

## 2.15 Public Services

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 2.15.1 Environmental Setting

#### 2.15.1.1 Existing Conditions

##### Fire Protection

The Oakland Fire Department (OFD) is the agency responsible for preventing and suppressing fires in Oakland. The OFD employs approximately 500 sworn full-time fire fighters. Combined daily staffing at all the city’s fire stations totals three battalion chiefs, 32 officers, 25 fire engineers, and 75 firefighters over three daily shifts. The OFD operates 25 fires stations throughout the city. OFD’s fleet of equipment includes 25 type-1 engines, four type-3 engines seven aerial ladders, eight brush patrols, a fireboat, a heavy-rescue vehicle, two foam units, six airport rescue rigs, and four hose tenders. The OFD aims to provide emergency service within seven minutes of notification 90 percent of the time. Emergency services can be provided in that time-frame to areas located within 1.5 miles of a fire station (City of Oakland 2012). The OFD has an interagency mutual-aid agreement with the City of Emeryville and other adjoining jurisdictions for cooperative response to fires (City of Oakland 2012).

Three fire stations are within a 1.5-mile radius of the Project area. The OFD station No. 3 is located at 1445 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, approximately 0.23 mile south of the Project. OFD station No. 5 is located approximately 0.73 mile northwest of the Project area at 934 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland. The City of Emeryville’s Alameda County Fire Station 34 is located approximately 1.3 miles north of the Project area (City of Emeryville 2014). The Project area is not within a designated very high fire hazard severity zone as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 2008).

##### Police Protection

The City of Oakland is divided into five areas for police protection. The linear Project area extends through Area 1 (City of Oakland 2020).

The Oakland Police Department Bureau of Field Operations (BFO) personnel provide day-to-day police services that include response to emergency and non-emergency calls for service and critical incidents, problem solving and crime-fighting efforts). The BFO is divided into two units, BFO 1 and BFO 2. BFO 1 covers Areas 1, 2, and 3 and neighborhood services units (beats 1-22). BFO 2 covers all other areas of the city. (Oakland Police Department 2018a)

In 2018, the BFO had 557 sworn police officers and 87 civilian professional staff members (Oakland Police Department 2018b). In 2018, Area 1 had one captain, 90 authorized officers, 17 authorized sergeants, and two authorized lieutenant officers.

The Oakland Police Department does not have a full-time police bicycle patrol unit. However, there are officers who conduct bicycle patrols as a collateral duty. The officers who are assigned to the downtown area (one sergeant and three officers) as part of the Foot Patrol Unit use bicycles half the time and walk half the time to patrol their areas. Currently, they do not patrol the recently constructed Bay Bridge Trail, recreational areas near the Bay Bridge, or the Project area. In addition, the Department has trained many of their Community Resource Officers (currently 35) to conduct bicycle patrol in different geographic areas throughout the City. (Allison pers. comm.).

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) may periodically patrol the Link with the Oakland Police Department. The CHP works to reduce the number of collisions and fatalities on California's roads and highways and provides programs that promote safety and educate the public. The nearest CHP office to the Project site is less than one mile away at 3601 Telegraph Avenue. The Oakland CHP office services Oakland, Berkeley, Piedmont, Emeryville, Albany, El Cerrito, and Richmond (CHP 2021).

## Schools

The Oakland Unified School District is responsible for providing public education for grades K–12 in the City of Oakland. There are five schools within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. These five schools are PLACE at Prescott located approximately 0.53 mile southwest of the Project area, St. Martin de Porres school located 0.48 mile south of the Project area, Cole Elementary school located approximately 0.41 mile south of the Project area, Ralph J. Bunche High School located approximately 0.17 mile east of the Project area, and McClymonds High School located approximately 0.40 mile east of the Project area.

## Parks

The Oakland Parks and Recreation Department manages approximately 2,500 acres of open space, including 100 parks, five swimming pools, 53 athletic fields, three golf courses, 59 outdoor tennis courts, seven community gardens, and 25 recreation community interpretive centers (City of Oakland 2014d).

There are 13 parks in the vicinity (within 0.5 mile) of the Project area. These parks are John Judge Sutter Regional Shoreline, 14<sup>th</sup> Street Pocket Park, Crescent Park, Cypress Freeway Memorial Park, De Fremery Playground, Fitzgerald Park, Lowell Park, McClymonds Mini Park, Poplar Playground, Raimondi Park, Union Plaza Park, Wade Johnson Park, and Willow Street Mini Park.

The closest park is Raimondi Park, which is located adjacent to the Project area on the south side of 20<sup>th</sup> Street, between Wood Street and Campbell Street. Raimondi Park has a playground and is used for active recreation, such as baseball and football activities. Although not a designated park, the Mandela Parkway median is designated open space extending 1.25 miles, between 32<sup>nd</sup> Street on the north to 8<sup>th</sup> Street on the south. The regional Bay Trail extends along Mandela Parkway.

## Other Public Facilities

The Project alignment connects with existing segments of the regional Bay Trail on both the east and west ends. Refer to Section 2.16, *Recreation*.

There are no other public facilities (e.g., community centers, libraries) within or adjacent to the Project area. No other public services would be affected by the Project.

### 2.15.1.2 Regulatory Setting

#### Federal and State

There are no federal and State policies relevant to the public services issues addressed in this section.

#### Regional and Local

##### City of Oakland General Plan Safety Element

The City of Oakland General Plan Safety Element (City of Oakland 2012) sets forth policy and goals associated with safety. The City's Safety Element goals promote preparedness to respond to and recover from disasters and emergencies and reducing the city's rate of violent crime.

## 2.15.2 Discussion of Potential Impacts

### a. The Project would result in a less-than-significant impact on fire protection and police protection services, and no impact on schools, parks, and other public facilities.

The Project would not increase the population in the Project area such that construction of new public facilities or alteration to existing public facilities would be required. The Project would not increase the demand for schools or parks because it would not result in new housing or otherwise introduce a new permanent population to the area. There would be no impact on schools.

Project construction would occur on 20<sup>th</sup> Street, adjacent to Raimondi Park. This could temporarily disrupt access to the park via 20<sup>th</sup> Street; however, the main entrance to the park is on 19<sup>th</sup> Street, which is easily accessed via the other surrounding streets (Wood Street and Campbell Street). Therefore, the impact would be less than significant. Project construction would also occur on Willow Street, adjacent to Willow Street Mini Park. This could temporarily disrupt access to the park via Willow Street. However, the park is also easily accessed from 13<sup>th</sup> Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

The Project would introduce a new recreational facility that would attract more people to visit the area for recreational purposes. An increase of recreational users in the Project area and on the Link itself would result in a slight increase in the demand for fire and police protection in the event of an emergency. As described Section 1.3, *Project Description*, the elevated portion of the Link would include fencing, and lighting would be provided along the length of the Link by existing and new streetlights. The periodic patrolling of the Link by the CHP or city police bike patrol unit would also minimize the potential increase demand for public services. Patrols of the Link would not result in a demand for new fire or police protection facilities. Therefore, the impact on public services would be less than significant.

## 2.15.3 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.