

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4

OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

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www.dot.ca.gov

*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.***Governor's Office of Planning & Research****June 15 2021**

June 15, 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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Kristinae Toomians, Senior Planner
City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Ave., Room 3
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**Re: Elnoka Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) Project Draft
Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)**

Dear Kristinae Toomians:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for this project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the April 2021 DEIR.

Project Understanding

The applicant proposes the development of 676 residential units and a 62-unit care center. The project would be developed in phases over time. The first phase would contain 202 units of project housing, including 12 attached units intended for employee housing. The remaining 462 units would be built in subsequent phases over time based on market conditions. There would be a total of approximately 975 residents on-site at full buildout. The site is directly adjacent to State Route (SR)-12.

Signal Operations along SR-12

If the alternative proposed signal at the project driveway on SR-12 (referenced in Appendix J) is selected, the signal should be interconnected with the signal at Melita Road to provide signal coordination. Please concur with Caltrans Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) of Traffic Operations for this new intersection. More information about the ICE process can be found here: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ice>.

Bike and Pedestrian Facilities along SR-12

The District 4 Bike Plan (<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-popular-links/d4-bike-plan>) includes proposed Class II bike Lanes on SR-12 from Napa Road to Farmers Lane and a current project is installing Class II Bike Lanes on Farmer's Road. Additionally, the D4 Bike Plan calls for Class I bike facilities on SR-12 from Melita Road to Agua Caliente Road further south.

The Sonoma Countywide Bike Plan as well as the City of Santa Rosa Bike Plan also propose both Class II and Class I bike facilities on SR-12 in the vicinity of the proposed development as well.

With this in mind, any proposed traffic pockets or lanes added to SR-12 to accommodate the proposed development should accommodate these planned bike facilities on SR-12 along the proposed development frontage. Adequate right-of-way will need to be maintained for that purpose.

Additionally, additional improvements may be needed to accommodate pedestrians who work or live at the proposed development and who will be crossing SR-12 at Melita Road and nearby intersections to reach transit. This might involve changes to signal timing, bulb-outs at the intersection, high visibility crosswalks or talking signals to accommodate those with visual impairment.

Construction-related Impacts

Potential impacts to SR-12 from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on state roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to SR-12.

As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Any Caltrans facilities that are impacted by the project must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion.

Kristinae Toomians, Senior Planner

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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mark Leong at mark.leong@dot.ca.gov. Additionally, for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please contact LDIGR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MARK LEONG

District Branch Chief

Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse