

## California Department of Transportation

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

February 6, 2023

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### STATE CLEARING HOUSE

FRE-GEN

GPU – Draft General Plan Update  
City of Fowler 2040 General Plan and DEIR  
SCH # 2021110053

<https://ld-igr-gts.dot.ca.gov/district/6/report/28605>

### SENT VIA EMAIL

Thomas W. Gaffery IV, Community and Economic Development Director  
Community and Economic Development Department  
City of Fowler  
128 S. 5th Street  
Fowler, CA 93625

Dear Mx. Gaffery:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Fowler 2040 General Plan (GP) and the associated Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). The Draft GP is a planning document that establishes policies and land uses that guide the growth and development for the City of Fowler specifically looking toward the planning horizon of 2040. The DEIR is a document that analyzes and discloses the potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the adoption of the Draft GP.

Caltrans provides the following comments consistent with the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and sustainable communities:

1. It is understood that the City has adopted transportation impact criteria based on the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as presented in the Fresno Council of Governments' *Fresno County SB 743 Implementation Regional Guidelines*, as noted in the DEIR Appendix I, Traffic Study for the Draft GP. Caltrans encourages the City and project proponents of future developments coordinate with Caltrans in regard to projects that have the potential to impact the State Highway System (SHS), such as State Route (SR) 99 facilities.

2. Appendix I – Traffic Study, Page 10, intersections identified for potential control improvements include SR 99 northbound and southbound ramps at Clovis Avenue as well as the SR 99 southbound on-ramp at Fowler Avenue. It is recommended that when these identified improvements are warranted for implementation that they be coordinated with Caltrans. Further analysis on these improvements will be required and includes processes such as Caltrans' Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) process.
3. Please note that future further studies such as transportation impact studies, queueing analyses, or safety analyses may be needed for the land uses near the SR 99 interchanges within the City of Fowler.
4. Chapter 9, Page 66, Policy MOB-6, shows Intelligent Transportation Systems abbreviated as "(ITA)". This intended abbreviation might be referring to "(ITS)" instead of what is currently showed on this page.
5. Caltrans encourages local agencies consider creating a VMT Mitigation Impact Fee to help reduce impacts to the SHS.
6. Local agencies are also encouraged to consider implementing policies that support multimodal transportation systems (such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities and public transportation services) to provide connectivity of modes within communities which also help reduce VMT.
7. Active Transportation Plans and Smart Growth efforts support the state's 2050 Climate goals. Caltrans supports reducing VMT and GHG emissions in ways that increase the likelihood people will use and benefit from a multimodal transportation network.

If you have any other questions, please call or email Christopher Xiong at (559) 908-7064 or [Christopher.Xiong@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Christopher.Xiong@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



DAVID PADILLA, Branch Chief  
Transportation Planning – North

C: State Clearinghouse