

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Kevin Thompson, Planning and Community Development
City of Cloverdale
124 North Cloverdale Boulevard
Cloverdale, CA 95425

Re: General Plan Circulation Element Update Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the General Plan Circulation Element Update Project. 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 September 2024 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed Circulation Element Update identifies the guiding principles for moving people and goods within the City of Cloverdale and identifies the infrastructure necessary to assure that the transportation network will serve the City at General Plan buildout. The goals, policies, and implementation actions would support the City's compliance with State-mandated requirements to implement Complete Streets and make efforts to reduce VMT in the community.

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 Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for land use projects, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)).

The project VMT analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) Technical Advisory. Per the DEIR, this project is found to have a significant VMT impact.

Caltrans acknowledges that the DEIR has identified MM TRANS-2a, MM TRANS-2b and MM TRANS-2c to help mitigate future developments' potential VMT impact. The option of contributing VMT impact fees to Sonoma County Transportation Authority's VMT Mitigation Program could help future developments to further mitigate their VMT impact, if the implementation of the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures are insufficient to mitigate it to a less-than-significant level.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Melissa Hernandez, Associate Transportation Planner via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

c: State Clearinghouse