

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 12
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

February 28, 2024

Feb 29 2024

Mr. Connor Hyland
City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 90860

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

File: LDR/CEQA
SCH#2024020006
LDR LOG #2024-02475
SR-1

Dear Mr. Hyland,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Pacific Airshow Huntington Beach Project. The underlying purpose of the Project is to provide a spectacle-scale airshow in Huntington Beach that attracts attendees throughout the Southern California area (and perhaps beyond) and features civilian and military aircraft flybys and aerial acrobatics, air racing, helicopter landing/runway displays comprised of temporary acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) foundation (stadium flooring) rubber tracks, or wood or aluminum flooring, electric vehicle (EV) and drone displays with hangars and aerial competitions and drone shows, and displays of other emerging aviation/mobility technology, and visitor-serving entertainment, services, and amenities (e.g. Variety of viewing areas, vehicle and aircraft demonstrations and displays, illustrations, flight simulations, merchandise tents, concessions, food trucks, live music entertainment, wave pool surf competitions, skateboard and bicycle motocross (BMX) bowl competitions, sandcastle building competitions, art installations, and pyrotechnic shows). The approximate boundaries of the Show Center Area from northwest to southeast are 7th Street and Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1 or SR-1) to Beach Boulevard (State Route 39 or SR-39) and Pacific Coast Highway to the Pacific Ocean including a portion of the Huntington Beach Pier landward.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Caltrans is a responsible agency on this project and has the following comments:

1. The NOP notes that the airshow does not propose substantial or permanent changes to the existing circulation elements, or temporary road closures, which would affect transit vehicles, automobiles, bicycles, or pedestrians beyond what has occurred for historic Airshows. However, given the potential for increased number of pedestrians and cyclists attending the event, Caltrans recommends

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

special attention be paid to any detours that may disrupt active transportation in and to the area of the event. Further, ensure coordination with the appropriate transit operators should there be any changes which may cause anticipated delays or disruptions in the transit services.

2. Consider a discussion of all existing transit services such as local, intercounty and/or regional bus services within the proposed areas including the connectivity to rail services from the nearest train stations.
3. Encourage the use of transit among visitors, and workers of the proposed areas. Increasing multimodal transportation will lead to a reduction to congestion, Vehicle Miles Traveled, and improve air quality.
4. In the event of any lane closures, traffic control sign placement, or activities occurring within State Right of Way, please coordinate with D12 Transportation Management Center and submit an encroachment permit application package (EPAP) to the D12 Permit's Inbox at D12.Permits@dot.ca.gov. EPAP should include application, PE signed and stamped site-specific traffic control plan, insurance, letter of authorizations as needed, and any other relevant documents. EPAP should be submitted as early as possible to avoid any delays

Please continue to coordinate with Caltrans for any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Maryam Molavi, at Maryam.Molavi@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Scott Shelley
Branch Chief – Local Development Review/Climate Change/Transit
District 12