

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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www.dot.ca.gov



November 22, 2024

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GTS #: 04-SM-2024-00633
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Co/Rt/Pm: SM/101/9.307

Carlos de Melo, Community Development Director
City of Belmont
One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 310
Belmont, CA 94002

Re: 1301 Shoreway Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Carlos de Melo:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the 1301 Shoreway Project. 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 October 2024 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would result in the demolition of the existing 148,949 square feet (sq. ft.) medical office building and surface parking lot to develop 542,035 sq. ft. of employment uses through the construction of two buildings to serve as a general office and/or research and technology campus. An associated 9-story, 442,690 sq. ft. parking garage would also be constructed. The development also proposes a series of public outdoor amenities that would be accessible from the slough and adjacent trail along Belmont Creek. The 6.9-acre project site is located adjacent to northbound U.S. Route 101 (U.S. 101).

Travel Demand Analysis

The project vehicle miles traveled (VMT) analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the City of Belmont's adopted Resolution 2021-021 – VMT Policy, which includes recommendations regarding VMT methodology and thresholds of significance. Per the DEIR, this project is found to have a less than

significant VMT impact with the implementation of a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan focused on reducing employee VMT. The project also proposes reestablishing a local shuttle service to connect the office development to the San Carlos Caltrain Station and the Redwood Shores community. The proposed mitigation measures identified in the TDM plan should be documented with annual monitoring reports to demonstrate effectiveness.

Please note that the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County's (C/CAG) VMT/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Model Mitigation Program was awarded through Caltrans' Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program to assist project sponsors and developers to identify feasible options for mitigating VMT and GHG emission impacts of land use and VMT-inducting transportation projects in the County. The City is encouraged to collaborate with Caltrans and C/CAG to explore more VMT mitigation program options when needed.

Hydrology

Following review of the October 2024 DEIR, there would be no significant adverse drainage condition expected on U.S. 101 from the proposed project.

Water Quality

In *Section 13.4 Applicable Regulation, Plans, and Standards* of the DEIR, the current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 2022 Construction Stormwater General Permit should be referenced unless it is clearly substantiated and justified to use the older versions of the permit for this proposed project.

Construction-Related Impacts

A reminder that the following two Caltrans projects are within the vicinity of the project site and may pose a potential construction conflict. For future project coordination, please contact Rommel Pardo, Senior Project Manager of Program Project Management for San Mateo County at Rommel.Pardo@dot.ca.gov.

- *Project 04-0Q070* – modify and enhance the metering system and guardrails for various U.S. 101 on-ramps, including the on-ramps at Whipple Ave and Hillsdale Blvd.
- *Project 04-2J73A* – pavement rehabilitation and upgrade guardrails along U.S. 101 near Cordilleras Creek Bridge.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Luana Chen, Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

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For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luo Yunsheng'.

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

c: State Clearinghouse
Chris Dacumos, Senior Planner for City of Belmont