



County of San Diego

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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February 20, 2001

Michael Beck, Planning Commissioner
Post Office Box 1509
Julian, California 92036

Dear Mr. Beck:

LAS POSAS ROAD (SA 505.1)

In response to your request, Department of Public Works staff has performed a preliminary review of the potential traffic impacts of deleting Las Posas Road (SA 505.1) from the County's Circulation Element Plan. The following are our observations:

ROADWAY STATUS

Las Posas Road is currently built within the City of San Marcos's jurisdiction. The County's Circulation Element Plan includes a four-lane Major road extension of Las Posas Road to Buena Creek Road. The planned roadway extension of Las Posas Road is not part of the County's current Capital Improvement Program (1998-2003).

PRELIMINARY FORECAST PROJECTIONS

According to the SANDAG Series 9 2020 traffic data, the segment of Las Posas Road within the unincorporated area is projected to carry between 11,000 to 13,000 trips per day (see attachment). If the roadway extension were not constructed, the 11,000 to 13,000 trips per day projected to use Las Posas Road would redistribute onto other parallel routes in the vicinity such as Buena Creek Road and Twin Oaks Valley Road. The preliminary traffic analysis indicates that redistribution of trips from the Las Posas Road corridor would not cause a significant impact to these parallel routes.

Two factors should be considered with the Series 9 2020 traffic projections. The first factor is that the Series 9 2020 forecast data used for this preliminary traffic analysis were based on buildout of the County's existing General Plan, not the County Target/General Plan 2020 population projections. In general, the County target population projections are a more conservative assumption for future development in the unincorporated area than is the existing General Plan, due to their lower population

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estimates for the year 2020. If the County target population projections were adopted, the reduction in the future population of the Twin Oak Valley area would likely lessen any potential impacts of deleting Las Posas Road.

The second factor is that a significant portion of the area surrounding Las Posas Road is within the City of San Marcos's and the City of Vista's sphere of influence. A forecast projection based on buildout of the other jurisdiction's General Plans and Circulation Element (CE) Plans could alter the results of the future-year traffic analysis. There are some differences between the County's General Plan and the General Plans of the neighboring jurisdictions. For example, the County's CE Plan includes a Major road connection (SA 510) from Las Posas Road to Twin Oaks Valley Road, but SA 510 is not part of the City of San Marcos's CE Plan. Any proposed deletion of Las Posas Road by the County of San Diego should be coordinated with the Cities of San Marcos and Vista.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Our recommendation is that a more in-depth traffic analysis of the proposed deletion of Las Posas Road be performed in conjunction with the County's General Plan (GP) 2020 update. The GP 2020 update will provide an opportunity for a more comprehensive assessment of all factors that will determine the feasibility of this proposed change to the County's Circulation Element Plan. The majority of the Circulation Element roads in the Twin Oaks Valley area are classified four-lane roads. A more comprehensive analysis would address the issue that several of these roads have been proposed to be reclassified by the local sponsor group and property owners. All these proposed changes to the County's and the cities of San Marcos and Vista's Circulation Element Plans should be cumulatively evaluated as either part the GP 2020 update or as a separate General Plan Amendment.

We appreciate you bringing this matter to our attention, if you have any questions or comments, please call Bob Goralka at 858 694-3728.

Very truly yours,

BOB GORALKA
Department of Public Works

BG:jb

cc: Gary Pryor, Curt Gonzales, DPLU (0650)
John Snyder, DPW (0332)
Tim Stanton, Lee Shick, DPW (0336)