

3.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL, AND TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section analyzes and evaluates the potential impacts of the West Village Expansion component of the 2018 LRDP on known and unknown archaeological, historical, and tribal cultural resources. These resources include districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects generally older than 50 years and considered to be important to a culture, subculture, or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons. Archaeological resources are locations where human activity has measurably altered the earth or left deposits of prehistoric or historic-era physical remains (e.g., stone tools, bottles, former roads, house foundations). Historical (or architectural) resources include standing buildings (e.g., houses, barns, outbuildings, cabins) and intact structures (e.g., dams, bridges). Tribal cultural resources include site features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places or objects, which are of cultural value to a tribe.

In response to the NOP, comments were received regarding Native American consultation. These impacts are described and addressed within this section as they pertain to implementation of the West Village Expansion component of the 2018 LRDP.

3.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Plans, policies, regulations, and laws applicable to and/or considered for the West Village Expansion component) are provided in Volume 1 of this EIR. As the regulatory setting provided in Volume 1 considers potential development, including the West Village Expansion component, within the entirety of the UC Davis campus as envisioned through the 2018 LRDP, and is incorporated here by reference. No additional regulatory setting is provided for the West Village Expansion component.

3.4.2 Environmental Setting

Section 3.4, “Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources,” in Volume 1 of this EIR, presents the cultural resource setting for the entire UC Davis campus, including the West Village Expansion site. Areas within 800 feet of Putah Creek and other natural water courses and historic sloughs have been identified as sensitive for the presence of prehistoric archaeological resources, including buried resources and human remains (Exhibit 3.4-1 in Section 3.4, “Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources,” Volume 1). While the majority of the West Village Expansion site lies outside this high sensitivity area, the southeast corner, at Hutchison Drive and Celadon Street, is located within the high sensitivity area.

In 2003, archaeologists conducted investigations for the 460-acre Neighborhood Master Plan project (which includes the West Village Expansion site), which included archival research and a pedestrian surface survey of the area. The pedestrian surface survey did not identify any cultural materials. Subsurface testing was not conducted within boundaries of the 460-acre area because of its size, the preliminary nature (e.g., building footprints have not yet been determined) of the development plans, the negative results of surface survey, and the negative findings for other archaeological investigations in the west campus (Pacific Legacy 2003). Additional archaeological monitoring was conducted during the construction of the existing West Village, between September 2009 and September 2010. No cultural materials were observed during construction (Pacific Legacy 2010).

There are no known archaeological or historical sites within the West Village Expansion site; however, the records search (NWIC File No.: 16-1271) identified one archaeological site immediately adjacent to the site. Site P-57-000643/CA-YOL-228 was identified in 2009 as a prehistoric midden deposit, including obsidian, basalt, burned bone, and charcoal.

The West Village Expansion component also includes a remote parking area on approximately 20 acres immediately east of Interstate 80 and adjacent to Old Davis Road. It consists of highly disturbed, former agricultural land dominated by non-native grasses and sparse trees and shrubs. Archaeological investigation of this site in 1998 consisted of both surface survey and subsurface testing. No archaeological resources were identified during these investigations. However, one archaeological site, a lithic scatter, is known to be located approximately ¼ mile to the northeast (Pacific Legacy 1998).

3.4.3 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

Refer to Section 3.4, “Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources,” in Volume 1 of this EIR for a discussion of applicable Significance Criteria.

ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

Consistent with the requirements of the 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a, the West Village Expansion component was determined to merit an intensive level of archaeological investigation, based on the anticipated extent of ground disturbance during construction, a portion of the West Village Expansion site being located in an area of high archaeological sensitivity, and the recordation of an archaeological site adjacent to the West Village Expansion site.

The impact analysis considers the known cultural resource environmental setting in county, the potential for previously undocumented resources, including human remains, and physical effects (i.e., disturbance, material alteration, demolition) to known and previously undocumented cultural and paleontological resources that could result from implementation of the proposed ordinance. The analysis is also informed by the provisions and requirements of federal, state, and local laws and regulations that apply to cultural resources.

ISSUES NOT EVALUATED FURTHER

The following impacts were identified as part of the analysis of the 2018 LRDP, and are either (1) adequately evaluated at the program level of analysis of the LRDP (Volume 1 of this EIR), or (2) not applicable to the West Village Expansion component.

Historic Resources

No structures, including potentially historic architectural resources, exist at the West Village Expansion site. An existing maintenance structure is located at the remote parking area, but would be retained in place and would not be modified as part of the West Village Expansion component. Therefore, construction of this component and operation would have no impact on historical resources, and no additional project-level analysis is necessary.

Human Remains

As discussed in Section 3.4, “Archeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources,” of Volume 1, construction and excavation activities associated with development of the West Village Expansion component could unearth previously undiscovered or unrecorded human remains, if they are present. Compliance with California Health and Safety Code Sections 7050.5 and 7052 and California Public Resources Code Section 5097 would make this impact less than significant. No additional project-level analysis is necessary.

Tribal Cultural Resources

As discussed in Section 3.4, “Archeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources,” of Volume 1, UC Davis notified the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians of the opportunity to consult under AB 52. Neither tribe responded, which has resulted in no resources identified as tribal cultural resources (TCRs), as described under AB 52. Because no resources meet the criteria for a TCR under PRC Section 21074, this impact would be less than significant. No additional project-level analysis is necessary.

PROJECT-SPECIFIC IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact 3.4-1: Impacts to unique archaeological resources.

Although the pedestrian surveys conducted for the existing West Village site and the remote parking area revealed no known archaeological sites, two sites were revealed in the archaeological records search. In addition, ground-disturbing activities could result in discovery or damage of as yet undiscovered archaeological resources as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. This would be a **potentially significant** impact.

Archaeological surveys of the Neighborhood Master Plan site in 2003 did not reveal any archaeological sites. Monitoring of ground-disturbing activities during construction of the existing West Village also did not reveal any archaeological materials. However, the records search for the 2018 LRDP (NWIC File No.: 16-1271) identified one archaeological site immediately adjacent to the West Village Expansion site.

The 1998 archaeological survey of the proposed remote parking area did not reveal any archaeological sites and the site is disturbed open space that was formerly used for agriculture. However, one archaeological site is known to be located approximately ¼ mile to the northeast.

Consistent with the recommendation of the archaeological reports prepared for the Neighborhood Master Plan project and the proposed remote parking area, and with 2018 LRDP mitigation measures, the campus shall implement 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a(1), to ensure that construction contractors are alerted to the potential for site discovery and are prepared to halt work and protect the find as needed. The campus shall implement 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a(3) to ensure that an archaeological monitoring plan for construction at the West Village Expansion site and the proposed remote parking area is prepared, and implemented during construction, in consultation between the campus and a qualified archaeologist. In the event of a find, 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a(3) also states that any archaeological resource uncovered during construction is appropriately protected, identified and assessed. If an archaeological site is determined to be a unique archaeological resource, 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1b shall also be implemented.

WVE Mitigation Measure 3.4-1: Identify and protect archaeological resources.

Implement 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a(1) and 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1a(3). If the site is determined to contain a unique archaeological resource(s), implement 2018 LRDP Mitigation Measure 3.4-1b.

Significance after Mitigation

Implementation of this mitigation measure would reduce potentially significant impacts to archaeological resources because mitigation would be developed in coordination with the appropriate federal, state, and/or local agency(ies) and tribes to avoid, move, record, or otherwise treat the resource appropriately, in accordance with pertinent laws and regulations. Therefore, the West Village Expansion component's impacts would be **less than significant**.
