

## 3.11.2 Sheriff Protection Services

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### ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

#### Existing Conditions

Police protection, enforcement, and emergency services in the City of Malibu are provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) on a contract basis with the City.

#### Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

The LASD is the principal law enforcement agency for 40 contract cities, including the City of Malibu, and the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The LASD's Malibu/Lost Hills Station, located at 27050 Agoura Road in Agoura Hills, serves the City of Malibu and is approximately 10.3 miles north of the project site. This station also serves the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Westlake Village, and Hidden Hills, as well as the surrounding unincorporated areas of the County. A total of 139 sworn deputies and 38 professional staff are assigned to the Malibu/Lost Hills station.<sup>1</sup>

A total of 26 deputies are assigned to the City of Malibu and are spread over three shifts: three patrol cars monitor the area during the early morning shift, six patrol cars and two motorcycle units patrol the area during the day shift, and six patrol cars make-up the night shift.<sup>2</sup> Beginning in June and continuing until Labor Day additional sworn officers patrol the coastal region of the City. Eight sheriff deputies, one sergeant, and one lieutenant police the beaches and respond to service calls when needed.<sup>3</sup> In 2012, personnel assigned to the City of Malibu responded to approximately 6,500 incidents.<sup>4</sup>

The County Sheriff's Department is also party to a mutual aid agreement with the police departments of nearby cities, and the California Highway Patrol. Pursuant to these agreements, in the event of a significant event, police responders from the other jurisdictions may be called upon to respond to emergencies within the County Sheriff Department service area. Similarly, County Sheriff Department units may be called upon to assist police personnel in other cities.

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<sup>1</sup> Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff Facility, Lieutenant Jim Arroyo, verbal communication March 26, 2013

<sup>2</sup> The night shift may include a motorcycle unit depending on the number of contract minutes available

<sup>3</sup> The additional sworn deputies patrol the beaches located in the City of Malibu during the weekends in the month of June. Starting on July 4<sup>th</sup> and continuing until Labor Day the additional deputies are present everyday (weekdays and weekends) due to the influx in population during the summer months.

<sup>4</sup> Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff Facility, Lieutenant Jim Arroyo, verbal communication March 26, 2013

Unlike fire protection services, police units are often in a mobile state; hence, the actual distance between a headquarters facility and the project site is often of little relevance in responding to emergencies. Instead, the number of officers out on the street is more directly related to the realized response time. Response time is defined as the total time from when a call is dispatched until the time that a police unit arrives to the scene. Calls for police assistance are prioritized based on the nature of the call. As shown in **Table 3.11.2-1, LASD Average Response Times within the City of Malibu**, actual response times are faster than the Department's goals of all categories of service calls.

**Table 3.11.2-1**  
**LASD Average Response Times within the City of Malibu**

Type of Call for Service	Response Time (minutes)	
	Actual	Goal
Emergency	6.9	10
Priority	11.2	20
Routine	28.6	60

*Source: Rancho Malibu Hotel Project EIR  
Lieutenant Jim Arroyo, Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff Facility*

The crime rate, which represents the number of crimes reported, affects the anticipated projected needs for staff and equipment for the LASD within the City of Malibu. It is logical to anticipate that an area's crime rate will increase as the population, degree of activity, and opportunity for crime increases. However, because a number of other factors also contribute to the resultant crime rate such as police presence, crime prevention measures, and ongoing legislation and funding, the potential for increased crime rates is not necessarily directly proportional to increases in land use activity. **Table 3.11.2-1, Reported Crimes by Occurrence 2012 (per 100,000)**, provides City of Malibu reported crimes by occurrence for the 2012 calendar year.

### California Highway Patrol

The primary responsibility of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is to patrol State Highways and County roadways in the previously identified service area, enforce traffic regulations, respond to traffic accidents, and provide service and assistance for disabled vehicles. The CHP also provides assistance to all law enforcement agencies under emergency conditions. The CHP Southern Division maintains jurisdiction of area highways surrounding the City. The Southern Division maintains 10 area offices including the West Valley Office located at 5825 De Soto Avenue in Woodland Hills, 1,123 uniformed

Officers, and 359 non-uniformed personnel.<sup>5</sup> The nearest CHP office is located in Woodland Hills approximately 18.1 miles north of the project site.

**Table 3.11.2-2  
Reported Crimes by Occurrence 2012 (per 100,000)**

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes
Murders	0
Forcible Rape	4
Robbery	5
Assault	6
Burglary	78
Theft	232
Auto Theft	19
Arson	0
<b>Total Part 1 Crimes in the City of Malibu</b>	<b>344</b>

Source: City-data.com, <http://www.city-data.com/crime/crime-Malibu-California.html>, March 26, 2014

## REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

### Federal

There are no federal statutes related to police services that would apply to the proposed project.

### State

There are no federal statutes related to police services that would apply to the proposed project.

### Local

#### *City of Malibu General Plan*

The City's General Plan is primarily a policy document that sets goals concerning the community and gives direction to growth and development. In addition, it outlines the programs that were developed to accomplish the goals and policies of the General Plan. The Plan's Health and Safety Elements include policies that are applicable to sheriff and emergency services including cooperation between local agencies to achieve efficient and prompt responses to emergencies which require no outside help and coordinate efficient utilization of emergency assistance provided by neighboring communities and

<sup>5</sup> California Highway Patrol, Southern Division, Quick Facts

county agencies under mutual-aid response. The Safety Element includes the following goals and policies as well as implementation measures pertaining to the proposed project and sheriff resources:

- S Objective 2.1:** A comprehensive plan for response to all levels of emergency situations.
- S Policy 2.1.1:** The City shall cooperate to achieve efficient and prompt response by local agencies to those emergencies, which require no outside help.
- S Policy 2.1.2:** The City shall coordinate efficient utilization of emergency assistance provided by neighboring communities and county agencies under mutual-aid response.
- S Policy 2.1.3:** The City shall develop a plan to ensure that in situations of extreme emergency the community is prepared to survive until outside assistance arrives.
- S Objective 3.1:** Actively promote health and safety so that residents are exceptionally safe and healthy by national standards.
- S Policy 3.1.1:** The City shall facilitate programs so that people feel safe, and crime and violence are minimized.
- S Policy 3.1.3:** The City shall assess risks to the health and safety of citizens and visitors, and inform the public about those risks and ways to avoid them.
- S Policy 3.1.4:** The City shall encourage efforts by private organizations to enhance community health and safety.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds for determining the significance of impacts related to Sheriff services are contained in the environmental checklist form contained in Appendix G of the most recent update of the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutes and Guidelines*. Impacts related to police services are considered significant if the proposed project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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 police protection.

## Project Impacts

**Threshold 3.11.2-1 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 police protection.**

Site development and construction would normally not require services from the County Sheriff's Department, except in the cases of trespass, theft, and/or vandalism. Such activities at a construction site do not typically place undue demands on law enforcement services. Construction activity would increase traffic both on and adjacent to the project site during working hours due to commuting construction workers, trucks and other large construction vehicles that would increase traffic volumes during the AM peak hour. Slow moving construction-related traffic along local roadways may reduce optimal traffic flows and conceivably could incrementally increase response times and increase vehicle accident potential. During construction, the County Sheriff's Department would require ample access for emergency vehicles and access for Sheriff's vehicles conducting routine patrol. With adequate access, response times would not be extended and the ability of deputies to provide proactive policing and efficient crime suppression would not be diminished. Implementation of standard construction-traffic control procedures such as flagmen and signage would further reduce any potential impact. Potential construction impacts related to Sheriff's emergency access and adequacy of Sheriff's response times is considered less than significant.

Increased vehicle traffic generated at buildout of the proposed project could adversely affect the operating condition of the local roadway network. Increased traffic could slow emergency response vehicles including reduced response times based upon heavier traffic and denser transient population in the area. However, mitigation measures are provided in **Section 3.13, Transportation and Traffic**, of this EIR that would maintain operation of the local roadway network at levels that are consistent with City standards. Because measures are provided to maintain adequate traffic flow and access, impacts are not considered significant.

During project operation, the County Sheriff's Department would have the responsibility to provide sheriff protection services for the project site. It is anticipated that demands for Sheriff's services would increase above current levels upon buildout of the project due to the public's and patron's increased utilization of the site. The County Sheriff's Department anticipates reduced response times and an increase in calls for service based upon heavier traffic. The Malibu/Lost Hills station presently assigns six deputy patrol cars and two motorcycle deputies in Malibu for the daytime shift, six deputy patrol cars for

the night shift, and three deputy patrol cards for the early morning shift. The County Sheriff's Department does not anticipate the increase in calls for service to be so great as to require the permanent assignment of additional patrol cars to the City.

Potential significant impacts to Sheriff's Department protective services could be reduced with the incorporation of security features into the project design, such as the use of appropriate landscape materials and building orientation. As proposed, the Whole Foods and the Park Shopping Center Project would incorporate security features into the project design that would potentially reduce the number of calls for police protection services. Project design features such as parking area lighting would contribute to the overall safety of the project site. Implementation of project design features is ensured by project conditions of approval.

The County Sheriff's Department would also review the site design during the planning and building plan-check process with respect to lighting, landscaping, building access and visibility, street circulation, building design and defensible space. Incorporation of the Department's recommendations would further reduce the potential law enforcement and protection impacts. With the incorporation of safety design techniques into the project design, potentially significant security impacts to persons and property and calls for service to the County Sheriff's Department would be reduced to a less than significant level.

Based on the above information, implementation of the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities and/or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable response times or other performance objectives.

### ***Mitigation Measures***

No mitigation measures are required.

### ***Residual Impacts***

Impacts will be less than significant.

### **Cumulative Impacts**

As discussed above, project implementation would not result in the need for new or physically altered Sheriff services. As such, the proposed project's contribution is not cumulatively considerable in regard to adverse physical impacts. However, it is anticipated that demands for Sheriff's services in the project area would increase above current levels upon buildout of other related projects. Cumulative projects ongoing

and planned in the City would increase the demand for services from the Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's station. These projects may require the permanent assignment of additional patrol cars to Malibu and may necessitate additional deputy staffing. **Table 3.11.2-3, Cumulative Development Summary**, shows the types and amounts of growth expected to occur as a result of related projects.

**Table 3.11.2-3  
Cumulative Development Summary**

Land Use	Size/Units
Residential	97 du
Restaurant	13,004 sf
Hotel	274,936 sf
Commercial/Office	68,639 sf
Commercial/Retail	211,050 sf
Educational Facilities	60,315 sf
Fire Station	6,033 sf

Source: Overland Traffic Consultants, Inc. *Traffic Impact Analysis for Proposed Neighboring Shopping Center, (2013) Appendix H.*

As shown in **Table 3.11.2-3, Cumulative Development Summary**, related projects would add 97 new residential units in the City of Malibu. Based on the average household size for Malibu of 2.42 residents<sup>6</sup> per dwelling unit, this would result in an increase of approximately 235 residents.

Based on the related projects information, including commercial office/retail, educational, and restaurant uses, a significant impact on the current level of Sheriff's Department protection services throughout the City of Malibu could occur unless the staff and equipment at the County Sheriff's Department are increased proportionately. Increased revenues from property tax and special tax revenue from the related projects can be used to fund increases in staffing and equipment. Furthermore, all proposed projects are required to submit to the County Sheriff's Department project site designs during the planning and building plan-check process. In conformance with normal County procedures, these plans shall be reviewed by the County Sheriff's Department with respect to lighting, landscaping, building access, and visibility, street circulation, building design and defensible space. Incorporation of such reviews would avoid any significant cumulative impacts to governmental facilities. Therefore, there would be no significant impacts on Sheriff's Department staffing or equipment.

<sup>6</sup> US Census Bureau State and County Quick Facts, City of Malibu, Persons per household 2008-2010

Increased vehicle traffic generated at buildout of proposed project and the related projects could adversely affect the operating condition of the local roadway network. Increased cumulative traffic could slow sheriff response times. Mitigation measures for cumulative traffic impacts are provided in **Section 3.13, Transportation and Traffic**, of this Draft EIR. Upon implementation of these measures, no significant impacts on Sheriff's Department services would occur when compared with accepted response time criteria.

Based on the above information, implementation of proposed project and other related projects would not result in cumulatively considerable adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities and/or the 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.

### ***Mitigation Measures***

No mitigation is required.

### ***Residual Impacts***

Impacts would not be cumulatively considerable.