3.11.1 Introduction

This section evaluates existing public services in the County of Santa Barbara (County) and the adequacy of the operation and capacity of these services related to potential impacts that would result from the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance and Licensing Program (Project). Public services analyzed in this section include fire protection, police protection, public schools, health care facilities, parks, and libraries. Potential impacts related to these public services that would result from the Project are evaluated along with effectiveness of proposed development standards at addressing potential adverse effects on public services. Where potentially significant impacts are identified, mitigation measures are recommended. Key resources used in the preparation of this chapter include the County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual; A Planner’s Guide to Conditions of Approval and Mitigation Measures, Santa Barbara County; and the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan.

For information regarding public utilities such as water, wastewater, solid waste and energy utilities, please refer to Section 3.13, Utilities and Energy Conservation, and for public transportation services, please refer to Section 3.12, Transportation and Traffic. For analysis of potential air quality impacts to public service institutions and facilities (e.g., schools), please refer to Section 3.3, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

3.11.2 Environmental Setting

State and local government entities provide a wide range of services to the residents of the County related to public health and safety, educational institutions, and parks and recreational facilities, as described herein.

3.11.2.1 Fire Protection

Santa Barbara County Fire Department

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department (Fire Department) provides fire prevention, fire suppression, and paramedic services covering an area of 2,480 square miles throughout the County, including rural and inner rural areas, as well as County unincorporated urbanized areas, such as Orcutt, Sisquoc, Los Alamos, Santa Ynez, Lompoc, Los Olivos, Ballard, and New Cuyama. The Fire Department also serves the cities of Buellton, Solvang, and Goleta. With a total of over 260 personnel, the Fire Department responds to over 15,000 incidents each year, including structure, wildland, vehicle, and other types of fires. Public service calls, medical emergencies, vehicle accidents, and hazardous material responses are also part of the Fire Department’s services (Santa Barbara County Fire Department 2017).

Details regarding the location, service area, and apparatus and staffing for fire stations throughout the County are provided in Table 3.11-1 and Figure 3.11-1.
### Table 3.11-1. Fire Protection Services within Santa Barbara County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station No.</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/Township</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Apparatus &amp; Staffing include:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>6901 Frey Way</td>
<td>Goleta</td>
<td>The City of Goleta west of Los Carneros Road and north of El Colegio Road and the unincorporated areas of the County north and west of the City of Goleta</td>
<td>1 Captain, 1 Engineer, 1 Firefighter/Paramedic, Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Vehicle, 2 Jet-skis, Utility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5330 Calle Real</td>
<td>Goleta</td>
<td>The area bordered by Fairview Avenue, Fowler Road, Cathedral Oaks Road and San Marcos Pass Road from Calle Real north to Via Los Santos</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4570 Hollister Avenue</td>
<td>Santa Barbara</td>
<td>Areas of Goleta and unincorporated areas west of the City of Santa Barbara; bordered to the north by areas of Los Padres National Forest (LPNF), to the south by the Pacific Ocean, to the east by the County-city borders, and to the west roughly by Maria Ignacio Creek in the south and San Antonio Creek towards the north</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic, Utility Type 1 Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>320 Los Carneros Road</td>
<td>Goleta</td>
<td>The area south of LPNF, north of Hollister Avenue, east of Glen Annie Road and west of Fairview Avenue</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2491 Foothill Road</td>
<td>Santa Barbara</td>
<td>The unincorporated areas north of the City of Santa Barbara; extending into LPNF in the north, towards the south and east up to the city/County borders. In the west, it is bordered north of Foothill Road by Antone Road and Deborah Drive and south of Foothill Road by Alamar Avenue.</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic, Patrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>UCSB, Mesa Road Bldg. 547</td>
<td>Santa Barbara</td>
<td>The University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) campus and areas of Isla Vista and City of Goleta; bounded to the north by Hollister Avenue, to the south by the Pacific Ocean, to the east by Goleta Beach Park and to the west by Camino Del Sur</td>
<td>1 Firefighter 1 Firefighter/Paramedic Advanced Life Support (ALS) Rescue Ambulance Water Rescue Craft Utility Type 1 Reserve Reserve Rescue Ambulance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>17200 Mariposa Reina Road</td>
<td>Gaviota</td>
<td>The area bounded by the Pacific Ocean both to the south and west. The northern boundary is roughly a line running from Jalama Beach, east through the Nojoqui Summit ending at their eastern boundary which is determined by a line running due north from El Capitan State Beach Park.</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic 2 Water Tender Light &amp; Air Support Utility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3.11-1. Fire Protection Services within Santa Barbara County (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station No.</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/Township</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Apparatus &amp; Staffing include(^1):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>335 Union Avenue</td>
<td>Orcutt</td>
<td>The Orcutt and Santa Maria Valley areas including the communities of Tanglewood and Casmalia, as well as north and west of State Highway 1 and 135 up to the city boundaries of Santa Maria and Guadalupe, and southward to Highway 1 near San Antonio Road and Highway 135 at Harris Grade Road</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic (^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>1596 Tiffany Park Court</td>
<td>Santa Maria</td>
<td>The Orcutt and Santa Maria Valleys bounded by the Solomon Grade to the south, Santa Maria Way to the north, by Bradley Road to the west, and Dominion Road to the east</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic (^2) Tactical Water Tender Utility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>5003 Depot Road</td>
<td>Sisquoc</td>
<td>The Sisquoc region bounded by Tepesquet Canyon to the north and Highway 101, Aliso Canyon Road to the south, Foxen Canyon and Rancho Sisquoc to the east, and Dominion Road to the west</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic (^2) Utility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>99 Centennial Street</td>
<td>Los Alamos</td>
<td>The Los Alamos area generally bordered in the north by the Solomon Grade, along Highway 101 to the 9000 block of Foxen Canyon Road. The service area extends south along the northern side of Highway 154 Zaca Lake, and to the west to San Antonio Road and Highway 135.</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic (^2) Utility Type 1 Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>1644 Oak Street</td>
<td>Solvang</td>
<td>The City of Solvang and portions of the unincorporated Santa Ynez Valley including the town of Ballard</td>
<td>Utility Type 1 Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>168 West Highway 246</td>
<td>Buellton</td>
<td>Approximately 2 miles north of Highway 154/Highway 101 interchange; southward to the top of the Nojoqui Grade; eastward to Solvang, and westward to the intersection of Highway 246 and Campbell Road</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic HazMat Response Team Utility HazMat Vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>906 Airport Road</td>
<td>Santa Ynez</td>
<td>The area bounded to the north by the LPNF boundary, to the south to the ridge of the Santa Ynez Mountains, to the east to Paradise Road, and to the west to Alamo Pintado Road in Solvang</td>
<td>2 Firefighters/Paramedics (^2) Utility Water Tender Advanced Life Support Station, with Helicopter access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>41 Newsome Street</td>
<td>New Cuyama</td>
<td>The Cuyama Valley, town of New Cuyama and surrounding areas. The northern boundary extends to portions of San Luis Obispo County and the Caliente Mountains, in the South to the Sierra Madre, West on Highway 166 to the Rockfront Ranch and east to Highway 33.</td>
<td>1 Firefighter/Paramedic (^2) Rescue Ambulance Water Tender Utility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3.11-1.  Fire Protection Services within Santa Barbara County (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station No.</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/Township</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Apparatus &amp; Staffing Include¹:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>3510 Harris Grade Road</td>
<td>Lompoc</td>
<td>The Lompoc area bounded to the north by Highway 1 at San Antonio Creek, to the south at the Las Cruces Grade on Highway 1, to the east by Drum Canyon at Highway 246, and to the west by the Pacific Ocean</td>
<td>1 additional Engineer 2 Firefighter/Paramedics² Rescue Ambulance Type 1 Reserve Engine Dedicated ALS station</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Santa Barbara County Fire Department 2017.

¹ In addition to staff and apparatus listed, all stations include 1 Captain, 1 Engineer and 1 Firefighter, as well as both Type 1 and 3 Engines.

² No additional fire-fighters

County Fire Protection Standards

The Fire Department employs the following two standards with respect to the provision of fire protection services:

1. A firefighter-to-population ratio of one firefighter on duty 24 hours a day for every 2,000 in population is considered “ideal,” although a ratio (including rural areas) of one firefighter per 4,000 in population is the maximum population that can be adequately served.

2. The second fire protection standard is a 5-minute response time in urban areas. This incorporates the following National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) response-time objectives:

   a. One minute for turnout time
   b. Four minutes or less, for the arrival of the first-arriving engine company

The Fire Department is striving to obtain a minimum of four firefighters on each engine company in the County. This standard is set by the NFPA guidelines, which state that engine companies shall be staffed with a minimum of four on-duty personnel (NFPA, 5.2.3.1.1). This is especially important in unincorporated and more rural areas, including the Tepusquet and Santa Ynez areas due to the longer response times from outlying fire stations. The California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CAL-OSHA) requires that a minimum of two firefighters, operating as a team, conduct interior firefighting operations. In addition, a minimum of two firefighters must be positioned outside and remain capable of rapid intervention and rescue if needed. This is also known as the State of California’s “Two-In, Two-Out” law [29 CFR 1910.134(g)(4)]. If there are only three firefighters assigned to a fire engine, the engine company must wait for additional back-up to arrive before being able to engage in interior firefighting operations in order to be in compliance with CAL-OSHA regulations.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) is an emergency response and resource protection department. CalFire serves over 31 million acres of California’s privately owned wildlands, providing emergency service under agreement with 150 counties, cities, and districts. CalFire responds to more than 5,400 wildland fires that burn an average of over 156,000 acres each year. In addition, CalFire personnel answer the call over 450,000 times for other emergencies
including structure fires; automobile accidents; medical aids; swift water rescues; civil disturbances; search and rescues; hazardous material spills; train wrecks; floods; and earthquakes (CalFire 2016).

CalFire covers the state with 21 operational units, 812 fire stations (237 state and 575 local government), 39 conservation camps, 12 air attack, and 10 helitack bases. The force is comprised of over 5,300 full-time fire professionals, foresters, and administrative employees, 1,783 seasonal firefighters, 2,750 local government volunteer firefighters, 600 Volunteers In Prevention1, and 3,500 inmates and wards. To transport and support these forces, CalFire operates nearly 1,000 fire engines (343 state and 624 local government), 184 rescue squads, 63 paramedic units, 28 aerial ladder trucks, 59 bulldozers, six mobile communication centers, and 11 mobile kitchen units. Further, CalFire funds an additional 82 engines and 12 bulldozers via contract with Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. With regard to aircraft, CalFire operates 22 1,200-gallon air tankers, 12 helicopters, and 17 air tactical planes (CalFire 2016).

CalFire is responsible for fire protection within State Responsibility Areas (SRA). In most cases CalFire directly protects SRA, however several counties (including Santa Barbara) known as “Contract Counties,” provide SRA fire protection under contract with CalFire. SRA is located throughout the County of Santa Barbara, excluding most incorporated and federally-owned lands.

Wildland Fire Response

The varied topography, dry climate, and understory brush vegetation of grasslands and woodlands throughout the County are susceptible to wildfire hazards. Rural mountainous areas, including the San Rafael Mountain range, Santa Ynez Mountain range, LPNF, and surrounding areas are similarly conducive to the spread of wildland fires. Although much of the region is currently cultivated with agricultural uses, which reduces fire hazard, the State of California has designated the vast majority of the County as Very High Fire Hazard (CalFire 2008). (See Section 3.7, Hazards and Hazardous Materials for further discussion of wildfire hazards.) According to the Fire Department’s 2016 Statistical Summary, the Fire Department responded to over 80 wildfire incidents in 2016, which burned a total of approximately 52,900 acres. In addition to responding to calls, the Fire Department also provides year-round vegetation management.

Fire Response to Cannabis Activities

The Fire Department records fires within the County typically by qualities, not necessarily by cause (i.e., “one-story structure fire,” “two-story structure fire,” etc.). The Fire Department provided an

1 Volunteers in Prevention is a fire prevention volunteer program developed by CalFire that serves to educate the public on fire and life safety, conduct preliminary wildland homeowner property inspections for fire safety, and patrol selected hazardous areas during declared critical fire weather and on holidays. In addition, the volunteers provide additional communication networks for CalFire during emergencies.
informal estimate regarding the occurrence of fires associated with cannabis activities of one fire per year within the County (County of Santa Barbara 2017). The Sheriff’s Department has received several reports of brush fire in a marijuana grow within remote areas (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017).

3.11.2.2  Police Protection

Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office (Sheriff) provides public protection and law enforcement services. Nearly 700 employees serve the many divisions within the Sheriff’s Office. Within Law Enforcement Operations, there are three divisions, including Criminal Investigations, North County Operations, and South County Operations. Custody Operations includes the Jail Operations Division and the Custody Support Operations. Additionally, the Operations Support Division serves Support Services (Santa Barbara County Sheriff Office 2015). There are nine Sheriff’s stations located throughout the County. These stations, their locations, and service areas are listed in Table 3.11-2 (Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office 2016). In 2015, the County Sheriff received over 162,000 law enforcement calls for service. Currently, Sheriff enforcement of cannabis regulation typically consists of responsive action instead of pro-active enforcement—that is, responses to calls for enforcement within the County (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017).

California Highway Patrol

As a statewide law enforcement agency, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is responsible for managing and regulating traffic on California highways, as well as providing disaster and lifesaving assistance. The purpose of the CHP is to ensure safety along the state’s highway transportation system. The primary responsibilities of the CHP are to patrol state highways and County roadways, enforce traffic regulations, respond to traffic accidents, and provide service and assistance to drivers in disabled vehicles. However, the CHP also maintains a mutual aid agreement with the Sheriff and assists local governments during emergencies when requested.

The CHP has eight divisions. The County is located in CHP’s Central Division, which includes 11 area offices, one resident post, and two commercial inspection facilities. CHP offices in the County are located in the cities of Buellton, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria. The staff at the Central Division is made up of 530 uniformed officers and 162 non-uniformed employees (CHP 2017).

Police Response to Cannabis Activities

The Sheriff has received several calls regarding illegal cannabis cultivation sites throughout the County, including at least 37 calls in 2016, and 21 calls (to date up to August) in 2017. A majority of these reports are focused on backcountry grows in the rural areas of the County. The Sheriff recalled eight reports between July 2016 and July 2017 within the Tepusquet area. These reports include witnessing a local “dealer,” descriptions of a large operation using water trucks (of which County Planning and Development [P&D] took enforcement action regarding non-cannabis permitting violations on the property, though no marijuana was discovered onsite), reporting marijuana smugglers, as well as reports of a brush fire in a marijuana grow, as discussed above. Other areas in the County have also been included in reports of “suspicious suspects” and multi-acre grows with lighting and public safety complaints (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017).
### Table 3.11-2. Sheriff Stations within Santa Barbara County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Service Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Sheriff's Bureau</td>
<td>5775 Carpinteria Avenue, Carpinteria, CA 93013</td>
<td>The contract City of Carpinteria, the unincorporated areas stretching from the Santa Barbara City limits through Montecito, Summerland down to the Ventura County line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goleta Valley Sheriff Station</td>
<td>4434 Calle Real Santa Barbara, CA 93110</td>
<td>The unincorporated areas of the south coast from the north and west limits of the City of Santa Barbara as far north as the Gaviota coast, and the contract City of Goleta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Goleta Sheriff Station</td>
<td>130 Cremona Drive, Suite B, Goleta, CA 93117</td>
<td>The incorporated City of Goleta under contract with the County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isla Vista Foot Patrol Sheriff Station</td>
<td>6504 Trigo Road Isla Vista, CA 93117</td>
<td>The area of Isla Vista surrounding UCSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lompoc Sheriff Station</td>
<td>3500 Harris Grade Road, Lompoc, CA 93436</td>
<td>The unincorporated areas of the Lompoc Valley including Vandenberg Village, Mission Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Buellton Sheriff Station</td>
<td>140 W. Highway 246 Buellton, CA 93427</td>
<td>The City of Buellton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solvang Sheriff Station</td>
<td>1745 Mission Drive, Solvang, CA 93463</td>
<td>The City of Solvang and the unincorporated areas of the Santa Ynez Valley including Los Olivos, Lake Cachuma, Santa Ynez, and Los Alamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Maria Sheriff Station</td>
<td>812-A W. Foster Road Santa Maria, CA 93455</td>
<td>The unincorporated areas of the Santa Maria Valley including Casmalia, Orcutt, Los Alamos and Garey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Cuyama Sheriff Station</td>
<td>70 Newcombe Street New Cuyama, CA 93254</td>
<td>The rural areas of northeastern Santa Barbara County including the New Cuyama Valley, Sisquoc, and parts of the LPNF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office 2016.

In regard to eradication operations, in the years 2014 and 2015, the Narcotics Enforcement Unit and other members of the Special Investigations Bureau of the Sheriff conducted 17 separate eradication operations, which resulted in the eradication of 24 illegal cannabis gardens and the destruction of 84,453 marijuana plants at an estimated $244,913,700 street value. An additional 18,000 plants were either harvested prior to eradication or were found dead or dying due to drought conditions (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2015). However, “very few busts” of grow sites have occurred since the passing of Prop 64, primarily due to limited water availability associated with drought conditions and the volatility of recent regulations (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017).

### 3.11.2.3 Schools

There are 20 school districts serving over 68,000 students throughout the County (Santa Barbara County Education Office 2017). Table 3.11-3 below includes all 20 school districts within the County, as well as the number of students served and the schools operating within the district. Operating revenue provided to school districts is generated by local property taxes accrued at the state level and then allocated to each school district based on average daily student attendance. Because state funding for capital improvements has historically lagged behind enrollment growth, physical improvements to accommodate new students are funded primarily by public debt (bond measures), supplemented by fees assessed on development projects.
Table 3.11-3. Santa Barbara County School Districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballard</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>Ballard School (K-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blochman Union Elementary</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>Benjamin Foxen School (K-8); Family Partnership Charter School (K-12); Trivium Charter School (K-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buellton Union</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>Jonata Middle School (6-8); Oak Valley Elementary School (K-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpinteria Unified</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>3 High Schools, 1 Middle School, 4 Elementary Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Spring</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Cold Spring School (K-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>College School (K-1); Santa Ynez School (2-8); Santa Ynez Valley Charter School (K-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuyama Joint Unified (joint)</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>Cuyama Joint Elementary School (K-8), Cuyama Valley High School (9-12), Sierra Madres High School (9-12, Continuation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goleta Union</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>10 Elementary Schools (K-6); 2 Middle Schools; 3 High Schools; 1 K-12 School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guadalupe Union</td>
<td>1,273</td>
<td>Mary Buren Elementary School; Kermit McKenzie Junior High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Elementary</td>
<td>1,020</td>
<td>3 Elementary Schools (Hope Elementary, Monte Vista, and Vieja Valley)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lompoc Unified</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>9 Elementary Schools; 1 K-8 School; 1 Transitional School; 2 Middle Schools; 3 High Schools; 1 Adult Education School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Olivos Elementary</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>Los Olivos School (K-8); Olive Grove Charter School (K-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montecito Union Elementary</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>Montecito Union Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orcutt Union</td>
<td>5,020</td>
<td>5 Elementary Schools; 2 Middle Schools; 1 K-8 School; 1 High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Barbara Unified</td>
<td>14,335</td>
<td>7 Elementary Schools; 2 Preschool-6 Schools; 4 Junior High Schools; 5 High Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Maria Joint Union High</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>4 High Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Maria-Bonita</td>
<td>15,039</td>
<td>15 Elementary Schools; 4 Middle Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Ynez Valley Union High</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>Santa Ynez Valley Union High School (9-12); Refugio High School (10-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solvang Elementary</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>Solvang Elementary (K-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vista Del Mar Union</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Vista de Las Cruces School (K-8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Santa Barbara County Education Office 2017.

### 3.11.2.4 Parks and Recreation

The County provides a variety of public park amenities to service its residents. The Santa Barbara County Parks Department maintains 24 day-use parks, two camping parks, 45 open spaces, and 12 beach areas for a total of approximately 8,595 acres of recreation and open space areas. With an unincorporated population of 139,052, the ratio of recreation and open space areas per 1,000 people is approximately 61.81 acres (County of Santa Barbara 2015). This ratio exceeds the County's minimum standard of 4.7 acres per 1,000 people by more than 13 times. Ten primary day-use County
parks are located in the northern portion of the County and include Los Alamos, Orcutt Community, Rancho Guadalupe Dunes, Richardson, Waller, Lompoc, Miguelito, Ocean Beach, Santa Rosa, Santa Ynez, Nojoqui Falls, and Santa Ynez parks. The region also includes 7 recreational open spaces and County regional campgrounds at Lake Cachuma and Jalama (County of Santa Barbara Parks Division 2017). Day-use parks in the southern portion of the County include Arroyo Burro Beach, Courthouse Sunken Gardens, Goleta Beach, Isla Vista Park, Lookout Park, Manning, Oceanview, Rincon, Rocky Nook, Toro Canyon, and Tucker's Grove. These parks provide a variety of recreational services and amenities for events, including picnic tables, water, and barbeque facilities. In addition to the above day-use reservation spaces, the Live-Oak Campground at Lake Cachuma is available to the public by reservation for both day-use and overnight events, for up to 3,500 people (day-use) and 1,500 people (overnight) (County of Santa Barbara Parks Division 2017).

In addition, several California state parks and state beaches are located within the County. California state beaches within the County include Point Sal, Refugio, El Capitan, and Carpinteria state beaches. The County contains four state parks as well, including Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park, El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park, Gaviota State Park, and La Purisima Mission State Historic Park (California Department of Parks and Recreation 2017).

### 3.11.2.5 Libraries

The Black Gold Cooperative Library System started in 1964 and provides library automation services, staff training, delivery of books and materials, and bibliographic records for books to public libraries in the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The members of the Black Gold Cooperative Library System within the County of Santa Barbara are the Santa Barbara Public Library, Lompoc Public Library, and Santa Maria Public Library (City of Santa Maria 2017).

The City of Santa Barbara, in partnership with the County, City of Lompoc, and City of Santa Maria, operates the Santa Barbara Public Library System under an agreement for Operation of a County-Wide Free Library System. The Santa Barbara Public Library System includes nine neighborhood library branches: Buellton, Carpinteria, Downtown Santa Barbara, Eastside Santa Barbara, Goleta, Los Olivos, Montecito, Santa Ynez, and Solvang. The City of Santa Barbara (Central Library and Eastside Branch only), County of Santa Barbara (all locations), City of Carpinteria (Carpinteria Branch), City of Solvang (Solvang Branch), and the State of California (all locations) fund Santa Barbara Public Library services. Private gifts and donations, financial assistance from the Friends of the Library groups, grants, and in-kind goods and services also may contribute to library revenue (Santa Barbara Public Library Administration 2017).

In addition to the Santa Barbara Public Library System, the City of Santa Maria operates a public library with branches in Santa Maria, Los Alamos, Orcutt, Guadalupe, and Cuyama (City of Santa Maria Library), and the City of Lompoc operates branch libraries in Lompoc and Vandenberg Village, as well as the Charlotte’s Web Mobile Children’s Library (City of Lompoc 2011).
3.11.3 Regulatory Setting

3.11.3.1 State

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration

See Section 3.11.2.1, Fire Protection (above), for the discussion of CAL-OSHA requirements for fire protection services.

California Code of Regulations Sections 17620 and 65995

California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 17620 authorizes school districts to levy a fee, charge, dedication, or other requirement against any construction of new residential, commercial, and industrial uses within their boundaries to fund the construction of new schools or school facilities. CCR Section 65995 limits the maximum fee that school districts can assess. Section 65996 designates Section 17620 of the Education Code and Section 65970 of the Government Code to be the exclusive method for considering and mitigating development impacts on school facilities.

Senate Bill (SB) 50 (1998)

This bill requires that cities and counties mitigate impacts to school facilities as a condition of approving new developments. SB 50 also authorizes school districts to levy statutory developer fees at levels which may be significantly higher than previously permitted. To levy fees higher than permitted, the school district must conduct a Needs Analysis and a Fee Justification Study which address the justification of the levying of developer fees. This legislation also stipulates that school impact fees are the sole and exclusive method of mitigation for school enrollment impacts.

Quimby Act (1975)

The Quimby Act within the Subdivision Map Act gives cities and counties the authority, by ordinance, to require the dedication of land or payment of in-lieu fees, or a combination of both, for park and recreation purposes as a condition of approval of tentative or parcel subdivision map. The Quimby Act allows fees to be collected for up to 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents to serve the needs of residents of the subdivision and the greater public residing in the city or county.

3.11.3.2 Local

Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code

The County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) is a planning document including standards, regulations, and procedures on land use planning throughout the County. The following policies of the LUDC highlight the standards and regulations that are pertinent to the proposed Project. For a comprehensive list of all related standards and procedures, see the Santa Barbara LUDC.

Section 35.82.060 – Conditional Use Permits and Minor Conditional Use Permits

E. Findings required for approval of Conditional Use Permits other than Conditional Use Permit applications submitted in compliance with Chapter 35.38 (Sign Standards).
A Conditional Use Permit application shall be approved or conditionally approved only if the review authority first makes all of the following findings, as applicable.

1. Findings required for all Conditional Use Permits:
   d. There will be adequate public services, including fire protection, police protection, sewage disposal, and water supply to serve the proposed project.

**Section 35.82.080 – Development Plans**

**E. Findings required for approval.**

A Development Plan application shall be approved or conditionally approved only if the review authority first makes all of the following findings, as applicable:

1. Findings for all Preliminary or Final Development Plans.
   d. There will be adequate public services, including fire and police protection, sewage disposal, and water supply to serve the proposed project.

**Orcutt Community Plan Development Standards**

**Fire Prevention**

B. Emergency access. The County shall require two routes of ingress and egress for development unless waived by the Fire Department. Emergency access and egress roads are not required to be paved or meet width standards for normal roadways. (FIRE-2.2)

**Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan**

The County Comprehensive Plan is a planning document including research, analyses, and goals in order to enable the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission to more effectively determine matters of priority in the allocation of resources, and to achieve the physical, social, and economic goals of the communities within the County. The following components of the Comprehensive Plan are related to public services.

**Open Space Element**

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Open Space Element discusses designated regions within the County that should remain open space and the reasons why. The reasons for designation of open space are for public health and safety, for the managed production of resources, for outdoor recreation, and for the preservation of natural resources. Open space for public health and safety includes consideration of fire hazard areas.

**Land Use Element**

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element is comprised of a variety of research findings, Advisory Committee goals and policies, and proposals from the other Comprehensive Plan Elements. The purpose of this element is to interrelate all of the different factors that affect population growth, urban development, and open land preservation and to represent the County’s policy on land use.

**Land Use Development Policies**

4. Prior to issuance of a development permit, the County shall make the finding, based on information provided by environmental documents, staff analysis, and the applicant, that adequate public or private services and resources (e.g., water, sewer, and roads) are available to
serve the proposed development. The applicant shall assume full responsibility for costs incurred in service extensions or improvements that are required as a result of the proposed project. Lack of available public or private services or resources shall be grounds for denial of the project or reduction in the density otherwise indicated in the land use plan...

**Parks and Recreation Policies**

3. Future development of parks should emphasize meeting the needs of the local residents.

4. Opportunities for hiking and equestrian trails should be preserved, improved, and expanded wherever compatible with surrounding uses.

5. Schools and other public-owned lands should be utilized for joint-use recreational activities whenever possible.

**Coastal Land Use Plan**

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Coastal Land Use Plan (CLUP), like the Land Use Element, sets forth the general patterns of development throughout the coastal areas of the County. Its purpose is to protect coastal resources while accommodating land use development within the coastal zone. The other elements are applicable within the coastal zone; however, when there is a conflict, the CLUP takes precedence.

**Development Policies**

**Policy 2-6:** Prior to issuance of a development permit, the County shall make the finding, based on information provided by environmental documents, staff analysis, and the applicant, that adequate public or private services and resources (i.e., water, sewer, roads, etc.) are available to serve the proposed development. The applicant shall assume full responsibility for costs incurred in service extensions or improvements that are required as a result of the proposed project. Lack of available public or private services or resources shall be grounds for denial of the project or reduction in the density otherwise indicated in the land use plan.

**Seismic Safety and Safety Element**

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Safety and Seismic Safety Element provides information and policies regarding the natural and man-made hazards which should be considered when planning land use within the County. This element also provides fire goals, policies, and implementation measures to comply with fire prevention and protection requirements outlined in state law. The following goals and policies of the Seismic Safety and Safety Element highlight the goals and policies that are pertinent to the Project. For a comprehensive list of all related goals and policies, see the Seismic Safety and Safety Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

**Goal 1:** Protect the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of wildland and urban fires pursuant to Government Code 65302 (g)(1).

**Fire Policy 1:** Continue to pursue and promote County fire prevention programs and control measures.

**Fire Policy 3:** Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps, as maintained by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, shall be used to illustrate the official areas of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) in the Local and State Responsibility Areas.
Fire Policy 4: To reduce the potential for fire damage, the County shall continue to require consistency with County Fire Department Development Standards pursuant to the California Fire Code, Public Resource Code §4291, and Government Code §51175-51188.

Fire Policy 5: The County shall continue to require defensible space clearance around all structures in unincorporated Local Responsibility Areas pursuant to Public Resource Code §4291, and Government Code §51175-51188.

Fire Policy 8: The County Office of Emergency Services (OES) shall continue coordinating emergency planning for the Santa Barbara Operational Area pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act of 1970.

Fire Policy 9: The County shall minimize the potential effects of fire hazards through the development review process pursuant to state law.

Fire Policy 10: The County should reference the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) when considering measures to reduce potential harm from fire-related activity to property and lives.

Emergency Management Plan

The 2013 Santa Barbara Operational Area Emergency Management Plan (OAEMP) addresses the Santa Barbara Operational Areas planned response to emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national security emergencies. The operational concepts included in the OAEMP focus on potential large-scale disasters, which can generate unique situations requiring unusual emergency responses. The OAEMP also includes mitigation measures to reduce losses from disasters, including the development and enforcement of appropriate land use, design, and construction regulations.

Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The 2017 Santa Barbara County MJHMP is a comprehensive plan prepared to guide the Santa Barbara County Operational Area toward greater disaster preparedness and resistance consistent with the character and needs of the County and its communities. The emphasis of the MJHMP is on the assessment of identified risks, identifying mitigation measures for existing exposures, and ensuring critical infrastructure are capable of surviving a disaster. Hazard mitigation strategies help to eliminate losses by limiting new exposures in identified hazard areas, diverting the hazard by reducing the impact, and developing an awareness of hazardous areas in which to avoid locating future development.

3.11.4 Environmental Impact Analysis

This section discusses the public services impacts associated with the Project.

3.11.4.1 Thresholds of Significance

The determination of the significance of impacts related to public services is based on the criteria contained in Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and
information contained in the *County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*.

**CEQA Guidelines**

The following thresholds of significance are based on Appendix G of the 2017 State CEQA Guidelines. For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the Project may have a significant adverse impact on public services if it would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or a need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:
  - Fire protection
  - Police protection
  - Schools
  - Parks
  - Other public facilities

**Santa Barbara County Methodology and Significance Thresholds**

**County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual**

**Schools**

According to the *County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* (2015), a project would have a significant impact if it would generate enough students to require an additional classroom, assuming 29 students per classroom for elementary/junior high students and 28 students per classroom for high school students (based on the lowest student-per-classroom loading standards of the state school building program). This threshold is to be applied in those school districts that are currently approaching, at, or exceeding their current capacity. For analysis of potential air quality impacts (e.g., odors) on schools, please refer to Section 3.3, *Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions*.

**Parks and Recreation**

The County of Santa Barbara Thresholds and Guidelines Manual contains no threshold for park and recreation impacts. However, the County Board of Supervisors has established a minimum standard ratio of 4.7 acres of recreation/open space per 1,000 people to meet the needs of a community. The Santa Barbara County Parks Department maintains more than 900 acres of parks and open spaces, as well as 84 miles of trails and coastal access easements.

**3.11.4.2 Project Impacts**

Table 3.11-4 below provides a summary of the impacts related to public services due to the proposed Project. Existing development standards and standard permit processes and conditions, as well as planning standards and requirements proposed as part of the Project, which would serve to mitigate environmental impacts are referenced in the analysis below.
Table 3.11-4. Summary of Public Services Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Services Emissions Impacts</th>
<th>Mitigation Measure</th>
<th>Residual Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact PS-1. Cannabis cultivation would incrementally increase demand for police, fire, parks, schools, libraries, and other public services.</td>
<td>No mitigation required</td>
<td>Less than Significant (Class III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact PS-2. Cannabis testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail would incrementally increase demand for police, fire, parks, schools, libraries, and other public services.</td>
<td>No mitigation required</td>
<td>Less than Significant (Class III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Impacts</td>
<td>No mitigation required</td>
<td>Less than Significant (Class III)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Impact PS-1. Cannabis cultivation would incrementally increase demand for police, fire, parks, schools, libraries, and other public services.**

**Fire Protection**

Approval of the Project could incrementally increase demand for both emergency and non-emergency fire protection services in the County, including increased response to structure fires and wildfires. Implementation of the Project could potentially increase cannabis activities within high fire risk zones since eligible parcels are located in rural, high fire risk areas in the County. Cannabis activities, including cultivation and manufacturing, could introduce new ignition sources to rural areas, including electrical power, machinery, and operators and employees, incrementally increasing the potential for accidental ignition of fires. Due to this potential increase in cannabis activities in fire risk areas, demand for emergency response services, including fire response, could also increase. Further, the potential of cannabis-related activities to be licensed in remote areas could exacerbate difficulty with emergency response and evacuations during wildfires, particularly along narrow rural roads.

As mentioned previously, the Fire Department employs a 5-minute response time in urban areas. There is no standard response time for rural areas of the County, where a majority of licensed cultivation sites would be located. Consequently, the Fire Department would respond to brush fires at cultivation sites in a manner consistent with current response times in rural areas of the County, and a potentially longer response time is considered acceptable.

To become permitted under the Project, cannabis activity sites must comply with the County LUDC, Land Use Element, and Seismic Safety and Safety Element, including Fire Policies 4, 5, and 9, which require consistency with all Fire Department Development Standards. Cannabis activity sites must also comply with all fire protection policies found in Chapter 15, Fire Prevention, of the Santa Barbara County Code (County Code), including visible address numbers, adequate water availability, automatic smoke detection devices, adequate disposal of refuse, and fire retardant roofs, depending on the structural development proposed for the site. It is anticipated that emergency access to licensed cultivation sites would be improved under the Project, as many roads currently providing access to grow sites do not have the capacity to support emergency vehicles and do not have water supplies meeting minimum flow requirements, as discussed in Section 3.13, Utilities and Energy Conservation. It is anticipated that emergency access to and evacuation routes from licensed cultivation sites would improve as access roads are upgraded to comply with Fire Policies 4 and 9 within the Comprehensive Plan Seismic Safety and Safety Element.
County of Santa Barbara

Cannabis activity sites would be required to be designed and operated to avoid interference with implementation of County emergency and evacuation plans. Programs such as the MJHMP and EMP would facilitate emergency response and preparedness in affected areas, especially in critical fire hazard areas. The character of incidents to which fire services would have to respond under the Project may also shift from the present situation. Because there are not yet any licensed cannabis cultivation sites, the experience of fire protection services has only been with responses to incidents on unregulated sites. These unregulated locations are not necessarily compliant with state and local building codes, and some remote sites are not easily or readily accessible. As discussed in Section 3.0.3, Assessment Methodology, the Fire Department gave an informal estimate regarding the occurrence of fires associated with cannabis activities at one fire per year within the County.

Implementation of the Project may cause emergency calls and incidents to decrease as existing, unregulated operations are brought into compliance with building and electrical codes as is required by the Project. Demand for non-emergency services such as fire safety inspections for new residences, building inspections, fire code investigations, and code compliance would incrementally increase under the Project. Further, overall risk of fire would be reduced under the Project, as further described in Section 3.7, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, which would not require additional equipment or facilities from the Fire Department. Therefore, this impacts related to fire protection would be less than significant (Class III).

Police Protection

Cannabis activities would have the potential to incrementally increase demand for police and emergency services. As cannabis is a high-value crop, there is a potential for crime to increase around cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution sites. This would also include the potential for youth to gain illegal access to cannabis plants despite security measures required by the Project, including fencing and secure storage. As detailed above, the County Sheriff’s Office currently receives many calls reporting cultivation sites and suspicious activity, and is staffed adequately (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017). Adequacy of staff is ensured by compliance with development policies in both the Land Use Element and CLUP that require adequate public services are available to serve a proposed development prior to issuance of a development permit by the County. Applicants for cannabis activities sites would therefore be required to comply with these policies, and would assume full responsibility for any costs incurred in service extensions that are required as a result of their proposed site; lack of available public services would be grounds for denial of a proposed site or reduction in density indicated in the land use plan. With implementation of the proposed Project, increased calls for service could include responses to noise complaints, driving while under the influence, security concerns, and other public transportation safety concerns (see Section 3.12, Transportation and Traffic). Additionally, compliance with requirements for security systems, locked products, and the prevention of visibility from public right-of-way areas (required per California Code of Regulations Title 16 Division 42), would reduce the potential for theft or ease of access. Though licensed cannabis activities within the unincorporated portions of the County could incrementally increase demand on police protection services, Sheriff staffing levels are adequate, would be assessed for changes over time, and incremental increases in calls for service for licensed activities, including theft and disturbance, would not substantially affect police resources nor result in the need for the construction of additional facilities with associated adverse impacts on the environment (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017). Further, compliance with applicable County policies would ensure adequate public services are available to serve proposed cannabis activities sites under the Project. Therefore, impacts to police protection would be less than significant (Class III).
Parks, Schools, Libraries, and Other Public Services

Licensing of cannabis businesses would occur over several years and would be incrementally distributed throughout the County. (See Chapter 2, Project Description.) As the Project involves no residential development, the Project would not substantially increase demand for education, health care, and parks and recreation facilities to the extent that new facilities would be required, the construction of which would result in adverse impacts to the physical environment. As licensed sites would be located throughout the County, demand for educational services would not be concentrated in any particular school district. Similarly, with regard to adequate park service, induced growth would be served by not only 8,595 acres of County recreation and open space, but also the four state parks and four state beaches within the County, which provide additional area for recreational purposes. As detailed above, the County’s existing recreational facilities and open space result in a ratio of approximately 61.81 acres of recreation and open space areas per 1,000 people, which greatly exceeds the County’s minimum standard of 4.7 acres per 1,000 people. The Project would not increase demand for recreation and open space to the extent that the construction of additional parks would be required. Further, existing development impact fees would continue to apply to new development in the County. School impact fees vary with each school district and are collected from new development to contribute to fund new school facilities. Parks impact fees are also required to help fund parks in areas of the County.

Cannabis activities would likely generate new employment opportunities; however, the Project would not consist of direct population growth associated with residential development. Any induced growth due to the Project, as discussed in Chapter 5, Other CEQA Considerations, could result in some demand for parks, schools, libraries, and other public services which may shift geographically throughout the County. However, public services within the County are equipped to manage incrementally increased potential for new households generated by growth envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan through 2040.

Cannabis-related development under the Project does have the potential to indirectly result in population growth and an associated increased demand on public services. As discussed in Section 3.14, Population, Employment, and Housing, anticipated employment associated with cannabis-related activities in the County would result in a maximum potential of approximately 3,615 new jobs, which would cause an associated increase in housing demand, which in turn would contribute to an increase in the County’s population. However, this represents a worst-case scenario and is unlikely to occur because increases in employment, housing demand, and population would be expected to occur incrementally over time with programmatic scaling. As discussed in Section 3.14, Population, Employment, and Housing, it is anticipated that a large majority of employees would come from the existing workforce, and a portion filled by new employees who would commute or move to the Project area. Additionally, the anticipated increase in employment, housing demand, and population resulting from the Project would largely occur in existing communities with utilization of existing public services. The demand for housing, as discussed in Section 3.14, would not consist of an impact to the physical environment, and any new demands in housing that would result from the cannabis industry would be reflected in SBCAG’s RHNA numbers and addressed as part of the County’s subsequent Housing Element update. As discussed in Section 3.14, the development of housing cannot be speculated on in the context of where or when new housing would occur and, consequently, the impacts to the physical environment resulting from the development of the housing. Finally, the Housing Element update and review of permit applications for future housing projects would subject to additional CEQA review. The Project would not involve substantial changes to existing zone district uses and would not result in any subdivisions. Therefore, existing County policies and
regulations for future planned public services for existing communities would be sufficient to serve the incremental increase in employment, housing demand, and population anticipated under the Project. Therefore, the Project would not result in the need for new or physically altered public service facilities.

Potential public services impacts associated with cultivation activities under the Project would be addressed by existing County policies and regulations. Licenses for cultivation would not be approved or activated unless all other required permits and/or entitlements are in place for a proposed cannabis operation. Cannabis-related development would not directly result in population growth, and associated demand on fire protection, police, public schools, parks, libraries, or other public services would be incremental due to distribution of cannabis cultivation sites over the Project's eligibility area. Therefore, potential impacts to public services from cannabis cultivation associated with the Project, and associated new construction which would result in adverse impacts to the physical environment, are considered less than significant (Class III).

**Impact PS-2. Cannabis testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail would incrementally increase demand for police, fire, parks, schools, libraries, and other public services.**

**Fire Protection**

Much of the testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retailing of cannabis involves the use and storage of potentially hazardous and highly flammable materials that would introduce a potential fire hazard requiring addition response from the Fire Department. (See also, Section 3.8, Hazards and Hazardous Materials.) Collectively, the operation of new cannabis facilities could incrementally increase the number of incidents requiring fire protection services and associated demand on fire protection resources across the County. However, cannabis activities would be subject to review by the County, compliance with federal and state regulations relating to employee health and safety, and existing County policies and regulations relating to emergency access, the operation of manufacturing facilities, types of allowed operations, and the general operation of each testing and manufacturing activity. Proper consultation with fire and emergency service providers and compliance with all Fire Protection Policies (e.g., Fire Policies 4, 5, and 9 within the Comprehensive Plan Safety and Seismic Safety Element) and other regulations would reduce this impact as safety conditions are improved with licensure, which would not require additional equipment or facilities from the Fire Department, the construction of which would result in adverse impacts to the physical environment. Therefore, impacts to fire protection are considered less than significant (Class III).

**Police Protection**

Cannabis testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retailing facilities under the Project may attract crime, vandals, and present other security risks. Although these facilities would be required to provide onsite security, fencing, and limited access, these types of facilities may be inherently subject to crime because of the high value of cannabis products and the concern of keeping youths away from the premises. This would incrementally increase demand on police services, including the County Sheriff and CHP. Cannabis manufacturing and distribution would be licensed under the Project in commercial or manufacturing spaces in industrial/commercial and agricultural zoning districts, where police services are deemed adequate (Santa Barbara County Sheriff 2017). As described in Impact PS-1, adequacy of staff is ensured by compliance with development policies in both the Land Use Element and CLUP that require adequate public services are available to serve a proposed development prior
to issuance of a development permit by the County. Testing and retail facilities would be further limited to commercial and industrial zoning districts. Eligible testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail facilities would be dispersed across the County and would not substantially increase demand on police services to the extent that the construction of new police facilities would be required, the construction of which would result in adverse impacts to the physical environment. Therefore, this impacts to police protection would be less than significant (Class III).

Parks, Schools, Libraries, and Other Public Services

Cannabis testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail development, including potential greenhouses, warehouses, and commercial buildings, would not increase the demand for parks, schools, libraries, or other public services as no direct residential development and associated population increase would occur. Additionally, as previously described, the existing ratio of 61.8 acres of recreation and open space per 1,000 people is over 13 times the minimum standard required by the County (4.7 acres per 1,000 people). Development would be subject to County policies and Project requirements that address park land, recreational facilities, schools, and libraries, including payment of impact fees to offset incremental contribution to demand for schools and parks.

Where necessary, County staff would review cannabis testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail licenses, and associated permit applications to ensure compliance with the County's Zoning Regulations (County Code Chapter 35). As discussed in Impact PS-1, cannabis-related development under the Project has potential to indirectly result in population growth and an associated increased demand on public services. However, existing County policies and regulations for future planned public services for existing communities would be sufficient to serve the incremental increase in employment, housing demand, and population anticipated under the Project. Therefore, application of existing policies and regulations on future cannabis product testing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail development would address potential public services impacts associated with cannabis activities under the Project. Licenses for cannabis activities would not be approved or activated unless all other required permits and/or entitlements are in place for a proposed cannabis facility. While the 2017 Cannabis Registry data indicates that most planned cannabis activities would occur in the South Coast Region, approximately 45 percent of Registry responders did not indicate a specific site, so these licensed cannabis activities could occur anywhere over the Project's eligibility area. As such, development under the proposed Project is not anticipated to result in substantial population growth and associated demand on fire protection, police, public schools, parks, libraries, or other public services due to the incremental distribution of cannabis activity sites. Therefore, the Project would not result in the need for new or physically altered public service facilities, the construction of which would result in adverse impacts to the physical environment, and impacts to public services from cannabis activities would be considered less than significant.

3.11.4.3 Cumulative Impacts

The Project would not have significant impacts to public services. The Project, including the potential 5-year buildout, would be combined with cumulative impacts resulting from development under plans and projects, as identified in Section 3.0.5, Cumulative Project Scenario. In addition to growth from buildout projections identified in the County Comprehensive Plan, Community Plans, and a variety of projects, programs, or initiatives would have the potential for additional growth in the County. Specifically, cannabis activities may increase or decrease in different locations in the County depending on the County's proposed amendment to Article X of the County Code, which would require acknowledgement, relocation, or closure of existing legal nonconforming cannabis operations in the
County. However, it is expected that overall increases in licensed cannabis activities would occur given the potential for growth in the agricultural and manufacturing industries under the Project. The cumulative projects identified in Table 3.0-6 would not result in adverse impacts to public services as they represent regulatory changes that do not directly result in physical development. Future permit requests enabled by these ordinance amendments and planning programs must be found consistent with adopted County policies and current ordinances and development standards to be approved. The pending development review projects included in Table 3.0-7 would also be required to adhere to local policies and development standards pertaining to public services. Therefore, the combined effects of the proposed Project, the cumulative projects, and forecasted buildout, would not result in cumulatively significant public service impacts and, therefore, would be less than significant (Class III).

3.11.4.4 Proposed Mitigation

No mitigation measures are required or considered feasible to reduce less than significant impacts of the Project.

3.11.4.5 Residual Impacts

Impacts PS-1 and dPS-2. Implementation of existing development standards and standard permit processes and conditions as well as requirements proposed as part of the Project, would ensure the level of all impacts are less than significant (Class III).
This page intentionally left blank.