

California Department of Transportation

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November 20, 2024

11-SD -5, 56
PM VAR
3060 Carmel Valley Road
ADM/SCH#2024101244

Ms. Marlene Watanabe
Planner
City of San Diego
1222 First Avenue MS 501
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Ms. Watanabe:

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has the following comments for the environmental review for the Addendum Negative Declaration for the 3060 Carmel Valley Road located near Interstate 5, State Route 56 (I-5, SR-56). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Safety is one of Caltrans' strategic goals. Caltrans strives to make the year 2050 the first year without a single death or serious injury on California's roads. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.

Caltrans is committed to prioritizing projects that are equitable and provide meaningful benefits to historically underserved communities, to ultimately improve transportation accessibility and quality of life for people in the communities we serve.

We look forward to working with the City of San Diego in areas where the City and Caltrans have joint jurisdiction to improve the transportation network and connections

between various modes of travel, with the goal of improving the experience of those who use the transportation system.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Hydraulics

Caltrans generally does not allow development projects to impact hydraulics within the State's Right-of-Way (R/W). Any modification to the existing Caltrans drainage and/or increase in runoff to State facilities will not be allowed.

Environmental

Caltrans welcomes the opportunity to be a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as we have some discretionary authority of a portion of the project that is in Caltrans' R/W through the form of an encroachment permit process. We look forward to the coordination of our efforts to ensure that Caltrans can adopt the alternative and/or mitigation measure for our R/W.

The City of San Diego is proposing a bicycle pathway with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps within Caltrans' R/W. Environmental Engineering (EE) has reviewed several documents including a Noise Study, Negative Declaration Document and addendum, Geotechnical Investigation, Soils Management Plan, and Site Plan.

Aerially Deposited Lead (ADL) is a common contaminate in soil along the travelled ways. As such, EE recommends a soil assessment for ADL be conducted in the location of the proposed bicycle and curb ramp improvements within Caltrans' R/W.

Complete Streets

Caltrans views all transportation improvements as opportunities to improve safety, access, and mobility for all travelers in California and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian, and transit modes as integral elements of the transportation network. Caltrans supports improved transit accommodation through the provision of Park and Ride facilities, improved bicycle and pedestrian access and safety improvements, signal prioritization for transit, bus on shoulders, ramp improvements, or other enhancements that promotes a complete and integrated transportation network. Early coordination with Caltrans, in locations that may affect both Caltrans and the City of San Diego, is encouraged.

The plan sheet says "*buffered bike lane*" but the design sheets do not have a buffer. Please display buffer on updated plans.

Caltrans recommends that bike loop detection be installed as part of this project.

Coordination with future Caltrans Active Transportation projects in this location is recommended.

Right-of-Way

Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.

Any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction.

Additional information regarding encroachment permits may be obtained by visiting the website at <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep>. Projects with the following:

- require a Caltrans Encroachment Permit.
- have completed the Caltrans Local Development Review (LDR) process.
- have an approved environmental document.

need to have documents submitted for Quality Management Assessment Process (QMAP) process via email to D11.QMAP.Permits@dot.ca.gov. Early coordination with Caltrans is strongly advised for all encroachment permits.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Aston, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 992-0628 or by e-mail sent to Shannon.Aston@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Kimberly D. Dodson

KIMBERLY D. DODSON, GISP
Branch Chief
Local Development Review