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PLANNING DIVISION
CITY OF OXNARD



January 14, 2002

Mr. Gary Sugano
Principal Planner
City of Oxnard
Planning and Environmental Services Division
305 West Third Street
Oxnard, CA 93030

RE: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Riverpark Project - SCAG No. I 20010666

Dear Mr. Sugano:

Thank you for submitting the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Riverpark Project to SCAG for review and comment. As areawide clearinghouse for regionally significant projects, SCAG reviews the consistency of local plans, projects, and programs with regional plans. This activity is based on SCAG's responsibilities, as a regional planning organization pursuant to state and federal laws and regulations. Guidance provided by these reviews is intended to assist local agencies and project sponsors to take actions that contribute to the attainment of regional goals and policies.

It is recognized that the proposed Project considers the development of a mixed-use community consisting of open space, residential, commercial and public facilities uses. The Project would include 2,805 residential units and approximately 2.485 million square feet of commercial space. The 701-acre project is located immediately north of the Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101), between Vineyard Avenue and the Santa Clara River in the City of Oxnard.

SCAG staff has evaluated the Draft EIR for the Riverpark Project for consistency with the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide and Regional Transportation Plan. The Draft EIR includes a discussion on the proposed Projects' consistency with SCAG policies and applicable regional plans, which were outlined in our May 19, 2000 letter on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for this Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR cited SCAG policies and addressed the manner in which the proposed Project is consistent with applicable core policies and supportive of applicable ancillary policies. This approach to discussing consistency or support of SCAG policies is commendable and we appreciate your efforts. During the time the Draft EIR for the proposed Project was being prepared, SCAG adopted the 2001 Regional Transportation Plan (April 2001). References made to the 1998 RTP should be updated and/or changed to reflect the 2001 RTP in the Final EIR for the proposed Project.

SCAG-1
SCAG-2

Based on the information provided in the Draft EIR, we have no further comments. A description of the proposed Project was published in the December 1 - December 15, 2001 Intergovernmental Review Clearinghouse Report for public review and comment. If you have any questions, please contact me at (213) 236-1867. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY M. SMITH, AICP
Senior Planner
Intergovernmental Review

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Southern California Assoc. of Gov. (SCAG)

SCAG-1

The endorsement by SCAG of the manner in which the Draft EIR analyzed the consistency of the project with the policies in the SCAG Regional Plan and Guide is appreciated.

SCAG-2

References to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) will be updated in the Final EIR to refer to the adopted 2001 RTP rather than the 1998 RTP. The City of Oxnard has reviewed the 2001 RTP. No changes to the conclusions on the consistency of the project with the policies in the RTP result from the revisions to the 1998 RTP as reflected in the 2001 RTP or from these revisions to the EIR.