

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 11
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March 18, 2026

11-SD-5, 76

PM VAR

Oceanside Sewer Improvements Program
DEIR/SCH#2021030277

Ms. Mabel Uyeda
Senior Civil Engineer
City of Oceanside
300 North Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054

Dear Ms. Uyeda:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Oceanside Sewer Improvements Program project located near Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 76 (SR-76). 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.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Additional Comments

Please note all unresolved Hydrology and Drainage comments from the April 8th, 2021, comment letter will need to be addressed before this project can move to the permit process. Please see previous Hydrology and Drainage comments below and attached comment letter for reference.

Hydrology and Drainage Studies

- Please provide hydraulics studies, drainage, and grading plans to Caltrans for review.
- Provide a pre- and post-development hydraulics and hydrology study. Show drainage configurations and patterns.
- Provide drainage plans and details. Include detention basin details of inlets/outlet.
- Provide a contour grading plan with legible callouts and minimal building data. Show drainage patterns.

- On all plans, show Caltrans' Right-of-Way (R/W).
- The project (City of Oceanside) crosses SR-76 at PM M2.92 and I-5 at PM R52.316. At the crossing with SR-76, the Land Outfall Replacement project proposes to upsize existing 24-inch pipe to 36-inch.
- The SR-76 bridge spans over the existing sewer pipe (buried in ground below) within Caltrans' R/W, so there will not be direct impact on any of Caltrans' existing drainage systems, however, Caltrans' Structures Maintenance and Investigation will need to review if any structure on, around or under the bridge may be impacted.
- Considering that the sewer line replacement is in a floodplain when it crosses Caltrans' R/W, please clarify if grading in the floodplain will change it with the proposed project.
- Identify any impacts to the floodplain within the proposed project.
- Early coordination with Caltrans is recommended.
- Caltrans generally does not allow development projects to impact hydraulics within the State's Right-of-Way. Any modification to the existing Caltrans drainage and/or increase in runoff to State facilities will not be allowed.

North County Corridors (NCC)

Some utility construction work will be near and in Caltrans' R/W where Mission Avenue crosses under the SR-76 UC structures.

Caltrans requires that traffic control performed for this work within (or affecting) Caltrans' R/W follows the Traffic Control sheets in the latest [Caltrans Standard Plans](#).

Structures

Please provide a cross-section showing the clearance between the proposed force main sewer pipeline and the outer edge of the existing foundation within Caltrans' R/W.

Please identify all impacted columns and their footing footprints. A minimum horizontal clearance of 15 feet must be maintained from the outermost edge of any footing structures.

Traffic Engineering & Analysis (TEA)

A traffic management plan will be needed during construction.

An encroachment permit will be needed for any temporary traffic control and any work within Caltrans' R/W.

Hauling/Traffic Control Plan

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has discretionary authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and may, upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum limitations specified in the California Vehicle Code. The Caltrans Transportation Permits Issuance Branch is responsible for the issuance of these special transportation permits for oversize/overweight vehicles on the State Highway network. Additional information is provided online at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

A Traffic Control Plan is to be submitted to Caltrans District 11, including the interchanges at I-5 & SR-76, at least 30 days prior to the start of any construction. Traffic shall not be unreasonably delayed. The plan shall also outline suggested detours to use during closures, including routes and signage.

Potential impacts to the highway facilities (I-5, SR-76) and traveling public from the detour, demolition and other construction activities should be discussed and addressed before work begins.

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. We would appreciate meeting with you to discuss the elements of the Environmental Document that Caltrans will use for our subsequent environmental compliance.

An encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction. As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide approved final environmental documents for this project, corresponding technical studies, and necessary regulatory and resource agency permits. Specifically, CEQA determination or exemption. The supporting documents must address all environmental impacts within the Caltrans' R/W and address any impacts from avoidance and/or mitigation measures.

We recommend that this project specifically identifies and assesses potential impacts caused by the project or impacts from mitigation efforts that occur within Caltrans' R/W that includes impacts to the natural environment, infrastructure including but not limited to highways, roadways, structures, intelligent transportation systems elements, on-ramps and off-ramps, and appurtenant features including but not limited to

fencing, lighting, signage, drainage, guardrail, slopes and landscaping. Caltrans is interested in any additional mitigation measures identified for the project's Final Environmental Document.

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

Attachment: Caltrans comment letter, April 8, 2021