

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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February 11, 2025

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GTS #: 04-CC-2025-00941
GTS ID: 35127
Co/Rt/Pm: CC/24/R8.662

Rourke Healy, Trail Planner
East Bay Regional Parks District
2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, CA 94605

Re: Calaveras Ridge Regional Trail Project – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Rourke Healy:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Calaveras Ridge Regional Trail 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 January 2025 MND.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) is proposing a new 2.5-mile regional trail segment of the Calaveras Ridge Regional Trail. The proposed project would involve constructing 1.2-miles of new trail and will be utilizing 1.3-miles of an existing dirt roadway. Once constructed, this multi-use trail corridor parallels the Interstate (I)-680 corridor connecting six regional parks.

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](#)).

As noted in the MND, this project may slightly increase the number of expected visitors to the trail as a result of proposed improvements. Please provide additional explanation for this conclusion. Consider adding an estimate for the specific number of new visitors that are expected, and why this increase in expected visitors would not substantially increase VMT.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mary McGee 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisel Ayon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisel Ayon
Acting Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse