

## Lockey, Heather@CNRA

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**From:** Begley, Alyssa M@DOT <alyssa.begley@dot.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** CEQA Guidelines@CNRA  
**Cc:** Briseno, Socorro A@DOT; Sutliff, Karla@DOT; Schmidt, Chris@DOT; Stolarski, Phil J@DOT  
**Subject:** Caltrans Comments  
**Attachments:** CaltransCEQAGuide2018.pdf

Hello,

Caltrans comments on the proposed CEQA Guidelines are attached. Thanks.

Alyssa Begley

[SB 743 Program Implementation Manager](#)



Department sustainability priorities – champion active transportation, advance clean fuels, vehicles, and materials, and prepare for climate change and extreme weather

Caltrans

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

March 15, 2018

Mr. Christopher Calfee  
Deputy Secretary and General Counsel  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Calfee:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the comprehensive update of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. These guidelines are expected to streamline the environmental process for many types of transportation projects. We note the update gives discretion to Lead Agencies to determine the appropriate measure of transportation impact for roadway capacity projects.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is committed to SB 743 implementation and already evolved our Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program to be consistent with future CEQA streamlining in transit priority areas. Education of our work force on SB 743 will continue through and beyond the statewide implementation date. We will use the CEQA Guidelines and technical advisory when building transportation projects on the State Highway System, reviewing local development projects, and as a basis for determining significance.

SB 743's intent is to balance more appropriately the needs of congestion management with statewide goals related to infill development, promotion of public health through active transportation, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Caltrans Strategic Management Plan 2015-2020 is aligned with that intent and includes targets to reduce vehicle miles traveled, decrease GHG emissions, and increase bicycling, pedestrian, and transit trips.

We continue partnering with State, regional, and local agencies to implement SB 743. Please

Mr. Christopher Calfee  
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contact Alyssa Begley, SB 743 Program Implementation Manager, if you have any questions at (916) 651-6882 or by e-mail sent to [alyssa.begley@dot.ca.gov](mailto:alyssa.begley@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



LAURIE BERMAN  
Director

c: Coco Briseño, Deputy Director, Planning and Modal Programs  
Karla Sutliff, Deputy Director, Project Delivery  
Chris Schmidt, AICP, Chief, Division of Transportation Planning  
Philip J. Stolarski, Chief, Division of Environmental Analysis