

Appendix A: Comment letters

Comment Letter A – Corrina Gould, Tribal Chair of Confederated Villages of Lisjan Nation

Mahamood, Reema

From: Corrina Gould [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 2:12 PM
To: Mahamood, Reema
Subject: Re: Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - 2023-2031 Housing Element SEIR

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A-1

Thank you for your email. This project does not land in our traditional territory, we will defer to Tribal Chairwoman Quirina Geary [@Quirina Geary](#) of the Tamien Nation, also cc'd on this email.

'Uni (Respectfully),

Corrina Gould, Tribal Chair
Confederated Villages of Lisjan Nation

Comment Letter B – County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department

4/24/23, 8:54 AM

Mail - Mahmood, Reema - Outlook

RE: Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - 2023-2031 Housing Element SEIR

Pham, Thien

Fri 4/21/2023 2:54 PM

To: Mahmood, Reema

Cc: Aghegnehu, Ben

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Hello Reema,

Please consider comment below from County Roads & Airports Department.

B-1

- Recommend Local Transportation Analysis and General Plan Circulation to evaluate and mitigate adverse impacts to County facilities on approved and unapproved Urban Villages.

Thanks,

Thien Pham

County of Santa Clara

Roads and Airports Department

Signals and Road Operations Division

1505 Schallenberger Rd.

San Jose, CA 95131

Comment Letter C – Santa Clara Valley Water District

[External Email]

Dear Reema Mahamood,

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) has reviewed the Draft Supplemental Impact Report (SEIR) to the Envision San Jose General Plan EIR for the 2023-2031 Housing Element Update, received by Valley Water on March 13, 2023.

Valley Water has the following comments regarding the Draft SEIR:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| C-1 | <p>1. Valley Water's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan assumes a substantial increase in water conservation to meet future demand. Valley Water encourages the City to require new water conservation measures in new development and redevelopment. Valley Water has been working with jurisdictions throughout the county on a Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO) that the City may consider to ensure there will be sufficient water supplies in the future. Provisions in the MWENDO that should be required of new and redevelopment housing projects include a requirement for sub-metering in multi-family developments, connection to recycled water if available, and encouraging hot water recirculation systems, weather- or soil-based irrigation controllers, and the use of gray water systems.</p> |
| C-2 | <p>2. In addition to water conservation, another element of the County's water supply portfolio is natural groundwater recharge, which is precipitation that infiltrates into the groundwater in the recharge areas of the basin. Within these areas, water from the surface passes through permeable sands and gravels to benefit water supply aquifers. Much of the southern and eastern areas of San Jose are recharge areas for the Santa Clara Subbasin. Natural groundwater recharge has declined over the last 100 years as impermeable surfaces within the built environment have increased stormwater runoff and limited infiltration of precipitation. Precipitation that once supported the groundwater basin through natural recharge is now removed through stormwater infrastructure to San Francisco Bay. New development and redevelopment are subject to stormwater quality requirements. Some of the methods used to meet these requirements work by retaining stormwater on the site for infiltration, which can support natural groundwater recharge. However, other methods focus primarily on stormwater quality and do not necessarily support recharge. To address the long-term cumulative impact on natural groundwater recharge, the city should require stormwater measures that retain stormwater on-site to maintain, and where possible, increase natural groundwater recharge and protect groundwater quality.</p> |

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft SEIR. If you have any questions or need further information, you can reach me at (408) 630-2479, or by e-mail at LBrancatelli@valleywater.org. Please reference Valley Water File No. 31811 on future correspondence regarding this project.

Thank you,
LISA BRANCATELLI
ASSOCIATE ENGINEER (CIVIL)
Community Projects Review Unit

Santa Clara Valley Water District is now known as:

Comment Letter D – Ruth Callahan

Mahamood, Reema

From: Ruth Callahan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:42 AM
To: Mahamood, Reema
Cc: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
Subject: Re: Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - 2023-2031 Housing Element SEIR

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D-1

The citizens of San Jose have been overlooked in all housing elements decisions and are tired of arbitrary and hurtful decisions by one department. The Measure E funds are not being used for shelters and housing. They are being used for sanitation and food distributions. The citizens have the power of referendum. The destruction of our neighborhoods with skyscrapers and density, coupled with higher property taxes to pay for it without our vote is frustrating the public. A jerrymandered city council dominated by ultra left wing policies, and two councilmembers who were appointed -not elected- against the public outcry is not democratic. It underscores the dominance of one approach to a complex problem.

Furthermore, the RHNA numbers are not accurate. The states internal audit proved they were way out of proportion to expected growth and needs. Yet, the housing department is driving that number without approval of the citizens. 62,600 people are not moving to a city as undemocratic as San Jose. The oppressive dictates of policy fueled with municipal taxes and fees to pay for all the social entitlements forced on us by the city is not attractive.

Comment Letter E – Ruth Callahan

Mahamood, Reema

From: Ruth Callahan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:01 AM
To: Mahamood, Reema
Subject: Re: Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - 2023-2031 Housing Element SEIR

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E-1

Do the citizens of San Jose get to approve this by ballot ?

Comment Letter F – Brandi Muniz

Mahamood, Reema

From: Brandi Muniz [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:48 PM
To: Mahamood, Reema
Subject: Fwd: Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - 2023-2031 Housing Element SEIR

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Hello,

F-1 | Regarding the city's plan to dramatically increase the housing over the next few years, I am strongly opposed. Despite whatever mandates the state is trying to put on our city it is more important to consider the environmental impacts that will greatly diminish the quality of life for our residents. What do you think will happen when no one wants to live here because the air quality is so bad our children can not breathe without inhalers. No one NEEDS to live here anymore, the world is telecommuting, but you know this already by the number of people who have already relocated during the pandemic. We are not LA. We have no reason to endure smog, outrageous traffic and no green belt for our neighborhoods because the city has decided to build on them.

This expansive housing plan is going to destroy our city because housing is not going to get cheaper and people will be forced to move so it will all be for nothing.

I especially oppose the alternative housing being planned for a current agricultural parcel at Branham lane and Monterey Road. Building a 3 story modular complex on such a small parcel of land is absurd. That parcel is currently being occupied by protected birds and is completely undersized for that number residents. Not to mention the impact it would have on environment and existing community.

Best regards,
Brandi Muniz