

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Cindy M Yee, Senior Planner
City of San Ramon
7000 Bollinger Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA 94583

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Oct 13 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Re: San Ramon 2040 General Plan – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Cindy M Yee:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the San Ramon 2040 General Plan. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system.

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 August 2023 DEIR.

Project Understanding

The proposed project is to adopt an update to the San Ramon General Plan, including eleven respective General Plan elements, amendment to the San Ramon Village Specific Plan, repeal of the North Camino Ramon Specific Plan, and the San Ramon Zoning Code update. The 2040 General Plan would provide the framework for development up to 10,155 net new residential units and up to 347,339 new non-residential gross square feet. This project area is bisected by I-680.

Travel Demand Analysis

With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 743, Caltrans is focused on maximizing efficient development patterns, innovative travel demand reduction strategies, and multimodal improvements. For more information on how Caltrans assesses Transportation Impact Studies, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)).

The DEIR states that the operational Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) impact of the 2040 General Plan would be significant and unavoidable. Caltrans encourages policies and programs related to land use and circulation that increase density, improve regional accessibility, and reduce VMT. For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference, Chapter 8 ([link](#)).

Multimodal Transportation Planning

Please review and include the reference to the *Caltrans District 4 Pedestrian Plan* (2021) and the *Caltrans District 4 Bike Plan* (2018) in the DEIR. These two plans studied existing conditions for walking and biking along and across the State Transportation Network (STN) in the nine-county Bay Area and developed a list of location-based and prioritized needs.

Please note that any Complete Streets reference should be updated to reflect Caltrans Director's Policy 37 ([link](#)) that highlights the importance of addressing the needs of non-motorists and prioritizing space-efficient forms of mobility, while also facilitating goods movement in a manner with the least environmental and social impacts. This supersedes Deputy Directive 64-R1, and further builds upon its goals of focusing on the movement of people and goods.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter or for future project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

c: State Clearinghouse