DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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November 8, 2018



Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

SB 135 PM 10.42 SCH#2017041065

Natasha Campbell, Planner Santa Barbara County 123 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

COMMENTS FOR THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) FOR THE OASIS MEETING CENTER DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

Dear Ms. Campbell:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) thanks you for the opportunity to review the NOP for the Oasis Meeting Center. Caltrans has reviewed the above referenced project and offers the following comments at this time.

- 1. Caltrans supports local planning efforts that are consistent with State planning priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety. We accomplish this by working with local jurisdictions to achieve a shared vision of how the transportation system should and can accommodate interregional and local travel.
- 2. Projects that support smart growth principles which include improvements to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure (or other key Transportation Demand Strategies) are supported by Caltrans and are consistent with our mission, vision, and goals.
- 3. The traffic study should include information on existing traffic volumes within the study area, including the State transportation system, and should be based on recent traffic volumes less than two years old. Counts older than two years cannot be used as a baseline. Caltrans request the methodology used for the analysis, Synchro Model, and calculations be provided to us for review.
- 4. At any time during the environmental review and approval process, Caltrans retains the statutory right to request a formal scoping meeting to resolve any issues of concern. Such formal scoping meeting requests are allowed per the provisions of the California Public Resources Code Section 21083.9 [a] [1].

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5. Any work within the State's right-of-way will require an encroachment permit from Caltrans, and must be done to our engineering and environmental standards, and at no cost to the State. The conditions of approval and the requirements for the encroachment permit are issued at the sole discretion of the Permits Office, and nothing in this letter shall be implied as limiting those future conditioned and requirements. For more information regarding the encroachment permit process, please visit our Encroachment Permit Website at: http://dot.ca.gov/dist05/permit/index.htm.

If you have any questions, or need further clarification on items discussed above, please contact me at (805) 549-3432 or Jenna.Schudson@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Jenna Schudson

Development Review Coordinator District 5, LD-IGR South Branch