

## California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4  
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING  
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research



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### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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Ellen Yau, Senior Planner  
City of Mountain View  
500 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94039

### Re: City of Mountain View Housing Element Update Notice of Preparation (NOP) for Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Ellen Yau:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the City of Mountain View Housing Element Update. 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 City of Mountain View proposes to prepare and adopt a comprehensive update to the Housing Element of the City's General Plan. The City will also be preparing a DEIR for the project. The Housing Element Update would include changes to goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs that address the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing in the City. In addition, the Housing Element Update would include an inventory of sites appropriate for the development of multifamily housing, and sufficient to accommodate the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) plus a buffer.

#### 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.

### **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 City and local partners to secure the funding for needed mitigation. Traffic mitigation- or cooperative agreements are examples of such measures.

### **Lead Agency**

As the Lead Agency, the City of Mountain View is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN). The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation 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.

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](mailto:LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



MARK LEONG  
District Branch Chief  
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse