

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 11
4050 TAYLOR STREET, MS-240
SAN DIEGO, CA 92110
PHONE (619) 688-6075
FAX (619) 688-4299
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

11-SD-76

PM 32.33

Valley Center Community Plan Update

PDS2018-GPA-18-009

PDS2019-ER-19-00-003

SCH# 2002111067

NOP/SEIR

Mr. Robert Hingtgen
Environmental Coordinator
County of San Diego
Department of Planning and Development Services
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 110
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Hingtgen:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) review for the Valley Center Community Plan Update located in Valley Center near State Route 76 (SR- 76) and Interstate 15 (I-15). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. The Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Traffic Impact Study

Based on the above information, the following comments apply to each individual project that, if implemented, could cause the proposed project to result in a potentially significant impact.

1. A Traffic Impact Study (TIS) is necessary to determine each proposed project's near-term and long-term direct and cumulative impacts to State

Facilities – both existing and proposed – and identify appropriate mitigation measures.

2. The study should include a vehicle miles of travel (VMT) analysis that uses the guidance for VMT analysis provided in the *"Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA"* prepared by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)ⁱ.
3. The appropriate level of study is determined by the particulars of a project, the prevailing transportation system conditions (inclusive of freeways, highways, transit services and facilities, bike and pedestrian facilities, points (hubs) of major modal connectivity), forecasted traffic volumes, and forecasted utility for each mode.
4. Data used in the TIS should not be more than two years old.
5. At a minimum, the existing volumes should be taken from a two-day mid-week 24-hour count, a three-day mid-week 24-hour count is preferred.
6. Calculations of development's trip distributions and trip assignments for the project need to be included.
7. With reference to Item 1 above, the TIS should include, at a minimum,
 - a) Existing Conditions
 - b) Existing plus Project
 - c) Near Future without Project
 - d) Near Future with Project
 - e) Horizon without Project
 - f) Horizon with Project
8. Provide the electronic files (Synchro, or other) that were used to analyze the traffic impacts and other technical appendices included with the TIS.

Transportation Demand Management

Please address the impacts to the existing Park and Ride facilities and Transportation Demand Management efforts as it relates to the Valley Center Community Plan Update and the surrounding areas.

The Gopher Canyon Road park and ride lot (Lot #35) is located on the east side of I-15 in the southwest corner of the intersection of Gopher Canyon Road and

ⁱ California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), 2018. *"Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA."*
http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190122-743_Technical_Advisory.pdf

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Old Highway 395/Champagne Boulevard. It has 11 parking spaces. This park and ride lot is near Old Castle Road, one of the gateways to Valley Center.

The Gopher Canyon Road park and ride lot at 100% capacity. The need for additional parking spaces is eminent. We expect the expansion of this lot and any of the nearby park and ride lots would assist with reductions of the carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions associated with the Valley Center Community Plan Update, and with addressing the metrics, strategies, and goals identified in the County's Climate Action Plan.

Please provide the County's Fire Protection Plan for the Valley Center area for review.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark McCumsey at (619) 688-6802 or by email at mark.mccumsey@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



MAURICE EATON, Branch Chief
Local Development and Intergovernmental Review Branch

Attachment
cc: Mark McCumsey; LD-IGR files