

APR 22 2020

From: Wood, Dylan@Wildlife <Dylan.A.Wood@wildlife.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 1:19 PM
To: ceras@cityofgalt.org
Cc: Wildlife R2 CEQA; OPR State Clearinghouse
Subject: Comments on the MND for the Carillion Boulevard Corridor Plan (SCH: 2020031177)
Attachments: Attachment 1 Homegrown Plant List_Final-1.pdf

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Mr. Erias:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Carillion Boulevard Corridor Plan pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines¹.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the project that may affect California fish and wildlife.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

¹CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below intending to improve the document:

Comment 1: CDFW recommends enhancing habitat value of landscaping. CDFW has noted that the documents received include project plans for landscaping improvements in the project area. CDFW recommends consideration of the Homegrown Habitat Plant List (Sacramento Valley Chapter, California Native Plant Society)(Attachment 1) when developing the final planting palette. The Homegrown Habitat Plant List (HHPL) is the result of a coordinated effort of regional stakeholders with the intent of improving landscape plantings for the benefit of property owners and ecosystem. The HHPL includes a variety of small, medium, and larger plants that can enhance habitat value in urban settings. Including plants from the HHPL is intended to produce the following outcomes for landscaping:

- Increased drought tolerance
- Decreased water use
- Decreased maintenance and replacement planting costs
- Increased functionality for local pollinators and wildlife
 - o Increase in overall biodiversity and ecosystem health
- Increased carbon sequestration and climate change resilience

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental documents be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special-status species and natural communities detected during project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). The types of information reported to CNDDDB can be found at the following link: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>. The completed form can be sent electronically to CNDDDB at the following email address: CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov.

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment and assist the Lead Agency in identifying and mitigating project impacts on biological resources.

Please contact me at 916-358-2384 or dylan.a.wood@wildlife.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Environmental Scientist

(916) 358-2384

