

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

May 3, 2024

May 03 2024

Carlos Rojas
City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: Heart of Norwalk Specific Plan: Notice
of Preparation of an EIR (NOP)
Vic. LA 5/PM 3.972, LA 105/PM
R18.040, LA 605/PM R7.888
GTS # 07-LA-2024-04493
SCH # 2024040140

Dear Carlos Rojas:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced project. The proposed project will revitalize the underutilized corridors within the center of the City and spur the development of new commercial and residential uses while balancing place-making and open spaces. Some of the key themes of the Specific Plan revolve around making places, connecting with corridors, and supporting the social element. These environments would incorporate a variety of urban residential uses, places to walk and spend time, nightlife, and spaces that can encourage and celebrate local culture, such as performing arts spaces. The City of Norwalk is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The closest state facilities are SR-5, I-105, and I-605. After reviewing the project's documents, Caltrans has the following comments:

To meet the goals and objectives of community placemaking and safe urban design, Caltrans encourages the forthcoming DEIR to include multi-modal (bicycle, pedestrian, bus, and transit) infrastructure. This should also include Complete Street Access (ADA-compliant design, adequate sidewalks, high visibility crosswalks, class IV bike lanes, and bike parking). Additionally, Caltrans requests that a multi-modal conflict/safety analysis be performed across the project area and the following intersections:

- I-5/Imperial Highway
- I-5/San Antonio Drive
- I-5/Rosecrans Ave
- I-105/Studebaker Road
- I-605/Firestone Blvd

- I-605/Imperial Highway
- I-605/Rosecrans Ave

If any safety impacts are found, they should be addressed with Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and Transportation System Management (TSM) mitigation measures.

Any work performed within the State Right-of-way will require an Encroachment Permit. Caltrans requires a permit for any heavy construction equipment and or materials that require the use of oversized transport vehicles on State highways. Caltrans recommends limiting large truck travel and construction traffic to off-peak commute hours 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.

Caltrans looks forward to the future environmental documents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jaden Oloresisimo, the project coordinator, at Jaden.Oloresisimo@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2024-04493.

Sincerely,

Anthony Higgins for

MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse