

Initial Study

Responses to Public Comments

Oakland Comfort Suites Project
1338 Oakland Road,
San Jose, California

PROJECT FILE NO.: PDC18-032 & PD18-042
July 2021

Prepared for:



City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street
Tower, 3rd Floor
San José, CA 95113-1905

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Initial Study

Oakland Road Comfort Suites Project

1.0 Summary of Comments

The 1338 Oakland Road Comfort Suites project Initial Study/ Mitigation Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was officially circulated for 20-day public review from March 30, 2021 to April 19, 2021.

During public review period, the Initial Study was available to local, state, and federal agencies and to interested organizations and individuals for review. Written comments concerning the environmental review contained in this Initial Study during the 20-day public review period were sent to City of San Jose, Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement and are presented in this document. The City of San Jose received one comments from Kanyon Konsulting, LLC.

In summary, the comment received on the IS/MND did not raise any new issues that are substantially greater in severity than disclosed, or change the existing result, for the project’s environmental impacts in the IS/MND. Responses to the comments along with text changes for the IS/MND are included in this document to provide a complete environmental record.

2.0 Agencies and Persons Commenting on IS/MND

	Commenter	Date	Number of Pages
A	Kanyon Konsulting, LLC	April 2, 2021	2

3.0 Responses to Comments

This memo responds to comments received for the IS/MND as they relate to the potential environmental impacts of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Lettered responses correspond to comments in each comment letter. Copies of the letters are attached in **Appendix A**

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Kanyon Sayers-Roods. I am writing this on behalf of the Indian Canyon Band of Costanoan Ohlone People as requested, responding to your letter dated : March 30 2021. As this project’s Area of Potential Effect (APE) overlaps or is near the management boundary of a recorded and potentially eligible cultural site, we recommend that a Native American Monitor and an Archaeologist be present on-site at all times.

The presence of a monitor and archaeologist will help the project minimize potential effects on the cultural site and mitigate inadvertent issues. Kanyon Consulting, LLC has numerous Native Monitors available for projects such as this, if applicable, along with Cultural Sensitivity Training at the beginning of each project. This service is offered to aid those involved in the project to become more familiar with the indigenous history of the peoples of this land that is being worked on. Kanyon Consulting, LLC believes in having a strong proponent of honoring truth in history, when it comes to impacting cultural resources and potential ancestral remains. We have seen that projects like these tend to come into an area to consult/mitigate and move on shortly after. Doing so has the strong potential to impact cultural resources and disturb ancestral remains. Because of these possibilities, we highly recommend that you receive a specialized consultation provided by our company as the project commences. As previously stated, our goal is to Honor Truth in History. And as such we want to ensure that there is an effort from the project organizer to take strategic steps in ways that #HonorTruthinHistory. This will make all involved aware of the history of the indigenous communities whom we acknowledge as the first stewards and land managers of these territories.

Potential Approaches to Ingenious Culture Awareness/History:

--Signs or messages to the audience or community of the territory being developed. (ex. A commerable plaque or as advantageous as an Educational/Cultural Center with information about the history of the land)

-- Commitment to consultation with the native peoples of the territory in regards to presenting messaging about the natives/Indigenous history of the land (Land Acknowledgement on website, written material about the space/org/building/business/etc)

-- Advocation of supporting indigenous lead movements and efforts. (informing one's audience and/or community about local present Indigenous community)

Response:

The commenter suggests that the project applicant retain a qualified native American Monitor to be present during all ground disturbing activities, as well as provide signage or other commemorative features to make all involved aware of the history of indigenous communities. The IS/MND found that the project site is not located in an area of archaeological sensitivity and there are no known historic or archaeological resources in the project vicinity. Therefore the comments above do not change the overall assessment determination that the project would have less than significant impact.

Appendix A - Letters and Emails Received

From: [KKLLC Admin](#)
To: [Hawkins, Kara](#)
Subject: Oakland Road Comfort Suites Hotel Project
Date: Friday, April 2, 2021 2:18:53 PM

[External Email]

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space/org/building/business/etc)

-- Advocation of supporting indigenous lead movements and efforts. (informing one's audience and/or community about local present Indigenous community)

We look forward to working with you.

Best Regards,

Kanyon Sayers-Roods

Creative Director/Tribal Monitor

Kanyon Konsulting, LLC

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