

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 12

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

NOV 23 2022**STATE CLEARING HOUSE**Making Conservation
California Way of Life.

November 22, 2022

Mr. Omar Dadabhoy
City of Fountain Valley
10200 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

File: IGR/CEQA
SCH#: 2022100563
IGR LOG #2022-02119

Dear Mr. Dadabhoy,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of Notice of Preparation for a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the 2045 Fountain Valley General Plan Update. The 2045 General Plan is the City's policy and implementation framework that guides the long-term growth and improvement of the Fountain Valley community through interrelated components of city governance: A Vision that provides a sense of the purpose and mission for city governance and sets the tone for the other components of the plan. The Vision's central theme is embracing change while preserving community values and quality of life. A General Plan that addresses state law and guides City decisions through long-term goals and policies to achieve Fountain Valley's Vision. In addition to the topics required by state law, the plan will address the optional topics of economic development, community design, air quality, and governance. An Implementation Plan that identifies the actions needed to carry out the Plan's policies. This includes initiatives by the City, as well as decisions on public and private development projects and City activity programs. The proposed project updates the General Plan to guide the City's development and conservation for the next 20+ years through 2045. The proposed project is a comprehensive update of the General Plan to comply with state housing mandates; conform with new state laws related to community health, environmental justice, climate adaptation, resiliency, and mobility; and bring long-term growth and fiscal projections into alignment with current economic conditions and state mandates.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated, and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. Caltrans is a responsible agency on this project and has the following comments:

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

Transportation Planning

1. As part of state goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and VMT, Caltrans encourages the City of Fountain Valley to consider multimodal Complete Streets in the General Plan update, particularly related to the topics of Circulation, Healthy Communities Strategies, Public Safety, and Air Quality. The prioritization of Complete Streets that include high-quality pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities that are safe and comfortable for users of all ages and abilities is an important component to building healthy, livable, and sustainable communities. This may include General Plan elements that aim to improve safety and mobility for residents through improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, bicycle parking minimums and standards, electric vehicle charging, and investments in transit.
2. Caltrans recognizes our responsibility to assist communities of color and underserved communities by removing barriers to provide a more equitable transportation system for all. The Department firmly embraces racial equity, inclusion, and diversity. These values are foundational to achieving our vision of a cleaner, safer, and more accessible and more connected transportation system. Please consider including a discussion on equity in General Plan Element updates.
3. Caltrans supports projects which provide a diversity of housing choices and destinations accessible by Active Transportation (i.e., bicycle and pedestrian) and transit users. Consider providing a discussion about the City's multimodal mobility strategies relating to transit bus and rail services as well as active transportation for local and regional connectivity. Improving multimodal connections to housing will encourage future residents, visitors, and workers in the city to utilize all modes of transportation.

4. Safety is one of Caltrans' Strategic goals. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners.
5. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.
6. Please consider including a discussion on incorporating designated areas/parking for freight delivery, package, and transportation network companies' pickup and drop-offs into the circulation topic area as these areas have become a concern for goods movement to, from and within Orange County.

Traffic Impact Study

7. New developments resulting from the City's Housing Element update should provide a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) based Traffic Impact Study (TIS). Please use the Governor's Office of Planning and Research Guidance to identify VMT related impacts.
8. The TIS may also need to identify the future project's near-term and long-term safety or operational issues, on or adjacent to any existing or proposed State facilities.

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Please continue to coordinate with Caltrans for any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Maryam Molavi, at (657) 328-6280 or Maryam.Molavi@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Shelley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" being more prominent than the last name "Shelley".

Scott Shelley
Branch Chief, Regional-IGR-Transit Planning
District 12