

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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Bill Gross, Senior Planner
City of South San Francisco
315 Maple Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94083

Project: 345 Shaw Road Billboard and Additional Digital Billboards Project – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Bill Gross:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for this project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the November 2019 MND.

Project Understanding

The project involves the construction and operation of one new double-sided outdoor advertising digital billboard and a Zoning Code amendment that would allow the approval of the proposed billboard and potentially other future digital billboards on parcels adjacent to the US-101 corridor, subject to applicable location and spacing regulations. The initial proposed billboard site is located within the paved parking area operated by Allstore Self Storage at 345 Shaw Road. This billboard would be oriented to face vehicles on US-101 and the billboard structure is proposed to reach a maximum height of approximately 80 feet.

Outdoor Advertising

Please note that any advertising structure visible from the National Highway System (NHS), including US-101, is subject to the provisions of the California Outdoor Advertising Act outlined in California Business and Professions Code (BPC) 5200 et seq., and that Caltrans is required by law to enforce the Outdoor

Advertising Act and Regulations regarding the placement of advertising along the highways. The Outdoor Advertising Regulations are available on the internet at:

[https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I34CCD2F0D45911DEA95CA4428EC25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I34CCD2F0D45911DEA95CA4428EC25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default))

Due to the location of the proposed billboards that are designated along a Classified Landscaped Freeway, note that these signs are subject to the following BPC:

5440. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this article, no advertising display may be placed or maintained on property adjacent to a 1,000-foot or greater section of a freeway that has been landscaped with at least an average width of 20 feet of landscaping or that includes trees, on department-owned property at the same or elevated grade of the main-traveled way if the advertising display is designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the landscaped freeway.

Additionally, Caltrans expresses concerns regarding glare and lighting impacts on adjacent residential properties during the hours of darkness.

Any advertising structure that displays off-premise commercial copy visible from the NHS will require a permit from the Office of Outdoor Advertising (ODA). Additionally, any advertising structure that only advertises goods and services available on-premise will not require a permit from ODA, provided it adheres to the provisions of Business and Professions Code Section 5272 and 5274 and California Code of Regulations 2243 and 2246.

For further information, and to obtain a license, please contact Kenneth Parmelee at (916) 651-9327 or visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/oda>.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the City of South San Francisco is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to US-101. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto US 101 requires an encroachment permit that is issued by Caltrans. To obtain an encroachment permit, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and six (6) sets of plans clearly indicating the State ROW, and six (6) copies of signed and stamped traffic control plans must be submitted to: Office of Encroachment Permits, California DOT, District 4, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660. To download the permit application and obtain more information, visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications/>

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mark Leong at 510-286-5528 or mark.leong@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c. State Clearinghouse