June 24, 2014

Mr. Mark Slovick 11-SD-15
County of San Diego PM 43.28
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B Lilac Hills Ranch Revised EIR
San Diego, CA 92026

Dear Mr. Slovick:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has reviewed the Lilac Hills Ranch Draft Revised Environmental Impact Report (DREIR), located near Interstate 15 (I-15). Caltrans does not agree with the following statements identified for the mitigation measures within Caltrans jurisdiction:

M-TR-2, 3: Language was added in the revised EIR that the applicant or designee would be required to install traffic signals at the I-15/Gopher Canyon Road intersection, or Caltrans would agree to install signals provided funding by the applicant equivalent to the cost of installation. It should be noted that Caltrans would most likely not be involved in installing direct impact mitigation for a land development regardless of it being funded by others.

Caltrans does not agree with mitigation language throughout the EIR, whereby mitigation is determined to be infeasible and would remain significant and unavoidable because the impacts are within the jurisdiction of Caltrans, or there is no project, fund or program to contribute fair-share for cumulative impacts. It is the Lead Agency’s responsibility to determine and disclose under CEQA the feasibility of implementing a mitigation measure. Stating that Caltrans does not have an identified project at a location identified to have an impact as justification for not mitigating does not meet the intent of CEQA. Furthermore, Caltrans does have a mechanism or program to collect fair-share contributions for cumulative impacts on Caltrans facilities.
June 24, 2014
Mark Slovik
Lilac Hills Ranch Revised EIR

If you have any questions, please contact Marisa Hampton at (619) 688-6954.

Sincerely,

JACOB ARMSTRONG, Chief
Development Review Branch

“Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system
to enhance California’s economy and livability”