DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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July 1, 2024

Trevor Martin, City Planner City of Los Angeles, City Planning Department 200 N Spring Street Room 763 Los Angeles, CA 90012

> RE: Chaminade College Preparatory, High School Project (ENV-2023-1255-MND) – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) SCH #2024060557 GTS #07-LA-2024-04553 Vic. LA 27 PM 15.04

Dear Trevor Martin,

The Project proposes to update and expand the existing high school campus with a revised campus plan. The revised campus plan would include: 1) a new three-story school building (Multistory Building), updated parking areas, remodeled athletic fields, new student quads, and renovated classrooms, student service centers and offices on the existing campus; 2) an expanded school campus area for new athletic fields, an aquatic center/outdoor swimming pool, accessory facilities/structures and associated surface parking facilities; and 3) a new pedestrian bridge across Saticoy Street. No increase in the maximum permitted student enrollment (1,360 students) is proposed. Upon Project completion, the revised campus plan for the high school would have 501 on-site vehicle parking spaces and 78 bicycle parking spaces (76 short-term spaces and 2 long-term spaces).

After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

The Project follows the City of Los Angeles General Air Quality Element and Policy 4.2.3, stating that it will not conflict with any bicycle or transit infrastructure. It is consistent with SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS objectives relating to walking and biking trips, and its goals and guiding principles.

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The expansion of the high school to the North Campus on the east side of Saticoy Street includes the demolition of the existing surface parking lot to form two new surface parking lots and accommodate facilities such as the outdoor swimming pool. The Project proposes to add 39 car parking spaces, for a net total of 462 car parking spaces. If surface parking must be built, it is recommended that it not face the street directly, as planning an active frontage against the sidewalk creates a more inviting and shaded streetscape that can encourage both recreational and transportation walking to and from the site.

Additionally, Caltrans supports the implementation of a pedestrian bridge to connect each side of the campus safely and recommends the City of Los Angeles install more bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure/upgrades (e.g. bike lane on Saticoy St., high visibility crosswalks) within the surrounding area to increase safety for active transportation users. In combination with the pedestrian bridge, deterrents to walking and obstacles to pedestrians (including people with disabilities) will be reduced for the safety of all road users. These urban design principles can affect mode choice and help the State of California achieve its goals to improve health and further reduce greenhouse gases (GHG).

Any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials that requires the use of oversized transport vehicles on State Highways will require a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends limiting construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review. We look forward to the coordination of our efforts to ensure potential impacts to the highway facilities and traveling public are discussed and addressed before work begins.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Frances Duong, at frances.duong@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS #07-LA-2024-04553.

Sincerely,

Anthony Higgins
Anthony Higgins

Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

Cc: State Clearinghouse