

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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5/15/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

May 8, 2020

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Jocelyn Swain
City of Lancaster
Development Services Department
44933 Fern Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93534

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: Conditional Use Permit No. 18-17 –
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
SCH # 2020049041
GTS # 07-LA-2020-03238
Vic. LA-14/PM: R67.101

Dear Jocelyn Swain:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced MND. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of a 5,187 square foot (sf) mini-mart, 6,395 sf fueling canopy with 10 fueling stations, and a car-wash. The City of Lancaster is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is located approximately 1,600 feet away from the State Route 14 (SR-14) & W Avenue K interchange in Lancaster. From reviewing the MND, Caltrans does not expect project approval to result in a direct adverse impact to existing State transportation facilities.

The following information is included for your consideration.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. Thus, Caltrans encourages Lead Agencies to implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies that reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. Examples of TDM strategies that could be incorporated into this project include:

- Accounting for the existing Class II bicycle lanes along 20th Street West when planning driveways, striping, and sight distances for the project. These bicycle lanes do not appear to be on the project's site plan.
- Improve pedestrian conditions at the intersection of 20th Street West and West Avenue K through adding high-visibility crosswalks, pedestrian countdown signals, accessible pedestrian push buttons, and pedestrian refuge islands.
- Provide additional shade trees and drought-tolerant landscaping throughout the project site and around its perimeter.
- Create additional convenient and safe on-site bicycle parking for employees and visitors.
- Implement convenient and ADA accessible bus stop infrastructure at the intersection of 20th Street West and West Avenue K, such as a transit shelter, bench, and lighting.

For additional TDM options, please refer to:

- The 2010 *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* report by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), available at <http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>, or
- *Integrating Demand Management into the Transportation Planning Process: A Desk Reference* (Chapter 8) by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), available at <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop12035/index.htm>.

As a reminder, Senate Bill 743 (2013) mandates that VMT be used as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts of all future development projects under CEQA, starting July 1, 2020. For information on determining transportation impacts in terms of VMT on the State Highway System, see the Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA by the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, dated December 2018: [http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190122-743 Technical Advisory.pdf](http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190122-743_Technical_Advisory.pdf).

Also, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends that the project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause delays on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these delays for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Emily Gibson, the project coordinator, at Emily.Gibson@dot.ca.gov, and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2020-03238.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief
cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse