

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 PLANNING
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March 16, 2023

Gabriel Elliott
Planning Director
Calaveras County
Planning Department
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

CAL-120-R2.331L Flint Trail Access Road Project – Initial Study - SCH 2023020489

Dear Mr. Elliott,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Flint Trail Access Road Project Initial Study that proposes development of a paved secondary access road to the Golf Club at Copper Valley across previously undeveloped grassland and oak woodland, from the intersection of Flint Trail and Little John Road to an unnamed access road approximately 1,800 feet southwest of Oak Creek Drive, in the community of Copperopolis. A grading permit is also required for this project.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans suggests that Calaveras County continue to coordinate with Caltrans in identifying and addressing potential pedestrian safety and cumulative transportation impacts from this project and other developments near this location. This will assist Caltrans in ensuring that pedestrian, traffic safety, and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities in Calaveras County.

Traffic Operations

Caltrans has no concerns since the project is located four miles south of State Route (SR) 4 and will not encroach onto Caltrans Right of Way (ROW) creating any operational delays/queuing. However, if the scope of the project changes which results in encroachment to Caltrans ROW, a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) would need to be conducted and reviewed.

Environmental

It appears the project will not encroach onto Caltrans ROW. Thus, there are no environmental concerns. However, if the scope of work changes and results in encroachment onto Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must apply for an

Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, historic properties, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW, at the project site(s).

Hydrology

The project site will not flow into state ROW based on the existing topography and additional storm water runoff will flow into proposed retention basins within six drainage management areas. There are no concerns regarding hydraulics for this project at this time.

Encroachment Permits

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shiferaw Jemberie (209) 986-9635 (email: Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov) or me at (209) 483-7234 (email: Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Gregoria Ponce'

Gregoria Ponce', Chief
Office of Rural Planning

c: State Clearinghouse (SCH)