

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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www.dot.ca.gov



December 20, 2023

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GTS #: 04-SCL-2023-01244
GTS ID: 31411
Co/Rt/Pm: SC/VAR/VAR

Andrew Martin, Environmental Planner
Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118-3614

Re: Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project – Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Andrew Martin:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system.

The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the November 2023 Draft NOP.

Project Understanding

The proposed project will demolish structures such as fences and retaining walls within the project footprint and construct approximately 18,083 linear feet of floodwalls, passive barriers, berms, and other improvements along Coyote Creek between Montague Expressway and Tully Road. The project notes several areas that intersect with Caltrans Right of Way (ROW).

Hydrology

Any floodplain impacts must be documented and mitigated, please provide floodplain analysis report. Any additional floodplain impacts on existing adjacent properties must be explained. Please ensure that any increase in storm water runoff to State Drainage Systems or Facilities be treated, contained on project site, and metered to preconstruction levels.

Construction-Related Impacts

Potential impacts to the State ROW from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the Santa Clara Valley Water District is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. The checklist TR-0416 ([link](#)) is used to determine the appropriate Caltrans review process for encroachment projects. To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Marley Mathews, Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" being more prominent.

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse