

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7
100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 269-1124
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Serious Drought.
Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

April 12, 2021

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Apr 13 2021

Mr. Alvie Betancourt, Planning Manager
City of Carson
701 E Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: City of Carson General Plan Update
SCH # 2001091120
Vic. LA-405/LA-110 Citywide
GTS # LA-2017-03527-NOP

Dear Mr. Alvie:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced recirculated NOP. The City of Carson is preparing an update of its General Plan, which will establish the City's overall approach to development, transportation, environmental quality, and other key topics through 2040. Carson's current General Plan dates to 2004 and is in need of an update as new opportunities, challenges, and approaches have emerged in recent years. The updated plan will address the seven elements mandated by State law (land use, circulation, conservation, open space, noise, safety, and housing).

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference to The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information.

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

As a reminder, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will be the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after the July 1, 2020 statewide implementation date.

Mr. Alvie Betancourt, Planning Manager

April 12, 2021

Page 2 of 3

Caltrans is aware of challenges that the region faces in identifying viable solutions to alleviating congestion on State and Local facilities. With limited room to expand vehicular capacity, this development should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way.

Caltrans supports the implementation of complete streets and pedestrian safety measures such as road diets and other traffic calming measures. Please note the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the road diet treatment as a proven safety countermeasure, and the cost of a road diet can be significantly reduced if implemented in tandem with routine street resurfacing. Overall, the environmental report should ensure all modes are served well by planning and development activities. This includes reducing single occupancy vehicle trips, ensuring safety, reducing vehicle miles traveled, supporting accessibility, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We encourage the Lead Agency to evaluate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements. For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's *Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference* (Chapter 8). The reference is available online at:

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/fhwahop12035.pdf>

The 2010 *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), available at

<http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>

Also, Caltrans has published the VMT-focused Transportation Impact Study Guide (TISG), dated May 20, 2020 and Caltrans Interim Land Development and Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Safety Review Practitioners Guidance, prepared in On December 18, 2020.

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-planning/office-of-smart-mobility-climate-change/sb-743>

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

Mr. Alvie Betancourt, Planning Manager

April 12, 2021

Page 3 of 3

Caltrans encourages lead agencies to complete traffic safety impact analysis in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process so that, through partnerships and collaboration, California can reach zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2017-03527AL-NOP.

Sincerely,

Anthony Higgins for

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse