

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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SCL/880/Pm:0.039

David Keyon, Environmental Project Manager

City of San Jose

801 North First Street

San Jose, CA 95110-1795

Project – Winchester Ranch Residential Development Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear David Keyon:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for this project. In tandem with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Caltrans' mission signals our continuing approach to evaluate and mitigate impacts to the State's multimodal transportation network. Our comments are based on the August 2019 Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

Project Understanding

The proposed project includes a General Plan Amendment, a Planned Development Zoning, and a Planned Development Permit to demolish the existing mobile home park structures and construct up to 688 residential units on a 15.7-acre site.

Highway Operations

Please provide on-ramp analysis for both on-ramps for our review and comments:

- I-280 NB Diagonal on-ramp from Winchester Boulevard
- I-880 Southbound on-ramp from Stevens Creek Boulevard.

Note that the ramp meters have been activated at the locations listed above.

For the I-880 Northbound off-ramp to Stevens Creek Boulevard, the 95-percentile queue analysis report on page 47 shows that for the background plus project condition, there are approximately 30 vehicles in queue for the AM peak hour. 30 vehicles will occupy approximately 750 feet of storage, which is more than the 550 feet storage capacity of the existing ramp. Moreover, the addition of project trips for the cumulative plus project scenario was not considered in the 95-percentile queue analysis. The impact of the Cumulative plus project condition on the off-ramp will be even greater. These substantial impacts can potentially create backups on both the NB SR 17 and NB I-280 mainlines. As a result, the project shall provide mitigation measures to reduce this impact.

Construction-Related Impacts

Potential impacts to the State Right-of-Way (ROW) from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified in the DEIR. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on state roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

Prior to construction, coordination is required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the STN.

Utilities

Any utilities that are proposed, moved or modified within Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) shall be discussed. If utilities are impacted by the project, provide site plans that show the location of existing and/or proposed utilities. These modifications require a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City of San Jose is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN.) The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto the State right-of-way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. To obtain an encroachment permit, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, six (6) sets of plans clearly indicating

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the State ROW, and six (6) copies of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans must be submitted to: Office of Encroachment Permits, California DOT, District 4, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660. To download the permit application and obtain more information, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Zachary Chop at 510-622-1643 or zachary.chop@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Leong
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse

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