

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



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Bethelhem Telahun, Environmental Project Manager
City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Good Samaritan Hospital Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Bethelhem Telahun:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Good Samaritan Hospital Project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2024 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The project proposes to demolish the existing 359,000 square foot hospital and construct two new hospital wings totaling approximately 715,000 square feet, an approximately 200,000 square foot medical office building, two new parking garage structures totaling approximately 720,000 square feet, and one level of subterranean parking. Project implementation would require a new Planned Development Zoning District to authorize the uses proposed by the project. The project site is adjacent to State Route (SR)-85.

Travel Demand Analysis

With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 743, Caltrans is focused on maximizing efficient development patterns, innovative travel demand reduction strategies, and multimodal improvements. For more information on how Caltrans assesses Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for land use projects, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)).

Caltrans acknowledges the incorporated mitigations included in the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan that aim to reduce employee and guest VMT. The proposed measures identified in the TDM plan should be documented with annual monitoring reports to demonstrate effectiveness.

Hydrology

Please take into consideration that Caltrans has a permanent drainage easement that extends 15 feet from the existing access control line on to the hospital's property. Figure 2-3 of the DEIR shows the helipad and a fire lane that appear to be within the 15-foot easement area, though the Right-of-Way (ROW) line is not shown on the plan. The drainage easement may affect the setback requirements of Building C and potentially the helipad.

Please ensure that any increase in storm water runoff to State Drainage Systems or Facilities be treated, contained on project site, and metered to preconstruction levels. Any floodplain impacts must be documented and mitigated. It is recommended that runoff from the property be captured and discharged into City Storm water system with no run-off encroaching on Caltrans ROW.

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

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

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

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.

The Office of Encroachment Permit requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)). Please note that the checklist TR-0416 is used to determine the appropriate Caltrans review process for encroachment projects. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov. The Office of Encroachment Permits will provide specific instructions regarding the necessary submittals. Continue to coordinate with Caltrans to address any potential conflicts related to traffic management during the construction phase.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Marley Mathews, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse