

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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November 3, 2023



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Catherine Keylon, Senior Planner
City of Burlingame
501 Primrose Road
Burlingame, CA 94010

Re: 1200-1340 Bayshore Highway Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Catherin Keylon:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the 1200-1340 Bayshore Highway 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 DEIR.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would construct approximately 1.46 million gross square feet (s.f.) of life science/office uses in three 11-story buildings and two parking structures containing a total of 3,525 parking spaces. The Project a total of 5,000 s.f. of café/restaurant space. A new 1,475-foot segment of Bay Trail is proposed to connect the current trail gap along the Project site. Proposed off-site improvements include lane restriping, new medians, and signal modifications at the Caltrans intersection of US-101 northbound and southbound off-ramps.

Project Coordination

Please note a stormwater mitigation project in the area known internally to Caltrans as 3AC10, located within the vicinity of the project site and may pose a potential construction conflict given the planned schedule.

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](#)). Caltrans commends that the proposed project's TDM plan would result in a 25 percent reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), further reducing VMT below the City's VMT threshold, which is in support of meeting the State's VMT reduction goal.

Roadway Modifications

Section 3.3.5 Vehicle Circulation. the center driveway is located directly across from the northbound US-101 Broadway Avenue on and off-ramps, which is not as per Highway Design Manual (HDM) Section 504.8 Access Control.

Please verify that raised traffic islands at the intersection of the northbound US-101 Broadway Avenue on- and off-ramps at Old Bayshore Hwy meet the requirements of HDM Section 405.4 Traffic Islands.

Impact TR-3 on page 4.14-20. The northbound US-101 Broadway Avenue offramp currently is a 2 to 3 lane off-ramp. At the intersection with Old Bayshore Hwy, the left off-ramp lane is a left-turn lane, the middle lane allows for a left turn, through traffic, or right turn, and the right lane is a right-turn lane. The proposed off-ramp striping configuration is the left lane is a left-turn lane, the middle lane allows for a left-turn and through lane, and the right lane is a through lane and right turn lane. Any modification to existing striping must be coordinated with and approved by the Caltrans Office of Highway Operations.

In addition, a Traffic analysis should be completed and submitted for Caltrans to review and HDM section 504.8 access control should be assessed.

Hydrology

It is recommended that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Maps and Sea Level Rise (SLR) Maps showing the site location and the potential impacts discussed in Section 4.9 be included. These maps will enhance report reviewers understanding of the project and may be included in the Appendix.

Page 4.9-19, paragraph 6. It may be helpful to identify and cite the source referenced to obtain the 17-foot North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) crest elevation selected by the City and County planning department for regional flood protection infrastructure.

Page 4.9-4, Sea Level Rise. It may be useful to further explain how this project meets the Ocean Protection Council's 2018 Guidelines for SLR resiliency. For example, the nearest tide gauge selected, the project lifespan, evaluation of the potential impacts, and/or selection of SLR projections for the site location based on risk tolerance. An explanation of how this project would adopt adaptation pathways to increase SLR resiliency and how this project ties into the City, County and State's SLR objectives may also be included as well.

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 City of Burlingame 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.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

To obtain information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

Catherine Keylon, Senior Planner
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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Melissa Hernandez, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" and last name "Yunsheng" clearly distinguishable.

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

c: State Clearinghouse