

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 7- OFFICE OF REGIONAL PLANNING
100 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 100
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 897-0067
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research



Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

Oct 17 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

October 14, 2022

Ariana Villanueva
LA County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
P.O. Box 1460
Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network
Strategic Implementation
Plan (SGVGNSIP) – Notice of Preparation
(NOP)
SCH# 2022090340
GTS# 07-LA-2022-04072
Vic. LA Multiple

Dear Ariana Villanueva,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Strategic Implementation Plan (SGVGNSIP) provides a plan to develop an active transportation and recreational corridor for bicyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians; beautify the Los Angeles County Flood Control District LACFCD ROW; and enhance stormwater management and natural habitats around river channels, stormwater channels, washes, and creeks in the San Gabriel Valley. Beneficial Project Elements that are covered in the PEIR include greenway paths; greenway trail amenities (e.g., shade structures, bike racks, informational signs, picnic tables, benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, decorative gates, lighting, etc.); pocket parks and greenspaces; safe crossings at roads, railroad tracks, and channels; stormwater management opportunities (e.g., permeable pavements, bioswales, stormwater detention basins, etc.).

After reviewing the NOP, Caltrans has the following comments:

The size and scope of the proposed SGVGNSIP provides a unique opportunity for the communities along the LACFCD corridors to identify their needs and provide feedback for the type of public realm they want when making their daily trips. Caltrans requests that the SGVGNSIP clearly identify all locations where improvements can be made for people walking, biking, rolling or taking transit along, across, or adjacent to State facilities within the Plan area. Please be specific on the locations within Caltrans right-of-way where improvements are desired and what type of infrastructure is preferred. Some examples include protected Class IV bikeways, wider sidewalks, curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, landscaping, street furniture, reduced crossing distances, roadway narrowing, pedestrian and bicycle signage, flashing beacons, and refreshed or new crosswalks. Plans that incorporate significant public engagement, like the one proposed, are used to identify and develop future State transportation projects.

In addition, please consider the following when developing the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR):

- The plan should consider lighting and other elements that create an environment where all users can feel safe to use the paths, in any neighborhood and at any time of day/ night.
- Partner with adjacent cities and public bodies to adopt complete streets policies to better connect neighborhoods to the network.
- Implement signage that highlights the network's connectivity to nearby destinations, informing the community of its use as a viable transportation option.
- Include methods for raising awareness in the adjacent communities of the potential uses of the paths for physical activity, arts, and culture. Infrastructure like benches, drinking water stations, bicycle parking, bathroom/rest stops, and sufficient pedestrian level lighting should be included to encourage these uses.

Caltrans planners and engineers are available to partner on implementing design elements that improve safety and mobility for people walking, riding bikes, or taking transit throughout the Plan area. By removing barriers and improving safety, this Plan can make transportation mode shift easier for Californians and help the State meet its policy goals to reduce the number of trips made by driving, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and encourage active modes of travel.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2022-04072.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse