Appendix I:
Public Services Supporting Information
August 12, 2013

RE: Eagle Ranch Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report

Mr. Gruber,

This letter is in response to your request for information dated July 31, 2013. I have attempted to address your questions and concerns with as much accuracy as possible. The corrections for question one are listed by category heading. The answers to the remaining questions are simply listed in order.

There are many variables with a project of this type and my estimations may not fit with the overall project estimations. If you find that is the case, please do not hesitate to re-contact me for clarification or amendment as appropriate. I have listed my contact information below for your use. I thank you for your work on behalf of the project and our community.

1. Police Protection

   The police department is headquartered at 5505 El Camino Real.

Organization

   The Police Department consists of those operating under the supervision of the Commander and Chief of Police. The Support Services Supervisor answers directly to the Chief of Police. Those under the Support Services Supervisor include Support Services Lead Technicians, Support Services Technicians and Volunteers. The Commander answers directly to the Chief of Police. Those under the Commander include the Detective Unit and Patrol. The Detective Unit consists of the Detective Sergeant, Detectives and Property/Evidence Technicians. The Patrol Division includes Sergeants, Corporals, Patrol Officers, Cadets and Police Reserve Officers.

Calls For Service

   The Police Department responded to 24,000 calls for service in 2010, and approximately 23,000 calls for service in 2011 and 2012.
2. From 7/1/11 to 6/30/12 the average response time to calls for service identified as “Priority 1” by our department was 6 minutes 26 seconds. These average response times are acceptable levels for Priority 1 Calls for service. A reasonable response time should be considered under 5 minutes for a full service agency like the Atascadero Police Department.

3. On average the total number of calls for service is about .82 calls per resident during the past 2 years. The increase of 494 single family units and 93 multifamily units could result in an increase to the overall population of as many as 1,761 residents using an average of 3 residents per household figure. This would represent an increase in the number of calls for service to our department of about 1,444 per year assuming current levels. The addition of the Village Center shopping area, hotels space and highway commercial areas could likely see this number increase to over 2000 calls for service per year.

4. With a total of 28 sworn police department personnel, the average number of calls for service currently handled by each officer is 821. Given an increase of somewhere between 1400 and 2000 calls for service per year, I am recommending an increase of 2.5 officers and .5 support staff to handle the increased workload and maintain current service levels.

In addition to the expected increase in work levels, there are additional concerns about the project location that could impact service levels. The Eagle Ranch project is located at the far Southwest boundaries of the current city limits. The Police Department is more centrally located toward the Northeast. Response times to the extreme boundaries of the project will be significant from the police facility given that the normal drive time to that location is in excess of 10 minutes. This could significantly hamper the police department’s ability to provide quality level service response times to the project. Given the current configuration and size of the department, off-site police substation type facilities are not a reasonable alternative to mitigate the response time issue.

In addition to the extended response times, there will be additional concerns based on the topography of the project area. The increased acreage to be incorporated in the project area will undoubtedly increase the mileage and type of use by our police response vehicles. This increased “wear and tear” will result in additional support and maintenance costs incurred by the Atascadero Police Department.

The planned multifamily residential units also represent a concern to our department since historically there has been a higher level of calls for service to these types of residential locations within our community. I would suggest special consideration be given during the development phase of the multifamily residential units to minimize the potential impacts to law enforcement services through environmental design.
As noted above, I welcome your questions or concerns. I can be reached as follows:

Jerel Haley, Chief of Police  
5505 El Camino Real  
Atascadero Ca, 93422  
(805) 470-3200  
jhaley@atascadero.org

Sincerely,

Jerel Haley  
Chief of Police

JH/mc
August 14, 2013

Mr. Warren Frace  
Community Development Director  
City of Atascadero  
6907 El Camino Real  
Atascadero, CA 93422

RE: Eagle Ranch – Student Generation Rate/School Site

Dear Mr. Frace:

The District’s demographic study prepared by Schoolhouse Services dated February 2007 reflects a 0.412 Student Generation Rate for Custom Single Family Dwellings.

There are two existing elementary schools located near the project area. San Gabriel Road Elementary School’s and Santa Rosa Academic Academy’s current enrollment are at or close to capacity at this time. The District would anticipate adjusting the school boundaries to send any new elementary students generated from the Eagle Ranch project to Santa Margarita Elementary School.

It is anticipated that most of the future housing growth (student growth) will occur south of Highway 41, which directly impacts these three existing schools and possibly the middle school. The District is requesting that the Eagle Ranch project reserve a school site within the project area if the District is unable to secure another school site outside of Eagle Ranch.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please don’t hesitate to contact me at 462-4200.

Sincerely,

Jackie Martin  
Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Cc:  Ms. Callie Taylor, Senior Planner, City of Atascadero  
     Dr. Deborah Bowers, AUSD Superintendent  
     Mr. Stu Stoddard, AUSD Director of Support Services