

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



August 23, 2024

SCH #: 2024071069
GTS #: 04-SON-2024-00920
GTS ID: 33497
Co/Rt/Pm: SON/116/19.477

Hannah Spencer, Supervisor Planner
County of Sonoma
2550 Ventura Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: Forestville Downtown Park — Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Hannah Spencer:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Forestville Downtown Park 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 July 2024 Draft MND.

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 will provide urban open space with opportunities for public recreational amenities that include 24 bicycle parking spaces at West County Trailhead, an improved parking lot for 17 vehicles and one American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible space and relocated bus stop with a new shelter. This project site is located directly adjacent to State Route (SR)-116.

Travel Demand Analysis

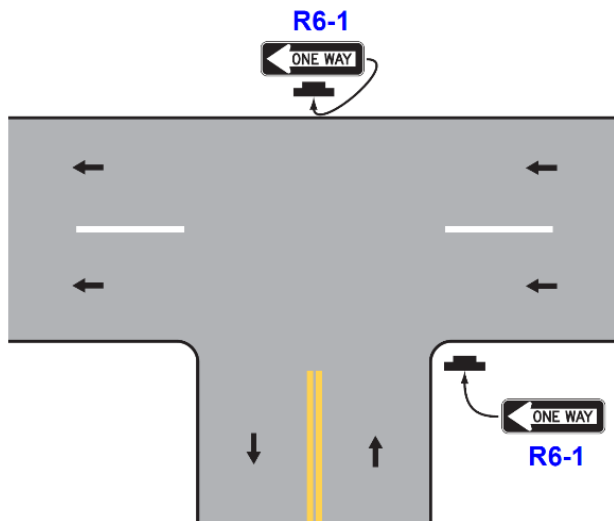
With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 743, Caltrans is focused on maximizing efficient development patterns, innovative travel demand reduction strategies, and multimodal improvements. For more information on how Caltrans assesses Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for land use projects, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)).

The project VMT analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) Technical Advisory. Per the IS/MND, this project is found to have a less than significant VMT impact, therefore working towards meeting the State's VMT reduction goals.

Project Driveway

Please submit roadway plans for Caltrans to review and consider using postmile to identify the location. Sight distance from the driveway should be checked per Highway Design Manual Procedure. Also, please clarify how vehicles will be prevented from left in/left out to/from the driveway.

The project applicant shall install the ONE WAY sign (R6-1) (Right Turn) below as showed in Figure. 2B-14 of California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) at the exit corner of the driveway on the right and at the median through the encroachment permit process. Please review the MUTCD ([link](#)) for more detailed information.



Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)). Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Please note that Caltrans has proposed a safety project on SR-116 at Green Valley Road intersection. It proposes to install a fully actuated traffic signal system or construct a roundabout to reduce the number of collisions. Construction is scheduled

to begin in winter 2026. Though the safety project is relatively distant from this proposed project, potential coordination might be needed.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the County is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet ADA Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement.

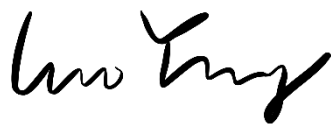
The Office of Encroachment Permit requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)). Please note that the checklist TR-0416 is used to determine the appropriate Caltrans review process for encroachment projects. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

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

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

Hannah Spencer, Supervisor Planner
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" and last name "Yunsheng" clearly distinguishable.

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

c: State Clearinghouse