I-213 John and Kenneth Jelden

I-213-1 The commenters state that they are residents of Champagne Village and that they are disturbed at the prospect of 2,135 dwelling units being placed at the Project site, turning it into a congested area.

The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commenter, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required or necessary.

I-213-2 The comment states that the entrance to Champagne Village is on Champagne Boulevard which has moderate traffic flow; however, when there is the slightest problem on north or south I-15 the overflow causes intense congestion. The comment states that this issue would be worsened by the Project.

Section 2.13, Transportation and Traffic analyzed the following road segments along Champagne Boulevard:

Champagne Boulevard

- Old Castle Road to Lawrence Welk Drive
- Lawrence Welk Drive to Mountain Meadow Road

Section 2.13, Transportation and Traffic analyzed the following intersections with Champagne Boulevard:

Intersections

7. Champagne Boulevard/Gopher Canyon Road (Signalized)
8. Champagne Boulevard/Old Castle Road (Signalized)
9. Champagne Boulevard/Lawrence Welk Drive (Unsignalized)
10. Champagne Boulevard (N. Centre City Pkwy.)/Mountain Meadow Rd. (Signalized)

The Project would not result in a significant impact to Champagne Boulevard intersections or roadway segments. The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commenter, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the
decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required or necessary.

**I-213-3**

The comment states that if a brush fire were to occur, effective evacuation would be impossible. The comment states that this is just a few of the by-products which the Project would create. The comment requests that the Project be rejected.

The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commenter, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The Newland Sierra Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan (Appendix N-2 to the Draft EIR) anticipates the potential for bottlenecks, accidents, and other issues on roadways. On page 20, the plan indicates that the estimated evacuation times may be up to 2 hours, double that (4 hours), or more, if the wildfire scenario did not “enable pre-planned traffic management measures”. Should this situation be realized, the Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan offers descriptions of contingency options that would enable evacuations to cease or be partially implemented, while residents are directed to remain in their ignition resistant, defensible homes for the short duration that wildfire would burn in the fuels at the outer edges of the Project’s code exceeding, wide fuel modification zones.

As indicated in Sections 1.0, 2.0, and 6.0, of the Newland Sierra Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan, wildfires are fluid events that require situational awareness, scenario pre-planning, and contingencies. It is anticipated that the worst-case Newland Sierra evacuation would occur in a similar manner to many other San Diego County planning areas. In the event of a wildland fire in the area, evacuation and contingency plans are an early part of a wildfire’s tactical planning process by an Incident Command team. A contingency plan is one of the immediate priorities for development by Incident Command when a wildfire event occurs in a wildland-urban interface area. Community evacuation plans, like the Newland Sierra plan, will be integrated into the contingency planning process to assist and coordinate evacuation planning for all residents requiring evacuation. It must be recognized that wildfire and other emergencies are often fluid events and that the need for evacuations are typically determined by on-scene first responders or by a collaboration between first responders and designated emergency response teams, including Office of Emergency Services and the Incident Command established for larger emergency events. As such, and consistent with all emergency evacuation plans, this Emergency Evacuation plan is to be considered a tool that supports existing pre-plans and provides for citizens who are familiar with the evacuation protocol, but is subservient to emergency event-specific directives provided by agencies managing the event.
Please refer to Appendix N-1, Newland Sierra Fire Protection Plan (Dudek 2017) for details on the Proposed Project’s redundant, layered fire protection system, that is consistent with designated shelter in place communities.