. However, no significant historic earthquakes have been specifically attributed to the Rialto-Colton, Cucamonga, or Elsinore faults (pg. 7 Geotechnical Study, 2007).

Strong damage from an earthquake can result in liquefaction, landslides, ground lurching, and structural damage. While the project site is subject to ground shaking due to a seismic event, the proposed project facilities will not be expected to incur significant damage due to the limited size and height of the structures involved, as well as the materials and design considerations that conform to the California Building Code and construction methods proposed to be used. The proposed project also contains design features that, in accordance with the standards of the California Building Code and recommendations of the geotechnical investigation, fortify and protect the facility against these types of events. Accordingly, less than significant impacts are anticipated.

a. iii) **No Impact.** Liquefaction is a process in which strong ground shaking causes saturated soils to lose their strength and behave as a fluid (Matti and Carson, 1991). The geologic conditions for increased susceptibility to liquefaction are: 1) shallow groundwater (generally less than 50 feet in depth); 2) the presence of unconsolidated sandy alluvium, typically Holocene in age; and 3) strong ground shaking. All three of the conditions must be met for liquefaction to occur. Only two of the three conditions (presence of unconsolidated sandy alluvium and strong ground shaking) are present on the site. Therefore, liquefaction is not considered to be a potential hazard on the site (pg. 9 Geotechnical Study, 2007).

a. iv) **No Impact.** Conditions conducive to land sliding are not present on the site. The project site
is in a region of low relief and landslide potential is unlikely, therefore the geotechnical investigation prepared for this project did not include a landslide study.

b) **No Impact.** The upper soils encountered within the site consist of poorly graded sand with silt that are moderately susceptible to erosion by wind and water (pg. 10 Geotechnical Study, 2007). Any potential for erosion should be mitigated by proper drainage design (pg. 16 Geotechnical Study, 2007). The potential for project-related erosion impacts is considered generally low due to the flat topography of the project site, nature and duration of proposed excavation, and the fact that all developed areas would ultimately be stabilized through efforts such as compaction and installation of Low Impact Development (LID) Standards, and related Best Management Practices (BMP’s) and/or asphalt paving. Also, soil will be excavated and recompacted, and topsoil will be balanced on site. Therefore, implementation of the project will not result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil. No impacts will result from project implementation.

c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Subsidence is the gradual, local settling or sinking of the earth’s surface with little or no horizontal motion. Subsidence is usually the result of gas, oil, or water extraction or hydrocompaction, and not the result of a landslide or slope failure. Ground surface effects related to subsidence are generally restricted to long surface structures such as canals, drains, and sewers, which are sensitive to slight changes in elevation. Due to the nature of the proposed project, no subsidence impacts due to project implementation are anticipated.

Liquefaction may occur when loose, unconsolidated, saturated, sandy soils are subjected to ground vibrations during a seismic event. Due to the depth to groundwater, liquefaction and other shallow groundwater-related hazards are not anticipated (pg. 10, Geotechnical Study, 2007). The potential for liquefaction damage to the proposed project will be reduced through appropriate California Building Code (CBC) engineering design and construction guidelines. Accordingly, implementation of the proposed project will result in less than significant impacts to this topic.

d) **No Impact.** Soils that exhibit moderate-to-high shrink/swell potential may damage components including underground utility and service-delivery pipes. Soils within the project were comprised predominantly of poorly graded sand with silt (SP-SM) with interbedded
lenses of silty sand and sand (SM and SP), with the upper 20 feet of the soils encountered being generally loose to medium dense (pg. 4, Geotechnical Study, 2007). Loose to medium soils have a potential for slight to moderate hydroconsolidation. A geotechnical investigation performed for this project indicates that the on-site near-surface soils are generally granular and are considered to be non-critically expansive (pg. 11 Geotechnical Study, 2007), thus specialized construction procedures to specifically resist expansive soil forces are not anticipated (pg. 15, Geotechnical Study, 2007). Remedial grading and recompaction of the upper 15 feet of soils will be incorporated into the site preparation prior to construction to expose underlying relatively noncompressible/collapsible, competent native soils; therefore, no impacts to this topic will result from implementation of the proposed project.

e) **No Impact.** The ability of on-site soils to support septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems is not relevant to the proposed project since none are proposed on site. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

### VII. 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?
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Hazardous material use associated with the proposed project would be limited to short-term construction-related substances such as fuels, lubricants, adhesives, solvents, paint & Architectural coatings, and asphalt wastes. The potential risk associated with the accidental discharge during use/storage of such construction-related hazardous materials during project construction is considered low because the handling of any such materials would be addressed through the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) pursuant to the intent of the General Construction Permit. A separate asbestos abatement, demolition, and fencing project will precede this redevelopment project which will dispose of all hazardous material prior to project construction.

Operation of the proposed project would not require the use or storage of significant quantities of hazardous substances except for cleaning and other domestic substances; therefore, no substantial potential for accidental explosion or major releases of hazardous substances is expected. Furthermore, standard operating procedures would prevent the use of these materials from causing a significant hazard to the public or environment.
c) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the construction of a new Medical Office Building on the campus of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, the operation of which does not involve hazardous emissions or handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous material, substances, or waste except as noted above in response to VII.b. During construction, diesel exhaust would be generated by heavy construction equipment; however, no existing school facilities are located within one-quarter mile radius of the project site, and no schools are currently proposed to be located within one-quarter mile of the project site. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, so no mitigation measures are required.

d) **No Impact.** The project site is not located on a known site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The proposed project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impacts to this topic will occur as a result of implementing the proposed project and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

e, f) **No Impact.** The proposed project is located outside an Airport Safety Review Area. It is approximately five miles north of the San Bernardino International Airport and no impacts are anticipated because the project activities would not result in an aircraft-related safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

f) **No Impact.** Activities associated with the proposed project would not impede existing emergency response plans for the project site and/or other land uses in the project vicinity. All vehicles and stationary equipment would be staged off public roads and would not block emergency access routes. Accordingly, implementation of the proposed project will not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

h) **No Impact.** The potential for a major wildfire is considered low within the project area due to the lack of vegetation. Implementation of the proposed project will not expose people or structures to the risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.
VIII. 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 that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

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 storm water 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 structure 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?

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**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a, f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The project site is located within an area of perchlorate leaching and the project site design incorporates a perchlorate filtering system which filters the system from 6 parts per billion to 4 parts per billion. The three story, 60,000 square foot office building, with a building footprint of 20,000 square foot will replace the existing pervious turf area, which will alter the natural drainage course and infiltration rate of water. The project is designed in such a way to retain the natural water drainage course into the proposed landscaped area through the use of Low Impact Development Best Management Practices. In addition, to conform to applicable elements of the Clean Water Act (CWA), including the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, a Notice of Intent will be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB); a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) will be prepared; and best management practices (BMP's) detailed in the SWPPP and SWMP will be implemented to reduce construction effects and long-term urban runoff effects, respectively, on receiving water quality. The project would be designed to comply with the City of Colton’s Title 14.05.040 Storm drains and Floodplain Management as well as the County of San Bernardino’s Public Works Stormwater Program guidelines. The project would also comply with the City of Colton Design Standards Title 16.80.090, Drainage and Erosion and the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works guidelines and approval process. Through implementation of these plans and codes, the project would incorporate erosion control and long-term runoff control measures using the best available or best conventional and nonconventional control technology.

b) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within a groundwater storage or recharge area and, therefore, would not interfere with groundwater recharge. Accordingly, the project will not 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.
c) **No Impact.** There are no streams, rivers, or any defined drainages within the project site. The project site and surrounding properties topography are flat with no significant natural slopes and no significant slopes are anticipated for the proposed construction. The existing topography of the site and the project area will not be substantially altered by the implementation of the project, and no substantial erosion or siltation will be created. No impacts will result from implementation of the proposed project.

d, e) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would result in an increase in impervious surfaces as a result of the construction of the new Medical Office Building's roof and adjacent parking. This, however, is considered to be less than significant, given site design features will capture runoff before it reaches the storm drain system. Moreover, the project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream or river since none exist onsite. Compliance with the permits discussed in VIII a) would further control the rate and amount of surface runoff from the site. Further, the proposed project would not create or contribute excessive stormwater runoff that will exceed the capacity of existing or planned drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Low Impact Development (LID) Standards will be incorporated into the project as a design feature to minimize run-off. Accordingly, no impacts to this subject will result from development of the proposed project.

g, h) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project site is not located in a Flood Plain Review Area as identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). No evidence of recent significant flooding at the site was observed during the geologic field reconnaissance or on the aerial photographs reviewed as part of the geotechnical study that was conducted by CHJ Incorporated specifically for this project. The project is designed to meet all the requirements from FEMA and the California Building Codes. Specifically, the proposed project would comply with standards contained in the City of Colton Development Code and the County of San Bernardino Development Code and will require certification by a registered professional engineer or architect. With implementation of these standard measures, project impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

i) **No Impact.** The project will not 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, because the project site is not within any identified path of a potential inundation flow that might result in the event of a dam or levee failure or that might occur from a river, stream, lake or sheet flow situation.

j) **No Impact.** A seiche is an oscillating surface wave in a restricted or enclosed body of water generated by ground motion, usually during an earthquake. Inundation from a seiche can occur if the wave overflows a containment wall or the banks of a water body. Potential impacts are considered insignificant because the project is not adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche or tsunami, nor is the project site in the path of any potential mudflow.

**IX. 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?  
   ![ ] ![ ] ![ ] ![ ] ![ ]

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?  
   ![ ] ![ ] ![ ] ![ ] ![ ]

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a) **No Impact.** The project will not physically divide an established community, because it will be implemented within the footprint of the existing Arrowhead Regional Center Hospital Campus. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

b) **No Impact.** Implementation of the project will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project because it is a continuation of a use that exists on site. The project is consistent with the City of Colton. Super Block Master Land Use Plan.
c) **No Impact.** There are no adopted Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans applicable to the proposed project site. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required. The project area is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. The current project is located within the campus of a regional medical center in which the undisturbed land prior to the medical center’s development was known to be considered habitat of the Delhi Sands Flower Loving Fly. However mitigations for this species and habitat were addressed in the original Environmental Impact Report dated: 1991, reference # SCH90021046, under the name: San Bernardino County Medical Center. The agreed upon mitigation measures in the form of habitat conservation land have been since established adjacent to the hospital campus.

X. **MINERAL RESOURCES** - 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? □ □ □ □ ☒

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a, b) **No Impact.** The project site is located in an area where the available geologic information indicates that mineral deposits are likely to exist, but the significance of the deposit is undetermined. There are no known mineral resources within the project area and the project is not located adjacent to an existing or abandoned mine or quarry or within a locally important mineral resource recovery site. Furthermore, mining at the project site would not be compatible with the existing and planned land uses onsite. Therefore, the implementation of the proposed project would not result in the significant loss of any known mineral resources.
XI. **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?

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check if the project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District or is subject to severe noise levels according to the General Plan Noise Element):

- **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project may potentially create some elevated short-term construction noise impacts, particularly from excavation activities; however, these activities will be limited to daytime hours and will comply with the City of Colton Municipal Code 18.42.040 and the County of San Bernardino Development Code 83.01.080 in addition to the standard measures discussed in the Project description. There will be minimal noise generated from operation of the facility. Less than significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required. Therefore, noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.
b) **No Impact.** Due to the nature of the soil on site, blasting will not be required during project construction. Excavation of the proposed buildings’ foundations and ancillary facilities is not anticipated to create excessive groundborne vibrations or groundborne noise levels. There will be no anticipated groundborne vibrations or noise levels associated with the operation of the facility; therefore, the proposed project will not expose people to groundborne vibration or noise.

c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project-related noise generation would be limited to short-term construction activities, with no permanent noise generating facilities or operations proposed. The proposed project will, therefore, not create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels within the project site during operation. Moreover, the project would be designed to comply with the City of Colton noise standards. Therefore, no impacts will arise from implementation of the proposed project.

d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project may potentially create some elevated short-term construction noise impacts. However, the impacts will not create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels due to the intermittent use of the construction equipment.

e, f) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within an airport land use plan, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, or within the vicinity of a private airstrip, that would expose people residing on the project site to excessive noise levels. The nearest airport is the San Bernardino International Airport is located approximately five miles to the north east of the project site. Accordingly, no associated impacts will occur.

**XII. 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?
### Issues

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<td>c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</td>
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### SUBSTANTIATION:

**a-c) No Impact.** The proposed project will not include the construction of housing for the public and/or businesses and will not require an extension of roads or other public infrastructure. As a result, the project will not cause change in the local or regional population and is not considered growth-inducing. No changes to the current labor force or required specialized capabilities are anticipated post construction; therefore, the project would not require the import of new workers. No houses or other residences would be removed or otherwise directly affected by the proposed project. Accordingly, the proposed project would not result in any impacts to housing or related infrastructure, nor require construction of additional housing. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

### XIII. 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? [ ] [ ] ☒ [ ] [ ]
**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a) **Less than Significant Impact.** Although the proposed project is a physical alteration of a governmental facility, its construction would result in less than significant environmental impacts. It would neither contribute to an increase in population in the surrounding areas nor have any effect on the existing level of other public service or governmental facilities. The project would be serviced by the City Fire and Police Departments, which service the City of San Bernardino. No additional fire or police protection would be required. No new housing would be constructed and no additional demands on schools or parks would result. Less than significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

XIV. **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? 

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?

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a, b) **No Impact.** No new residences or recreational facilities would be constructed as part of the proposed project. The proposed project would not induce population growth in adjacent areas and would not increase the use of recreational facilities in surrounding neighborhoods. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

XV. **TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:**

a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in
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<td>either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?</td>
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<td>b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?</td>
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<td>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?</td>
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<td>d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?</td>
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<td>e) Result in inadequate emergency access?</td>
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<td>f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?</td>
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<td>g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?</td>
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**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a) **Less than Significant Impact.** During construction, the project would incrementally add to vehicle miles traveled and trips generated in the project area due to trucks delivering construction materials to the project site and construction personnel working on the project. No significant impacts are anticipated from this temporary impact. The construction of the proposed project will take approximately 18 months to complete with the majority of the ground disturbing activities occurring within the first month.

Olive and Meridian Streets will be used to access the site both during construction and operation of the new medical office building. Peak hours for these roads are approximately 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Materials delivery generally will occur outside of these peak hours. No roads will need to be widened or improved to construct or operate the new medical office building. No substantial increases in traffic in relation to the existing traffic
load and capacity of the street system is anticipated. Based on these factors, less than significant impacts will occur as a result of project implementation.

b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is not anticipated to substantially increase traffic in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. The project would not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the City and/or county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

c) **No Impact.** The proposed project activities will have no effect on air traffic patterns at any airport or airstrip.

d) **No Impact.** The proposed project would entail improvements to the access road on site. These improvements would happen on private property and would not affect public streets. As such, the proposed project does not involve any road developments or design features that could substantially increase hazards on public roads. No impacts are anticipated.

e-g) **No Impact.** During project construction, all vehicles would be parked off public roads and would not block emergency access routes. No road closures are proposed as part of the proposed project activities. The proposed project includes additional parking for displaced staff during the operational phase; otherwise the project would not involve any long-term increase in traffic that would conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated.

**XVI. 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(s) 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? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

a, e) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is not anticipated to exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region. In addition, the project site is located on the existing campus of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and is already on-site located at a central plant. It is not anticipated that the proposed Medical Office Building project would result in exceeding its capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing and future commitments.

b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project will not require new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities that cause significant environmental effects, as there is sufficient capacity in the existing storm water system to absorb any additional stormwater drainage caused by the project. Furthermore, the project will be conditioned to meet the requirements from the City/County Public Works standards regarding site improvements, particularly roads and drainage.
d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not affect existing water entitlements and would not require new entitlements. Water pipes will be extended into the new facilities from the existing pipelines currently servicing the project site. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

f, g) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is served by the County landfill system, which has sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the proposed project’s future solid waste disposal needs. The City of Colton’s Waste Management Plan shall govern collection, disposal and recycling of the solid waste that would be generated by this project. Accordingly, the project would not require nor result in the construction of new landfill facilities, including the expansion of existing facilities. The project would comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Less than significant adverse impacts are anticipated and, therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

**XVII. 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 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?
SUBSTANTIATION:

a) **No Impact.** The project site is highly disturbed and devoid of native vegetation and wildlife habitat. Implementation of the proposed project, therefore, would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife populations to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or 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) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is entirely within a previously disturbed site; the existing campus of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. With the incorporation of the design measures, city/county policies, standards and guidelines, regional, state and federal regulations, none of the project impacts are considered to be individually or cumulatively considerable. In addition, the sites of projects in the area to which this project would add cumulative impacts have either existing or planned infrastructure that is sufficient for all planned uses as indicated in Figure 3, City of Colton Super Block Master Land Use Plan. These sites either are occupied or are capable of absorbing such uses without generating any cumulatively significant impacts.

c) **Less than Significant Impact.** It is anticipated that the incorporation of design measures, city/county policies, standards and guidelines, as well as compliance with regional, state and federal regulations will reduce the proposed project impacts to less than significant levels. Therefore, the project will not directly or indirectly cause significant effects to human beings.
GENERAL REFERENCES

Association of Environmental Professionals, Alternative Approaches to Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Global Climate Change in CEQA Documents, Final - June 29, 2007.

CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

City of Colton Municipal Code

City of San Bernardino General Plan Land Use/Zoning Map, Updated November 2006.

County of San Bernardino Hazard Overlay Map: FH30

County of San Bernardino Biotic Resources Map.


Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map and Flood Boundary Map.

