

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

January 13, 2022

Brandi Jones, Senior Planner
City of Irwindale
5050 Irwindale Avenue
Irwindale, CA 91706

RE: 4416 Azusa Canyon Road Project
SCH # 2021120500
Vic. LA-605/PM 22.163, LA-210/PM
R37.85, LA-10/PM LA-34.47
GTS # LA-2022-03809-MND

Dear Brandi Jones:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced environmental document. The project site is presently developed with one building, previously occupied by Pepsi Bottling Group. The proposed project includes development of a standalone concrete tilt-up warehouse, office, and manufacturing facility and would involve demolition of the existing building on-site. Prospective tenants would operate out of a proposed building with a footprint of 125,500 square feet. Other project components include vehicular and pedestrian access and circulation improvements; surface parking and utility improvements; and various hardscape and landscape improvements.

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 codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

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

As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

For this project, we encourage the Lead Agency to evaluate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements. For 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>

You can also refer to the 2010 *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), which is available online at:

<http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>

On page I-63/51 of the Azusa Canyon Road Warehouse Transportation Analysis, "The County of Los Angeles Guidelines require VMT analysis for development projects that are estimated to generate a net increase of 110 or more daily vehicle trips. Daily vehicle trips are specifically related to on-road passenger vehicles (cars and light trucks). Heavy trucks are not included in a VMT traffic impact analysis. The passenger car trip generation for the proposed Project is 197 daily trips (see Table 4-1), but the existing baseline site land use passenger car estimated trip generation is 88 daily trips (see Table 4-3). The net proposed Project passenger car trip generation is therefore 109 vehicles per day, which is less than the 110 vehicles per day that would require further VMT analysis." Therefore, proposed project would not require further VMT analysis and would have a less than significant impact.

Since the project passenger car trip is close to the threshold (109 vs. 110), for the City's consideration, Caltrans recommends that a post-development VMT analysis with mitigation measures should be prepared if the project daily net trips exceed 110. A mitigation measure should be implemented when the post-development VMT analysis discloses any traffic significant impact.

As a reminder for construction and operation phases, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.

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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-2022-03809AL-MND.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse