

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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**Governor's Office of Planning & Research**

**Feb 25 2021**

## **STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

February 25, 2021

Michael Klein, AICP, Senior Planner  
Community Development Department  
100 Civic Center Way  
Calabasas, California 91302

RE: City of Calabasas 2021-2029 Housing  
Element – Notice of Preparation (NOP)  
SCH# 2021020150  
GTS# 07-LA-2021-03494  
Vic. LA-101 PM 30

Dear Michael Klein,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The project applies to the entire City of Calabasas (citywide). Land uses are regulated under the City of Calabasas' General Plan, which was comprehensively updated in 2008. Existing land uses in the city consist of residential at varying densities, commercial, mixed use, institutional public facilities, and open space. The project consists of a comprehensive update to the Housing Element and related updates to the Land Use Element and Land Use Map of the City of Calabasas' General Plan. The project also includes updates to the Safety Element and Circulation Element in compliance with new State rules.

After reviewing the NOP, Caltrans does not expect project approval to result in a direct adverse impact to the existing State transportation facilities. However, to accommodate the additional housing units and not induce demand for excessive Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT), Caltrans recommends significantly reducing or eliminating car parking requirements. Research looking at the relationship between land-use, parking, and transportation indicates that car parking prioritizes driving above all other travel modes and undermines a community's ability to choose public transit and active modes of transportation. For any community or city to better support all modes of transportation and reduce vehicle miles traveled, we recommend the implementation of a TDM ordinance, as an alternative to requiring car parking.

Caltrans looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) to confirm that the Project will result in a net reduction in VMT.

Michael Klein  
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If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at [anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov](mailto:anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov) and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2021-03494.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON  
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief  
cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse