



Contra Costa County
Public Works
Department

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Deputy Directors
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Warren Lai
Carrie Ricci
Joe Yee

April 22, 2022

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Mark Leong

District Branch Chief, Local Development Review

Caltrans District 4 Office of Transit and Community Planning

P.O. Box 23660, MS-10D

Oakland, CA 94623-0660

Apr 22 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: Walnut and Grayson Creeks Desilting Project
County Project No.: WO#8334

Dear Mr. Leong:

Thank you for providing comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Walnut and Grayson Creeks Desilting Project (Project). This letter is intended to address your comments submitted on November 18, 2021. Our responses to your comments are presented below and follow the order of your comments (numbered in the margin of your letter and attached for reference).

Response #1: As stated on page 48 of the MND, the maximum excavation depth for sediment removal will not go below the surfaces that were established when the channels were originally built, so all utilities should be beneath that level and not be disturbed by desilting activities. Further, Project construction documents will require the contractor to identify all utility crossings within the desilt areas so that their locations can be clearly marked in the field, and avoided by construction activities. Therefore, no utility relocation or Caltrans-issued encroachment permit for utilities are necessary.

Response #2: On page 2, the MND states that the sediment removal activities will take place within the Flood Control District's right-of-way (ROW). No permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' ROW is anticipated. Use of a recently completed maintenance road under State Route 4 will be needed to access a portion of Grayson Creek. However, this road was built for the Flood Control District's use. Therefore, no encroachment permit from Caltrans is needed.

These comments are incorporated into the MND document via inclusion of Appendix B Comment Letters and Responses. Please contact me if you have any further questions on our responses to your comments at alex.nattkemper@pw.cccounty.us or (925) 313-2364.

Sincerely,

Alex Nattkemper

Alex Nattkemper
Environmental Analyst
Environmental Services Division

AN:xx

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Enclosures

c: Paul Detjens, Flood Control
Gus Amirzehni, Flood Control
Anthony DiSilvestre, Flood Control
Ave Brown, Environmental Services

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



November 18, 2021

SCH #: 2021100347
GTS #: 04-CC-2021-00510
GTS ID: 24599
Co/Rt/Pm: CC/4/12.9

Alex Nattkemper, Environmental Analyst
Contra Costa County
Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Walnut & Grayson Creeks Desilting Project Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Alex Nattkemper:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Walnut & Grayson Creeks Desilting 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 October 2021 IS/MND.

Project Understanding

The project proposes to remove sediment from Walnut and Grayson Creeks that has accumulated since the last desilt operation in 2006. The project is located below segments of Interstate (I)-680 and State Route (SR)-4 in Contra Costa County.

Utilities

Any utilities that are proposed, moved or modified within Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) shall be discussed. If utilities are impacted by the project, provide site plans that show the location of existing and/or proposed utilities. These modifications require a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

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Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' 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

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Alex Nattkemper, Environmental Analyst
November 18, 2021
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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>.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse