

## Justin Le

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**From:** Vincent, Troy@CHP <TVincent@chp.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 4:01 PM  
**To:** Huddleston, Paula@DOT; OPR State Clearinghouse; Mora, Leah@CHP  
**Cc:** CHP-701\_AA\_Desk; Ching, Aron@CHP  
**Subject:** 063 – LM – Environmental Document Review – SCH # 2020090347 -- Response (CHP, Santa Cruz Area)  
**Attachments:** SCH #2020090347.pdf; Area-Section EIR RESPONSE CHECKLIST.DOCX

To Whom It May Concern:

After reviewing SCH# 2020090347, as well as the information and procedures outlined in General Order 41.2, "Environmental Impact Documents," the Santa Cruz Area does not believe the auxiliary lanes will adversely affect traffic-related matters in the area; **however**, the Santa Cruz Area is opposed to the bus-on-shoulder concept of this project. Motorists involved in traffic collisions, experiencing medical emergencies, or who have mechanical troubles, are instructed to move to the shoulder and out of the traffic lanes. Peace officers respond to these incidents make all efforts to move the involved vehicles off the freeway or to the right shoulder to minimize secondary traffic collisions and the associated risks. When officers make traffic stops on the freeway, drivers pull to the shoulder and stop, as they are instructed to do in driving classes and per California Vehicle Code section 21806. Based on past experiences in Santa Cruz County, if busses (or other vehicles) are allowed to drive on the shoulder, other motorists will undoubtedly follow suit, creating an additional lane and removing the availability of the shoulder for true emergencies. Busses driving on the shoulders, and the inevitable vehicles which follow them, may cause confusion for other motorists and result in an increase of traffic related collisions in the area. This would cause additional responsibility and the CHP Santa Cruz Area does not have the resources or funding needed to provide the necessary enforcement to improve the safety of this practice. These scenarios have the potential of making the roadways more dangerous and increasing liability for the State and all involved government agencies. Authorizing any vehicle to drive on the shoulder may cause an undue safety hazard to the motoring public, road workers, and peace officers working in the area. If the bus-on-shoulder program were to progress, additional discussion would be needed to develop proper procedures regulating specific times or scenarios which would allow busses to use the shoulder as well as the speeds at which they would be allowed to travel.

The Santa Cruz Area does believe the construction period will affect traffic-related matters. These concerns appear to be addressed on page 7 of the associated *Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment and Notice of Scoping Online Open House*. The Santa Cruz Area would still like to stress the importance of maintaining at least one open lane in each direction of SR-1, proper signage, and traffic control in the construction area. The Santa Cruz Area would also request any work done be performed outside of commute hours (7:00 AM – 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM) if possible.

Thank You,

**Troy Vincent, #18569**  
Sergeant  
California Highway Patrol  
Santa Cruz Area  
(831) 662-0511 office

(831) 796-2160 after hours

(831) 662-0116 fax

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**From:** CHP-EIR <[EIR@chp.ca.gov](mailto:EIR@chp.ca.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020 8:18 AM

**To:** Troxell, Ian@CHP <[ITroxell@chp.ca.gov](mailto:ITroxell@chp.ca.gov)>; Vincent, Troy@CHP <[TVincent@chp.ca.gov](mailto:TVincent@chp.ca.gov)>; Ching, Aron@CHP <[ACHing@chp.ca.gov](mailto:ACHing@chp.ca.gov)>

**Cc:** CHP-701\_AA\_Desk <[701\\_AA\\_Desk@chp.ca.gov](mailto:701_AA_Desk@chp.ca.gov)>; CHP-EIR <[EIR@chp.ca.gov](mailto:EIR@chp.ca.gov)>; Mora, Leah@CHP <[LeMora@chp.ca.gov](mailto:LeMora@chp.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** 063 – LM – Environmental Document Review – SCH # 2020090347 -- Due to Lead Agency by 10/19/2020

Special Projects Section (SPS) recently received the referenced Notice of Environmental Impact document from the State Clearinghouse (SCH) outlined in the following Web site:

[Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus-on-Shoulder Improvements—Freedom Boulevard to State Park Drive—and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project](#)

Due to the project's geographical proximity to the Santa Cruz Area, please use the attached checklist to assess its potential impact to local Area/Section operations and public safety. If impact is determined, responses should be e-mailed directly to **Caltrans, District 5 – San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara** with cc to SCH and myself.

**CC to Division FYI only.**

Please feel free to e-mail me if you have any questions.

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Associate Governmental Program Analyst

California Highway Patrol

Special Projects Section (063)

General: (916) 843-3370