

November 28th, 2022



Protecting Marin Since 1934

Christopher Caputo
SR 37 Planning and Environmental Linkages District Lead
Division of Environmental Planning and Engineering
California Department of Transportation, District 4
111 Grand Avenue
Oakland, CA 94612

Via Email: christopher.caputo@dot.ca.gov

Subject: Support for State Route 37 PEL Study Recommendations

Dear Mr. Caputo,

We had the pleasure of participating in the SR 37 PEL study process as community members affiliated with a local environmental organization. The process was very informative, collaborative and refreshingly inclusive. We felt concerns were heard and incorporated in the analysis, and ultimately in the recommendation.

We support the recommendation of the PEL process as it reflects strong multistakeholder participation and support, and will provide the best long-term environmental outcomes as well as a needed increase in roadway capacity to accommodate safe multimodal transportation.

- The PEL Study identified deficiencies of the current SR 37 corridor and developed a set of criteria that allowed for a reasonable range of potential solutions to be proposed and evaluated.
- Alternative 5 is recommended as the Preferred Alternative for further evaluation in subsequent environmental processes because it best achieves the PEL Purpose and Need, minimizes impacts to sensitive resources, and provides opportunities for further stakeholder collaboration within the SR 37 corridor.

We anticipate following the environmental review process, now in the hands of Caltrans, from the Notice of Preparation on throughout the process. We hope that Caltrans will accelerate environmental review, planning and design for the Preferred Alternative to enable timely flood management and wetland restoration along the corridor; and that any interim projects be low-cost, low-impact fixes or serve as logical substantial steps toward the Preferred Alternative as recommended by the PEL process. Please keep the community informed.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Stompe".

Susan Stompe

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Powers".

Kate Powers

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Marin Conservation League was founded in 1934 to preserve, protect and enhance the natural assets of Marin County.