

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7

100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

PHONE (213) 505-5003

FAX (213) 897-1337

TTY 711

www.dot.ca.gov

**Governor's Office of Planning & Research** *Making Conservation
a California Way of Life***September 8 2023****STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

September 8, 2023

Joelle Guerra
City of Walnut, Community Development
21201 La Puente Road
Walnut, CA 91789

RE: Walnut Business Park
Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft
Supplemental Environmental Impact
Report (SEIR)
SCH # 2017101010
Vic. LA-060/PM: R21.608
GTS # 07-LA-2017-04297

Dear Joelle Guerra:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced NOP. The Walnut Business Park is a proposed development of a multibuilding warehouse and distribution uses. The project site is currently developed with an existing business park accommodating primarily commercial and light industrial uses, including a beef jerky manufacturer, chorizo manufacturer, roofing material supplier, a car body shop repair facility, a pizza restaurant, Mexican food supply store, rent-a-car office, and pet food supply outlet, with a building area totaling 357,544 square feet. The existing uses on the project site would be demolished and project development would occur in one phase with an anticipated start date of January 2025. The City of Walnut's 2018 General Plan Update (GPU) designates the plan area as "Industrial," which permits light manufacturing, commercial storage, craftsman and artisan assembly and production, and limited vehicle service repair uses. Limited commercial retail and office uses are also permitted. The proposed project would not change the land use designation of the project site but would increase the building space on the site from the existing 357,544 square feet to 414,778 square feet. The City of Walnut is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project location is approximately less than a mile from State Route 60 (SR-60). According to the NOP, the Lead Agency determined that a SEIR will be prepared for the proposed project as it identified probable environmental effects of the project, including transportation. Caltrans looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming SEIR. The following information is included for your consideration.

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. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

<https://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/#guidelines-updates>

Caltrans encourages the Lead Agency to evaluate the potential of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications in order to better manage the transportation network, as well as transit service and bicycle or pedestrian connectivity improvements. For additional TDM options, please refer to the Federal Highway Administration's Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference (Chapter 8). This reference is available online at:

<http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/fhwahop12035.pdf>

Additionally, Caltrans encourages lead agencies to prepare traffic safety impact analysis for all developments in the CEQA review process so that, through partnerships and collaboration, California can reach zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Herrera, the project coordinator, at Karen.Herrera@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2017-04297.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse