

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

June 29, 2022

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jun 29 2022

Wael Saleh
Rio School District
1800 Solar Drive
Oxnard, CA 93030

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: Rio del Valle Middle School Existing
Campus Expansion Master Plan
Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an
Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
SCH # 2022060117
Vic. VEN-101/PM: 20.891
GTS # 07-VEN-2022-00494

Dear Wael Saleh:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced NOP. The Rio School District proposes to implement the Rio del Valle Campus Enhancement Master Plan to meet the educational, recreational, and support facilities needs of District students. The Master Plan includes development within the expanded campus which would occur in phases and would include options for: new classrooms, library and media center, transportation and parking facilities, recreational facilities including 320-meter track, flag football field, six basketball courts, two baseball fields, softball field, physical education (P.E.) and lunch play field, four sand volleyball courts, two soccer fields, a jogging path, an athletic restroom/storage building, and up to ten tennis courts and/or handball courts. The buildout of the RDV Campus Master Plan is anticipated to occur over approximately 5 years. The Rio School District is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project site is approximately half a mile from the North U.S. 101 ramp on N. Rose Avenue. After further review of the Initial Study, it states that impacts are expected to be less than significant or mitigated to less than significant; however, this conclusion may change. A traffic and circulation study has commenced for the proposed project. This technical study will evaluate the proposed project's transportation impacts using the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) metric, per CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3. Caltrans looks forward to reviewing the technical study results in the forthcoming EIR.

For this project, Caltrans encourages the Rio School District to evaluate the potential to implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies that reduce Vehicle

Miles Traveled (VMT) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. For TDM strategies that the Lead Agency may want to consider integrating into this project to further reduce VMT, please refer to:

- The 2010 Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), available at <http://www.capcoa.org/wpcontent/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>, and/or
- Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference (Chapter 8) by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), available at <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/index.htm>

If there are any significant impacts to the State Highway System, the implementation of multimodal mitigation measures and other TDM strategies should be considered to reduce the number of vehicle trips generated by the project. Also, signal synchronization and other Transportation System Management should be considered to improve transportation flow.

Caltrans also encourages lead agencies to prepare traffic safety impact analysis for all developments in the CEQA review process so that, through partnerships and collaboration, California can reach zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State Highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends that the Project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Herrera, the project coordinator, at Karen.Herrera@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-VEN-2022-00494.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse