

4.6.2.7 Alternative 7b

There are no parklands, wildlife refuges, or recreation areas within the Alternative 7b bandwidth or 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area. Approximately 2,159 m (7,084 ft) of trails would intersect the bandwidth of Alternative 7b. The trails are comprised of Class I Bike paths, regional trails, and community trails.

4.6.2.8 Alternative H

The Alta Murrieta Sports Park, Barratt Park, Meadowridge Park, and Rancho Acacias Park in the City of Murrieta are located outside of the Alternative H bandwidth but within 0.4 km (0.25 mi) of the alternative. There is also one elementary school within the buffer area. Although these facilities will not directly impact these parks, there is the potential for adverse noise, air quality, and visual impacts as a result of proximity to the future transportation project. Approximately 3,949 m (12,958 ft) of trails would intersect the bandwidth of Alternative H. The trails are comprised of Class I bike paths, regional trails, and community trails.

4.6.2.9 Conclusion

There are no existing parks or schools within the bandwidths of any of the WT alternative bandwidths. There are seven parks and one public school within the 0.4 km (0.25 mi) buffer area for Alternative 5a, two parks and one school in the buffer area (outside of the bandwidth) for Alternative 5b, and four parks and one school in the buffer area for Alternative H. There are no parks and schools in the buffer areas for Alternatives 1, 3, 7a, and 7b.

Every alternative in the WT Corridor would intersect or parallel planned recreational trails. Alternative 7a would potentially affect the least amount of trails (1,384 m) and Alternative 5b the greatest amount of tails (10,713 m). The off-road trails are planned facilities on public (although not always publicly accessible) and private lands. Public easements to permit the public to use these trails have not yet been recorded. Alternative 5b is the only alternative that would potentially affect a wildlife refuge, given its proximity to the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve.

4.6.3 Potential Mitigation Measures to Be Considered in Tier 2

The new Riverside County General Plan (April, 2002) discourages the displacement of recreational resources and requires that any unavoidable displacement be mitigated through a form of replacement as described in the policy below:

OS 20.1 Discourage the absorption of dedicated park lands by non-recreational uses, public or private. Where absorption is unavoidable, replace park lands that are absorbed by other uses with similar or improved facilities and programs.

If a full displacement of a recreational area is required as a result of the selection and implementation of a WT Corridor alternative, replacement sites for displaced