

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 286-5528
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

July 20, 2020

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Benjamin Murray, Senior Planner
Community Development Department
City of Livermore
1052 S. Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550

Greenville Plaza Project- Draft Initial Study/Mitigation Negative Declaration (MND)**Dear Benjamin Murray:**

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for Greenville Plaza Project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2020 MND.

Project Understanding

The project includes annexation into the City and pre-zoning to Highway Service Commercial (CHS). The project will develop a vacant site into commercial uses including a gas station with car wash, convenience store, fast-food drive-through, retail building with a drive-through, and 60 on-site parking stalls. The City will require design review and a pre-annexation agreement. The applicant is requesting an amendment to the Community Character Element of the General Plan for the three contiguous parcels comprising the project site to allow height projections into the 1.58-degree view angle applicable to the Scenic Corridor Subarea in which the project site located.

Landscaping

Any disturbance or impacts to State Right-of-Way (ROW) highway plantings, irrigation or soils shall be restored. Replace removed plantings at a minimum 1:1 ratio as well as an irrigation system to help establish the plants. Cost for these items should be included in the project report and should be funded from the project. Disturbed soil areas outside of the project site should be hydroseeded with appropriate seed mixes to restore impacted areas and to prevent soil erosion. The project report should describe who will be responsible for maintaining the planting and irrigation on site, as well as what parties will be involved if a maintenance agreement is needed (for example, Caltrans and the City of Livermore).

In section 4.0-1, please clarify and note that although sections of Interstate (I)-580 in Alameda County are classified as a Landscaped Freeway, the project location falls outside of those post-miles, and is not classified as such. This designation would assist in the control and placement of outdoor advertising. However, please note that I-580 is classified as an eligible State Scenic Highway. For more information, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways-faq2>.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto the ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application, six (6) sets of plans clearly delineating the State ROW, six (6) copies of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. To download the permit application and to obtain more information on all required documentation, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

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 may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to I-580.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Laurel Sears at (510)286-5614 or laurel.sears@dot.ca.gov. Additionally, for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please contact LDIGR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Leong
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

cc: State Clearinghouse