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Date:	December 12, 2022	E PROFESSIONAL
Prepared by:	Meghan Macias, T.E., Daji Yuan, Ph.D.	Sale ANCIA
То:	City of Menifee Engineering Department	a ≥ No. 2697 00 H
Site:	APNs – 331-060-036, 331-060-021, City of Menifee Plot Plan No. PLN 21-0290, Change of Zone No. PLN 21-0260 EPD Project Number 21-185	* Exp. 03-31-24 *
Subject:	Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Analysis	

This Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Analysis evaluates the potential VMT for the Ethanac/Barnett Warehouse project located in the City of Menifee. The project is located on the south side of Ethanac Road and west of Barnett Road in the City of Menifee. The project site plan is shown in Figure 1. This Analysis is based on the requirements of the City of Menifee Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) Guidelines for Vehicle Miles Traveled, January 2022.

# **Project Description**

The project site is comprised of two adjacent parcels (APNs -331-060-036, 331-060-021) totaling an area of 13.89 acres. The development proposes the construction of two speculative buildings totaling 251,133 square feet (SF). 10 percent of the total square footage would be allocated for manufacturing and 90 percent would be allocated for warehousing.

The project will be accessible via four driveways, one on Ethanac Road and three on Barnett Road. Project driveway 1 would be accessible to passenger vehicles only and restricted to right-in and right-out movements due to the median on Ethanac Road. Project driveway 2 would be accessible to passenger vehicles and trucks and would also be restricted to right-in and right-out movements due to the planned median on Barnett Road at the time the project is built. Project driveway 3 would be a full access driveway accessible to trucks only, and project driveway 4 would be a full access driveway accessible to passenger vehicles and trucks.

Vehicle trips were generated for the project using trip rates for manufacturing and warehouse land uses from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) *Trip Generation Manual*, 11th Edition. The project trip generation is shown in Table 1. The proposed Ethanac/Barnett Warehouse Project would generate a total of 506 daily trips, 56 AM peak hour trips and 59 PM peak hour trips.

				AM Peak Hour		Hour	PM Peak Hour		
Land Use		Units	Daily	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
<u>Trip Rates</u>									
Manufacturing <sup>1</sup>		TSF	4.75	0.52	0.16	0.68	0.23	0.51	0.74
Warehouse <sup>2</sup>		TSF	1.71	0.13	0.04	0.17	0.05	0.13	0.18
Total Vehicle Trip Generation									
Proposed Manufacturing	25.113	TSF	119	13	4	17	6	13	19
Proposed Warehouse	226.020	TSF	386	30	9	38	11	29	41
Total Trip Generation			506	43	13	56	17	42	59
<u>Vehicle Mix</u> <sup>3</sup>		<u>Percent</u>							
Passenger Vehicles		72.50%	367	31	9	40	12	31	43
2-Axle Trucks		4.60%	23	2	1	3	1	2	3
3-Axle Trucks		5.70%	29	2	1	3	1	2	3
4+-Axle Trucks		17.20%	87	7	2	10	3	7	10
		100%	506	43	13	56	17	42	59
PCE Trip Generation <sup>4</sup>		PCE Factor							
Passenger Vehicles		1.0	367	31	9	40	12	31	43
2-Axle Trucks		1.5	35	3	1	4	1	3	4
3-Axle Trucks		2.0	58	5	1	6	2	5	7
4+-Axle Trucks		3.0	261	22	7	29	9	22	31
Total PCE Trip Generation			720	61	18	79	24	60	84

#### **Table 1: Project Trip Generation**

 $\mathsf{TSF} = \mathsf{Thousand} \; \mathsf{Square} \; \mathsf{Feet}$ 

PCE = Passenger Car Equivalent

<sup>1</sup>Trip rates from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, *Trip Generation Manual*, 11th Edition, 2021. Land Use Code 140 - Manufacturing.

<sup>2</sup>Trip rates from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, *Trip Generation Manual*, 11th Edition, 2021. Land Use Code 150 - Warehousing.

<sup>3</sup>Vehicle Mix from the SCAQMD Warehouse Truck Trip Study Data Results and Usage, July 2014. Classification: Without Cold Storage

<sup>4</sup>Passenger Car Equivalent (PCE) factors from San Bernardino County CMP, Appendix B - Guidelines for CMP Traffic Impact Analysis Reports in San Bernardino County, 2016

# Background

Senate Bill (SB) 743 was signed by Governor Brown in 2013 and required the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to amend the CEQA Guidelines to provide an alternative to LOS for evaluating Transportation impacts. SB743 specified that the new criteria should promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks and a diversity of land uses. The bill also specified that delay-based level of service could no longer be considered an indicator of a significant impact on the environment. In response, Section 15064.3 was added to the CEQA Guidelines beginning January 1, 2019. Section 15064.3 - Determining the Significance of Transportation Impacts states that Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is the most appropriate measure of transportation impacts and provides lead agencies with the discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology and thresholds for evaluating VMT. Section 15064.3(c) states that the provisions of the section shall apply statewide beginning on July 1, 2020.

# VMT Screening Analysis

The project is located in the City of Menifee. The City has adopted screening and analysis guidelines for the preparation of VMT analyses<sup>1</sup>. The City's guidelines provide criteria for projects that would be considered to have a less-than significant impact on VMT and therefore could be screened from requiring further analysis. If a project meets one of the following criteria, then the VMT impact of the project is considered less-than significant and no further analysis of VMT would be required:

- 1. The project is located within a Transit Priority Area (TPA).
- 2. The project is located in a low VMT generating area.
- 3. Project Type the project is a local-serving land use or generates less than 110 daily vehicle trips.

The applicability of each criterion to the proposed project is discussed below.

<u>Screening Criteria 1 - Transit Priority Area Screening</u>: According to the City's guidelines, projects located in a TPA may be presumed to have a less than significant impact. The project is not located in a TPA; therefore, the project would not satisfy the requirements of Screening Criteria 1 - TPA screening.

<u>Screening Criteria 2 - Low VMT Area Screening</u>: The City's guidelines include a screening threshold for residential and office projects located in a low VMT generating area. Low VMT generating area is defined as traffic analysis zones (TAZ) with a total daily VMT/Service Population (employment plus population) that is less than the County of Riverside General Plan Buildout VMT per service population. The project zone was evaluated using the WRCOG VMT Screening Tool. According to the screening tool, Project Zone 1113 has a VMT/Service Population of 38.6 and the County VMT/Service Population threshold is 33.6. Therefore, the project zone is not considered a low VMT area and would not satisfy the requirements of Screening Criteria 2. The TPA and Low VMT Area Screening is shown in Figure 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> City of Menifee, *Traffic Impact Analysis Guidelines for Vehicle Miles Traveled*, January 2022.

<u>Screening Criteria 3 – Project Type Screening</u>: This criterion would apply to land uses that are considered local serving, as well as projects that generate less than 110 daily vehicle trips. The project is not considered a local serving use. The project trip generation was evaluated using trip rates from the ITE *Trip Generation Manual*, 11th Edition (2021). The project was analyzed as 10 percent manufacturing and 90 percent warehouse land use. The project trip generation is shown in Table 1. As stated in Section 15064.3, subdivision (a) of the CEQA guidelines, VMT "refers to the amount and distance of automobile travel attributable to a project"; therefore, only passenger vehicle trips were used for Screening Criteria 3. The project would generate 367 daily passenger vehicle trips, which is more than 110 daily vehicle trips, and therefore the project would not meet Screening Criteria 3.

Because the project would not meet any of the City's screening criteria, an analysis of VMT would be required.

#### Project VMT Evaluation

The City's guidelines require use of the RIVCOM model for preparation of VMT analysis. However, the guidelines specify that routine projects that are simple in nature and that are similar to other standard land uses in the City and model can use the WRCOG VMT calculator, instead of the RIVCOM model. As shown in Figure 3, the project is consistent with the future socioeconomic data in the zone, which includes 190 construction jobs, 68 manufacturing jobs, 5 retail jobs, and 263 transportation, warehousing and utility jobs. Because the project is consistent with the existing and future planned land uses in the area, it would be appropriate to utilize the WRCOG VMT calculator to evaluate the project's VMT impacts.

The project would result in a significant project generated VMT impact if either of the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1. The baseline project generated VMT per service population exceeds the County of Riverside General Plan Buildout VMT per service population, or
- 2. The cumulative project generated VMT per service population exceeds the County of Riverside General Plan Buildout VMT per service population.

The results of the WRCOG VMT tool are shown in Figures 3 and 4 and are summarized in Table 2. The year 2030 was used for the Cumulative analysis as this is the latest year available from the WRCOG VMT tool. As shown in Table 2, the project VMT/SP in the baseline and cumulative scenarios would be less than the County General Plan Buildout VMT/SP. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant VMT impact.

Scenario	Project VMT/SP	Threshold <sup>1</sup>	Impact?
Baseline (2022)	24.7	25 2 \/MT /SD	No
Cumulative (2030)	27.4	33.3 ¥M1/3P	No

Table 2:	VMT	Analysis	Summary
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VMT/SP = VMT per Service Population (total of population and employment)

 $^{1}$ Threshold is equal to the County of Riverside General Plan VMT/SP.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at daji@epdsolutions.com or at (949) 794-1180.

**Figure 1: Project Site Plan** 





#### Figure 2: VMT Screening Analysis

# Figure 3. 2022 VMT Using the WRCOG VMT Tool

# Western Riverside Council of Governments VMT Tool



### Figure 4. 2030 VMT Using the WRCOG VMT Tool

# Western Riverside Council of Governments VMT Tool

