

4.12.4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Library Services

The City operates the Azusa Public Library (Library) located at 729 North Dalton Avenue, which is located within the specific plan area. The 18,500 square foot facility was built in 1959 and has never been expanded. Expansion and remodeling plans are in preliminary stages but necessary funding sources have not been established.¹

The Library maintains 104,829 resources² (including books, periodicals, and audio resources) in English and Spanish.³ Currently the Library does not maintain a service level ratio based on the number of resources to residents; however, based on the 2014 population of 48,385 residents, the Library currently maintains a ratio of 2.16 resources per resident, which is slightly under the state median of 2.26 resources per resident.^{4, 5} The Library maintains 16 public desktop computers and 15 laptops. Due to budget constraints, the Library staff is understaffed and is comprised of 7 full-time staff members and 17 part-time staff members.⁶ Two additional full-time staff members and 1 additional part-time staff member are needed for the library to no longer be understaffed.⁷ As two part-time employees are equivalent to one full time employee, there are approximately 15 full-time librarians and 1 librarian to 3,226 residents per librarian.

The Library offers a variety of services, including: English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction, a grant funded adult literacy program, computer classes and computer and Wi-Fi access, passport and notary services, children's programs, tutoring, and summer reading programs.

The Library's bookmobile has been in operation for over five years and provides service to City residents that do not live near the Library. In addition, the bookmobile visits four schools in the City every week.

¹ City Librarian, Reed Strege, written correspondence February 26, 2015

² City Librarian, Reed Strege, written correspondence February 24, 2015

³ City of Azusa, Library Overview, <http://www.ci.azusa.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=191>, Accessed February 24, 2015

⁴ A library service level ratio is provided in the City of Azusa 2004 General Plan, Chapter 4 Economy and Community. This ratio is out of date and no longer used. City Librarian, Reed Strege, written correspondence February 24, 2015

⁵ City Librarian, Reed Strege, written correspondence February 24, 2015

⁶ City Librarian, Reed Strege, written correspondence February 24, 2015 and February 26, 2015

⁷ City Librarian, Reed Strege, verbal communication, March 31, 2015

Residents are able to check out and return books at bookmobile events. From 2013 to 2014, the bookmobile hosted over 6,000 events at schools, parks, and community events.⁸

4.12.4.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Federal

There are no federal statutes related to library resources that would apply to the project.

State

There are no state statutes related to library resources that would apply to the project.

Local

City of Azusa General Plan

The City's General Plan is primarily a policy document that sets goals concerning the community and gives direction to growth and development. In addition, it outlines the programs that were developed to accomplish the goals and policies of the General Plan. City policies pertaining to library services are included in Chapter 4, Economy and Community, of the City's General Plan.

4.12.4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds for determining the significance of impacts related to library facilities are contained in the environmental checklist form contained in Appendix G of the most recent update of the *State CEQA Statutes and Guidelines*. Adoption and/or implementation of the Azusa TOD Specific Plan could result in significant adverse impacts to library facilities, if any of the following could occur:

Threshold LIB-1 **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, including library facilities?**

⁸ City of Azusa, Library Overview, <http://www.ci.azusa.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=191>, Accessed February 24, 2015

Impact Analysis

Threshold LIB-1 **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, including library facilities?**

Implementation of the project would include the construction of 840 multi-family units. With the addition of the multi-family units, the number of residents in the plan area is projected to grow by approximately 2,915 residents.^{9, 10} While the Library does not currently maintain a service level ratio of number of resources to residents and buildout of the project would be gradual, the population growth in the specific plan area would lead to an increase in the use of the Library facility and resources. With the addition of 2,915 residents and the current number of library resources (104,829), the number of resources per resident would decrease to 2.04 resources per resident.¹¹ In addition, the number of ratio of librarians to residents would also decrease to one librarian per 3,420 residents. However, site-specific projects are analyzed in the development approval process in the context of a range of public services, including libraries. The majority of the Library's budget is derived from the City's General Fund. Tax revenue generated from new businesses and residents associated with the development of future projects within the specific plan area would increase City revenue and contribute to the City's General Fund. Therefore, impacts to Library services and resources from implementation of the Specific Plan would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

⁹ Buildout of the Azusa TOD Specific Plan area would include 840 multi-family residential units. The average number of persons per household in the City of Azusa in 2014 was 3.47 persons (3.47*840=2,915). This population generation factor (3.47 persons/household) provides a conservative analysis as it includes all types of housing units including; single-family detached, single-family attached, multi-family units and mobile homes. Multi-family units typically have a lower number of persons per household due to a smaller size, and as all new units would be multi-family, the number presented is conservative.

¹⁰ California Department of Finance, Table 2: E-5 City/County Population and Housing Estimates, 1/1/2014, City of Azusa Persons per Household.

¹¹ $48,385+2,915 = 51,300; 104,829/51,300 = 2.04$

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

4.12.4.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Implementation of the project and related projects would create additional demands on existing Library services and resources. However, future projects associated with the Specific Plan, as well as related projects would increase the Specific Plan and surrounding area's population, number of businesses, and employment opportunities. By increasing the local population through the development of residential units, existing and future businesses would benefit from a larger customer base. These changes would increase tax revenues and would allow for additional funding for the Library. Cumulative impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.