

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 7 – Office of Regional Planning  
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
PHONE (213) 266-3562  
FAX (213) 897-1337  
TTY 711  
www.dot.ca.gov



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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**August 31 2021**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

August 31, 2021

Erin Strelch  
City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning  
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 1350  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical  
Center – Draft Environmental Impact Report  
(DEIR)  
SCH # 2017091061  
GTS # 07-LA-2017-03667  
Vic. LA-101/PM: 4.964

Dear Erin Strelch:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced DEIR. The project proposes to expand the existing Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (Medical Center) campus by replacing facilities and adding new buildings. It would be developed in three consecutive phases and involve six sites. Phase 1 of the Project would include demolition of existing commercial and residential structures and surface parking lots on Sites 1 and 2, and two medical office buildings (MOBs) on Sites 3 and 4. Phase 1 would also include construction of a parking structure and MOB on Site 1 and a procedure center addition to the existing MOB on Site 2. Phase 2 of the Project would include the demolition of an existing parking structure and MOB space on Site 5 and construction of a new, larger parking structure with ground floor commercial retail space. Phase 2 would also include construction on Site 4 of either an MOB (Option A) or a hospital addition (Option B). Phase 3 of the Project would include construction of a new MOB on Site 3 and a parking structure on the south side of the existing parking structure on Site 6. If Option A is selected for Phase 2, the MOB constructed at Site 3 would be smaller (41,500 square feet). If Option B is selected for Phase 2, the MOB at Site 3 would be larger (73,500 square feet). The proposed buildings for all three phases would total 401,100 square feet under Option A or 433,100 square feet under Option B, with an additional 533,400 square feet of parking structure area. The City of Los Angeles is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is located approximately 5,000 feet away from US-101 and Sunset Boulevard ramps. From reviewing the DEIR, Caltrans has the following comments.

We support implementing the Transportation Demand Measures (TDMs) this project has proposed, including bicycle parking, walkability enhancements, and the other TDMs included under Project Design Feature "PDF-TRF-2". Caltrans encourages Lead Agencies to implement TDM strategies that reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions because this aligns with Caltrans' mission to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. In addition to the proposed TDMs, please consider providing less vehicle parking through perhaps offering unbundled parking or parking cash-out programs. This is because research has shown that an abundance of vehicle parking can induce increased driving and VMT.

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For additional information on limiting VMT on the State Highway System, see Caltrans' updated *Vehicle Miles Traveled-Focused Transportation Impact Study Guide* (TISG), dated May 2020 and released on Caltrans' website in July 2020: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/transportation-planning/documents/sb-743/2020-05-20-approved-vmt-focused-tisg-a11y.pdf>. Note that since the passage of Senate Bill 743, Caltrans bases its project reviews off its new TISG, as opposed to the 2015 "Freeway Impact Analysis Procedures" agreement executed between LADOT and Caltrans District 7 that is referenced in Appendix L.

The following information is included for your consideration. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit the Construction Staging and Traffic Management Plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review. We support and appreciate the following measures in this plan:

- Schedule delivery of construction materials and hauling/transport of oversize loads to non-peak travel periods, to the extent possible.
- Obtain a Caltrans transportation permit for use of oversized transport vehicles on Caltrans facilities, if needed.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Emily Gibson, the project coordinator, at [Emily.Gibson@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Emily.Gibson@dot.ca.gov), and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2017-03667.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON  
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse