

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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March 2, 2022



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Afshan Hamid, Director
Planning Department
Town of Moraga
329 Rheem Boulevard
Moraga, CA 94556

Re: Town of Moraga Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative Notice of Preparation (NOP)

Dear Afshan Hamid:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Town of Moraga Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative Project (Plan). 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 February 2022 NOP.

Project Understanding

The Plan will serve as a cohesive long-term framework for future growth and development in the Town of Moraga (Town). The Plan includes an update to the Town's Housing Element, rezoning of key sites within the Town's jurisdiction, and amendments to the General Plan. In addition, the Town will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Plan which will describe the reasonably foreseeable and potentially significant adverse effects of the proposed project. The Housing Element will address new state requirements and demonstrate that the Town has sufficient capacity to meet the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation. The project encompasses the entire Town and is located south of State Route (SR)-24.

Travel Demand Analysis

With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 743, Caltrans is focused on maximizing efficient development patterns, innovative travel demand reduction strategies, and

multimodal improvements. For more information on how Caltrans assesses Transportation Impact Studies, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)). Please note that current and future land use projects proposed near and adjacent to the State Transportation Network (STN) may be assessed, in part, through the TISG.

Additionally, Caltrans requests the Town determine that the Town of Moraga's Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative is consistent with California Government Code Section 65088-65089.10 Congestion Management.

The Town is requested to gain a determination of conformity from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority to determine that the Town of Moraga's Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative is consistent with and conforms to the Regional Transportation Plan Consistency Requirements of the County's Congestion Management Plan (CMP).

Transportation Impact Fees

We encourage a sufficient allocation of fair share contributions toward multimodal and regional transit improvements to fully mitigate cumulative impacts to regional transportation. We also strongly support measures to increase sustainable mode shares, thereby reducing VMT. Caltrans welcomes the opportunity to work with the Town and local partners to secure the funding for needed mitigation. Traffic mitigation- or cooperative agreements are examples of such 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.

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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or 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 written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse