

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



April 28, 2026

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GTS #: 04-ALA-2025-01036
GTS ID: 36151
Co/Rt/Pm: ALA/80/R6.899

Liza McNuity, Project Manager
City of Berkeley Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department
2180 Milvia Street, 3rd Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704

Re: Berkeley Water Transportation Pier Ferry – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Liza McNuity:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Berkeley Water Transportation Pier Ferry Project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the February 2026 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position or approval by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would demolish portions of the closed pier, new public pier, new breakwater that provides pedestrian access and recreational amenities, recreational amenities, ferry infrastructure, dredging, new public plaza, improvements to University Avenue and Seawall Drive, a portion of the planned Bay Trail Extension, new landscaping, new wayfinding signage, utility connections, and operation of zero-emission electric passenger ferry service.

Air Quality/Noise

Air Quality, Section 3.2-21 & 3.2-24 pgs. 154 & 157: Please update the Bay Area Air District (BAAD) May 2017 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines to the newer 2022 guidelines, criteria, and thresholds ([link](#)).

Noise, Section 3.10-24 pg. 497 – Waterside, “Implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1...would reduce construction noise levels by up to 20 dBA for demolition”: per

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Table 3.10-16, reduction due to mitigation should be 10dBA (A-weighted decibels) as opposed to 20dBA.

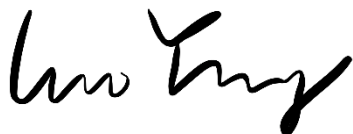
Climate Resilience

Please keep Caltrans updated on the project as it advances. Caltrans is interested in improving resilience to the particularly vulnerable southbound Interstate (I)-80 and as a result will participate in ongoing Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) coordination with the cities of Albany, Berkeley, and Emeryville.

For any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Climate Change Branch at D4_ClimateResilience@dot.ca.gov.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Melissa Hernandez, Associate Transportation Planner via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luo Yunsheng'.

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse