

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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11/16/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

November 2, 2020

Nov 02 2020

Will Meade
Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health & Safety
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: Alexander Hamilton High School
Comprehensive Modernization Project –
Negative Declaration (ND)
SCH # 2020100269
GTS # 07-LA-2020-03394
Vic. LA-10/PM: R8.016

Dear Will Meade:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced ND. The proposed Project would address the most critical physical concerns of the buildings and grounds at the campus and, through building replacement, renovation, and modernization, would provide facilities that are safe, secure, and better aligned with the current instructional program. The proposed Project will include the demolition and removal of four permanent buildings/facilities and multiple portable units. Three new permanent buildings will be constructed, along with a central plant and one new lunch shelter to provide for adequate learning spaces and support areas. New athletic fields are also proposed as part of this project. Additional improvements include the modernization of two existing buildings; seismic retrofitting upgrades, access upgrades, and/or additional minor improvements to the other remaining buildings; upgrading and replacing aging utilities and infrastructure; providing new landscaping and hardscaping; and accessibility improvements consistent with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is located near the following state facilities:

- **Interstate 10 (I-10):** approximately 500 feet from the I-10 and Robertson Blvd off-ramp.
- **Interstate 405 (I-405):** approximately 2 miles from the I-405 and I-10 interchange.
- **State Route 187 (SR-187):** approximately 4,000 feet from the SR-187 and I-10 interchange.

From reviewing the ND, Caltrans concurs with the following: "During operation, the proposed Project does not include any capacity increase and the nature of the operation would remain the same. The proposed Project would have no impact pertaining to vehicle miles travelled during operation and a less than significant impact during construction. No mitigation or further study is required."

Therefore, the following information is included for your consideration.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to

enhance California's economy and livability. Furthermore, Caltrans encourages Lead Agencies to implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies that reduce VMT and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. Thus, Caltrans supports the TDM strategies this project has incorporated, such as removing pedestrian barriers and upgrading building accessibility. Additional TDM strategies that LAUSD may want to consider integrating into this project in order to further reduce VMT include:

- Ensure that project driveway placements do not directly cause issues related to line of sight of pedestrians or bicyclists.
- Verify that no more parking than required by the local permitting agency is provided.
- Provide sufficient bicycle parking for students and employees.

Also, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans supports the following measure: "LAUSD shall encourage its Construction Contractor to limit construction-related trucks to off-peak commute periods." If construction traffic is expected to cause delays on any State facilities, please submit the Construction Worksite Traffic Control Plan detailing these delays for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact the project coordinators, Mayra Jimon and Emily Gibson, at Mayra.Jimon@dot.ca.gov and Emily.Gibson@dot.ca.gov, and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2020-03394.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief
cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse