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March 20, 2018

Mindy Wilcox, AICP
Planning Manager
City of Inglewood, CA
Economic and Community Development Department
Planning Division
One West Manchester Boulevard
4th Floor
Inglewood, CA 90301

RE: Comment Letter – Inglewood Basketball and Entertainment Center– Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting.

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting for the Inglewood Basketball and Entertainment Center located in the City of Inglewood. This letter conveys recommendations from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) concerning issues that are germane to our agency's statutory responsibility in relation to our facilities and services that may be affected by the proposed project.

Metro is committed to working with stakeholders across the County to support the development of transit oriented communities (TOCs). TOCs are built by considering transit within a broader community and creating vibrant, compact, walkable, and bikeable places centered around transit stations and hubs with the goal of encouraging the use of transit and other alternatives to driving. Metro looks forward to collaborating with local municipalities, developers, and other stakeholders in their land use planning and development efforts, and to find partnerships that support TOCs across Los Angeles County.

Project Description

The Inglewood Basketball and Entertainment Center is proposed by Murphy's Bowl LLC, a private applicant, and would consist of an arena designed to host the LA Clippers basketball team with up to 18,000 fixed seats for National Basketball Association (NBA) games. The arena could also be configured with up to 500 additional temporary seats for events such as family shows, concerts, conventions and corporate events, and non-LA Clippers sporting events. In addition, the Proposed Project would include an approximately 85,000-square foot team practice and athletic training facility; approximately 55,000 square feet of LA Clippers team office space; an approximately 25,000-square foot sports medicine clinic for team and potential general public use; approximately 40,000 square feet of retail and other ancillary uses that would include community and youth-oriented space; an outdoor plaza with an approximate site area of 260,000 square feet including landscaped areas, outdoor

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basketball courts, and outdoor community gathering space; and parking facilities sufficient to meet the needs of the proposed uses.

Metro Comments

Transit Coordination to Project Site

In 2016, a Task Force was established to examine various recommendations to facilitate better transit options to Inglewood's future entertainment/stadium district. The Task Force looked at various improvements including first/last mile connections, improved bus service from nearby rail stations at Downtown Inglewood (CLAX Line) and Hawthorne/ Lenox Station (Green Line), targeted transit marketing during games and special events. In addition, Metro prepared a Focused Analysis of transit connection to Inglewood's future entertainment/stadium district, in the role of a Consultant to the City of Inglewood. The Study explored how to connect Inglewood's future entertainment/stadium district to Metro's rail system via a high-capacity transit connection.

The City of Inglewood is currently exploring additional studies that will build upon the Focused Analysis and will select one or more potential independent transit options to clear the Project option(s) through the appropriate CEQA process.

Bus Operations

Metro bus lines 117, 211/215, and 212/312 operate on West Century Boulevard and South Prairie Avenue, adjacent to the proposed Project. One Metro bus stop on West Century Boulevard and one bus stop on South Prairie Avenue are directly adjacent to the proposed Project. The following comments relate to bus operations and the adjacent bus stops:

1. The Project sponsor should be aware of the bus facilities and services that are present and that transit services are likely to be expanded in the future to provide connections to the existing Green Line and Crenshaw/LAX Line. With an anticipated increase in traffic during and after construction, Metro encourages any impact analysis to include potential impacts on the Metro Bus lines and the need to provide transit and first/last mile connections to nearby rail stations. Potential impacts could include construction traffic as well as operation of and shipment/deliveries to the completed Project.
2. The existing Metro bus stops must be maintained as part of the final Project. Given the high visibility of the Project, the City should require the installation of new bus stops along West Century Boulevard and South Prairie Avenue. During construction, the stops must be maintained or relocated consistent with the needs of Metro Bus operations. Please contact Metro Bus Operations Control Special Events Coordinator at 213-922-4632 and Metro's Stops and Zones Department at 213-922-5190 with any questions and at least 30 days in advance of initiating construction activities. Other municipal buses may also be impacted and should be included in construction outreach efforts.
3. Metro strongly encourages the installation of ADA-compliant curbs and ramps, enhanced crosswalks, wayfinding signage, pedestrian scaled lighting, as well as a continuous canopy of shade trees, and other amenities along all public street frontages of the development site to improve pedestrian safety and comfort in accessing the nearby bus stops. The City should consider requiring the installation of such amenities as part of the conditions of approval for the Project.

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4. Any planned wayfinding signage that also includes Metro content/information, or features the Metro brand and/or associated graphics (such as bus or rail pictograms), must conform to Metro Signage Standards, and requires review and approval by Metro Art & Design. Metro reserves the right to review and approve any use of its information on such signage. Please contact Lance Glover, Senior Manager with Metro Signage & Environmental Graphic Design at GloverL@metro.net or 213.922.2360, with any questions or for the latest version of the Metro Signage Standards.
5. Driveways accessing parking and loading at the Project site should be located away from transit stops, and be designed and configured to avoid potential conflicts with on-street transit services and pedestrian traffic to the greatest degree possible. Vehicular driveways should not be located in or directly adjacent to areas that are likely to be used as waiting areas for transit.
6. Final design of the bus stop and surrounding sidewalk area must be ADA-compliant and allow passengers with disabilities a clear path of travel to the bus stop from the proposed development.

Transit Orientation

Considering the proximity to the Metro bus service and nearby rail lines- Hawthorne/ Lenox Station and Downtown Inglewood Station- Metro would like to identify the potential synergies associated with transit-oriented development:

1. Metro supports development of commercial and residential properties near transit hubs and understands that increasing development near these areas represents a mutually beneficial opportunity to increase ridership and enhance transportation options for the users of the developments. Metro encourages the City and Project sponsor to be mindful of the Project's proximity to transit. Metro strongly encourages that at least one building entrance for the Project is oriented to West Century Boulevard and South Prairie Avenue.
2. Metro would like to inform the Project sponsor of Metro's employer transit pass programs including the Annual Transit Access Pass (A-TAP) and Business Transit Access Pass (B-TAP) programs which offer efficiencies and group rates that businesses can offer employees as an incentive to utilize public transit. For more information on these programs, contact Devon Deming at 213-922-7957 or DemingD@metro.net.
3. Metro strongly encourages the incorporation of transit-oriented, pedestrian-oriented parking provision strategies such as the reduction or removal of minimum parking requirements for specific areas and the exploration of shared parking opportunities or parking benefit districts, as well as shuttle services between the proposed Project and nearby rail lines. These strategies should be pursued to encourage more transit-oriented development and reduce automobile-orientation in design and travel demand. Further, there may be more parking than necessary at the Project site given its transit-rich location.
4. Metro would like to inform the Project sponsor to take into consideration the Metro's Inglewood First/Last Mile Planning Project that will be submitted to the City by end of 2018. Metro encourages the City and Project sponsor to be mindful of the potential first/last mile recommendations derived from the project.

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Active Transportation

Metro encourages the City to work with the Project sponsor to promote bicycle use through adequate short-term bicycle parking, such as ground level bicycle racks, as well as secure and enclosed long-term bicycle parking for guests and employees. Bicycle parking facilities should be highly visible, easy to locate, and sited so they can be safely and conveniently accessed. Additionally, the Project sponsor should help facilitate safe and convenient connections for pedestrians, people riding bicycles, and transit users to/from the Project site and nearby destinations such as the Downtown Inglewood and Hawthorne/ Lenox stations. The Project design should support these connections with wayfinding signage inclusive of all modes of transportation.

Congestion Management Program

Beyond impacts to Metro facilities and operations, Metro must also notify the Project sponsor of state requirements. A Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA), with roadway and transit components, is required under the State of California Congestion Management Program (CMP) statute. The CMP TIA Guidelines are published in the "2010 Congestion Management Program for Los Angeles County," Appendix D (attached). The geographic area examined in the TIA must include the following, at a minimum:

1. All CMP arterial monitoring intersections, including monitored freeway on/off-ramp intersections, where the proposed Project will add 50 or more trips during either the a.m. or p.m. weekday peak hour (of adjacent street traffic).
2. If CMP arterial segments are being analyzed rather than intersections, the study area must include all segments where the proposed Project will add 50 or more peak hour trips (total of both directions). Within the study area, the TIA must analyze at least one segment between monitored CMP intersections.
3. Mainline freeway-monitoring locations where the Project will add 150 or more trips, in either direction, during either the a.m. or p.m. weekday peak hour.
4. Caltrans must also be consulted through the NOP process to identify other specific locations to be analyzed on the state highway system.

The CMP TIA requirement also contains two separate impact studies covering roadways and transit, as outlined in Sections D.8.1 – D.9.4. If the TIA identifies no facilities for study based on the criteria above, no further traffic analysis is required. However, projects must still consider transit impacts. For all CMP TIA requirements please see the attached guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Derek Hull at 213-922-3051 or by email at DevReview@metro.net. If you would like to mail correspondences regarding the comment letter, please send to the address listed below.

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Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting

Metro Development Review
One Gateway Plaza MS 99-18-63
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek R. Hull". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

Derek Hull
Manager, Transportation Planning

Attachments: CMP Appendix D: Guidelines for CMP Transportation Impact Analysis

GUIDELINES FOR CMP TRANSPORTATION IMPACT ANALYSIS

Important Notice to User: This section provides detailed travel statistics for the Los Angeles area which will be updated on an ongoing basis. Updates will be distributed to all local jurisdictions when available. In order to ensure that impact analyses reflect the best available information, lead agencies may also contact MTA at the time of study initiation. Please contact MTA staff to request the most recent release of "Baseline Travel Data for CMP TIAs."

D.1 OBJECTIVE OF GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are intended to assist local agencies in evaluating impacts of land use decisions on the Congestion Management Program (CMP) system, through preparation of a regional transportation impact analysis (TIA). The following are the basic objectives of these guidelines:

- ☐ Promote consistency in the studies conducted by different jurisdictions, while maintaining flexibility for the variety of project types which could be affected by these guidelines.
- ☐ Establish procedures which can be implemented within existing project review processes and without ongoing review by MTA.
- ☐ Provide guidelines which can be implemented immediately, with the full intention of subsequent review and possible revision.

These guidelines are based on specific requirements of the Congestion Management Program, and travel data sources available specifically for Los Angeles County. References are listed in Section D.10 which provide additional information on possible methodologies and available resources for conducting TIAs.

D.2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Exhibit D-7 provides the model resolution that local jurisdictions adopted containing CMP TIA procedures in 1993. TIA requirements should be fulfilled within the existing environmental review process, extending local traffic impact studies to include impacts to the regional system. In order to monitor activities affected by these requirements, Notices of Preparation (NOPs) must be submitted to MTA as a responsible agency. Formal MTA approval of individual TIAs is not required.

The following sections describe CMP TIA requirements in detail. In general, the competing objectives of consistency & flexibility have been addressed by specifying standard, or minimum, requirements and requiring documentation when a TIA varies from these standards.

D.3 PROJECTS SUBJECT TO ANALYSIS

In general a CMP TIA is required for all projects required to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) based on local determination. A TIA is not required if the lead agency for the EIR finds that traffic is not a significant issue, and does not require local or regional traffic impact analysis in the EIR. Please refer to Chapter 5 for more detailed information.

CMP TIA guidelines, particularly intersection analyses, are largely geared toward analysis of projects where land use types and design details are known. Where likely land uses are not defined (such as where project descriptions are limited to zoning designation and parcel size with no information on access location), the level of detail in the TIA may be adjusted accordingly. This may apply, for example, to some redevelopment areas and citywide general plans, or community level specific plans. In such cases, where project definition is insufficient for meaningful intersection level of service analysis, CMP arterial segment analysis may substitute for intersection analysis.

D.4 STUDY AREA

The geographic area examined in the TIA must include the following, at a minimum:

- ☐ All CMP arterial monitoring intersections, including monitored freeway on- or off-ramp intersections, where the proposed project will add 50 or more trips during either the AM or PM weekday peak hours (of adjacent street traffic).
- ☐ If CMP arterial segments are being analyzed rather than intersections (see Section D.3), the study area must include all segments where the proposed project will add 50 or more peak hour trips (total of both directions). Within the study area, the TIA must analyze at least one segment between monitored CMP intersections.
- ☐ Mainline freeway monitoring locations where the project will add 150 or more trips, in either direction, during either the AM or PM weekday peak hours.
- ☐ Caltrans must also be consulted through the Notice of Preparation (NOP) process to identify other specific locations to be analyzed on the state highway system.

If the TIA identifies no facilities for study based on these criteria, no further traffic analysis is required. However, projects must still consider transit impacts (Section D.8.4).

D.5 BACKGROUND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS

The following sections describe the procedures for documenting and estimating background, or non-project related traffic conditions. Note that for the purpose of a TIA, these background estimates must include traffic from all sources without regard to the exemptions specified in CMP statute (e.g., traffic generated by the provision of low and very low income housing, or trips originating outside Los Angeles County. Refer to Chapter 5, Section 5.2.3 for a complete list of exempted projects).

D.5.1 Existing Traffic Conditions. Existing traffic volumes and levels of service (LOS) on the CMP highway system within the study area must be documented. Traffic counts must

be less than one year old at the time the study is initiated, and collected in accordance with CMP highway monitoring requirements (see Appendix A). Section D.8.1 describes TIA LOS calculation requirements in greater detail. Freeway traffic volume and LOS data provided by Caltrans is also provided in Appendix A.

D.5.2 Selection of Horizon Year and Background Traffic Growth. Horizon year(s) selection is left to the lead agency, based on individual characteristics of the project being analyzed. In general, the horizon year should reflect a realistic estimate of the project completion date. For large developments phased over several years, review of intermediate milestones prior to buildout should also be considered.

At a minimum, horizon year background traffic growth estimates must use the generalized growth factors shown in Exhibit D-1. These growth factors are based on regional modeling efforts, and estimate the general effect of cumulative development and other socioeconomic changes on traffic throughout the region. Beyond this minimum, selection among the various methodologies available to estimate horizon year background traffic in greater detail is left to the lead agency. Suggested approaches include consultation with the jurisdiction in which the intersection under study is located, in order to obtain more detailed traffic estimates based on ongoing development in the vicinity.

D.6 PROPOSED PROJECT TRAFFIC GENERATION

Traffic generation estimates must conform to the procedures of the current edition of Trip Generation, by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). If an alternative methodology is used, the basis for this methodology must be fully documented.

Increases in site traffic generation may be reduced for existing land uses to be removed, if the existing use was operating during the year the traffic counts were collected. Current traffic generation should be substantiated by actual driveway counts; however, if infeasible, traffic may be estimated based on a methodology consistent with that used for the proposed use.

Regional transportation impact analysis also requires consideration of trip lengths. Total site traffic generation must therefore be divided into work and non-work-related trip purposes in order to reflect observed trip length differences. Exhibit D-2 provides factors which indicate trip purpose breakdowns for various land use types.

For lead agencies who also participate in CMP highway monitoring, it is recommended that any traffic counts on CMP facilities needed to prepare the TIA should be done in the manner outlined in Chapter 2 and Appendix A. If the TIA traffic counts are taken within one year of the deadline for submittal of CMP highway monitoring data, the local jurisdiction would save the cost of having to conduct the traffic counts twice.

D.7 TRIP DISTRIBUTION

For trip distribution by direct/manual assignment, generalized trip distribution factors are provided in Exhibit D-3, based on regional modeling efforts. These factors indicate Regional Statistical Area (RSA)-level tripmaking for work and non-work trip purposes.

(These RSAs are illustrated in Exhibit D-4.) For locations where it is difficult to determine the project site RSA, census tract/RSA correspondence tables are available from MTA.

Exhibit D-5 describes a general approach to applying the preceding factors. Project trip distribution must be consistent with these trip distribution and purpose factors; the basis for variation must be documented.

Local agency travel demand models disaggregated from the SCAG regional model are presumed to conform to this requirement, as long as the trip distribution functions are consistent with the regional distribution patterns. For retail commercial developments, alternative trip distribution factors may be appropriate based on the market area for the specific planned use. Such market area analysis must clearly identify the basis for the trip distribution pattern expected.

D.8 IMPACT ANALYSIS

CMP Transportation Impact Analyses contain two separate impact studies covering roadways and transit. Section Nos. D.8.1-D.8.3 cover required roadway analysis while Section No. D.8.4 covers the required transit impact analysis. Section Nos. D.9.1-D.9.4 define the requirement for discussion and evaluation of alternative mitigation measures.

D.8.1 Intersection Level of Service Analysis. The LA County CMP recognizes that individual jurisdictions have wide ranging experience with LOS analysis, reflecting the variety of community characteristics, traffic controls and street standards throughout the county. As a result, the CMP acknowledges the possibility that no single set of assumptions should be mandated for all TIAs within the county.

However, in order to promote consistency in the TIAs prepared by different jurisdictions, CMP TIAs must conduct intersection LOS calculations using either of the following methods:

- ☐ The Intersection Capacity Utilization (ICU) method as specified for CMP highway monitoring (see Appendix A); or
- ☐ The Critical Movement Analysis (CMA) / Circular 212 method.

Variation from the standard assumptions under either of these methods for circumstances at particular intersections must be fully documented.

TIAs using the 1985 or 1994 Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) operational analysis must provide converted volume-to-capacity based LOS values, as specified for CMP highway monitoring in Appendix A.

D.8.2 Arterial Segment Analysis. For TIAs involving arterial segment analysis, volume-to-capacity ratios must be calculated for each segment and LOS values assigned using the V/C-LOS equivalency specified for arterial intersections. A capacity of 800 vehicles per hour per through traffic lane must be used, unless localized conditions necessitate alternative values to approximate current intersection congestion levels.

D.8.3 Freeway Segment (Mainline) Analysis. For the purpose of CMP TIAs, a simplified analysis of freeway impacts is required. This analysis consists of a demand-to-capacity calculation for the affected segments, and is indicated in Exhibit D-6.

D.8.4 Transit Impact Review. CMP transit analysis requirements are met by completing and incorporating into an EIR the following transit impact analysis:

- ☐ Evidence that affected transit operators received the Notice of Preparation.
- ☐ A summary of existing transit services in the project area. Include local fixed-route services within a ¼ mile radius of the project; express bus routes within a 2 mile radius of the project, and; rail service within a 2 mile radius of the project.
- ☐ Information on trip generation and mode assignment for both AM and PM peak hour periods as well as for daily periods. Trips assigned to transit will also need to be calculated for the same peak hour and daily periods. Peak hours are defined as 7:30-8:30 AM and 4:30-5:30 PM. Both “peak hour” and “daily” refer to average weekdays, unless special seasonal variations are expected. If expected, seasonal variations should be described.
- ☐ Documentation of the assumption and analyses that were used to determine the number and percent of trips assigned to transit. Trips assigned to transit may be calculated along the following guidelines:
 - Multiply the total trips generated by 1.4 to convert vehicle trips to person trips;
 - For each time period, multiply the result by one of the following factors:
 - 3.5% of Total Person Trips Generated for most cases, except:
 - 10% primarily Residential within 1/4 mile of a CMP transit center
 - 15% primarily Commercial within 1/4 mile of a CMP transit center
 - 7% primarily Residential within 1/4 mile of a CMP multi-modal transportation center
 - 9% primarily Commercial within 1/4 mile of a CMP multi-modal transportation center
 - 5% primarily Residential within 1/4 mile of a CMP transit corridor
 - 7% primarily Commercial within 1/4 mile of a CMP transit corridor
 - 0% if no fixed route transit services operate within one mile of the project

To determine whether a project is primarily residential or commercial in nature, please refer to the CMP land use categories listed and defined in Appendix E, *Guidelines for New Development Activity Tracking and Self Certification*. For projects that are only partially within the above one-quarter mile radius, the base rate (3.5% of total trips generated) should be applied to all of the project buildings that touch the radius perimeter.

- ☐ Information on facilities and/or programs that will be incorporated in the development plan that will encourage public transit use. Include not only the jurisdiction’s TDM Ordinance measures, but other project specific measures.