

## California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 1  
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[www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov)



June 30, 2023



1-HUM-101-77.24  
Eureka Flood Reduction Project  
SCH# 2023060362

Mr. Jesse Willor, P.E.  
Public Works Department  
City of Eureka  
531 K Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Mr. Willor:

Thank you for giving Caltrans the opportunity to review and comment on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Eureka Flood Reduction and Sea Level Rise Resiliency Project. The project proposes to reduce flooding, increase sea level rise resiliency, and improve water quality in Humboldt Bay. The Project would increase the storage capacity and conveyance of the storm drain network, implement flow attenuation and water quality improvements, reduce trash conveyance into waterways, and enhance tidal circulation to provide flood reduction and sea level rise resiliency. A portion of the project is located within State right-of-way, at the intersection of Del Norte Street and US 101, for the stormwater pipe replacement between B Street and the Eureka Waterfront Trail. We have the following comments:

Little information has been provided about the proposed work within State right of way. We have concerns about the potential impacts to US 101 from the construction methods for replacing a 60-inch stormwater pipe under US Route 101 at Del Norte Street, due in part to conflicts with other existing utilities at that location. Directional boring would require large sending and receiving jacking pits that would require a detailed traffic control plan prior to approval. Ground settlement monitoring is likely to be recommended with jacking and boring as well. We also request to review the proposed methods for resurfacing and/or restoring US 101 to State standards once the stormwater pipe has been replaced. These issues will need to be resolved with the District Permits staff before an encroachment application is submitted.

The City's Flood Reduction project overlaps with the location of the Caltrans proposed Koster Couplet and Middle Couplet projects currently in development. Proposed underground work, particular vaults and other features with surface developments must be coordinated with Caltrans engineering staff to ensure elevations allow for

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present and future roadwork compatibility. There are two locations on Koster and one at Washington Street which may be a concern. Future curbs planned for those areas will also have associated drainage structure and grades.

As noted in the Mitigated Negative Declaration, any work within Caltrans Right-of-Way will require an Encroachment Permit from Caltrans. Permit applications are reviewed for consistency with State standards and are subject to Department approval. To streamline the Encroachment Permit application and review process, we require the applicant to consult with Caltrans Permits staff prior to submittal. Requests for Encroachment Permit applications can be sent to: Caltrans District 1 Permits Office, P.O. Box 3700, Eureka, CA 95502-3700, or requested by phone at (707) 498-5684. For additional information, the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual and Standard Application is available online at: <<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep>>.

Please contact me with questions or for further assistance at (707) 684-6879, or by email at: <[jesse.robertson@dot.ca.gov](mailto:jesse.robertson@dot.ca.gov)>.

Sincerely,

*Jesse G. Robertson*

Jesse Robertson  
Transportation Planning  
Caltrans District 1

e-copy: State Clearinghouse  
Heidi Quintrell, Chief, Caltrans District 1 Encroachment Permits