

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 12

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

September 09 2021**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

September 9, 2021

Mr. Benjamin Zdeba
City of Newport Beach, Community
Development Department 100 Civic Center
Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660

File: IGR/CEQA
SCH#: 2021080143
IGR LOG #2021-01754
Citywide

Dear Mr. Zdeba,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of the Notice of Preparation for the Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the City of Newport Beach 6th Cycle Housing Element and Circulation Element Update Project. The Housing Element is a State-mandated policy document of a General Plan that provides direction for the implementation of various programs to meet existing and projected future housing needs for all income levels within the City. California Government Code Sections 65580–65589.8 require that jurisdictions evaluate and update their Housing Element every eight years. The City of Newport Beach Housing Element Update (i.e., the 6th Cycle period of 2021-2029) is a comprehensive update to the City's last adopted Housing Element (i.e., the 5th Cycle period of 2014-2021). The Housing Element of the City's General Plan identifies and analyzes the existing and projected housing needs and contains a detailed outline and work program of the City's goals, policies, quantified objectives, and programs for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing for a sustainable future. The City of Newport Beach 6th Cycle Housing Element and Circulation Element Update Project (proposed Project) will apply to the entire geographic area located within the boundaries of the City of Newport Beach and its Sphere of Influence.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated, and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. Caltrans is a responsible agency and has the following comments:

Transportation Planning

1. Caltrans encourages the design of Complete Streets that provide safe and multimodal access through a variety of transportation

options. As part of the element update, consider including a discussion on multimodal transportation options, including walking, biking, and transit. Also, consider the increasing growth and popularity of electric vehicles and other electric personal mobility devices (e.g. scooters, e-bikes, skateboards, etc.)

2. Any pedestrian facility enhancements from future housing development projects that are within Caltrans' Right of Way will need to comply with Caltrans Design Information Bulletin (DIB) 82-06. This reference can be found at:

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/dib82-06-a11y.pdf>

3. Please consider providing a discussion of multimodal connections as part of the Circulation update. This can encourage residents to utilize alternative transportation options, thus reducing GHG emissions, congestion, VMT, and improve overall public health.
4. New developments resulting from the City's Housing Element and Circulation Element update should provide a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) based Traffic Impact Study (TIS). Please use the Governor's Office of Planning and Research Guidance to identify and analyze VMT related impacts.
5. We encourage the evaluation of potential Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications in order to better manage the transportation network. For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's *Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference* (Chapter 8). This reference is available online at:

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/fhwahop12035.pdf>

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Encroachment Permits

6. In the event of any activity in Caltrans right of way an Encroachment Permit will be required. All environmental concerns must be addressed. If the environmental documentation for the project does not meet Caltrans requirements, additional documentation would be required before approval of the Encroachment Permit. For application forms and specific details on Caltrans Encroachment Permits procedure, please refer to Encroachment Permits Manual. The latest edition of the Manual is available on: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/ep/apps.html>.

Please continue to coordinate with Caltrans for any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Lugaro at Julie.lugaro@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Scott Shelley
Branch Chief,
Local Development/Regional Planning/Transit
Caltrans, District 12