

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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March 25, 2024

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GTS #: 04-ALA-2024-00797
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Co/Rt/Pm: ALA/61/R15.3

Hayes MoreHouse, Water Pollution Control Manager
City of San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant
3000 Davis Street
San Leandro, CA 94577

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Mar 25 2024

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Re: San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant Treatment Wetland and Shoreline Resilience Project – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Hayes MoreHouse:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the 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 February 2024 MND.

Project Understanding

The project will install a modular nitrification system to convert ammonia from secondary treated wastewater into nitrate. Additionally, it will repurpose a wastewater retention pond near State Route (SR)-61 into a multi-benefit treatment wetland.

Aeronautics

One of the goals of the California Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Program, is to assist cities, counties, and Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUC) or their equivalent, to understand and comply with the State Aeronautics Act pursuant to the California Public Utilities Code (PUC), Section 21001 et seq.

The proposed project site is in Safety Zone 6 Traffic Pattern Zone, with a portion in Safety Zone 3 Inner Turning Zone of the Oakland International Airport and therefore

must adhere to the safety criteria and restrictions defined in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) adopted by the ALUC pursuant to the PUC, Section 21674. Per Table 3-2 of the ALUCP, water treatment sites are conditionally permitted within Safety Zone 6. However, they are deemed incompatible within Safety Zone 3 and should not be permitted under any circumstances.

Land use practices that attract or sustain hazardous wildlife populations on or near airports can significantly increase the potential for wildlife-aircraft collisions. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recommends that landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, surface mining, wetlands and other uses that have the potential to attract wildlife, be restricted in the vicinity of an airport.

Mitigation Measure HZ-2 Vegetation Management aims to minimize wildlife attraction risks associated with the project. The successful implementation of mitigation measures requires ongoing collaboration between airport authorities, wildlife experts, and the community. Caltrans Aeronautics commends the City for early and thorough engagement with airport staff and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to address compatibility concerns and mitigation measures. By prioritizing safety and environmental stewardship, the City can minimize the risk of wildlife strikes while still preserving local biodiversity. If you have any questions regarding aeronautics, please contact Tiffany Martinez, Transportation Planner at tiffany.martinez@dot.ca.gov.

Construction-Related Impacts

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).

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

Hayes MoreHouse, Water Pollution Control Manager
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" and the last name "Yunsheng" written in a single continuous stroke.

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

c: State Clearinghouse