

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Feb 17 2021**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

February 16, 2021

11-IMP-86  
PM 4.5

Monte Vista Regional Soccer and Wellness Park  
MND/SCH#2021010188

Mr. Angel Hernandez  
Associate Planner  
City of El Centro  
1275 Main Street  
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Mr. Angel Hernandez:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Monte Vista Regional Soccer and Wellness Park Project (SCH# 2021010188) located near State Route 86 (SR-86). 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:

**Traffic Engineering Analysis**

- Provide rationale and detailed calculations regarding how the VMT reductions for "LUT-4 Increase Destination Accessibility" were determined, and how these reductions were applied to the project's VMT.

**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 El Centro or other lead agency, is encouraged.

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 local and regional agencies to evaluate inclusion of Complete Streets concepts within local development projects.

General recommendations:

- Project should consider bike parking and storage in order to encourage bike use.
- Project should consider pedestrian connections near and within the project site.

## **Environmental**

Caltrans appreciates the opportunity to comment on this MND. The analysis presented does not appear to have any impact on Caltrans Right-of-Way. Should elements of the project and/or mitigation measures change to affect Caltrans R/W or facilities, we would then have discretionary approval authority for the portion of the project or mitigations that are within Caltrans' R/W, through the encroachment permit process. Please contact us when you discover that Caltrans R/W is affected as we would appreciate meeting with you to discuss the elements of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that Caltrans will use for our subsequent environmental compliance.

Caltrans requires an encroachment permit 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, any CEQA determinations or exemptions. Supporting documents for the MND must address all environmental impacts within the Caltrans' R/W and address any impacts from avoidance and/or mitigation measures.

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Caltrans recommends 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 (e.g. highways, roadways, on-ramps, off-ramps, etc.) and appurtenant features (e.g. lighting, signage, guardrail, drainage, etc.). Caltrans is interested in the analysis for resources listed in the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the MND that are located within Caltrans' R/W.

### **Right-of-Way**

- 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](mailto:Charlie.Lecourtois@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

**electronically signed by**

MAURICE EATON, Branch Chief  
Local Development and Intergovernmental Review