

### 3.11 SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

This section describes the existing physical affected environment and regulatory framework related to population, housing, employment, income, and ethnicity, and discusses the potential effects of the EIS Alternatives related to socioeconomics. In addition to general socioeconomic information, this section includes discussions about environmental justice and risks to children’s health and safety.

#### 3.11.1 Affected Environment

This section presents regional and local demographic and economic information as it relates to the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus and the Mission Bay area. The information relating to population, housing, and employment for the region and local jurisdiction (City and County of San Francisco) is derived from the 2010 U.S. Census, which is the most recent comprehensive source of data, as well as projections by the California Department of Finance (DOF) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). In addition, information related to minority, low-income, and low-English-language-proficiency populations within 0.25 mile of the project site is derived from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-year estimates (U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012).

#### Population

##### *Regional and Local*

Approximately 7,341,700 persons resided in the greater San Francisco Bay Area in 2010, an increase of 557,938 persons since 2000 (Table 3.11-1). The Bay Area is estimated to experience an increase in total population of 1,377,600 (19 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-1).

**Table 3.11-1: Population of the San Francisco Bay Area and of the City and County of San Francisco**

	2000	2010	2020	2030	Annual Average Growth	
					Previous (2000–2010)	Projected (2010–2030)
San Francisco Bay Area	6,783,762	7,341,700	8,018,000	8,719,300	55,794	68,880
City and County of San Francisco	776,733	815,358	810,000	867,100	3,863	2,587

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; DOF, 2011; ABAG, 2009

San Francisco’s population grew steadily from before the turn of the 20th century until World War II. Between 1890 and 1950, the city grew by an average of approximately 80,000 residents per decade; the Great Depression in the 1930s was the only period when the population level stagnated. During the latter half of the 20th century, San Francisco’s population experienced modest declines (1950–1980) and moderate growth (1990–2000), resulting in a population of approximately 776,000 in 2000, nearly the same as in the 1950s.

Approximately 815,358 persons resided in San Francisco in 2010, an increase of 38,625 persons since 2000 (Table 3.11-1). San Francisco is estimated to experience an increase in total population of 51,742 (6.3 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-1).

***Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus***

The existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus is located within Census Tract 9802 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010). The Campus does not have any permanent population that lives on-site, because there are no permanent housing units on the Campus. However, there is a temporary (inpatient/outpatient) population total of approximately 1,500 persons per shift per day on the Campus.

***Mission Bay Area***

The Mission Bay area encompasses Census Tracts 8909, 614, 615, 227.04, 607, 229.03, 228.02, 227.02, 226, 180, and 177 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010). Because no SFVAMC campus currently operates in the Mission Bay area, this area does not have an existing population associated with SFVAMC facilities.

**Housing**

***Regional and Local***

The greater San Francisco Bay Area had approximately 2,667,340 housing units in 2010, an increase of 201,320 units since 2000 (Table 3.11-2). The Bay Area is estimated to experience an increase in total housing units of 504,600 (19 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-2). San Francisco had approximately 358,380 housing units in 2010, an increase of 11,853 units since 2000 (Table 3.11-2). San Francisco is estimated to experience an increase in total housing of 42,320 units (12 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-2).

**Table 3.11-2: Housing Units in the San Francisco Bay Area and in the City and County of San Francisco**

	2000	2010	2020	2030	Annual Average Growth	
					Previous (2000–2010)	Projected (2010–2030)
San Francisco Bay Area	2,466,020	2,667,340	2,911,000	3,171,940	20,132	25,230
City and County of San Francisco	346,527	358,380	372,750	400,700	1,185	2,116

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; DOF, 2011; ABAG, 2009

***Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus***

Hoptel facilities at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus provide temporary overnight housing for Veterans, and the Community Living Center provides short-term care to restore Veterans to their highest levels of well-being. However, there are no long-term or permanent housing units on the existing Campus.

### ***Mission Bay Area***

Because no SFVAMC campus currently operates in the Mission Bay area, this area does not have any existing housing associated with SFVAMC facilities.

### **Employment**

#### ***Regional and Local***

The greater San Francisco Bay Area had approximately 3,475,840 jobs in 2010, a decrease of 277,620 jobs since 2000 (Table 3.11-3). The Bay Area is estimated to experience an increase in total jobs of 1,262,890 (36 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-2).

**Table 3.11-3: Employment in the San Francisco Bay Area and in the City and County of San Francisco**

	2000	2010	2020	2030	Annual Average Growth	
					Previous (2000–2010)	Projected (2010–2030)
San Francisco Bay Area	3,753,460	3,475,840	4,040,690	4,738,730	-27,762	63,145
City and County of San Francisco	642,500	568,730	647,190	748,100	-7,377	8,969

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; DOF, 2011; ABAG, 2009

In 2000, most of San Francisco had an unemployment rate of only 2–4 percent (SF Public Health, 2011). However, San Francisco had approximately 568,730 jobs in 2010, a decrease of 73,770 jobs since 2000 (Table 3.11-2). San Francisco is estimated to experience an increase in total jobs of 179,370 (32 percent) between 2010 and 2030 (Table 3.11-3).

#### ***Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus***

The existing Fort Miley Campus has a total daily-employment population of approximately 3,500 persons per day (SFVAMC, 2012). It is assumed that estimates of the daily-employment population include SFVAMC employees as well as visiting employees from the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center and other hospital-affiliated employees.

### ***Mission Bay Area***

Because no SFVAMC campus currently operates in the Mission Bay area, this area does not have any existing employment associated with SFVAMC facilities.

### **Low-Income Population**

The term “low-income” is defined in accordance with Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations” (see Section 3.11.2, “Regulatory

Framework”) and agency guidance as a person with household income at or below the poverty guidelines of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. According to these guidelines, a household of four would be living under the poverty line if its 2012 income were \$23,050 or less (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2012). For purposes of this analysis, data for census tracts within 0.25 mile of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus and potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus were compared to the San Francisco Countywide (Countywide) figures. Countywide figures include data for the entire City and County of San Francisco.

### ***Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Area***

Table 3.11-4 shows the population living below the poverty level by census tract within 0.25 mile of the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. Based on 2008–2012 American Community Survey estimates (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012), the percentage of households living below the poverty level in the City and County of San Francisco was 13 percent. All four census tracts within 0.25 mile of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus (i.e., the study area) have a percentage of the population living under the poverty line that is not “meaningfully greater” than the percentage for the City and County of San Francisco. As defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (1997), “meaningfully greater” is assumed to be more than 10 percentage points than the Countywide percentages of minority or low-income populations. Census Tract 9802 has the highest percentage of the population living below the poverty line at 16 percent, which is 3 percent greater than the Countywide figure.

**Table 3.11-4: Population Living Below the Poverty Line, by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, 2008–2012**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Population Below the Poverty Line (%)</b>
Census Tract 478.02	6%
Census Tract 479.01	5%
Census Tract 479.02	12%
Census Tract 9802	16%
City and County of San Francisco	13%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

### ***Mission Bay Area***

Three census tracts in the vicinity of the Mission Bay area have a percentage of households living below the poverty line at least 10 percentage points higher than the Countywide average (Table 3.11-5). In Census Tracts 178.02, 178.01, and 179.02, 24 percent, 30 percent, and 37 percent of the population, respectively, live below the poverty line.

**Table 3.11-5: Population Living Below the Poverty Line, by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Potential New SFVAMC Mission Bay Area Campus, 2008–2012**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Population Below the Poverty Line (%)</b>
Census Tract 9809	13%
Census Tract 614	17%
Census Tract 615	9%
Census Tract 227.04	4%
Census Tract 178.02	24%
Census Tract 178.01	30%
Census Tract 607	11%
Census Tract 251	8%
Census Tract 229.03	18%
Census Tract 229.02	18%
Census Tract 228.02	19%
Census Tract 228.03	12%
Census Tract 228.01	14%
Census Tract 227.02	5%
Census Tract 226	3%
Census Tract 180	18%
Census Tract 179.02	37%
Census Tract 177	11%
City and County of San Francisco	13%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

### Minority Population

As defined in Executive Order 12898 and subsequent agency guidance, the term “minority” includes any individual who is Native American or Native Alaskan, Asian or Pacific Islander (including Native Hawaiian), Black/African American (not of Hispanic origin), or Hispanic/Latino.

### *Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Area*

Table 3.11-6 shows the percentage of minority populations by census tract in the study area. Three census tracts adjacent to the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus have minority populations greater than 50 percent.

**Table 3.11-6: Percentage of Minorities by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, 2010**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Minority (%)</b>
Census Tract 478.02	62%
Census Tract 479.01	58%
Census Tract 479.02	56%
Census Tract 9802	33%
City and County of San Francisco	58%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010

### ***Mission Bay Area***

As shown in Table 3.11-7, 12 census tracts in the study area for the Mission Bay area have minority populations greater than 50 percent.

**Table 3.11-7: Percentage of Minorities by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Potential New SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus, 2010**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Minority (%)</b>
Census Tract 9809	47%
Census Tract 614	54%
Census Tract 615	45%
Census Tract 227.04	28%
Census Tract 178.02	53%
Census Tract 178.01	74%
Census Tract 607	55%
Census Tract 251	46%
Census Tract 229.03	69%
Census Tract 229.02	68%
Census Tract 228.02	60%
Census Tract 228.03	67%
Census Tract 228.01	61%
Census Tract 227.02	30%
Census Tract 226	31%
Census Tract 180	57%
Census Tract 179.02	73%
Census Tract 177	57%
City and County of San Francisco	58%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010

### **Low-English-Language-Proficiency Population**

Three census questions are used to capture those who speak a language other than English at home. The analysis below focuses on those who stated that they speak a language other than English at home and consider their English language proficiency to be less than “very well.”

### ***Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Area***

As shown in Table 3.11-8, no census tracts within 0.25 mile of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus have a percentage of the population with less than “very well” English language proficiency that is meaningfully greater than the Countywide average of 23 percent.

**Table 3.11-8: Percentage of Population with Less than “Very Well” English Language Proficiency by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, 2008–2012**

Geography	Less than “Very Well” (%)
Census Tract 478.02	23%
Census Tract 479.01	27%
Census Tract 479.02	25%
Census Tract 9802	22%
City and County of San Francisco	23%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

***Mission Bay Area***

Census Tracts 178.01 (56 percent) and 228.03 (35 percent) have substantially larger percentages of their populations with less than “very well” English language proficiency, compared to the Countywide average of 23 percent (Table 3.11-9). The remainder of the census tracts are split between those similar to (~17–28 percent) and those markedly less than (~0–9 percent) the Countywide average.

**Table 3.11-9: Percentage of Population with Less than “Very Well” English Language Proficiency by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Potential New Mission Bay Campus, 2008–2012**

Geography	Less than “Very Well” (%)
Census Tract 9809	0%
Census Tract 614	9%
Census Tract 615	14%
Census Tract 227.04	4%
Census Tract 178.02	14%
Census Tract 178.01	56%
Census Tract 607	22%
Census Tract 251	8%
Census Tract 229.03	28%
Census Tract 229.02	28%
Census Tract 228.02	17%
Census Tract 228.03	35%
Census Tract 228.01	18%
Census Tract 227.02	6%
Census Tract 226	4%
Census Tract 180	14%
Census Tract 179.02	8%
Census Tract 177	24%
City and County of San Francisco	23%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

## Child Population

### *Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus*

Table 3.11-10 shows the number and percentage of children by census tract within 0.25 mile of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. Two of the four census tracts in the vicinity of the existing Campus (Census Tracts 479.01 and 478.02) have populations of children equal to or greater than 13 percent. In these census tracts, the populations of children range from 14 to 17 percent of the total population.

**Table 3.11-10: Population of Children by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, 2008–2012**

Geography	Total Population	Population of Children (Ages 0-17)	Percentage Children
Census Tract 478.02	4,140	690	17%
Census Tract 479.01	6,775	921	14%
Census Tract 479.02	3,813	371	10%
Census Tract 9802	308	8	3%
City and County of San Francisco	807,755	108,353	13%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

Note: Children are defined as any person 17 years or younger.

### *Mission Bay Area*

Table 3.11-11 shows the number and percentage of children by census tract within 0.25 mile of the potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus. Nine of the 18 census tracts in the vicinity of the project boundary for the Mission Bay area have populations of children equal to or greater than 13 percent, which is the overall percentage of children in the City and County of San Francisco.

## 3.11.2 Regulatory Framework

### **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S. Code 2000d et seq., and agency implementing regulations prohibit recipients of federal financial assistance from taking actions that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, or religion. If an agency is aware that a recipient of federal funds may be taking action that is causing a racially discriminatory impact, the agency should consider using Title VI as a means to prevent or eliminate that discrimination.

### **Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations”**

Executive Order 12898 requires federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

**Table 3.11-11: Population of Children by Census Tract within 0.25 Mile of the Potential New SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus, 2008–2012**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Population of Children (Ages 0–17)</b>	<b>Percentage Children</b>
Census Tract 9809	337	0	0%
Census Tract 614	5,301	951	18%
Census Tract 615	11,083	864	8%
Census Tract 227.04	3,095	257	8%
Census Tract 178.02	3,922	279	7%
Census Tract 178.01	3,034	100	3%
Census Tract 607	8,372	652	8%
Census Tract 251	3,198	507	16%
Census Tract 229.03	2,985	400	13%
Census Tract 229.02	2,507	430	17%
Census Tract 228.02	2,072	272	13%
Census Tract 228.03	4,876	627	13%
Census Tract 228.01	4,468	729	16%
Census Tract 227.02	2,167	285	13%
Census Tract 226	1,599	136	9%
Census Tract 180	3,615	185	5%
Census Tract 179.02	2,501	367	15%
Census Tract 177	1,549	141	9%
City and County of San Francisco	807,755	108,353	13%

Note:

Children are defined as any person 17 years or younger.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012

These provisions also apply fully to programs involving Native Americans. In addition, Executive Order 12898 requires federal agencies to conduct their programs, policies, and activities in a manner that ensures that such programs, policies, and activities do not have the effect of excluding persons (including populations) from participation in, denying persons (including populations) the benefits of, or subjecting persons (including populations) to discrimination under such programs, policies, and activities because of their race, color, or national origin.

Executive Order 12898 particularly emphasizes four issues that are pertinent to the NEPA process:

1. The order requires the development of agency-specific environmental justice strategies. Thus, agencies have developed and should periodically revise their strategies that provide guidance concerning the types of programs, policies, and activities that may, or historically have, raised environmental justice concerns at the particular agency. This guidance may suggest possible approaches to addressing such concerns in the agency's NEPA analyses, as appropriate.

2. The order recognizes the importance of research, data collection, and analysis, particularly with respect to multiple and cumulative exposures to environmental hazards for low-income populations, minority populations, and Indian tribes. Thus, data on these exposure issues should be incorporated into NEPA analyses as appropriate.
3. The order provides for agencies to collect, maintain, and analyze information on patterns of subsistence consumption of fish, vegetation, or wildlife. Where an agency action may affect fish, vegetation, or wildlife, that agency action may also affect subsistence patterns of consumption and indicate the potential for disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on low-income populations, minority populations, and Indian tribes.
4. The order requires agencies to work to ensure effective public participation and access to information. Thus, in its NEPA process and through other mechanisms, each federal agency must translate crucial public documents, notices, and hearings relating to human health or the environment for the benefit of limited-English-speaking populations, wherever doing so is practicable and appropriate. In addition, each agency should work to ensure that public documents, notices, and hearings relating to human health or the environment are concise, understandable, and readily accessible to the public.

### **Executive Order 13045, “Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks”**

A growing body of scientific knowledge demonstrates that children may suffer disproportionately from environmental health risks and safety risks. These risks arise because children’s neurological, immunological, digestive, and other bodily systems are still developing; children eat more food, drink more fluids, and breathe more air in proportion to their body weight than adults; children’s size and weight may diminish their protection from standard safety features; and children’s behavior patterns may make them more susceptible to accidents because they are less able to protect themselves. Therefore, to the extent permitted by law and appropriate, Executive Order 13045 requires federal agencies to make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children. Federal agencies also must ensure that their policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks.

### **3.11.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **Significance Criteria**

A NEPA evaluation must consider the context and intensity of the environmental effects that would be caused by, or result from, the EIS Alternatives. CEQ’s national guidance suggests that federal agencies consider opportunities to reduce socioeconomic impacts caused by proposed federal actions and address these issues in their agency NEPA procedures. According to CEQ’s draft national guidance, there are two main considerations when addressing socioeconomic impacts in environmental documentation: (1) the impacts of a proposed action or alternatives on local or regional socioeconomic conditions, and (2) the environmental justice impacts of a proposed action or alternatives. Therefore, this analysis discloses both the contribution of the EIS Alternatives to socioeconomic effects and the environmental justice effects that could result from implementing the EIS Alternatives.

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An Alternative analyzed in this EIS is considered to result in an adverse impact related to socioeconomics if it would:

- result in an economic loss for affected communities or surrounding area;
- result in displacement of populations, residences, and/or businesses;
- result in impacts on the availability of housing or accommodation;
- cause the inducement of growth;
- displace or modify existing activities as a result of the nature and duration of construction and operational activities; or
- cause any diversion or temporary suspension of access associated with a proposed action.

The thresholds below were developed based on VA's status as a signatory agency for Executive Order 12898. An Alternative analyzed in this EIS is considered to result in an adverse impact related to environmental justice if it would:

- result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of a proposed agency action on low-income, minority, or low-English-language-proficiency populations;
- result in health effects, which may be measured in risks and rates, that are adverse (i.e., bodily impairment, infirmity, illness, or death) or above generally accepted norms;
- result in a risk or rate of hazard exposure by minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency populations that could result in an environmental hazard that is adverse and appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed the risk or rate to the general population or other appropriate comparison group; or
- result in cumulative or multiple adverse exposures by minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency populations that could result in environmental hazards where health effects already occur in such populations.

### **Assessment Methods**

General socioeconomic impacts resulting from a proposed action can lead to an economic loss for affected communities or the surrounding area. "Socioeconomic impacts" refer to the basic attributes and resources associated with the human environment, with particular emphasis on population, employment, and housing. Potential impacts can be related to the displacement of populations, residences, and/or businesses; effects on the availability of housing or accommodation; and the inducement of growth. Socioeconomic impacts can also stem from the nature and duration of construction and operational activities that, in turn, may lead to displacement or modification of existing activities. They can also be caused by any diversion or temporary suspension of access associated with a proposed action.

Because the EIS Alternatives would not involve adding or removing permanent housing, this analysis does not address impacts related to the availability of housing. However, daily-employment population totals for the proposed EIS Alternatives were estimated by VA and information provided in the *San Francisco Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines* was considered. The data presented in Table C-1 of the guidelines indicate that the

employee density for land uses with travel demand characteristics is similar to that of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is a factor of 276 square feet of space per employee (SF Planning, 2002). The square footage for each proposed land use was divided by the employee density value to determine the daily employment population.

“Environmental justice impacts” refer to disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of a proposed agency action on low-income, minority, or low-English-language-proficiency populations. When determining whether human health effects are disproportionately high and adverse, agencies are to consider all of the following factors to the extent practicable:

- (a) Whether the health effects, which may be measured in risks and rates, are significant or above generally accepted norms. Adverse health effects may include bodily impairment, infirmity, illness, or death.
- (b) Whether the risk or rate of hazard exposure by a minority population, low-income population, or Native American tribe to an environmental hazard is significant and appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed the risk or rate to the general population or other appropriate comparison group.
- (c) Whether health effects occur in a minority population, low-income population, or Native American tribe affected by cumulative or multiple adverse exposures from environmental hazards.

When determining whether environmental effects are disproportionately high and adverse, agencies are to consider all of the following factors to the extent practicable:

- (a) Whether there is or will be an impact on the natural or physical environment that significantly and adversely affects a minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency population. Such effects may include ecological, cultural, human health, economic, or social impacts on minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency populations when those impacts are interrelated to impacts on the natural or physical environment.
- (b) Whether environmental effects are significant and are or may be having an adverse impact on minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency populations that appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed those on the general population or other appropriate comparison group.
- (c) Whether the environmental effects occur or would occur in a minority, low-income, or low-English-language-proficiency populations affected by cumulative or multiple adverse exposures from environmental hazards.

As defined by CEQ (1997), “meaningfully greater” is assumed to be more than 10 percentage points greater than the Countywide percentage of households living below the poverty line (13 percent) and low English language proficiency (23.3 percent). Based on the 2008–2012 American Community Survey estimates (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012), census tracts that have a “meaningfully greater” percentage of the population at or below the poverty line or a “meaningfully greater” percentage of the population with less than “very well” English language proficiency compared to the City and County of San Francisco are considered environmental justice communities. In addition, environmental justice communities are identified when the minority percentage in a census block is greater than 50 percent. If any of these criteria are exceeded, an environmental justice community is present.

Based on this method of assessing what areas are considered environmental justice communities, the following are relevant environmental justice communities located within 0.25 mile of the project site (Figures 3.11-1 and 3.11-2):

- Three low-income populations are located near the potential SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus area.
  - In Census Tracts 178.02, 178.01, and 179.02, 24 percent, 30 percent, and 37 percent of the population, respectively, are living below the poverty line. Because the percentages of households in these census tracts that are living below the poverty line is at least 10 percent greater than the Countywide percentage, these census tracts have a meaningfully greater percentage of their population living under the poverty line than the Countywide average of 13 percent. Therefore, these census tracts are environmental justice communities.
- Fifteen minority populations are located near the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus and the potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus.
  - Fifteen census tracts in the study area for the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus and the potential new Mission Bay Campus have minority populations greater than 50 percent: Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, 479.02, 614, 178.02, 178.01, 607, 229.03, 229.02, 228.02, 228.03, 228.01, 180, 179.02, and 177. These census tracts are therefore considered environmental justice communities.
- Two low-English-language-proficiency populations are located near the potential SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus.
  - Census Tracts 178.01 and 228.03 have a meaningfully greater percentage of households with low English language proficiency than the City and County of San Francisco; therefore, these are environmental justice communities.

Environmental health and safety risks to children were assessed in terms of whether potential health and safety hazards would disproportionately affect children.

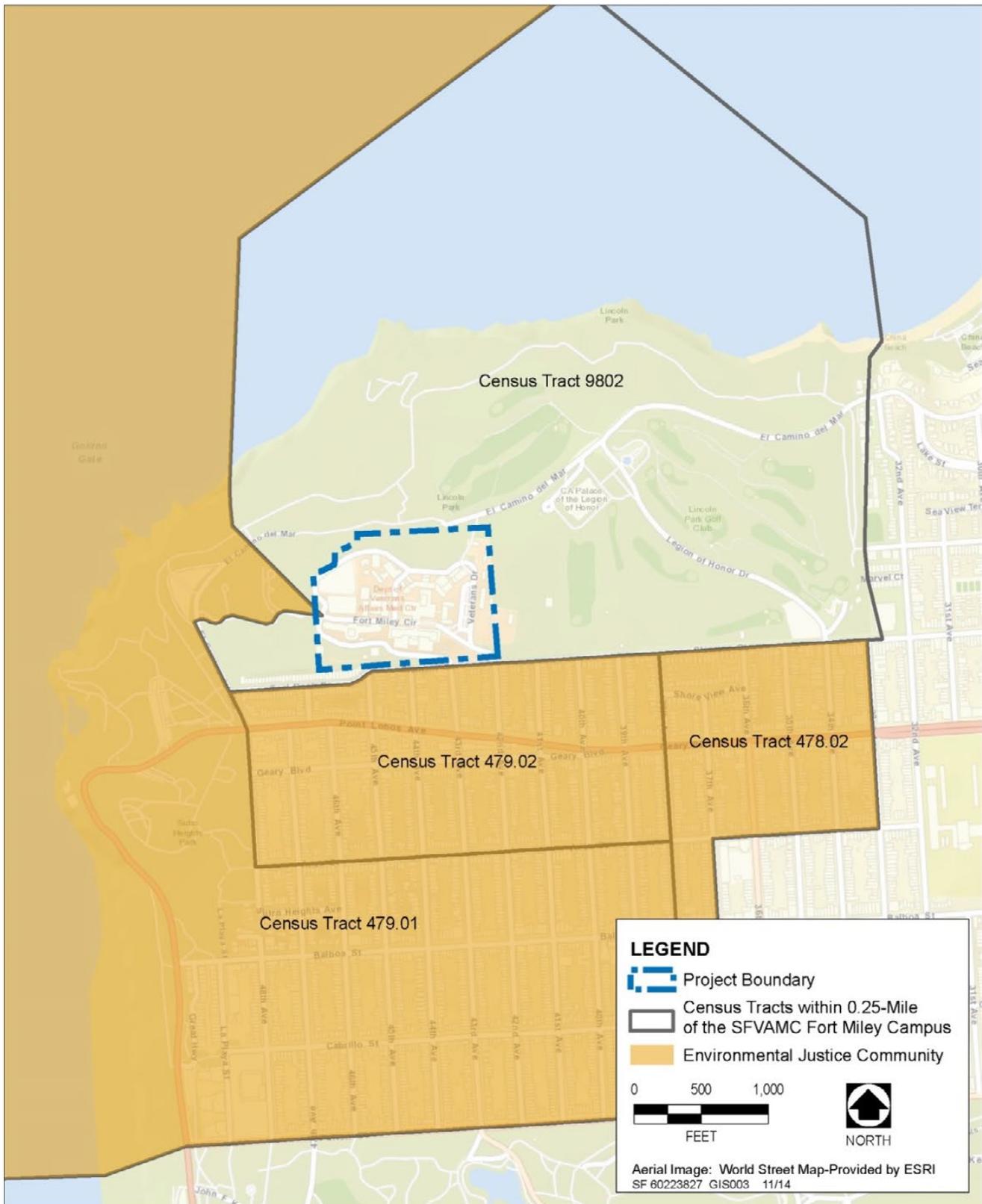
### **Alternative 1: SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Buildout Alternative**

#### ***Short-Term Projects***

##### **Construction**

##### ***Induced Employment Growth***

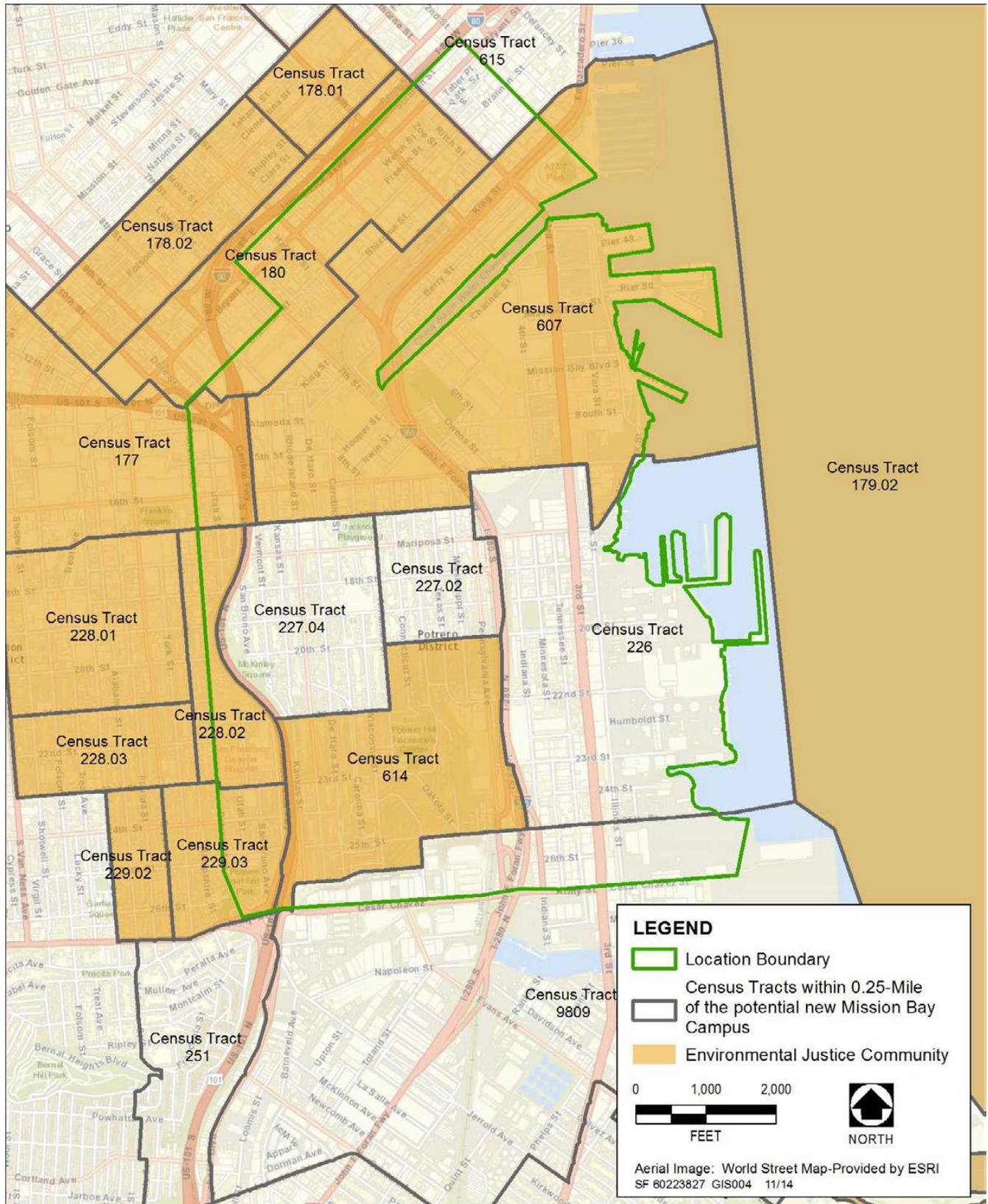
Alternative 1 short-term projects would involve 17 projects that would occur over 7 years. These projects would involve construction of 600,992 gross square feet (gsf) (384,452 of which would be net new) at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. Construction at the existing Campus is anticipated to require a temporary crew of approximately 72 persons who would be available from the local labor pool. The greater San Francisco Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability, including construction jobs, over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Therefore, the addition of approximately 72 construction jobs could be supported by the skill sets available in the Bay Area's labor pool. The impact related to induced employment growth would be beneficial.



Source: Compiled by AECOM in 2014

**Figure 3.11-1:**

**Environmental Justice Communities within 0.25 Mile of the Existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus**



Source: Compiled by AECOM in 2014

**Figure 3.11-2: Environmental Justice Communities within 0.25 Mile of the Potential New SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus**

*Displacement of Populations, Residences, and/or Businesses*

Construction of Alternative 1 short-term projects is not expected to impede residential or business activity in the community surrounding the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, because all construction activities would occur on the Campus. There would be no displacement of persons, residences, or businesses. Thus, no displacement impact would occur.

*Environmental Justice*

Three of the four census tracts located within 0.25 mile of the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus are environmental justice communities because these areas have a minority population that is greater than 50 percent. This analysis identifies potential impacts from Alternative 1 short-term projects and determines whether they would have a disproportionate adverse effect on identified environmental justice communities.

The only adverse effect identified for Alternative 1 short-term projects that would not be mitigated to a minor level in this EIS is discussed in Section 3.4, “Cultural Resources.” Construction and operation of the Alternative 1 short-term projects would result in the incremental impairment of the integrity of materials, design, feeling, and setting of the SFVAMC Historic District that would result from buildout of all phases under Alternative 1. Although no single project would result in an adverse effect on the SFVAMC Historic District on its own, the future setting of the historic district would be impaired by the combination of physical changes to individual contributing buildings, introduction of new facilities within the historic district, and changes to the character of the historic district, including densification of the Campus. This adverse effect on the SFVAMC Historic District would occur and be confined to the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus; there are no environmental justice populations on Campus or outside of the Campus in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 that would be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential construction-related air quality impacts would be mitigated to a minor level with implementation of identified mitigation measures in Section 3.2, “Air Quality.” Therefore, construction of Alternative 1 short-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

*Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Construction of Alternative 1 short-term projects would occur on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), City recreational facilities, and residential uses. Currently, children comprise 14 and 17 percent of the population in Census Tracts 479.01 and 478.02, respectively, which is greater than the Countywide average of 13 percent. However, the only facility frequently used by children (e.g., schools, childcare centers, or neighborhood parks) that is located in the immediate vicinity of the project site for Alternative 1 short-term projects is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. As discussed in Section 3.2, “Air Quality,” short-term localized emissions of air pollutants from both on-site and off-site mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. However, as discussed in Section 3.10, “Noise and Vibration,” noise and vibration impacts at the interior of the childcare center would be adverse during construction hours for Alternative 1 short-term projects. Retrofitting of Building 10 and construction of Building 32 would generate noise levels up to 60 A-weighted decibels (dBA) equivalent noise level ( $L_{eq}$ ) at the outdoor

play area, which would exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) daycare significance threshold of 55 dBA  $L_{eq}$  before mitigation.

With implementation of Mitigation Measures NOI-1 and NOI-2, VA would monitor construction noise levels and make provisions for receptors that may be exposed to noise levels exceeding EPA standards. Furthermore, Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would reduce the construction-related noise impacts at the outdoor play area of the childcare center by a minimum of 5 dBA; thus, childcare-specific impacts would be reduced to a minor level. Therefore, SFVAMC construction activities under Alternative 1 short-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children's health and safety, and this impact would be minor.

### **Operation**

#### *Induced Population, Housing, or Employment Growth*

Because no permanent housing is proposed at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, the permanent population and housing would not change with operation of Alternative 1 short-term projects. Thus, no population or housing impact would occur.

Under Alternative 1 short-term projects, the daily-employment population at the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would experience a net increase of an estimated 642 employees (Table 3.11-12). Because 3,500 employees (staff members, volunteers, and contractors) currently work at the Campus, this would represent an 18 percent net increase in employees at the Campus between 2013 and 2020. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Thus, the addition of an estimated 642 jobs that could be filled by Bay Area and/or San Francisco residents is not anticipated to result in an adverse growth-inducement impact. This impact would be beneficial, because it would increase employment.

#### *Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under "Construction" for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for operation of these projects. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential operational impacts related to air quality and hazardous materials would be minor. Therefore, operation of Alternative 1 short-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Alternative 1 short-term projects would be implemented on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As stated previously, the only facility frequently used by children (e.g., schools, childcare centers, or neighborhood parks) located in the immediate vicinity of the project site for Alternative 1 short-term projects is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Furthermore, as discussed in Section 3.2, "Air Quality," short-term localized emissions of air pollutants from both on-site and off-site mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children.

Therefore, SFVAMC operational activities under Alternative 1 short-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety. This impact would be minor.

**Table 3.11-12: Estimate of the Net New Daily-Employment Population for the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus under Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 Short-Term Projects**

Phase	ITE Land Use Category	Proposed Use	Size (net new sf)	Net New Daily-Employment Population
1.2; 1.9; 1.11; 1.13	Research & Development (760)	Bldg 41 Research; Bldg 40 Research; Bldg 43 Research/Administrative; Bldg 23 Mental Health Research Expansion	132,300	479
1.1; 1.5; 1.12	N/A	Emergency Operations Center; Bldgs 209 and 211 Parking Garage Expansion; Trailer 36	239,452	0
1.4	Motel (320)	Bldg 22 Hoptel Addition	8,700 (8 net new rooms)	7
1.6; 1.10; 1.15	Office Building (710)	Bldg 203 C-Wing Extension (Ground-Floor Patient Welcome Center); Bldg 207 Expansion (IT Support); Bldg 208 Extension—Community Living Center and National Cardiac Device Surveillance Center	23,100	84
1.7; 1.8; 1.14;	Hospital (610)	Bldg 200 Expansion; Bldg 24 Mental Health Clinic Expansion; Bldg 203 (Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit)	19,800	72
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>423,352</b>	<b>642</b>

Notes: Bldg = Building; ITE = Institute of Transportation Engineers; N/A = not applicable; sf = square feet; SFVAMC = San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The average density per employee of 276 square feet was used for the Office Building (710), Hospital (610), and Research & Development Center (760) ITE land use categories. The average density of 0.9 employee per room was used for the Motel (320) ITE land use category.

Sources: VA, 2014

***Long-Term Projects***

**Construction**

*Induced Employment Growth*

Construction of the Alternative 1 long-term project at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus is anticipated to require a temporary crew of approximately 41 persons who would be available from the local labor pool. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability, including construction jobs, over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). The addition of approximately 41 construction jobs could be supported by the skill sets available in the Bay Area’s labor pool. Therefore, the impact related to induced employment growth would be beneficial.

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*Displacement of Populations, Residences, and/or Businesses*

Construction of the Alternative 1 long-term project is not expected to impede residential or business activity in the community surrounding the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus because all construction activities would occur on the Campus. There would be no displacement of persons, residences, or businesses. Thus, no displacement impact would occur.

*Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under “Construction” for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for construction of the Alternative 1 long-term project. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential construction-related air quality impacts would be mitigated to a minor level with implementation of the mitigation measures identified in Section 3.2, “Air Quality.” Therefore, construction of the Alternative 1 long-term project would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

*Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Construction of the Alternative 1 long-term project would occur on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for Alternative 1 short-term projects, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Long-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. In addition, with implementation of Mitigation Measures NOI-1 and NOI-2 as discussed in Section 3.10, “Noise and Vibration,” construction-related noise at the on-site childcare center during the Alternative 1 long-term project would be below EPA’s daycare threshold. Therefore, SFVAMC construction activities for the Alternative 1 long-term project are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety. Therefore, SFVAMC construction activities for the Alternative 1 long-term project are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety, and this impact would be minor.

**Operation***Induced Population, Housing, or Employment Growth*

Because no permanent housing is proposed under the Alternative 1 long-term project, the permanent population and housing would not change with operation of this project. Thus, no population or housing impact would occur.

Under the Alternative 1 long-term project, the daily-employment population at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would experience a net increase of an estimated 616 employees (Table 3.11-13). A total of 3,500 employees (staff members, volunteers, and contractors) currently work at the Campus; an additional 642 employees would be working at the Campus at the completion of Alternative 1 short-term projects, for a total of 4,142 employees at the Campus in 2020. Therefore, a net increase of 616 employees under the Alternative 1 long-term project would represent a 15 percent increase in employees at the Campus between late 2020 and 2027. The

greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Thus, the addition of an estimated 616 jobs that could be filled by Bay Area and/or San Francisco residents is not anticipated to result in an adverse growth-inducement impact. This impact would be beneficial.

**Table 3.11-13: Estimate of the Daily-Employment Population at the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus under Long-Term Projects for Alternatives 1 and 2**

Phase	ITE Land Use Category	Proposed Use	Size (net new sf)	Daily-Employment Population
2.1	Hospital (610)	Bldg 213 (Clinical Addition Building)	170,000	616
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>170,000</b>	<b>616</b>

Notes: Bldg = Building; ITE = Institute of Transportation Engineers; sf = square feet; SFVAMC = San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The average density per employee of 276 square feet was used for the Hospital (610), Medical-Dental Office Building (720), Office Building (710), and Research & Development Center (760) ITE land use categories.

Sources: VA, 2014

*Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under “Construction” for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for operation of the Alternative 1 long-term project. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential operational impacts related to air quality and hazardous materials would be minor. Therefore, operation of the Alternative 1 long-term project would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

*Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

The Alternative 1 long-term project would be implemented on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for Alternative 1 short-term projects, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Long-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. Therefore, SFVAMC operational activities under the Alternative 1 long-term project are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety. This impact would be minor.

**Alternative 2: SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Buildout Alternative**

*Short-Term Projects*

Alternative 2 short-term projects at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would be the same as Alternative 1 short-term projects, with one exception. Specifically, retrofitting of the existing Buildings 1, 6, and 8 would not occur as part of Alternative 2 short-term projects (Table 2-3 and Figure 2-3), but instead would be accomplished in the long term. Alternative 2 short-term projects would involve 16 projects that would occur over 6 years.

Alternative 2 short-term projects include construction of a total of 485,445 gsf, which is 115,547 gsf less than for short-term projects under Alternative 1. Therefore, impacts of Alternative 2 short-term projects would be similar to or less than those of Alternative 1 short-term projects. Socioeconomic and environmental justice impacts would range from no impact to minor to beneficial.

### **Construction**

#### *Induced Employment Growth*

Alternative 2 short-term projects would involve construction of 485,445 gsf (384,452 of which would be net new) at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. Construction at the existing Campus is anticipated to require a temporary crew of approximately 64 persons who would be available from the local labor pool. The greater San Francisco Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability, including construction jobs, over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Therefore, the addition of approximately 64 construction jobs could be supported by the skill sets available in the Bay Area's labor pool. The impact related to induced employment growth would be beneficial.

#### *Displacement of Populations, Residences, and/or Businesses*

Construction of Alternative 2 short-term projects is not expected to impede residential or business activity in the community surrounding the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus because all construction activities would occur on the Campus. There would be no displacement of persons, residences, or businesses. Thus, no displacement impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under "Construction" for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for construction of Alternative 2 short-term projects. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential construction-related air quality impacts would be mitigated to a minor level with implementation of the mitigation measures identified in Section 3.2, "Air Quality." Therefore, construction of Alternative 2 short-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Construction of Alternative 2 short-term projects would occur on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for Alternative 1 short-term projects, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Short-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. In addition, Mitigation Measure NOI-1, discussed in Section 3.10, "Noise and Vibration," would reduce the construction-related noise impacts at the outdoor play area of the childcare center by a minimum of 5 dBA; thus, childcare-specific impacts would be reduced to minor. Therefore,

SFVAMC construction activities for Alternative 2 short-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children's health and safety. This impact would be minor.

### **Operation**

#### *Induced Population, Housing, or Employment Growth*

As under Alternative 1, no permanent housing is proposed at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus under Alternative 2 short-term projects. Therefore, the permanent population and housing would not change, and no population or housing impact would occur with operation of Alternative 2 short-term projects.

Under Alternative 2 short-term projects, the daily-employment population at the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would experience a net increase of an estimated 642 employees (Table 3.11-4). Because 3,500 employees (staff members, volunteers, and contractors) currently work at the Campus, this would represent an 18 percent net increase in employees at the Campus between 2013 and 2020. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Thus, the addition of an estimated 642 jobs that could be filled by Bay Area and/or San Francisco residents is not anticipated to result in an adverse growth-inducement impact. This impact would be beneficial.

#### *Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under "Construction" for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for operation of Alternative 2 short-term projects. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential operational impacts related to air quality and hazardous materials would be minor. Therefore, operation of Alternative 2 short-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Alternative 2 short-term projects would be implemented on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for Alternative 1 short-term projects, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Short-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. Therefore, as under Alternative 1, SFVAMC operational activities for Alternative 2 short-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children's health and safety. This impact would be minor.

### ***Long-Term Projects***

Alternative 2 long-term projects at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would be the same as the Alternative 1 long-term project, with one exception. Specifically, three additional existing buildings—Buildings

1, 6, and 8—would be retrofitted as part of Alternative 2 long-term projects (Table 2-4 and Figure 2-4). Alternative 2 long-term projects include construction of a total of 285,487 gsf, which is 115,487 gsf more than under the Alternative 1 long-term project, because Alternative 2 includes construction of Building 213 along with the seismic retrofit of Buildings 1, 6, and 8. Therefore, construction impacts of Alternative 2 long-term projects would be similar to, although slightly greater than, those of the Alternative 1 long-term project. Socioeconomic and environmental justice impacts would range from no impact to minor to beneficial.

### **Construction**

#### *Induced Employment Growth*

Construction of Alternative 2 long-term projects at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus is anticipated to require a temporary crew of approximately 45 persons who would be available from the local labor pool. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability, including construction jobs, over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). As under Alternative 1, the addition of approximately 45 construction jobs under Alternative 2 could be supported by the skill sets available in the Bay Area's labor pool. Therefore, the impact related to induced employment growth would be beneficial.

#### *Displacement of Populations, Residences, and/or Businesses*

Construction of Alternative 2 long-term projects is not expected to impede residential or business activity in the community surrounding the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus because all construction activities would occur on the Campus. As under Alternative 1, there would be no displacement of persons, residences, or businesses. Thus, no displacement impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under "Construction" for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for construction of Alternative 2 long-term projects. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential construction-related air quality impacts would be mitigated to a minor level with implementation of the mitigation measures identified in Section 3.2, "Air Quality." Therefore, construction of Alternative 2 long-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Construction of Alternative 2 long-term projects would occur on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for the Alternative 1 long-term project, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Long-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. In addition, with implementation of Mitigation Measures NOI-1

and NOI-2 as discussed in Section 3.10, “Noise and Vibration,” construction-related noise at the on-site childcare center during Alternative 2 long-term projects would be below the EPA daycare threshold. Therefore, SFVAMC construction activities under Alternative 2 long-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety. This impact would be minor.

### **Operation**

#### *Induced Population, Housing, or Employment Growth*

Because no permanent housing is proposed under Alternative 2 long-term projects, the permanent population and housing would not change. Thus, no population or housing impact would occur.

Under Alternative 2 long-term projects, the daily-employment population at the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus would experience a net increase of an estimated 616 employees (Table 3.11-13). A total of 3,500 employees (staff members, volunteers, and contractors) currently work at the Campus; an additional 642 employees would be working at the Campus at the completion of Alternative 2 short-term projects, for a total of 4,142 employees at the Campus in 2020. Therefore, a net increase of 616 employees under Alternative 2 long-term projects would represent a 15 percent increase in employees at the Campus between late 2020 and 2027. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Thus, the addition of an estimated 616 jobs that could be filled by Bay Area and/or San Francisco residents is not anticipated to result in an adverse growth-inducement impact. This impact would be beneficial.

#### *Environmental Justice*

The adverse effect related to cultural resources discussed under “Construction” for Alternative 1 short-term projects would be the same for operation of Alternative 2 long-term projects. Environmental justice populations in Census Tracts 478.02, 479.01, and 479.02 would not be directly affected in a manner that would have health effects or change exposure to hazards or hazardous materials. Potential operational impacts related to air quality and hazardous materials would be minor. Therefore, operation of Alternative 2 long-term projects would not result in disproportionate and/or adverse human health or environmental impacts on such populations. No environmental justice impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Alternative 2 long-term projects would be implemented on the existing SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus, which is primarily surrounded by the GGNRA, City recreational facilities, and residential uses. As described previously for Alternative 1 long-term projects, the only facility frequently used by children that is located in the immediate vicinity is the existing privately owned childcare center on the Campus itself. Long-term localized emissions of air pollutants from mobile sources would not adversely affect either patients or children on the Campus or off-site residents, including children. Therefore, as under Alternative 1, SFVAMC operational activities under Alternative 2 long-term projects are not anticipated to present risks to children’s health and safety. This impact would be minor.

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## **Alternative 3: SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus Plus Mission Bay Campus Alternative**

### ***Short-Term Projects***

Alternative 3 short-term projects (during both construction and operation) would be the same as short-term projects for Alternative 1 (Table 2-1 and Figure 2-1); all Alternative 3 short-term projects would be located at the SFVAMC Fort Miley Campus. These impacts would range in significance from no impact to minor to beneficial.

### ***Long-Term Projects***

Alternative 3 long-term projects would involve primarily development of ambulatory care and parking structure uses at a potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus. See Figure 2-5 for the location of the off-site portion of Alternative 3. The impact discussion below focuses primarily on the impacts that may result from construction and operation of the ambulatory care center and associated parking structure uses at the potential new Campus, as proposed as part of Alternative 3 long-term projects.

### **Construction**

#### *Induced Employment Growth*

Construction of Alternative 3 long-term projects at the potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus is anticipated to require a temporary crew of approximately 83 persons who would be available from the local labor pool, depending on the concurrent phase(s) of project construction. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability, including construction jobs, over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Therefore, the addition of a total of approximately 83 construction jobs at both campuses can be supported by the skill sets available in the Bay Area's labor pool. The impact related to induced employment growth would be beneficial.

#### *Displacement of Populations, Residences, and/or Businesses*

Construction of Alternative 3 long-term projects is not expected to impede residential or business activity in the Mission Bay area, because all construction activities are anticipated to occur at the future site of the potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus. There would be no displacement of persons, residences, or businesses. Thus, no displacement impact would occur.

#### *Environmental Justice*

Construction of Alternative 3 long-term projects would develop a potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus at an as-yet-unknown specific location. Currently, there are 18 census tracts within 0.25 mile of the potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus area, 12 of which include environmental justice communities (Table 3.11-7). Depending on where construction of the potential Campus would occur, environmental justice communities could be affected. Therefore, a project-level NEPA analysis would be required once a specific location and site plan for the potential new Campus is determined. It is anticipated that the development of the projects would take into account the context of the neighborhood and area and would address environmental justice impacts to ensure that only a minor impact would result, consistent with federal guidance.

*Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Alternative 3 long-term projects would be implemented at a potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus. However, it is unknown specifically where in the Mission Bay area the potential new Campus would be located. Thus, the proximity of the potential new Campus to facilities frequently used by children that are located in the Mission Bay area is also unknown at this time. However, a project-level NEPA analysis would be required once a specific location and site plan for the potential new Campus is determined. It is anticipated that the development of the projects would take into account the location and potential impacts to ensure that the health and safety risks to children during construction were addressed, so that the impact would be minor, as required by federal, State, and local codes and requirements.

**Operation**

*Induced Population, Housing, or Employment Growth*

Because no permanent housing is proposed under Alternative 3 long-term projects, the permanent population and housing would not change with operation of Alternative 3 long-term projects. Thus, no population or housing impact would occur.

Currently, there are no SFVAMC employees in the Mission Bay area. The greater Bay Area and the City and County of San Francisco have experienced a notable reduction in employment availability over the last decade (between 2000 and 2010). Thus, the addition of a total of 507 positions between 2023 and 2027 could be filled by Bay Area and/or San Francisco residents is not anticipated to result in an adverse growth-inducement impact. This impact would be beneficial.

**Table 3.11-14: Estimate of Daily-Employment Population at the Potential New SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus under Alternative 3 Long-Term Projects**

Phase	ITE Land Use Category	Proposed Use	Size (net new sf)	Daily-Employment Population
2.1	Hospital (610)	Ambulatory Care Center	140,000	507
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>140,000</b>	<b>507</b>

Notes: ITE = Institute of Transportation Engineers; sf = square feet; SFVAMC = San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The average density per employee of 276 square feet was used for the Hospital (610), Office Building (710), and Research & Development Center (760) ITE land use categories.

Note: Phases 2.2 and 2.4 are not included in this table because parking garage space does not contribute to employment estimates.

Sources: VA, 2014

*Environmental Justice*

Operation of Alternative 3 long-term projects would take place at a potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus at an as-yet-unknown specific location. As described under “Construction” for Alternative 3 long-term projects, adverse effects on environmental justice communities have the potential to occur. Therefore, a project-level NEPA analysis would be required once a specific location and site plan for the potential new Campus is determined. It is anticipated that the development of the projects would take into account the context of the neighborhood and area and address environmental justice impacts to ensure that only a minor impact would result, consistent with federal guidance.

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*Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children*

Alternative 3 long-term projects would be implemented at a potential new SFVAMC Mission Bay Campus. However, it is unknown specifically where in the Mission Bay area the potential new Campus would be located. Thus, the proximity of the potential new Campus to facilities frequently used by children that are located in the Mission Bay area is also unknown at this time. However, a project-level NEPA analysis would be required once a specific location and site plan for the potential new Campus is determined. It is anticipated that the development of the projects would take into account the location and potential impacts to ensure that the health and safety risks to children were addressed, so that the impact would be minor, as required by federal, State, and local codes and requirements.

**Alternative 4: No Action Alternative***Short-Term and Long-Term Projects***Construction**

Under Alternative 4, there would be no demolition, no new building construction, and no seismic retrofitting of existing buildings. Therefore, Alternative 4 would not contribute to construction employment. In addition, because no housing would be built under Alternative 4, no impact related to displacement of population, housing, or businesses would occur. In addition, no impacts on children or environmental justice populations would occur.

**Operation**

Under Alternative 4, the permanent population and housing levels, the natural and physical environment, and environmental health and safety risks to children would not change. Thus, no growth-inducement or environmental justice impacts would occur.

**3.11.4 References**

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