



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 29, 2023

Ellen Fitzgerald
Principal Planner – City of Whittier
13230 Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90601
efitzgerald@cityofwhittier.org



RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTY FOR THE WHITTIER
BOULEVARD BUSINESS CENTER, DATED JULY 28 2023 SCH# [2022120346](#)

Dear Ellen Fitzgerald:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Whittier Boulevard Business Center. Based on our review, DTSC requests consideration of the following comments:

1. DTSC recommends that an environmental review, such as a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and/or Preliminary Environmental Assessment, be conducted to determine whether there has been or may have been a release or threatened release of a hazardous material, or whether a naturally occurring hazardous material is present based on reasonably available information about the property and the areas in its vicinity. Such an environmental review should generally be conducted as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. The property abuts a known contaminated property (Tool & Jig/Hard Chrome located at 7635 Baldwin Place, Whittier), is situated across Whittier Boulevard south of another property known to be contaminated (Sunrise

Properties located at 12353 Whittier Boulevard) and is located in an industrial area in close proximity to the Omega Superfund site located at 12504 Whittier Boulevard. The property owner can submit an [application for State guidance and oversight](#).

2. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition, and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006 [Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers](#).
3. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to [DTSC's 2001 Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material](#) webpage.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Whittier Boulevard Business Center DEIR. If you have any questions, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,



Dave Kereazis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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