



ALAMEDA COUNTY
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

1333 BROADWAY, SUITE 220 • OAKLAND, CA 94612 • PHONE: (510) 836-2560 • FAX: (510) 836-2185
E-MAIL: mail@accma.ca.gov • WEB SITE: accma.ca.gov

August 26, 2009

Christopher Calfee, Special Counsel
ATTN: CEQA Guidelines
California Resources Agency
1017 L Street, #2223
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Comments on Proposed Regulatory Action Related to the CEQA Guidelines

Dear Mr. Calfee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft CEQA Guideline Amendments. The Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) has recommended changes to several sections of transportation checklist to include consideration of impacts to mass transit, bicycling, walking and goods movement. We recommend the following changes and additions to Appendix G – Environmental Checklist Form – Section XVI (Transportation/Traffic):

- a) ~~Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?~~ Exceed the capacity of the existing circulation system, based on an applicable measure of effectiveness (as designated in a general plan policy, ordinance, etc.), taking into account all **modes of transportation including mass transit (e.g, buses, light or heavy rail for people) and nonmotorized travel (e.g., bikeways and pedestrian facilities)** and all relevant components of the circulation system, including but **not** limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian **facilities, bikeways, bicycle paths, and mass transit?**
- d) ~~Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves additional and/or inadequate dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?~~ ~~Substantially decrease traffic safety (e.g. due to adversely affecting sight distance, facilitating high speeds or by mixing incompatible uses, such as farm equipment)?~~

AC Transit
Director
Greg Harper

Alameda County
Supervisors
Nate Miley
Scott Haggerty

City of Alameda
Mayor
Beverly Johnson
Vice Chair

City of Albany
Councilmember
Farid Javandel

BART
Director
Thomas Blalock

City of Berkeley
Councilmember
Kriss Worthington

City of Dublin
Mayor
Tim Sbranti

City of Emeryville
Vice-Mayor
Ruth Atkin

City of Fremont
Councilmember
Robert Wieckowski

City of Hayward
Councilmember
Olden Henson

City of Livermore
Mayor
Marshall Kamena

City of Newark
Councilmember
Luis Freitas

City of Oakland
Councilmember
Larry Reid

City of Piedmont
Councilmember
John Chiang

City of Pleasanton
Mayor
Jennifer Hosterman

City of San Leandro
Councilmember
Joyce R. Starosciak

City of Union City
Mayor
Mark Green
Chair

Executive Director
Dennis R. Fay

- f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs **regarding** ~~supporting or expanding~~ **mass transit, carpooling, vanpooling,** or non-motorized transportation ~~alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?~~
- g) **Cause an impact to mass transit or non-motorized transportation facilities, including an impact to safety, based on an applicable measure of effectiveness (as designated in a General Plan policy, ordinance, etc)?**
- h) **Reduce, sever, or eliminate pedestrian or bicycle circulation or access, or preclude future planned and approved bicycle or pedestrian circulation?**
- i) **Cause a degradation of the performance or availability of the movement of goods and services?**

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on these important guidelines. Please feel free to contact me or Beth Walukas (510/350-2326) of my staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dennis Fay
Executive Director

Cc: ACTAC
Beth Walukas, Planning Manager

File: CMP – Environmental Review Opinions – Responses – 2009