

California Department of Transportation

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April 5, 2022

11-SD-5, 8
PM VAR

Removal of Midway-Pacific Highway Planning Area from the Coastal Height Limit
NOP/SCH#2022030324

Ms. Elena Pascual
Senior Planner
City of San Diego
9485 Aero Drive, MS 413
San Diego, CA 92123

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Apr 05 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Ms. Pascual:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Notice of Preparation for the Removal of Midway and Pacific Highway Coastal Height Limits Plan located near Interstate 5 (I-5) and Interstate 8 (I-8). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Safety is one of Caltrans' strategic goals. Caltrans strives to make the year 2050 the first year without a single death or serious injury on California's roads. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.

We look forward to working with the City of San Diego in areas where the City and Caltrans have joint jurisdiction to improve the transportation network and connections between various modes of travel, with the goal of improving the experience of those who use the transportation system.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Due to the proximity to the San Diego International Airport, coordination with the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority regarding safety and air traffic is recommended.

Glint/Glare

The proximity of the project site to I-5 and I-8 raises some concerns regarding potential glint and glare that could pose a potential risk to motorists traveling on I-5 and I-8. The project's potential glint and glare characteristics should be considered as part of the City's considerations. Caltrans would want to ensure that all lighting, including reflected sunlight and reflected night lighting, should be placed and/or shielded so as not to be hazardous to vehicles traveling on I-5 and I-8.

Environmental

Should future projects based upon the changes enacted from the Removal of Midway-Pacific Highway Planning Area from the Coastal Height Limit have elements and/or mitigation measures that affect Caltrans Right-of-Way, Caltrans would welcome the opportunity to be a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Right-of-Way

- Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.
- Any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction.

Additional information regarding encroachment permits may be obtained by contacting the Caltrans Permits Office at (619) 688-6158 or emailing D11.Permits@dot.ca.gov or by visiting the website at <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep>. Early coordination with Caltrans is strongly advised for all encroachment permits.

Ms. Elena Pascual, Senior Planner
April 5, 2022
Page 3

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Dodson, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 985-1587 or by e-mail sent to Kimberly.Dodson@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Maurice A. Eaton

MAURICE EATON
Branch Chief
Local Development Review