



## South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

E-Mailed: November 10, 2010  
[mressler@buenapark.com](mailto:mressler@buenapark.com)

November 10, 2010

Mr. Michael Ressler  
City of Buena Park  
Community Development Department  
6650 Beach Boulevard  
Buena Park, CA 90622

### **Review of the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the City of Buena Park 2035 General Plan**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comment is intended to provide guidance to the lead agency and should be incorporated into the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as appropriate.

The proposed project (2035 General Plan) will increase housing, commercial, industrial, office and manufacturing uses in the City of Buena Park. Further, the proposed project will provide mixed land use designations in ten focus areas of the city. For example, in the civic center focus area the lead agency is proposing a “general mixed-use” land use designation. Specifically, this land use designation could place a mixture of residential, retail, and office uses adjacent to Interstate 5 between Beach Boulevard and Western Avenue. The AQMD staff recognizes the air quality benefits that could result from mixed land use designations that reduce the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by local residents; however, AQMD staff is concerned about the potential health risk impacts from diesel particulate matter (PM 2.5) associated with high volume freeways like Interstate 5. Based on recent traffic counts from the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) Interstate 5 between Beach Boulevard and Western Avenue contains 168,000 annual average daily trips (AADT).<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the AQMD staff strongly recommends that the lead agency include mitigation in the final EIR to minimize future project related health risk impacts by strictly prohibiting the placement of any new residential or other sensitive land uses within 500 feet of Interstate 5.<sup>2</sup>

The AQMD staff is available to work with the lead agency to address these air quality issues and any other questions that may arise. Please contact Dan Garcia, Air Quality

---

<sup>1</sup> AADT based 2009 traffic volumes provided by Caltrans at: <http://traffic-counts.dot.ca.gov/>

<sup>2</sup> AQMD staff's recommendations based on the California Air Resources Board's Air Quality Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective available at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>

Specialist CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3304, if you have any questions regarding the enclosed comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian V. MacMillan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ian MacMillan  
Program Supervisor, CEQA Inter-Governmental Review  
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

Attachment

IM:DG

ORC100929-04  
Control Number