

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**DISTRICT 3**

703 B STREET
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901
PHONE (530) 634-7616
FAX (530) 741-4111
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov/dist3



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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 25 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

GTS# 03-SAC-2018-00411
SCH: 2018122034

April 25, 2019

Stephanie Coleman, Sr PM
Department of General Services
707 Third Street, 4th floor, MS509
West Sacramento, CA 95605

Richards Boulevard Office Complex Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Stephanie:

Thank you for including California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the application review for the project referenced above. Caltrans' new mission, vision, and goals signal a modernization of our approach to California's transportation system. We review this local development for impacts to the State Highway System (SHS) in keeping with our mission, vision and goals for sustainability/livability/economy, and safety/health. We provide these comments consistent with the state's mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and build communities.

The proposed project will include approximately 1.3 million gross square feet across three mid-rise office buildings and one high-rise (up to 29 stories) office building. Project amenities would include a cafeteria, auditorium, fitness center and childcare center. Site improvements may include a parking garage and surface parking spaces, open space and pedestrian walkways.

The project site is in the River District in the City of Sacramento located between the I-5/Richards Boulevard interchange and the State Route 160/Richards Boulevard intersection. The site is bounded by Richards Boulevard on the north, North 7th Street on the east, North B Street on the south, and is immediately east of the Coastline Equipment Crane Division Building and the Capital Investments & Loans Building. Based on the information provided, Caltrans provides the following comments:

Traffic Operations/Forecasting:

To mitigate Impacts 3.11-2 and 3.11-9 identified in the DEIR we request a fair-share contribution towards the I-5/Richards Boulevard interchange through the City of Sacramento Fee Program based on the proposed number of parking spaces and trips generated that will impact the I-5/Richards Boulevard Interchange. The fair-share contribution is an acceptable mitigation

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for Impacts 3.11-2 and 3.11-9 because reconstructing the interchange will address queuing concerns at the interchange ramps and the I-5 mainline.

In addition, we also recommend the implementation of complete street elements along Richards Boulevard to improve and encourage connectivity for all modes of transportation to reduce vehicle miles traveled. Some suggestions are to make the bike lane continuous on Richards Boulevard between North 3rd Street and Bercut Drive and between southbound (SB) I-5 offramp on Richards Boulevard and Jibboom Street. Continue the bike lane from Jibboom Street and Richards Boulevard onto the Jibboom Street Bridge and beyond to connect to the north of American River.

Queue Length – Intersection 1 at I-5 SB Ramps/Richards Boulevard

Please update the storage facility for the SB left turn and left/through in the Queue Length table in Appendix G in the DEIR on PDF page 85 titled Intersection 1 – I-5 SB Ramps/Richards Boulevard. These lane groups show a storage length of 7,125 feet which is incorrect. That storage length appears to account for the auxiliary lane between the Garden Highway and Richards Boulevard. The auxiliary lane should not be counted for storage because it is designed for merge and weaving operation on the mainline. A queuing on the auxiliary lane would block traffic from entering from the Garden Highway SB on-ramp. Please update the table with the correct storage capacity.

Please provide our office with copies of any further actions regarding this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on any changes related to this development.

If you have any questions regarding these comments or require additional information, please contact Uzma Rehman, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator for the City of Sacramento, by phone (530) 741-5173 or via email to uzma.rehman@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



ALEX FONG, Branch Chief
Office of Transportation Planning
Regional Planning Branch – South

cc: State Clearinghouse