

IV.A AESTHETICS AND VISUAL RESOURCES

Aesthetics, views, shading and nighttime illumination are related aspects of the visual environment. Aesthetics impacts are generally dependent on the degree to which a project would introduce features that contrast with or complement the existing image or character of an area. View impacts are evaluated in terms of project-related changes in visual access from public or otherwise designated vantage points, or scenic highways, to specific focal points or panoramic vistas (i.e., partial or complete obstruction of that access). The aesthetic and view impacts of the Proposed Project are discussed in **Section IV.A.1, Aesthetics and Views**.

Shading impacts are assessed by determining the effects of shadows cast by existing or proposed buildings on off-site, shade-sensitive land uses. The Proposed Project's potential to shade off-site land uses is evaluated in **Section IV.A.2, Shading**.

Nighttime illumination addresses the effects of new project-related sources of illumination on ambient nighttime light levels and on specific off-site light- and glare-sensitive uses. Existing sources of nighttime illumination and the Project's potential to introduce new outdoor lighting are discussed in **Section IV.A.3, Light and Glare**.

Each section includes an introduction and discussion of the regulatory framework, existing environmental conditions, environmental impacts, project design features and mitigation measures, level of impacts after mitigation, and cumulative impacts associated with implementation of the Proposed Project.