

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 Planning
P.O. BOX 2048 | STOCKTON, CA 95201
(209) 948-7325 | FAX (209) 948-7164 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



October 30, 2023

Mr. Mark Campbell
Super Intendent
Calaveras Unified School District
304 Highway 12
San Andreas, CA 95249

CAL-26-PM 5.946
Subsequent Initial Study Jenny
Lind Elementary School
Wastewater Regionalization
Project SCH 2019029121

Mr. Campbell,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Subsequent Initial Study on the construction and operation of wastewater collection facilities that will allow the wastewater produced by the Jenny Lind Elementary School (JLES) to be treated by the regional wastewater treatment facility. Implementation of the project will regionalize the existing wastewater system at the JLES.

The project area extends from Tank A on Hart Vickson Lane heading south, turns south on Baldwin Street, heads southeast on Usher Drive, turns east up Wind River Drive, continues east on Wind River Drive, and ends at Tank B in the community of Valley Springs.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Caltrans suggests that the County of Calaveras continue to coordinate with Caltrans in identifying and addressing potential pedestrian safety and cumulative transportation impacts from this project and other developments near this location. This will assist Caltrans in ensuring that pedestrian, traffic safety, and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities in Calaveras County.

Environmental

If any construction related activities will encroach into Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application.

These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, historic properties, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW, at the project site(s). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within the technical documents for approval of encroachment in the Caltrans ROW. If there are impacts to protected water resources within Caltrans ROW, Caltrans will need to see the correspondence with the permitting authorities (California Department of Fish and Wildlife – CDFW, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board) and be provided copies of the required permits prior to the start of any construction in Caltrans ROW. Caltrans considers the nesting season to be between February 1 and September 30 of any year. Therefore, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the start of any construction related activities in Caltrans ROW. If an active nest is observed, a protective buffer must be established around the nest per CDFW guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office. Results of the pre-construction bird survey(s) must be provided to the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office prior to the start of construction. All activities proposed in the Mitigation Measure BIO-3 must comply with Caltrans nesting season standard of February 1 – September 30, if any of that work will be performed in Caltrans ROW. This is noted because the IS(MND) suggests the applicant considers the nesting season from February 15 - September 1, which is not consistent with Caltrans standards and policies.

Traffic Operations

1. The Temporary Lane Closures and staging will need to be reviewed by Caltrans Traffic Management prior to construction. Please provide this information.
2. Any work done within Caltrans ROW will have to be reviewed by Caltrans Encroachment permits.

Hydrology

There are Caltrans drainage systems located along state route (SR) 26 at the intersection of Driver Road (Post Mile 5.92) and another at the intersection of Vista del Lago Drive (Post Mile 8.44). The developer needs to ensure these drainage systems are not damaged during construction. Directly impacted facilities may need to be replaced. Reference photos of the drainage systems have been included below.

Encroachment Permits

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Mr. Mark Campbell
October 30, 2023
Page 3

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shiferaw Jemberie (209) 986-9635 (email: Shiferaw.jemberie@dot.ca.gov) or me at (209) 483-7234 (email: Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Gregoria Ponce'

Gregoria Ponce', Chief
Office of Rural Planning

cc: Gabriel Elliott, Director of Planning Department, Calaveras County



Intersection of SR 26 and Driver Rd.



Intersection of SR 26 and Vista del Lago Dr.