

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

August 29, 2023

Dario Simoes, P.E.
City of Cerritos
18125 Bloomfield Avenue
Cerritos, CA 90703



RE: Del Amo Boulevard Bridge Replacement
And Signal Enhancement
SCH # 2023070653
Vic. LA-605/PM R2.82
GTS # LA-2023-04285-MND

Dear Dario Simoes:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced environmental document. The City of Cerritos (City), in cooperation with the Cities of Lakewood, La Palma, and Cypress, is proposing roadway improvements along Del Amo Boulevard from the Interstate 605 (I-605) freeway to Denni Street. The project would construct nearly 2 miles of improvements along Del Amo Boulevard that include construction of a new bridge across Coyote Creek, removal of the abandoned railroad bridge over Coyote Creek, widening and realigning the roadway east of Coyote Creek to provide two lanes in each direction over Coyote Creek, traffic signal synchronization, traffic calming, and bicycle and pedestrian enhancements. The project also eliminates the horizontal curves at the bridge over Coyote Creek by realigning Del Amo Boulevard to the south. The roadway profile would be raised approximately 2 ft to accommodate the proposed bridge depth and required vertical clearances.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

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As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

The additional travel lane will not divert significant traffic to Del Amo Boulevard because the widening occurs over the distance of less than 0.3 mile along Del Amo Boulevard to match the rest of the roadway cross-section along the corridor. Considering the length of the roadway widening and other parallel arterials on this grid roadway network, Del Amo Boulevard would not become a more attractive route, therefore the project would not result in induced demand and is not expected to increase regional total VMT. The proposed Project is intended to improve mobility and traffic safety for all local communities. The Project would also enhance traffic circulation and will eliminate vehicles having to traverse non-direct paths. Therefore, it can be concluded that the proposed Project would not conflict or be inconsistent with the *State CEQA Guidelines*. This project has no impact on regional VMT and should be presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact.

Caltrans concurs with MM-TRAN-1 in which the Transportation Management Plan (TMP) shall address all aspects of transportation effects of all construction activities on vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle access and mobility. The TMP should address the safety and operation on the State facilities during construction at the on/off-ramps of NB I-605 and EB/WB Del Amo Blvd.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials that requires the use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend that large-size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin, the project coordinator, at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2023-04285-MND.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse