DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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Making Conservation a California Way of Life

November 6, 2025

Matt Hespenheide
Ventura County Department of Public Works
800 S. Victoria Avenue #1600
Ventura, CA 93009

RE: Hueneme Road Widening Project
SCH # 2023080368
Vic. VEN-01/PM 12.788
GTS # VEN-2023-00656-DEIR

Dear Matt Hespenheide:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced environmental document. The County proposes widening an approximate 1.93-mile portion of Hueneme Road, between Edison Drive and Rice Avenue, from a 2-lane roadway to a 4-lane roadway with buffered bike lanes, a paved median, and turn lanes (project). All existing left-turn lanes would be retained as part of the project. The total width of the new roadway would vary between 63 to 72 feet. The widened roadway would taper to the existing configuration of one travel lane in each direction approximately 1,200 feet east of Rice Avenue. The purpose of this project is to improve vehicle and bicycle travel and safety, improve the freight movement corridor, increase connectivity for bicycle riders, and complete vehicle and bicycle improvements consistent with the County's General Plan.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. 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. As a reminder, all environmental documents should include Vehicle Miles Traveled. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

https://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/#guidelines-updates

Caltrans acknowledges and appreciates the use of SB 743–compliant methodology and SCAG regional modeling assumptions in the Draft EIR. The analysis appropriately aligns with current state guidance and demonstrates a net decrease in countywide VMT (−9,005 VMT/day in 2016 and −15,795 VMT/day in 2040). This finding reflects effective integration of multimodal improvements and consistency with regional sustainability and VMT reduction goals.

Construction is expected to last approximately 12 months; during this period, there would be a temporary increase in construction-related trips from vehicles and construction equipment. To minimize disruptions to traffic flow, these construction activities are planned to be conducted within the established hours of operation, specifically between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., from Monday to Friday, in full compliance with the noise regulations specified by the County (County of Ventura, 2010).

Any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials that require the use of oversized transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Any large-size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods for the construction phase and operation phase. Construction truck loads should be covered with a tarpaulin cover.

Storm water run-off is a sensitive issue for Los Angeles County. Please be mindful that projects should be designed to discharge clean run-off water. Additionally, discharge of storm water run-off is not permitted onto State highway facilities without any storm water management plan.

In addition, a truck/traffic construction management plan may be needed for this project because the project is close to Caltrans on/off-ramps. Traffic Management Plans involving lane closures or street detours which will impact the circulation system affecting traffic to and from freeway on/off-ramps should be coordinated with Caltrans.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin, the project coordinator, at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # VEN-2023-00656-DEIR.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse