May 15, 2015

Mr. Dennis Campbell
San Diego County
Department of Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the project referenced above. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California’s economy and livability. The Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities of infill, conservation, and efficient development. To ensure a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation system, we encourage early consultation and coordination with local jurisdictions and project proponents on all development projects that utilize the multi-modal transportation network.

Caltrans has received Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) SCH 200410105814061078 for the Otay R for the Otay Ranch Village 13 project. The project will be located along Otay Lakes Road from State Route 125 (SR-125) and State Route 94 (SR-94). Caltrans has the following comments:

1. The 7.1 summary table of approved/pending projects still does not include the other Otay Villages and Jamul Casino project. The addition of these projects may change the cumulative impact analysis.

2. Figures 4-2B.1 and 4-2D.1 had about 1000 trips that are lost between intersection 44 and 21. Now the lost trips are reduced to 220. Please clarify.

3. Any work performed within Caltrans right-of-way (R/W) will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans R/W prior to construction.

As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide an approved final environmental document including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination addressing any environmental impacts within the Caltrans’ R/W, and any corresponding technical studies. If these materials are not included with the encroachment permit application, the applicant will be required to acquire and provide these to Caltrans before the permit application will be accepted. Identification of avoidance and/or mitigation measures will be a condition of the encroachment permit approval as well as procurement of any necessary regulatory and resource agency permits. Encroachment permit submittals that are incomplete can result in significant delays in permit approval.

“Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California’s economy and livability”
Improvement plans for construction within State Highway R/W must include the appropriate engineering information consistent with the state code and signed and stamped by a professional engineer registered in the State of California. Caltrans Permit Manual contains a listing of typical information required for project plans. All design and construction must be in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Additional information regarding encroachment permits may be obtained by contacting the Caltrans Permits Office at (619) 688-6158. Early coordination with Caltrans is strongly advised for all encroachment permits.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact Trent Clark, at (619) 688-3140 or email at Trent_Clark@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

JACOB M. ARMSTRONG, Chief
Development Review Branch