

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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August 25, 2003

**10-SJ-120, 99, I-5-PM Various
 Draft Environmental Impact Report
 Manteca General Plan 2023
 SCH # 2002042088**

Mr. Kyle Kollar
 City of Manteca
 Community Development Dept.
 1001 W. Center Street
 Manteca, CA 95337

Dear Mr. Kollar:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Manteca General Plan 2023, an update of the City's General Plan. We appreciate the additional time for comment, as we did not receive the Transportation Analysis until August 1, 2003. We have circulated this plan to our various functional units and they propose the following comments:

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING:

Caltrans District 10 appreciates the opportunity to comment on the City of Manteca's draft General Plan. We acknowledge that each project will have a separate environmental document, with some documents possibly tiered from this general plan, to address potential environmental impacts at the project level.

For all projects that might have a significant impact on the State Transportation System, Caltrans will accommodate a scoping meeting or, as an alternative of a meeting, in some cases a comprehensive environmental document has been deemed acceptable.

Caltrans' encourages contacting the Native American Heritage Commission for the Manteca's General Plan, and all other project plans, to assist in identifying cultural concerns

It appears that the City of Manteca endorses future development on designated Prime Agricultural lands and establishes legal justification for the Redevelopment on

1

2

Agricultural lands. Although the amount of Farmland to be encroached upon is relatively small in comparison to the total Agricultural land in San Joaquin County, land use planning that "builds out" rather than "builds up" contributes to sprawl on a cumulative basis.

2

Caltrans encourages statewide land use patterns that balance the location of employment-generating uses with residential uses so that employment-related commuting is minimized. Balance in employment and residential land use patterns reduces traffic congestion, contributes to the improvement of air quality in urban areas, improves economic and housing opportunities, and reduces loss of economic productivity caused by transportation delay. We are willing to fully cooperate with local agencies to facilitate the balancing of employment-generating land uses and residential land uses with provisions of intermodal and context-sensitive transportation features to serve these uses.

3

TRAVEL FORECASTING:

Our Travel Forecasting branch has no comment, at this time.

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS:

Traffic Operations will need to review project specific traffic operational studies, comprised of traffic analysis at the ramp termini, and ramp modifications, as the projects are developed in order to determine impacts and proper mitigation to Interstate 5 and State Routes 99 and 120.

4

INTERMODAL:

As development continues, Caltrans urges the City of Manteca to plan and coordinate with local and regional public transit providers to ensure that viable public transit services are available. Construction and placement of transit services, such as park-and-ride lots, bus pull-outs, shelters, bicycle and pedestrian paths should be constructed prior to occupancy, promoting mass transit usage.

5

We suggest that the City continue to coordinate and consult with Caltrans to identify and address potential cumulative transportation impacts that may occur from this General Plan. This will assist us in ensuring that traffic safety and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities.

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss these comments in more detail, please contact Lynn O'Connor, at (209) 948-7575 (email: loconnor@dot.ca.gov). We look forward in continuing to work with you in a cooperative manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Dumas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "T" and "D".

**TOM DUMAS, Chief
Office of Intermodal Planning**

c: Mr. Philip Crimmins
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