
ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Existing Conditions

Regional Facilities

Over 250 private waste haulers and several City governments collect solid waste in Los Angeles County. The majority of the waste is disposed of at various landfills within the County. However, some of the waste is delivered to waste-to-energy transformation facilities or to inter-modal facilities for transport to facilities outside of Los Angeles County.

Within Los Angeles County there are two primary classifications of land use disposal facilities, Class III landfills and Unclassified (Inert) landfills. Class III landfills accept all types of non-hazardous solid waste. Major Class III facilities are permitted to receive 250,000 tons or more of waste per year and minor facilities are permitted to receive less than 250,000 tons per year. Unclassified landfills accept only inert waste, including soil, concrete, asphalt, and other construction and demolition debris, as defined by California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 2554. **Figure 4.12.4-1** shows major and minor Class III, Unclassified (Inert), and Transformation Facilities in Los Angeles County.

The *Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Plan 2001 Annual Report*, prepared by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, indicates that residents and businesses in Los Angeles County disposed of approximately 13.2 million tons of solid waste in landfills in and out of Los Angeles County and at waste-to-energy facilities in 2001. Of this amount, about 9.9 million tons (75.2 percent) were disposed of at Class III landfills within Los Angeles County; about 1.1 million tons (8.3 percent) were exported to out-of-County Class III landfills; about 1.6 million tons (11.9 percent) were disposed of in Unclassified (Inert) landfills; and about 610,000 tons (4.6 percent) were disposed of at waste-to-energy facilities.¹

The estimated remaining capacity of permitted Class III landfills at the end of 2001 in Los Angeles County was approximately 86.7 million tons.² Based on the 2001 average disposal rate of 31,878 tons per day (6-days a week), excluding waste being imported to the County, remaining capacity at local

¹ County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, *Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Plan 2001 Annual Report – Part II: Siting Element Assessment*, June 2003, Appendix E-2.1.

² Ibid.

permitted Class III landfills will be at capacity in approximately 8 years. However, ultimate landfill capacity would be determined by several factors including: (1) expiration of various permits (e.g., Land Use Permits, Waste Discharge Requirements Permits, Solid Waste Facilities Permits, and air quality permits); (2) restrictions to accepting waste generated only within a landfill's particular jurisdiction and/or watershed boundary; and (3) operational constraints.

The capacities of Unclassified (Inert) landfills are affected by these same factors, but they are not affected to the same extent. The total estimated remaining capacity of Unclassified landfills at the end of 2001 in Los Angeles County was approximately 55.8 million tons.³ Based on a 2001 average disposal rate of 5,047 tons of inert waste per day (6-days per week), there is remaining capacity for approximately 35 years.

Local Facilities

In 1989, residential and non-residential uses in Glendale disposed of approximately 345,000 tons of solid waste.⁴ By 2002, residents and businesses reduced the amount of disposed solid waste by approximately 55 percent to about 192,000 tons per year.⁵ Similar to the disposal patterns Countywide, the decline can be attributed primarily to waste diversion programs, including waste reduction, recycling, and composting.

As shown in **Table 4.12.4-1**, according to 2002 data, residential and non-residential uses generated approximately 45 percent and 55 percent of disposed solid waste generated in the City of Glendale respectively.⁶ The City of Glendale Public Works Division hauled a majority of the waste followed by 72 private haulers and numerous self-haulers.

Table 4.12.4-1
2002 Waste Disposal Tonnage By Hauler and Source

	Residential	Non-Residential	Total Tons (%)
Glendale Public Works	34,439	42,092	76,531 (39.8%)
Private Haulers	27,000	33,001	60,001 (31.2%)
Self-Haul Vehicles	25,001	30,557	55,558 (29.0%)
Total	86,440	105,650	192,090
Percent of Total	45.0%	55.0%	100.0%

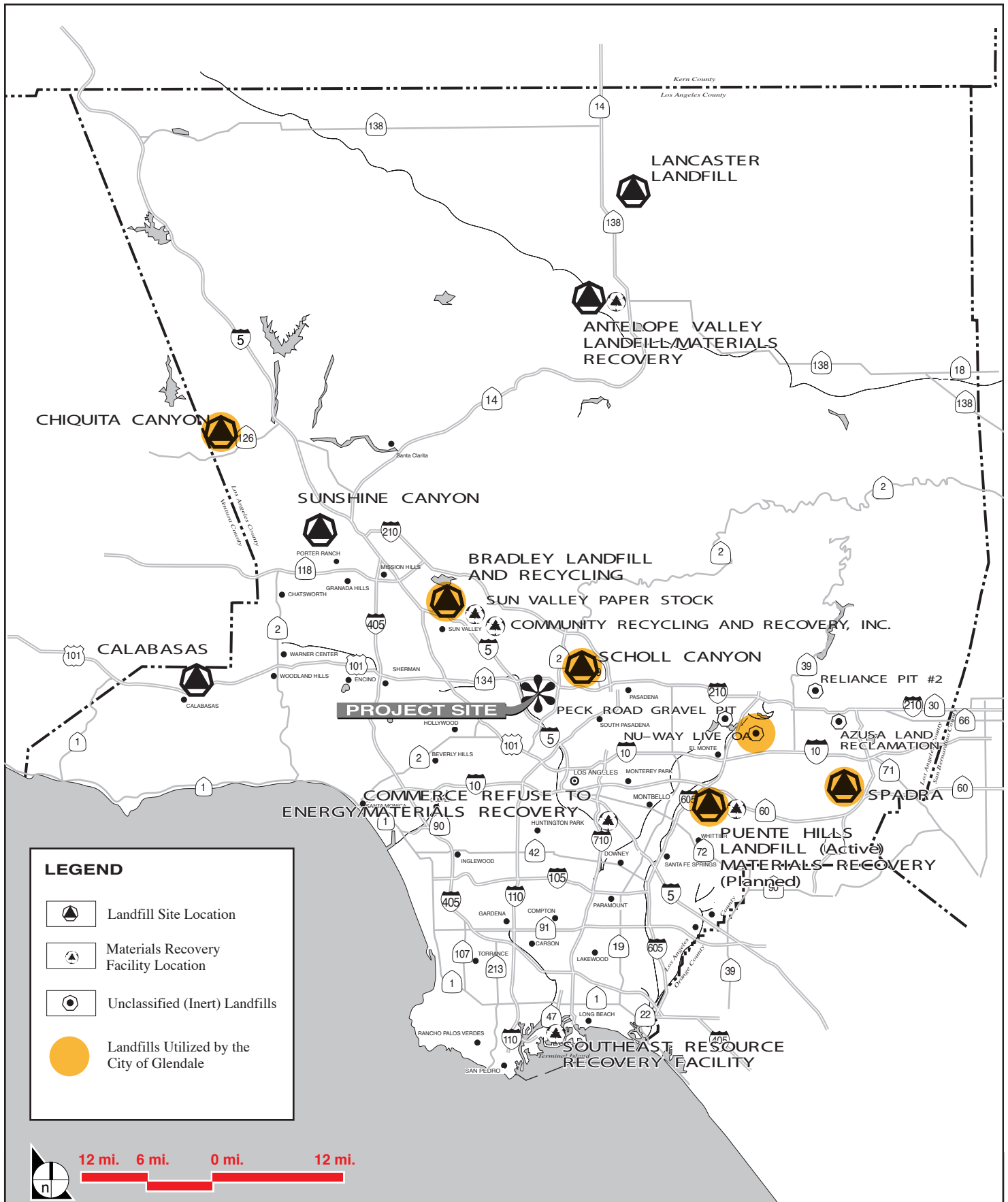
Source: City of Glendale Public Works Division, Integrated Waste Management Section, July 2003.

³ Ibid.

⁴ City of Glendale, Source Reduction and Recycling Element, June 1991, ES-2.

⁵ Written correspondence from Tom Brady, Senior Integrated Waste Planner, Glendale Public Works Division, Integrated Waste Management Section, July 2003.

⁶ Ibid.



SOURCE: Impact Sciences, Inc., November, 2002.

FIGURE 4.12.4-1

Locations of Major Los Angeles County Landfill Sites

As shown in **Table 4.12.4-2**, in 2002, the majority of the City's solid waste was disposed of at six facilities. Approximately 95 percent of the waste generated was disposed of in Class III landfills, while approximately 4 percent of the waste generated was disposed of at Nu-Way Live Oak Unclassified (Inert) landfill.⁷

Table 4.12.4-2
2002 Distribution of City of Glendale Solid Waste to Landfills

Landfill	Location	Type	Quantity Disposed (Tons)	Percentage of Solid Waste Disposed
Scholl Canyon	Glendale	Class III	135,249	70.4%
Bradley	Los Angeles	Class III	19,000	9.9%
Puente Hills	Unincorporated LA County	Class III	12,261	6.4%
Sunshine Canyon	Unincorporated LA County	Class III	8,091	4.2%
Chiquita Canyon	Unincorporated LA County	Class III	7,856	4.1%
Nu-Way Live Oak	Irwindale	Unclassified (Inert)	7,559	3.9%
Other			2,074	1.1%
Total Disposal			192,090	100.0%

Source: City of Glendale Public Works Division, Integrated Waste Management Section, July 2003.

Table 4.12.4-3 provides the annual disposal quantity, annual capacity, remaining capacity, and permit status for the six landfills that received the majority of the City's waste in 2002. As shown in **Table 4.12.4-3**, by the end of 2001, the combined remaining capacity of the six landfills was approximately 53 million tons.⁸

Table 4.12.4-3
Disposal Capacities of Primary Landfills Serving The City of Glendale (As of Jan 1, 2002)

Landfill Site	Location	Annual Permitted Capacity (million tons) ¹	Annual Disposal (million tons)	Remaining Permitted Capacity (million tons)	Remaining Capacity (Years) ²
Scholl Canyon	Glendale	1.06	0.36	8.60	23.9
Bradley	Los Angeles	3.12	2.03	1.33	0.7
Puente Hills	Near City of Industry	4.12	3.67	6.86	1.9
Sunshine Canyon	Valencia	2.06	1.64	9.72	5.9
Chiquita Canyon	Valencia	1.87	1.41	18.73	13.3
Nu-Way Live Oak	Irwindale	1.87	1.17	7.32	6.3

Source: Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan 2001 Annual Report.

¹ Based on maximum daily capacity X Operation days/week X 52 weeks per year.

² Remaining capacity based on Permitted Capacity divided by Annual Disposal.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

Over two-thirds (70.4 percent) of the total waste generated in the City in 2002 was disposed of at the Scholl Canyon Landfill, which is located at 3100 Scholl Canyon Road.⁹ This site consists of 530 acres of which Los Angeles County owns 25 acres, Southern California Edison owns 30 acres, and the remaining 475 acres are owned by the City of Glendale.¹⁰ According to City of Glendale Municipal Code Chapter 8.56, only solid waste generated by residential and non-residential uses in the Scholl Canyon Wasteshed can be disposed at the Scholl Canyon Facility. The project site is within the Scholl Canyon Wasteshed, which includes the entire City of Glendale. However, the City does permit use of the facility by other municipalities for a fee. Approximately two-thirds, or about 224,750 tons, of the solid waste disposed of at the Scholl Canyon landfill in 2002 came from outside sources. As of January 2002, this landfill had a remaining permitted capacity of 8.6 million tons or an estimated remaining life of approximately 24 years.¹¹ The City of Glendale, if needed, would have access to all the remaining capacity of the landfill by no longer accepting solid waste from other jurisdictions.

Another local facility that the City of Glendale owns is the Brand Park Landfill, which is located at 1601 W. Mountain Street in Glendale. This facility is an Unclassified (Inert) Landfill and is limited in use to City work crews and is not open to the public. As of January 1, 2001, the remaining permitted capacity of the landfill was approximately 700,000 tons for an estimated remaining life of approximately 27 years.^{12,13} The annual disposal rate at the Brand Park Facility is currently zero since all inert waste has been stockpiled for recycling.¹⁴

Project Site Generation

Solid waste generated on site is currently collected by private haulers and disposed of at the Scholl Canyon Landfill. The amount of solid waste generated by the existing uses on the project site was estimated using Solid Waste Generation factors provided by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. As indicated in **Table 4.12.4-4**, it is estimated that 704 tons of waste per year is now being generated on the project site.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Written correspondence from Jake Amar, Glendale Public Works Division, to Mark Berry, Project Manager, Glendale Redevelopment Agency, October 2003.

¹¹ County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, *Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Plan 2001 Annual Report – Part II: Siting Element Assessment*, June 2003, Appendix E-2.1.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Based on an annual permitted capacity of 26,000 tons.

¹⁴ Written correspondence from Tom Brady, Senior Integrated Waste Planner, Glendale Public Works Division, Integrated Waste Management Section, August 2003.

**Table 4.12.4-4
Existing Solid Waste Generation (Annual Tons)**

Use	Existing Floor Area (sq. ft.)	Generation Rates ¹ (lb./sq. ft./day)	Generation (lbs/day)	Annual Solid Waste (tons/year)
Office	22,240	0.006	133	24
Retail	80,960	0.046	3,724	680
Vacant	98,293	--	--	--
Total			3,857	704

Source Impact Sciences, Inc.

¹ Factors obtained from California Integrated Waste Management Board Estimated Solid Waste Generation Rates for Commercial Establishments.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

California Integrated Waste Management Act

As many of the landfills in the state are approaching capacity and the siting of new landfills becomes increasingly difficult, the need for source reduction, recycling, and composting has become readily apparent. In response to this increasing solid waste problem, in September 1989 the State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 989, known as the California Integrated Waste Management Act. This statute emphasizes conservation of natural resources through the reduction, recycling and reuse of solid waste. Assembly Bill 989 required cities and counties in the state to divert 25 percent of their solid waste stream from landfills by 1995 and 50 percent by year 2000 or face potential fines of millions of dollars per year.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act also requires that all cities conduct a Solid Waste Generation Study and prepare a Source Reduction Recycling Element. The City of Glendale prepared a Solid Waste Generation Study in 1990 that established 1989 baseline for use in measuring diversion required under Assembly Bill 939. The study measured current and projected quantities of waste that will be generated, disposed, and diverted from disposal in the City of Glendale. In addition, the City also prepared a Source Reduction Recycling Element in 1999 describing how it has attained the diversion goals established by Assembly Bill 939 through source reduction, recycling, and composting. The following describes each of the City's components of the element.

Source Reduction

The City identified five programs to reduce waste at the source: (1) in-house local government programs, such as purchasing preferences and specifications for durable and reusable products, waste evaluation and employee education, increased use of electronic mail, and low-maintenance landscaping, etc.; (2) encouraging source reduction in the private sector through technical assistance, business evaluation, education, and promoting backyard and institutional composting; (3) use of recycled materials that would require waste reduction planning through the business license process and ban of products that cannot be recycled or reused; (4) rate structure modifications; and (5) economic incentives to encourage waste reduction.

Recycling

Recycling programs include: (1) development of materials recovery facilities; (2) continuation and expansion of commercial recycling activities; (3) development of a municipal buy-back center and drop-off center; (4) expansion of the Civic Center office paper recycling program; (5) increasing the frequency of the curbside recycling program; and (6) implementation of a salvaging program at Scholl Canyon for white goods (e.g., paper), metals, and woods.

Composting

The City has developed its own yard waste composting facility with potential involvement of neighboring cities. The City is also investigating the feasibility of composting mixed solid waste. The City currently has an active backyard composting effort underway. City collected yard trimmings are not composted but are ground and used as alternative daily cover at the Scholl Canyon Landfill.

Local Regulations

Sections 30.48.190 and 30.64.120 of the Glendale Municipal Code provide the minimum requirements for trash collection areas to be developed in conjunction with any new project in the Central Business District.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Methodology

Solid waste generation resulting from construction of the Glendale Town Center was estimated based on demolition volumes and compared with available landfill capacity. Solid waste generation associated with project operation was estimated using California Integrated Waste Management Board factors by land use type. The factors are provided in pounds of solid waste generated per 1,000 square feet of space per day. The estimated existing solid waste generation was subtracted from the estimated amount of solid waste generated for the project to determine the net increase of solid waste that would be generated by the Glendale Town Center. The net increase associated with operation of the project was then compared with landfill capacity in order to evaluate potential impacts on solid waste disposal capacity.

Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds for determining the significance of impacts related to solid waste are contained in the environmental checklist form contained in Appendix G of the most recent update of the California Environmental Quality Act *Guidelines*. The *Guidelines* ask if the project would:

- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.
- Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Impact Analysis

Each applicable threshold of significance is listed below, and it is followed by analysis of the significance of any potential impacts and the identification and discussion of any design features of the project that would lessen or avoid potential impacts, as well as other measures identified which would lessen or avoid potential impacts. Finally, the significance of potential impacts after the implementation of all identified mitigation measures is presented.

Threshold: **Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.**

Impact Analysis:

Construction – Construction of the proposed project would involve site preparation activities (e.g., demolition and building) that would generate waste materials. An estimated 20,000 tons of building

material and 10,000 tons of hardscape (surface pavement and concrete), for a total of 30,000 tons, will be generated by the demolition of existing buildings and site improvements.¹⁵ In 2002, the Nu-Way Live Oak Landfill, located approximately 20 miles east of Glendale in Irwindale, accepted all inert waste generated in the City. Construction debris generated on the project site will be disposed of in the Nu-Way facility or other facilities, or ground into aggregate and utilized by the Glendale Public Works for road base. The Nu-Way Live Oak Landfill currently has capacity for approximately 7 million tons of inert waste. The one time disposal of 30,000 tons generated by the project will not exceed capacity at the facility and, therefore, the impact of the project on the Nu-Way Live Oak Landfill is less than significant.

Operation – Project implementation would result in an increase in both residential and commercial development on site. **Table 4.12.4-5** provides the projected amount of solid waste that would be generated at buildout. The total annual solid waste at buildout is projected to be 4,021 tons per year. This represents an increase of 3,317 tons per year when compared with the estimated 704 tons per year currently generated on the project site.

**Table 4.12.4-5
Projected Solid Waste Generation (Annual Tons)**

Use	Proposed Floor Area/Units	Daily Generation Rate ¹	Generation (lbs/day)	Annual Solid Waste (tons/year)
Retail	338,500 sq. ft.	0.046 (lbs./sq. ft.)	15,571	2,842
Cinema	70,000 sq. ft.	0.046 (lbs./sq. ft.) ²	3,220	588
Restaurants	66,500 sq. ft.	0.005 (lbs./sq. ft.)	333	61
Residential	338 units	8.6 (lbs./unit)	2,907	530
Total			22,031	4,021

Source Impact Sciences, Inc.

¹ Factor obtained from California Integrated Waste Management Board Estimated Solid Waste Generation Rates for Commercial and Residential Establishments.

² Retail Factor

All solid waste generated on the project site will be deposited at the Scholl Canyon Landfill, which is owned by the City of Glendale. As indicated in **Table 4.12.4-3**, the annual disposal rate at the Scholl Canyon facility is 360,000 tons per year. Combined with the additional amount generated by the proposed project, the annual disposal amount would increase to 363,317 tons per year. With a new annual disposal amount of 363,317 tons per year and a remaining capacity of 8.6 million tons, the Scholl Canyon facility could meet the needs of the City and the project for approximately 24 years.

¹⁵ Caruso Affiliated Holdings, November 2003.

If, for some reason, Glendale must dispose of waste currently being diverted to landfills outside of the City, the Scholl Canyon facility would still have sufficient capacity to serve the City and the project site. As indicated in **Table 4.12.4-2**, approximately 57,000 tons per year of waste generated annually in Glendale is presently being disposed of at five other Los Angeles County landfills. If the amount diverted from the City was combined with the amount currently disposed of in the Scholl Canyon Facility and the additional amount generated by the project was added to that amount, the annual disposal amount would increase to 420,317 tons per year. With a new annual disposal amount of 420,317 tons per year, the Scholl Canyon facility could meet the entire demand of the City and the proposed project for approximately 20 years.

Given these findings, the Scholl Canyon facility would have sufficient capacity to continue to accommodate the demand for Class III disposal facilities generated by the project site. As such, the increase in solid waste generation associated with the operation of the proposed Glendale Town Center would not exacerbate landfill capacity shortages in the region to the point of altering the projected timeline of any landfill to reach capacity. Therefore, the impact of the project on permitted landfill capacity is less than significant.

Project Design Features: None are required.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Threshold: Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Impact Analysis: As part of the proposed project, the Applicant would implement a waste diversion program in an effort help the City meet its waste diversion goal of 50 percent as mandated by Assembly Bill 939. In addition, the proposed project would enclose trash collection areas. No federal statutes apply to the project site. Therefore, the impact of the proposed project on compliance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations is less than significant.

Project Design Features: The following are project design features that are required by the City of Glendale. These features would further reduce the impact of the proposed project on compliance with applicable state and local solid waste statutes and regulations.

PDF 4.12.4-1(a) The proposed project will be required to implement a waste diversion program aimed at reducing the amount of solid waste disposed of in landfills. Examples of waste diversion

efforts include recycling programs for cardboard boxes, paper, aluminum cans, and bottles through the provision of recycling areas within garbage disposal areas.

PDF 4.12.4-1(b) Project-generated refuse will be disposed into appropriate trash collection containers, which would be covered and enclosed as required by the City of Glendale.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Cumulative Impacts

The following cumulative analysis evaluates the impact of the proposed project and Citywide Projects on solid waste in the City of Glendale. Each applicable threshold is listed below in bold, and it is followed by an analysis of the cumulative impact of the proposed project and Citywide Projects and their potential significance.

Threshold: Not be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

Impact Analysis: As shown in **Table 4.12.4-6**, development of Citywide Projects would generate 5,083 tons of solid waste per year. Combined, the additional amount of solid waster per year generated by the proposed Glendale Town Center and the amount generated by Citywide Projects would result in an overall generation of 8,400 tons of solid waste per year.

Table 4.12.4-6
Projected Solid Waste Generation of Citywide Projects
(annual tons)

Use	Area/Size	Factor	Rate	Generation (lbs./day)	Annual Solid Waste (tons/year)
Hotel	277 rooms	4.0	lbs./room/day	1,108	202
Office	989,455 sq. ft.	0.006	lbs./sq. ft./day	5,937	1,084
Retail	281,524 sq. ft.	0.046	lbs./sq. ft./day	12,950	2,363
Industrial	15,060 sq. ft.	0.006	lbs./sq. ft./day	90	16
Hospital	125,671 sq. ft.	0.007 ¹	lbs./sq. ft./day	880	161
Residential	801 units	8.6	lbs./unit/day	6,889	1,257
Total				27,854	5,083

Source Impact Sciences, Inc.

¹ Institutional Factor

The Scholl Canyon landfill has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional amount of solid waste generated by the proposed project and the amount generated by Citywide Projects. As described above, the annual disposal rate at the Scholl Canyon facility is 360,000 tons per year. Combined with the additional amount generated by the proposed project and the amount generated by Citywide Projects, the annual disposal rate would increase to 368,400 tons per year. With a new annual disposal rate of 368,400 tons per year and a remaining capacity of 8.6 million tons, the Scholl Canyon facility could meet the needs of the proposed project and Citywide Projects for approximately 23 years.

If the Scholl Canyon landfill had to accept waste currently diverted to other landfills outside the City for some reason, it would still be able to accommodate additional solid waste generated by the project and the amount generated by Citywide Projects. As discussed above, 57,000 tons of waste generated in Glendale per year is presently being disposed of at five other Los Angeles County landfills. Combined with the increase generated by the proposed Glendale Town Center, the amount generated by Citywide Projects, and the amount currently disposed of in the landfill; the new annual rate would increase to 425,400 tons per year. With a new annual disposal rate of 425,400 tons per year, the Scholl Canyon facility could meet the entire demand of the City, the proposed project and Citywide Projects for approximately 20 years.

However, demand placed on the Scholl Canyon landfill by the proposed project and Citywide Projects will result in less capacity available for solid waste generated by other municipalities. Approximately two-thirds of the solid waste disposed of in the Scholl Canyon facility originates from outside jurisdictions. An increase in demand placed on the Scholl Canyon landfill by growth in Glendale could force these municipalities and private haulers to deposit trash in other landfills due to lack of space, higher tipping fees, etc. In addition, since Glendale owns the Scholl Canyon facility, it can restrict use by other municipalities and private haulers at any time.

Landfills in the County of Los Angeles are presently experiencing capacity shortfalls. Local municipalities and the County have indicated that existing local landfill space may reach capacity in the near future. As a result, the impact of solid waste from neighboring municipalities being diverted from the Scholl Canyon landfill to other County facilities is significant. Since all solid waste generated by the proposed project will be disposed of at the Scholl Canyon facility, which has adequate capacity, the project's contribution to this impact is not cumulatively considerable.

Project Design Features: None are required.

Level of Significance: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Threshold: Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Impact Analysis: As with the proposed project, Citywide Projects will be required to implement waste diversion programs in an effort to help the City meet its goal of reducing the amount of solid waste generated by 50 percent. In addition, Citywide Projects are also required to comply with applicable municipal codes. As a result, the cumulative impact of the proposed project and Citywide Projects regarding compliance with applicable state and local solid waste statutes and regulations is less than significant.

Project Design Features: None are required.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.