

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

January 25, 2023

JAN 25 2023

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

SCH #: 2022120529
GTS #: 04-ALA-2022-00699
GTS ID: 28478
Co/Rt/Pm: ALA/880/7.7

Carmelisa Lopez, Senior Planner
City of Newark
37101 Newark Blvd
Newark, CA 94560

Re: Cedar Boulevard Residential Development – Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Dear Carmelisa Lopez:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Cedar Boulevard Residential Development 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 following comments are based on our review of the December 2022 IS/MND.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would rezone a 7.76-acre site to Residential Medium Density-Planned Residential overlay, subdivide the site to create 124 lots, and redevelop the project site with a residential development containing 118 units, incorporating single family residences and two-unit attached townhouses. This project site is located directly adjacent to I-880.

Landscape Architecture

This proposed project is located directly adjacent to a section of the Classified Landscaped Freeway, with ornamental vegetation planting that meets the criteria established by the California Code of Regulations, Outdoor Advertising Regulations, Title 4, Division 6. The rear of the property currently consists of a chain link fence with vines growing on it to create a visual separation between I-880 and the property. There is also planting and irrigation in between the existing guardrail and the fence. To maintain the Classified Landscaped Freeway status, please maintain the existing planting and irrigation within Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW).

The project also proposes to install an 18-foot high masonry/sound wall along the rear of the property, adjacent to I-880. To maintain a consistent design along the I-880 corridor, the masonry/sound wall should match and complement the existing walls along the I-880 corridor.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City of Newark is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN). The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' 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.

Please note that Caltrans is in the process of implementing an online, automated, and milestone-based Caltrans Encroachment Permit System (CEPS) to replace the current permit application submittal process with a fully electronic system, including online payments. The new system is expected to be available during 2023. To obtain information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse