

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 266-3562
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

July 15, 2024

Mike del Campo
City of Burbank
150 N. Third Street
Burbank, CA 91502

RE: Aleppo Pine Tree Removal and
Replacement Project: Mitigated
Negative Declaration (MND)
GTS # 07-LA-2024-04546
SCH # 2024051383
Vic. LA 138 PM 2.918

Dear Mike del Campo:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced project. The proposed project would remove and replace approximately 122 Aleppo Pine trees in the City of Burbank that are at risk as a result of the Arborist Reports (Arborist Report prepared by RPW Services, Inc. on September 13, 2023 and Addendum to the Level 2 Risk Assessment 47 Aleppo Pines and 1 Italian Stone Pine prepared by WCA on January 29, 2024 and Addendum to the Level 2 Risk Assessment) analysis of the trees' health and risk of catastrophic failure. The Project would involve the removal and replacement of these trees ranging from removal within one to five years. Additionally, 49 Aleppo Pine trees and one Italian Stone Pine were already removed on an emergency basis in late 2023 and early 2024, and one Aleppo Pine tree failed during windy conditions in March 2024. This MND, conservatively analyzes the potential environmental impact of removing and replacing the trees that have already been removed and the remaining trees, for a total of 122 trees. The City of Burbank is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The closest state facility is SR 138. After reviewing the project's documents, Caltrans has the following comments:

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

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Caltrans recommends that the Project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods 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.

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-2024-04546.

Sincerely,



Anthony Higgins
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse