



Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D.
Acting Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

December 12, 2019

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

DEC 13 2019

Mr. Han Ngo, P.E.
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street, Room 4016
Fresno, California 93721

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PEACH AVENUE WIDENING
BETWEEN JENSEN AND BUTLER AVENUES PROJECT – DATED
OCTOBER 28, 2019 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: UNKNOWN)

Dear Mr. Ngo:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Peach Avenue Widening Between Jensen and Butler Avenues Project.

The proposed project includes an approximately 1.57-mile segment of Peach Avenue in southeast Fresno. The segment extends from Butler Avenue on the north to a point approximately 730 feet south of Jensen Avenue on the south. The City of Fresno proposes to construct improvements in the area to allow a safe transition of Peach Avenue from a four-lane arterial street north of Jensen Avenue to a two-lane street south of Jensen Avenue.

DTSC recommends that the following issues be evaluated in the MND, Hazards and Hazardous Materials section:

1. The MND should acknowledge the potential for project site activities to have resulted in the release of hazardous wastes/substances. In instances in which releases have occurred, further studies should be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination, and the potential threat to public health and/or the environment should be evaluated. The MND should also identify the mechanism(s) to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation and the government agency who will be responsible for providing appropriate regulatory oversight.

2. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006 *Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers* (https://dtsc.ca.gov/wpcontent/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance_Lead Contamination_050118.pdf).
3. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to DTSC's 2001 *Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material* (https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf).
4. If any sites included as part of the proposed project have been used for agricultural, weed abatement or related activities, proper investigation for organochlorinated pesticides should be discussed in the MND. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 *Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties (Third Revision)* (<https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Ag-Guidance-Rev-3-August-7-2008-2.pdf>).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to review the MND. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please submit a request for Lead Agency Oversight Application, which can be found at: https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/VCP_App-1460.doc. Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/brownfields/>.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3710 or via email at Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gavin McCreary", with a stylized, cursive script.

Gavin McCreary
Project Manager
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Ms. Lora Jameson, Chief
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Lora.Jameson@dtsc.ca.gov

Mr. Dave Kereazis
Office of Planning & Environmental Analysis
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Dave.Kereasis@dtsc.ca.gov