

4.9 CULTURAL RESOURCES (HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Historical/Architectural.

Historic-Cultural Monuments are designated by the City Council through the recommendation of the Cultural Heritage Commission. A list of previously documented historic monuments has been compiled for the City by Myra L. Frank and Associates. Only one significant cultural resources have been identified within the Westchester-Playa del Rey Community Plan Area (CPA). This site is the Loyola Theater, located at 8600 South Sepulveda Boulevard.

Cultural resources can be in the form of historical/architectural, archaeological or paleontological resources. Cultural resources can include buildings and other structures, monuments, places, human and animal artifacts. Historical/Architectural resources are defined as those monuments, buildings and various types of structures, including churches, bridges, and courthouses, used in the past and are famous/notable in history. Archaeological resources are defined as the material remains of an area's prehistorical (Aboriginal/Native American) or historical (European and Euro-American) activity. Remains that are 45 years of age or older are of cultural concern, although they are not necessarily of cultural significance as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Archaeological resources are fossils or assemblages of fossils which are unique, unusual, rare, uncommon, diagnostically important, and those that add to an existing body of knowledge in specific areas, or regionally.

Archaeological resources are recognized as non-renewable resources significant to our culture and are afforded protection by federal and state laws that include the CEQA and the Federal Antiquities Act of 1906.

Archaeological/Paleontological. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and survey areas in the Westchester-Playa del Rey CPU are represented in **Figure 4.9-1**. The sites and survey areas depicted on the map represent generalized locations. Disclosure of specific site locations is prohibited by law in order to protect the integrity of the archaeological site as well as the archaeological resources.

Westchester • Playa del Rey CPU Draft EIR

Los Angeles County



Figure 4.9-2

Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Resources in the Westchester • Playa del Rey Community

Not to scale

Source: "Los Angeles Citywide General Plan Framework EIR", City of Los Angeles, 1995

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Threshold of Significance

Historical/Architectural. Significant impacts to a historical structure would occur from modifications if the structure's integrity were compromised or if the original elements defining the form, style, and function of the structure were altered, or if the essential mechanisms that give the structure its unique operating characteristics were removed or allowed to decay. A significant impact may also occur if elements which contribute to its historic setting or context are removed or changed or if alterations or additions in the near vicinity contribute to significant loss of view.

Archaeological/Paleontological. Significant impacts to archaeological or paleontological properties, of either prehistoric or historical origin, would occur from any process of surface modifications which disturbs, scatters, relocates or otherwise reduces the integrity and scientific research potential of the cultural resource.

Any process of demolition grading, construction, landscaping, installation of utilities, or other modification of the surface may impair the condition and associations of structures or cultural material.

Assessment

Historical/Architectural. The proposed plan does not recommend any changes to sites that contain designated historic monuments. Neither does the plan propose any Historic Preservation Overlay Zones for the CPA.

Archaeological/Paleontological. Development resulting from the implementation of the proposed plan may cause the disturbance, of archaeological or paleontological resources, resulting in any of the following impacts:

1. The disruption of a prehistoric or historic archaeological site.
2. The uncovering of artifacts during site development.

MITIGATION POLICIES

Historical/Architectural. In addition to the programs within the proposed plan, the following shall apply:

1. Any building that is designated as a Historic Cultural Monument by the Los Angeles City Council, is a State Landmark, or is on the National Register of Historic Places, should

require a determination from the Building and Safety Department in order to allow demolition, alteration, or removal of that building.

Archaeological/Paleontological. In addition to the programs within the proposed plan, the following shall apply:

1. In the event any cultural resources or remains are encountered during the course of land modification and construction activities, the city should require the developer to halt construction and immediately consult a qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist with expertise in the area in order to assess the nature, extent and significance of any cultural materials that are encountered and to recommend appropriate mitigation measures. Said archaeologist will have the authority to terminate grading operations and mark, collect and evaluate any archaeological materials discovered during construction. Said archaeologist shall be provided a reasonable amount of time to prepare and implement additional mitigation measures in cooperation with the City of Los Angeles Building and Safety Department.

UNAVOIDABLE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACTS

Historical/Architectural. None.

Archaeological/Paleontological. None.