

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Krystine Ball, Public Works Program Manager
City of Rio Vista
One Main Street
Rio Vista, CA 94571

Re: City of Rio Vista 2045 General Plan Update – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Krystine Ball:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the City of Rio Vista 2045 General Plan Update. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the August 2025 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position or approval by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The 2045 General Plan Update is an update to the City of Rio Vista's adopted General Plan, which includes comprehensive updates to the required elements under the State Planning and Zoning Law, as well as other optional elements that the City has elected to include in its General Plan. State Route (SR) 12 and 84 run through the City of Rio Vista.

Travel Demand Analysis

The project vehicle miles traveled (VMT) analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation's (LCI) Technical Advisory. Per the DEIR, this project is found to have significant and unavoidable VMT impact.

Caltrans encourages the City to require future project applicants to develop and implement an effective Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program to reduce VMT and greenhouse gas emissions from future development in this area. TDM programs should be documented with annual monitoring reports by a TDM coordinator to demonstrate effectiveness. If a project does not achieve VMT reduction goals, the reports should also include next steps to take to achieve those targets.

Please also consider exploring the following options to help further reduce the VMT impact if the implementation of applicable TDM measures is insufficient to mitigate the project VMT impact to a less-than-significant level: VMT based Transportation Impact Fee programs, VMT Mitigation Exchanges, and VMT Mitigation Banks. Please note that Caltrans has funded several local/regional agencies to study the feasibility of a variety of VMT mitigation programs through the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program ([link](#)). Caltrans welcomes potential opportunities to work with the City.

The City may also consider encouraging fair share contributions from future development projects to multimodal projects that promote mode shift and reduce single-occupancy vehicle travel to mitigate VMT impacts. Caltrans suggests the City revisit Plan Bay Area 2050+ ([link](#)) and the Caltrans State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Project Book ([link](#)), when updates are available, for any new projects in the vicinity that may help reduce VMT.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Lisel Ayon, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse