

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



October 27, 2023



SCH #: 2022050599
GTS #: 04-SON-2022-00839
GTS ID: 26607
Co/Rt/Pm: SON/101/26.981

Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2820,
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Koi Nation of Northern California Shiloh Resort and Casino Project- Environmental Assessment (EA)

Dear Chad Broussard:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Shiloh Resort and Casino Project. 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 Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the September 2023 EA.

Project Understanding

The proposed project is the acquisition of approximately 68.6-acres of fee land in unincorporated Sonoma County in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs upon which the Koi Nation would construct a casino, hotel, conference/event center, restaurant/bars, and supporting parking and infrastructure (Proposed Project). Water supply to serve the project is proposed through the use of on-site wells, and wastewater would be treated via a proposed on-site tertiary wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

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](#)).

The project Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) Technical Advisory. Per the EA, this project is found to have a less than significant VMT impact, therefore working towards meeting the State's VMT reduction goals.

Caltrans supports the recommendations put forth on page 6 of the Traffic Impact Study which outline improvements in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure including crosswalks. Improving these essential elements will support both safety and accessibility for all users.

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the Office of the Interior is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the 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, please contact Laurel Sears, Senior Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist
October 27, 2023
Page 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" written in a larger, more prominent style than the last name "Yunsheng".

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse