

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4

OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

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Aaron Sage, Principal Planner
City of Vallejo Planning Division
555 Santa Clara St., 2nd Floor
Vallejo, CA 94590

Project – Vallejo Bluff Trail Project Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Aaron Sage:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review for this project. In tandem with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Caltrans' mission signals our continuing approach to evaluate and mitigate impacts to the State's multimodal transportation network. Our comments are based on the August 2019 MND.

Project Understanding

The proposed Vallejo Bluff Trail project would close a gap in three major regional trails that share an alignment near the northern landing of the Carquinez Bridge in Solano County: the San Francisco Bay Trail, the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and the California Delta Trail.

Hydraulics

Caltrans requires an analysis of additional stormwater runoff as mentioned on page 59, part c.iii, to ensure that the implementation of mitigation measures will result in a less-than-significant impact to the existing storm drainage infrastructure of the City of Vallejo and Caltrans storm drainage systems. Caltrans is concerned the project could impact the existing cross culverts within the project limit.

Also, please provide drainage plans, details and calculations which should meet the criteria of less-than-significant impact to the existing drainage system.

Bridge Replacement- clarification

Regarding the I-80/SR-29 bridge replacement project, the MND should be amended to reflect that Caltrans is constructing a 10 foot wide space for the trail, but not constructing the trail segment itself.

Construction-Related Impacts

Potential impacts to the State Right-of-Way (ROW) from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified in the MND. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on state roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

Prior to construction, coordination is required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the STN.

Utilities

Any utilities that are proposed, moved or modified within Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) shall be discussed. If utilities are impacted by the project, provide site plans that show the location of existing and/or proposed utilities. These modifications require a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City of Vallejo is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN.) The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto the State right-of-way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. To obtain an encroachment permit, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, six (6) sets of plans clearly indicating the State ROW, and six (6) copies of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans must be submitted to: Office of Encroachment Permits, California DOT, District 4, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660. To download the permit application and obtain more information, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Aaron Sage, Principal Planner
September 19, 2019
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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process.
Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mark Leong
at 510-622-1644 or Mark Leong@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Leong", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark Leong
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse