

4.10 MINERAL RESOURCES

This section of the EIR analyzes the potential environmental effects on mineral resources from implementation of the proposed project. Data for this section were taken from the Glendale General Plan. Full reference list entries for all cited materials are provided in Section 4.10.5 (References).

4.10.1 Environmental Setting

Mineral resources are natural occurring chemical and compounds that are formed from inorganic and organic substances. In Los Angeles County, mineral resources serve various public, commercial, scientific, and recreational purposes. Local extraction sites are valuable assets used to help facilitate the continual growth of the region and economic market. Important local mineral resources include construction materials and minerals of historical significance including precious gemstones and metals. Aggregate resources include rock, sand, and gravel; which are important for the construction and manufacturing of concrete.

4.10.2 Regulatory Framework

■ Federal

There are no existing federal regulations pertaining to mineral resources that are applicable to the proposed project.

■ State

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) (PRC Sections 2710 et seq) requires the classification of mineral resources zones within a given land in California. The Act establishes policies that reflect the need for conservation of mineral lands, by delegating specific regulations to local jurisdictions and authorities. Of particular concern is the premature loss of minerals and protection of sites threatened by future development that could preclude future mineral extraction. The lands are categorized as a MRZ-1, MRZ-2, MRZ-3 or MRZ-4 by a State Geologist.

- **MRZ-1:** Areas where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence.
- **MRZ-2:** Areas where adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present or where it is judged that a high likelihood for their presence exists.
- **MRZ-3:** Areas containing mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data.
- **MRZ-4:** Areas where available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ zone.

Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources

The renewable plan regulates the extraction of necessary oil and gas through a regulatory program, while ensuring the protection of public health and the environment in the oil and gas fields of California. The

renewable plan aims to improve statewide gas storage operations, new testing, inspection, and monitoring requirements for gas storage wells in California.

■ Regional

There are no existing regional regulations pertaining to mineral resources that are applicable to the proposed project.

■ Local

Glendale General Plan

The following Glendale General Plan outlines policies, goals and objectives located in the Open Space and Conservation Element are applicable to mineral resources.

Open Space and Conservation Element

- **Goal 6:** Preserve and protect valuable water and mineral resources.
 - **Objective 6:** Maintain current prohibition of rock, sand, gravel, and mineral extraction in designated open space areas.

4.10.3 Project Impacts and Mitigation

■ Analytic Method

The California Department of Conservation and the Glendale Open Space and Conservation Element both identify the locations where valuable mineral resources are present within or around the proposed SGCP area. Following the California Geologic Survey information and publications of SMARA allows for proper guidance and analysis of applicable mineral resources found within the city.

■ Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds of significance are based on the 2017 CEQA Guidelines Appendix G. For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the proposed project may have a significant adverse impact on mineral resources if it would do any of the following:

- Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state; or
- Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan.

■ Less Than Significant Impacts

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| Threshold | Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? |
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Impact 4.10-1 Implementation of the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. This would be a *less than significant* impact.

The Glendale General Plan Open Space and Conservation Element identifies MRZ-1 and MRZ-3 within the proposed SGCP area; the majority is classified as MRZ-3 (Figure 4.10-1). The MRZ-1 classification is located in the southeast portion of the proposed SGCP area, primarily within the Forest Lawn Memorial Park and the Adams Hill Neighborhood. The proposed land use designations for these locations are Cemetery and Single-Family Hillside. As discussed in Section 4.10.2 above, MRZ-1 are areas where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence. Areas designed as MRZ-3 contain mineral deposits whose significance cannot be evaluated from the available data (Glendale 2005).

Although the majority of the proposed SGCP area is designated as MRZ-3, the land has been developed for over 100 years. The current land uses within South Glendale currently precludes extraction of mineral resources, and implementation of the proposed SGCP would not alter mineral resource availability.

Adoption of the proposed SGCP would not result in further loss of availability of known mineral resources. Therefore, impacts associated with implementation of the proposed SGCP would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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| Threshold | Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? |
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Impact 4.10-2 Implementation of the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. This would be a *less than significant* impact.

Areas designated as MRZ-2 and MRZ-3 by the California Geological Survey Department of Conservation are locations where mineral resources are known to be present. While the proposed SGCP area contains MRZ-3 classification, the land use designations do not currently permit extraction of mineral resources. The proposed SGCP area is a developed urban area with very few undeveloped lots. Furthermore, the goals of the City’s Open Space and Conservation Element preclude mineral extraction within the City.

Adoption of the proposed SGCP would not result in the further loss of availability of known mineral resources. Therefore, impacts associated with implementation of the proposed SGCP would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

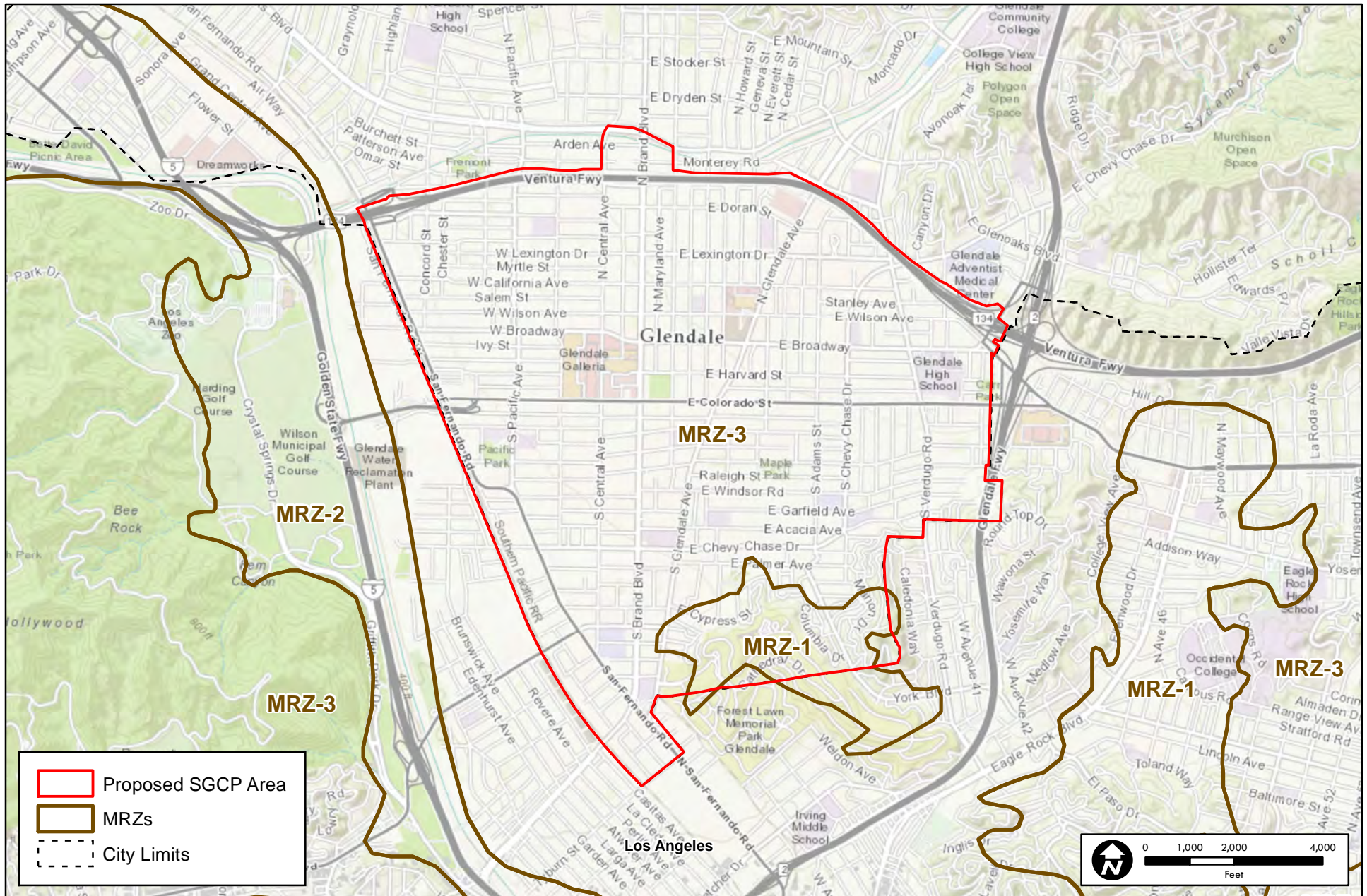


FIGURE 4.10-1
Mineral Resource Zones

100042606 South Glendale Community Plan PEIR

Sources: Esri 2017, Atkins 2017, CA Dept. of Conservation 2017

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4.10.4 Cumulative Impacts

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| Threshold | Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? |
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Construction and operation of cumulative projects identified in Figures 3-10A and 3-10B would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. Urbanization and growth in Glendale would result in land uses that are incompatible with mining and resource recovery within an urban city. The California Geological Survey Department of Conservation has classified land in proposed SGCP area as MRZ-1 and MRZ-3. As discussed in Section 4.10.2 above, MRZ-1 are areas where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence. Areas designed as MRZ-3 contain mineral deposits whose significance cannot be evaluated from the available data. Although the majority of the proposed SGCP area is designated MRZ-3, historical growth within the City has resulted in a loss of available mineral resources due to the level of development within City boundaries. Therefore, the proposed project in combination with other cumulative impacts would not result in the loss of available mineral resources and would be considered less than significant.

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| Threshold | Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? |
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Urbanization and growth in the proposed SGCP area has resulted in land uses that are incompatible with mineral resource recovery. Rapid growth in the early 20th century in addition to current land use zoning have resulted in a loss of mineral resource availability due to early urban development. Current and proposed land uses are incompatible with the extraction of mineral resources. It is reasonably foreseeable that other cumulative projects within the City would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources, due primarily to the fact that few if any vacant lots still remain. Therefore, cumulative projects would result in a less than significant impact to mineral resource recovery. The proposed project in combination with other cumulative would have a less than significant impact.

4.10.5 References

City of Glendale (Glendale). 2005. Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan. Planning Division. Online URL: <http://www.glendaleca.gov/government/departments/community-development/planning-division/city-wide-plans/open-space-and-conservation-element>

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