

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*

November 25, 2024

Jared Rosengren
City of Ventura
501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001RE: Main Street Moves Project: Draft
Environmental Impact Review (DEIR)
GTS # 07-VEN-2024-00617
SCH # 2024060943
Vic. LA 33 PM 0.317
LA 101 PM 30.159

Dear Jared Rosengren:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced project. The proposed Main Street Moves Project is a continuation of the existing temporary closure, initially approved by Ventura City Council on May 18, 2020, and extended six times through January 31, 2025. The project would result in the full-time, long-term closure of Main Street, from Fir Street to Figueroa Plaza; South California Street, from Main Street to the alleys south of Main Street; and North California Street, from Main Street to the North California Street parking lot. The project would also result in the reopening of South California Street, south of the alleys. The project would result in the construction of semi-permanent removable bollards and crash-rated planters to limit general traffic flow. Overall, up to 69 semi-permanent bollards and up to 20 crash-rated planters would be installed within the project site. Figure 3 depicts the general locations of proposed bollards and planters, along with the proposed change in roadway closure or reopening associated with the project. The existing traffic signal at the intersection of South California Street and Santa Clara Street would return to full operation, and the existing traffic signal at the intersection of South California Street and Main Street would be modified to operate as a pedestrian signal for Main Street pedestrian travel. All other traffic signals along Main Street would be permanently modified to flash, as they are currently. The project would result in the potential loss of up to 154 parking spaces on Main Street, the potential loss of up to 12 parking spaces on South California Street, and the potential loss of up to five parking spaces on North California Street, for a total loss of up to 171 parking spaces. The project would retain the existing sidewalk, curb, and gutter configuration. The City of Ventura is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The closest state facilities are SR 33, and US 101. After reviewing the project's documents, Caltrans has the following comments:

The project is determined to have a less-than-significant VMT impact. The Lead Agency's thresholds reflect OPR's Technical Advisory and assist the state in meeting climate goals through VMT reduction. Caltrans is in support of this project's pedestrian-oriented plans that help achieve state planning priorities contained in state law and meet state policy goals on transportation, VMT reduction, GHG emissions reduction, and/or betterment of the environment and human health. To achieve the goal of zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 2050, Caltrans emphasizes the importance of enhancing pedestrian and bicyclist amenities in community destinations.

Additionally, Caltrans recommends that large-size truck travel and construction traffic 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. 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-VEN-2024-00617.

Sincerely,



Anthony Higgins
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse