

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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www.dot.ca.gov



August 26, 2021

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Co/Rt/Pm: SF/280/5.76

Kei Zushi, Senior Environmental Planner
City and County of San Francisco
49 South Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94103

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

August 26 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Re: 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue – Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Dear Kei Zushi:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for this project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2021 Draft IS/MND.

Project Understanding

The proposed project will remove 90 portable storage containers from the project site and construct a 65-foot-tall, four-story, approximately 171,206 square feet (s.f.) building over a two-level basement. The proposed building would be used for the non-life science laboratory. This project is directly adjacent to Interstate (I)-280 and the on-ramp to I-280 from Pennsylvania Avenue.

Construction-Related Impacts

Trees within the State Right-of-Way (ROW) must be protected from construction activities, grading and excavation along I-280 and its ramps. Any trees damaged must be replaced in kind and supplied with irrigation to establish them.

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways, and/or travel lane closures on I-280 requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City and County of San Francisco is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto the State ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating the State ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

To download the permit application and to obtain more information on all required documentation, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Yunsheng Luo at Yunsheng.Luo@dot.ca.gov. Additionally, for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email LDIGR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse