

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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**Governor's Office of Planning & Research**

**May 24 2021**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

May 24, 2021

Ms. Beck Napier, Deputy Director Administration  
Kern Council of Governments  
1401 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

File: Ker-var  
NOP DPEIR  
SCH#: 2021050012

**2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy- Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)**

Dear Ms. Napier,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 appreciates the opportunity to comment during the NOP phase for the RTP and Sustainable Communities Strategy draft PEIR. We offer the following:

- While localized transportation impacts from development projects are assessed and hence, mitigated/conditioned at the project level, more regionally based mitigation options might be merited especially for cumulative impacts and the Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) realm. Please consider and assess mitigation options (e.g. fee programs for transit, multi modal travel, etc.) applicable at a regional/geographical level in rural areas for VMT. Such options must also be balanced with the efficient operation of the overall transportation system.

We value our ongoing cooperative working relationship with Kern COG for eastern Kern County's transportation system and look forward to review of your draft PEIR. For any questions, feel free to contact me at (760) 874-8330 or [gayle.rosander@dot.ca.gov](mailto:gayle.rosander@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gayle J. Rosander".

GAYLE J. ROSANDER  
External Project Liaison

c: State Clearinghouse  
Lorena Menibles, Lupita Mendoza; Caltrans D-6  
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