

DATE: May 14, 1999

TO: Fresno County Public Works & Development Services Department
Development Services Division
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Division
Fresno, Ca. 93721

FROM: Bruce Barnes, City Manager
City of Mendota
643 Quince Street,
Mendota, Ca. 93640

SUBJECT: ***NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT REPORT/NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING***

The City of Mendota has the following comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the General Plan Update:

PLANNING PROCESS:

Generally speaking, the City concurs with the concept of preserving agricultural lands. However, due to infrastructure related problems with the San Luis Drain, some agricultural lands are marginal and could be used for ag-related industries.

WATER SUPPLY:

The City believes that the best way to conserve water, reduce pumping and over drafting is to build water storage facilities for Panoche-Silver Creek. This water would be released in the summer when needed for agriculture.

SAND AND GRAVEL MINING:

These policies should understand the benefits and relationship to sedimentation control and velocity control.

RECREATION AND TOURISM:

The Westside has minimal recreational facilities and requests that policies encourage more of these facilities.

ECONOMIC AND GROWTH SCENARIOS:

The City wants to see more ag processing facilities. The City seeks to process ag products to the final finished product.

LAND USE PATTERN/QUALITY OF LIFE:

Encourage infill within the existing city limits.

PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN LANDSCAPE OF CHOICE:

The City prefers to see high return crops such as table crops.

TRANSPORTATION:

Consider interconnecting Highway 180 directly to I-5, perhaps along the Panoche - California alignment.

EDUCATION:

Encourage more ag related industry so better paying jobs are available to the youth.