

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Kishen Prathivadi, PE, PMP, General Manager
Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside (SAM)
1000 N. Cabrillo Hwy
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Re: SAM Force Main in Montara Replacement Project – Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Dear Kishen Prathivadi:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the SAM Force Main in Montara Replacement 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 January 2026 Draft IS/MND.

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 includes the construction of a replacement sewer force main segment of approximately 13,540 feet along State Route (SR) 1 between Moss Beach and El Granada. In addition to the in-kind replacement of the existing sewer force main, relocation of the force main connection from 200 feet southwest of Coral Reef Ave to the intersection of SR 1/Coral Reef Ave is also proposed. Project work will occur within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW).

Design

During the proposed project's design phase, please complete utility verification to identify any potential utility conflicts. If any portions of the old sewer pipeline are to be abandoned in place, please ensure that policies and procedures for filling and abandoning old lines are followed.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any temporary or permanent work including traffic control that encroaches in, under, or over any portion of the State highway ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

The Office of Encroachment Permits requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. The review and approval of encroachment projects is managed through the Encroachment Permits Office Process (EPOP) or the Project Delivery Quality Management Assessment Process (QMAP), depending on project scope, complexity, and completeness of the application. Please use the following resources to determine the appropriate review process:

- TR-0416 Applicant's Checklist ([link](#))
- Caltrans Encroachment Projects Processes – Information Video ([link](#))
- Flowchart, Figure 1.2 in Section 108, Overview of the Encroachment Review Process, of Chapter 100 – The Permit Function, Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual ([link](#))

The permit approval typically takes less than 60 days, but may take longer depending on the project scope, size, complexity, completeness, compliance with applicable laws, standards, policies, and quality of the permit package submitted. Projects requiring exceptions to design standards, exceptions to encroachment policies, or external agency approvals may need more time to process.

To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Please include a traffic control plan for project construction with your encroachment permit application package. The Office of Highway Operations will need to review requests for any road closures (lane, shoulder) on SR 1. Caltrans Standard Plans for Temporary Traffic Control ([link](#)) must be applied during construction.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Hydrology

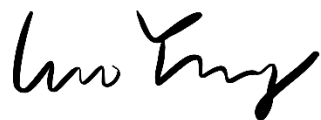
Please ensure that any increase in storm water runoff to State Drainage Systems or Facilities be treated, contained on project site, and metered to preconstruction levels. Any floodplain impacts must be documented and mitigated.

Cultural Resources

For the construction activities within Caltrans ROW, these mitigation measures shall be implemented if there is an archaeological discovery. If there is an inadvertent archaeological or burial discovery within Caltrans ROW, please immediately contact the Caltrans Office of Cultural Resource Studies at (510) 847-1977. A staff archaeologist will evaluate the finds within one business day after contact. Caltrans requires review of any potential data recovery plans within Caltrans ROW.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Luana Chen, 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,



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

c: State Clearinghouse