California Department of Transportation

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July 7, 2026

11-SD-5
PM 51.951
Buccaneer Lift Station and Force Main Project
MND/SCH#2026060391

Ms. Shannon Vitale
Principal Planner
City of Oceanside
300 North Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054

Dear Ms. Vitale:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Buccaneer Lift Station and Force Main Project located near Interstate 5 (I -5). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Safety is one of Caltrans' strategic goals. Caltrans strives to make the year 2050 the first year without a single death or serious injury on California's roads. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.

Caltrans is committed to prioritizing projects that are equitable and provide meaningful benefits to historically underserved communities, to ultimately improve transportation accessibility and quality of life for people in the communities we serve.

We look forward to working with the City of Oceanside in areas where the City and Caltrans have joint jurisdiction to improve the transportation network and connections

between various modes of travel, with the goal of improving the experience of those who use the transportation system.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Hydrology and Drainage Studies

- Please provide project plans for work near and within Caltrans' Right of Way (R/W), include layouts, cross sections, and profiles. Please include all existing Caltrans drainage facilities in plans, where applicable.

- Based on exhibits provided, the project will encroach onto a FEMA 100-year floodway/floodplain. The proposed project features may significantly alter the FEMA defined Floodplain and associated water surface elevations through the project area and have potential adverse impacts to I-5 and SR-76 facilities. Caltrans requests that the City of Oceanside, acting as the Local FEMA Administrator, include Caltrans in reviews of all submittals to the Development Services Department (DSD) regarding floodplain administration and allow for the Department to comment prior to the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) application or the Permit issue, to assure that the Caltrans' assets are not adversely impacted by any change in the water surface elevation resulting from this project

- Per Title 44 CFR §65.12, Caltrans requests that a formal notification be sent to the Department when the City of Oceanside approves the permit to alter the floodplain and/or when the Developer applies for CLOMR and Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

- On all plans, show Caltrans' R/W.

- Early coordination with Caltrans is recommended.

- Caltrans generally does not allow development projects to impact hydraulics within the State's R/W. Any modification to the existing Caltrans drainage and/or increase in runoff to State facilities will not be allowed.

Hauling

Caltrans has discretionary authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and may, upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum limitations specified in the California Vehicle Code. The Caltrans Transportation Permits Issuance Branch is

responsible for the issuance of these special transportation permits for oversize/overweight vehicles on the State Highway network. Additional information is provided online at: https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits.

Potential impacts to the highway facilities (I-5) and traveling public from the detour, demolition and other construction activities should be discussed and addressed before work begins.

Structures
The proposed location on Oceanside Boulevard crossing under I-5 will need to be reviewed by Caltrans HQ Structure Maintenance and Investigations.

Design
Proposed work under I-5 structure will need to be reviewed and approved by FHWA.

Environmental
For potential, subsequent approvals, such as encroachment permits, this project must specifically identify and assess potential impacts caused by the project and/or impacts from mitigation efforts that occur within or indirectly affect Caltrans' R/W that includes, but is not limited to, impacts to the natural environment, infrastructure (highways/roadways/on- and off-ramps) and appurtenant features (lighting/signs/guardrail/slopes). Caltrans will need to review the analysis for any work identified in Caltrans' R/W and any additional mitigation measures needed for encroachment approval.

The following is a list of typically impacted categories on Caltrans' facilities. Should there be any potential impact to Caltrans' facilities from this project we recommend that they be addressed as appropriate during the encroachment process.

- Noise
- Air Quality
- Hazardous Materials
- Community Impacts
- Visual/Aesthetic Impacts (including any removal of vegetation or trees)
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Water Quality
- Agricultural/Farmland Impacts
- Traffic/Circulation

Right-of-Way
Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.

Any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction.

Additional information regarding encroachment permits may be obtained by visiting the website at https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep. Projects with the following:

- require a Caltrans Encroachment Permit
- have completed the Caltrans Local Development Review (LDR) process
- have an approved environmental document

need to have documents submitted for Quality Management Assessment Process (QMAP) process via email to D11.QMAP.Permits@dot.ca.gov. Early coordination with Caltrans is strongly advised for all encroachment permits.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Aston, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 992-0628 or by e-mail sent to shannon.aston@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Dodson

KIMBERLY D. DODSON, GISP
Branch Chief
Local Development Review