

California Department of Transportation

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March 20, 2026

City of Los Angeles
Kiran Rishi, Senior City Planner
200 North Spring Street, Room 667
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Westside Community Plans Update Project
– Notice of Preparation
SCH # 2026020746
GTS # 07-LA-2026-05027

Dear Kiran Rishi:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced environmental document. The Project proposes an update to the Westside Community Plans, which includes the West Los Angeles Community Plan, the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan, the Venice Community Plan, and the Westchester-Playa del Rey Community Plan. The proposed project includes the adoption of land use designations, zoning, policy plan text, and other ordinances, resolutions, and code amendments to implement those updates.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Caltrans is a commenting agency on this project and has the following comments:

The project should conduct a transportation analysis to determine whether significant transportation impacts would occur. If impacts are identified, potential mitigation measures may include Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies (e.g. increased transit access, rideshare programs, and improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities), investments in active transportation or transit amenities, lane reassignment, and traffic signal installations, signal phasing or timing modifications to mitigate impacts from project trips.

Consider the inclusion of evaluating parking requirements as excessive parking supply can lead to induced car trips. Please consider incorporating TDM strategies alongside parking reforms, shared parking arrangements, pricing strategies, and improved first-and last-mile connections.

The DEIR recommendations should include mitigations that will enhance the sustainability of economic growth factors for population growth, employment services, mobility, and housing needs within the community plan areas. The DEIR should emphasize positive environmental impacts, identify reasonable project alternatives to minimize significant impacts, and propose mitigation measures to reduce potential effects.

The project DEIR should propose improved mobility strategies, improved zoning codes, and improved regulations and policies within the community plan areas. This should include a discussion on the impact of SB 79 Abundant and Affordable Homes Near Transit Act which promotes multi-family housing near transit stops by making it legal for more homes to be built within these said areas. Caltrans encourages the City to incorporate SB 79 implementation considerations into its environmental analysis and transportation modeling to ensure alignment with state housing, climate, and mobility objectives.

Please ensure that the Westside Community Plans analyze the challenges in goods movement that are unique to the City. The Plan should also address how the City works to achieve an inter-regional network for longer distance travel and freight movement. Connecting towns, cities, and regions to each other, business centers to major intermodal freight transfer points, and commuters to Los Angeles and Los Angeles County in general in a sustainable and efficient manner, should be an important objective. Discussion of designated areas/parking for freight delivery, package, and transportation network company's pickup and drop-off is also beneficial. Please consider leveraging strategic investments to maintain and modernize a multimodal freight transportation system with innovative approaches, including advanced technology to optimize integrated network efficiency, improve travel time reliability, and achieve sustainable congestion reduction.

The Department firmly embraces racial equity, inclusion, and diversity. These values are foundational to achieving our vision of a cleaner, safer, and more accessible and more connected transportation system. Caltrans recognizes the shared responsibility to assist communities of color and underserved communities by removing barriers to provide a more equitable transportation system for all.

We acknowledge and support the City of Los Angeles' efforts to meet its Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation per the California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD).

Any project work proposed in the vicinity of the State Right-of-Way (ROW) would require an encroachment permit and all environmental concerns must be adequately addressed. If the environmental documentation for the project does not meet Caltrans's requirements for work done within State ROW, additional documentation would be required before approval of the

encroachment permit. Please coordinate with Caltrans to meet requirements for any work within or near State ROW. For Encroachment Permits procedures, please refer to the Caltrans's Encroachment Permits Manual at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Joseph Jamoralin, the project coordinator, at (805) 732-8047 and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2026-05027.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anthony Higgins
Acting LDR Branch Chief

Cc: State Clearinghouse