

Department of
Conservation &
Development

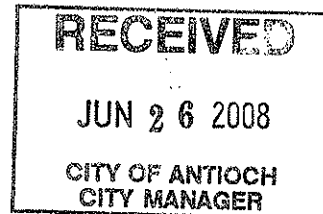
Contra
Costa
County

Dennis M. Barry, AICP
Interim Director

Catherine Kutsuris
Interim Deputy Director

Community Development Division

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street
North Wing, Fourth Floor
Martinez, CA 94553-1229



Phone: (925) 335-1278

June 16, 2008

Victor Carniglia
City of Antioch
Community Development Department, Planning Division
P.O. Box 5007
Antioch, CA 94531-5007

Dear Mr. Carniglia:

I am writing to submit comments from the Department of Conservation and Development – Transportation Planning Section on the *Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Hillcrest Station Area Specific Plan*. The comments are enclosed with this letter.

If you have questions about our comments, please feel free to contact me. We can also discuss these comments at any meetings as needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the NOP.

Sincerely,

JSP
Michael V. Iswalt

Michael V. Iswalt, Senior Transportation Planner
Transportation Planning Section

c: S. Goetz, DCD
Patrick Roche, DCD
John Greitzer, DCD
John Cunningham, DCD
Monish Sen, PWD
Adelina Huerta, PWD

**Contra Costa County Transportation Planning Staff Comments
on the Notice of Preparation for the Hillcrest Station Area Specific Plan**

1. The EIR should provide an analysis of all relevant Transportation Service Objectives (TSOs) set forth in the *2000 East County Action Plan* (TRANSPLAN, 2000). The 2000 Action Plan remains the relevant planning document for Routes of Regional Significance until the 2008 updates are adopted by TRANSPLAN. Analyzing all relevant TSOs on regional routes is required for the project to be fully compliant with the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority's (CCTA's) Growth Management Program.

The following regional routes and their respective TSOs should be included in the EIR:

State Route (SR) 4

- Peak Hour Vehicle Occupancy: 1.2 persons per vehicle on SR 4 freeway during morning peak period
- Delay Index: less than 2.5 on SR 4 freeway

Hillcrest Avenue

- The analysis should include sections of Hillcrest Avenue that are designated in the 2000 Action Plan as a Suburban Arterial Route. This includes Hillcrest Avenue from SR 4 to Lone Tree Way.
- Delay Index: less than 2.0 on Hillcrest Avenue from SR 4 to Lone Tree Way
- Level of Service (LOS): maintain mid-D LOS at intersections on Hillcrest Avenue from SR 4 to Lone Tree Way

East 18th Street

- The analysis should include sections of East 18th Street that are designated in the 2000 Action Plan as a Suburban Arterial Route. This includes East 18th Street from A Street to the SR 4/SR 160/East 18th Street interchange.
- Delay Index: less than 2.0 on East 18th Street from A Street to the SR 4/SR 160/East 18th Street interchange
- Level of Service (LOS): maintain mid-D LOS at intersections on East 18th Street from A Street to the SR 4/SR 160/East 18th Street interchange

2. The EIR should also include a discussion and analysis of the Transit Ridership objective. This is stated in the 2000 Action Plan as:
 - Achieve a 25 percent increase in total East County public transit ridership by the year 2010 compared to 2000, reflecting all forms of public transit collectively, including bus ridership and BART ridership.

Since the target date for this objective is almost upon us, demonstrating how the project will help achieve this transit target by 2010 is not really useful. However, the transit ridership potential for each of the three project alternatives should be estimated and compared.

Residents of the unincorporated area are likely to access this terminal station via express bus service and passenger vehicles. The County is interested in the ability of the project to support this kind of access to BART.