

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

August 26, 2024

Adrineh Melkonian
City of Los Angeles Planning Department
6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 91401

RE: 20023 Ventura Boulevard: MND
GTS # 07-LA-2024-04583
SCH # 2024071049
Vic. US 101 PM 23.214

Dear Adrineh Melkonian:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced project. The Project proposes the demolition of the existing auto body repair shop for the construction, use, the maintenance of a new 1,300-square-foot restaurant with a drive-through window, 203-square-foot ancillary trash enclosure, and associated parking lot. The building would be one (1) story tall (a maximum building height of 26 feet 6 inches). The project proposes to plant 11 trees of which four (4) are Street trees in accordance with the City's tree replacement requirements. The Project would require the grading of 376 cubic yards of soil and material during the grading phase. The City of Los Angeles Planning Department is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The closest state facility is US 101. After reviewing the project's documents, Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans aims to reach zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 2050 as there is a direct link between impact speeds and the likelihood of fatality or serious injury. To achieve this goal, Caltrans encourages the Lead Agency to enhance pedestrian and bicyclist amenities around the project area, connecting them to community destinations. Effective strategies include constructing physically separated facilities like Class IV bikeways, wide sidewalks, curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, and landscaping. Additionally, visual indicators such as warning signage, flashing beacons, crosswalks, and striping should complement physical design improvements, signaling to motorists that they should expect pedestrians and cyclists.

Due to the project's proximity to the US-101, please ensure that the existing signal and traffic operations at US-101 and Winnetka Avenue and all major intersections in the

vicinity of the project can accommodate the additional project trips. For any traffic signals and curb ramps upgrade, the Project would be responsible for payment of applicable fees as required related to the transportation system, and Caltrans is not responsible for any fair-share contribution to the improvement.

Caltrans will require an Encroachment Permit for work performed within the State Right-of-way. Caltrans recommends limiting large truck travel and construction traffic 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-LA-2024-04583.

Sincerely,



Anthony Higgins
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse