

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Sep 25 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

September 25, 2020

GTS# 03-BUT-2019-00161
SCH# 2019049168
03-BUT-32 PM 9.554

Ms. Jenna Wright
Senior Capital Planner/Financial Manager
California State University, Chico 400 West First Street
Chico, California 95926-0925

California State University, Chico Master Plan Update

Dear Jenna Wright:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the project referenced above. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. The Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program reviews land use projects and plans through the lenses of our mission and state planning priorities of infill, conservation, and travel-efficient development. To ensure a safe and efficient transportation system, we encourage early consultation and coordination with local jurisdictions and project proponents on all development projects that utilize the multimodal transportation network.

The California State University (CSU) Chico Master Plan Update (Project) addresses the physical growth of the campus over an approximately 20-year period. The Project includes approximately 1.6 million gross square feet (GSF) of net new building space for academic, student life and support, student housing, shared uses, administration, service centers, student recreation, athletics, and parking to support 18,600 full-time equivalent students. Over the course of the plan horizon, approximately 21 existing campus buildings would be renovated, and 18 new buildings constructed. Additionally, outdoor athletics and recreation space is planned. The Project applies to the main campus (400 West First Street, Chico) near SR State Route (SR) 32, the University Farm (located south of Chico at Hegan Lane and Nicholas C. Shouten Lane approximately five miles south of the main campus), and University Village (located at 1206 West Sacramento Avenue,

Ms. Jenna Wright, CSU Chico
September 25, 2020
Page 2

Chico approximately one and a half miles northwest of the main campus). These comments are based on the information received.

Traffic Operations

Caltrans recognizes the City of Chico's current unique transportation scenario. Caltrans also appreciated opportunity to discuss the Project with CSU Chico and City of Chico staff on September 17, 2020. Caltrans looks forward to continuing coordination with CSU Chico and City of Chico staff on all individual projects listed in the Master Plan, and on any new CSU Chico projects, to evaluate the projects and their potential impacts to the multimodal transportation system.

Traffic Forecasting and Modeling

Please provide the following:

1. Identify when VMT monitoring will begin.
2. Identify whether suggested mitigation measures will be implemented now or only after full build out.
3. Provide the results of the recurring two-year VMT monitoring that will be conducted when available.

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 question regarding these comments or require additional information, please contact Nima Kabirinassab, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator for Butte County, by phone (530) 741-5452 or via email at Nima.Kabirinassab@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

David James Smith

DAVID SMITH, Branch Chief
Transportation Planning—North

Ms. Jenna Wright, CSU Chico
September 25, 2020
Page 3

bcc: David Smith, D3 Planning
Bridgette Haddock, Traffic Operations
Sathish Prakash, Forecasting