

CHAPTER THREE

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES, AND AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The purpose of this chapter is to provide a discussion of the environmental and community features within the Doyle Drive Project study area. Potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures, by alternative, are also summarized. Data sources and methodology used for this analysis are briefly discussed with each resource.

Information contained in this *Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report* (DEIS/R) was extracted from environmental technical reports that were prepared specifically for this project.

A detailed listing of sources can be found in Chapter 9, References, while the respective technical reports are available from the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, Caltrans, and the Doyle Drive website (www.doyledrive.org).

3.1 General Environmental Review Process

This chapter presents results of the analysis of social, economic, and environmental issues relevant to this project. Issues were identified through an initial screening conducted by experts using generally available information about the project and its environmental setting. The initial screenings assessed the likelihood that adverse impacts could occur in any of the resource areas identified in the *California Environmental Quality Act* (CEQA), environmental checklist, or Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) *Technical Advisory 6640.8A*, which provides guidance for preparing federal environmental documents.

This chapter covers resource areas where the initial screening identified a possibility for adverse impact or where there was considered to be a high degree of public sensitivity. They are listed in **Exhibit 3-1** on the following page.

Resource areas determined to have no possibility for an adverse impact based on the initial screening are not discussed.

3.2 Human Environment

This Human Environment section examines our communities, our cultural past, and our use of land. The resources reviewed as part of the human environment analysis include: land use; parks and recreation; community impacts; cultural (historic and archeological) resources; traffic and transportation (including

pedestrian and bicycle facilities); relocation; environmental justice; and visual quality. Detailed information about these resources can be found in their corresponding technical reports which were prepared for this project.

3.2.1 Land Use and Planning

The land use resource area discussion consists of an overview of existing land uses and development within the project study area as well as a summary of relevant plans and policies.

Regulatory Setting

Both state and federal regulations govern the review and analysis of land use. These regulations are:

- *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)* – requires all Federal agencies to assess the environmental impacts of proposed projects and disclose the impacts of the project to the public in order to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment. The President’s Council on Environmental Quality was established to oversee NEPA for all Federal agencies. Following the guidelines of NEPA, this analysis has been prepared in order to document the impacts of the proposed project on the environment.
- *California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA)* – requires California public agencies to identify the significant environmental effects of their actions, and either avoid or mitigate them, where feasible. This analysis has been prepared following CEQA guidelines in order to document the potential impacts of the project on the environment.

**Exhibit 3-1
Environmental and
Community Resources**

<i>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Land Use -- Parks and Recreation -- Growth -- Community Impacts -- Relocation -- Environmental Justice -- Traffic and Transportation -- Visual and Aesthetics -- Cultural Resources
<i>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Hydrology, Water Quality, and Stormwater -- Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography -- Hazardous Waste/Materials -- Air Quality -- Noise and Vibration -- Energy
<i>BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Natural Communities -- Wetlands and other Waters of the United States -- Plant Species -- Animal Species -- Invasive Species