

3.11 - Public Services and Recreation

3.11.1 - Introduction

This section describes the existing public services and recreation setting and potential effects from the implementation of the Specific Plan on the affected area and its surroundings. Descriptions and analysis in this section are based on information provided in the City of San Ramon General Plan 2030.

3.11.2 - Environmental Setting

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District (Fire District) provides fire protection and emergency medical services (EMS) to a 118-square-mile area encompassing the City of San Ramon; the Town of Danville; and the unincorporated communities of Alamo, Blackhawk, Diablo, Southern Morgan Territory, and Tassajara Valley. In addition, the Fire District serves portions of Alameda County. The Fire District is an autonomous special district governed by an elected Board of Directors. The Fire District is headquartered at 1500 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, adjacent to Station No. 38.

Stations

The Fire District operates 10 fire stations, including four in San Ramon. Table 3.11-1 summarizes the two fire stations closest to the Specific Plan area.

Table 3.11-1: Fire Station Summary

No.	Address	Apparatus		Staffing
		Quantity	Equipment	
34	12599 Alcosta Boulevard	1	Type 1 Engines	2 Captains, 2 Engineers, 2 Firefighters
		1	Ladder Truck	
		1	Type 3 Engine	
		1	Ambulance	
		1	Heavy Rescue	
38	1600 Bollinger Canyon Road	1	Type 1 Engine	1 Captain, 1 Engineer, 1 Firefighter
		1	Type 3 Engine	
		1	Ambulance	
		1	Water Tender	

Source: San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, 2012.

Staffing

The Fire District employs 196 full-time personnel and 33 volunteer personnel. The Fire District has 163 full-time firefighters and 18 on-call firefighters. All firefighters are trained Emergency Medical

Technicians 1As (EMT-1As) and State Certified Firefighter I and II with specialized defibrillator training.

As of 2009, the Fire District had 1.3 sworn firefighters per 1,000 residents within its service area.

Specialized Units

Rescue Team

The Rescue Team consists of approximately 30 members. The Rescue Team is a proactive organization whose main purposes are to provide immediately available, high-quality technical rescue resources managed by skilled and dedicated personnel, and to provide Fire District-wide, rescue-related training. The team is based at Station 34 on Alcosta Boulevard because of its central location and proximity to Interstate 680 (I-680).

Hazardous Materials Team

The Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Team is based out of Station 35 in Blackhawk and is made up of 26 State Certified Hazardous Materials Technicians/Specialists. The Hazmat Team is capable of specialized entry, chemical analysis, and hazard mitigation.

Response Times and Protocols

The Fire District's goal is an overall response time of 5 minutes, 95 percent of the time. When the first units for a structure fire are dispatched from one of the staffed emergency response companies, the three closest engines, a ladder truck, and the shift Battalion Chief are automatically assigned. In addition, a rescue medic ambulance can be dispatched in the event one of the occupants of the structure or Fire District personnel needs medical assistance at the scene.

The Fire District's median response time for urban areas is 5 minutes and 6 seconds, and its 90th percentile response time in urban areas is 7 minutes and 37 seconds. These response times exclude dispatch times.

Mutual Aid

The Fire District exchanges mutual aid with the four adjacent fire agencies (Alameda County Fire Department, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, East Contra Costa Fire Protection District, and Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District) and Cal Fire (formerly the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention).

ISO Rating

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification Program currently rates the Fire District a 2 on a scale of 1 to 10 for urban areas, with 1 being the highest possible protection rating and 10 being the lowest. The ISO rating measures individual fire protection agencies against a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, which includes such criteria as facilities and support for handling and dispatching fire alarms, first-alarm response and initial attack, and adequacy of local water supply for

fire-suppression purposes. The ISO ratings are used to establish fire insurance premiums. Only 5 percent of the more than 44,000 fire agencies in the United States receive an ISO 2 rating or higher.

Police Protection

The San Ramon Police Department (Police Department) provides police protection within the San Ramon City limits.

Police Facilities

The Police Department is currently headquartered at 2401 Crow Canyon Road, approximately 1 mile from the Specific Plan area.

The Police Department has a substation in the Dougherty Station Community Center, located at 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road, which opened in 2005. It provides policing services to the community and houses the Dougherty Valley beat officers who patrol the area.

Organization, Staffing, and Resources

The Police Department is authorized for 58 sworn police officer positions, 19 full-time equivalent (FTE) non-sworn civilian positions, and 35 volunteer positions. The Police Department consists of two bureaus: Administration (Professional Standards, Training, and Records) and Operations (Patrol Division, Investigations Division, and Traffic Division). Table 3.11-2 provides a summary of Police Department organization and staffing. The Police Department’s staffing ratio is currently 0.79 officer per 1,000 residents, which is slightly below the City’s adopted standard of 0.8 officer per 1,000 residents. The Police Department has a fleet of 52 vehicles.

Table 3.11-2: Police Department Organizational Summary

Bureau	Status	Positions (Number)	Total
Administration	Sworn and Non-Sworn	Sworn: Chief (1); Captain (1); Lieutenant (2); Sergeant (1); Non-Sworn: Program Manager (1); Administrative Analyst (1); Coordinator (4); Specialist (1); Police Services Technician (1); Clerical (3)	16
Operations	Sworn and Non-Sworn	Sworn: Lieutenant (3); Sergeant (8); Officer (42) Non-Sworn: Police Services Technician (2)	55
Records	Non-Sworn	Coordinator (1); Specialist (1); Clerical (4)	6

Source: San Ramon Police Department, 2012.

Policing Programs

The Police Department operates several policing programs intended to prevent or address crime within certain segments of the community.

Youth crime prevention is a major focus of specialized policing activities. The Police Department sponsors a School Resource Officer Program, a Community and Youth Resource Program, and a

Character Counts Program. Each program is assigned a dedicated full-time officer who works directly with youth, parents, schools, and organizations to prevent crime.

The Police Department also has a Crime Prevention Program intended to advise the community about approaches, best practices, strategies, and techniques to avoid or minimize the potential for crime. The Crime Prevention Specialist reviews all development plans for crime prevention measures prior to construction.

Police Activity

The Police Department responded to more than 57,000 calls for service, made 500 arrests, and issued more than 12,000 citations in 2010. Table 3.11-3 provides a summary of police activities for 2008 through 2010.

Table 3.11-3: Police Activity Summary (2008–2010)

Category	2008	2009	2010
Calls for Service	62,194	53,662	57,258
Arrests	661	500	574
Citations Issued	12,677	11,569	12,014
Source: San Ramon Police Department, 2012.			

Response Times

The Police Department's average response time to priority calls for service was less than 3.5 minutes in 2010. This average response time is within the City's adopted standard of 3 to 5 minutes for priority calls.

Schools

The San Ramon Valley Unified School District (School District) provides K-12 education to the City of San Ramon, as well as the Town of Danville and the unincorporated communities of Alamo, Blackhawk, Diablo, and Tassajara Valley.

Local Schools

Table 3.11-4 summarizes the four schools that currently serve the Specific Plan area based on information provided by the California Department of Education for the 2010–2011 academic year.

Table 3.11-4: School Summary (2010–2011)

School	Grades	Enrollment	Full-Time Equivalent Teachers	Pupil-Teacher Ratio
Bollinger Canyon Elementary	K-5	546	25.2	21.7
Twin Creeks Elementary	K-5	519	24.3	21.4

Table 3.11-4 (cont.): School Summary (2010–2011)

School	Grades	Enrollment	Full-Time Equivalent Teachers	Pupil-Teacher Ratio
Iron Horse Middle	6-8	957	36.7	26.1
California High	9-12	2,472	99.6	24.8
Source: California Department of Education, 2012.				

Library Services

Contra Costa County Library, a County agency, operates the San Ramon Library, located at 100 Montgomery Street in The Market Place, and the Dougherty Station Library, located at 17017 Bollinger Canyon Road.

The San Ramon Library opened in 1989 and totals 18,238 square feet. The Dougherty Station Library opened in 2005 and totals 11,600 square feet. The Dougherty Station Library is designed to be expanded by 30,000 square feet to a total area of 41,600 square feet. The expansion will be timed in conjunction with the second phase of the nearby Diablo Valley College facility, which is projected to occur by 2015. Together, both libraries contain approximately 134,000 volumes.

Performance Standards

The City of San Ramon has an adopted standard of 0.5 square foot of library space per capita and 3 volumes per capita at General Plan buildout. The Dougherty Valley Library and the San Ramon Library currently total 29,838 square feet. Using the City’s 2010 California Department of Finance population estimate of 64,860 persons, there is a current ratio of 0.46 square foot of library space per resident, which does not meet the adopted square footage standard. However, the expansion of the Dougherty Station Library and construction of a library within future City Hall complex at City Center are expected to bring the square footage into compliance with the adopted standard. The existing number of volumes, approximately 134,000, does not meet the performance standard of 189,528 volumes (3 volumes per capita). Additional volumes are expected with the expansion of the Dougherty Station Library, and this standard can be met at buildout.

Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities

The City of San Ramon Parks and Community Services Department and the East Bay Regional Parks District maintain parks, trails, and community facilities for public use in San Ramon.

Parks

The City of San Ramon Parks and Community Services Department maintains 52 existing park sites totaling 356.4 acres. Of the 52 sites, 35 are dedicated community parks, neighborhood parks, or specialized recreational areas or facilities, and the remaining 17 are school parks.

Park facilities near the Specific Plan area are summarized below.

Central Park

Central Park, located at Bollinger Canyon Road and Alcosta Boulevard, is the largest active park in the City of San Ramon. The park encompasses 42.8 acres and contains two soccer pitches, four multi-use athletic fields (e.g., soccer, cricket, baseball, and softball), a baseball field, volleyball courts, basketball courts, tennis courts, a skate park, a children's playground, and picnic areas. The basketball courts can be lighted 24 hours a day, and the multi-use athletic fields are lighted until 10 p.m.

Iron Horse Middle School Park and Gym

The Iron Horse Middle School Park and Gym are co-operated by the City and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and are immediately adjacent to the north side of Central Park. Park and gym facilities are available for public use during non-school hours. Facilities include outdoor basketball courts and indoor multi-use facilities for activities such as basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, and aerobics.

Iron Horse Trail

The Iron Horse Trail is a multi-use, approximately 30-mile Class I paved trail stretching from Pleasanton to Concord along the former Southern Pacific Railroad San Ramon Branch Line right-of-way. In Contra Costa County, the County owns the railroad right-of-way and leases a 20-foot-wide corridor within the right-of-way to East Bay Regional Parks District for use as a public trail. As part of that lease agreement, the East Bay Regional Parks District is responsible for the operation and ongoing maintenance of the trail.

The trail corridor traverses the Specific Plan area in a north-south direction, with signalized crossings at Crow Canyon Road and Norris Canyon Road. An unsignalized crossing is present at Fostoria Way. The City of San Ramon is pursuing the grade separation of the trail at Crow Canyon Road.

Community Facilities

The San Ramon Community Center is the only community facility in the Specific Plan vicinity. The 23,000-square-foot Community Center is located in the eastern portion of Central Park and contains multi-purpose rooms, meeting venues, and offices.

Performance Standards

The City of San Ramon has an adopted standard of 6.5 acres of public parks per 1,000 residents at General Plan buildout. Using the City's 2010 California Department of Finance population estimate of 64,860 persons, there is a current ratio of 5.50 acres of public parks per 1,000 residents, which is below the adopted standard but would be met at General Plan buildout.

The City has an adopted standard of 1.2 square feet of community center space per capita at General Plan buildout. There is a current ratio of 1.83 square feet of community center space per capita, which is above the adopted standard and would be maintained at General Plan buildout.

3.11.3 - Regulatory Framework

State

California Fire Code and California Building Code

The International Fire Code and the International Building Code, established by the International Code Council (ICC) and amended by the State of California, prescribe performance characteristics and materials to be used to achieve acceptable levels of fire protection.

Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998

The California State Legislature enacted the Leroy F. Green School Facilities Act of 1998 (SB 50), which made significant amendments to existing state law governing school fees. SB 50 prohibited state or local agencies from imposing school impact mitigation fees, dedications, or other requirements in excess of those provided in the statute. The legislation also prohibited local agencies from using the inadequacy of school facilities as a basis for denying or conditioning approvals of any project.

Local

City of San Ramon

General Plan 2030

General Plan 2030 sets forth the following guiding and implementing policies that are relevant to public services and recreation:

- **Implementing Policy 2.3-I-20:** Evaluate the ability of new development to pay for its infrastructure, its share of public and community facilities, and the incremental operating costs it imposes.
- **Guiding Policy 3.2-G-1:** Ensure the attainment of public facility and service standards through the City’s development review process, Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and a variety of funding mechanisms to maintain existing facilities and help fund expansion.
- **Implementing Policy 3.2-I-1:** Adopt “Findings of Consistency” that ensure new projects will comply with the City’s performance standards through its development review process.
- **Implementing Policy 3.2-I-3:** Require new development to fund public facilities and infrastructure that is deemed necessary to mitigate the impact of that new development.
- **Implementing Policy 3.2-I-4:** Levy local, sub-regional, and regional mitigation fees for public facilities and infrastructure improvements in proportion to a new development’s impact.
- **Guiding Policy 6.5-G-1:** Create and maintain a high-quality public park system for San Ramon.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-1:** Maintain a standard of 6.5 acres of public parks per 1,000 residents at General Plan buildout, with only usable acreage considered in meeting this standard.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-2:** Provide varied community park and recreational opportunities accessible to all City residents.

- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-3:** Maintain a minimum size of 2 acres or more for neighborhood parks.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-4:** Provide passive and active recreational amenities within the City's parks to meet the needs of citizens of all ages and interests.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-5:** Require residential developers to make dedications to the City's park system.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-6:** Encourage contributions to the City's park system by non-residential developers.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-7:** Complete all parkland dedication requirements for each development prior to occupancy.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-8:** Encourage the development of landscaped and dedicated open spaces, parkways, trail systems, and special community service facilities in new developments.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-10:** Seek partnership opportunities with the private sector and with other public agencies to enhance park facilities and provide leisure time activities.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-12:** Explore preservation of open space, ridge lands, and scenic corridors in and around San Ramon.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-14:** Continue to review biennially and update quadrennially the 10-year Parks and Community Services Master Plan.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-15:** Maintain service levels and maintenance standards in parks and recreation facilities at optimal levels for public use, safety, and cost effectiveness.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-16:** Maintain a standard, at General Plan buildout, that public parks are to be within one-half mile of all homes with only usable acreage considered in meeting this standard.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-17:** Maintain a standard, at General Plan buildout, that Community Parks are to be within three miles of all homes with only usable acreage considered in meeting this standard.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-18:** Increase the accessibility and connectivity to the Iron Horse Trail and the regional/city trail network, including the possibility of bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing(s) described in the San Ramon Valley Iron Horse Trail Corridor Concept Plan.
- **Implementing Policy 6.5-I-19:** Where appropriate, require new development to provide Public Spaces to enhance the recreation or leisure interactive experience of residents or visitors for passive or active use.
- **Guiding Policy 7.1-G-1:** Provide public and cultural facilities that contribute to the City's positive image and enhance community identity.
- **Implementing Policy 7.1-I-1:** Confer with the Contra Costa Library System to provide superior services by maintaining City performance standards for libraries consistent with the Growth Management Element.
- **Implementing Policy 7.1-I-3:** Maintain teen services on or adjacent to middle school sites.
- **Guiding Policy 7.2-G-1:** Collaborate with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District in their efforts to ensure that all school age children have equal access to equitable facilities.

- **Implementing Policy 7.2-I-1:** Collaborate with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District in their efforts to ensure that all future school sites are developed as “school parks.”
- **Implementing Policy 7.2-I-2:** Require that residential development pay fees to the School District to provide adequate, permanent classroom space.
- **Implementing Policy 7.2-I-3:** Encourage the efforts for the Phase II Expansion of the Diablo Valley College – San Ramon Campus facility (including the library extension) in Dougherty Valley.
- **Implementing Policy 7.2-I-4:** Collaborate with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District to assure that all future schools are planned to be open and operational based on student generation rates.
- **Implementing Policy 7.3-I-1:** Encourage developers of residential and nonresidential projects to assist in funding public or private facilities and services.
- **Implementing Policy 7.3-I-8:** Encourage and support public facilities and services that contribute to the maintenance and long-term success of a vibrant San Ramon Regional Medical Center.
- **Guiding Policy 7.6-G-1:** Collaborate with the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District to deliver a high level of public protection services that protect life, property, and the environment.
- **Implementing Policy 7-6-I-1:** Continue to coordinate with the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District to provide adequate fire protection facilities and services to meet the needs of the community.
- **Implementing Policy 7-6-I-2:** Seek input from the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District to ensure that fire protection measures are identified during the development review process.
- **Guiding Policy 7.7-G-1:** Maintain a high level of public safety for all people who live or work in San Ramon.
- **Implementing Policy 7.7-I-1:** Ensure crime-reduction and public safety features are incorporated into the design of new development projects through the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design program (CPTED).
- **Implementing Policy 7.7-I-3:** Require new development, if appropriate, to provide a funding mechanism to support and maintain San Ramon’s high level of police services.
- **Guiding Policy 9.1-G-1:** Maintain the City’s Emergency Operations Plan as the guide for emergency management in San Ramon.
- **Implementing Policy 9.1-I-1:** Maintain and update the City’s Emergency Operations Plan, as required by State and Federal laws, to minimize the risk to life and property of seismic and geologic hazards, hazardous materials and waste, and fire.

San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District

The Fire District has enacted a comprehensive fire prevention ordinance that includes sprinkler requirements for most commercial buildings and residential buildings exceeding 5,000 square feet.

3.11.4 - Methodology

Michael Brandman Associates evaluated potential impacts on public services and recreation through review of General Plan 2030, Existing Conditions Baseline Report, aerial photographs, and applicable state laws.

3.11.5 - Thresholds of Significance

According to the CEQA Guidelines' Appendix G Environmental Checklist, to determine whether environmental effects to public services are significant, the following questions are analyzed and evaluated.

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:

- a) Fire protection?
- b) Police protection?
- c) Schools?
- d) Parks?
- e) Other public facilities?

According to the CEQA Guidelines' Appendix G Environmental Checklist, to determine whether impacts to recreation are significant environmental effects, the following questions are analyzed and evaluated.

- f) 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?
- g) 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?

3.11.6 - Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

This section discusses potential impacts associated with the development of the project and provides mitigation measures where appropriate.

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Impact PSR-1: Development and land use activities contemplated by the Specific Plan may result in a need for new or expanded fire facilities or adverse impacts on fire protection.

Impact Analysis

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District currently provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the Specific Plan area.

The Specific Plan contemplates redevelopment from a low-density commercial area to transit- and pedestrian-oriented neighborhood with a mix of uses. As much as 5,070,000 square feet of commercial uses and as many as 1,500 dwelling units may be developed at buildout of the Specific Plan. Both the new commercial uses and new dwelling units would be expected to increase demand for fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Fire Protection District was consulted during the preparation of the Specific Plan regarding public safety issues. Fire officials indicated that their primary concern was ensuring adequate access for fire apparatus. Specific Plan Policies PF-2.1 and PF-2.2 require that all streets provide sufficient emergency vehicle access and that the new types of mixed-use development are incorporated into the emergency and disaster response plans for the City of San Ramon. This would ensure that fire apparatus could adequately negotiate the street system contemplated by the Specific Plan.

Additionally, the Specific Plan boundaries are within 1 mile of two fully staffed fire stations. Station 34 is located south of the Specific Plan area on Alcosta Boulevard and Station 38 is located west of the Specific Plan area on Bollinger Canyon Road. As such, fire apparatus responding from either station would be expected to arrive at emergency calls that occur within the Specific Plan boundaries within acceptable response times; therefore, no new or expanded fire facilities would be required.

Finally, the potential need for additional fire staffing is outside the scope of this EIR, as it does not involve physical impacts on the environment. Rather, this impact is most appropriately addressed through other mechanisms such as Conditions of Approval, Development Agreements, or other means.

In summary, the proposed project would not result in a need for new or expanded fire protection facilities that have the potential to result in physical impacts on the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Police Protection

Impact PSR-2: **Development and land use activities contemplated by the Specific Plan would not result in a need for new or expanded police facilities that result in physical impacts on the environment.**

Impact Analysis

The San Ramon Police Department currently provides police protection services to the Specific Plan area.

The Specific Plan contemplates redevelopment from a low-density commercial area to transit- and pedestrian-oriented neighborhood with a mix of uses. As much as 5,070,000 square feet of commercial uses and as many as 1,500 dwelling units may be developed at buildout of the Specific Plan. Both the new commercial uses and new dwelling units would be expected to increase demand for police services.

The Police Department was consulted during the preparation of the Specific Plan regarding public safety issues. As discussed in the Specific Plan, the mixed-use nature of the area and the creation of pedestrian-friendly internal streets will lend itself to the department's Community Policing policies, which are designed to reduce crime and the fear of crime by encouraging a partnership between the police and citizens of the community. As a part of that partnership, the Specific Plan recognizes the need for an additional beat with five additional officers to serve the Specific Plan area (Policy PF-3.1) and includes the provision for a substation space in the proposed shared parking structure adjacent to the Village Green to help facilitate community policing programs, public outreach, and access (Policy PF-3.2). The environmental effects of this potential outreach station are considered in this EIR.

The need for additional police staffing is outside the scope of this EIR, as it does not involve physical impacts on the environment. Rather, this impact is most appropriately addressed through other mechanisms such as Conditions of Approval, Development Agreements, or other means.

The Specific Plan boundaries are within 1 mile of San Ramon Police headquarters. The headquarters are located west of the Specific Plan area on Crow Canyon Road. As such, police units responding from headquarters would be expected to arrive at emergency calls that occur within the Specific Plan boundaries within acceptable response times; therefore, no new or expanded police facilities would be required. Note that units out on patrol may be within or near the Specific Plan area and, thus, may arrive more quickly than those responding from headquarters.

In summary, the proposed project would not result in a need for new or expanded police protection facilities that have the potential to result in physical impacts on the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Schools

Impact PSR-3:	Development and land use activities contemplated by the Specific Plan would not result in a need for new or expanded school facilities or adverse impacts on education.
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Impact Analysis

The San Ramon Valley Unified School District (School District) provides K-12 education to the Specific Plan area.

The Specific Plan contemplates redevelopment from a low-density commercial area to transit- and pedestrian-oriented neighborhood with a mix of uses. As much as 5,070,000 square feet of commercial uses and as many as 1,500 dwelling units may be developed at buildout of the Specific Plan. The new commercial uses would not be expected to alter existing school enrollment levels; however, the 1,500 additional dwelling units would be expected to increase K-12 enrollment.

Specific Plan Policy PF-4.1 would ensure that developers of any new residential units would contribute school impact mitigation fees. The fees can only be used for capital improvements for school facilities. The School District is currently in the midst of an ongoing, multi-year, capital improvement program that will increase school capacity to accommodate increased enrollment from planned growth within its boundaries. This includes expansion of existing schools and construction of new schools in San Ramon. Note that the School District has other available funding sources for capital improvements, including two voter-approved school bond measures. For these reasons, it is expected that the School District will have adequate classroom capacity to accommodate students generated by development within the Specific Plan area.

Government Code Section 65995 prohibits a local agency from either denying approval of a land use project because of inadequate school facilities or imposing school impact mitigation measures other than designated fees. Therefore, payment of development fees to the School District would address the proposed project’s impacts on schools and ensure that impacts are less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Parks, Trails, and Community Facilities

Impact PSR-4: Development and land use activities contemplated by the Specific Plan would not result in a need for new or expanded park, trail, or community facilities beyond those included in the Specific Plan.

Impact Analysis

The City of San Ramon and East Bay Regional Parks District provide various parks, trails, and community facilities within the plan boundaries.

The Specific Plan contemplates redevelopment from a low-density commercial area to transit- and pedestrian-oriented neighborhood with a mix of uses. As much as 5,070,000 square feet of commercial uses and as many as 1,500 dwelling units may be developed at buildout of the Specific Plan. Both the new commercial uses and the new dwelling units would be expected to increase park, trail, and community facility use.

In recognition of this, the Specific Plan would provide additional park facilities and public spaces as described below.

- The Commons would consist of a 1.25-acre, linear landscaped open space stretching from Crow Canyon Road to Norris Canyon Road and would provide space for community events and passive recreation.
- The Village Green would consist of a 2.0-acre communal activity space near the Specific Plan area's central block and would provide space for a variety of community events and passive recreation.
- The Iron Horse Trail is an existing, linear pedestrian and bicycle trail serving the Specific Plan area and connecting it to Danville, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Dublin. The Iron Horse Trail consists of 5.25 acres within the Specific Plan area and would be maintained as part of Specific Plan implementation. Furthermore, the Specific Plan contemplates the development of an overcrossing at Crow Canyon Road, which would enhance the convenience and safety of this facility.
- The Iron Horse Trail Link would consist of a 74-foot-wide landscaped open space containing an 18-foot-wide pedestrian and bicycle path to link the Commons and the Village Green to the Iron Horse Trail. The link would consist of 2.0 acres within the Specific Plan area.
- The residential park would consist of a 2.0-acre, multi-use open space area constructed as part of the high-density residential development south of Norris Canyon Road to serve both residents and nearby office employees.

Policy PF-1.4 of the Specific Plan requires land dedication or park fees for new residential development in the planning area for the implementation of the Public Spaces component of the plan.

In addition to the previously described planned public spaces, the Specific Plan also encourages smaller public spaces such as paseos, courtyards, and pocket parks to be privately developed. Policy PF-1.3 requires residential development in the planning area to be conditioned to provide public space amenities or onsite recreation facilities for their residents. As such, additional public spaces would be provided.

In summary, residential development within the Specific Plan area would increase the City's population and have a corresponding increase in park usage. The implementation of policies within the Specific Plan would ensure that impacts to parks would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Library Services

Impact PSR-5:	Development and land use activities contemplated by the Specific Plan would not result in a need for new or expanded library facilities or adverse impacts on related services.
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Impact Analysis

The Contra Costa County Library, in conjunction with the City of San Ramon, operates libraries within the City limits.

The proposed project consists of the adoption and implementation of the North Camino Ramon Specific Plan to allow redevelopment from a low-density commercial area to a transit- and pedestrian-oriented neighborhood with a mix of uses. While the adoption of the Specific Plan would not change the status of the existing library service levels, implementation of development within the plan boundaries area may result in a decrease in performance standards.

The population increase attributable to buildout of the Specific Plan would be expected to translate into additional demand for library services. Currently, the City does not meet its adopted standards of 0.5 square feet of library space and 3 volumes per capita. However, the expansion of the Dougherty Station Library and construction of a library within the City Hall complex at the City Center project are expected to bring the City into compliance with adopted library service standards. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.