

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**DISTRICT 6 OFFICE**

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

March 10, 2020

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

06-FRE-180-71.607
City of Sanger
2035 General Plan Update

Mr. David Brletic
Senior Planner
City of Sanger
1700 Seventh Street
Sanger, CA 93675

Dear Mr. Brletic:

Thank you for including Caltrans in the environmental review process for the project referenced above. To ensure a safe and efficient transportation system, we encourage early consultation and coordination with local jurisdictions and project proponents on all development projects that utilize the multimodal transportation network.

We provide these comments consistent with the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and build communities. The following comments are based on the City of Sanger's 2035 General Plan Update:

Sanger is located south of State Route (SR) 180, an east-west highway that crosses the County and connects Mendota on the west to Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks on the east. The City is approximately 13 miles east of Fresno.

SR 180 will continue to be planned as an expressway, as indicated in Caltrans' SR 180 Transportation Concept Report and transition to a two-lane conventional highway east of Cove Road. Potential improvements exist at Bethel Avenue and Academy Avenue. Potential concepts have identified at-grade and grade-separated access at these intersections. It is important that Caltrans and the City of Sanger preserve right-of-way at these intersections to accommodate for future growth along the State Route 180 Corridor.

The following locations have been identified with deficiencies and mitigations:

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1. Existing Plus Project Roadway Segment Deficiencies and Mitigations
 - Bethel Avenue between Florence Avenue and SR 180: Widen to 4 lanes;
2. Cumulative Plus Project Intersection Deficiencies and Mitigations
 - Bethel Avenue / SR 180: Install additional northbound left turn lane; and
3. Existing Plus Project Roadway Segment Deficiencies and Mitigations
 - Academy Avenue between Butler and SR 180: Widen to 6 lanes.

We request that the City preserve the needed right-of-way to accommodate the proposed mitigation measures.

It is anticipated that the City of Sanger will continue to work with the community to further implement local improvements to reduce vehicles miles traveled and offer a variety of transportation modes for its residents.

We request that an analysis of the General Plan's impacts and mitigation include information regarding the City of Sanger's local and/or regional impact fee program. The analysis should identify if those programs include improvements to pedestrian, bicycle and transit infrastructure or that could be considered representative of the project's likely Transportation Demand Management mitigation measures. If no such fee exists, we would appreciate exploring with you the establishment of local and/or regional VMT-based transportation impact fee programs.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (559) 444 2493.

Sincerely,



DAVID PADILLA
Associate Transportation Planner
Division of Transportation Planning

c: Michael Navarro, Chief, Planning North Branch, Caltrans