January 30, 2024

Transportation Engineering and Planning Consultant Firms,

Subject: LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines Clarification

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) releases this clarification to the Transportation Assessment Guidelines (TAG), August 2022. The purpose of this clarification is to aid in the development and consistent review of transportation assessments specific to Threshold T-1.

Threshold T-1 assesses a potential conflict with an adopted program, policy, plan, or ordinance that is adopted to protect the environment. In general, adopted initiatives intended to protect the environment would support multi modal transportation options and a reduction in VMT, pursuant to Senate Bill 743 and California’s CEQA Guidelines. Conversely, a project would not be shown to result in an environmental impact merely based on whether a project would not implement a particular program, plan, policy, or ordinance. Land use plans adopted prior to the City’s update to the CEQA Guidelines in July 2019 may reference outdated level of service thresholds or policy goals. In future updates to land use plans, that language is expected to be modified to ensure General Plan consistency. When assessing a project against Threshold T-1, plans which would not be found to advance goals related to the protection of the environment should not be considered a conflicting policy.

If you have any questions that are specific to a study that you are currently processing, please contact the appropriate LADOT staff assigned to that study per this reference map. All other inquiries can be directed to ladot.vmt@lacity.org or me at rubina.ghazarian@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

Rubina Ghazarian

Rubina Ghazarian
Acting Bureau Head

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