

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 14 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

December 14, 2020

11-SD-VAR
PM VAR

Water and Storm Water Group Job 968
MND/SCH# 2020110047

Ms. Jamie Kennedy
Senior Planner
City of San Diego
1222 1st Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Water and Storm Water Group Job 968 Project located near Interstate 805 (I-805), Interstate 15 (I-15), Interstate 8 (I-8), and State Route 94 (SR-94). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. The Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Complete Streets and Mobility Network

Caltrans views all transportation improvements as opportunities to improve safety, access and mobility for all travelers in California and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian and transit modes as integral elements of the transportation system. Caltrans supports improved transit accommodation through the provision of Park and Ride facilities, improved bicycle and pedestrian access and safety improvements, signal prioritization for transit, bus on shoulders, ramp improvements, or other enhancements that promotes a complete and integrated transportation system. Early coordination with Caltrans, in locations that may affect both Caltrans and the City of San Diego or other lead agency, is encouraged.

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To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve California's Climate Change target, Caltrans is implementing Complete Streets and Climate Change policies into State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects to meet multi-modal mobility needs. Caltrans looks forward to working with the City of San Diego to evaluate potential Complete Streets projects.

Traffic Control Plan/Hauling

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has discretionary authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and may, upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum limitations specified in the California Vehicle Code. The Caltrans Transportation Permits Issuance Branch is responsible for the issuance of these special transportation permits for oversize/overweight vehicles on the State Highway System. Additional information is provided online at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/permits/index.html>

A Traffic Control Plan may need to be submitted to Caltrans District 11, including the interchanges at I-805, I-15, I-8, and SR-94, at least 30 days prior to the start of any construction. Traffic shall not be unreasonably delayed. The plan shall also outline suggested detours to use during closures, including routes and signage.

Potential impacts to the highway facilities (I-805, I-15, I-8, and SR-94) and traveling public from the detour, demolition and other construction activities should be discussed and addressed before work begins.

Environmental

Most of the project scope of work is outside of Caltrans right of way (R/W), however, there may be work adjacent to the R/W.

Caltrans welcomes the opportunity to be a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as we have some discretionary authority of a portion of the project that is in Caltrans' R/W through the form of an encroachment permit process. We look forward to the coordination of our efforts to ensure that Caltrans can adopt the alternative and/or mitigation

measure for our R/W. We would appreciate meeting with you to discuss the elements of the EIR that Caltrans will use for our subsequent environmental compliance.

An encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction. As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide approved final environmental documents for this project, corresponding technical studies, and necessary regulatory and resource agency permits. Specifically, CEQA determination or exemption. The supporting documents must address all environmental impacts within the Caltrans' R/W and address any impacts from avoidance and/or mitigation measures.

We recommend that this project specifically identifies and assesses potential impacts caused by the project or impacts from mitigation efforts that occur within Caltrans R/W that includes impacts to the natural environment, infrastructure (highways/roadways/on- and off-ramps) and appurtenant features (lighting/signs/guardrail/slopes). Caltrans is interested in any additional mitigation measures identified for the MND.

Right-of-Way

- Provide site plans for the complete project locations. This will enable us to evaluate if any project area or work is contiguous to Caltrans R/W. Please include all project site plans (i.e., all project sites 1-12).
- The Office of Planning and Research (OPR) CEQA Database Project information indicates that the various project sites are near SR-163 and SR-94 at various PM locations. The Project site locations from the City of San Diego plans show the locations are closer to I-805, I-15, and I-8. Please confirm the correct information.
- As of this date, the only R/W concerns for the project are Site 4 and Site 12. Both the 50-foot and 300-foot buffers appear to intrude into the State's R/W. Please check with District 11 Permits in order to obtain documents allowing you to work in the area. When we have received a full set of site plans, we will be able to determine whether there are other R/W concerns.
- Please identify and show all Caltrans R/W lines on plans.
- Please identify existing utilities within each Project location by obtaining as-built plans from utility owners and then prepare a utility base map for each project site location.

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- Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.
- Any work performed within Caltrans R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans R/W prior to construction.

Additional information regarding encroachment permits may be obtained by contacting the Caltrans Permits Office at (619) 688-6158 or by visiting the website at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/ep/index.html>. Early coordination with Caltrans is strongly advised for all encroachment permits.

If you have any questions, please contact Charlie Lecourtois, of the Caltrans Development Review Branch, at (619) 985-4766 or by e-mail sent to Charlie.Lecourtois@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

electronically signed by

MAURICE EATON, Branch Chief
Local Development and Intergovernmental Review