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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

January 8 2024



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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

January 5, 2023

Joseph Palombi,
Planning and Community Development Director
City of Montebello
1600 West Beverly Boulevard
Montebello, CA 90640

RE: City of Montebello General Plan
Update and Downtown Montebello
Specific Plan – Draft EIR (DEIR)
SCH #2023050665
GTS #07-LA-2023-04394
Vic. LA Multiple

Dear Joseph Palombi,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The City of Montebello General Plan Update and Downtown Montebello Specific Plan DEIR includes various chapters that discuss important elements relating to the well-being, prosperity, and vibrancy of Montebello. One aspect of the General Plan Update is prioritizing multi-mobility, where the community will be encouraged to drive less and walk, bike, ride transit, rideshare or carpool more.

After reviewing the DEIR, Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans supports the policies stated in the Our Accessible Community chapter. The policies encompass Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies such as promoting public transit, carpooling and ridesharing, active transportation, etc. for all ages and abilities. As mentioned in our NOP comment letter, these elements can help the City of Montebello General Plan Update and Downtown Montebello Specific Plan in fulfilling its objectives as well as other regional agency's targets, like Caltrans.

Additionally, Caltrans encourages the Specific Plan's vision for introducing strategic mobility hubs throughout downtown to offer more active transportation options and reduce

automobile dependence. When located at key multimodal transfer points, Mobility Hubs can serve as focal points for local micro mobility and wayfinding networks, with amenities such as: transit and bike route information; bike repair stations; shade; and pedestrian-scaled lighting and wayfinding. We look forward to discussing plans with the City to provide safe pedestrian crossings and other facilities at freeway ramps to prioritize the safety of all users.

Caltrans acknowledges the importance of the other General Plan chapters and its concurrence with Our Accessible Community. The policies within the safety, active and health chapters are vital to the success of Our Accessible Community's policies and Caltrans looks forward to their implementation.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS #07-LA-2023-04394.

Sincerely,

Frances Duong

Frances Duong
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

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