

## California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 Planning  
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research



**AUG 03 2022**

August 2, 2022

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Peter Kampa, General Manager  
Groveland Community Services District  
18966 Ferretti Road  
Groveland, CA 95321

**TUO-120-PM 32.253 Initial  
Study: Groveland CSD –  
Trails Improvement  
Project - SCH 2022070128**

Dear Mr. Kampa,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Groveland CSD Trails Improvement Project Initial Study. The project proposes installation of approximately 2.5 miles of 12-foot-wide trails for pedestrian recreational use. The trail will begin at an existing baseball field located near the Groveland Community Services District (CSD) offices. Two pedestrian bridges are proposed to be installed over a creek to accommodate the trail. Other trail improvements consist of trail lighting, signage, benches, kiosks, and trash receptacles. The Project also includes improvements to Mary Laveroni Park, consisting of new restrooms, a walking loop, a small amphitheater, benches, trash receptacles, transit shelter, picnic benches, and related improvements.

#### **Caltrans has the following comments:**

Caltrans suggests that the County of Tuolumne continue to coordinate with Caltrans in identifying and addressing potential pedestrian safety and cumulative transportation impacts from this project and other developments near this location. This will assist Caltrans in ensuring that pedestrian, traffic safety, and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities in Tuolumne County.

#### **Environmental**

If any construction related activities encroach into Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the District 10 Caltrans Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW, at the project site(s). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within those technical documents for approval of encroachment in the Caltrans ROW.

There are mature trees within and/or near Caltrans ROW that could provide suitable nesting habitat. If work will occur between February 1 and September 30 of any year, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the start of any construction related activities in Caltrans ROW. If an active nest is observed, a protective buffer must be established around the nest per California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by the Caltrans. If impacts will occur to any wetland, waterway, or drainage, correspondence/consultation with CDFW, Army Corps of Engineers, and the California Waterboard may be required.

### **Hydrology**

The project will not substantially alter existing drainage patterns or increase site runoff. There are no state-owned culverts located near the proposed construction areas. There are at this time no concerns regarding hydraulics.

### **Encroachment Permits**

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shiferaw Jemberie (209) 986-9635 (email: [Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov)) or me at (209) 483-7234 (email: [Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,

*Gregoria Ponce'*

Gregoria Ponce', Chief  
Office of Rural Planning

c: David Ruby, Planning Manager, Tuolumne County Planning Department  
State Clearinghouse