

Three written comment letters were received during the public and agency comment period on the Draft EIR. These letters, the public hearing transcript, and responses to comments are included in this section. All agencies and individuals that commented on the Draft EIR are listed below.

List of Agencies and Individuals Commenting on the Draft EIR

Letter	Date	Agency/Individual
A	December 15, 2000	Governor's Office of Planning and Research Terry Roberts
B	December 20, 2000	California Department of Fish and Game Larry King (with cover letter from Governor's Office of Planning and Research)
C	November 27, 2000	UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital Bradford Smith

Public Hearing on November 29, 2000

1. Ms. Holly Fox

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

P.O. BOX 2048 (1976 E. CHARTER WAY)
STOCKTON, CA 95201
TDD (209) 948-7981
FAX (209) 948-7164
(209) 948-3929



November 3, 1999

10-Mer-59-P.M. 14.810
Merced County Courthouse Facility
NOP of DEIR
SCH #99101083

Mr. John D. Glenn, Jr.
Merced County Department of Public Works
715 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Merced, CA 95340

PREVIOUS RESPONSE

Dear Mr. Glenn:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above referenced document which proposes the construction of a 50,000 square foot building. This project is located at 22nd and M Street in Merced.

Transportation Planning has circulated this document through our normal interdepartmental review process. Our Traffic Safety Branch offers the following comments:

- Traffic impact fees should be collected from this project on a "fair share" basis for future improvements to State Route 59 and M Street intersection.
- All Final Conditions of Approval should be forwarded to Caltrans District Planning in order to monitor approved local development and implementation of agreed upon mitigation measures.

If you have questions or wish to discuss this project further please contact me at (209) 948-3975, or e-mail ciamzon@dot.ca.gov or Debbie Hoy of my staff at (209) 948-3929 or e-mail dhoy@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

CARLOS P. YAMZON, Chief
Office of Travel Forecasting and
Metropolitan Planning

Cc: Ms. Mosie Boyd/State Clearinghouse/1400 Tenth St/Room 222/Sacramento 95814

Bcc: F Miranda
F Weishaar
S Waldron



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

P.O. BOX 2048 (1976 E. CHARTER WAY)
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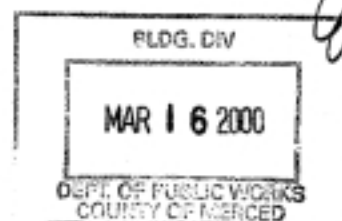


March 13, 2000

10-MER-59 P.M. 14.810
Merced County Courthouse Facility
Draft Environmental Impact Report

OFFICE COPY

Mr. Scott Morgan
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044



Dear Mr. Morgan:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Merced County Courthouse Facility. The EIR proposes to construct a 50,000 square foot building at the corner of "M" and 22nd Streets in Merced.

Transportation Planning has circulated the above referenced document through our normal interdepartmental review process. Caltrans comments are as follows:

- No significant impacts will result from this project. However, Caltrans previous comments still apply and remain valid. (See attached letter dated November 3, 1999)
- All Final Conditions of Approval should be forwarded to Caltrans District Planning in order to monitor approved local development and implementation of agreed upon mitigation measures.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this project further please contact me at (209) 948-3975, or e-mail cyamzon@dot.ca.gov, or Lynn O'Connor of my staff at (209) 948-3929 or e-mail loconnor@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

CARLOS P. YAMZON, Chief
Office of Travel Forecasting and
Metropolitan Planning
Attachment

cc: Mr. John D. Glenn, Jr., Merced County Planning Dept. of Public Works, 715 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced 95340

Response to Comment Letter A

1. This letter indicates that UC Davis has met the requirements with respect to the review of the Draft EIR for the Veterinary Medicine Facilities Improvement Project.



Gray Davis
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse



Steve Nissen
ACTING DIRECTOR

December 26, 2000

Sid England
University of California
Resource Management and Planning
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616

Subject: Veterinary Medicine Facilities Improvement
SCH#: 2000092012

Dear Sid England:

The enclosed comment (s) on your Draft EIR was (were) received by the State Clearinghouse after the end of the state review period, which closed on December 13, 2000. We are forwarding these comments to you because they provide information or raise issues that should be addressed in your final environmental document.

The California Environmental Quality Act does not require Lead Agencies to respond to late comments. However, we encourage you to incorporate these additional comments into your final environmental document and to consider them prior to taking final action on the proposed project.

Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions concerning the environmental review process. If you have a question regarding the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number (2000092012) when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Roberts".

Terry Roberts
Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

SACRAMENTO VALLEY AND CENTRAL SIERRA
1701 NIMBUS ROAD, SUITE A
RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA 95670
Telephone (916) 358-2900



December 20, 2000

Mr. Sid England
University of California, Davis
Planning and Budget Office
Davis, California 95616

Dear Mr. England:

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has reviewed the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities project, (SCH # 2000092012). The project proposes the construction and operation of a new Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and an "Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory" on an approximately seven-acre parcel located in the Health Sciences District of the Central Campus, University of California Davis, Yolo County.

1

Two primary impacts associated with this project include loss of burrowing owl nesting and foraging habitat. The potential also exists for disturbance impacts to nesting Swainson's hawks and loss of hawk foraging habitats. The DFG expressed these concerns in responding to the Notice of Preparation for this project, as well as during on-site discussions. These mitigation measures are included and described in the EIR (pages 3-34 through 3-41). DFG concurs with the finding that impacts to these species will be less than significant with implementation of the proposed mitigation measures.

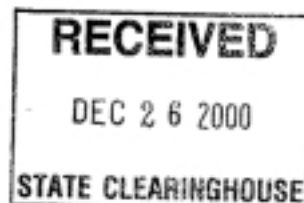
2

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 21092 and 21092.2, DFG requests written notification of proposed actions and pending decisions regarding this project. Written notifications should be directed to this office.

3

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If the DFG can be of further assistance, please contact Mr. Craig Stowers, Associate Wildlife Biologist, at

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Mr. England
December 20, 2000
Page Two

(916) 691-2122 or, Ms. Terry Roscoe, Environmental Services Specialist IV at (916) 358-2883.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Eng, Ph.D.
Assistant Regional Manager
Wildlife, Fisheries and Environmental Programs

cc. State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Post Office Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

Ms. Terry Roscoe
Mr. Craig Stowers
Department of Fish and Game
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Response to Comment Letter B

1. SCH #2000092012 references the Veterinary Medicine Facilities Improvement Project EIR. The Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities project was considered in a previous EIR (SCH #2000022057) which was certified by The Regents in July 2000.
2. Comment from the California Department of Fish and Game is noted.
3. UC Davis Office of Planning and Resource Management will provide written notification to the California Department of Fish and Game of all proposed actions and pending decisions regarding the project.



 VETERINARY MEDICAL TEACHING HOSPITAL

November 27, 2000

To: Bob Segar
Sid England
Planning and Budget Office

Re: Vet Med Facilities Improvement Project Notice

The VMTH administration and large animal faculty are extremely concerned with the apparent plans for parking suggested in the above notice. Neither location is at all what we had in mind.

We hoped to have pasture replacement go on the suggested Equestrian Center site to mitigate loss of pasture resulting from the siting of the CCAH building. Fairly extensive explanations regarding the need for pasture adjacent to the hospital have been provided in the recent past. These explanations included the facts that herbivore patients need pastures for exercise, for optimal footing when they are weak, and some animals with medical problems need green feed for dietary reasons.

We assume that the second option noted, "south of the VMTH adjacent to Garrod Road," means on our existing property (because we see no mention of giving up Arboretum land across the street). We view the loss of ANY land on the south side of the VMTH property as being virtually impossible. As funds are generated for critically needed new equine facilities, we plan to build such facilities to the south of the VMTH and existing barns, and change the Large Animal Clinic's "front door" to this location. The placement of parking in this location would eliminate our ability to renovate and construct new large animal clinic facilities in a way that makes the most sense.

We would have no operational objection to parking placement directly south of Garrod Road (on the Arboretum land) if that is what was actually intended in the Project Public Notice. If not, we suggest that parking be created either (1) to the south and east of Garrod Road, and/or (2) to the north and east of Garrod Road (see attached map). If either of these sites are not desired for parking, they would serve to provide good pasture replacement locations.

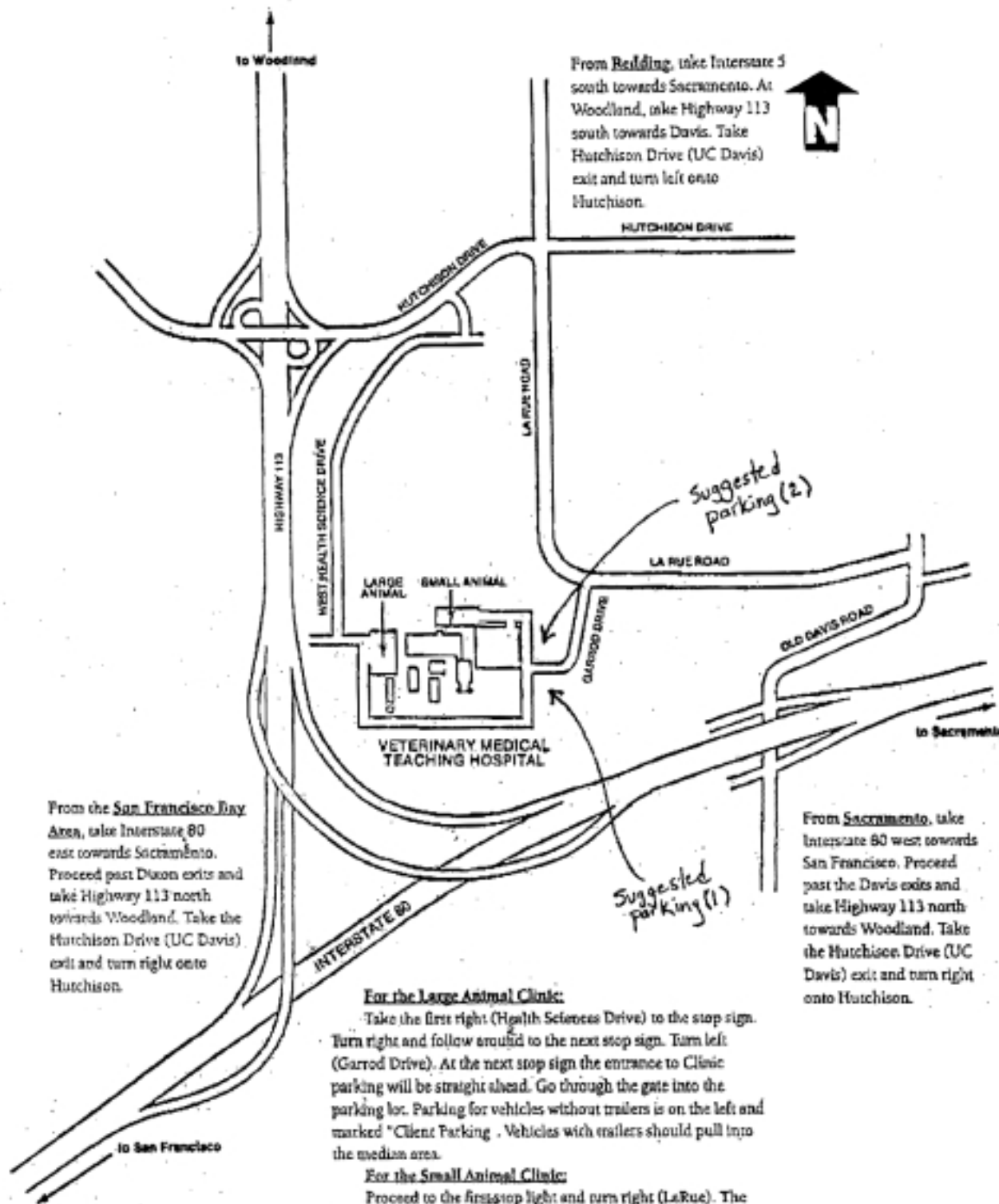
Thank you for further consideration.

Paul R. Brentson
Hospital Administrator
VMTH

Bradford P. Smith
VMTH Director and
Associate Dean for Clinical Programs

cc: B.I. Osburn
J.R. Pascoe
G.L. Schultz





From **Redding**, take Interstate 5 south towards Sacramento. At Woodland, take Highway 113 south towards Davis. Take Hutchison Drive (UC Davis) exit and turn left onto Hutchison.

From the **San Francisco Bay Area**, take Interstate 80 east towards Sacramento. Proceed past Dixon exits and take Highway 113 north towards Woodland. Take the Hutchison Drive (UC Davis) exit and turn right onto Hutchison.

From **Sacramento**, take Interstate 80 west towards San Francisco. Proceed past the Davis exits and take Highway 113 north towards Woodland. Take the Hutchison Drive (UC Davis) exit and turn right onto Hutchison.

For the Large Animal Clinic:

Take the first right (Health Sciences Drive) to the stop sign. Turn right and follow around to the next stop sign. Turn left (Garrod Drive). At the next stop sign the entrance to Clinic parking will be straight ahead. Go through the gate into the parking lot. Parking for vehicles without trailers is on the left and marked "Client Parking". Vehicles with trailers should pull into the median area.

For the Small Animal Clinic:

Proceed to the first stop light and turn right (LaRue). The road will split and you should stay to the right. The road becomes Garrod. At the stop sign, turn right onto Veterinary Medicine Drive and follow around to the "Client Parking" lot in front of our two-story beige building. The Clinic is on the second floor.

Response to Comment Letter C

1. Two locations are being considered for temporary parking for the Veterinary Medicine Facilities Improvement project. The first area is located southwest of the Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, on the existing equestrian cross country course, adjacent to the previously approved Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility (see Figure 3 of the Draft EIR). The second location is on the existing pasture to the east of Veterinary Medicine 2, just south of the existing parking lot 50 (See Figure 3 of the Draft Focused EIR for the project). If the first location (east of the approved Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility) is selected, existing pasture land would not be affected. If the second location (to the east of Veterinary Medicine 2) is selected, a replacement pasture would be provided at the first parking location (east of the approved Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility).