



6/6/2014

VIA EMAIL

Georgette Neale
California Department of Transportation
2379 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (DEIR/EA) for the Rancho Cordova Parkway Interchange

Dear Ms. Neale:

WALKSacramento appreciates the opportunity to make the following comments the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (DEIR/EA) for the Rancho Cordova Parkway Interchange.

The DEIR/EA describes on page xiii why the bicycle/pedestrian connection to the Eureka Village in Gold River was eliminated from the proposed project. Consequently, the shared pedestrian/bicycle lane on one side of the interchange structure was also dropped from the project. Dropping the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure from the interchange design effectively eliminates the possibility of a future crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists, even if the Gold River residents now opposed to the Eureka Village connection were to change their minds in the future or if an alternative connection to a public street or bike path north of US Route 50 and outside of Gold River were to be identified.

Caltrans should ensure that the Rancho Cordova Parkway Interchange is a Complete Interchange by including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the interchange design. Providing a pedestrian and bicycle crossing of US Route 50 between the City of Rancho Cordova and the County of Sacramento will retain the opportunities for the City and County, along with Sacramento Regional Transit, SACOG, and Caltrans to construct and/or fund facilities and transportation infrastructure that will increase local and regional mobility for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users.

WALKSacramento is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and bicycling. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or cholm@walksacramento.org.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm
Project Analyst