

Letter 26

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Comment 26-1

Revise Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic to include questions pertaining to pedestrian bicycle mobility, transit operations, or traffic safety.

Response 26-1

In response to this and other comments raising safety concerns, the Natural Resources Agency revised existing question (g) to specifically ask whether a project would “substantially decrease the ... safety of [transit, bikeway, or pedestrian] facilities?”

Notably, existing question (d) already asks whether a project would increase hazards due to design features or incompatible uses.

Thus, in light of the existing question (d) and the revisions to existing question (g), the CEQA Guidelines contain several tools to examine safety issues. No further revisions are required in response to this comment.

Comment 26-2

Commenter supports the Appendix G preamble.

Response 26-2

The Natural Resources Agency appreciates the commenter’s support.

Comment 26-3

Revise Appendix G: GHG Emissions questions to include a question on VMT.

Response 26-3

The revised text of question (a) recognizes a lead agency's discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology to assess impacts within its jurisdiction. Specifying a particular mode of analysis would limit that discretion. Absent a legislative directive to use a specific methodology, the Natural Resources Agency chooses to emphasize a lead agency's discretion in the Appendix G checklist. The Natural Resources Agency therefore declines the suggestion to specify a particular measure of transportation impacts.

Comment 26-4

Revise Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic question (a) to expand the scope of consideration to all modes of transportation and the circulation system relied upon.

Response 26-4

In response to comments, the Natural Resources Agency further revised question (a) to account for the performance of the entire circulation system and to address all modes of transportation. Further, in response to this and other comments raising performance concerns, the Natural Resources Agency revised existing question (g) to specifically ask whether a project would "substantially decrease the ... performance of [transit, bikeway, or pedestrian] facilities?" The Natural Resources Agency believes this revision sufficiently addresses this comment. No further revision to the text is required to respond to this comment.

Comment 26-5

Revise Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic question (c) to include changes in flight patterns and expand safety considerations to vehicles, bicycles, or pedestrians.

Response 26-5

Existing questions in Appendix G, Section VIII: Hazards and Hazardous Materials, questions (e) and (f) and Section XII: Noise, question (e) already address concerns with development in the vicinity of air ports. The Natural Resources Agency therefore rejects the suggestion in this comment.

In response to this and other comments raising safety concerns, the Natural Resources Agency revised existing question (g) to specifically ask whether a project would "substantially decrease the ... safety of [transit, bikeway, or pedestrian] facilities?"

Thus, in light of the existing question (d) and the revisions to existing question (g), the CEQA Guidelines contain several tools to examine safety issues. No further revisions are required in response to this comment.

Comment 26-6

Revise Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic question (d) to consider decreases in traffic safety due to a mix of factors.

Response 26-6

As explained above, the Natural Resources Agency revised existing question (g) to specifically ask whether a project would “substantially decrease the ... safety of [transit, bikeway, or pedestrian] facilities?” No further revision to the text is required to respond to this comment.

Comment 26-7

Revise Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic question (f) to specifically identify conflicts with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit or non-motorized transportation.

Response 26-7

As explained in Response 26-5, the Natural Resources Agency further revised question (f) in respond to safety concerns. The Natural Resources Agency believes this sufficiently addresses this comment, no further revisions to the text are required.

Comment 26-8

Add new questions to Appendix G: Transportation/Traffic regarding pedestrian or bicycle safety and performance or availability of transit.

Response 26-8

The Natural Resources Agency believes the revisions to questions (a), (b), and (f) sufficiently addresses the concerns and adequately captures the intent of the suggested revisions. No further revisions to the text are required to respond to this comment.