## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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May 23, 2023

Cherry Villanueva, Environmental Specialist II City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering 1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90015

> RE: Alameda Street Widening – Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) SCH# 2023040327 GTS# 07-LA-2023-04208 Vic. LA SR 1, SR 103, I-710, & I-110

Dear Cherry Villanueva,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The Bureau of Engineering (BOE) proposes to widen Alameda Street from two to three lanes in each direction from Anaheim Street to Harry Bridges Boulevard in the community of Wilmington within the City of Los Angeles. The total length of the Project is approximately 1.02 miles and includes a center turn lane, painted median, shared bike/pedestrian path along the eastern side of the street, traffic signal installations and modifications, upgrades to railroad crossings, drainage improvements, and would upgrade Alameda Street to a Modified Major Highway Class II Street. Project objectives include, providing congestion relief, improving goods movement and mobility by train and truck, minimizing roadway flooding, and enhancing mobility for pedestrians and cyclists. The Port of Los Angeles (POLA) has delegated the design and construction of the Alameda Street widening improvements to BOE, which is identified as mitigation for the POLA Berth 200 Rail Yard expansion project. The proposed improvements would aid in the movement of goods both via trains and trucks to and from the POLA and Port of Long Beach. Although separate from the POLA Berth 200 Rail Yard expansion project, the proposed Project would fulfill a required component and mitigation for the POLA project by improving traffic congestion, goods movement by train and truck, localized flooding, and public safety. Construction for the proposed Project is preliminary scheduled to begin December 30, 2023 and last for approximately 2.5 to 3 years.

After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

Because this project will be under construction for an extended period of time, and the project area is understood to be an important existing link for goods movement, it is essential to evaluate the planned detour routes and any measures that might be warranted to address the truck traffic utilizing them. Caltrans requests a copy of the first draft of the detailed detour route(s) for this project be provided when available, as the project's proximity to the State Highway System and major regional freight infrastructure will require careful review and consideration.

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Caltrans recommends that detour(s) during construction meet or exceed standards required in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). This should include bicycle and pedestrian detours, as maintaining viable barriers against motorized traffic is critical to the safety and comfort of pedestrians and bicyclists.

Additionally, it is noted that the construction timeline for the City's Alameda Street project may overlap with the construction timeline for Caltrans' Vincent Thomas Bridge Deck Replacement project. Caltrans would like to coordinate with the Los Angeles Department of Public Works Alameda Street project team to ensure detour planning fully accounts for both projects.

Finally, 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. We recommend large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2023-04208.

Sincerely,

MIYA EDMONSON LDR Branch Chief

cc: State Clearinghouse

Miya Edmonson