

**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*

January 16, 2024

Christina Monde,  
Senior Planner  
City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91101

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Jan 17 2024**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

RE: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project–  
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)  
SCH #2023110605  
GTS #07-LA-2023-04383  
Vic. LA Multiple

Dear Christina Monde,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The Proposed Project concerns the Arroyo Seco Channel near State Route 110. It includes two regional stormwater capture and treatment facilities, also called BMPs, located within existing underutilized open space areas in Pasadena and South Pasadena. The Project would provide water quality benefits for multiple jurisdictions within the 5,005-acre drainage area of the two BMP sites consisting primarily of residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation land uses.

After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

Regarding active transportation, the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project Draft MND states there will be no impact on land use and planning. A Traffic Evaluation was prepared by a consultant to assess the impact on transportation, and it was determined that there is a less than significant impact where no mitigation is required. Caltrans acknowledges the findings of the Draft MND and recognizes that the cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena concur with the guiding principles found in their General Plans with the proposal of this Project.

As the MND does not state any additions to parking spaces provided, the Proposed Project would likely not result in a significant increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). In developing policies to support non-vehicular transportation modes as detailed in the Mobility Element of the City of Pasadena's General Plan, Caltrans recommends directing resources towards alternative forms of transportation within the Lower Arroyo Seco. Existing bicycle facilities should be preserved, and pedestrian and bicyclist exposure to vehicles should be reduced through elements of physical design or programming to alert visitors. 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 through collaborative improvements to the state-wide transportation network.

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

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at [anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov](mailto:anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov) and refer to GTS #07-LA-2023-04383.

Sincerely,

*Frances Duong*

Frances Duong  
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse