

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

November 10, 2022

Alice Wong
Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning
320 W. Temple Street, 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Charles R. Drew University of Medicine
and Science Health Education Building
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
SCH # 2022100357
Vic. LA-105/PM: R9.583
GTS # 07-LA-2022-04097

Dear Alice Wong:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced MND. The project site is located at the southwesterly end of the Charles R. Drew University campus at 1731 East 120th Street in the unincorporated Willowbrook community of Los Angeles County. The project site is an irregularly shaped 46,650-square foot parcel and currently has two one-story modular buildings that are used for offices, maintenance, facilities support, security, and other administration support for the university. One of the modular buildings is 4,400 square feet, and the second modular building is 5,228 square feet. The proposed project involves demolishing the existing two modular buildings, removing the existing landscaping, and the construction of a five-story, 92,618 square-foot Health Professions Education Building (HPEB) on the project site. Approximately three feet of fill material would be replaced on-site. The Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project site is approximately less than half a mile from Interstate 105 (I-105). After reviewing the MND, the Initial Study states that transportation impacts would be less than significant and the project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b). The following information is included for your consideration.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Furthermore, Caltrans encourages Lead Agencies to implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies that reduce VMT and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. For TDM strategies that the Lead

Agency may want to consider integrating into this project to further reduce VMT, please refer to:

- The 2010 Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), available at <http://www.capcoa.org/wpcontent/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>, and/or
- Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference (Chapter 8) by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), available at <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/index.htm>

Caltrans is also aware of challenges that the region faces in identifying viable solutions to alleviating congestion on State and Local facilities. With limited room to expand vehicular capacity, all future developments should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends that the Project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Herrera, the project coordinator, at Karen.Herrera@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2022-04097.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse