

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 4

OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

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Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

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March 5, 2020

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

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Ken Tam, Planner

Sonoma County Regional Parks Department

2300 County Center Drive #120A

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**Bodega Bay Trail Project – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)**

Dear Ken Tam:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Bodega Bay Trail 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 February 2020 MND.

***Project Understanding***

The focus of this MND is the Bodega Bay Trail – Coastal North Harbor segment (trail). The scope of the project is to convert the existing trail to a Class 1 trail and to complete the segment of the California Coastal Trail that connects the Salmon Creek beach area with the Bodega Bay shoreline at Porto Bodega Harbor. The project also includes hazardous tree removal and invasive species management, habitat enhancement, protection for wetlands, and pedestrian/bicycle intersection improvements at the Bay Flat and Eastshore Road intersection. The trail will be served by existing parking at the Bodega Bay Community Center where there are 2 ADA parking stalls, 11 unstriped parking stalls, and overflow parking. No additional parking is proposed. The project runs parallel to State Route (SR)-1.

***Bicycle Considerations***

The Caltrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Branch commends the Sonoma County Regional Parks Department (Lead Agency) regarding the recommendations for the Harbor Coastal Trail alignment. Please note that, where feasible, a 10-12-foot

trail width is recommended over the 8-foot requirement. Striping of the trail is at the discretion of the Lead Agency. Additionally, the 42" height requirement for barriers should be maintained. The following addresses sections where the recommended alignment is along SR-1:

- Due to potential confusion among cyclists, consider replacing all proposed D11-1 and M7-1 signs (bicycle route with directional arrows) along SR-1 that indicate access to the Harbor Coastal Trail with the D1 Guide Sign Series (arrow with Coastal Trail). Some cyclists traveling through Bodega Bay will not crossover to the Harbor Coastal Trail and continue along SR-1.
- Consider replacing the W-11-2 existing signs with W11-15 signs on the northbound side of the of SR-1 and the Birdwalk Coastal Access Trail intersection. Cyclists may wish to use the crossing for access to the Birdwalk Coastal Access Trail.

### ***Lead Agency***

As the Lead Agency, the Sonoma County Regional Parks Department is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the State Transportation Network (STN). The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

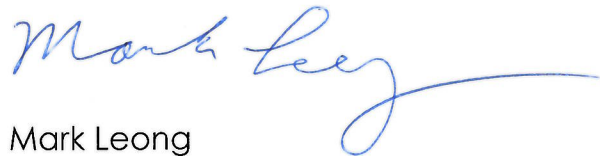
### ***Encroachment Permit***

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto the State right-of-way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. To obtain an encroachment permit, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, six (6) sets of plans clearly indicating the State ROW, and six (6) copies of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans must be submitted to: Office of Encroachment Permits, Caltrans 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>.

Ken Tam, Planner  
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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Andrew Chan at 510-622-5433 or [andrew.chan@dot.ca.gov](mailto:andrew.chan@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Mark Leong  
District Branch Chief  
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse