

K. PUBLIC SERVICES

1. Fire Protection

Existing Conditions

Fire protection and emergency medical service to the subject property is provided by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). The LAFD responds to incidents requiring fire protection and emergency medical care with LAFD personnel and emergency medical technicians. According to the LAFD, fire protection services would primarily be provided by three fire stations. They are the closest to the Project site and would provide the shortest response time in the event of an emergency. These stations include Fire Station No. 92 at 10556 W. Pico Boulevard (1.3 miles), Fire Station No. 58 at 1556 S. Robertson Boulevard (2.1 miles), and Fire Station No. 59 at 1090 Veteran Avenue (2.3 miles) (**Figure PS-1**). If necessary during a major emergency, additional fire protection and emergency services would be provided by other stations within the LAFD system; however, it is assumed that the three stations above would provide the initial response under normal conditions. All three primary-serving LAFD fire stations are located within 2.5 miles of the Project site. Station location, distance to the Project site, and equipment are included in **Table V.K1-1**. According to the LAFD, current staffing is adequate to meet existing demand for service in the area.

Table V.K1-1
Fire Station Information

Station	Distance to Project	Equipment
#92 10556 W. Pico Blvd.	1.3 miles	Task Force Truck Engine Company Paramedic Supervisor Staff - 11
#58 1556 S. Robertson Blvd.	2.1 miles	Task Force Truck Engine Company Staff - 10
#59 1090 Veteran Avenue.	2.3 miles	Task Force Truck Engine Company Paramedic Rescue Ambulance Battalion 9 Headquarters Staff - 13

Threshold of Significance

According to the City of Los Angeles Draft CEQA Thresholds Guide (1998, p. J.2-3), a finding of significance involving fire protection services would result if:

- The proposed Project results in the need for an additional fire station, or expansion, consolidation, or relocation of an existing fire station to maintain service;

Figure PS-1 Public Services

Additionally, the LAFD (**Appendix 12**, p. 1) has indicated that the adequacy of fire protection for a given area is based on:

- Response distance from existing fire stations;
- Adequate hydrants and water flow/volume or pressure to serve the project; and
- LAFD's judgment for fire protection needs in the area.

Project Impacts

The adequacy of fire protection services for the proposed Project is based on required fire flow, response distance from existing fire stations, equipment access, and the Fire Department's judgment regarding needs and service in the area. The quantity of water required for fire protection varies based on a proposed project's land use(s). Fire flow requirements vary from 2,000 gallons per minute (gpm) in Low-Density Residential areas to 12,000 gpm in commercial areas. Based on a review of the proposed Project land uses, the LAFD has required that a fire flow of 9,000 gpm⁴⁵ from any block hydrants flowing simultaneously be maintained. A minimum residual water pressure of 20 psi must remain in the system while the required fire flow is being delivered. The actual number and location of required fire hydrants would be determined during the Fire Department's review of the plot plan.

Currently, adequate water pressure is available to serve new development in the Project vicinity. According to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), existing mains proximate to the Project include: 12 inch mains beneath Century Park East and Avenue of the Stars, and an eight-inch main under Constellation Boulevard. The existing system has a fire flow capacity of 9,000 gpm. This meets LAFD required fire flow for this Project therefore, the proposed Project would not result in a significant impact on the fire water supply system.

The LAFD requires that all projects either: 1) be located within 1.5 miles of the nearest fire station, or 2) if this distance cannot be achieved, include an interior sprinkler system in the Project as a means of fire protection. Fire Station No. 92 is located within 1.3 miles of the Project site. This station maintains a full staff and would be able to serve as the first station to provide full truck and engine company service to the site. The proposed Project could be adequately served by the existing facilities, equipment and staff, and would therefore not generate a significant impact on fire services. The Project traffic analysis demonstrates that Project impacts to vehicular traffic would be less than significant after mitigation. Thus, the Project would not significantly impact response times. Regardless, the Project would install an automatic fire sprinkler system and two electric/emergency driven fire pumps with a combined capacity of 1,250 gallons per minute. The pumps would be located in the subterranean parking garage on the south exterior wall portion of level F. Water to the pump would be supplied from a new on-site 75,000 gallon storage tank also located on level F. The existing 40,000 gallon water tank located on level A currently serves the entire Project site. This storage tank would remain but would be modified to service only the parking garage and Century Plaza Tower buildings.

With regard to access to the Project site, the proposed Project would maintain adequate access for the LAFD. The Project site plan conforms to access requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. Compliance will be confirmed by the LAFD during plot plan review, prior to construction. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in a significant impact on fire department access to the proposed site or adjacent properties.

Mitigation Measures

Although Project impacts would be less than significant, the following are included as mitigation measures in order to disclose and make clear the City's requirements.

⁴⁵ Telephone conversation with Inspector Joseph Jackson of the Los Angeles Fire Department Construction Services Unit, April 4, 2002, and Appendix 13 LAFD correspondence.

The following recommendations of the Fire Department relative to fire safety shall be incorporated, unless otherwise approved, into the building plans where feasible. This condition shall not require existing development on the site to comply with these provisions.

- FP-1** Project building plans shall include the submittal of a plot plan for approval by the Fire Department either prior to the recordation of the final map or the approval of a building permit. The plot plan shall include the following minimum design features: fire lanes, where required, shall be a minimum of 20 feet in width; and all structures must be within 300 feet of an approved fire hydrant.
- FP-2** The applicant shall consult with the Los Angeles Fire Department and incorporate fire prevention and suppression features appropriate to the design of the Project.
- FP-3** Construction of new public or private roadway in the proposed development shall not exceed 15 percent in grade, unless otherwise approved.
- FP-4** The Project shall utilize standard cut-corners on all turns, if applicable.
- FP-5** Fire Department access shall remain clear and unobstructed during demolition.
- FP-6** If applicable, fire lanes and dead ending streets shall terminate in a cul-de-sac or other approved turning area.
- FP-7** No dead ending street or fire lane shall be greater than 700 feet in length or secondary access shall be required.
- FP-8** If applicable, where access for a given development requires accommodation of Fire Department apparatus, minimum outside radius of the paved surface shall be 35 feet. An additional six feet of clear space must be maintained beyond the outside radius to a vertical point 13 feet 6 inches above the paved surface on the roadway.
- FP-9** No building or portion of a building shall be constructed more than 150 feet from the edge of a roadway, of an improved street, access road, or designated fire lane, unless otherwise approved.
- FP-10** Where access for a given development requires accommodation of Fire Department apparatus, overhead clearance shall not be less than 14 feet.
- FP-11** Where fire apparatus will be driven onto the road level surface of the subterranean parking structure, that structure shall be engineered to withstand a bearing pressure of 8,600 pounds per square foot, unless otherwise approved.
- FP-12** The Project shall comply with all applicable State and local Codes and Ordinances found in the Fire Protection and Fire Prevention Plan, as well as the Safety Plan, both of which are elements of the General Plan of the City of Los Angeles, unless otherwise approved.

Significant Project Impacts After Mitigation

No significant Project impacts would remain after the implementation of the identified mitigation measures.

Cumulative Impacts

The proposed Project site is currently developed with uses that require similar LAFD resources as the proposed Project. Future development has the potential to increase the population and density of the area and could potentially have a cumulative impact on fire protection services. However, any cumulative development would be subject to fire protection and safety measures, as with the proposed Project, to adequately mitigate fire protection impacts. The related projects would be required to comply with all Fire Department development review criteria. The proposed Project has a less than significant impact and would not substantially contribute to cumulative impacts.