

Robby Thacker, Associate Planner City of Sacramento Community Development Department 300 Richards Blvd, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: Project Routing - P20-008 - Hilton Canopy Hotel - 831 L St

Dear Mr. Thacker,

WALKSacramento has reviewed the project routing for the Hilton Canopy Hotel (P20-008) proposed for the northwest corner of L Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Downtown Sacramento. The application proposes a 14-story mixed-use project with a restaurant bar, restaurant café, hotel lobby, services on the ground floor, 275 key hotel and 50 residential apartments.

WALKSacramento is pleased to see that many of the hotel's features encourages guests to incorporate active travel while visiting the area. Development projects that lead to more walking and active travel are critical to our community's future health, economically and individually. Residents and guests alike will enjoy the many amenities nearby including the California State Capital, the Golden 1 Center, Sacramento City Hall that are all just a short walk or bike away from the site. Additionally, because of the proximity to employment centers, the hotel café, bar, and meeting spaces will be attractive to employees who work nearby for mid-day lunches and meetings.

The building setback, shade trees, landscaped buffer, and dining areas along 9<sup>th</sup> St and L St are pedestrian oriented, with street level activity, supporting a positive pedestrian experience. Additionally, it is important that Kayak Alley also includes design elements that support positive activity. While Kayak Alley will mainly be used as commercial loading and unloading access, activating alleyways using pedestrian oriented lighting can deter negative activity generators. WALKSacramento recommends adding pedestrian-oriented lighting using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) best practices to Kayak Alley to enhance visibility and public safety of the alley of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

Long-term and short-term bike parking is offered in four locations on the site. There is one long term biking parking located in the basement parking garage level and another long-term bike parking located on the ground floor near the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Kayak Alley at a residential access point. Short-term bike parking for visitors is located on L Street near the western end of the site. This location offers good access for bicyclists and is visible to café patrons for added visual surveillance of the racks and minimizes pedestrian/bicycle conflicts. As the café will be a bikeable attraction to Sacramento residents and employees, in addition to hotel guests, more short-term bike racks may be needed in the future. While rack design and long-term parking security is not specified, WALKSacramento recommends referencing the City of Sacramento's Bike Rack Design and Placement standard Parking Guidelines for long-term and short-term parking for recommended rack design and placement here.

WALKSacramento is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and bicycling. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense

of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods. Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or <u>mwagner@walksacramento.org</u>.

Sincerely, Molly Wagner Project Manager