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Governor's Office of Planning & Research



*Making Conservation  
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**June 16 2021**

## STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

June 15, 2021

Dr. Jan Green Rebstock  
City of Los Angeles, Public Works, Bureau of Engineering  
Environmental Management Group  
1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor, Mail Stop 939,  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213

RE: Sixth Street Park, Arts, River and  
Connectivity (PARC) Project – Draft  
Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)  
SCH# 2017041045  
GTS# 07-LA-2017-03603  
Vic. LA-101 PM 0.36

Dear Dr. Jan Green Rebstock:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The proposed Project would create public recreational space on approximately 13 acres in areas underneath and adjacent to the upcoming Sixth Street Viaduct. Features of the proposed Project include, but are not limited to, a café, concession area, public restrooms on each side of the LA River, performance and public gathering areas, flexible play areas and lawns, adult fitness equipment, dog play areas, landscaped areas, public art, sports fields and courts, children's play areas and splash pad, picnic and grilling areas, parking spaces, skate park elements, bicycle and pedestrian paths, roadway connectivity improvements, stormwater infrastructure improvements, and rain gardens. In addition, the proposed Project could include the installation of reinforced concrete planted terraces on the west and east banks of the LA River. The proposed Project generally includes components noted in the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan.

The nearest State facility to the proposed project is US 101. After reviewing the DEIR, Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans acknowledges and supports infill development that provides valuable urban park space and prioritizes walking, biking, and transit. The Project's goals are in direct alignment with State-level sustainable transportation policy goals which seek to reduce the number of trips made by driving, reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and encourage alternative modes of travel. Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan has set targets of tripling trips made by bicycle and doubling trips made by walking and public transit, as well as achieving a reduction in statewide, per capita, vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Similar goals are embedded in the California Transportation Plan 2040, California Transportation Plan 2050, and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy). Statewide legislation such as AB 32 and SB 375, as well as Executive Order S-3-05

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and N-19-19, echo the need to pursue more sustainable development. Projects, like the one proposed, can help California meet these goals.

Caltrans also concurs that the following Mitigation Measures are effective infrastructure to reduce VMT and more effectively meet the transportation needs of all people:

- MM-TRANS-1: Mobility Hub
- MM-TRANS-2: Bicycle Facilities
- MM-TRANS-3: Rideshare Zones
- MM-TRANS-4: Public Transportation.

While Caltrans does not expect project approval to result in a direct adverse impact to the existing State transportation facilities, the eastern edge of the Project is adjacent to Caltrans Right-of-Way. Therefore, an encroachment permit will be required, and all environmental concerns must be adequately addressed. Please note that any modifications to the State facility will be subject to additional review by the Office of Permits prior to issuance of the permit.

Additionally, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires 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.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at [anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov](mailto:anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov) and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2017-03603.

Sincerely,

*Frances Duong*

Frances Duong  
Acting IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

Cc: State Clearinghouse