

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 12

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Making Conservation
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March 1, 2023

Ms. Matisse Reischl
Assistant City Manager
City of San Juan Capistrano
32400 Paseo Adelanto
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

File: IGR/CEQA
SCH#: 2021110267
12-ORA-2021-02206
SR 74, PM 0.00
I-5, PM 8.227

Dear Ms. Reischl,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of the San Juan Capistrano Skatepark Project Notice of Preparation for the City of San Juan Capistrano. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment.

The project proposes approximately 42,575 square feet of recreational space that would consist of a new skatepark, new playground restroom building, raised berm seating, and landscaping. Regional access to the project area is provided by Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 74 (SR 74). Caltrans is a commenting agency for this project and upon review, we have the following comments:

Transportation Planning

1. Caltrans encourages the City of San Juan Capistrano to provide a discussion on potentially improving multimodal transportation opportunities for residents and visitors, to address accessibility, safety, and environmental benefits. Development projects are encouraged to incorporate elements to support sustainable and multimodal transportation options, including, but not limited to, transit, walking, biking, shared and electric vehicles.
2. The proposed project is located near the San Juan Creek Trail, a regional multi-use trail. There are also Class II bike lanes along Alipaz Street. The project also proposes a multi-use public trail along Via Positiva, and the project would not include parking.

With these features in mind, Caltrans recommends the inclusion of secure and functional short-term bike parking. Short-term biking at public locations should be placed in visible areas that are close to main destinations and should be installed at least 24" away from walls and other objects (e.g. trash cans, plans, etc.) With the increasing popularity of electric bikes and cargo/utility bikes, bike parking should also be designed to accommodate different styles, sizes, and weights of bikes (e.g. cargo bike, bike with trailer adult tricycle, etc.).

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

3. For additional guidance on bicycle parking best practices, see the "Essentials of Bike Parking" guidance created by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (link to online PDF: <https://www.apbp.org/Publications>).
4. Please consider additional bicycle and pedestrian facilities to connect surrounding residential areas (particularly opportunities to safely cross Camino Del Avion and Via Positiva) to the Project.
5. Provide a discussion about existing transit services and the nearby proximity of the San Juan Capistrano Train Station to the project.
6. Consider promoting the use of multimodal options and provide wayfinding signage for transit and rail connectivity to and from the train station and the project site.

Providing rail and transit connectivity will add multimodal options to residents leading to decreased Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and improved air quality.

7. Please consider providing electric charging stations in the existing parking lot. Electric charging infrastructure provides vehicles access to power without running their engines, thus reducing greenhouse and heat emissions.

In addition, the project would be preparing for the inevitable shift to alternative energy-fueled vehicles, per the Governor's Executive Order N-79-20, which phases out sales of gas-powered vehicles by 2035.

Please continue to keep us informed of this project and any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph Jamoralin at (657) 328-6276 or Joseph.Jamoralin@dot.ca.gov

Sincerely,



SCOTT SHELLEY
Branch Chief, Regional-LDR-Transit Planning
District 12