

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 7

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life*

March 6, 2024

Jui Ing Chen, Park Planner  
County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation  
1000 S. Fremont Ave.  
Unit #40 A-9 West, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Alhambra, CA 91083

Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

**Mar 11 2024****STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

RE: Devil's Punchbowl Nature Center  
Replacement Planning Project– Draft  
EIR (DEIR)  
SCH #2023080345  
GTS #07-LA-2023-04431  
LA-2/PM 62.79

Dear Jui Ing Chen,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The County of Los Angeles proposes the replacement of the Nature Center at the Devil's Punchbowl Natural Area. The center was destroyed by the Bobcat Fire in 2020 and will be replaced with a new building while also making improvements to the surrounding support site elements including trailheads, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access to buildings and trails, picnic areas, and shade structures.

After reviewing the DEIR, Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans acknowledges that the Initial Study determined that the project would have less than significant impacts on an applicable program, plan ordinance, or policy addressing bicycle and pedestrian facilities and therefore did not warrant a further review in the DEIR. Due to the project location and context, it is understandable that active transportation recommendations are limited. Caltrans concurs with the need for ADA improvements within the project scope and continues to encourage additional pedestrian safety improvements such as high visibility continental crosswalks, signage, and lighting along all streets and roads in the vicinity.

Jui Ing Chen  
March 6, 2024  
Page 2

As a reminder, construction vehicles should transport equipment to and from construction sites during non-peak hours and avoid congested freeway/s. Hauling trucks should be covered with a tarpaulin to avoid debris spillage onto the roadways.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Frances Duong, at frances.duong@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS #07-LA-2023-04431.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miya Edmonson".

Miya Edmonson  
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

Cc: State Clearinghouse