California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

April 22, 2022

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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Co/Rt/Pm: SF/VAR/VAR

Sherie George, Senior Planner City and County of San Francisco 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Waterfront Plan Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Sherie George:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the 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 February 2022 DEIR.

Project Understanding

The Port of San Francisco 2019 Waterfront Plan would update and amend the 1997 Waterfront Land Use Plan, which sets long-term goals and policies to guide the use, management, and improvement of 7.5 miles of properties under the Port's jurisdiction, from Fisherman's Wharf to India Basin. The Plan proposes nine goals, attendant policies, and land use objectives to guide the management, development and improvement of the waterfront. The DEIR is a programmatic analysis of policies and land use objectives relying on land use growth assumptions and physical growth estimates.

Climate Change

Please keep Caltrans informed about sea level rise adaptation measures as the Waterfront Plan project area encompasses along the San Francisco Bay Shoreline. Objective 9 on page 6-35 states, "strengthen Port resilience to hazards and promote adaptation to climate change and rising tides through equitable investments to protect community, ecological, and economic assets and services along its 7.5-mile waterfront." In particular, and of relevance to this objective, Caltrans is interested in

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engaging in multi-agency collaboration early and often, to find multi-benefit solutions when planning and implementing shoreline adaptation measures to protect communities, infrastructure, and the environment by fostering collaboration and exploring innovative adaptation approaches such as nature-based solutions. Please contact Vishal Ream-Rao, Climate Change Branch Chief, at wish.ream-rao@dot.ca.gov with any questions.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email <u>LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

MARK LEONG

District Branch Chief

Local Development Review

Mark Leong

c: State Clearinghouse