

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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9/25/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

September 25, 2020

Sep 28 2020**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Mr. Daniel Villa
Senior Planner
City of Burbank
150 North Third Street
Burbank, CA 91502

RE: Golden State Specific Plan Project
Vic. LA-05 PM 31.29 to 32.36,
SCH # 2020089016
GTS # LA-2020-03339AL-NOP

Dear Mr. Villa:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The Golden State Specific Plan District would be designed to create opportunities for housing and jobs near transportation and transit uses, including the existing Hollywood Burbank Airport and Metrolink Stations, and the future High Speed Rail Station. Consistent with the City Council's Affordable Housing Strategy and goal to build 12,000 new housing units within the next 15 years.

The land use concept being considered for the Specific Plan District includes Mixed-Use Transit Oriented District (TOD), Commercial and Flex TOD, Mixed-Use Corridor, Golden State Employment, Makers District, and Residential. The proposed land use mix includes high-density residential and commercial uses; low rise multi- and single-family residences; and office, commercial, industrial, light industrial, retail, restaurant, hotel, entertainment, media, and wholesale uses.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has been codified into CEQA law. It mandates that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed developments be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts. You may reference The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) website for more information.

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

This development should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way.

As a reminder, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will be the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after the July 1, 2020 statewide implementation date. Agencies may opt-in prior to that date.

Caltrans supports the implementation of complete streets and pedestrian safety measures such as road diets and other traffic calming measures. Please note the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the road diet treatment as a proven safety countermeasure, and the cost of a road diet can be significantly reduced if implemented in tandem with routine street resurfacing.

Also, Caltrans has published the VMT-focused Transportation Impact Study Guide (TISG), dated May 20, 2020 and Caltrans Interim Land Development and Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Safety Review Practitioners Guidance, prepared in July 2020.

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-planning/office-of-smart-mobility-climate-change/sb-743>

Overall, the environmental report should include a Transportation Impact Study (TIS) to ensure all modes are well served by planning and development activities. This includes reducing single occupancy vehicle trips, ensuring safety, reducing vehicle miles traveled, supporting accessibility, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We encourage the Lead Agency to evaluate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements.

For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's *Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference* (Chapter 8). This reference is available online at:

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/fhwahop12035.pdf>

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 897-8391 and refer to GTS # LA-2020-03339AL-NOP.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse