

## 2. Police Protection

### Existing Conditions

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), West Los Angeles Area, Reporting District (RD) 839 provides police protection in the Century City area. The West Los Angeles Area service boundaries are Mulholland Drive to the north, the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) and the Los Angeles City Boundary to the south, the Los Angeles City boundary to the west, and La Cienega Boulevard and the Los Angeles City boundary to the east. The closest station to the proposed Project site is located at 1663 Butler Avenue, approximately 3.0 miles away (**Figure PS-1**).

Currently there are 259 sworn officers and 33 non-sworn employees providing service to the West Los Angeles Area. Officers are dispatched over three watches in a 24-hour period. The West Los Angeles Station serves a population of approximately 225,000 people over a 64.3 square mile area. In the event that a situation should arise that requires additional staffing, additional officers can be called in from other LAPD Districts.

The average response time to emergency calls for service in West Los Angeles during 2001 was 8.7 minutes. The Citywide average during 2001 was 8.9 minutes. Within West Los Angeles, 34 crimes per 1,000 people were committed in 2001.

Private security service to the entire property is provided by Universal Protection Service. Universal Protection Service provides unarmed lobby ambassadors, security officers and parking officers who monitor safety and security. The entire site has a full time staff of 48 officers, which includes an on-site Director of Security and an on-site Operations Manager. Security in the Century Plaza Towers is responsible for controlling access in both towers, assisting visitors, messengers, loading dock deliveries as well as patrolling all levels of the parking garage and common areas of the property.

As a result of the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy, security services have been increased to include visitor and tenant bag checks, and trunk checks for all visitor and tenant vehicles that do not display the proper parking pass. In addition, a thorough inspection of all delivery vehicles is performed prior to entering the loading dock. Staffing throughout the site has been increased in the form of additional man hours.

### Threshold of Significance

According to The City of Los Angeles Draft CEQA Thresholds Guide (1998, p. J.1-2), a finding of significance involving police protection services shall be made on a case by case basis, considering the following factors:

- The population increase resulting from the proposed project, based on the net increase of residential units or square footage of non-residential floor area;
- The demand for police services anticipated at the time of project buildout compared to the expected level of service available. Consider, as applicable, scheduled improvements to LAPD services (facilities, equipment, and officers) and the project's proportional contribution to the demand; and
- Whether the project includes security and/or design features that would reduce the demand for police services.

### Project Impacts

Development of the proposed Project would not generate additional residents, or pedestrians, and would reduce vehicular traffic in the Project area. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Project would result in a substantial increase in demands for law enforcement and protection services provided by the LAPD. The existing on-site Shubert Theater, Lowe's Cineplex, and nightclubs are primarily nighttime driven activities drawing visitors from the surrounding region. These would be removed, and replaced

predominantly with office space. The resulting use would primarily be a daytime (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) activity. The LAPD in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) issued for the Project, has indicated that a project of this size would have a significant impact on police services (see **Appendix 12**). The Project would utilize private on-site security and install video cameras to monitor the site. 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. Additionally, tax revenue generated by the proposed Project would add funding to City of Los Angeles for distribution to City Departments, including the LAPD. Project compliance with City requirements, Project design features (such as closed circuit monitoring and private security), and implementation of mitigation measures PS-1 to PS-3 would result in a less than significant impact to police services.

The current security program would be maintained and include the proposed Project. The necessary security levels for the new development and the entire Project site would be maintained to ensure a safe site. The planned development would also benefit from implementation of some of the latest technology in security hardware and electronics.

### **Mitigation Measures**

The following mitigation measures would reduce potential impacts to police services to a less than significant level:

- PS-1** The applicant shall consult with the Los Angeles Police Department Crime Prevention Unit on crime prevention features appropriate to the design of the Project.
- PS-2** Entryways, elevators, lobbies, and parking areas shall be well illuminated and designed with a minimum of visual dead space to eliminate areas of concealment.
- PS-3** Upon completion of the Project, the owner shall provide the West Los Angeles Area Commanding Officer with a diagram of each portion of the property, including access routes and additional information that might facilitate police response.

### **Significant Impacts After Mitigation**

No significant adverse impacts are anticipated to occur through implementation of the proposed Project with mitigation.

### **Cumulative Impacts**

The proposed Project site is currently developed with uses that require similar LAPD 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 police protection services. However, any cumulative development would be subject to police protection and safety measures, as with the proposed Project, to adequately mitigate police service impacts. The related projects would be required to comply with all Police Department development review criteria. The proposed Project has a less than significant impact after mitigation and would not substantially contribute to cumulative impacts.