

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Napa County Planning, Building
 & Environmental Services

September 25, 2015

NAP0121284
 NAP-121-0.7
 SCH# 2015092021

Ms. Shaveta Sharma
 Napa County Planning, Building, and
 Environmental Services Department
 1195 Third Street, Suite 210
 Napa, CA 94559

Dear Ms. Sharma:

Hudson Vineyards Winery – APN 047-070-016 - Mitigated Negative Declaration

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the project referenced above. Our comments seek to promote the State's smart mobility goals that support the environment, build a vibrant economy, responsibly manage California's transportation related assets, and support efforts that reduce Green House Gas emissions. These comments are based on the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Project Understanding

The project proposes to construct a new winery on a 166.8 acre site of which approximately 100 acres is an existing vineyard. The winery use permit would allow production up to 80,000 gallons per year, construction of approximately 33,042 square feet (sf) of caves, 6,911 sf for a winery hospitality building with a commercial kitchen, and construction of other winery operational facilities. There could be up to 16 marketing events held over the course of a year with the maximum number of guests between 24 to 150 per event. There is existing driveway access to State Route (SR) 121.

Traffic Impact Study and Transportation Demand Management Plan

Please provide a copy of the traffic impact study (TIS) prepared by Crane Transportation Group in April 2015 and a copy of the Transportation Demand Management Plan (TDM) as soon as it is available.

We recommend including the use of valet parking services for larger events as you discussed in Section XVI, Discussion, e, as a mitigation measure. Further comments could be sent pending our review of the TIS and TDM plan.

Design

Please provide a site map clearly showing the project's driveway access to SR 121. The state right of way (ROW) should be clearly identified. Please state whether or not improvements will be made to the driveway access. If additional improvements are to be made, they must conform to standards in the Highway Design Manual and be approved by Caltrans.

Cultural Resources

Caltrans requires that a project environmental document include documentation of a current archaeological record search from the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System if construction activities are proposed within the state right of way (ROW). Current record searches must be no more than five years old. Caltrans requires the records search, and if warranted, a cultural resource study by a qualified, professional archaeologist, and evidence of Native American consultation to ensure compliance with California Environmental Quality Act, Section 5024.5 and 5097 of the California Public Resources Code, and Volume 2 of Caltrans' Standard Environmental Reference (<http://ser.dot.ca.gov>). These requirements, including applicable mitigation, must be fulfilled before an encroachment permit can be issued for project-related work in state ROW; these requirements also apply to National Environmental Policy Act documents when there is a federal action on a project. Work subject to these requirements includes, but is not limited to: lane widening, channelization, auxiliary lanes, and/or modification of existing features such as slopes, drainage features, curbs, sidewalks and driveways within or adjacent to state ROW.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sustainability Efforts

In an effort to augment the sustainability efforts the winery project proposes to take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we recommend implementing the following additional efforts:

1. Provide electric vehicle charging stations,
2. Place solar panels on appropriate locations including parking structures to generate clean energy,
3. Utilize permeable parking surfaces which reduces runoff and provides a cooler surface,
4. Encourage car pooling for your marketing events,
5. Provide bicycle parking for visitor and staff, and
6. Introduce incentives to employees for car pooling and utilizing other alternative transportation measures.

Ms. Shaveta Sharma/County of Napa
September 25, 2015
Page 3

Encroachment Permit

Work that encroaches onto the state ROW requires an encroachment permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five (5) sets of plans clearly indicating the state ROW must be submitted to: Mr. David Salladay, Office of Permits, California Department of Transportation, District 4, P.O. 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 for more information. <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>.

Please feel free to call or email Sandra Finegan at (510) 622-1644 or sandra.finegan@dot.ca.gov with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



PATRICIA MAURICE
District Branch Chief
Local Development – Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse