

I-382 Robert L. Suttie

- I-382-1** The comment states the commenter, the commenter's wife and others in the community of Champagne Village oppose the proposed Project.

The County acknowledges the comment letter, and notes it expresses opposition for the project, but does not raise any issue concerning the adequacy of the Draft EIR. For that reason, the County provides no further response to this comment.

- I-382-2** The comment restates information from Section 2.13, Transportation and Traffic, specifically pages 2.13-1 through 2.13-6, regarding the proposed Project's significant and unavoidable impacts.

The comment restates information contained in the Draft EIR and does not raise an environmental issue within the meaning of CEQA. 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-382-3** The comment states that several of the identified mitigation measures require cooperation, budgetary provisions, and approval from other governmental agencies, including Caltrans, which will take years or may never be approved or implemented, such as the I-15 interchange.

The comment restates information contained in the Draft EIR, notably that several mitigation measures for impacts to traffic are not within the jurisdiction of the County of San Diego. The County agrees with this comment and directs the reader to Section 2.13.13, which notes that for impacts where the required mitigation measures are not within the County's jurisdictions, these impacts remain significant and unavoidable because the County cannot assure they will be implemented as the comment suggests. The County notes that the comment does not raise an environmental issue within the meaning of CEQA. 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-382-4** The comment states the I-15 interchange is jammed during rush hour traffic under existing conditions and that traffic mitigation measures "must be implemented before any additional housing projects are approved in this area."

The County acknowledges the comment and notes it restates information contained in the Draft EIR (specifically Section 2.13.2, Existing Conditions) and expresses the opinions of the commentator related to the timing for mitigation measures, and does not raise an environmental issue within the meaning of CEQA.

Comment Letter Responses

Nonetheless, the County acknowledges the concern regarding the timing for mitigation measures and directs the commenter to Section 2.13.12, Mitigation Measures, which provides building unit thresholds by which mitigation measures, are required to be implemented. As noted in Section 2.13.12, several improvements are required early in project construction, including improvements to Deer Springs Road between Sarver Lane and Mesa Rock Road prior to the 58th equivalent dwelling unit.

- I-382-5** The comment is a personal story of the commenter evacuating from Champagne Village during the 2007 Witch Creek Fire. The comment notes that during emergencies, traffic has been redirected onto Champagne Boulevard, causing delays of up to 45 minutes to reach I-15. The comment states the issue is “too many people and not enough alternative routes.” The comment concludes that the addition of a very dense community is very dangerous, and that “anyone approving an additional 2,100 dwelling units...is absolutely cold and calloused (possibly criminal) regarding the possible loss of life, and is ignoring the negative impacts to existing surrounding residents.”

The County acknowledges the comment and directs the reader to **Topical Response HAZ-1**, which address fire evacuation planning and traffic gridlock. As explained in **Topical Response HAZ-1**, the Draft EIR notes that while prior evacuations within the project vicinity have experienced traffic congestion, the project includes improvements to Deer Springs Road, which would increase capacity of the main evacuation route compared to the existing condition. Further, when compared to the existing condition, improvements to other road segments and intersections would expand the traffic network capacity to assist evacuation efforts for the surrounding community.

The Evacuation Plan (Draft EIR, Appendix N-2) also provides that “fire and law enforcement official will identify evacuation points before evacuation routes are announced to the public. Evacuation routes are determined based on the location and extent of the incident and include as many pre-designated transportation routes as possible.” Accordingly, the Draft EIR, Appendix N-2 “defers to Law Enforcement and Office of Emergency Services” because, “among the most important factors for successful evacuations in urban settings is control of intersections downstream of the evacuation area.”

- I-382-6** The comment states the commenter has other concerns that have already been voiced by others. The commenter acknowledges concerns regarding housing supply, but states the area is not appropriate for development given the topography and other environmental impacts.

Comment Letter Responses

The comment does not raise any specific issue regarding the Draft EIR analysis and, therefore, no more specific response can be provided or is required. 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.

I-382-7 The comment thanks the County for the opportunity to comment and states that no response is required.

The County acknowledges the comment and notes it provides concluding remarks that do not raise new or additional environmental issues concerning the adequacy of the Draft EIR. For that reason, the County provides no further response to this comment.

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK