



September 24, 2014

VIA EMAIL

Bill Heinicke
Director, Planning
Elk Grove Unified School District
9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road
Elk Grove, CA 95624

**RE: Anatolia II Elementary School Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study
(EGUS-03.0)**

Dear Mr. Heinicke:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Anatolia II Elementary School Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study. Our comments are in respect to Section 5.16 Transportation/Traffic in the Environmental Analysis.

Mitigation Measure T-1 requires three actions, one of which is striping or widening of Appolon Drive to reduce the effects of vehicle queueing at the school access driveway. Four alternatives were reviewed to reduce the effects of left-turn channelization on Appolon Drive at the school access driveway. The Level of Service failure occurs during a peak 15-minute a.m. period. The IS-MND doesn't indicate whether staggered start times for classes were considered and the impact on peak traffic flow might be. We recommend reviewing this to determine if changes to Appolon Drive and/or manual traffic control at the Appolon Drive-Sophistry Drive intersection would be required.

The Environmental Analysis also indicates that manual traffic control and adult crossing guards to consolidate pedestrian traffic would improve the Level of Service for the Appolon Drive-Sophistry Drive intersection. While this may improve traffic flow through the intersection, it should not be expected to provide safe pedestrian crossings at the Appolon Drive-Sardonyx Way and Sophistry Drive-Pericles Drive intersections. Even though the crosswalks may not be marked at each of those intersections, the crosswalks will remain unless the City of Rancho Cordova takes the appropriate actions to prohibit pedestrian crossings at those locations.

Each of the intersections will be on direct paths to the school campus and pedestrians will not want to walk out of their way to cross at the Appolon Drive-Sophistry Drive intersection. The Appolon Drive-Sardonyx Way intersection has potential conflicts for pedestrians due to the location of the school bus drop-off entrance and the south side of the crosswalks will be at the curb on the backside of the bus area. The Sophistry Drive-Pericles Drive intersection will be a logical crossing for pedestrians travelling to or from the area east of the school site. With the campus entrance almost directly in line with the intersection, pedestrians,

especially children, will desire to cross the intersection at the unmarked crosswalk and walk directly through the parking lot.

WALKSacramento encourages people to walk and bicycle in their communities. 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. 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.

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