

## 9. *Significant Irreversible Changes Due to the Proposed Project*

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Section 15126.2(c) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) describe any significant irreversible environmental changes that would be caused by the proposed project should it be implemented. In the case of the proposed project, implementation would involve construction and operation of the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach expansion (proposed project). Improvements to the existing hotel facilities would permanently remove 12 villas, the 3,190-square-foot Terrace Ballroom, the engineering and maintenance building, and the nine-hole golf course. Additions to the existing hotel facilities would include 88 new timeshare units, a new 11,032-square-foot ballroom, a new 10,072-square-foot spa and fitness building, a new 4,194-square-foot timeshare clubhouse, and a new 25,229-square-foot parking structure. The following lists the significant irreversible changes due to the proposed project:

- Construction of the new hotel facilities and associated infrastructure improvements would entail commitment of nonrenewable energy resources and natural resources, such as lumber, steel, copper, lead, other metals, sand and gravel, asphalt, and water.
- Construction of the proposed project would permanently replace the nine-hole golf course. While the on-site golf course is a private recreational facility, removal of this open-space recreational facility would decrease the number of recreational facilities available within the City of Newport Beach. Furthermore, replacement of the nine-hole golf course with 88 new timeshare units would result in a long-term irreversible commitment of the land, as it is improbable that the land would return to its original condition once it were developed.



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