

**Lau, Kenny**

---

**From:** Ethan Ahlberg [ethan.ahlberg@NollandTam.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 5:47 PM  
**To:** nmedeiros@dir.ca.gov  
**Cc:** Lau, Kenny; Basada, Philip  
**Subject:** Oakland Zoo Gondola Permitting

<<2ND FLOOR - LAYOUT PLAN - VISITOR CENTER.pdf>> <<3RD FLOOR - LAYOUT PLAN - VISITOR CENTER.pdf>> <<A2-10A - 1ST FLOOR - LAYOUT PLAN - VISITOR CENTER.pdf>> <<A3-10 - VISITOR CENTER - BUILDING SECTIONS.pdf>> <<A3-12 - VISITOR CENTER - BUILDING SECTIONS.pdf>>

Dear Nancy,

I spoke with one of your colleagues today regarding this project. Please find the attached design development drawings of a building we're designing as part of an expansion at the Oakland Zoo. This building will house the upper station of an 8 person per car gondola tramway system provided by Dopplemayr. There will be a restaurant space above the gondola platform and office's and mechanical spaces spread over 3 stories.

As we move into our construction document phase of the design, I'm trying to get a clearer idea of what will need to be included in our submission for building permit with the City of Oakland building department, I've copied in a few contacts there to include them in the loop.

Dopplemayr has told us that in general your unit handles the permitting of the gondola, but in this instance where we're locating it inside a building we may need to have Dopplemayr's engineers submit some information to the city. We will be designing the gondola to be structurally separate from our building, but adjacent to our own foundations and slab on grade. We have egress routes from the platform area and the building is being permitted as a Type A3 waiting area transport terminal per section 433.2.1 of the CBC.

If possible could you help us understand what your department will review and permit as far as structure and fire safety? We're also attempting to tie together a schedule and would like to confirm when in the process you review drawings and conduct site visits generally. Our main concern is if we will need to have the gondola manufacturer complete their drawings and calculations concurrently with our building permit application for review at the same time.

Thank you very much for your assistance and please don't hesitate to call with any questions!

Kind regards,

Ethan Ahlberg  
Architect

**Noll & Tam Architects**  
Committed to the 2030 Challenge

729 Heinz Ave. #7  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
t 510.542.2223 (Direct)

12/18/2012

T 510.542.2200 (Main)  
f 510.542.2201  
[ethan.ahlberg@nollandtam.com](mailto:ethan.ahlberg@nollandtam.com)  
[www.nollandtam.com](http://www.nollandtam.com) map