

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 RURAL PLANNING
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April 24, 2024

Chuck Beatty
Planning Director
Amador County Planning Department
810 Court Street
Jackson, CA 95642

**AMA-88-PM 22.637 Amador
Fire Protection District (AFPD)
114 Relocation
SCH 2024031176**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Apr 25 2024

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Mr. Beatty,

Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and respond to the Amador Fire Protection District (AFPD) Station #114 Initial Study. The project involves purchasing a 6.39-acre site and constructing a 22,500-square-foot fire station housing three (3) fire engines and one (1) water tender, plus a 1,000-square-foot training tower with a height of 35 feet. A minimum of two (2) personnel will occupy the station on a 24-hour per day schedule. The Pine Grove Community Services District (PGCSD) owns the existing station building and will remain in place for PGCSD use.

The proposed project is located at 19296 Ridge Road in Pine Grove, approximately ±300 ft southwest of Ridge Road Intersection and State Route (SR) 88.

Caltrans at this time has the following comments:

Environmental

If any physical construction activities will encroach into Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 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 analyze 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). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within the technical documents for approval of encroachment in the Caltrans ROW. Mitigation measure BIO-2 in the Initial Study (IS) states that nesting bird surveys are only required for construction activities between February 1 and August 31. However, if work will occur in Caltrans ROW between February 1 and September 30 of

any year, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the start of any construction-related activities in Caltrans ROW. If an active nest is observed, a protective buffer must be established around the nest per California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office. Results of the pre-construction bird survey(s) must be provided to the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office prior to the start of construction if there are impacts to protected water resources within Caltrans ROW. In that case, Caltrans will need to see the correspondence with the permitting authorities (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board) and/or be provided copies of any required permits prior to the start of any construction in Caltrans ROW.

Hydrology

The developer needs to ensure that the existing State drainage facilities will not be significantly impacted by the project. If historical undeveloped topography shows drainage from this site flowed into the Caltrans ROW, it may continue to do so with the conditions that peak flows may not be increased from the pre-construction quantity and the site runoff be treated to meet present storm water quality standards. If historical undeveloped topography shows drainage from this site does not flow into the Caltrans ROW, then it will not be allowed to flow into the Caltrans ROW at this time. The applicant will need to submit grading and drainage plans with stormwater runoff calculations for further review.

Traffic Operations

Please provide truck turning templates for the ingress and egress of an existing access road in/out of Ridge Road and the ingress/egress of the SR 88/ Ridge Road intersection for the most significant design vehicle (fire engines and/or construction vehicles) to minimize impact on traffic operations at the Ridge Road and SR 88 intersection.

Encroachment Permits

If any future 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. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within Caltrans ROW at the project site(s). For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

Chuck Beatty, Planning Director
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss these comments, please contact Paul Bauldry at (209) 670-9488 (email: paul.bauldry@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
Chief Robert Withrow, Amador Fire Protection District