

4.20

GROWTH INDUCING



CEQA requires a consideration of a project's capacity to induce growth. Growth inducement would occur if the amount of population or employment growth projected to occur as a result of a project would exceed the planned levels of local governments. Increased development and growth in an area are dependent on a variety of factors, including real estate market conditions, employment and other opportunities, availability of developable land, and availability of infrastructure, water, and power resources.

The BART Extension Project would not induce unplanned growth in the study area. The Project would support the regional transportation network. The Project is consistent with the General Plans of the cities of Milpitas, San Jose, and Santa Clara. These cities have

planned or are planning high-density transit oriented development around the station locations. While the Project may affect the timing of development, even this may not change substantially recognizing the long planning and construction schedule. The FEIR identified an opening date of 2015. The current schedule is for opening in 2016. Since the stations are not planned to open for at least 9 years, development consistent with local general plans is more likely dependent upon economic conditions than BART station opening dates.

