DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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Making Conservation a California Way of Life

May 20, 2025

Courtney Yellen
City of Los Angeles
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Room 430
Van Nuys, CA 91401

RE: 16600-16602 West Vanowen Street and
16601 W. Archwood Street, 91406
SCH # 2025041165
Vic. LA-405/PM 41.37 to 42.37
GTS # LA-2025-04803-MND

Dear Courtney Yellen:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced environmental document. The proposed project is the construction, use and maintenance of a new two-story, 33 feet in height, 56,366 square foot public charter school with a maximum enrollment of 564 students (grades 6-12) on two vacant, adjoining lots totaling approximately 108,938 square feet (2.5 acres). As proposed, the project includes 27 classrooms, administrative office space, a 1,753 square foot Multipurpose Room (MPR), 16,738 square foot gymnasium, and 14,363 square foot play yard area. The applicant is proposing to provide 91 automobile parking spaces, 111 bicycle parking spaces (108 short-term and 3 long-term), 400 square feet of loading space, 25,253 square feet of landscaping, and 47,473 square feet of hardscape.

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

The project's transportation impacts related to Vehicles Miles Travelled (VMT) are less than significant and no CEQA mitigation measures are required. It was determined that the project does exceed the net 250 daily vehicle trips threshold requiring further analysis however was identified to have daily VMT per Capita and daily VMT per Employee that are acceptable to the South Valley Area Planning Commission (APC) and therefore, LADOT concluded that the development of the proposed project would not result in significant VMT impact due to the local-serving nature of the small scale Project.

Caltrans concurs that the project will include TDM measures that will help reduce VMT. These measures may include such as:

1. Reduced Automobile Parking Supply
2. Bicycle Parking Provision
3. Promotion of Alternative Mode Use (Public Transit, Bike, Walk)
4. Employee Transportation Coordinator
5. Student and Employee Carpooling Programs
6. Priority Parking for Employee Carpools
7. Bussing for Students
8. Discount Transit Passes for Employees and/or Students
9. Guaranteed Ride Home Program (for Alternative Commute Participants)
10. Bicycle Tool and Repair Stand
11. Free On-Site Shared Bicycles
12. Parking Cash Out for Employee Spaces

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.

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-2025-04803-MND.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse