DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7 100 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 100 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 PHONE (213) 897-0362 FAX (213) 897-0360 TTY 711 www.dot.ca.gov



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Sep 14 2020

September 14, 2020

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Ms. Luciralia Ibarra
Principal City Planner, Major Projects
Department of City Planning
City of Los Angeles
221 N Figueroa St. Suite 1350
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Ibarra:

Caltrans District 7 Division of Planning is in receipt of your letter dated July 29, 2020 following the meeting between Caltrans and the city of Los Angeles on July 1, 2020. We thank you for the opportunity to review the Hollywood Center Project and work together as part of the CEQA process. Caltrans is committed to working with the City to address any traffic safety issues on US-101.

Based on the LADOT Interim Guidance for Freeway Safety Analysis, the Hollywood Center Project was not considered to have a safety impact by the City. The Project's Draft EIR comment period closed on June 1, 2020. Caltrans' Interim Land Development and Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Safety Review Practitioners Guidance was released on July 1, 2020. The Interim Guidance does not have standardized performance metrics for freeways; those are expected in the Caltrans Final LD-IGR Guidance for Safety Analysis.

Please note, our quantitative and qualitative analysis indicates that some trip assignments are outside normal bounds, the traffic analysis has quality deficiencies and VMT reductions associated with transportation demand management measures may be smaller than indicated. Although the Project may result in unwanted outcomes related to safety, given the timing of the Hollywood Center Project Draft EIR in relation to Caltrans' Interim Guidance and the Project's location in a transit priority area, Caltrans will not pursue additional safety analysis or mitigation from the Hollywood Center Project.

Moving forward, Caltrans plans to have regularly scheduled meetings with the City and treat those as the appropriate venue to discuss land use projects' safety impact analysis and mitigation. Safety is Caltrans' top priority, and we expect all safety concerns to be properly addressed and mitigated through the California Environmental Quality Act.

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We look forward to future conversations to enhance safety for all users. Please feel free to contact Ms. Miya Edmonson at (213) 266-3571 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

PAUL ALBERT MARQUEZ

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Deputy District Director

Planning, Local Assistance and Goods Movement

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse