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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 12 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

August 8, 2019

Gladis Deras
City of South Gate
8650 California Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280

RE: Urban Orchard Demonstration Project –
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
SCH# 2019079047
GTS# 07-LA-2019-02683
Vic. LA-710 PM 18.206

Dear Gladis Deras:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The proposed project will involve the construction and subsequent operation of a 30-acre passive recreational park area that will extend along the east side of the Los Angeles River between Firestone Boulevard (on the north), the confluence where the Los Angeles River connects with the Rio Hondo Channel (on the south), the Los Angeles River (on the west) and Interstate 710 (on the east). The project area includes 23 acres which extend for approximately 1.1 miles along the east side of the Los Angeles River; and the Bandini Channel, which extends along the northern portion of the project site and along the east side of the Los Angeles River. The project area will be anchored by a 7-acre City-owned parcel, located to the north of the Thunderbird Villa Mobile Home Park.

After reviewing the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration, Caltrans has the following comments:

1. As the project is adjacent to Caltrans Right of Way and will cross directly under the I-710, multiple Caltrans permits and design approvals will be required.
2. An encroachment permit will be required as a portion of the project is within Caltrans Right of Way. Additionally, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.
3. Due to the proximity of the project to I-710, please provide a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).

Construction Traffic Management Plan. Prior to issuance of building or grading permits for the project site, the applicant shall prepare a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). The CTMP would include street closure information, detour plans, haul routes, staging plans, parking management plans and traffic control plans. The CTMP would formalize how

construction would be carried out and identify specific actions that would be required to reduce adverse effects on the surrounding community. The CTMP should be based on the nature and timing of the specific construction activities and account for other concurrent construction projects near the project site. The following elements shall be implemented, as appropriate:

- Schedule construction activities to reduce the effects on traffic flows on surrounding arterial streets during peak hours.
- Obtain the required permits for truck haul routes prior to issuance of any permit for the project.
- The project contractor shall identify and enforce truck haul routes deemed acceptable by the City and Caltrans for construction trucks.
- Signs shall be posted along roads identifying construction traffic access or flow limitations due to single lane conditions during periods of truck traffic, if needed.
- Accommodate all equipment and worker parking on-site to the extent feasible.
- Provide safety precautions for pedestrians and bicyclists through such measures as alternate routing and protection barriers.
- Provide for temporary traffic control during all construction activities adjacent to the public right-of-way to improve traffic flow on public roadways (e.g., flag men).
- Schedule construction-related deliveries to reduce travel during commuter peak hours.
- We recommend approval from Caltrans for any lane closures during construction period.
- We recommend the design of all construction underneath the State Route and Caltrans Right of Ways be approved by Caltrans.
- Permits from Caltrans will be required for heavy trucks and machinery/vehicles travelling on the State Route.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2019-02683.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON

IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse