

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 8

PLANNING (MS 722)

464 WEST 4th STREET, 6th Floor

SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401-1400

PHONE (909) 383-4557

FAX (909) 383-5936

TTY (909) 383-6300

www.dot.ca.gov/dist8



*Serious drought
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November 14, 2014

County of Orange
Christina Taylor
OC Public Works/OC Development Services
300 N. Flower Street
Santa Ana, CA 92702-4048

The Preserve at San Juan (PA130026) Notice of Preparation and Scoping (Riv-74 PM 4.59)

Ms. Taylor,

We have completed our initial review for the above mentioned proposal to construct 72 single-family residences on 583.3 acres in the unincorporated portion of Orange County adjacent to unincorporated Riverside County. The project includes the development of 24.5 acres of vineyards that would be located through the site. Of the 583.3 acres 507.8 acres will remain as open space.

As the owner and operator of the State Highway System (SHS), it is our responsibility to coordinate and consult with local jurisdictions when proposed development may impact our facilities. As the responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), it is also our responsibility to make recommendations to offset associated impacts with the proposed project. Although the project is under the jurisdiction of the County of Orange due to the Project's potential impact to State facilities it is also subject to the policies and regulations that govern the SHS.

We recommend the following to be provided:

Traffic Study

- A Traffic Impact Study (TIS) is necessary to determine this proposed project's near-term and long-term impacts to the State facilities and to propose appropriate mitigation measures. The study should be based on Caltrans' *Guide for the Preparation of Traffic Impact Studies (TIS)* which is located at the following website:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ocp/igr_ceqa_files/tisguide.pdf
Minimum contents of the traffic impact study are listed in Appendix "A" of the TIS guide.
- Traffic Impact further away from the project is typically not required because a project's potential impacts to the SHS dissipate to less than significant levels as traffic disperses throughout the transportation system.

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- The data used in the TIS should not be more than 2 years old.
- The geographic area examined in the traffic study should include as a minimum all regionally significant arterial system segments and intersections, including State highway facilities where the project will add over 100 peak hour trips. State highway facilities that are experiencing noticeable delays should be analyzed in the scope of the traffic study for projects that add 50 to 100 peak hour trips.
- Traffic Analysis Scenarios should clearly be exhibited as exiting, existing + project, existing + project + cumulative, and existing + project + cumulative + ambient growth.
- Caltrans endeavors that any direct and cumulative impacts to the State highway system be eliminated or reduced to a level of insignificance pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) standards.
- The LOS for operating State highway facilities is based upon Measures of Effectiveness (MOE) identified in the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM). Caltrans endeavors to maintain a target LOS at the transition between LOS “C” and LOS “D” on State highway facilities; however, Caltrans acknowledges that this may not always be feasible and recommends that the lead agency consult with Caltrans to determine the appropriate target LOS. If an existing State highway facility is operating at less than this target LOS, the existing MOE should be maintained. In general, the region-wide goal for an acceptable LOS on all freeways, roadway segments, and intersections is “D”. For undeveloped or not densely developed locations, the goal may be to achieve LOS “C”.
- Clearly indicate LOS with and without improvements.
- It is recommended that the Synchro Analysis includes all intersections from the Project site to the proposed study areas. A PHF of 0.92 in urban areas is recommended to be used in the Synchro Analysis.
- All freeway entrance and exit ramps where a proposed project will add a significant number of peak-hour trips that may cause any traffic queues to exceed storage capacities should be analyzed. If ramp metering is to occur, a ramp queue analysis for all nearby Caltrans metered on-ramps is required to identify the delay to motorists using the on-ramps and the storage necessary to accommodate the queuing. The effects of ramp metering should be analyzed in the traffic study. For metered freeway ramps, LOS does not apply. However, ramp meter delays above 15 minutes are considered excessive.
- Proposed improvements should be exhibited in preliminary drawings that indicate the LOS with improvements.

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- Please submit a hard copy of all Traffic Impact Analysis documents and an electronic Synchro Analysis file.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer comments concerning this project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Talvin Dennis at (909) 806-3957 or myself at (909) 383-4557 for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

MARK ROBERTS
Office Chief
Community and Regional/Interregional Planning IGR