

APPENDIX B
CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS
MARCH 2022

The primary objective and purpose of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration public review process is to obtain comments on the adequacy of the analysis of environmental impacts, , and other analyses contained in the Initial Study prepared by the City of Agoura Hills (City). The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that the City decision makers consider the comments received during the public review of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prior to carrying out or approving the project (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15074[b]). All comments are included in this section so that the decision makers may know the opinions of the commenter.

The Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was circulated to the public and public agencies for a 30-day public review period from January 14 to February 14, 2022. The comments received regarding the project and the responses to comments are included in this appendix. Five (5) comments were received:

- Department of Transportation, District 7 (CALTRANS) (Letter A, January 28, 2022)
- Department of Fish and Wildlife (Letter B, February 11, 2022)
- Los Angeles County Fire Department (Letter C, February 8, 2022)
- Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (Letter D, February `5, 2022)
- Ben Suber Comment (Letter E, February 5, 2022)

Aside from the courtesy statements, introductions, and closings, individual comments within the body of each letter have been identified and numbered. A copy of each comment letter received is included in this appendix. Brackets delineating the individual comments and a numeric identifier have been added to the right margin of the letter. Responses to each comment identified are included on the page(s) following each comment letter.

Neither the comments, nor the responses to the collected comments, constitute “significant new information” (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15073.5) that would require recirculation of the Negative Declaration or the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

COMMENT LETTER A:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 269-1124
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

January 28, 2022

Ramiro Adeva, Assistant City Manager
City of Agoura Hills
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

RE: City of Agoura Hills Climate Action and
Adaptation Plan (CAAP)
SCH # 2022010101
Vic. LA-101 Citywide
GTS # LA-2022-03818-ND

Dear Ramiro Adeva:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced environmental document. The Project is the City of Agoura Hills' adoption and implementation of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). The project is a policy and program document that would apply Citywide. It articulates the City's intentions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with AB 32 and SB 32. The CAAP does not propose land use changes, new development or infrastructure.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

Caltrans is aware of challenges that the region faces in identifying viable solutions to alleviating congestion on State and Local facilities. With limited room to expand vehicular capacity, all future developments should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of

travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way.

Caltrans supports the implementation of complete streets and pedestrian safety measures such as road diets and other traffic calming measures. Please note the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the road diet treatment as a proven safety countermeasure, and the cost of a road diet can be significantly reduced if implemented in tandem with routine street resurfacing. Overall, the environmental report should ensure all modes are served well by planning and development activities. This includes reducing single occupancy vehicle trips, ensuring safety, reducing vehicle miles traveled, supporting accessibility, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

When possible, we encourage the Lead Agency to evaluate and incorporate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications into the CAAP in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements. For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's *Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference* (Chapter 8). This reference is available online at:

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/fhwahop12035.pdf>

You can also refer to the 2010 *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), which is available online at:

<http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>

Also, Caltrans has published the VMT-focused Transportation Impact Study Guide (TISG), dated May 20, 2020 and the Caltrans Interim Land Development and Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Safety Review Practitioners Guidance, prepared in On December 18, 2020. If helpful to the CAAP, the City can review these resources at the following links:

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/transportation-planning/documents/sb-743/2020-05-20-approved-vmt-focused-tisg-a11y.pdf>

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/transportation-planning/documents/sb-743/2020-12-22-updated-interim-ldigr-safety-review-guidance-a11y.pdf>

Caltrans encourages lead agencies to prepare traffic safety impact analysis for all developments in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process so that, through partnerships and collaboration, California can reach zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

The CAAP reduction strategies would reduce vehicles miles traveled. In addition, the CAAP would encourage alternative methods of transportation, such as public transit and bicycle facilities. The GHG reduction measures would improve the operation of the circulation system in several ways, including fewer vehicle trips on roadways and highways and higher numbers of transit riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Caltrans concurs that “implementation of the CAAP would reduce GHG emissions and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) associated with on-road passenger vehicles within the City. The CAAP does this by building upon and supporting the General Plan Policies related to transportation. The implementation of GHG reduction measures would not result in long-term operational increases in vehicular traffic along roadways in the plan area. The GHG reduction measures would improve the operation of the circulation system in several ways, including fewer vehicle trips and VMT on roadways and highways and higher numbers of transit riders, cyclists, and pedestrians. Achieving goals and strategies would result in a reduction in traffic loads, which would reduce the number of vehicle trips, volume to capacity ratio, and intersection congestion within the City. Furthermore, no proposed measure or action would directly increase traffic in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the system. Compliance with Federal, state, local and General Plan Policies would ensure implementation of the CAAP would not adversely affect the performance of the circulation system and would not conflict with any applicable transportation plans or ordinances. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.”

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2022-03818-ND.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse

RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER A

January 28, 2022

**Department of Transportation, District 7 (CALTRANS) Miya Edmonson
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief**

Response to Comment A-1:

The comments state that with limited room to expand vehicular capacity, future developments should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way. We concur with this comment. Goal 7, Measures 7.1 through 7.3 within the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) provide multimodal transportation elements including complete streets that will significantly reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

Response to Comment A-2:

Caltrans requested that the environmental review should ensure all modes are served well by planning and development activities. Which includes reducing single occupancy vehicle trips, ensuring safety, reducing vehicle miles traveled, supporting accessibility, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Comment received and noted. We concur and the CAAP includes policies and programs within Goal 7 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through alternative modes of transportation and carpooling.

Response to Comment A-3:

Caltrans encourages the Lead Agency to evaluate and incorporate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications into the CAAP in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements. Comment received and noted. Goal 7 of the CAAP includes TDM strategies as ways of traffic calming and better management of the transportation network. The City already has completed the transition of traffic signals to ITS.

Response to Comment A-4:

Caltrans encourages lead agencies to prepare traffic safety impact analysis for all developments in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process so that, through partnerships and collaboration, California can reach zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050. Comment received and noted. The CAAP is not a development project. Rather, it includes policies and programs that new development must follow going forward. On the topic of traffic safety impacts, the CAAP includes polices including complete streets and bicycle infrastructure designed to reduce VMT at a programmatic level. Individual development projects will need to comply with CEQA and a project specific traffic impact analysis will be required that includes traffic safety as one of the criteria to review.

COMMENT LETTER B



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



Via Electronic Mail Only

February 11, 2022

Allison Cook
City of Agoura Hills
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
ACook@agourahillscity.org

**Subject: Negative Declaration for the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan,
SCH #2022010101, City of Agoura Hills, Los Angeles County**

Dear Ms. Cook:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed a Negative Declaration (ND) from the City of Agoura Hills (City) for the Climate Action and Adaption Plan (Project). CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding aspects of the Project that could affect fish and wildlife resources and be subject to CDFW's regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW's Role

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State [Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subdivision (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, § 15386, subdivision (a)]. CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (Id., § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect State fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code, including lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 *et seq.*). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take", as defined by State law, of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 *et seq.*), or CESA-listed rare plant pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & G. Code, § 1900 *et seq.*), CDFW recommends the Project proponent obtain appropriate authorization under the Fish and Game Code.

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Project Description and Summary

Objective: The Project proposes the implementation of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Implementation of the CAAP would enable the City to achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 49 percent below the 2008 levels by 2030. The CAAP provides the City's baseline GHG emissions and proposes actions, measures, and strategies to reduce the City's GHG emissions. There are 21 measures detailed in the CAAP that are categorized into the following major goals:

- Goal 1: Increase energy efficiency in existing residential units
- Goal 2: Increase energy efficiency in new residential units
- Goal 3: Increase energy efficiency in existing commercial units
- Goal 4: Increase energy efficiency in new commercial units
- Goal 5: Increase energy efficiency through water efficiency
- Goal 6: Decrease energy demand through reducing urban heat island effect
- Goal 7: Decrease GHG emissions through reducing vehicle miles traveled
- Goal 8: Decrease GHG emissions through reducing solid waste generation
- Goal 9: Decrease GHG emissions through increasing clean energy use

In addition to GHG emissions, the CAAP addresses climate vulnerability and the City's future potential climate risks. The CAAP provides various adaptation measures that will combat climate vulnerability and potential climate risks throughout the City. Installation of cool roofs, solar panels, and energy retrofits for residential and commercial buildings are actions listed in the CAAP to counteract climate vulnerability and minimize GHG emissions. Overall, the proposed CAAP does not include any development proposals. Future projects within the City will be required to demonstrate consistency with the CAAP.

Location: The Project would apply to the entire City of Agoura Hills. The City encompasses 7.86 square miles at the base of the Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles County. The City is bounded by unincorporated areas to the north, the City of Calabasas to the east, City of Thousand Oaks to the west, and the Santa Monica Mountains to the south.

Comments and Recommendations

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the City in adequately identifying, avoiding, and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct, and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. Editorial comments or other suggestions are also included to improve the environmental document. CDFW recommends the measures or revisions below be included in a science-based monitoring program that contains adaptive management strategies as part of the Project's CEQA mitigation, monitoring, and reporting program (Pub. Resources Code, § 21081.6; CEQA Guidelines, § 15097).

Specific Comments

Comment #1: Impacts on Streams and Associated Natural Communities

Issue: Implementation of the CAAP will impact several creeks and associated natural communities.

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Specific impacts: Installation of energy retrofits will result in alterations to the Medea Creek, Palo Comado Canyon Creek, and Lindero Canyon Creek.

Why impacts would occur: The Madea Creek, Palo Comado Canyon Creek, and Lindero Canyon Creek flow throughout the City. In an effort to increase energy efficiency, energy retrofits will be installed for existing buildings and future development throughout the City. The exact locations of where the energy retrofits will be installed is not disclosed in the ND. However, based on page 38 of the ND, installation of the energy retrofits would consist of minor construction that would result in alteration of existing creeks. Although existing drainage patterns will not be altered, "vacant land, hillsides, or open space drainage patterns could be altered or disturbed..." as a result of construction activities. If construction activities were to impact these existing creeks, associated natural communities along the bed and bank of each creek may potentially be impacted. Furthermore, wildlife that relies on these creeks for habitat or as a water source may also be impacted during construction activities.

Evidence impacts would be significant: CDFW exercises its regulatory authority as provided by Fish and Game Code section 1600 *et seq.* to conserve fish and wildlife resources which includes rivers, streams, or lakes and associated natural communities. Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify CDFW prior to beginning any activity that may do one or more of the following:

- Divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake¹;
- Change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake;
- Use material from any river, stream, or lake; or,
- Deposit or dispose of material into any river, stream, or lake.

CDFW requires a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement when a project activity may substantially adversely affect fish and wildlife resources. The Project may result in significant impacts on streams and associated natural communities through installation activities facilitated by the Project. The Project's ND does not provide measures to mitigate for potentially significant impacts.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s):

Mitigation Measure #1: CDFW recommends future projects facilitated by the CAAP assess the Project's potential impacts on streams. Modifications to a river, creek, or stream in one area may result in bank erosion, channel incision, or drop in water level along that stream outside of the immediate impact area. If a future project results in impacts to a stream, the project proponent should apply for a Lake and Stream Alteration Agreement pursuant under Fish and Game Code, section 1600 *et seq.* The Project applicant (or "entity") must provide notification to CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code, section 1600 *et seq.* Based on this notification and other information, CDFW determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement with the applicant is required prior to conducting proposed activities. Please visit CDFW's [Lake and Streambed Alteration Program](#) webpage to for information about LSA Notification and online submittal through the Environmental Permit Information Management

¹ "Any river, stream, or lake" includes those that are dry for periods of time (ephemeral/episodic) as well as those that flow year-round (perennial). This includes ephemeral streams, desert washes, and watercourses with a subsurface flow. It may also apply to work undertaken within the flood plain of a water body.

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System (EPIMS) Permitting Portal (CDFW 2022b).

Mitigation Measure #2: CDFW recommends the LSA Notification include a hydrology report to evaluate whether altering the streams may impact headwater streams where there is hydrologic connectivity. The hydrology report should also include a scour analysis to demonstrate that stream banks and streambed would not erode as a result of impacts within the Project site. Also, CDFW also requests a hydrological evaluation of the 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, and 2-year frequency storm event for existing and proposed conditions.

Additional Recommendations

- 1) Nesting Birds. CDFW recommends future projects facilitated by the CAAP avoid any construction activity during nesting season. If not feasible, CDFW recommends that if future projects occur between January 1 through September 15, a nesting bird and raptor survey should be conducted within a 500-foot radius of the construction site, prior to any ground-disturbing activities (e.g., staging, mobilization, grading) as well as prior to any vegetation removal within the Project site. The nesting bird surveys should be conducted at appropriate nesting times and concentrate on potential roosting or perch sites. CDFW recommends the ND require future project proponents to require surveys be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 7 days prior to the beginning of any Project-related activity likely to impact raptors and migratory songbirds, for the entire Project site. If Project activities are delayed or suspended for more than 7 days during the breeding season, repeat the surveys. If nesting raptors and migratory songbirds are identified, CDFW recommends the following minimum no-disturbance buffers be implemented: 300 feet around active passerine (perching birds and songbirds) nests, 500 feet around active non-listed raptor nests and 0.5 mile around active listed bird nests. These buffers should be maintained until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival.
- 2) Biological Baseline Assessment and Impact Analysis. There are various parks and open spaces throughout the City that provide biological value and habitat for various wildlife species. CDFW recommends the ND require future projects facilitated by the CAAP provide a complete assessment and impact analysis of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Project area. The assessment should identify endangered, threatened, sensitive, regionally, and locally unique species, and sensitive habitats. Impact analysis will aid in determining any direct, indirect, and cumulative biological impacts, as well as specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends avoiding any sensitive natural communities found on or adjacent to the Project. CDFW also considers impacts to SSC a significant direct and cumulative adverse effect without implementing appropriate avoid and/or mitigation measures. The ND should require future projects to provide the following information:
 - a) Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region [CEQA Guidelines, § 15125(c)]. The ND should require future projects to include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect Sensitive Natural Communities from Project-related impacts. Project implementation may result in impacts to rare or endangered plants or plant communities that have been recorded adjacent to the Project vicinity. CDFW considers these communities as threatened habitats having

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- both regional and local significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a [State-wide ranking](#) of S1, S2, S3 and S4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level (CDFW 2022c);
- b) A thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following CDFW's [Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities](#) (CDFW 2018a);
 - c) Floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments conducted at the Project site and within the neighboring vicinity. [The Manual of California Vegetation](#), second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment (Sawyer, 2009). Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions;
 - d) A complete, recent, assessment of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within adjacent areas that could also be affected by the Project;
 - e) A complete, recent, assessment of rare, threatened, and endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect, including California Species of Special Concern and California Fully Protected Species (Fish & Game Code, §§ 3511, 4700, 5050 and 5515). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species (CEQA Guidelines, § 15380). Seasonal variations in use of the Project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the USFWS; and,
 - f) A recent, wildlife and rare plant survey. CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if build out could occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases.
- 3) Data. CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database [i.e., California Natural Diversity Database] which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations [Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)]. Accordingly, please report any special status species detected by completing and submitting [CNDDDB Field Survey Forms](#) (CDFW 2021d). The Project-level lead agencies should ensure the data has been properly submitted, with all data fields applicable filled out, prior to finalizing/adopting the environmental document. The City should provide CDFW with confirmation of data submittal.
- 4) Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan. CDFW recommends the City update the Project's environmental document to include mitigation measures recommended in this letter. CDFW

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provides comments to assist the City in developing mitigation measures that are specific, detailed (i.e., responsible party, timing, specific actions, location), and clear for a measure to be fully enforceable and implemented successfully via a mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program (CEQA Guidelines, § 15097; Pub. Resources Code, § 21081.6). The City is welcome to coordinate with CDFW to further review and refine the Project's mitigation measures. Per Public Resources Code section 21081.6(a)(1), CDFW has provided the City with a summary of our suggested mitigation measures and recommendations in the form of an attached Draft Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan (MMRP; Attachment A).

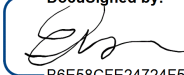
Filing Fees

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the City of Agoura Hills and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required for the underlying Project approval to be operative, vested, and final (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089).

Conclusion

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Project to assist the City of Agoura Hills in adequately analyzing and minimizing/mitigating impacts to biological resources. CDFW requests an opportunity to review and comment on any response that the City of Agoura Hills has to our comments and to receive notification of any forthcoming hearing date(s) for the Project [CEQA Guidelines, § 15073(e)]. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Julisa Portugal, Environmental Scientist, at Julisa.Portugal@wildlife.ca.gov or (562) 330-7563.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

B6E58CFE24724F5...

Erinn Wilson-Olgin
Environmental Program Manager I
South Coast Region

ec: CDFW

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Los Alamitos – Erinn.Wilson-Olgin@wildlife.ca.gov
Victoria Tang, Los Alamitos – Victoria.Tang@wildlife.ca.gov
Ruby Kwan-Davis, Los Alamitos – Ruby.Kwan-Davis@wildlife.ca.gov
Felicia Silva, Los Alamitos – Felicia.Silva@wildlife.ca.gov
Frederic (Fritz) Rieman, Los Alamitos – Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov
Cindy Hailey, San Diego – Cindy.Hailey@wildlife.ca.gov
CEQA Program Coordinator, Sacramento – CEQACommentLetters@wildlife.ca.gov
State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research – State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Allison Cook
City of Agoura Hills
February 11, 2022
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References:

- [CDFWa] California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2018. Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities. Available from: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=18959>)
- [CDFWb] California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2022. Lake and Streambed Alteration Program. Available from: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/LSA>.
- [CDFWc] California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2022. Natural Communities. Available from: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/VegCAMP/Natural-Communities>.
- [CDFWd] California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2022. Submitting Data to the CNDDDB. Available from: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>
- Sawyer, J. O., Keeler-Wolf, T., and Evens J.M. 2009. A Manual of California Vegetation, 2nd ed. ISBN 978-0-943460-49-9.



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 South Coast Region
 3883 Ruffin Road
 San Diego, CA 92123
 (858) 467-4201
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



Attachment A: Draft Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan

Biological Resources (BIO)			
Mitigation Measure (MM) or Recommendation (REC)		Timing	Responsible Party
MM-BIO-1- Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement	<p>Future projects facilitated by the CAAP shall assess the Project's potential impacts on streams. Modifications to a river, creek, or stream in one area may result in bank erosion, channel incision, or drop in water level along that stream outside of the immediate impact area. If a future project results in impacts to a stream, the project proponent shall apply for a Lake and Stream Alteration Agreement pursuant under Fish and Game Code, section 1600 <i>et seq.</i> The Project applicant (or "entity") shall provide notification to CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code, section 1600 <i>et seq.</i> Based on this notification and other information, CDFW determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement with the applicant is required prior to conducting proposed activities. Please visit CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program webpage to for information about LSA Notification and online submittal through the Environmental Permit Information Management System (EPIMS) Permitting Portal.</p>	<p>Prior to finalizing CEQA document/ future project activities facilitated by CAAP</p>	<p>Project-level lead agency/Project Applicant</p>
MM-BIO-2- LSA Notification	<p>The LSA Notification shall include a hydrology report to evaluate whether altering the streams may impact headwater streams where there is hydrologic connectivity. The hydrology report shall also include a scour analysis to demonstrate that stream banks and streambed would not erode as a result of impacts within the Project site. Also, CDFW also requests a hydrological evaluation of the 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, and 2-year frequency storm event for existing and proposed conditions.</p>	<p>Prior to finalizing future project activities facilitated by CAAP</p>	<p>Project-level lead agency/Project Applicant</p>

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<p>REC 1- Nesting Bird Measure</p>	<p>CDFW recommends future projects facilitated by the CAAP avoid any construction activity during nesting season. If not feasible, CDFW recommends that if future projects occur between January 1 through September 15, a nesting bird and raptor survey should be conducted within a 500-foot radius of the construction site, prior to any ground-disturbing activities (e.g., staging, mobilization, grading) as well as prior to any vegetation removal within the Project site. The nesting bird surveys should be conducted at appropriate nesting times and concentrate on potential roosting or perch sites. CDFW recommends the ND require future project proponents to require surveys be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 7 days prior to the beginning of any Project-related activity likely to impact raptors and migratory songbirds, for the entire Project site. If Project activities are delayed or suspended for more than 7 days during the breeding season, repeat the surveys. If nesting raptors and migratory songbirds are identified, CDFW recommends the following minimum no-disturbance buffers be implemented: 300 feet around active passerine (perching birds and songbirds) nests, 500 feet around active non-listed raptor nests and 0.5 mile around active listed bird nests. These buffers should be maintained until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival.</p>	<p>Prior to future project activities facilitated by CAAP</p>	<p>Project-level lead agency/Project Applicant</p>
<p>REC 2- Biological Baseline Assessment</p>	<p>CDFW recommends the ND require future projects facilitated by the CAAP provide a complete assessment and impact analysis of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Project area. The assessment should identify endangered, threatened, sensitive, regionally, and locally unique species, and sensitive habitats. Impact analysis will aid in determining any direct, indirect, and cumulative biological impacts, as well as specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends avoiding any sensitive natural communities found on or adjacent to the Project. CDFW also considers impacts to SSC a significant direct and cumulative adverse effect without implementing appropriate avoid and/or mitigation measures. The</p>	<p>Prior to future project activities facilitated by CAAP</p>	<p>Project-level lead agency/Project Applicant</p>

Allison Cook
City of Agoura Hills
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	<p>ND should require future projects to provide the following information:</p> <p>a) Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region [CEQA Guidelines, § 15125(c)]. The ND should require future projects to include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect Sensitive Natural Communities from Project-related impacts. Project implementation may result in impacts to rare or endangered plants or plant communities that have been recorded adjacent to the Project vicinity. CDFW considers these communities as threatened habitats having both regional and local significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a State-wide ranking of S1, S2, S3 and S4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level;</p> <p>b) A thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following CDFW's Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities;</p> <p>c) Floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments conducted at the Project site and within the neighboring vicinity. The Manual of California Vegetation, second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment. Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions;</p> <p>d) A complete, recent, assessment of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within adjacent areas that could also be affected by the Project;</p>		
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Allison Cook
 City of Agoura Hills
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	<p>e) A complete, recent, assessment of rare, threatened, and endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect, including California Species of Special Concern and California Fully Protected Species (Fish & Game Code, §§ 3511, 4700, 5050 and 5515). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species (CEQA Guidelines, § 15380). Seasonal variations in use of the Project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the USFWS; and</p> <p>f) A recent, wildlife and rare plant survey. CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if build out could occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases.</p>		
<p>REC 3- Data</p>	<p>The Project-level lead agencies should ensure the data has been properly submitted, with all data fields applicable filled out, prior to finalizing/adopting the environmental document. The City should provide CDFW with confirmation of data submittal.</p>	<p>Prior to finalizing project-level CEQA document</p>	<p>Project-level lead agency</p>
<p>REC 4- MMRP</p>	<p>The City should update the Project’s environmental document to include mitigation measures recommended in this letter. The City is welcome to coordinate with CDFW to further review and refine the Project’s mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Prior to finalizing CEQA document</p>	<p>City of Agoura Hills</p>

RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER B

February 11, 2022

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Environmental Program Manager, South Coast Region

Response to Comment B-1:

The CDFW alleges that implementation of the CAAP will affect several creeks and associated natural communities. In particular, CDFW alleges that the installation of energy efficiency retrofits will result in minor construction alterations to the Medea Creek, Palo Comado Canyon Creek, and Lindero Canyon Creek. The CDFW goes on to elaborate that “although existing drainage patterns will not be altered, vacant land, hillsides, or open space drainage patterns could be altered or disturbed as a result of construction activities.” However, CDFW misunderstands the activities that would be conducted under the CAAP. The CAAP does not propose new development or earthmoving activities. The CAAP proposes greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures that increase energy efficiency and renewable energy generation. Particular to energy efficiency retrofits, CAAP Goal 1, increases the energy efficiency of existing residential units. Activities under Goal 1 would allow homeowners of existing residential units to update interior lighting and appliances, provide better insulated doors and windows, enhance enforcement of Title 24 requirements, and promote participation in green building programs such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). These activities occur within and/or on existing homes and do not include any earthmoving activities. Since the proposed activities occur within existing homes and do not include earthmoving or earth disturbance activities, streambeds including the one explicitly mentioned in the comment will not be altered or affected either directly or indirectly due to energy efficiency retrofits. No impacts will occur.

CDFW also recommended mitigation measures, but the mitigation measures 1 and 2 pertain to future development projects to ensure that modifications to a river, creek, or stream does not result in bank erosion and provide a hydrology report to determine how earthmoving activities and stream bed alterations could impact headwater streams and stream connectivity. However, as stated previously, CDFW misunderstands the activities proposed under the CAAP. The CAAP does not propose any earthmoving activities or streambed alterations. The mitigation measures are not required for activities permitted under the CAAP. The City appreciates the CDFW concerns on streambed alterations and the proposed mitigation measures that would be appropriate for the CEQA analysis of new development projects, but is not applicable to the CAAP.

Response to Comment B-2:

In the comment letter, CDFW provided additional recommendations for nesting birds, asking to avoid any construction activity during nesting season and require a nesting bird and raptor survey prior to construction activities. Again, CDFW misunderstands the activities authorized under the CAAP. The CAAP does not propose construction activities or new development. Rather the CAAP provides policies and programs that increase the energy efficiency and renewable energy requirements of new development.

Other proposed activities including energy efficiency retrofits are focused on existing buildings and their interior including lighting and appliances, heating and ventilation.

Response to Comment B-3:

In the comment letter, CDFW also recommended that Negative Declaration for the CAAP provide a biological baseline assessment and impact analysis to address potential biological resource impacts from future development projects. CDFW misunderstands what the CAAP authorizes. The CAAP does not propose new development. Rather the CAAP provides a framework that includes programs and policies to make new development more energy efficient, reduce VMT, and depend less on fossil fuel and more on renewable energy sources. Implementation of the CAAP would not affect biological resources.

Response to Comment B-4:

In the comment letter, CDFW also states that CEQA requires information developed in the Negative Declaration be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent determinations on biological resources. However, the CAAP does not affect biological resources and a database on the biological baseline of the CAAP is not applicable. The CAAP does not propose a development footprint or other activities that would affect biological resources. Therefore, biological data is not applicable to the CAAP.

Response to Comment B-5:

CDFW recommends the City include CDFW proposed mitigation measure 1 and measure 2 (see Response to Comment B-1), and provide a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP). However, the CAAP does not propose any earthmoving activities which might effect a streambed, river or other water body. CDFW fundamentally misunderstands the activities authorized under the CAAP. The CAAP does not propose land use changes, new development, or infrastructure. The CAAP proposes to increase the efficiency of existing and proposed land uses and infrastructure in a way that reduces fuel, energy, and water use, and waste generation. It is designed to address multiple sectors and resources for increased sustainability within the City. Throughout the CAAP, the City develops policies and programs to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. The CAAP does not propose any earthmoving activities or earth disturbance that would impact streambeds, waterways, or biological resources. For this reason, the mitigation measures are not applicable to the CAAP.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401
www.fire.lacounty.gov

"Proud Protectors of Life, Property, and the Environment"

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FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

February 8, 2022

Ramiro Adeva, Assistant City Manager
City of Agoura Hills
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Dear Mr. Adeva:

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE
DECLARATION, "CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN," INCLUDES POLICIES
AND PROGRAMS TO REDUCE RELIANCE ON FOSSIL FUELS WITH THE CO-BENEFITS
OF IMPROVING AIR QUALITY, AGOURA HILLS, FFER 2022000823

The Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration has been
reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, Forestry Division, and Health
Hazardous Materials Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department.

The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

We have no comments.

For any questions regarding this response, please contact Kien Chin, Planning Analyst, at
(323) 881-2404 or Kien.Chin@fire.lacounty.gov.

LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Land Development Unit has no additional
comments regarding this project at this time. The comments that were addressed in
FFER2022000823, have not changed and are still applicable to this project.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

- AGOURA HILLS, ARTESIA, AZUSA, BALDWIN PARK, BELL, BELL GARDENS, BELLFLOWER, BRADBURY, CALABASAS, CARSON, CERRITOS, CLAREMONT, COMMERCE, COVINA, CUDAHY, DIAMOND BAR, DUARTE, EL MONTE, GARDENA, GLENDORA, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, HAWTHORNE, HERMOSA BEACH, HIDDEN HILLS, HUNTINGTON PARK, INDUSTRY, INGLEWOOD, IRWINDALE, LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE, LA HABRA, LA MIRADA, LA PUENTE, LAKEWOOD, LANCASTER, LAWDALE, LOMITA, LYNWOOD, MALIBU, MAYWOOD, NORWALK, PALMDALE, PALOS VERDES ESTATES, PARAMOUNT, PICO RIVERA, POMONA, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, ROLLING HILLS, ROLLING HILLS ESTATES, ROSEMEAD, SAN DIMAS, SANTA CLARITA, SIGNAL HILL, SOUTH EL MONTE, SOUTH GATE, TEMPLE CITY, VERNON, WALNUT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, WESTLAKE VILLAGE, WHITTIER

Ramiro Adeva, Assistant City Manager
February 8, 2022
Page 2

For any questions regarding the report, please contact Joseph Youman at (323) 890-4243 or Joseph.Youman@fire.lacounty.gov.

FORESTRY DIVISION – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance. Potential impacts in these areas should be addressed.

Under the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance, a permit is required to cut, destroy, remove, relocate, inflict damage or encroach into the protected zone of any tree of the Oak genus which is 25 inches or more in circumference (eight inches in diameter), as measured 4 1/2 feet above mean natural grade.

If Oak trees are known to exist in the proposed project area further field studies should be conducted to determine the presence of this species on the project site.

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division has no further comments regarding this project.

For any questions regarding this response, please contact Forestry Assistant, Nicholas Alegria at (818) 890-5719.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION:

The Health Hazardous Materials Division of the Los Angeles County Fire Department has no comments or requirements for the project at this time.

Please contact HHMD senior typist-clerk, Perla Garcia at (323) 890-4035 or Perla.garcia@fire.lacounty.gov if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



RONALD M. DURBIN, CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION
PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

RMD:jl

RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER C

January 28, 2022

**County of Los Angeles Fire Department,
Daryl L. Osby, Fire Chief
Forester & Fire Warden**

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Planning Division:

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Planning Division has no comments regarding the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Comment received and noted.

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Land Development Unit:

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Land Development Unit has no comments regarding the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Comment received and noted.

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division requests the lead agency to address erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazards Severity Zones, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance. Comment received and noted. The CAAP does not propose any earth moving activities that would create erosion. Nor would the CAAP disturb water flow, endangered species, and vegetation, archeological and cultural resources.

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division requires the CAAP to have a permit for the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance. The permit is required to cut, destroy, remove, relocate, inflict damage or encroach into the protected zone of any tree of the Oak genus which is 25 inches or more in circumference (eight inches in diameter), as measured 4 ½ feet above mean natural grade. Comment received and noted. The CAAP does not propose any cutting or destroying of Oak Trees. Goal 6 in the CAAP encourages preservation of trees and natural vegetation including oak trees to enhance the urban forest canopy and reduce the urban heat island effect and would comply with the City's Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance and Guidelines to ensure any potential conflicts would be avoided.

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division recommends further field studies for Oak Tree's in the proposed project area. Comment received and noted. The CAAP does not propose removing oak trees.

Response to Comment from County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Health Hazardous Materials Division:



Ventura County
Air Pollution
Control District

4567 Telephone Rd
Ventura, California 93003


tel 805/303-4005
fax 805/456-7797
www.vcapcd.org

Dr. Laki Tisopoulos, P.E.
Air Pollution Control Officer

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

Memorandum

TO: Ramiro Adeva, Assistant City Manager DATE: February 15, 2022

FROM: Nicole Collazo, Air Quality Specialist, VCAPCD Planning Division 

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt an Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the City of Agoura Hills Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (RMA 22-002)

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) staff has reviewed the subject Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to adopt an Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the City of Agoura Hills and Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (plan). The plan includes policies and programs to reduce reliance on fossil fuels with the co-benefits of improving air quality and building resilience during climate change induced extreme heat events, wildfires and other risks. The CAAP includes a greenhouse gas inventory, forecast and targets, along with greenhouse gas emissions measures to be implemented, and an assessment of climate vulnerability and adaptation. The Lead Agency for the project is the City of Agoura Hills with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), our neighboring air district, as the jurisdictional air regulatory agency.

General Comments

APCD submits the following comments based on the draft Initial Study for the project under the Air Quality environmental impact section.

- 1) Goal 1, Measure 1.1, City Action 5, Measure 1.3, City Action 2, Goal 3, Measure 3.1, City Action 6. We encourage the proposed action to be a directive and not a consideration so that this goal is implemented as proposed and to ensure quantification reduction is reached.
- 2) Goal 2, Measure 2.1, City Action 5. We recommend adding a statement to the effect of “by adopting in land use development policy or zoning ordinances.” to ensure compliance.
- 3) Goal 4, Measure 4.1, City Actions (in blue). We recommend adding an action to the effect of “adopt in land use development policy or zoning ordinances.” to ensure compliance with proposal.
- 4) Goal 5, Measure 5.1, Action 3. We recommend adding a statement to the effect of “by codifying it into the City’s development and enforcement codes.” to ensure compliance.

5) Goal 6, Measure 6.1. The performance metric should be updated to reflect a future year or expected year of implementation.

6) Goal 6, Measure 6.2. It is not clear how this measure will be implemented as the proposed city actions are promotions and the performance metric proposes to install cool roofs and pavements to achieve approximately 156,030 kWh energy savings. In other words, there is no proposal for how this will be achieved (incentive, ordinance requirement, etc.) in 8 years.

7) Goal 7, Measure 7.1. We recommend adding the following City Actions to capture more alternative transportation options.

- codify development to require a percentage of bike racks in excess of what is already required
- create incentives for using alternative transportation modes (discount to parks/services/facilities, gift cards, etc.)

8) Goal 7, Measure 7.4. Your air district may have incentive programs for EV charging infrastructure. Consider adding them to the partnerships or creating a new City Action to include this option.

9) Goal 9, Measure 9.1. How will the City ensure solar panels are installed to meet the GHG reduction potential by 2030? It is not clear how this will be achieved in the measure as the proposed City Actions are promotions and the performance metric is to track the number of installations.

10) Table P on Page 81. Some programs funded by the California Air Resources Board are administered through the air districts. Note, some may not be and are programs directly created by the air district, such as South Coast Air Quality Management District's Residential EV Charging Incentive Program or SoCalEV Ready. We recommend adding an additional funding source from the air district in your jurisdiction (SCAQMD).

11) Page 84, Implementation. The CAAP states "the City has developed an implementation schedule for the local reduction measures". We could not find the prioritization levels from Table Q on the list of measures or a table listing measures by implementation priority.

12) Page 87, Monitoring. If annual reports to the City Council are enacted, the monitoring terms listed should indicate each will be updated annually (GHG inventory, state progress, completion of which GHG reduction measures).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the project. If you have any questions, you may contact me at nicole@vcapcd.org.

RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER D

February 15, 2022

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District

Nicole Collazo, Air Quality Specialist

VCAPCD Planning Division

Response to Comment D1:

VCAPCD encourages the proposed actions (Goal 1, Measure 1.1, City Action 5; Measure 1.3, City Action 2; and Goal 3, Measure 3.1, City Action 6) to be a directive and not a consideration so that this goal is implemented as proposed and to ensure quantification reduction is reached. The City thanks you for your comment. VCAPCD is commenting on all the City actions that have the wording “consider,” in front of the proposed action. In the case of Goal 1, Measure 1.1, City Action 5, the City will “Consider designating an existing staff or a contract staff as an “energy advocate” to promote and manage energy efficiency programs.” In that particular action, the City has joined the Civic Spark Program and is committed using a Civic Spark Fellow as the “energy advocate,” during implementation of the CAAP.

In the case of Measure 1.3, City Action 2: “Consider presenting to the City Council for consideration of a residential Energy Conservation and Disclosure Ordinance,” City staff will be doing this presentation in the Fall of 2022 as part of Phase 3 (implementation) of the CAAP. The City cannot commit at this time to having this ordinance since City Council is the only body that has the authority to adopt the ordinance. For this reason, the Initial Study cannot include a mitigation measure mandating the ordinance. However, as noted in the CAAP, this is a supporting measure that does not in and of itself reduce GHG emissions. Rather, supporting measures are used to enhance the participation of reduction measures that will reduce GHG emissions. In the case of an Energy Conservation and Disclosure Ordinance, that ordinance would require home sellers to provide an energy audit of the home. In doing so, the home seller would be encouraged to do some energy efficiency retrofits prior to placing the home on the market in order to have a more favorable energy efficiency rating for the home at the time it is being offered for sale. Because the ordinance does not change the GHG emission reduction quantification, the CAAP does not change should the City Council reject adopting the ordinance and environmental analysis in the Negative Declaration remains the same.

In the case of Goal 3, Measure 3.1, City Action 6: “Update job description contract requirements for building inspectors to hold training semi-annually on energy efficiency and Updated Title 24 standards,” the City is in the process of updating the job description. This action will be completed as part of Phase 3 of the CAAP and the updated job description will be posted in the Fall of 2022.

Response to Comment D2:

VCAPCD recommends adding a statement to the effect of “adopting in land use development policy or zoning ordinances” the requirement that all new residential developments proposing two (2) or more dwelling units to achieve 100 percent electrification to ensure compliance for Goal 2, Measure 2.1, City Action 5. The City cannot commit at this time to having this ordinance since City Council is the only body

that has the authority to adopt the ordinance. For this reason, the Initial Study cannot include a mitigation measure mandating the ordinance.

Response to Comment D3:

VCAPCD recommends adding an action to the effect of “adopt in land use development policy or zoning ordinances.” to ensure compliance with proposal for Goal 4, Measure 4.1, City Actions for all new commercial construction to be built to California Green Building Standards Tier 2. The CAAP has five City Actions that will implement this measure including City Action 2 Promote Tier 1 and Tier 2 Green Building Ratings such as LEED, Build it Green, or Energy Star certified buildings. City Measure 5 will consider mandates or incentives for developers to provide 100 percent electrification for new commercial development. The City cannot commit to a requirement of new commercial buildings to be 100 percent electric since City Council is the only body that has the authority to adopt an ordinance that would implement this requirement. For this reason, the Initial Study cannot include a mitigation measure mandating the ordinance. However, the CAAP quantification of GHG emission reductions associated with this action took the conservative approach of calculating GHG reductions assuming this action would provide incentives rather than a mandate. Because the GHG calculations were based on an incentives program, the CAAP does not change should the City Council reject adopting the mandate and choose the incentives program. If City Council chooses the mandate, the CAAP would reduce more GHG emissions than calculated which would further the purpose of the CAAP. In either case, the environmental analysis in the Negative Declaration remains the same.

Response to Comment D4:

VCAPCD recommends adding a statement to the effect of “by codifying it into the City’s development and enforcement codes.” to ensure compliance for Goal 5, Measure 5.1, Action 3 which requires low-irrigation landscaping. The City already has a development code requiring water conserving landscaping.

Response to Comment D5:

VCAPCD suggest the performance metric should be updated to reflect a future year or expected year of implementation for Goal 6, Measure 6.1. Comment noted. The date to assess the metric to plant trees is updated to show year 2023 as the start year for reviewing progress.

Response to Comment D6:

VCAPCD explains how it is not clear how this measure will be implemented as the proposed city actions are promotions and the performance metric proposes to install cool roofs and pavements to achieve approximately 156,030 kWh energy savings. In other words, there is no proposal for how this will be achieved (incentive, ordinance requirement, etc.) in 8 years. This is for Goal 6, Measure 6.2. Implementation of this measure will be achieved through cool roof requirements on new residential and commercial development and cool roof incentives for existing residential and commercial buildings. The 156,030 kWh energy savings was a conservative estimate that would be achieved assuming applications for roofing replacement were to use cool roofing materials. Since new roofing material sold in California

only includes cool roof options, this calculated reductions would be met as building owners applied for roofing permits to replace older roofs.

Response to Comment D7:

VCAPCD recommends adding the following City Actions to capture more alternative transportation options.

- codify development to require a percentage of bike racks in excess of what is already required
- create incentives for using alternative transportation modes (discount to parks/services/facilities, gift cards, etc.).

Comment noted. The City will be considering ways to implement Measure 7.1 as part of the CAAP Phse 3.

Response to Comment D8:

VCAPCD notes that the South Coast Air District (SCAQMD) may have incentive programs for EV charging infrastructure and recommends adding this to the list of partnerships in Measure 7.4, City Action 2 or creating a new City Action to include this option for Goal 7, Measure 7.4. Comment noted, while the City did not specifically call out the Air District in the City Actions for Measure 7.4, the City is looking for ways to implement the Measure and would welcome promoting Air District incentives for electric vehicle chargers.

Response to Comment D9:

VCAPCD comment for Goal 9, Measure 9.1 -- How will the City ensure solar panels are installed to meet the GHG reduction potential by 2030? It is not clear how this will be achieved in the measure as the proposed City Actions are promotions and the performance metric is to track the number of installations. The City used current and past solar panel applications to forecast the installation of solar panels that would be installed between 2021 and 2030. These calculations using past applications as an indicator of continued solar panel installation is conservative as applications for solar installations have increased since the calculations were done. In addition, new development will be required to install solar panels. For this reason, the City considers implementation of Measure 9.1 very achievable and will continue to track the installation of solar panels to ensure Measure 9.1 meets the performance metric.

Response to Comment D10:

VCAPCD comments on the list of funding mechanisms shown in Table P on page 81 of the CAAP. Some programs funded by the California Air Resources Board are administered through the air districts. Note, some may not be and are programs directly created by the air district, such as South Coast Air Quality Management District's Residential EV Charging Incentive Program or SoCalEV Ready. APCD recommends adding an additional funding source from the air district in your jurisdiction (SCAQMD). Comment noted. The list on Table P is a broad list of potential funding mechanisms. These funding mechanisms are

continually changing as grants and incentive programs expire and new ones are developed. The list in Table P is not meant to be a restriction on potential funding mechanisms, but rather an example that was applicable at the time the CAAP was written of the current set of funding mechanisms. The City is committed to tracking potential grants, programs and incentives that can be used to fund the implementation of the CAAP and will include SCAQMD as one of those potential sources.

Response to Comment D11:

VCAPCD notes that the CAAP states “the City has developed an implementation schedule for the local reduction measures,” however, VCAPCD could not find the prioritization levels from Table Q on the list of measures or a table listing measures by implementation priority. Table Q provides the criteria used in the phasing of implementation.

Response to Comment D12:

VCAPCD comments that concerning monitoring, If annual reports to the City Council are enacted, the monitoring terms listed should indicate each will be updated annually (GHG inventory, state progress, completion of which GHG reduction measures). The City is committed to monitoring progress of the reduction measures annually using the performance metrics.

COMMENT LETTER E

From: Ben Suber <neb.rebus@gmail.com>
Date: February 5, 2022 at 5:13:35 PM PST
To: Ramiro Adeva <RAdeva@agourahillscity.org>
Subject: CAAP: Comment/Question during Public Comment

Hi Ramiro!

It's been a while, so I hope all has been excellent, safe and healthy for you!

I was reviewing the Mar. 2021 CAAP Draft, particularly Goal 3.7 and I was wondering: with the potential to create a bike plan, could that open an opportunity to create a trails map or even a full-scale walkability map?

I ask after discussions with the AVSP CAG involved reflection where Jeremy and I both commented on how a pedestrian underpass under the 101 linking Chumash Park with the AVSP and thus creating a "motor-free connection" throughout most of Agoura Hills.

This could also reduce GHGs but that also depends on individual choices. Anyway, I provide kudos to you, the City and LSA for all your hard work. Have a great week ahead!

Ben Suber
Happy Agoura Hills Nerd

Sent from my iPhone

RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER D

February 5, 2022

Ben Suber

Private Citizen of Agoura Hills, CA

Response to Comment E1:

Ben Suber comments that implementation of Goal 3.7 (bike plan) could open an opportunity to create a trails map or even a full-scale walkability map. We believe that Ben is referring to Goal 7, Measure 7.3 in the development of a Bicycle Master Plan. A Bicycle Master Plan would include a map showing the different classes of bicycle trails that would be designated throughout the City and how they connect to the regional network of bicycle trails. Thank you for your comment.