

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Making Conservation
a California Way of Life**JUNE 2 2023****STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

June 2, 2023

Luke Serna
California Department of Parks and Recreation
South Service Center
2797 Truxtun Road
San Diego, CA 92108

RE: Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
SCH # 2023040639
Vic. LA-002 /PM: 15.758
GTS # 07-LA-2023-04217

Dear Luke Serna:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced MND. The proposed project consists of enhancing habitat, improving water quality, and increasing public access to open space and the LA River. Dry weather and some wet weather flows will be diverted from the storm drain, treated through a filtration system, and pumped into a wetland where there would be additional water quality improvements. A portion of the water would be used for irrigation, and the remaining enhanced water would be returned to the LA River. The Project would also include landscaping and amenities to convert the former brownfield site into habitat native to Southern California and a park space for public use. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, South Service Center is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project site is approximately five hundred feet from State Route 2 (SR-2). After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

1. Construction activities associated with the proposed underground replacement cable installation would increase daily vehicle trips by an amount substantially lower than the 250 trips screening level adopted by the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, no significant impact is expected to vehicle miles travelled (VMT) levels. Therefore, pursuant to CEQA requirements, the impact during this project duration is expected to be none to minimal.
2. Temporary vehicle trips would be necessary for the construction of the Project. However, vehicular site access is available the existing entrance to the Bowtie Parcel at the end of Kerr Street. Existing access is sufficient to accommodate the

project. The project would not include new vehicular access from the public right-of-way, nor would it require modifications to the public right-of-way. No impact would occur regarding potential hazards to a geometric design feature or through incompatible vehicular use. Therefore, the impact during project construction would be none to minimal.

3. During the project construction, existing access is also sufficient to accommodate emergency vehicle/personnel access to the project site. Potential impacts are expected to be less than significant. Caltrans has no further comments for this MND at this time.

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 Mark Garcia, the project coordinator, at Mark.Garcia@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2023-04217.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse