

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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November 26, 2024

Eduardo Maguino
Los Angeles County Public Works
Waterworks Division
P.O. Box 1460
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

RE: Sweetwater Mesa Tank and Waterline
Project
SCH # 2024110183
Vic. LA-01/PM 46.805
GTS # LA-2024-04680-MND

Dear Eduardo Maguino:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced environmental document. The proposed project consists of improvements to the existing Sweetwater Mesa system to better serve existing and approved development in the service area. A new 12-inch water main would be constructed in Serra Road from PCH to Sweetwater Mesa Road and would continue to the new 1.12-million-gallon tank located at the end of Sweetwater Mesa Road. A second 12-inch water main, to replace the existing 6-inch water main, would be constructed in PCH from Serra Road to the beginning of the Malibu Lagoon Bridge, and a third 12-inch water main will be constructed along Serra Road between PCH and the existing Serra Tank. Additional pump stations and pressure regulating stations will also be installed. A new water main would be constructed in Serra Road from Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) to Sweetwater Mesa Road.

It is anticipated that these trips would occur throughout the day and would not be concentrated during traffic peak hours. Project construction would also result in temporary lane closures along PCH. Typically, with temporary closures that do not change the roadway geometry or other features, the assumption is that traffic will return to normal after the temporary closures end. As part of the Project, a Traffic Management Plan would be prepared according to the current Traffic Management Plan Guidelines published by Caltrans and would provide for ways to minimize impacts related to transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities through use of detours, routing signage, and other features. The Traffic Management Plan would be subject to review and approval

by Caltrans prior to project initiation. With implementation of all requirements set forth in the Traffic Management Plan, short-term construction-related impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Please be reminded that any work performed within the State Right-of-way will require an Encroachment Permit from Caltrans. Any modifications to State facilities must meet all mandatory design standard and specifications.

The portion of PCH between Sweetwater Mesa Road/Serra Road and the Malibu Lagoon Bridge consists of developed residential property on the ocean side and open space with native vegetation on the inland side. It is important to confirm whether the project will stay within the prism of the roadway on PCH. If the project involves vegetation removal (including trees on the ocean side), native vegetation replacement and landscape review would be required. Additionally, bird nesting and wildlife surveys must be conducted if removal occurs during nesting season (February 1 - September 1). The Division of Environmental Planning (DEP) should conduct a detailed review during the Caltrans Encroachment Permit stage.

Only a small portion of the proposed work will be within Caltrans right of way on PCH from Serra Road to Malibu Lagoon Bridge (about 400'). Vegetation disturbance within Caltrans right of way would be minimal, and the rest of the proposed work will be outside of PCH.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which require use of oversized transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend large-size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods. Truck drivers should cover construction trucks with tarpaulin to avoid debris spillage onto the State Highway.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2024-04680-MND.

Sincerely,



Anthony Higgins
Acting LDR Branch Chief

Cc: State Clearinghouse