

# NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING FOR THE RUBIDOUX COMMERCE PARK PROJECT

То:	State Clearinghouse, Governor's Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, California 95814 -AND- Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties
From:	City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue, Jurupa Valley, California 92509
Subject:	Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Scoping Meeting for the Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (City Case No. MA 17132)
Date:	November 30, 2020

The City of Jurupa Valley (City) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (proposed project), described below. The Project Applicant is Proficiency Rubidoux, LLC. The City is soliciting input from public agencies, organizations, and other interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be presented in the EIR. The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are described below.

The City will accept comments on the NOP regarding the scope and content of the EIR between November 30, 2020 and December 29, 2020. Written comments with the project name in the subject line may be sent via mail, e-mail, or fax no later than 5:00 PM on December 29, 2020. Please send your comments at the earliest possible date to:

Patty Anders, Senior Planning Consultant City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, California 92509 Phone: 951-332-6464 Fax: 951-332-6995 Email: <u>panders@jurupavalley.org</u>

Please include the name, phone number, and address of a contact person in your response. If your agency or organization will be a Responsible or Trustee Agency for this Project, please so indicate

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:

As part of the EIR process, the City will hold a public scoping meeting on:

Tuesday December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. City of Jurupa Valley City Hall Conference Room A 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, Ca 92509

#### **PROJECT LOCATION**

The project site consists of approximately 80.8 acres located east of Montana Avenue, west of West Riverside Canal, south of 25th Street, and north of 28th Street. The Project site is also identified as Riverside County Assessor's Parcel Nos. 178-030-001, 178-030-002, 178-030-003, 178-030-006, 178-030-008, 178-030-009, 178-030-010; 178-060-013; 178-070-001, 178-070-002, 178-070-003, 178-080-011; 178-090-010; and 178-080-009.

(See Exhibit 1-Vicinity Map, Exhibit 2- Aerial Photograph, and Exhibit 3-USGS Map)

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project is referred to as Master Application (MA) 17132, consisting of the following requested approvals and land use entitlements.

#### **General Plan Amendment**

The Project site is designated by the City of Jurupa Valley General Plan for "LI – Light Industrial" uses. However, Appendix 17.0 of the General Plan includes the Mira Loma Warehouse Distribution Center Policy (Planning Department Policy Directive 12-01). Pursuant to this policy, in the Business Park, Light Industrial, and Heavy Industrial land use designations, warehousing and distribution uses, and other goods storage facilities, are permitted only in the Mira Loma Warehouse Policy Area. Because the Project site is not currently located within the Mira Loma Warehouse Policy Area, the Project requires an Amendment to the City of Jurupa Valley General Plan to allow warehouse distribution/logistics buildings on the Project site.

#### Site Development Permit

The Project site is zoned "M-M Zone (Manufacturing – Medium)" and industrial uses are permitted with approval of a site development permit. The proposed Site Development Permit proposes the construction of two buildings, with Building 1 having approximately 1,261,904 square feet (s.f.) of floor space and Building 2 having approximately 37,452 s.f. of floor space. Related site improvements would include landscaping, parking, and infrastructure facilities.

#### (See Exhibit 4-Proposed Site Plan)

#### Tentative Parcel Map

Concurrent with the Site Development Permit, a Tentative Parcel Map is proposed to consolidate the existing parcels on the site to provide two parcels for development of the proposed buildings as well as lots for roadway right-of-way dedications.

#### Street Improvements and Access

Access to the Building 1 site would be accommodated via a proposed extension of Primavera Avenue (26th Street), which would serve passenger vehicles only, and a proposed extension of Van Dell Road, which would serve both passenger vehicle and truck traffic. As part of the Project, 28th Street would be improved along the Building 1 site's frontage to provide for paved drive aisles, curb and gutter, and parkways along each side of the road that would include sidewalks; however, no site access is proposed from 28th Street. The Project also would entail an extension of 26th street (Primavera Avenue) between Avalon Street and the proposed parking area to the southeast of the Building 1 site, and would be improved to include paved drive aisles and parkways along each side of the road that would include sidewalks.

#### Water and Wastewater Improvements

Water and sewer service to the Project site would be provided by the Rubidoux Community Services District (RCSD). Water service to the Building 1 site would be accommodated via a proposed looped water main that would extend from the northeast corner of the building southeast within Primavera Avenue (26th Street) to an existing point of connection to the south of Rubidoux Boulevard. Water service for Building 2 would be accommodated via a proposed water line that would connect to proposed water lines within Primavera Avenue (26th Street). Sewer lines would connect to a proposed public sewer main within Primavera Avenue (26th Street) and an existing sewer main located south of Rubidoux Boulevard. Building 2 would connect to a proposed sewer main within Avalon Street, which would connect to a proposed sewer main within Primavera Avenue (26th Street).

#### Drainage Improvements

Runoff tributary to the site along the slopes at the northwest boundary of the Project site would be captured and diverted to an existing 72-inch storm drain line within 28th Street. Runoff from the areas northwest and southwest of the Building 1 site would be conveyed via subsurface drains with filter inserts towards a proposed detention basin in the southeast corner of the Building 1 site. Runoff from the Building 1 roof areas in the northeast portion of the Building 1 site would be conveyed to a separate proposed detention basin in the northeast corner of the site. Runoff from the Building 2 site would be captured and treated by Stormtech SC-740 chambers, which would detain runoff and provide water quality treatment before discharging the flows into existing drainage facilities within Avalon Street.

#### **Development Agreement**

The Project Applicant proposes to enter into a Development Agreement with the City of Jurupa Valley, which would provide long term vested right to develop the proposed industrial buildings on the Project site and provide community benefit to the City.

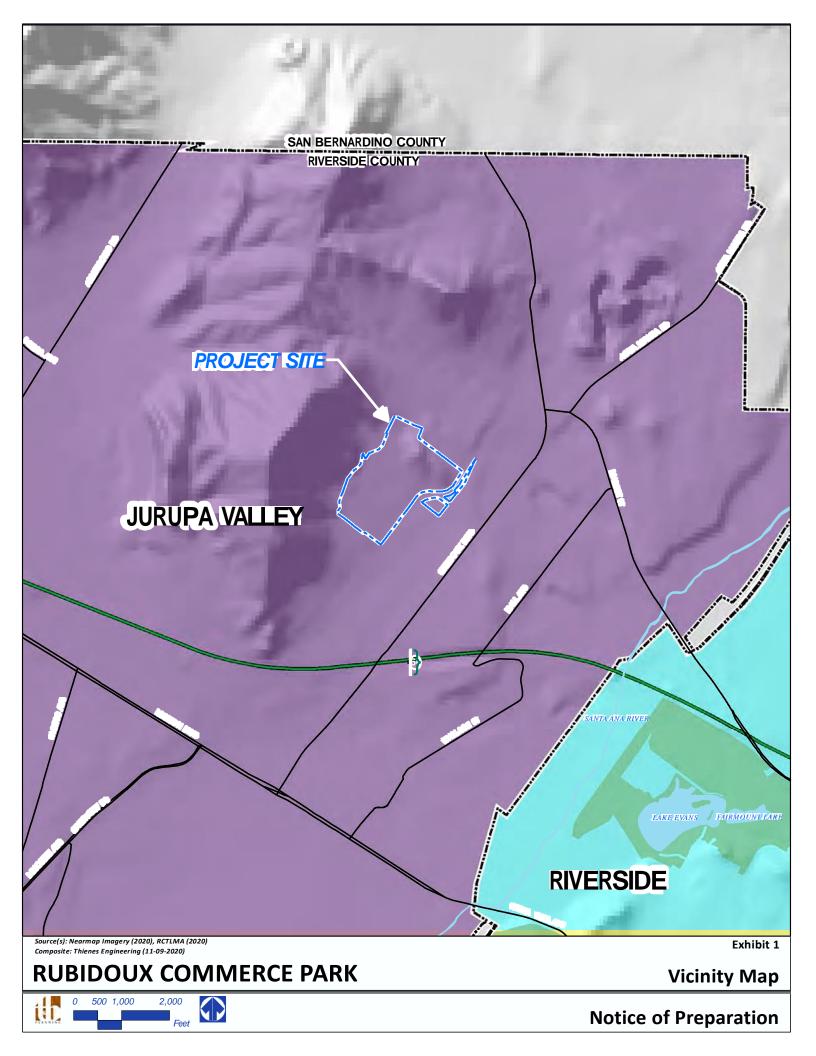
#### POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The City has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be required for the Project. All of the environmental topics identified in the CEQA Guidelines will be evaluated:

- Aesthetics
- □ Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- □ Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- □ Geology and Soils (includes Paleontological Resources)
- □ Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- □ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- □ Hydrology and Water Quality
- □ Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Facilities
- Recreation
- □ Transportation
- □ Tribal Cultural Resources
- □ Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

#### Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 Aerial Photograph
- Exhibit 3 USGS Map
- Exhibit 4 Proposed Site Plan





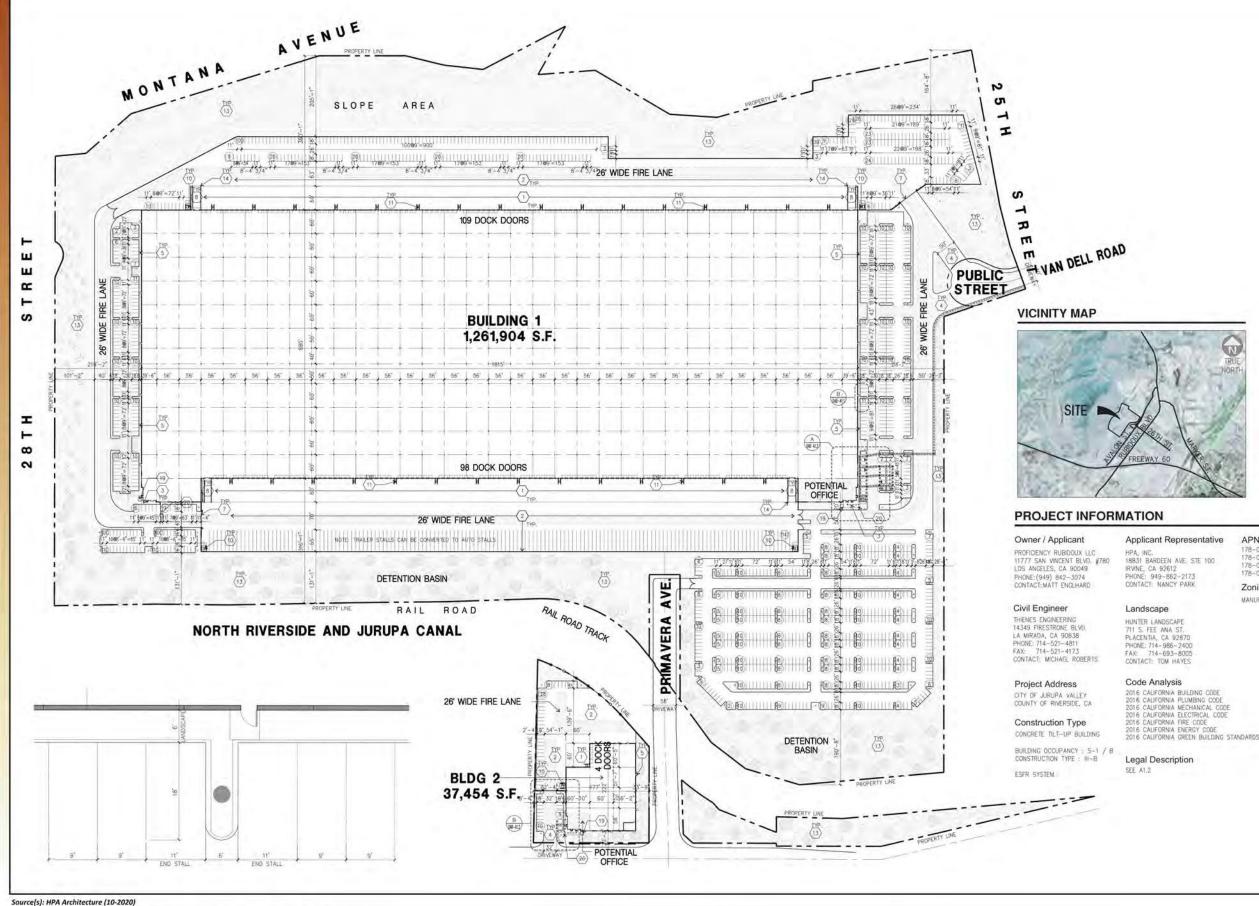
# **RUBIDOUX COMMERCE PARK**



**Aerial Photo** 

**Notice of Preparation** 





**RUBIDOUX COMMERCE PARK** 

ill -Not To Scale

APN

178-080-005-1 178-080-009-5 178-080-011-6 178-080-012-7

MANUFACTURING-MEDIUM (M-M)

Zoning

#### SITE PLAN KEYNOTES

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- 18) APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF FIRE INTERAM
- 19 EMPLOYEE BREAK AREA
- 20) BIKE RACK TYPICAL

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#### SITE PLAN GENERAL NOTES

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Exhibit 4

**Proposed Site Plan** 

**Notice of Preparation** 



December 17, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 18 2020

# STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Patty Anders Senior Planning Consultant City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, California 92509 Submitted via email: panders@jurupavalley.org

Dear Patty Anders:

Thank you for providing the California Air Resources Board (CARB) with the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (Project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), State Clearinghouse No. 2020110449. The Project consists of the construction of two warehouse buildings totaling approximately 1,299,156 square feet. The proposed Project is within the City of Jurupa Valley, California, which is the lead agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) purposes.

Freight facilities, such as warehouse and distribution facilities, can result in high daily volumes of heavy-duty diesel truck traffic and operation of on-site equipment (e.g., forklifts and yard tractors) that emit toxic diesel emissions, and contribute to regional air pollution and global climate change.<sup>1</sup> CARB has reviewed the NOP and is concerned about the air pollution and health risk impacts that would result should the City approve the Project.

# I. The Project Would Increase Exposure to Air Pollution in Disadvantaged Communities

The Project, if approved, will expose nearby disadvantaged communities to elevated levels of air pollution. Residences are located within approximately 100 feet south of the Project's southern boundary. In addition to residences, three schools (Ina Arbuckle Elementary School, West Riverside Elementary School, and Mission Middle School) are located within one mile of the Project. The community is surrounded by existing toxic diesel particulate matter (diesel PM) emission sources, which include existing industrial uses, and vehicular traffic along State Route 60 (SR 60) and Interstate 215 (I-215). Due to the Project's proximity to residences and schools already disproportionately burdened

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> With regard to greenhouse gas emissions from this project, CARB has been clear that local governments and project proponents have a responsibility to properly mitigate these impacts. CARB's guidance, set out in detail in the Scoping Plan issued in 2017, makes clear that in CARB's expert view, local mitigation is critical to achieving climate goals and reducing greenhouse gases below levels of significance.

by multiple sources of air pollution, CARB is concerned with the potential cumulative health impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Project.

The State of California has placed additional emphasis on protecting local communities from the harmful effects of air pollution through the passage of Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) (Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017). AB 617 is a significant piece of air quality legislation that highlights the need for further emission reductions in communities with high exposure burdens, like those in which the Project is located. Diesel PM emissions generated during the construction and operation of the Project would negatively impact the community, which is already disproportionally impacted by air pollution from traffic on SR 60 and I-215.

Through its authority under Health and Safety Code section 39711, the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) is charged with the duty to identify disadvantaged communities. CalEPA bases its identification of these communities on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria (Health and Safety Code, section 39711, subsection (a)). In this capacity, CalEPA currently defines a disadvantaged community, from an environmental hazard and socioeconomic standpoint, as a community that scores within the top 25 percent of the census tracts, as analyzed by the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool Version 3.0 (CalEnviroScreen). CalEnviroScreen uses a screening methodology to help identify California communities currently disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution. The census tract containing the Project is within the top 5 percent for Pollution Burden<sup>2</sup> and is considered a disadvantaged community; therefore, CARB urges the City to ensure that the Project does not adversely impact neighboring disadvantaged communities.

# II. The DEIR Should Quantify and Discuss the Potential Cancer Risks from On-site Transport Refrigeration Units

Since the Project description provided in the NOP does not explicitly state that the proposed industrial land uses would not be used for cold storage, there is a possibility that trucks and trailers visiting the Project site would be equipped with transport refrigeration units (TRU).<sup>3</sup> TRUs on trucks and trailers can emit large quantities of diesel exhaust while operating within the Project site. Residences and other sensitive receptors (e.g., daycare facilities, senior care facilities, and schools) located near where these TRUs could be operating, would be exposed to diesel exhaust emissions that would result in a significant cancer risk impact.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pollution Burden represents the potential exposure to pollutants and the adverse environmental conditions caused by pollution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3.</sup> TRUs are refrigeration systems powered by integral diesel engines that protect perishable goods during transport in an insulated truck and trailer vans, rail cars, and domestic shipping containers.

CARB urges the City to model air pollutant emissions from on-site TRUs in the DEIR, as well as include potential cancer risks from on-site TRUs in the Project's health risk assessment (HRA). The HRA prepared for the Project should account for all potential health risks from Project-related diesel PM emission sources such as backup generators, TRUs, and heavy-duty truck traffic, and include all the air pollutant reduction measures listed in Attachment A of this comment letter.

In addition to the health risks associated with operational emissions, health risks associated with construction emissions should also be included in the air quality section of the DEIR and the Project's HRA. Construction of the Project would result in short-term diesel emissions from the use of both on-road and off-road diesel equipment. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's (OEHHA) guidance recommends assessing cancer risks for construction projects lasting longer than two months. Since construction would very likely occur over a period lasting longer than two months, the HRA prepared for the Project should include health risks for existing residences near the Project site during construction.

The HRA prepared in support of the Project should be based on the latest OEHHA guidance (2015 Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Guidance Manual for Preparation of Health Risk Assessments),<sup>4</sup> and the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) CEQA Air Quality Handbook.<sup>5</sup> The HRA should evaluate and present the existing baseline (current conditions), future baseline (full build-out year, without the Project), and future year with the Project. The health risks modeled under both the existing and the future baselines should reflect all applicable federal, state, and local rules and regulations. By evaluating health risks using both baselines, the public and City planners will have a complete understanding of the potential health impacts that would result from the Project.

## **III.** Conclusion

To reduce the exposure of toxic diesel PM emissions in disadvantaged communities already disproportionally impacted by air pollution, the final design of the Project should include all existing and emerging zero-emission technologies to minimize diesel PM and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions, as well as the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. CARB encourages the City and applicant to implement the measures listed in Attachment A of this comment letter to reduce the Project's construction and operational air pollution emissions.

Given the breadth and scope of projects subject to CEQA review throughout California that have air quality and greenhouse gas impacts, coupled with CARB's limited staff

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4.</sup> Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Guidance Manual for Preparation of Health Risk Assessments. February 2015. Accessed at: https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/crnr/2015guidancemanual.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5.</sup> SCAQMD's 1993 Handbook can be found at: http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook.

resources to substantively respond to all issues associated with a project, CARB must prioritize its substantive comments here based on staff time, resources, and its assessment of impacts. CARB's deliberate decision to substantively comment on some issues does not constitute an admission or concession that it substantively agrees with the lead agency's findings and conclusions on any issues on which CARB does not substantively submit comments.

CARB appreciates the opportunity to comment on the NOP for the Project and can provide assistance on zero-emission technologies and emission reduction strategies, as needed. Please include CARB on your State Clearinghouse list of selected State agencies that will receive the DEIR as part of the comment period. If you have questions, please contact Michaela Nucal, Air Pollution Specialist via email at michaela.nucal@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Heather Arias, Chief Transportation and Toxics Division

Attachment

cc: See next page.

cc: (via email)

State Clearinghouse state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Carlo De La Cruz Senior Campaign Representative Sierra Club carlo.delacruz@sierraclub.org

Lijin Sun Program Supervisor CEQA Intergovernmental Review South Coast Air Quality Management District Isun@aqmd.gov

Morgan Capilla NEPA Reviewer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Air Division, Region 9 capilla.morgan@epa.gov

Taylor Thomas Research and Policy Analyst East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice tbthomas@eycej.org

Andrea Vidaurre Policy Analyst Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice andrea.v@ccaej.org

Michaela Nucal Air Pollution Specialist Risk Analysis Section Transportation and Toxics Division michaela.nucal@arb.ca.gov This page is intentionally left blank.

# ATTACHMENT A

# Recommended Air Pollution Emission Reduction Measures for Warehouses and Distribution Centers

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) recommends developers and government planners use all existing and emerging zero to near-zero emission technologies during project construction and operation to minimize public exposure to air pollution. Below are some measures, currently recommended by CARB, specific to warehouse and distribution center projects. These recommendations are subject to change as new zero-emission technologies become available.

# **Recommended Construction Measures**

- 1. Ensure the cleanest possible construction practices and equipment are used. This includes eliminating the idling of diesel-powered equipment and providing the necessary infrastructure (e.g., electrical hookups) to support zero and near-zero equipment and tools.
- Implement, and plan accordingly for, the necessary infrastructure to support the zero and near-zero emission technology vehicles and equipment that will be operating on site. Necessary infrastructure may include the physical (e.g., needed footprint), energy, and fueling infrastructure for construction equipment, on-site vehicles and equipment, and medium-heavy and heavy-heavy duty trucks.
- 3. In construction contracts, include language that requires all off-road diesel-powered equipment used during construction to be equipped with Tier 4 or cleaner engines, except for specialized construction equipment in which Tier 4 engines are not available. In place of Tier 4 engines, off-road equipment can incorporate retrofits, such that, emission reductions achieved equal or exceed that of a Tier 4 engine.
- 4. In construction contracts, include language that requires all off-road equipment with a power rating below 19 kilowatts (e.g., plate compactors, pressure washers) used during project construction be battery powered.
- 5. In construction contracts, include language that requires all heavy-duty trucks entering the construction site, during the grading and building construction phases be model year 2014 or later. All heavy-duty haul trucks should also meet CARB's lowest optional low-oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) standard starting in the year 2022.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> In 2013, CARB adopted optional low-NO<sub>x</sub> emission standards for on-road heavy-duty engines. CARB encourages engine manufacturers to introduce new technologies to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions below the current mandatory on-road heavy-duty diesel engine emission standards for model-year 2010 and later. CARB's optional low-NO<sub>x</sub> emission standard is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onroad/optionnox/optionnox.htm.

 In construction contracts, include language that requires all construction equipment and fleets to be in compliance with all current air quality regulations. CARB is available to assist in implementing this recommendation.

## **Recommended Operation Measures**

- 1. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires tenants to use the cleanest technologies available, and to provide the necessary infrastructure to support zero-emission vehicles and equipment that will be operating on site.
- 2. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires all loading/unloading docks and trailer spaces be equipped with electrical hookups for trucks with transport refrigeration units (TRU) or auxiliary power units. This requirement will substantially decrease the amount of time that a TRU powered by a fossil-fueled internal combustion engine can operate at the project site. Use of zero-emission all-electric plug-in TRUs, hydrogen fuel cell transport refrigeration, and cryogenic transport refrigeration are encouraged and can also be included in lease agreements.<sup>2</sup>
- 3. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires all TRUs entering the project site be plug-in capable.
- 4. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires future tenants to exclusively use zero-emission light and medium-duty delivery trucks and vans.
- 5. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements requiring all TRUs, trucks, and cars entering the project site be zero-emission.
- 6. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires all service equipment (e.g., yard hostlers, yard equipment, forklifts, and pallet jacks) used within the project site to be zero-emission. This equipment is widely available.
- Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires all heavy-duty trucks entering or on the project site to be model year 2014 or later, expedite a transition to zero-emission vehicles, and be fully zero-emission beginning in 2030.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2.</sup> CARB's technology assessment for transport refrigerators provides information on the current and projected development of TRUs, including current and anticipated costs. The assessment is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/tech/techreport/tru\_07292015.pdf.

- Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that requires the tenant be in, and monitor compliance with, all current air quality regulations for on-road trucks including CARB's Heavy-Duty (Tractor-Trailer) Greenhouse Gas Regulation,<sup>3</sup> Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP),<sup>4</sup> and the Statewide Truck and Bus Regulation.<sup>5</sup>
- 9. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements restricting trucks and support equipment from idling longer than five minutes while on site.
- 10. Include contractual language in tenant lease agreements that limits on-site TRU diesel engine runtime to no longer than 15 minutes. If no cold storage operations are planned, include contractual language and permit conditions that prohibit cold storage operations unless a health risk assessment is conducted, and the health impacts fully mitigated.
- 11. Include rooftop solar panels for each proposed warehouse to the extent feasible, with a capacity that matches the maximum allowed for distributed solar connections to the grid.
- 12. Including language in tenant lease agreements, requiring the installing of vegetative walls<sup>6</sup> or other effective barriers that separate loading docks and people living or working nearby.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3.</sup> In December 2008, CARB adopted a regulation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by improving the fuel efficiency of heavy-duty tractors that pull 53-foot or longer box-type trailers. The regulation applies primarily to owners of 53-foot or longer box-type trailers, including both dry-van and refrigerated-van trailers, and owners of the heavy-duty tractors that pull them on California highways. CARB's Heavy-Duty (Tractor-Trailer) Greenhouse Gas Regulation is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/hdghg/hdghg.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4.</sup> The PSIP program requires that diesel and bus fleet owners conduct annual smoke opacity inspections of their vehicles and repair those with excessive smoke emissions to ensure compliance. CARB's PSIP program is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/hdvip.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5.</sup> The regulation requires that newer heavier trucks and buses must meet particulate matter filter requirements beginning January 1, 2012. Lighter and older heavier trucks must be replaced starting January 1, 2015. By January 1, 2023, nearly all trucks and buses will need to have 2010 model-year engines or equivalent. CARB's Statewide Truck and Bus Regulation is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6.</sup> Effectiveness of Sound Wall-Vegetation Combination Barriers as Near-Roadway Pollutant Mitigation Strategies (2017) is available at: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic//research/apr/past/13-306.pdf.



State of California – Natural Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE Inland Deserts Region 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220 Ontario, CA 91764 www.wildlife.ca.gov



December 23, 2020 Sent via email

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, CA 92509 panders@jurupavalley.org

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report Rubidoux Commerce Park Project State Clearinghouse No. 2020110449

Dear Ms. Anders:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) from the City of Jurupa Valley (City) for the Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (Project) pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.<sup>1</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

# **CDFW ROLE**

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources, and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 2 of 12

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the Project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

# **PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY**

The Project is located in the City of Jurupa Valley in Riverside County. It consists of approximately 80.8 acres located east of Montana Avenue, west of West Riverside Canal, south of 25<sup>th</sup> Street, and north of 28<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Project involves 1) an amendment to the City of Jurupa Valley General Plan to allow warehouse distribution/logistics buildings on the Project site; 2) construction of two buildings, with Building 1 having approximately 1,261,904 square feet of floor space and Building 2 having approximately 37,452 square feet of floor space and related site improvements including landscaping, parking, and infrastructure facilities; 3) a Tentative Parcel Map to consolidate the existing parcels on the site to provide two parcels for development of the proposed buildings as well as lots for roadway right-of-way dedications; and 4) a Development Agreement with the City of Jurupa Valley, which would provide a long-term vested right to develop the proposed industrial buildings on the Project site.

# **COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the City in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. The comments and recommendations are also offered to enable CDFW to adequately review and comment on the proposed Project with respect to the Project's consistency with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

CDFW recommends that the forthcoming DEIR address the following:

# **Assessment of Biological Resources**

Section 15125(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that knowledge of the regional setting of a project is critical to the assessment of environmental impacts and that special emphasis should be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region. To enable CDFW staff to adequately review and comment on the project, the DEIR should include a complete assessment of the flora and fauna within and adjacent Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 3 of 12

to the Project footprint, with particular emphasis on identifying rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species and their associated habitats.

CDFW recommends that the DEIR specifically include:

- An assessment of the various habitat types located within the project footprint, and a map that identifies the location of each habitat type. CDFW recommends that floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and assessment be completed following *The Manual of California Vegetation*, second edition (Sawyer et al. 2009<sup>2</sup>). Adjoining habitat areas should also be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions.
- 2. A general biological inventory of the fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal species that are present or have the potential to be present within each habitat type onsite and within adjacent areas that could be affected by the project. CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) in Sacramento should be contacted at (916) 322-2493 or CNDDB@wildlife.ca.gov to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitat, including Significant Natural Areas identified under Chapter 12 of the Fish and Game Code, in the vicinity of the proposed Project.

Please note that CDFW's CNDDB is not exhaustive in terms of the data it houses, nor is it an absence database. CDFW recommends that it be used as a starting point in gathering information about the *potential presence* of species within the general area of the project site.

3. A complete, *recent* inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint and within offsite areas with the potential to be affected, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish & G. Code, § 3511). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (CEQA Guidelines § 15380). The inventory should address seasonal variations in use of the Project area and should not be limited to resident species. Focused species-specific surveys, completed by a qualified biologist and conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where necessary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sawyer, J. O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. M. Evens. 2009. A manual of California Vegetation, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. California Native Plant Society Press, Sacramento, California. http://vegetation.cnps.org/

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 4 of 12

Note that CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if the Project is proposed to occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases, or if surveys are completed during periods of drought.

- 4. A thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following CDFW's *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW 2018<sup>3</sup>).
- 5. Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region (CEQA Guidelines § 15125[c]).
- 6. A full accounting of all open space and mitigation/conservation lands within and adjacent to the Project.

# Analysis of Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts to Biological Resources

The DEIR should provide a thorough discussion of the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources as a result of the Project. To ensure that Project impacts to biological resources are fully analyzed, the following information should be included in the DEIR:

- 1. A discussion of potential impacts from lighting, noise, human activity (e.g., recreation), defensible space, and wildlife-human interactions created by zoning of development projects or other project activities adjacent to natural areas, exotic and/or invasive species, and drainage. The latter subject should address Project-related changes on drainage patterns and water quality within, upstream, and downstream of the Project site, including: volume, velocity, and frequency of existing and post-Project surface flows; polluted runoff; soil erosion and/or sedimentation in streams and water bodies; and post-Project fate of runoff from the Project site.
- 2. A discussion of potential indirect Project impacts on biological resources, including resources in areas adjacent to the project footprint, such as nearby public lands (e.g. National Forests, State Parks, etc.), open space, adjacent natural habitats, riparian ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and any designated and/or proposed reserve or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2018. Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plan Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities. State of California, Natural Resources Agency. Available for download at: <u>https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants</u>

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 5 of 12

mitigation lands (e.g., preserved lands associated with a Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other conserved lands).

- 3. An evaluation of impacts to adjacent open space lands from both the construction of the Project and any long-term operational and maintenance needs.
- 4. A cumulative effects analysis developed as described under CEQA Guidelines section 15130. Please include all potential direct and indirect Project related impacts to riparian areas, wetlands, vernal pools, alluvial fan habitats, wildlife corridors or wildlife movement areas, aquatic habitats, sensitive species and other sensitive habitats, open lands, open space, and adjacent natural habitats in the cumulative effects analysis. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.

# **Alternatives Analysis**

CDFW recommends the DEIR describe and analyze a range of reasonable alternatives to the Project that are potentially feasible, would "feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the Project," and would avoid or substantially lessen any of the Project's significant effects (CEQA Guidelines § 15126.6[a]). The alternatives analysis should also evaluate a "no project" alternative (CEQA Guidelines § 15126.6[e]).

## **Mitigation Measures for Project Impacts to Biological Resources**

The DEIR should identify mitigation measures and alternatives that are appropriate and adequate to avoid or minimize potential impacts, to the extent feasible. The City should assess all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that are expected to occur as a result of the implementation of the Project and its long-term operation and maintenance. When proposing measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts, CDFW recommends consideration of the following:

- Fully Protected Species: Fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time. Project activities described in the DEIR should be designed to completely avoid any fully protected species that have the potential to be present within or adjacent to the Project area. CDFW also recommends that the DEIR fully analyze potential adverse impacts to fully protected species due to habitat modification, loss of foraging habitat, and/or interruption of migratory and breeding behaviors. CDFW recommends that the City include in the analysis how appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures will reduce indirect impacts to fully protected species.
- 2. Sensitive Plant Communities: CDFW considers sensitive plant communities to be imperiled habitats having both local and regional significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a statewide ranking of S-1, S-2, S-3, and S-4 should

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 6 of 12

> be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by querying the CNDDB and are included in *The Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009). The DEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect sensitive plant communities from project-related direct and indirect impacts.

- 3. California Species of Special Concern (CSSC): CSSC status applies to animals generally not listed under the federal Endangered Species Act or the CESA, but which nonetheless are declining at a rate that could result in listing, or historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist. CSSCs should be considered during the environmental review process.
- 4. *Mitigation*: CDFW considers adverse project-related impacts to sensitive species and habitats to be significant to both local and regional ecosystems, and the DEIR should include mitigation measures for adverse project-related impacts to these resources. Mitigation measures should emphasize avoidance and reduction of project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, onsite habitat restoration and/or enhancement, and preservation should be evaluated and discussed in detail.

The DEIR should include measures to perpetually protect the targeted habitat values within mitigation areas from direct and indirect adverse impacts in order to meet mitigation objectives to offset project-induced qualitative and quantitative losses of biological values. Specific issues that should be addressed include restrictions on access, proposed land dedications, long-term monitoring and management programs, control of illegal dumping, water pollution, increased human intrusion, etc.

If sensitive species and/or their habitat may be impacted from the Project, CDFW recommends the inclusion of specific mitigation in the DEIR. CEQA Guidelines section 15126.4, subdivision (a)(1)(8) states that formulation of feasible mitigation measures should not be deferred until some future date. The Court of Appeal in *San Joaquin Raptor Rescue Center* v. *County* of *Merced* (2007) 149 Cal.App.4th 645 struck down mitigation measures which required formulating management plans developed in consultation with State and Federal wildlife agencies after Project approval. Courts have also repeatedly not supported conclusions that impacts are mitigable when essential studies, and therefore impact assessments, are incomplete (*Sundstrom* v. *County* of *Mendocino* (1988) 202 Cal. App. 3d. 296; *Gentry* v. *City* of *Murrieta* (1995) 36 Cal. App. 4th 1359; *Endangered Habitat League, Inc.* v. *County* of *Orange* (2005) 131 Cal. App. 4th 777).

CDFW recommends that the DEIR specify mitigation that is roughly proportional to the level of impacts, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15126.4(a)(4)(B), 15064, 15065, and 16355). The mitigation should provide long-term conservation value for the suite of species and habitat being impacted by the Project. Furthermore, in order for mitigation measures to be effective, they need to

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 7 of 12

be specific, enforceable, and feasible actions that will improve environmental conditions.

5. Habitat Revegetation/Restoration Plans: Plans for restoration and revegetation should be prepared by persons with expertise in southern California ecosystems and native plant restoration techniques. Plans should identify the assumptions used to develop the proposed restoration strategy. Each plan should include, at a minimum: (a) the location of restoration sites and assessment of appropriate reference sites; (b) the plant species to be used, sources of local propagules, container sizes, and seeding rates; (c) a schematic depicting the mitigation area; (d) a local seed and cuttings and planting schedule; (e) a description of the irrigation methodology; (f) measures to control exotic vegetation on site; (g) specific success criteria; (h) a detailed monitoring program; (i) contingency measures should the success criteria not be met; and (j) identification of the party responsible for meeting the success criteria and providing for conservation of the mitigation site in perpetuity. Monitoring of restoration areas should extend across a sufficient time frame to ensure that the new habitat is established, self-sustaining, and capable of surviving drought.

CDFW recommends that local onsite propagules from the Project area and nearby vicinity be collected and used for restoration purposes. Onsite seed collection should be initiated in the near future in order to accumulate sufficient propagule material for subsequent use in future years. Onsite vegetation mapping at the alliance and/or association level should be used to develop appropriate restoration goals and local plant palettes. Reference areas should be identified to help guide restoration efforts. Specific restoration plans should be developed for various project components as appropriate.

Restoration objectives should include protecting special habitat elements or recreating them in areas affected by the Project.

6. Nesting Birds and Migratory Bird Treaty Act: Please note that it is the Project proponent's responsibility to comply with all applicable laws related to nesting birds and birds of prey. Fish and Game Code sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 afford protective measures as follows: Fish and Game Code section 3503 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Treaty Act.

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 8 of 12

CDFW recommends that the DEIR include the results of avian surveys, as well as specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to nesting birds do not occur. Project-specific avoidance and minimization measures may include, but not be limited to: Project phasing and timing, monitoring of project-related noise (where applicable), sound walls, and buffers, where appropriate. The DEIR should also include specific avoidance and minimization measures that will be implemented should a nest be located within the project site. If pre-construction surveys are proposed in the DEIR, CDFW recommends that they be required no more than three (3) days prior to vegetation clearing or ground disturbance activities, as instances of nesting could be missed if surveys are conducted sooner.

- 7. Moving out of Harm's Way: To avoid direct mortality, CDFW recommends that the City condition the DEIR to require that a CDFW-approved qualified biologist be retained to be onsite prior to and during all ground- and habitat-disturbing activities to move out of harm's way special status species or other wildlife of low or limited mobility that would otherwise be injured or killed from project-related activities. Movement of wildlife out of harm's way should be limited to only those individuals that would otherwise by injured or killed, and individuals should be moved only as far a necessary to ensure their safety (i.e., CDFW does not recommend relocation to other areas). Furthermore, it should be noted that the temporary relocation of onsite wildlife does not constitute effective mitigation for the purposes of offsetting project impacts associated with habitat loss.
- 8. *Translocation of Species*: CDFW generally does not support the use of relocation, salvage, and/or transplantation as mitigation for impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species as studies have shown that these efforts are experimental in nature and largely unsuccessful.

## **California Endangered Species Act**

CDFW is responsible for ensuring appropriate conservation of fish and wildlife resources including threatened, endangered, and/or candidate plant and animal species, pursuant to CESA. CDFW recommends that a CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP) be obtained if the Project has the potential to result in "take" (Fish & G. Code, § 86 defines "take" as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill") of State-listed CESA species, either through construction or over the life of the project, unless this Project is proposed to be a covered activity under the MSHCP. CESA ITPs are issued to conserve, protect, enhance, and restore State-listed CESA species and their habitats.

CDFW encourages early consultation, as significant modification to the proposed Project and avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures may be necessary to obtain a CESA ITP. The California Fish and Game Code requires that CDFW comply with CEQA for issuance of a CESA ITP. CDFW therefore recommends that the DEIR Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 9 of 12

addresses all Project impacts to listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of CESA.

# Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

CDFW issued Natural Community Conservation Plan Approval and Take Authorization for the Western Riverside County MSHCP per Section 2800, *et seq.*, of the California Fish and Game Code on June 22, 2004. The MSHCP establishes a multiple species conservation program to minimize and mitigate habitat loss and provides for the incidental take of covered species in association with activities covered under the permit.

Compliance with approved habitat plans, such as the MSHCP, is discussed in CEQA. Specifically, Section 15125(d) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that the CEQA document discuss any inconsistencies between a proposed Project and applicable general plans and regional plans, including habitat conservation plans and natural community conservation plans. An assessment of the impacts to the MSHCP as a result of this Project is necessary to address CEQA requirements. To obtain additional information regarding the MSHCP please go to: <u>http://rctlma.org/epd/WR-MSHCP</u>.

The proposed Project occurs within the MSHCP area and is subject to the provisions and policies of the MSHCP. In order to be considered a covered activity, Permittees need to demonstrate that proposed actions are consistent with the MSHCP, the Permits, and the Implementing Agreement. The City is the Lead Agency and is signatory to the Implementing Agreement of the MSHCP. To demonstrate consistency with the MSHCP CDFW recommends that the DEIR address, at a minimum, the City's obligations as follows:

- a. Addressing the collection of fees as set forth in Section 8.5 of the MSHCP.
- b. Demonstrating how the Project complies with the policies for the Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools, set forth in Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP; the policies for the Protection of Narrow Endemic Plant Species set forth in Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP; surveys as set forth in Section 6.3.2 of the MSHCP; compliance with the Urban/Wildlands Interface Guidelines as set forth in Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP; and compliance with the Best Management Practices and the siting, construction, design, operation and maintenance guidelines as set forth in Section 7.0 and Appendix C of the MSHCP.

Regardless of whether take of threatened and/or endangered species is obtained through the MSHCP or through a CESA ITP, the DEIR needs to address how the proposed Project will affect the policies and procedures of the MSHCP. Therefore, all surveys required by the MSHCP policies and procedures listed above to determine consistency with the MSHCP should be conducted and results included in the DEIR so that CDFW can adequately assess whether the Project will impact the MSHCP. Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 10 of 12

## Lake and Streambed Alteration Program

Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW prior to commencing any activity that may do one or more of the following: Substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream or lake; Substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or Deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream or lake. Please note that "any river, stream or lake" includes those that are episodic (i.e., those that are dry for periods of time) as well as those that are perennial (i.e., those that flow year-round). This includes ephemeral streams, desert washes, and watercourses with a subsurface flow. It may also apply to work undertaken within the flood plain of a body of water.

Upon receipt of a complete notification, CDFW determines if the proposed Project activities may substantially adversely affect existing fish and wildlife resources and whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement is required. An LSA Agreement includes measures necessary to protect existing fish and wildlife resources. CDFW may suggest ways to modify your Project that would eliminate or reduce harmful impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW's issuance of an LSA Agreement is a "project" subject to CEQA (see Pub. Resources Code § 21065). To facilitate issuance of an LSA Agreement, if necessary, the DEIR should fully identify the potential impacts to the lake, stream, or riparian resources, and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, and monitoring and reporting commitments. Early consultation with CDFW is recommended, since modification of the proposed Project may be required to avoid or reduce impacts to fish and wildlife resources. To obtain a Lake or Streambed Alteration notification package, please go to https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/LSA/Forms.

# ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To ameliorate the water demands of this Project, CDFW recommends incorporation of water-wise concepts in project landscape design plans. In particular, CDFW recommends xeriscaping with locally native California species, and installing water-efficient and targeted irrigation systems (such as drip irrigation). Local water agencies/districts, and resource conservation districts in your area may be able to provide information on plant nurseries that carry locally native species, and some facilities display drought-tolerant locally native species demonstration gardens (for example the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District in Riverside). Information on drought-tolerant landscaping and water-efficient irrigation systems is available on California's Save our Water website: <u>http://saveourwater.com/what-you-can-do/tips/landscaping/</u>.

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 11 of 12

# ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). Information can be submitted online or via completion of the CNDDB field survey form at the following link:

<u>https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data</u>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to CNDDB at the following email address: <u>CNDDB@wildlife.ca.gov</u>. The types of information reported to CNDDB can be found at the following link: <u>https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Plants-and-Animals</u>.

## **FILING FEES**

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.).

## CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the NOP of a DEIR for the Rubioux Commerce Park (SCH No. 2020110449) and recommends that the City of Jurupa Valley address CDFW's comments and concerns in the forthcoming DEIR. If you should have any questions pertaining to the comments provided in this letter, please contact Rose Banks, Environmental Scientist, at <u>Rose.Banks@wildlife.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: Scott Wilson 8091B1A9242F49C...

Scott Wilson Environmental Program Manager

ec: Heather Pert, Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor heather.pert@wildlife.ca.gov Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley December 23, 2020 Page 12 of 12

> HCPB CEQA Coordinator Habitat Conservation Planning Branch cegacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento <u>state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov</u>



Community & Economic Development Department

City of Arts & Innovation

December 29, 2020

Patty Anders Senior Planning Consultant City of Jurupa Valley, Planning Department 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

Subject: City of Riverside's Review of a Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (MA17132)

Dear Ms. Anders,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the Notice of Preparation for the Rubidoux Commerce Park project, a warehouse distribution development located west of West Riverside Canal, south of 25th Street, and north of 28th Street.

It is the City of Riverside's understanding that the project includes the construction of an approximately 1,261,904 square feet building and 37,452 square feet building, as well as other site improvements including landscaping, parking, and infrastructure.

The City of Riverside Planning Division routed the Notice of Preparation to other City Departments for their feedback. The following summarizes comments received:

#### Public Works Department – Traffic Division

1. Public Works Traffic Engineering requests the ability to review scoping documentation for the Traffic Impact Analysis for the referenced project.

The City of Riverside appreciates your consideration of the feedback provided in this letter. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Scott Watson, Historic Preservation Officer at (951) 826-5507, or by e-mail at <u>swatson@riversideca.gov</u>.

For OFFicer Sincerely

David Murray Principal Planner



CHAIRPERSON Laura Miranda Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON Reginald Pagaling Chumash

SECRETARY Merri Lopez-Keifer Luiseño

Parliamentarian **Russell Attebery** Karuk

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COMMISSIONER Julie Tumamait-Stenslie Chumash

COMMISSIONER [Vacant]

COMMISSIONER [Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Christina Snider Pomo

#### NAHC HEADQUARTERS

1550 Harbor Boulevard Suite 100 West Sacramento, California 95691 (916) 373-3710 nahc@nahc.ca.gov NAHC.ca.gov

# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

November 30, 2020

Patty Anders City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, CA 92509 Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 04 2020

# STATE CLEARING HOUSE

#### Re: 2020110449, Rubidoux Commerce Park (MA 17132) Project, Riverside County

Dear Ms. Anders:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has received the Notice of Preparation (NOP), Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) or Early Consultation for the project referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code §21000 et seq.), specifically Public Resources Code §21084.1, states that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code § 21084.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit.14, §15064.5 (b) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b)). If there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before a lead agency, that a project may have a significant effect on the environment (EIR) shall be prepared. (Pub. Resources Code §21080 (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 5064 subd.(a)(1) (CEQA Guidelines §15064 (a)(1)). In order to determine whether a project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resources in the significance of a historical resources within the area of potential effect (APE).

CEQA was amended significantly in 2014. Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) (AB 52) amended CEQA to create a separate category of cultural resources, "tribal cultural resources" (Pub. Resources Code §21074) and provides that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.2). Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)). AB 52 applies to any project for which a notice of preparation, a notice of negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration is filed on or after July 1, 2015. If your project involves the adoption of or amendment to a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation or proposed designation of open space, on or after March 1, 2005, it may also be subject to Senate Bill 18 (Burton, Chapter 905, Statutes of 2004) (SB 18). Both SB 18 and AB 52 have tribal consultation requirements. If your project is also subject to the federal National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) (NEPA), the tribal consultation requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (154 U.S.C. 300101, 36 C.F.R. §800 et seq.) may also apply.

The NAHC recommends consultation with California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of your proposed project as early as possible in order to avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains and best protect tribal cultural resources. Below is a brief summary of <u>portions</u> of AB 52 and SB 18 as well as the NAHC's recommendations for conducting cultural resources assessments.

Consult your legal counsel about compliance with AB 52 and SB 18 as well as compliance with any other applicable laws.

## <u>AB 52</u>

AB 52 has added to CEQA the additional requirements listed below, along with many other requirements:

1. Fourteen Day Period to Provide Notice of Completion of an Application/Decision to Undertake a Project:

Within fourteen (14) days of determining that an application for a project is complete or of a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, a lead agency shall provide formal notification to a designated contact of, or tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, to be accomplished by at least one written notice that includes:

**a.** A brief description of the project.

**b.** The lead agency contact information.

**c.** Notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d)).

**d.** A "California Native American tribe" is defined as a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC for the purposes of Chapter 905 of Statutes of 2004 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21073).

2. <u>Begin Consultation Within 30 Days of Receiving a Tribe's Request for Consultation and Before Releasing a</u> <u>Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Environmental Impact Report</u>: A lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a request for consultation from a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1, subds. (d) and (e)) and prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration or Environmental Impact Report. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1(b)).

**a.** For purposes of AB 52, "consultation shall have the same meaning as provided in Gov. Code §65352.4 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).

**3.** <u>Mandatory Topics of Consultation If Requested by a Tribe</u>: The following topics of consultation, if a tribe requests to discuss them, are mandatory topics of consultation:

- a. Alternatives to the project.
- **b.** Recommended mitigation measures.
- c. Significant effects. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).
- 4. <u>Discretionary Topics of Consultation</u>: The following topics are discretionary topics of consultation:
  - **a.** Type of environmental review necessary.
  - **b.** Significance of the tribal cultural resources.
  - c. Significance of the project's impacts on tribal cultural resources.

**d.** If necessary, project alternatives or appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation that the tribe may recommend to the lead agency. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).

**5.** <u>Confidentiality of Information Submitted by a Tribe During the Environmental Review Process:</u> With some exceptions, any information, including but not limited to, the location, description, and use of tribal cultural resources submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process shall not be included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, consistent with Government Code §6254 (r) and §6254.10. Any information submitted by a California Native American tribe during the consultation or environmental review process shall be published in a confidential appendix to the environmental document unless the tribe that provided the information consents, in writing, to the disclosure of some or all of the information to the public. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (c)(1)).

6. <u>Discussion of Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources in the Environmental Document:</u> If a project may have a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency's environmental document shall discuss both of the following:

**a.** Whether the proposed project has a significant impact on an identified tribal cultural resource.

**b.** Whether feasible alternatives or mitigation measures, including those measures that may be agreed to pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (a), avoid or substantially lessen the impact on the identified tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (b)).

7. <u>Conclusion of Consultation</u>: Consultation with a tribe shall be considered concluded when either of the following occurs:

**a.** The parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a tribal cultural resource; or

**b.** A party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (b)).

8. <u>Recommending Mitigation Measures Agreed Upon in Consultation in the Environmental Document</u>: Any mitigation measures agreed upon in the consultation conducted pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2 shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document and in an adopted mitigation monitoring and reporting program, if determined to avoid or lessen the impact pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (b), paragraph 2, and shall be fully enforceable. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (a)).

**9.** <u>Required Consideration of Feasible Mitigation</u>: If mitigation measures recommended by the staff of the lead agency as a result of the consultation process are not included in the environmental document or if there are no agreed upon mitigation measures at the conclusion of consultation, or if consultation does not occur, and if substantial evidence demonstrates that a project will cause a significant effect to a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency shall consider feasible mitigation pursuant to Public Resources Code §21084.3 (b). (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (e)).

**10.** Examples of Mitigation Measures That, If Feasible, May Be Considered to Avoid or Minimize Significant Adverse Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources:

- **a.** Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to:
  - i. Planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context.

**ii.** Planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.

**b.** Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i. Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource.
- ii. Protecting the traditional use of the resource.
- iii. Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.

**c.** Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.

d. Protecting the resource. (Pub. Resource Code §21084.3 (b)).

**e.** Please note that a federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC to protect a California prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place may acquire and hold conservation easements if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. (Civ. Code §815.3 (c)).

f. Please note that it is the policy of the state that Native American remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated. (Pub. Resources Code §5097.991).

**11.** <u>Prerequisites for Certifying an Environmental Impact Report or Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration with a Significant Impact on an Identified Tribal Cultural Resource</u>: An Environmental Impact Report may not be certified, nor may a mitigated negative declaration or a negative declaration be adopted unless one of the following occurs:

**a.** The consultation process between the tribes and the lead agency has occurred as provided in Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2 and concluded pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2.

**b.** The tribe that requested consultation failed to provide comments to the lead agency or otherwise failed to engage in the consultation process.

**c.** The lead agency provided notice of the project to the tribe in compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d) and the tribe failed to request consultation within 30 days. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (d)).

The NAHC's PowerPoint presentation titled, "Tribal Consultation Under AB 52: Requirements and Best Practices" may be found online at: <u>http://nahc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AB52TribalConsultation\_CalEPAPDF.pdf</u>

<u>SB 18</u>

SB 18 applies to local governments and requires local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with tribes prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation of open space. (Gov. Code §65352.3). Local governments should consult the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's "Tribal Consultation Guidelines," which can be found online at: <a href="https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09\_14\_05\_Updated\_Guidelines\_922.pdf">https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09\_14\_05\_Updated\_Guidelines\_922.pdf</a>.

Some of SB 18's provisions include:

1. <u>Tribal Consultation</u>: If a local government considers a proposal to adopt or amend a general plan or a specific plan, or to designate open space it is required to contact the appropriate tribes identified by the NAHC by requesting a "Tribal Consultation List." If a tribe, once contacted, requests consultation the local government must consult with the tribe on the plan proposal. A tribe has 90 days from the date of receipt of notification to request consultation unless a shorter timeframe has been agreed to by the tribe. (Gov. Code §65352.3 (a)(2)).

2. No Statutory Time Limit on SB 18 Tribal Consultation. There is no statutory time limit on SB 18 tribal consultation.

**3.** <u>Confidentiality</u>: Consistent with the guidelines developed and adopted by the Office of Planning and Research pursuant to Gov. Code §65040.2, the city or county shall protect the confidentiality of the information concerning the specific identity, location, character, and use of places, features and objects described in Public Resources Code §5097.9 and §5097.993 that are within the city's or county's jurisdiction. (Gov. Code §65352.3 (b)).

4. <u>Conclusion of SB 18 Tribal Consultation</u>: Consultation should be concluded at the point in which:

**a.** The parties to the consultation come to a mutual agreement concerning the appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation; or

**b.** Either the local government or the tribe, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached concerning the appropriate measures of preservation or mitigation. (Tribal Consultation Guidelines, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (2005) at p. 18).

Agencies should be aware that neither AB 52 nor SB 18 precludes agencies from initiating tribal consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with their jurisdictions before the timeframes provided in AB 52 and SB 18. For that reason, we urge you to continue to request Native American Tribal Contact Lists and "Sacred Lands File" searches from the NAHC. The request forms can be found online at: <a href="http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/forms/">http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/forms/</a>.

#### NAHC Recommendations for Cultural Resources Assessments

To adequately assess the existence and significance of tribal cultural resources and plan for avoidance, preservation in place, or barring both, mitigation of project-related impacts to tribal cultural resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

**1.** Contact the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) Center (<u>http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page\_id=1068</u>) for an archaeological records search. The records search will determine:

- **a.** If part or all of the APE has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
- **b.** If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
- c. If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
- d. If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.

**a.** The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum and not be made available for public disclosure.

**b.** The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional CHRIS center.

#### 3. Contact the NAHC for:

**a.** A Sacred Lands File search. Remember that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the Sacred Lands File, nor are they required to do so. A Sacred Lands File search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project's APE.

**b.** A Native American Tribal Consultation List of appropriate tribes for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in planning for avoidance, preservation in place, or, failing both, mitigation measures.

4. Remember that the lack of surface evidence of archaeological resources (including tribal cultural resources) does not preclude their subsurface existence.

**a.** Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of inadvertently discovered archaeological resources per Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15064.5(f) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(f)). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American with knowledge of cultural resources should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.

**b.** Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.

**c.** Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the treatment and disposition of inadvertently discovered Native American human remains. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, Public Resources Code §5097.98, and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15064.5, subdivisions (d) and (e) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5, subds. (d) and (e)) address the processes to be followed in the event of an inadvertent discovery of any Native American human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: <u>Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

andrew Green

Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst

cc: State Clearinghouse



1995 MARKET STREET RIVERSIDE, CA 92501 951.955.1200 951.788.9965 FAX www.rcflood.org

# RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT December 22, 2020

City of Jurupa Valley Planning Department 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

Attention: Patty Anders

Re: MA 17132, 3rd Submittal

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) does not normally recommend conditions for land divisions or other land use cases in incorporated cities. The District also does not plan check City land use cases or provide State Division of Real Estate letters or other flood hazard reports for such cases. District comments/recommendations for such cases are normally limited to items of specific interest to the District including District Master Drainage Plan facilities, other regional flood control and drainage facilities which could be considered a logical component or extension of a master plan system, and District Area Drainage Plan fees (development mitigation fees). In addition, information of a general nature is provided.

The District's review is based on the above-referenced project transmittal, received November 30, 2020. The District **has not** reviewed the proposed project in detail, and the following comments do not in any way constitute or imply District approval or endorsement of the proposed project with respect to flood hazard, public health and safety, or any other such issue:

- This project would not be impacted by District Master Drainage Plan facilities, nor are other facilities of regional interest proposed.
- This project involves District proposed Master Drainage Plan facilities, namely \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. The District will accept ownership of such facilities on written request of the City. Facilities must be constructed to District standards, and District plan check and inspection will be required for District acceptance. Plan check, inspection, and administrative fees will be required.
- This project proposes channels, storm drains 36 inches or larger in diameter, or other facilities that could be considered regional in nature and/or a logical extension of the adopted <u>Rubidoux</u> Master Drainage Plan. The District would consider accepting ownership of such facilities on written request of the City. Facilities must be constructed to District standards, and District plan check and inspection will be required for District acceptance. Plan check, inspection, and administrative fees will be required.
- □ This project is located within the limits of the District's \_\_\_\_\_ Area Drainage Plan for which drainage fees have been adopted. If the project is proposing to create additional impervious surface area, applicable fees should be paid by cashier's check or money order only to the Flood Control District or City prior to issuance of grading or building permits. Fees to be paid should be at the rate in effect at the time of issuance of the actual permit.

234795

- An encroachment permit shall be obtained for any construction related activities occurring within District right of way or facilities, namely, <u>Belltown Line D</u>. For further information, contact the District's Encroachment Permit Section at 951.955.1266.
- $\boxtimes$  The District's previous comments are still valid (see attached letter dated 03/07/19).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This project may require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the State Water Resources Control Board. Clearance for grading, recordation, or other final approval should not be given until the City has determined that the project has been granted a permit or is shown to be exempt.

If this project involves a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapped floodplain, then the City should require the applicant to provide all studies, calculations, plans, and other information required to meet FEMA requirements, and should further require that the applicant obtain a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) prior to grading, recordation, or other final approval of the project and a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) prior to occupancy.

If a natural watercourse or mapped floodplain is impacted by this project, the City should require the applicant to obtain a Section 1602 Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or written correspondence from these agencies indicating the project is exempt from these requirements. A Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification may be required from the local California Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to issuance of the Corps 404 permit.

Very truly yours,

Reborah de Chambeau

DEBORAH DE CHAMBEAU Engineering Project Manager

Attachment

ec: Riverside County Planning Department Attn: John Hildebrand

SLJ:bad



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700 Los Angeles, CA 90017 T: (213) 236-1800 www.scag.ca.gov

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Ms. Patty Anders, Senior Planning Consultant City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, California 92509 Phone: (951) 332-6464 E-mail: <u>panders@jurupavalley.org</u>

# RE: SCAG Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Rubidoux Commerce Park [SCAG NO. IGR10348]

Dear Ms. Anders,

Thank you for submitting the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Rubidoux Commerce Park ("proposed project") to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for review and comment. SCAG is responsible for providing informational resources to regionally significant plans, projects, and programs per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to facilitate the consistency of these projects with SCAG's adopted regional plans, to be determined by the lead agencies.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 375, SCAG is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency under state law and is responsible for preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) including the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). SCAG's feedback is intended to assist local jurisdictions and project proponents to implement projects that have the potential to contribute to attainment of Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) goals and align with RTP/SCS policies. Finally, SCAG is also the authorized regional agency for Inter-Governmental Review (IGR) of programs proposed for Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development activities, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372.

SCAG staff has reviewed the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Rubidoux Commerce Park in Riverside County. The proposed project includes the construction of two warehouse distribution/logistics buildings totaling 1,299,356 square feet, extension of Primavera Avenue, water and wastewater improvements, and drainage improvements on an 80.8-acre site.

# When available, please email environmental documentation to <u>*IGR@scag.ca.gov*</u> providing, at a minimum, the full public comment period for review.

If you have any questions regarding the attached comments, please contact the Inter-Governmental Review (IGR) Program, attn Karen Calderon, Associate Regional Planner, at (213) 236-1983 or <u>IGR@scag.ca.gov</u>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ping Chang

Ping Chang Manager, Compliance and Performance Monitoring

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lead agencies such as local jurisdictions have the sole discretion in determining a local project's consistency with the 2020 RTP/SCS (Connect SoCal) for the purpose of determining consistency for CEQA.

#### COMMENTS ON THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE RUBIDOUX COMMERCE PARK [SCAG NO. IGR10348]

#### CONSISTENCY WITH CONNECT SOCAL

SCAG provides informational resources to facilitate the consistency of the proposed project with the adopted 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS or Connect SoCal). For the purpose of determining consistency with CEQA, lead agencies such as local jurisdictions have the sole discretion in determining a local project's consistency with Connect SoCal.

#### CONNECT SOCAL GOALS

The SCAG Regional Council fully adopted Connect SoCal in September 2020. Connect SoCal, also known as the 2020 – 2045 RTP/SCS, builds upon and expands land use and transportation strategies established over several planning cycles to increase mobility options and achieve a more sustainable growth pattern. The long-range visioning plan balances future mobility and housing needs with goals for the environment, the regional economy, social equity and environmental justice, and public health (see <a href="https://scag.ca.gov/read-plan-adopted-final-plan">https://scag.ca.gov/read-plan-adopted-final-plan</a>). The goals included in Connect SoCal may be pertinent to the proposed project. These goals are meant to provide guidance for considering the proposed project. Among the relevant goals of Connect SoCal are the following:

	SCAG CONNECT SOCAL GOALS
Goal #1:	Encourage regional economic prosperity and global competitiveness
Goal #2:	Improve mobility, accessibility, reliability and travel safety for people and goods
Goal #3:	Enhance the preservation, security, and resilience of the regional transportation system
Goal #4:	Increase person and goods movement and travel choices within the transportation system
Goal #5:	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality
Goal #6:	Support healthy and equitable communities
Goal #7:	Adapt to a changing climate and support an integrated regional development pattern and transportation network
Goal #8:	Leverage new transportation technologies and data-driven solutions that result in more efficient travel
Goal #9:	Encourage development of diverse housing types in areas that are supported by multiple transportation options
Goal #10:	Promote conservation of natural and agricultural lands and restoration of habitats

For ease of review, we encourage the use of a side-by-side comparison of SCAG goals with discussions of the consistency, non-consistency or non-applicability of the goals and supportive analysis in a table format. Suggested format is as follows:

	SCAG CONNECT SOCAL GOALS				
	Goal	Analysis			
Goal #1:	Encourage regional economic prosperity and global competitiveness	Consistent: Statement as to why; Not-Consistent: Statement as to why; Or Not Applicable: Statement as to why; DEIR page number reference			
Goal #2:	Improve mobility, accessibility, reliability and travel safety for people and goods	Consistent: Statement as to why; Not-Consistent: Statement as to why; Or Not Applicable: Statement as to why; DEIR page number reference			
etc.		etc.			

#### Connect SoCal Strategies

To achieve the goals of Connect SoCal, a wide range of land use and transportation strategies are included in the accompanying twenty (20) technical reports. To view Connect SoCal and the accompanying technical reports, please visit: <u>https://scag.ca.gov/read-plan-adopted-final-plan</u>. Connect SoCal builds upon the progress from previous RTP/SCS cycles and continues to focus on integrated, coordinated, and balanced planning for land use and transportation that helps the SCAG region strive towards a more sustainable region, while meeting statutory requirements pertinent to RTP/SCSs. These strategies within the regional context are provided as guidance for lead agencies such as local jurisdictions when the proposed project is under consideration.

The 2020 Connect SoCal also identifies a goods movement system in the SCAG region and develops strategies to address expected growth trends and demands in goods movement. For further information on the goods movement strategies, please see the 2020 Connect SoCal Goods Movement Technical Report (https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/0903fconnectsocal\_goods-movement.pdf?1606001690).

For further information on industrial development and warehousing in Southern California, please see "Industrial Warehousing in the SCAG Region" (<u>https://scag.ca.gov/freightworks</u>).

#### **DEMOGRAPHICS AND GROWTH FORECASTS**

A key, formative step in projecting future population, households, and employment through 2045 for Connect SoCal was the generation of a forecast of regional and county level growth in collaboration with expert demographers and economists on Southern California. From there, jurisdictional level forecasts were ground-truthed by subregions and local agencies, which helped SCAG identify opportunities and barriers to future development. This forecast helps the region understand, in a very general sense, where we are expected to grow, and allows SCAG to focus attention on areas that are experiencing change and may have increased transportation needs. After a year-long engagement effort with all 197 jurisdictions one-on-one. 82 percent of SCAG's 197 jurisdictions provided feedback on the forecast of future growth for Connect SoCal. SCAG also sought feedback on potential sustainable growth strategies from a broad range of stakeholder groups - including local jurisdictions, county transportation commissions, other partner agencies, industry groups, community-based organizations, and the general public. Connect SoCal utilizes a bottom-up approach in that total projected growth for each jurisdiction reflects feedback received from jurisdiction staff, including city managers, community development/planning directors, and local staff. Growth at the neighborhood level (i.e. transportation analysis zone (TAZ)) reflects entitled projects and adheres to current general and specific plan maximum densities as conveyed by jurisdictions (except in cases where entitled projects and development agreements exceed these capacities as calculated by SCAG). Neighborhood level growth projections also feature strategies that help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from automobiles and light trucks to achieve Southern California's GHG reduction target,

approved by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in accordance with state planning law. Connect SoCal's Forecasted Development Pattern is utilized for long range modeling purposes and does not supersede actions taken by elected bodies on future development, including entitlements and development agreements. SCAG does not have the authority to implement the plan -- neither through decisions about what type of development is built where, nor what transportation projects are ultimately built, as Connect SoCal is adopted at the jurisdictional level. Achieving a sustained regional outcome depends upon informed and intentional local action. To access jurisdictional level growth estimates and forecasts for years 2016 and 2045, please refer to the Connect SoCal Demographics and Growth Forecast Technical Report: <a href="https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/0903fconnectsocal\_demographics-and-growth-forecast.pdf?1606001579">https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/0903fconnectsocal\_demographics-and-growth-forecast.pdf?1606001579</a>. The growth forecasts for the region and applicable jurisdictions are below.

	Adopted SCAG Region Wide Forecasts				Adopted City of Jurupa Valley Forecasts			recasts
	Year 2020	Year 2030	Year 2035	Year 2045	Year 2020	Year 2030	Year 2035	Year 2045
Population	19,517,731	20,821,171	21,443,006	22,503,899	102,245	108,358	111,485	117,799
Households	6,333,458	6,902,821	7,170,110	7,633,451	26,335	28,545	29,654	31,802
Employment	8,695,427	9,303,627	9,566,384	10,048,822	28,435	30,169	30,746	31,341

#### **MITIGATION MEASURES**

SCAG staff recommends that you review the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (Final PEIR) for Connect SoCal for guidance, as appropriate. SCAG's Regional Council certified the PEIR and adopted the associated Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations (FOF/SOC) and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) on May 7, 2020 and also adopted a PEIR Addendum and amended the MMRP on September 3, 2020 (please see: <a href="https://scag.ca.gov/program-environmental-impact-report">https://scag.ca.gov/program-environmental-impact-report</a>; and scroll to the bottom of the page for the PEIR Addendum). The PEIR includes a list of project-level performance standards-based mitigation measures that may be considered for adoption and implementation by lead, responsible, or trustee agencies in the region, as applicable and feasible. Project-level mitigation measures are within responsibility, authority, and/or jurisdiction of project-implementing agency or other public agency serving as lead agency under CEQA in subsequent project- and site- specific design, CEQA review, and decision-making processes, to meet the performance standards for each of the CEQA resource categories.



SENT VIA E-MAIL:

December 15, 2020

panders@jurupavalley.org Patty Anders, Senior Planning Consultant City of Jurupa Valley, Planning Department 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, California 92509

#### <u>Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the</u> <u>Rubidoux Commerce Park Project (Proposed Project)</u>

South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. Our comments are recommendations on the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the Proposed Project that should be included in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Please send a copy of the EIR upon its completion and public release directly to South Coast AQMD as copies of the EIR submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded. In addition, please send all appendices and technical documents related to the air quality, health risk, and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all emission calculation spreadsheets, and air quality modeling and health risk assessment input and output files (not PDF files). Any delays in providing all supporting documentation for our review will require additional review time beyond the end of the comment period.

#### **CEQA Air Quality Analysis**

Staff recommends that the Lead Agency use South Coast AQMD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook and website<sup>1</sup> as guidance when preparing the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses. It is also recommended that the Lead Agency use the CalEEMod<sup>2</sup> land use emissions software, which can estimate pollutant emissions from typical land use development and is the only software model maintained by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association.

South Coast AQMD has developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. South Coast AQMD staff recommends that the Lead Agency quantify criteria pollutant emissions and compare the emissions to South Coast AQMD's CEQA regional pollutant emissions significance thresholds<sup>3</sup> and localized significance thresholds (LSTs)<sup>4</sup> to determine the Proposed Project's air quality impacts. The localized analysis can be conducted by either using the LST screening tables or performing dispersion modeling.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the Proposed Project and all air pollutant sources related to the Proposed Project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> South Coast AQMD's CEQA Handbook and other resources for preparing air quality analyses can be found at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CalEEMod is available free of charge at: <u>www.caleemod.com</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> South Coast AQMD's CEQA regional pollutant emissions significance thresholds can be found at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> South Coast AQMD's guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/localized-significance-thresholds.</u>

mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips, and hauling trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers and air pollution control devices), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, such as sources that generate or attract vehicular trips, should be included in the analysis. Furthermore, emissions from the overlapping construction and operational activities should be combined and compared to South Coast AQMD's regional air quality CEQA <u>operational</u> thresholds to determine the level of significance.

If the Proposed Project generates diesel emissions from long-term construction or attracts diesel-fueled vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the Lead Agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment<sup>5</sup>.

In the event that implementation of the Proposed Project requires a permit from South Coast AQMD, South Coast AQMD should be identified as a Responsible Agency for the Proposed Project in the EIR. The assumptions in the air quality analysis in the EIR will be the basis for evaluating the permit under CEQA and imposing permit conditions and limits. Questions on permits should be directed to South Coast AQMD's Engineering and Permitting staff at (909) 396-3385.

The California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective<sup>6</sup> is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process with additional guidance on strategies to reduce air pollution exposure near high-volume roadways available in CARB's technical advisory<sup>7</sup>.

South Coast AQMD staff is concerned about potential public health impacts of siting warehouses within close proximity of sensitive land uses, especially in communities that are already heavily affected by the existing warehouse and truck activities. The South Coast AQMD's Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES IV), completed in May 2015, concluded that the largest contributor to cancer risk from air pollution is diesel particulate matter (DPM) emissions<sup>8</sup>. According to the MATES IV Carcinogenic Risk interactive Map, the area surrounding the Proposed Project has an estimated cancer risk over 1,002 in one million<sup>9</sup>. Operation of warehouses generates and attracts heavy-duty diesel-fueled trucks that emit DPM. When the health impacts from the Proposed Project are added to those existing impacts, residents living in the communities surrounding the Proposed Project will possibly face an even greater exposure to air pollution and bear a disproportionate burden of increasing health risks.

#### Mitigation Measures

In the event that the Proposed Project results in significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized to minimize these impacts. Any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be analyzed. Several resources to assist the Lead Agency with identifying potential mitigation measures for the Proposed Project include South Coast AQMD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook<sup>1</sup>, South Coast AQMD's Mitigation Monitoring and

http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/air-quality/air-toxic-studies/mates-iv/mates-iv-final-draft-report-4-1-15.pdf. <sup>9</sup> South Coast AQMD. MATES IV Estimated Risk. Accessed at: https://scaqmd-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> South Coast AQMD's guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment can be found at:

http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mobile-source-toxics-analysis. <sup>6</sup> CARB's Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective can be found at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CARB's technical advisory can be found at: <u>https://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/landuse.htm</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> South Coast AQMD. May 2015. *Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study in the South Coast Air Basin*. Available at:

online.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=470c30bc6daf4ef6a43f0082973ff45f.

Reporting Plan for the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan<sup>10</sup>, and Southern California Association of Government's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy<sup>11</sup>.

Mitigation measures for operational air quality impacts from mobile sources that the Lead Agency should consider in the EIR may include the following:

- Require zero-emissions (ZE) or near-zero emission (NZE) on-road haul trucks such as heavyduty trucks with natural gas engines that meet the CARB's adopted optional NOx emissions standard at 0.02 grams per brake horsepower-hour (g/bhp-hr), if and when feasible. Given the state's clean truck rules and regulations aiming to accelerate the utilization and market penetration of ZE and NZE trucks such as the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule<sup>12</sup> and the Heavy-Duty Low NOx Omnibus Regulation<sup>13</sup>, ZE and NZE trucks will become increasingly more available to use. The Lead Agency should require a phase-in schedule to incentive the use of these cleaner operating trucks to reduce any significant adverse air quality impacts. South Coast AQMD staff is available to discuss the availability of current and upcoming truck technologies and incentive programs with the Lead Agency. At a minimum, require the use of 2010 model year<sup>14</sup> that meet CARB's 2010 engine emissions standards at 0.01 g/bhp-hr of particulate matter (PM) and 0.20 g/bhp-hr of NOx emissions or newer, cleaner trucks. Include environmental analyses to evaluate and identify sufficient electricity and supportive infrastructures in the Energy and Utilities and Service Systems Sections in the CEQA document, where appropriate. Include the requirement in applicable bid documents, purchase orders, and contracts. Operators shall maintain records of all trucks associated with project construction to document that each truck used meets these emission standards, and make the records available for inspection. The Lead Agency should conduct regular inspections to the maximum extent feasible to ensure compliance.
- Limit the daily number of trucks allowed at the Proposed Project to levels analyzed in the Final CEQA document. If higher daily truck volumes are anticipated to visit the site, the Lead Agency should commit to re-evaluating the Proposed Project through CEQA prior to allowing this higher activity level.
- Provide electric vehicle (EV) charging stations or at a minimum, provide the electrical infrastructure and electrical panels should be appropriately sized. Electrical hookups should be provided for truckers to plug in any onboard auxiliary equipment.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> South Coast AQMD's 2016 Air Quality Management Plan can be found at: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/Agendas/Governing-Board/2017/2017-mar3-035.pdf</u> (starting on page 86).
<sup>11</sup> Southern California Association of Governments' 2020-2045 RTP/SCS can be found at:

https://www.connectsocal.org/Documents/PEIR/certified/Exhibit-A ConnectSoCal PEIR.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> CARB. June 25, 2020. Advanced Clean Trucks Rule. Accessed at: <u>https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/advanced-clean-trucks</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> CARB has recently passed a variety of new regulations that require new, cleaner heavy-duty truck technology to be sold and used in state. For example, on August 27, 2020, CARB approved the Heavy-Duty Low NOx Omnibus Regulation, which will require all trucks to meet the adopted emission standard of 0.05 g/hp-hr starting with engine model year 2024. Accessed at: <u>https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/rulemaking/2020/hdomnibuslownox</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> CARB adopted the statewide Truck and Bus Regulation in 2010. The Regulation requires diesel trucks and buses that operate in California to be upgraded to reduce emissions. Newer heavier trucks and buses must meet particulate matter filter requirements beginning January 1, 2012. Lighter and older heavier trucks must be replaced starting January 1, 2015. By January 1, 2023, nearly all trucks and buses will need to have 2010 model year engines or equivalent. More information on the CARB's Truck and Bus Regulation is available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm.

Mitigation measures for operational air quality impacts from other area sources that the Lead Agency should consider in the EIR may include the following:

- Maximize use of solar energy by installing solar energy arrays.
- Use light colored paving and roofing materials.
- Utilize only Energy Star heating, cooling, and lighting devices, and appliances.
- Use of water-based or low VOC cleaning products that go beyond the requirements of South Coast AQMD Rule 1113.

Design considerations for the Proposed Project that the Lead Agency should consider to further reduce air quality and health risk impacts include the following:

- Clearly mark truck routes with trailblazer signs, so that trucks will not travel next to or near sensitive land uses (e.g., residences, schools, day care centers, etc.).
- Design the Proposed Project such that truck entrances and exits are not facing sensitive receptors and trucks will not travel past sensitive land uses to enter or leave the Proposed Project site.
- Design the Proposed Project such that any check-in point for trucks is inside the Proposed Project site to ensure that there are no trucks queuing outside.
- Design the Proposed Project to ensure that truck traffic inside the Proposed Project site is as far away as feasible from sensitive receptors.
- Restrict overnight truck parking in sensitive land uses by providing overnight truck parking inside the Proposed Project site.

South Coast AQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that air quality, greenhouse gas, and health risk impacts from the Proposed Project are accurately evaluated and mitigated where feasible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at <u>lsun@aqmd.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Lijin Sun

Lijin Sun, J.D. Program Supervisor, CEQA IGR Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

LS <u>RVC201201-05</u> Control Number



December 14, 2020

City of Jurupa Valley 8930 Limonite Ave., Suite 'M' Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

Attention: Patty Anders/Planning Department

Subject: Tentative Parcel Map No. 37677 (MA17132)

Our review of the subject subdivision map reveals that the proposed development may interfere with easement rights, and/or facilities held by Southern California Edison within or adjacent to the subdivision boundaries. Until such time as arrangements have been made with the developer to eliminate this interference, the development of the subdivision may unreasonably interfere with the complete and free exercise of Edison's rights.

One copy of the following maps with scaled plans (1"=50' maximum), including all maps submitted in hard copies or emailed in pdf format: including grading, drainage, landscape and street improvement plans are required to be submitted by the developer to determine the extent of the interference. The Edison facilities and the easements should be plotted on the above reference maps. Included with the above referenced plans, the developer must state the proposed method to eliminate any interference. Plans should be forwarded to my attention at the following address:

Southern California Edison Company

Attention: Jeff Clark Jeff.clark@sce.com

If you have any questions, or need additional information in connection with the subject subdivision, please contact me at (909) 274-1078.

Jeff Clark Title and Valuation Vegetation & Land Management