



December 10, 2021

VIA EMAIL

June Cowles  
City of Rancho Cordova, Planning Department  
2729 Prospect Park Dr.  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

RE: Shalako- West PLND-1121-0021

Dear June Cowles:

Thank you for providing Civic Thread (formerly WALKSacramento) the opportunity to comment on this development. The project seeks to obtain a minor amendment to the Sun Creek Specific Plan and approval of a subdivision map for a 321-acre site at Sunrise and Kiefer Boulevard.

Please find our comments and requests for clarification below:

Referencing "Site Plan" on page 37 of the application, we would like to reinforce the need for a clear and prioritized pedestrian crossing across the traffic circle on the western development along the pedestrian corridor. Clear site lines should be established for drivers approaching the traffic circle from the southwest.

It is our recommendation to move the planned pedestrian/bike crossing linking the western and eastern developments to connect the north corner of the school to the adjoining road of the northern most traffic circle on the western side. The trail's current location serves the two lowest density residential components which places a higher burden on more people to either travel to currently planned path or travel along Keifer Boulevard.

As regional experts concerning Safe Routes to School programs, it is our hope that prioritized safe street crossings and circulation considerations are implemented adjacent and near to the school, allowing safe access for children being dropped off outside the designated Pick-up/Drop-off zone or those walking from adjacent houses.

Regarding circulation improvements we support the implementation of the proposed bike/pedestrian grade separated crossing along Keifer Boulevard and would like to see Class IV bike lane or off-street facilities installed along all major roads including Sunrise Boulevard, Keifer Boulevard, and Rancho Cordova Parkway.

Our final concern is over the development's close proximity to the SRC Companies plant. Due to the odiferous nature of the plant's operations, it is our fear that residents will be subject to unpleasant odors throughout the community affecting not only their quality of life as residents, but ability or willingness to utilize active transport modes when traveling throughout the community. We hope that a relationship is or can be established facilitating solutions for the plant to implement, or that designs of the development will mitigate these negative outcomes. At a minimum, we recommend an abundant tree network along the southern, western, and northern development boundaries to help filter odors.

Development projects that lead to more walking and active travel are critical to our community's future. Only 30% of the population in the Sacramento region is active for the minimum 30 minutes recommended, often due to limitations placed by a built environment. If more people could obtain regular exercise by walking and bicycling to their regular destinations, in lieu of driving, it could yield significant health improvements to resident health, the environment, and infrastructure maintenance costs.

Civic Thread 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.

Please notify Civic Thread of future routings or notices for this project. Thank you for reviewing our comments and please feel free to reach out with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

David Moore  
Project Coordinator  
Civic Thread (formerly WALKSacramento)