

## California Department of Transportation

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July 27, 2022

11-SD-52-67-125

VAR

City of Santee Housing Element Rezone Program Implementation  
DEIR/SCH# 2021100263

Mr. Michael Coyne  
Associate Planner  
City of Santee  
Development Services Department  
10601 Magnolia Avenue  
Santee, CA 92071

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

**JUL 28 2022**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Dear Mr. Coyne:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the City of Santee Housing Element Rezone Program Implementation Plan (SCH# 2021100263) located near State Route 52 (SR-52), 67 (SR-67), and 125 (SR-125). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Safety is one of Caltrans' strategic goals. Caltrans strives to make the year 2050 the first year without a single death or serious injury on California's roads. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.

Caltrans is committed to prioritizing projects that are equitable and provide meaningful benefits to historically underserved communities, to ultimately improve transportation accessibility and quality of life for people in the communities we serve.

We look forward to working with the City of Santee (City) in areas where the City and Caltrans have joint jurisdiction to improve the transportation network and connections between various modes of travel, with the goal of improving the experience of those who use the transportation system.

Caltrans has the following comments:

### **VMT and Greenhouse Gas Reductions**

- Caltrans encourages the City to work towards meeting State goals of GHG emissions and VMT reductions through Transportation Demand Management strategies as expressed in section “4.2 – Mitigation Measures” of the Transportation Impact Study (dated May, 25, 2022) to reach 15% below the regional average for your Sixth Cycle Housing Element Rezone Program Implementation Plan.
- We encourage the City to utilize strategies that will help the City achieve conformance with State GHG emission and VMT reduction goals including Transportation System Management.

### **Environmental**

Should future projects based upon the changes enacted from the Housing Element have elements and/or mitigation measures that affect Caltrans Right-of-Way (R/W), Caltrans would welcome the opportunity to be a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### **Mitigation**

Caltrans endeavors that any direct and cumulative impacts to the State Highway network be eliminated or reduced to a level of insignificance pursuant to the CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) standards.

### **Right-of-Way**

Any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction. As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide an approved final

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environmental document including the CEQA determination addressing any environmental impacts with Caltrans' R/W, and any corresponding technical studies.

Please see the following chapters in the Caltrans' manuals:

- Chapter 600 of the Encroachment Permits Manual for requirements regarding utilities and state R/W: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/traffic-operations/documents/encroachment-permits/chapter-6-ada-a11y.pdf> .
- Chapter 2-2.13 of the Plans Preparation Manual for requirements regarding utilities and state R/W: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/cadd/ppm-text-ch2-sect2-13-a11y.pdf>
- Chapter 17 of the Project Development Procedures Manual <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/pdpm-chapter17-a11y.pdf>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Charlie Lecourtois, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 985-4766 or by e-mail sent to [Charlie.Lecourtois@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Charlie.Lecourtois@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Maurice A. Eaton*

MAURICE EATON  
Branch Chief  
Local Development Review