



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
 GOVERNOR

KEN ALEX
 DIRECTOR

June 16, 2011

RECEIVED

JUN 20 2011

CITY OF MENLO PARK
 BUILDING

Thomas Rogers
 City of Menlo Park
 701 Laurel Street
 Menlo Park, CA 94025

Subject: El Camino Real Downtown Specific Plan
 SCH#: 2009122048

Dear Thomas Rogers:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on June 15, 2011, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
 Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
 cc: Resources Agency

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2009122048
Project Title El Camino Real Downtown Specific Plan
Lead Agency Menlo Park, City of

Type EIR Draft EIR
Description The overall intent of the El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan is to enhance community life, character and vitality through mixed-use infill projects sensitive to the small-town character of Menlo Park, and to improve connections across El Camino Real over the next 30 years. The Specific Plan is based upon the El Camino Real/Downtown Vision Plan, which was unanimously accepted by the Menlo Park City Council on July 15, 2008.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Thomas Rogers
Agency City of Menlo Park
Phone (650) 330-6722 **Fax**
email
Address 701 Laurel Street
City Menlo Park **State** CA **Zip** 94025

Project Location

County San Mateo
City Menlo Park
Region
Lat / Long
Cross Streets El Camino Real/Santa Cruz Avenue and Vicinity
Parcel No. Various
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways SR-82, US-101
Airports
Railways
Waterways San Francisquito Creek, Atherton Channel
Schools
Land Use C-3 (Central Commercial), C-4 (ECR) (General Commercial, Applicable to El Camino Real), P-D (Planned Development), R-C (Mixed-Use), R-3-C (Apartment-Office), C-1-B (Administrative, Professional, and Service), P (Parking), R-3 (Apartment), C-1-A (Administrative and Professional) zoning districts.

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Economics/Jobs; Flood Plain/Flooding; Geologic/Seismic; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Job Generation; Noise; Cumulative Effects; Landuse; Growth Inducing; Public Services; Schools/Universities; Sewer Capacity; Wildlife; Wetland/Riparian; Water Supply; Water Quality; Vegetation; Traffic/Circulation; Toxic/Hazardous; Solid Waste; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 3; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Resources, Recycling and Recovery; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 4; Department of Housing and Community Development; CA Department of Public Health; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 05/02/2011 **Start of Review** 05/02/2011 **End of Review** 06/15/2011

STATE OF CALIFORNIA — BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

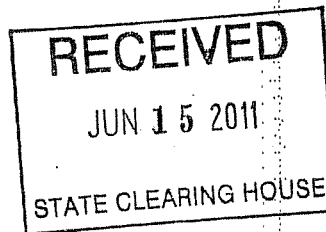
111 GRAND AVENUE
P. O. BOX 23660
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 286-5541
FAX (510) 286-5559
TTY 711



*Flex your power!
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c/221
6/15/11
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June 15, 2011



SM082262
SCH#2009122048

Mr. Thomas Rogers
City of Menlo Park
Planning Department
701 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Mr. Rogers:

**MENLO PARK EL CAMINO REAL DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN – DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

Thank you for continuing to include the California Department of Transportation (Department) in the environmental review process for the Menlo Park El Camino Real Downtown Specific Plan project. The following comments are based on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR); additional comments may be forthcoming pending final review of additional information requested.

Bicycle Facilities

The project does not specify bicycle lanes for El Camino Real (ECR). Instead, cyclists are to use bicycle facilities along parallel Alma Street/Garwood Way, where traffic volumes are lower. The parallel facilities do not need to preclude bicycle lanes on ECR, which may be a preferred avenue of travel for some riders. We recommend that future improvements along ECR include bicycle lanes to provide access to the many destinations along this main thoroughfare and continuity with the Town of Atherton's planned Class II bicycle facilities on ECR. This would also meet Complete Streets specifications.

Design South

TIS, Intersection Mitigation Measures, ECR and Menlo Avenue/Ravenswood Avenue Intersection, Figure 15a, Scenario #6, and Item #6, page 86 and TIS, Intersection Mitigation Measures, ECR and Middle Avenue Intersection, Figure 15a, Scenario #8, and Item #8, page 87, proposes to add southbound lanes, however, there may not be enough ROW available to maintain the standard width. The proposed additional lane needs to be reevaluated.

Mr. Thomas Rogers/City of Menlo Park

June 15, 2011

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Traffic Operations

DEIR, Transportation, Circulation, and Parking, Uncontrolled Crosswalks, bullet #1, page 4, 13-13: the crosswalks at the intersections of ECR/Alejandra Avenue, and ECR/Isabella Avenue, have been installed with enhanced diagonal lines within the crosswalk markings, and yield lines across traffic lanes in both directions in advance of the crosswalks. In addition, an in-street Pedestrian Crossing sign (R1-6) has been installed in the median island adjacent to the crosswalks facing both directions of traffic; and a Yield Here To Pedestrian sign (R1-5) is also installed at the yield line facing the oncoming traffic. A Pedestrian Crossing symbol sign (W11-2) has also been installed in advance of the yield line on both northbound and southbound directions of ECR.

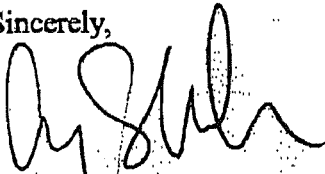
The above crosswalk enhancements have been in place since March 2011. Please revise the document text accordingly for the final EIR.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto the state ROW requires an encroachment permit that is issued by the Department. To apply, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five (5) sets of plans clearly indicating state ROW must be submitted to: Office of Permits, California DOT, District 4, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660. Traffic-related mitigation measures should be incorporated into the construction plans during the encroachment permit process. See the website link below for more information. <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>

Please feel free to call or email Sandra Finegan or sandra_finegan@dot.ca.gov with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



GARY ARNOLD
District Branch Chief
Local Development/Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse