

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CALTRANS DISTRICT 5
50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
PHONE (805) 549-3101
FAX (805) 549-3329
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

January 10, 2023

Shannon Sweeney
City of Guadalupe
918 Obispo Street
Guadalupe, CA 93434

COMMENTS ON MAIN STREET/STATE ROUTE 166 INTERSECTION STOP CONTROL PROPOSALS

Dear Ms. Sweeney:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) wishes to formally comment on agenda item number 16 "[Main Street/Obispo Intersection Traffic Issues](#)" originally scheduled for the October 25, 2022 Guadalupe City Council Meeting, continued to November 8th, and subsequently moved to a future date. The staff report for this item discusses stop control proposals on Main Street/State Route (SR) 166 at Obispo Street and Flower Avenue as interim traffic control measures until the Pasadera Development can fund signalization of these intersections.

As reflected in the staff report, Caltrans cannot support or issue an encroachment permit for stop control at Obispo Street. It is not warranted based on the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices or Caltrans Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) policy. These policies take into account highway operations and safety considerations going into any intersection control change. Additionally, stop control would generate operational challenges with the nearby railroad crossing as reflected in the staff report from the 2019 Rick Engineering analysis. To determine if stop control at Flower Avenue is a viable alternative, an Intersection Control Evaluation would be required but it is unlikely that this would be permitted.

Additionally, operations of the SR 166 and Obispo Street, Flower Avenue and SR 1 intersection are closely interconnected, so a comprehensive corridor improvement is recommended rather than an isolated project any one of these three intersections. Therefore, we would like to recommend that City efforts be focused on coordination with Caltrans and SBCAG to expedite design and funding of a comprehensive solution for this corridor.

We appreciate the excellent collaboration with City and SBCAG leadership this past year. As a result, Caltrans produced a revised traffic analysis based on current development growth forecasts and held two meetings with City and SBCAG staff (May 10, 2022 and August 4, 2022) to discuss solutions moving forward. At the request of the

Ms. Sweeney
January 10, 2023
Page 2

City, Caltrans is currently developing a cost estimate for a multi-modal signalized solution for this corridor. We expect this to be finalized by mid to late February 2023 and will be scheduling a meeting with the City and SBCAG soon after to discuss next steps, cost sharing opportunities consistent with local development conditions of approval, and other transportation projects within the vicinity.

We look forward to meeting soon to continue the discussion on this specific corridor and welcome Mayor Julian's attendance at these focused meetings as well as for all future local public outreach efforts for upcoming projects. There are several important projects in varying stages of development as illustrated in the following fact sheet: [Guadalupe Area Projects](#).

We value our partnership with City of Guadalupe and SBCAG to develop transportation solutions that support community connectivity and livability and will work effectively for years to come. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (805) 458-2717 or melissa.streder@dot.ca.gov or our District 5 Traffic Division Chief Peter Hendrix at (805) 748-1309 or peter.hendrix@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Melissa Streder
Regional Planning Branch Chief - South

cc:

Steve Lavagnino, Fifth District Supervisor, County of Santa Barbara

Ariston Julian, Mayor, City of Guadalupe

Todd Bodem, City Administrator, City of Guadalupe

Amelia Villegas, City Clerk, City of Guadalupe

Marjie Kim, Executive Director, SBCAG

Fred Luna, Director of Project Delivery & Construction, SBCAG