

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life

November 30, 2023

Melissa Chipres  
City of Baldwin Park  
14403 E Pacific Ave  
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

RE: Joanbridge Soccer Facility Project  
Mitigated Negative Declaration  
(MND) SCH # 2023100909  
Vic. LA-605/24.438  
GTS # 07-LA-2023-04358

Dear Melissa Chipres:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced project. The project will include the demolition of one 5,000-square foot building at 14424 Joanbridge Street and would repurpose the existing 6,813-square foot building at 14412 Joanbridge Street to allow for the construction of a two-story outdoor soccer training facility with a gym, meeting room, men and women restrooms, parking facility, one indoor field and four outdoor soccer fields. The project will include a Design Review for the proposed site design and building architecture, a Conditional Use Permit application to allow a recreational facility (soccer facility) use and a Zone Variance to allow the deviation from minimum side and rear yard setback requirements. The City of Baldwin Park is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The closest state facility is SR-605. After reviewing the project's MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

- Caltrans encourages the Lead Agency to consider any reduction in vehicle speeds to benefit pedestrian and bicyclist safety, as there is a direct link between impact speeds and the likelihood of fatality or serious injury. The most effective methods to reduce pedestrian and bicyclist exposure to vehicles is through physical design and geometrics. These methods include the construction of physically separated facilities such as Class IV bikeways, wide sidewalks, curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, landscaping, street furniture, and reductions in crossing distances through roadway narrowing. Visual indicators such as, pedestrian and bicyclist warning signage, flashing beacons, crosswalks, signage, and striping should be used in addition to physical design improvements to indicate to motorists that they can expect to see and yield to people walking or riding bikes.

- Caltrans recommends the following multimodal improvements for this project:
  - Improve bicycle infrastructure along Maine Ave, such as protected Class IV bikeways, to improve safety and comfort for all road users.
  - Be sure to include canopy trees, bioswales, bicycle parking facilities, and street furniture to provide a comfortable and sustainable environment to encourage active transportation modes and improve community health.
  - In addition to bioswales, incorporate permeable paving surfaces wherever possible to manage stormwater, replenish groundwater, and prevent pollution runoff.
  - Provide high quality bus shelters and bus bulb-outs for Foothill Transit Line 492 along Arrow Hwy.
  - Use high-visibility continental crosswalks, curb extensions, count-down signal heads, pedestrian refuge islands, and pedestrian scrambles at the intersections along Maine Ave.
  - Leading pedestrian intervals can give pedestrians a 7-second head start in crosswalks; this provides additional crossing time and reduces the amount of time that pedestrians are exposed to high-speed vehicle traffic.
- Caltrans acknowledges and supports infill development that ultimately helps California to meet its climate, transportation, and livability goals. However, due to the amount of parking and lack of mixed land uses, the Joanbridge Soccer Training Facility Project is designed in a way that induces demand for unnecessary vehicle trips. This demand should be addressed with appropriate design and management principles. Caltrans recommends the following:
  - Provide a mixture of uses. The project's location creates an opportunity to incorporate additional land-use types, as the essential component of sustainable communities is mixed-use zoning. Residential, Commercial, and Office uses should be intertwined to increase accessibility and bring destinations closer to where people live. This allows residents to utilize both transit and active modes to meet their everyday transportation needs.
  - A study following project completion should be done to make sure that proposed mitigation measures are working as intended.
- Caltrans recommends the following during the construction stage:

- Work with Caltrans Office of Permits, Multi-Modal Unit, for a designated truck route for construction trucks to transport construction equipment to and from the construction sites.
- Construction vehicles/equipment should use alternative routes to avoid congested state facilities, especially during peak hours.
- Cover construction trucks with tarpaulin to avoid debris spillage onto State facilities.

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. Caltrans recommends that the Project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jaden Oloresisimo, the project coordinator, at [Jaden.Oloresisimo@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Jaden.Oloresisimo@dot.ca.gov) and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2023-04358.

Sincerely,

*Frances Duong*

Frances Duong  
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse