

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 266-3574
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*



September 7, 2023

Adam C. Ly, Assistant General Manager
Palmdale Water District
2029 East Avenue Q
Palmdale, CA 93550

RE: 2023 Strategic Water Resources
Plan Update
SCH #2023080290
GTS #07-LA-2023-04290
Vic. LA-14/LA-138 Multiple

Dear Adam C. Ly:

Palmdale Water District (PWD) has developed the Strategic Water Resources Plan Update to provide a sound water supply strategy to meet customer demands through 2050. The proposed actions aim to maximize local supplies and facilities while increasing water storage in the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin by replacing the existing PWD wells and adding new wells or conveyance pipelines wherever needed.

After reviewing the NOP, Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans recommends a discussion of potential construction truck trips in the Transportation section of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). Although near-future planning is currently being finalized, we recommend disclosing construction trips for the public's understanding. Caltrans planners and engineers are available to partner on implementing construction management plans to preserve safety and mobility throughout the Plan area. It is also encouraged that the Lead Agency utilizes different colors to highlight State facilities like California State Route 14 and 138 for better visibility in Figures 2 and 3.

As a reminder, 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.

Caltrans' targets of tripling trips made by bicycle, doubling trips made by walking and public transit, and a 15% reduction in statewide VMT can be achieved with connectivity improvements to the state-wide transportation network. By removing barriers to walking, biking, and taking transit, this Plan can engage Californians in shifting towards transit-oriented communities, and help the State meet its policy goals to reduce the number of trips made by driving, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and sustainably provide for multimodal transport options.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS #07-LA-2023-04290.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse