

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

August 6, 2019

Ms. Lindsey Hashimoto
University of California Irvine
4199 Campus Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, CA 92697

File: IGR/CEQA
SCH#: 2019079032
12-ORA-2019-01167
SR 73 23.169

Dear Ms. Hashimoto,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the proposed Verano 8 Graduate Student Housing Amendment. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability.

The project proposes the construction of an additional 1,200 graduate student beds in the Verano Place Graduate Housing Complex and amend the University's Long Range Development Plan to increase the on-campus housing capacity to a total of 22,000 beds. The project is located on the cross-streets of Verano Road and Adobe Circle Street in the City of Irvine, north of State Route (SR) 73. Caltrans is a commenting agency and has the following comments:

Transportation Planning

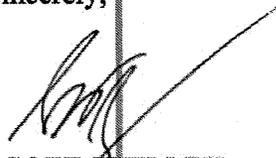
1. Ensure adequate bicycle support facilities are present in the project area. UCI and the City of Irvine have an extensive bicycle network and promoting active transportation would reduce congestion and improve air quality. Install sufficient bicycle storage facilities and appropriate active transportation safety features in the project area. This may include Complete Street facilities and improved connections to these facilities. Installing these facilities would be conducive to active transportation.
2. This construction would increase the number of on-campus students by 1,000 in the short term, while the amendment would increase the number of on-campus students by 4,000. In order to mitigate congestion near the general vicinity of the campus, increase Anteater Express service and coordinate with OCTA to provide adequate transit to the area.

Permits:

3. Any project work proposed in the vicinity of the State Right-of-Way (ROW) would require an encroachment permit and all environmental concerns must be adequately addressed. If the environmental documentation for the project does not meet Caltrans's requirements for work done within State ROW, additional documentation would be required before approval of the encroachment permit. Please coordinate with Caltrans to meet requirements for any work within or near State ROW. For specific details for Encroachment Permits procedure, please refer to the Caltrans's Encroachment Permits Manual at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>

Please continue to keep us informed of this project and any future developments that could potentially impact State transportation facilities. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do not hesitate to contact Jude Miranda at (657) 328-6229 or Jude.Miranda@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



SCOTT SHELLEY
Branch Chief, Regional-IGR-Transit Planning
District 12