

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Darin Hughes, Assistant Planner
City of Orinda
22 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA 94563

Re: Plan Orinda – Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Darin Hughes:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Pan Orinda project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the October 2024 revised DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

Plan Orinda provides a vision and planning framework for future growth and development in the City. Section 4.14 of the original DIER has been revised to include an additional Wildfire Impact Threshold and a Supplemental Evacuation Analysis. The City of Orinda is located near State Route (SR) 24.

Project Coordination

Caltrans acknowledges the coordination efforts identified in the revised DEIR and looks forward to working with the City to ensure safe wildfire evacuation. Regarding evacuation planning, please consider the following:


- Public vehicles should be prevented from entering during an evacuation by closing the two off-ramps (Westbound (WB) off-ramp to Northbound (NB) Camino Pablo and Eastbound (EB) off-ramp to Southbound (SB) Camino Pablo). Vehicles proceeding through the off ramps would conflict with incoming traffic

in the contra-flow route on Camino Pablo, potentially causing backups that extend onto the highway mainlines.

- Caltrans Signal Operations would need to review potential signal time extensions on the SB Camino Pablo to EB SR 24 off-ramp.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Lisel Ayon, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse