

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

May 24 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

May 24, 2021

Mr. Marvin Holmes, Project Engineer
Wastewater Planning Section
County Sanitation District No. 18 of Los Angeles County
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601

RE: South Whittier Outfall Relief Trunk
Sewer Phase 5 Project
Vic. LA-605 PM R5.83,
LA-05, PM 3.65 & PM 4.91
SCH # 2021040760
GTS # LA-2021-03568AL-MND

Dear Mr. Holmes:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The Project involves the repair of approximately 13,867 feet of 24-, 27-, 30-, 51-, and 54-inch diameter sewer by cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining, approximately thirteen (13) feet of top encasement, construction of three (3) new manholes, rehabilitation of twenty-eight (28) manholes. All construction activities would occur within public right-of-way underneath roadways, except for one portion within Excelsior High School campus, which is private right-of-way. The Project would occur in unincorporated Los Angeles County and in the City of Norwalk. The Project requires an encroachment and excavation permit and traffic control plan approval from the City of Norwalk, excavation permit and traffic control plan approval from Los Angeles County Public Works, and construction permit from Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has been codified into CEQA law. It mandates that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed developments be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts. As a reminder, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after the July 1, 2020 statewide implementation date. You may reference The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) website for more information.

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

We concur that “during construction, vehicle trips would be generated by trucks hauling materials and supplies, and workers commuting to and from the Project site. It is anticipated that these trips would occur throughout the workday and would not be concentrated during traffic peak hours. Project construction would primarily occur during daytime hours Monday through Friday. However, nighttime construction and weekend work may be required during curing of pipelines, which requires 12 to 48 hours of continuous activity. As discussed in Section 3.3, a Traffic Control Plan would be prepared as part of the Project and submitted and approved by the City’s Engineering Department and Public Works. Implementation of appropriate measures during construction consistent with the Traffic Control Plan would ensure the circulation system would not be adversely affected. As such, the Project’s construction traffic would not substantially impact the performance of the circulation system or associated plans, ordinances, or policies.”

Also, Caltrans has published the VMT-focused Transportation Impact Study Guide (TISG), dated May 20, 2020 and Caltrans Interim Local Development Intergovernmental Review Safety Review Practitioners Guidance, prepared on December 18, 2020.

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-planning/office-of-smart-mobility-climate-change/sb-743>

For this project, transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials, which requires the use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways, will require a transportation permit from Caltrans. It is recommended that large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods and idle time not to exceed 10 minutes.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2021-03568AL-MND.

Sincerely,

Frances Duong

FRANCES DUONG
Acting IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse