

California Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS - M.S. #40
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September 9, 2024

Claudia Calderon
Acting Community Development Director
City of Porterville
291 N. Main Street
Porterville, CA 93257

Electronically Sent <ccalderon@ci.porterville.ca.us>

Re: SCH #2024030738 - South of Tule River Master Plan

Dear Ms. Calderon:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Aeronautics (Division), has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the South of Tule River Master Plan (Project). The Division of Aeronautics collaborates with cities, counties, and Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUC) to ensure compliance with the State Aeronautics Act (California Public Utilities Code Section 21001 et seq.). We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the EIR review process.

The City of Porterville is proposing a master plan, titled the South of Tule River (SoTu) Master Plan, on approximately 447.30 acres adjacent to City limits to facilitate future growth. The Porterville Municipal Airport is located approximately 1.1 miles south of the Project site.

The Project site lies entirely within the Airport Influence Area of the Porterville Municipal Airport, with a portion of the southwest corner of the Project site located within Safety Zone 6 (Traffic Pattern Zone). Therefore, it must adhere to the safety criteria and restrictions outlined in the 2012 Tulare County Comprehensive Airport Land Use Plan (ALUCP), adopted by the ALUC pursuant to the PUC, Section 21674. The ALUCP is crucial for minimizing noise nuisance and safety hazards around airports while promoting orderly development. The ALUC is responsible for assessing potential risks to aircraft, airspace users, and people on the ground near the airport.

In accordance with PUC Section 21676 et seq., prior to the amendment of a general plan or specific plan, or the adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation within the planning boundary established by the ALUC, the local agency shall first refer the proposed action to the ALUC.

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

Ms. Claudia Calderon, Acting Community Development Director

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Compatibility concerns regarding airport obstructions and hazards to flight (such as wildlife attractants, lighting, or glare i.e., solar, etc.) should also be considered for further review upon site specific updates or projects. Proposed structures that exceed FAA Regulations Part 77 height criteria are subject to an Obstruction Evaluation/Airspace Analysis for determination. Please refer to the FAA website (<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp>) for further information or a copy of the form.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please contact me by email at tiffany.martinez@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Martinez
Associate Transportation Planner
Division of Aeronautics

c: State Clearing House <state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov>,
Matthew Friedman, Chief Office of Aviation Planning, <matthew.friedman@dot.ca.gov>,
Nirupama Stalin, Senior Transportation Planner <nirupama.stalin@dot.ca.gov>