



CITY OF ESCONDIDO
PLANNING DIVISION
201 NORTH BROADWAY
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025-2798
(760) 839-4671

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
CITY OF ESCONDIDO VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

Background: The City of Escondido (City), as the lead agency, has prepared a draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the project described below. Based on the findings of the IS, the City has concluded that the project would not result in any potentially significant effects on the environment. As stated in Public Resources Code Section 21083, A Negative Declaration is prepared when an IS shows that "there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may have a significant effect on the environment." The description of the project is as follows:

Project Description: The proposed program is a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Exchange Program (program) – a voluntary program in which discretionary development applicants can participate to reduce the amount of VMT generated by their projects. The program will also provide applicants with the option to reduce potentially significant VMT impacts identified through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process by constructing specified VMT-reducing projects that have been identified by the City. The program will provide applicants with the option to implement early action exchange program projects, which include pedestrian network, bicycle network, and transit supportive improvements that are located within existing developed rights of way.

If the program is adopted, any VMT-reducing projects that an applicant voluntarily elects to implement would be adopted as mitigation measures in the CEQA environmental review document for the applicable project. The program would require that VMT-reducing projects be completed by the applicant before the impact from the development project occurs. Ongoing monitoring and tracking of the implementation of VMT-reducing projects would be included in the City's annual Climate Action Plan implementation status report.

Location: VMT-reducing projects that would be implemented under the program would occur at various locations within roadway rights-of-way in Escondido city limits.

Applicant: City of Escondido

Public Review Period: The review and comment period will begin on October 27, 2022 and end at 5:00 p.m., on November 16, 2022. Copies of the draft IS/ND are on file and available for public review in the Escondido Planning Division, at 201 North Broadway, and also posted on the City of Escondido web site at:

<https://www.escondido.org/environmental-resources-and-info.aspx>. For more information, please contact Ivan Flores, Associate Planner at (760) 839-4529 or iflores@escondido.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ivan Flores".

Ivan Flores
Associate Planner