

**Coronavirus:** China's death toll reaches 871, surpassing SARS count. A17

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UPI AND

## Warehouse project draws concerns

**Air board, neighboring cities suggest developer has underestimated number of visits, impact**

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and two adjacent cities.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District says the Bridge Development Partners project's analysis contained in a Mitigated Negative Declaration underestimated the number of truck trips and the resulting air pollution impacts to the community. At issue is the health effects caused by tailpipe emissions from

trucks, vans and automobiles entering and leaving the distribution center.

"The lead agency did not perform a mobile source health risk assessment analysis," concluded the SCAQMD's Lijin Sun, program supervisor for the California Environmental Quality Act and planning, rule development and area sources.

Bridge, through consultant Kimley-Horn, responded to the anti-smog agency, saying it has performed a health risk study,

which specifically examines possible occurrences of cancer, and found that the warehouse planned for the corner of Foothill Boulevard and Central Avenue will produce 1.92 cases of cancer per 1 million residents, well below the acceptable level of 10 cancer cases in 1 million set by the SCAQMD.

"This project is 1.92 incidences of cancer. That is well below the 10 incidences per million. It is a minuscule percent," Heather Crossner, vice president of Bridge

Development Partners, said on Wednesday.

In addition, the SCAQMD criticized Bridge for talking about green measures instead of promoting alternatives that would reduce diesel particulate pollution, the main pollutant that causes lung disease and premature death, studies show. Sun of the SCAQMD wrote that Bridge should "go beyond providing information by requiring the use of zero-emission or near-zero-emis-

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## BARSTOW

**3.9-magnitude earthquake felt widely**

A 3.9-magnitude earthquake centered near Barstow was felt in many areas of Southern California on Saturday.

The quake struck at 11:34 a.m., 13 miles north-northeast of Barstow, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The USGS received online reports of the quake

from Barstow, Palmdale, Highland, Riverside, Perris, Indio, Mission Viejo, Los Angeles, Long Beach and Santa Clarita, among other areas.

An earthquake of that magnitude is capable of causing minor damage.

Earlier Saturday, about 10:57 a.m., a 2.8-magnitude quake hit 16 miles south of Trona. The quake also was felt in Ridgecrest, according to reports to the USGS. That area on

the San Bernardino-Kern counties border was hit hard by two earthquakes last July.

— *Brian Rokos*

## CHINO

**Prison's inmate cafeteria catches fire**

An electrical fire burned the inmate cafeteria at California Institution for Men in Chino early Saturday, the Chino Valley Fire

District said.

The fire was extinguished about 7:15 a.m. before it could spread to other areas of the prison, which is at 14901 Central Ave. No other details, including the specific cause of the fire and extent of the damage, was immediately reported.

Southern California Edison crew assisted. The fire broke out in houses about 4,000 ft. away, including about 50 ft. a site 2 miles

from the main prison.

— *Brian Rokos*

## RIVERSIDE

**Fire in Santa Ana River is 100% contained**

A fire in the Santa Ana River that briefly threatened homes in Riverside on Thursday was declared 100% contained at 7 p.m. on Friday, the Riverside Fire Department said.

Hand crews and bulldozers built a line around the

64-acre fire.

Firefighters were at the scene Saturday, picking up hoses and putting out hot spots. The bike path between Rubidoux and Anza Narrows Park remained closed.

Investigators determined that the fire was caused by people, likely someone who left a fire at a homeless encampment unattended.

No injuries or damage to structures was reported.

— *Brian Rokos*

**Warehouse**

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sion heavy-duty trucks during operation."

Bridge has pledged to provide 30 electric vehicle charging stations on-site. It will build 0.75 megawatts of rooftop solar, use only electric-powered forklifts and all-electric and battery-operated landscaping tools. As a result, the project will have "net-zero" electricity consumption, further reducing the release of greenhouse gases from power plants, Crossner said.

The California Depart-

ment of Fish and Wildlife said it disagrees with the conclusions that building a warehouse on the 50-acre site will not destroy natural vegetation, and in particular, the habitat needed for the burrowing owl, a species of special concern.

The agency said burrowing owls were spotted next to the site and the developer failed to perform a habitat assessment.

The city needs to determine the potential effects of the development on the burrowing owls, wrote Scott Wilson, CDFW environmental program manager. Bridge said in the document that it will conduct a search for any owls

mately 2% to the existing traffic on Benson Avenue and less than 5% to Foot-hill Boulevard." The developer said that about 98% of the vehicle trips generated would be automobiles or vans and not heavy-duty diesel trucks.

The project goes before the Planning Commission for a possible vote Wednesday. It would consist of the 201,096-square-foot warehouse/delivery/retail office center with 16 dock-high doors for trucks and 16 van-loading doors; 224 parking spaces; 12 stalls of truck trailer parking and 1,104 van parking stalls.

The city of Montclair wrote it "remains con-

cerned" about additional trucks using Central Avenue, saying they also would go through Montclair to get to the 10 Freeway. Instead, it wants Upland to require the developer to use Mountain Avenue as a truck route.

Claremont wrote a lengthy response, saying the warehouse/logistics distribution center "could have a detrimental effect on future traffic flows on nearby Claremont streets and intersections."

Claremont said the MND underestimates the number of truck trips generated once the warehouse is operational. Though Bridge has not signed

a tenant, it has said it is working with a Fortune 10 company. Many residents and others assume the company is Amazon, but that has not been confirmed.

By not naming the tenant, the exact use and the details of how the warehouse will operate remains unclear, wrote Brad Johnson, Claremont's community development director. Claremont requested that driveway counts be conducted at three different Amazon facilities within the region as a comparison. Bridge responded, saying its consultants did a review of nearby Amazon facilities.