

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 12

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[www.dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district12](http://www.dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district12)**Governor's Office of Planning & Research****Jul 15 2022***Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.***STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

July 15, 2022

Mr. Nate Farnsworth  
Senior Planner  
City of Yorba Linda  
4845 Casa Loma Avenue  
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

File: IGR/CEQA  
SCH#: 2022040574  
12-ORA-2022-01991

Dear Mr. Farnsworth,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the City of Yorba Linda 2021-2029 Housing Element Implementation Programs Project. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment.

California's Housing Element law requires that each city and county develop local housing programs to meet its "fair share" of existing and future housing needs for all income groups. On March 4, 2021, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council adopted the final Regional Housing Needs Allocations (RHNA), resulting in providing 2,415 housing units for the City of Yorba Linda. The project encompasses the entire City of Yorba Linda and regional access to the project area is provided by State Route (SR) 90, SR 142, and SR 91. Caltrans is a responsible agency for this project and upon review, we have the following comments:

**Transportation Planning**

1. Caltrans recognizes our responsibility to assist communities of color and under-served communities by removing barriers to provide a more equitable transportation system for all.

The Department firmly embraces racial equity, inclusion, and diversity. These values are foundational to achieving our vision of a cleaner, safer, and more accessible and more connected transportation system.

Please consider including a discussion on equity.

2. The project is to revise the General Plan land use and increase housing units at 27 sites. Due to its residential purposes, it may increase traffic congestion and number of SOV trips in the surrounding area.

As part of the development plan, please consider including a discussion on improving multimodal transportation (i.e., freight, walking, biking, and transit)

*"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"*

options to address safety issues as part of the project development. The discussion should incorporate opportunities to support sustainable and multimodal transportation options. The improved multimodal connections to the project site can encourage residents/users to utilize alternative transportation options, thus reducing GHG emissions, congestion, and VMT.

3. Caltrans supports the inclusion of Complete Streets and trail network facilitating programs such as requiring the installation of bicycle racks within projects as conditions of development to promote alternative modes of transportation.
4. Please consider the rise of micro-mobility (such as e-bikes and e-scooters) which may require larger storage areas and charging infrastructure. Please also consider how these new modes can share the existing trail network and/or streets to connect new housing to jobs, community-serving destinations, and/or transit.
5. In the Traffic Analysis report, please consider including a scale bar in the maps and figures for better visualization.
6. Caltrans supports the city's evaluation of potential opportunity sites for affordable housing. The state mandates that cities must plan for housing needs of future residents of all incomes. This analysis would assist in accommodating the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation per the California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD).

### **Traffic Operations**

7. The Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) needs to address the impact of the additional residential units in the City of Yorba Linda on the adjacent freeway systems specifically on SR 91. The additional residential units will increase traffic demand on the adjacent freeway system.

Please continue to keep us informed of this project and any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph Jamoralin at (657) 328-6276 or [Joseph.Jamoralin@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Joseph.Jamoralin@dot.ca.gov)

Sincerely,



SCOTT SHELLEY  
Branch Chief, Regional-IGR-Transit Planning  
District 12