

Appendix I Public and Agency Coordination



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA. 95814
May 10, 2012

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
File # 12-ORA-405
I-405 HOT Lanes

Ms. Pearl Young
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities
EIS Filing Section
Mail Code 2252-A, Room 7241
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Young:

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR THE I-405 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
FROM SR-73 TO I-605**

Enclosed is an original copy of the Interstate 405 Improvement Project between State Route 73 and Interstate 605 Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement (DEIR/S) and three electronic copies (CDs) of the subject DEIR/S with appendices. Also, for your reference attached is the Notice of Availability (also in CD), which includes a summary of the project and identified locations where the DEIS can be found for review. Please use this information as appropriate to publish the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register on May 18, 2012, and notify us with the date of publication.

Please contact Tay Dam @ 213-605-2013 or Smita Deshpande @ 949 724-2245 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Mammano', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

For: Vincent Mammano,
Division Administrator

Enclosure:

cc (FHWA): Rick Backlund, Matthew Schmitz, Chris Newman, Tay Dam, Brett Gainer, Shawn Oliver, Carol Braegelmann

cc (Caltrans): Smita Deshpande, Sylvia Vega

FOR EPA USE ONLY, As Needed

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

[4910-22-P]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Orange County,
California

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: The FHWA, on behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed highway project in Orange County, California.

DATES: The comment period that begins May 18, 2012 will end 45 days after publication of this Notice of Availability on July 2, 2012. Four public hearings will be held on (public presentation starts at 6:30 PM):

- June 4, 2012 at Orange Coast College Student Center, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- June 6, 2012 at the Westminster Community Center AB Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- June 7, 2012 at the Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- June 14, 2012 at the Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708,, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for review at Caltrans District 12, 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612-1692, and at the following public libraries: Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Branch Library (1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627); Mesa Verde Branch Library (2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626); Garden Grove Regional Library (11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840); Huntington Beach Central Library (7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1296); Heritage Park Regional Library (14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604); Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library (12700 Montecito, Seal Beach, CA 90740); Mary Wilson Library (707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA 90740); Westminster Branch Library (8180 13th Street, Westminster, CA 92683); Fountain Valley Library (17635 Los Alamos, Fountain Valley, CA 92708); Main Library (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822); Ruth Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90808); Santa Ana Public Library (26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4087), Main Library & History Center (407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866), and Newport Beach Public Library (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660). The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is also available at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief,
Caltrans-District 12, via email: 405.dedcomments.parsons@parsons.com

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective July 1, 2007, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) assigned, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) assumed environmental responsibilities for this project pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. Caltrans as the delegated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) agency, has

prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on a proposal for a highway improvement project primarily in Orange County, California. The proposed project would relieve congestion and improve operational efficiency on I-405 between SR-73 and I-605. The approximately 16-mile-long project corridor is primarily located in Orange County on I-405 and traverses the cities of Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Westminster, Garden Grove, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos, Long Beach, and the community of Rossmore. The project limits extend from 0.2-mile south of Bristol Street (12-ORA-405 Post Mile [PM] 9.3) to the Orange County/Los Angeles county line (12-ORA-405 PM 24.2) and in Los Angeles County from the county line (07-LA-405 PM 0.00) to 1.4 miles north of I-605 (07-LA-405 PM 1.2).

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzed three build alternatives and the No Build Alternative. The three proposed build alternatives include: Alternative 1 – Add One General Purpose Lane in Each Direction; Alternative 2 – Add Two General Purpose Lanes in Each Direction; and Alternative 3 – Add One General purpose lane and One (Tolled) Express Lane in Each Direction.

Anticipated federal permits/approvals include: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404 permit, Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and an encroachment permit from the U.S. Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

3347 MICHELSON DRIVE, SUITE 100
IRVINE, CA 92612-1692
PHONE (949) 724-2000
FAX (949) 724-2256
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

May 10, 2012

SCH# 2009091001
12-ORA-405 PM 9.3/24.2 / 07-LA-405 PM 0.0/1.2
12-ORA-22 PM R0.7/R3.8 / 12-ORA-22 PM R0.5/R0.7
12-ORA-73 PM R27.2/R27.8 / 12-ORA-605 PM 3.5/R1.6
07-LA-605 PM R0.0/R1.2
EA 0H1000 / PN 1200000180

Ms. Connell Dunning
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Transportation Team Leader
Environmental Review Office
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Dear Ms. Dunning:

Subject: Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/EIS) for Interstate 405 Improvement Project between State Route 73 and Interstate 605

This letter is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 12 has prepared the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/DEIS) to improve the movement of vehicles connecting two major freeways and to help reduce the regional and local traffic congestion by improving I-405 primarily in Orange County. The DEIR/DEIS describes the reason the project is being proposed; the alternatives being considered; the project's effects to the existing environment; the potential impacts of each of the alternatives; and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures. The DEIR/DEIS has been completed in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Caltrans is transmitting one hard copy of the DEIR/EIS and one CD for your review and comment.

FHWA on the behalf of Caltrans has by separate transmittal sent one (1) hard copy and three (3) electronic copies of the DEIR/EIS in the form of compact discs to EPA Washington for procedural review and publishing the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register.

Enclosed is a list of locations where interested members of the public may review the DEIR/DEIS. The technical studies are available for review at the Caltrans District 12 office located at 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612-1692. The DEIR/DEIS and

technical studies are also available on the internet at the following website:
www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm

Caltrans is transmitting the DEIR/DEIS as the NEPA lead agency under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Caltrans concerning the State of California's Participation in the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program (Pilot Program MOU), which became effective July 1, 2007. The Pilot Program MOU was signed pursuant to Section 6005 of the 2005 Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) codified at 23 United States Code (U.S.C) section 327(a)(2)(A). Caltrans assumed all of FHWA's responsibilities under NEPA for projects on California's State Highway System and for federal-aid local streets and roads projects under FHWA's Pilot Program MOU, pursuant to Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 773. Caltrans also assumed all of FHWA's responsibilities for environmental coordination and consultation under other federal environmental laws pertaining to the review or approval of projects under the Pilot Program MOU. For purposes of carrying out the responsibilities assumed under the Pilot Program MOU, Caltrans is deemed to be acting as the FHWA with respect to the environmental review, consultation, and other action required under those responsibilities.

As this project is covered by the Pilot Program MOU, FHWA has assigned, and Caltrans has assumed, FHWA responsibility for environmental review, consultation, and coordination on this project.

Attend one of the four public hearings held at the following times and locations (public presentation starts at 6:30 p.m.):

- Monday, June 4, 2012- 6:00-8:00 pm. at Orange Coast College, Student Center, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA,92626.
- Wednesday, June 6, 2012 – 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Westminster Community Center AB Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683.
- Thursday, June 7, 2012 – 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720.
- Thursday, June 14, 2012 – 6:00-8:00 p.m., Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

At the public hearing, staff will be on hand to provide information on the project and answer questions. The public is invited to make formal comments on the project at the hearing, and Caltrans will respond to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/FEIS).

Comments on this DEIR/EIS will be accepted during the 45-day public comment period, from May 18, 2012 until July 2, 2012, and should be addressed to:

Ms. Connell Dunning
May 10, 2012
Page 3

Ms. Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief,
Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 DEIR-DEIS Comment Period"
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200,
Irvine, CA, 92612

Or submitted via email at: 405.dedcomments.Parsons@parsons.com

If you have any questions regarding this project, please call Smita Deshpande at (949) 724-2000.
Your interest in this important transportation improvement project is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Smita Deshpande,
Environmental Chief, Branch A

Enclosure: 1 Compact Disc of DEIR/EIS
1 Hardcopy DEIR/EIS with appendices

- Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Branch Library (1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627),
- Mesa Verde Branch Library (2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626),
- Garden Grove Regional Library (11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840),
- Huntington Beach Central Library (7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1296),
- Heritage Park Regional Library (14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604),
- Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library (12700 Montecito, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Mary Wilson Library (707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Westminster Branch Library (8180 13th Street, Westminster, CA 92683),
- Fountain Valley Library (17635 Los Alamos, Fountain Valley, CA 92708),
- Main Library (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822),
- Ruth Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90808),
- Santa Ana Public Library (26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4087),
- Main Library & History Center (407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866), and
- Newport Beach Public Library (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660).

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #2009091001

Project Title: San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project

Lead Agency: Caltrans District 12
Mailing Address: 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
City: Irvine Zip: 92612
Contact Person: Smita Deshpande
Phone: 949-724-2000
County: Orange

Project Location: County: Orange City/Nearest Community: Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach

Cross Streets: I-405 between SR-73 and I-605 Zip Code: _____

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): _____ "N / _____ "W Total Acres: _____

Assessor's Parcel No.: Various Section: _____ Twp.: _____ Range: _____ Base: _____

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: SR-22, SR-55 Waterways: Many including Westminster Channel and Santa Ana R. Airports: John Wayne Railways: Union Pacific, US Navy Schools: Various

Document Type:

- CEQA: NOP Draft EIR Supplement/Subsequent EIR (Prior SCH No.) _____ Other: _____
- Early Cons NEPA: NOI EA Draft EIS FONSI
- Neg Dec Other: Joint Document Final Document Other: Hwy Improvement
- Mit Neg Dec

Local Action Type:

- General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation
- General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment
- General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit
- Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: Hwy Improvement

Development Type:

- Residential: Units _____ Acres _____
- Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
- Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
- Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
- Educational: _____
- Recreational: _____
- Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____
- Transportation: Type Highway/Freeway (Highway Improvement)
- Mining: Mineral _____
- Power: Type _____ MW _____
- Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
- Hazardous Waste: Type _____
- Other: _____

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation
- Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
- Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater
- Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian
- Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement
- Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use
- Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects
- Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other: _____

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Various

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

The Interstate 405 (I-405) Improvement Project proposes to widen the corridor by adding: one general purpose (GP) lane in each direction between Euclid Street and Interstate 605 (I-605); or two GP lanes in each direction between Brookhurst/Euclid Streets and I-605; or one GP lane between Euclid Street and I-605 and one tolled Express Lane in each direction between State Route 73 (SR-73) and State Route 22 (SR-22) east of I-405 to be managed jointly as a tolled Express Facility with two lanes in each direction between SR-73 and I-605. The proposed action would improve the freeway mainline and interchanges on I-405 in Orange and Los Angeles counties for approximately 16 miles between 0.2-mile south of Bristol Street and 1.4 miles north of I-605, as well as portions of SR-22, SR-73, and I-605 to reduce congestion and improve lane continuity through the corridor.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Air Resources Board | <input type="checkbox"/> X | Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> | Office of Public School Construction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> S | Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Caltrans District # _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Public Utilities Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input type="checkbox"/> S | Regional WQCB #8&4 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Caltrans Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> | Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> | S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> | San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> | San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x | Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> | Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Corrections, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> | SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x | Education, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> S | SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> | SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Fish & Game Region #5 _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Water Resources, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | General Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X | Health Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Housing & Community Development | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> S | Native American Heritage Commission | | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date May 18, 2012 Ending Date July 2, 2012

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

| | |
|--|---|
| Consulting Firm: <u>Parsons</u> | Applicant: <u>California Department of Transportation District 12</u> |
| Address: <u>2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200</u> | Address: <u>3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100</u> |
| City/State/Zip: <u>Irvine CA, 92612</u> | City/State/Zip: <u>Irvine CA, 92612</u> |
| Contact: <u>Macie Cleary</u> | Phone: <u>949-724-2245</u> |
| Phone: <u>(949)333-4467</u> | |

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Amila Deshpande Date: May 15, 2012

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

**Federal Highway Administration
California Division**

August 26, 2009

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento CA 95814
(916) 498-5001
(916) 498-5008 fax

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA
Document #P59240

Mr. Raymond Mosley
Director, Office of the Federal Register
800 North Capital Street, Northwest
7th Floor, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Mr. Mosley:

Enclosed, please find three signed original copies of the Notice of Intent for the proposed project located between State Route 73 and Interstate 605 on Interstate 405 in Orange County, California. I certify that the enclosed CD contains a true and accurate copy of the three signed paper copies of the Notice of Intent.

Sincerely,

For
Walter C. Waidelich, Jr.
Division Administrator

Enclosures



NOTICE OF INTENT

[4910-22]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Orange County, California

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of Intent

SUMMARY: The FHWA, on behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is issuing this notice to advise the public that a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Orange County, California.

DATES: The public scoping meetings will be held on the following dates:

- (1) Tuesday, September 22, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM, Fountain Valley
- (2) Wednesday, September 23, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM, Huntington Beach
- (3) Wednesday, September 30, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM, Westminster
- (4) Thursday, October 01, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM, Rossmore

The final day to submit comments is October 8, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The four public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations.

- (1) Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

(2) Huntington Beach Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA
92648

(3) Westminster Community Center - A/B Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue,
Westminster, CA 92683

(4) Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief

Caltrans-District 12

“Attn: 405 Scoping”

2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200

Irvine, CA 92612; Tel: 949.724.2000

405scoping.parsons@parsons.com

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Effective July 1, 2007, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) assigned, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) assumed, environmental responsibilities for this project pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. Caltrans, as the delegated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) agency, in cooperation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal for a highway improvement project in Orange County, California. The proposed project covers approximately 14 miles and is located between State Route (SR) 73 and Interstate 605 (I-605) on Interstate 405 (I-405). The purpose of the project, as currently defined, is to increase capacity, improve

traffic and interchange operations, and enhance safety on I-405 between SR-73 and I-605. Currently, the following alternatives are being considered

- Baseline/No Build Alternative; taking no action
- Build Alternative 1; adding one general purpose lane in each direction
- Build Alternative 2; adding two general purpose lanes in each direction
- Build Alternative 3; adding one toll lane to the existing carpool lane in each direction that will be managed together (Federal Highway Administration tolling authority required); also adding one general purpose lane in each direction north of Euclid Street to I-605
- Build Alternative 4; on I-405 from Euclid Street to I-605, providing additional general purpose lane at various locations and improving various interchanges
- Transportation Systems Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/Mass Transit Alternative; making only low-cost operational improvements, rather than major capital projects, to maximize the efficiency of the present highway system and expand travelers' transportation choices

Based on a Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report (PEAR) for the I-405 Improvement Project, it is anticipated that the project may require the following Federal permits: Section 404 Permit for filling/dredging waters of the United States and Section 401 Water Quality Certification. The environmental document will analyze factors that include, but are not limited to, the following: aesthetics, cultural resources, biological resources, hazardous wastes and materials, public services and facilities, water quality, floodplain, noise, air quality, recreation, community

impacts, and transportation/traffic. Some of these alternatives may have impacts on the above mentioned resources, as well as on water quality, cultural resources, parks/recreation facilities, and community character and cohesion; the environmental documentation process will assess for potential impacts and suggest ways to reduce or mitigate them.

This document is available at www.octa.net/405improvement and <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm>.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, Participating Agencies, various Tribal governments, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. The environmental review process will begin in Fall 2009. Public scoping meetings will be held in Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Westminster, and Rossmore, California, on September 22, 23, 30, and October 01, respectively. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meeting and hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to Ms. Deshpande at Caltrans at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: August 26, 2009



Cindy Vigue

Director, State Programs

Federal Highway Administration

Sacramento, California



NOTICE OF PREPARATION

TO: The State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Dept. of Transportation,
District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite CN-380
Irvine, CA 92612

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082 (a), 15103, 15375

Project Title: San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project

Project Location: Orange County, California, I-405 Postmile 10.3-24.1

Project Description: Project proposed would widen the San Diego Freeway (I-405) between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605).

This NOP is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will act as the lead agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project described below. The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is a responsible agency and participating agency under CEQA and is also the funding agency. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for this project. Your participation as a responsible agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

Caltrans, in cooperation with the OCTA, proposes to increase capacity, improve traffic and interchange operations, and enhance safety by widening the segment of the I-405 from SR-73 to I-605. Four Build Alternatives are under consideration in addition to the No Build Alternative and the Transportation Systems Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/Mass Transit Alternative. The potential alternatives are as follows:

Baseline Alternative (No Build)

The Baseline Alternative represents the "No Build" alternative. No additional lanes or interchange improvements would be provided by this alternative.

Build Alternative 1: Add One General Purpose Lane in Each Direction

Alternative 1 adds one general purpose lane in each direction to the I-405 freeway from Euclid Street to the I-605 interchange. Supplementary auxiliary lanes will be added and interchange improvements made at some locations within the project limits.

Build Alternative 2: Add Two General Purpose Lanes in Each Direction

Alternative 2 adds two general purpose lanes in each direction. Two lanes in each direction would extend from Euclid Street to the I-605 interchange.

Build Alternative 3: Express Facility Alternative

Alternative 3 adds one toll lane to the existing carpool lane in each direction that will be managed together (Federal Highway Administration tolling authority required). The alternative also adds a general purpose lane in each direction north of Euclid Street to I-605.

Build Alternative 4: Localized Improvements

Alternative 4 provides an additional general purpose lane at various locations and improves various interchanges from Euclid Street to I-605.

The Transportation Systems Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/ Mass Transit Alternative

The TSM/TDM/Mass Transit Alternative includes activities that will maximize the efficiency of the present highway system and expand travelers' transportation choices in terms of travel time, route, quality, and convenience. It involves low-cost operational improvements, rather than major capital projects, including but not limited to auxiliary lanes, ramp metering, ridesharing, and traffic signal timing optimization.

This Notice is to inform you that the environmental document will analyze factors that include, but are not limited to, the following: aesthetics, cultural resources, biological resources, hazardous wastes and materials, public services and facilities, water quality, floodplain, noise, air quality, recreation, community impacts, and transportation/traffic. Some of these alternatives may have impacts on the above mentioned resources, as well as on water quality, cultural resources, parks/recreation facilities, and community character and cohesion; the environmental documentation process will assess for potential impacts and suggest ways to reduce or mitigate them.

A project location map is attached.

A copy of the Initial Study (is) (is not) attached.

Four scoping meetings will be held to provide interested parties the opportunity to learn about the proposed project alternatives and to submit written comments to assist the project team in preparing the environmental document. The details of the meetings are as follows:

- Tuesday, September 22, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708
- Wednesday, September 23, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. Huntington Beach Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
- Wednesday, September 30, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. Westminster Community Center - A/B Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683

- Thursday, October 01, 2009 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmoor, CA 90720

Your response must be sent by October 8, 2009.

Please direct your response to Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief, Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 Scoping", at 2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200., Irvine, CA 92612. Your comments may also be emailed to 405scoping.parsons@parsons.com. If you have any questions you may call Smita Deshpande at (949) 724-2000. Please supply us with the name for a contact person in your agency.

This document is available at www.octa.net/405improvement and <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm>.

Date Aug 26, 2009

Signature Smita Deshpande
Title Senior Environmental Planner



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 532711

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90053-2325

October 20, 2009

REPLY TO

ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Chief
Regulatory Division

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief
California Department of Transportation, District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, California 92612-8894

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

This letter is in response to your request, dated August 26, 2010, for our comments on the Purpose and Need Statement and Range of Alternatives for the San Diego Freeway (Interstate 405 (I-405)) Improvement Project ("Project"), located along the I-405 between State Route 73 (SR-73) to Interstate 605 (I-605) in Orange County, California. The request is in accordance to Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy of Users ("SAFETEA-LU"). As a cooperating agency under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") for this Project, we submit the following comments for incorporation into the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") for the Project to ensure that the resulting EIS may be adopted by our agency for the purposes of exercising our regulatory authority under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344).

Upon review of the Purpose and Need Statement and Range of Alternatives, our comments and concerns with the project, are provided as follows:

Project need

Each need for action must be associated with a measurable objective or specification to evaluate the effectiveness of each alternative in fulfilling the need. Measurable objectives should specify an outcome or result to be accomplished, with a specified timeframe for it to be accomplished. Criteria for selecting the optimal measurement include: the ability to monitor certain components, their associated costs, and how directly and effectively the measurement evaluates success in fulfilling the need. The Corps suggests that Caltrans provide an attainable outcome goal based on each need. In addition, several analyses were conducted for existing and future baseline conditions of I-405 in the need statement. Although future baseline conditions were projected for the year 2040, the purpose statement does not clearly define "future conditions" as part of the objectives.

The needs of the project should take scoping comments into account and be presented in terms of quantified deficiencies (i.e., existing deficiencies, future without-project deficiencies, or both) as compared to relevant standards, such as local, regional, state, or national standards. The need statement must be specific enough that the range of alternatives can be appropriately focused, however broad enough to allow for consideration of a range of reasonable and practicable alternatives that are commensurate with the level of environmental impacts.

The purpose and need statement must not preclude a reasonable range of alternatives:

Discussions regarding specific project design, or alternatives, should be excluded from the Purpose and Need Statement. The Corps suggests that portions within this section regarding the lane addition recommendation from Route Concept Report (RCR) and table 1-1 (page 1-6) be removed. The Purpose and Need Statement should focus on identifying the underlying problems and the reasons a project is considered and should not be written in a way that includes the potential alternatives.

The data provided in this section presents the potential future conditions of I-405 without the proposed project however it does not project the potential future conditions of the highway with the consideration of other projects.

The need for the project should be considered in the context of other planned transportation improvements by Caltrans or others proposed for the Orange County areas and estimates for future congestion should consider these improvements in traffic condition. Additional information should be provided to substantiate these conclusions as part of the purpose and need statement.

Recommendation that alternatives analysis comply with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines:

The Clean Water Act, Section 404 (b)(1) guidelines ("Guidelines") promulgated at [40 C.F.R. 230.10 (a)(1)], require a range of alternatives be evaluated before determining the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternatives (LEDPA). According to the Guidelines all practicable alternatives include, but are not limited to: (i) [a]ctivities which do not involve discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. or ocean waters; and (ii) [d]ischarges of dredged or fill material at other locations of waters of the U.S. or ocean waters. The analysis of a "no fill (i.e. no 404 permit required)" alternative is required for purposes of documenting compliance with the Guidelines. Please provide a complete description and analysis of a "no fill" alternative. Offsite alternatives within and outside of the study corridor should also be considered under the Guidelines.

The Guidelines also require the analysis of alternatives that have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, including avoidance of special aquatic sites. Since avoidance and minimization are integral to the Guidelines, please consider span culverts, bottomless culverts, bridges with minimal piers, and other types of drainage features that would avoid and/or minimize impacts to aquatic resources.

Compliance with the Guidelines is required for all standard individual permits, we therefore recommend that this compliance be incorporated into the EIS to ensure that we may adopt it for our permitting process if necessary.

Address public interest:

In our permit evaluation process, we are required to address project purpose as it relates to public interest. The following general criteria will be considered by the Corps in evaluating the I-405 Improvement Project application:

- (1) The relevant extent of public and private needs;
- (2) Where unresolved conflicts of resources use exist, the practicability of using reasonable alternative locations and methods to accomplish project purposes; and
- (3) The extent and permanence of the beneficial and/or detrimental effects the proposed project may have on the public and provide uses to which they area is suited.

A section 404 permit will not be granted if the project is found to be contrary to the public interest. The Corps anticipates working with Caltrans and other resource agencies in the documentation of our public interest review. To comply with relevant regulations, the Corps may also conduct our own public scoping and noticing.

We appreciate your coordination efforts and the opportunity to provide feedback and comments on the Purpose and Need Statement and Range of Alternatives. Our agency looks forward to continuing open dialogue with you to ensure this environmental review process remains comprehensive, technically sufficient, and transparent for the purposes of public disclosure and informed agency decision-making. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Huynh of my staff at 213.452.3357 or via e-mail at Sophia.C.Huynh@usace.army.mil. Please refer to this letter and SPL-2009-00714-SCH in your reply.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Cohen
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Division



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 532711
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90053-2325

May 3, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Division

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief
California Department of Transportation, District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, California 92612-1692

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

We are responding to your request, dated October 7, 2009, for comments concerning the Coordination Plan for the San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project, as part of the environmental review process pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The Coordination Plan describes the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in the environmental review process. Please consider our comments below.

To assist in streamlining our permitting process, please consider including a draft evaluation of the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA) and a conceptual mitigation plan as appendices in your draft and final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). If acceptable, please incorporate these draft documents as responsibilities of Caltrans in the Coordination Plan.

On page 2 of the Coordination Plan, our roles and responsibilities are to: "[i]dentify any waters of the U.S. and wetlands within the project area and provide feedback on the 404 process; provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and draft/final EIS." Due to our workload constraints, please clarify that we will assist in identifying any waters of the U.S. and wetlands within the project area.

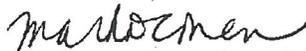
On page 3, please add Sophia Huynh as a point of contact for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District (Corps).

Lastly, please include responses from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Corps into Appendix C of the Coordination Plan for agency response letters.

Please note that in this letter, we are only commenting on the Coordination Plan from the perspective of Regulatory Division and our Section 404 of the Clean Water Act jurisdiction. We have not verified whether the proposed project would result in modifications to structures constructed by or maintained by the Corps. As a result, we will continue coordination with our Asset Management Division regarding this issue, and we will relay additional comments to the Coordination Plan in the near future if necessary.

We look forward to continued coordination with you on this project. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Huynh at 213.452.3357 or via e-mail at Sophia.C.Huynh@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Cohen
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Division
Los Angeles District



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 532711

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90053-2325

November 9, 2009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Chief
Regulatory Division

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief
California Department of Transportation, District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, California 92612-8894

Subject: Corps Acceptance of Invitation to Become Cooperating Agency for the San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

This is in response to your invitation, dated October 29, 2009, for the Corps to become a cooperating and participating agency in the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project, located along the segment of the Interstate 405 (I-405) between State Route 73 (SR-73) to Interstate 605 (I-605) in Orange County, California.

The Corps understands that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) delegated its responsibilities for environmental consultation and coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA) to Caltrans, under a Pilot Program Memorandum of Understanding pursuant to Section 6005 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). As such, Caltrans, as the federal lead agency, intends to prepare an EIS for the proposed project, following the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) "Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" of November 29, 1978. In accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 and Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, Caltrans has requested that the Corps become a cooperating and participating agency in the development of this project.

The Corps agrees to accept Caltrans' offer to become a "Cooperating Agency". The Corps also understands that our views, as well as those of other cooperating agencies, will be sought through all stages of the EIS development. It is understood that this coordination is intended to preclude any subsequent and duplicative reviews by cooperating agencies. This coordination is also designed to aid in identifying all reasonable project alternatives, environmental impacts, and measures to mitigate adverse impacts for the project. The Corps would like to ensure that this project progresses in a mutually acceptable way to streamline the

eventual application process for required state and Federal permits. Further, because of our Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) administrative responsibilities, we have a particular concern in seeing the project comply with the 404(b)(1) guidelines (40 CFR 230) which are fundamental to supporting our eventual determination of the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA).

The Corps has reviewed the FHWA "Guidance on Cooperating Agencies," which outlines the responsibilities of the federal lead agency and those of the cooperating agencies. However, staff resource constraints will limit Corps participation to the following:

- Assist in identifying interest groups.
- Attend coordination meetings and joint field reviews.
- Provide meaningful and early input on issues of concern.
- Review pre-draft and pre-final environmental documents.
- Adopt the final environmental document, if after an independent review, the Corps concludes that the document satisfies NEPA and other requirements for our approval and permit for the proposed action.
- Provide information on alternatives, including the "no practicable alternative" finding.
- Assist the lead agency in determining appropriate and practicable mitigation, including "all practicable measures to minimize harm." These measures should reflect avoidance, minimization, and compensation.
- Cooperate in the application of principles for integration of NEPA and the Section 404 Permits contained in Chapter 11 of Applying the Section 404 Permit Process to Federal-aid Highway Projects.

The Corps looks forward to continued dialogue and coordination with Caltrans for this project. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Huynh of my staff at 213.452.3357 or via e-mail at Sophia.C.Huynh@usace.army.mil. Please refer to this letter and SPL-2009-00714-SCH in your reply.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Cohen
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Division
Los Angeles District



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

August 6, 2009

Smita Deshpande
California Department of Transportation District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, CA 92612-8894

Dear Smita Deshpande:

We are writing in response to your letter dated June 30, 2009 inviting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to become a Participating Agency for the proposed Interstate 405 (I-405) Improvement (State Route (SR) 73 to SR 605) Project in Orange County, California. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The State of California has assumed Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) responsibilities under NEPA for this project pursuant to the *Memorandum of Understanding Between the Federal Highway Administration and the California Department of Transportation Concerning the State of California's Participation in the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program*.

EPA accepts Caltrans' invitation to become a "Participating Agency" (as defined in 23 USC 139 Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)). As a Participating Agency, EPA will provide comments on the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and at other milestones where we believe we can contribute to avoidance and minimization of potential impacts to resources during the development of the EIS. EPA's participation as a Participating Agency does not constitute formal or informal approval of any part of this project under any statute administered by EPA, nor does it limit in any way EPA's independent review of the Draft and Final EISs pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

This project may meet the criteria for coordination under the April 2006 *National Environmental Policy Act and Clean Water Action Section 404 Integration Process for Federal Aid Surface Transportation Projects in California Memorandum of Understanding* (NEPA/404 MOU). The NEPA/404 MOU includes specific agreement points to assist in developing the EIS and involves active participation in meetings and document reviews. The MOU applies to transportation projects that have five or more acres of permanent impacts to waters of the United States and require EIS preparation. We encourage Caltrans to contact the NEPA/404 signatory agencies once more information about the potential impact to waters of the United States is available so that the agreement points can be addressed in coordination with SAFETEA-LU requirements and as early as possible in the EIS process.

We appreciate Caltrans' interest in working with EPA and look forward to participating in the project's EIS development. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-947-4188 or sturges.susan@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sturges".

Susan Sturges
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems Division

received 7/29/09



Air Resources Board



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

July 27, 2007

Ms. Smita Deshpande, Chief
Branch A, Environmental Planning
California Department of Transportation
District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, California 92612-8894

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

I am responding to your letter of June 30, 2009 inviting the Air Resources Board to participate in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed I-405 Improvement Project in Orange County. Thank you for the invitation. We will not be serving as a participating agency.

Projects of this level are often of most interest to county and regional air quality management districts. For this reason, we suggest that you contact the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the local air district with jurisdiction in Orange County, concerning their interest in participating in the development of this EIS. Mr. Steve Smith, Program Supervisor for Planning, Rules and Area Sources coordinates the SCAQMD's California Environmental Quality Act activities. Mr. Smith can be reached at (909) 396-3054.

If you have any questions about this response, please feel free to call me at, (916) 322-8279, or Mr. Earl Withycombe of my staff at (916) 322-8487.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Oey, Manager
Southern California SIP Section

cc: See next page.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Printed on Recycled Paper

Ms. Smita Deshpande, Chief
July 27, 2009
Page 2

cc: Mr. Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rules, and Area Sources
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, California 91765-4178

Mr. Earl Withycombe
Air Quality and Transportation Branch



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

September 10, 2009

Ms. Smita Deshpande
Branch Chief, Caltrans-District 12
Attn: 405 Scoping
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92612

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD's comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the proposed project that should be included in the draft environmental impact report (EIR). Please send the SCAQMD a copy of the Draft EIR upon its completion. **In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality analysis and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. Electronic files include spreadsheets, database files, input files, output files, etc., and does not mean Adobe PDF files. Without all files and supporting air quality documentation, the SCAQMD will be unable to complete its review of the air quality analysis in a timely manner. Any delays in providing all supporting air quality documentation will require additional time for review beyond the end of the comment period.**

Air Quality Analysis

The SCAQMD adopted its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Air Quality Handbook in 1993 to assist other public agencies with the preparation of air quality analyses. The SCAQMD recommends that the Lead Agency use this Handbook as guidance when preparing its air quality analysis. Copies of the Handbook are available from the SCAQMD's Subscription Services Department by calling (909) 396-3720. Alternatively, the lead agency may wish to consider using the California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved URBEMIS 2007 Model. This model is available on the SCAQMD Website at: www.urbemis.com.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the project and all air pollutant sources related to the project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, that is, sources that generate or attract vehicular trips should be included in the analysis.

The SCAQMD has developed a methodology for calculating PM_{2.5} emissions from construction and operational activities and processes. In connection with developing PM_{2.5} calculation methodologies, the SCAQMD has also developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. The SCAQMD requests that the lead agency quantify PM_{2.5} emissions and compare the results to the recommended PM_{2.5} significance thresholds. Guidance for calculating PM_{2.5} emissions and PM_{2.5} significance thresholds can be found at the following internet address: http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/PM2_5/PM2_5.html.

In addition to analyzing regional air quality impacts the SCAQMD recommends calculating localized air quality impacts and comparing the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs). LST's can be used in addition to the recommended regional significance thresholds as a second indication of air quality impacts when preparing a CEQA document. Therefore, when preparing the air quality analysis for the proposed project, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a localized significance analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary. Guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at <http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/LST/LST.html>.

In the event that the proposed project generates or attracts vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment. Guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment ("Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risk from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis") can be found on the SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at the following internet address: http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mobile_toxic/mobile_toxic.html. An analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts due to the decommissioning or use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants should also be included.

Significance Thresholds

The Protocol should clearly state the significance thresholds that will be used for the proposed project. Since the proposed project will occur wholly within the SCAQMD's jurisdiction and CalTrans has not established significance thresholds, the SCAQMD staff recommends that CalTrans use the SCAQMD's air quality significance thresholds which can be found at <http://aqmd.gov/ceqa/hdbk.html>. If CalTrans declines to use the SCAQMD's significance thresholds, it is obligated as the lead agency to analyze all potential adverse impacts, make a determination of significance as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15064, and implement feasible mitigation measures as necessary. SCAQMD significance thresholds can be found at:

- Regional Criteria Pollutant and Air Toxic Significance Thresholds:
<http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/signthres.pdf>
- NOx, CO, and PM10 Localized Significance Thresholds:
<http://aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/LST/LST.html>
- PM2.5 Regional and Localized Significance Thresholds:
http://aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/OM2.5/PM2_5.html
- Greenhouse Gas Significance Thresholds:
<http://aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/GHG/GHG.html>

Mitigation Measures

In the event that the project generates significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized during project construction and operation to minimize or eliminate significant adverse air quality impacts. To assist the Lead Agency with identifying possible mitigation measures for the project, please refer to Chapter 11 of the SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook for sample air quality mitigation measures. Additional mitigation measures can be found on the SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at the following internet address: www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM_intro.html Additionally, SCAQMD's Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, and the Implementation Handbook contain numerous measures for controlling construction-related emissions that should be considered for use as CEQA mitigation if not otherwise required. Other measures to reduce air quality impacts from land use projects can be found in the SCAQMD's Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning. This document can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.aqmd.gov/prdas/aqguide/aqguide.html>. In addition, guidance on siting incompatible land uses can be found in the California Air Resources Board's Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective, which can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>. CARB's Land Use Handbook is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process. Pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(1)(D), any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be discussed.

Ms. Smita Deshpande

-3-

September 10, 2009

Data Sources

SCAQMD rules and relevant air quality reports and data are available by calling the SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039. Much of the information available through the Public Information Center is also available via the SCAQMD's World Wide Web Homepage (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

The SCAQMD is willing to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that project-related emissions are accurately identified, categorized, and evaluated. Please call Daniel Garcia, Air Quality Specialist, CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3304 if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Susan Nakamura
Manager
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources

SS:DG:AK
LAC090909-01AK
Control Number

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



Received 11/18/09

November 4, 2009

Ms. Smita Deshpande, Chief
Department of Transportation, District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, CA 92612-8894

Dear Ms. Deshpande:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) received the Department of Transportation, District 12's letter of notice of preparation for an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed I-405 Improvement Project in Orange County in California that was dated August 21, 2009.

The Energy Commission is presently developing energy policies for transportation infrastructure. However, at this time it would be premature to formally participate in the environmental review process on this project.

We would like to assist in reducing the energy usage involved in your project. Please refer to the enclosed Appendix F of the California Environmental Quality Act for how to achieve energy conservation. The means to achieving this goal include:

1. decreasing overall per capita energy consumption,
2. decreasing reliance on natural gas and oil, and
3. Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

In addition, the Energy Commission's *Energy Aware Planning Guide*, which is currently being updated, will be available as a tool to assist local governments use local land use planning to reduce energy consumption. For further information on the *Energy Aware Planning Guide*, please visit the Energy Commission's website at: www.energy.ca.gov.

Thank you for requesting the Energy Commission to be a participating agency during the Department of Transportation, District 12's environmental review process. We hope that these suggestions will serve helpful in your project's development.

Ms. Smita Deshpande
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please call Bill Pfanner in Local Energy and Land Use Assistance Unit of Special Projects Office at (916) 654-4206.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Jones', written in a cursive style.

MELISSA JONES
Executive Director

Enclosure

Appendix F ENERGY CONSERVATION

I. Introduction

The goal of conserving energy implies the wise and efficient use of energy. The means of achieving this goal include:

- (1) decreasing overall per capita energy consumption,
- (2) decreasing reliance on natural gas and oil, and
- (3) increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

In order to assure that energy implications are considered in project decisions, the California Environmental Quality Act requires that EIRs include a discussion of the potential energy impacts of proposed projects, with particular emphasis on avoiding or reducing inefficient, wasteful and unnecessary consumption of energy.

Energy conservation implies that a project's cost effectiveness be reviewed not only in dollars, but also in terms of energy requirements. For many projects, lifetime costs may be determined more by energy efficiency than by initial dollar costs.

II. EIR Contents

Potentially significant energy implications of a project should be considered in an EIR. The following list of energy impact possibilities and potential conservation measures is designed to assist in the preparation of an EIR. In many instances, specific items may not apply or additional items may be needed.

A. Project Description may include the following items:

1. Energy consuming equipment and processes which will be used during construction, operation, and/or removal of the project. If appropriate, this discussion should consider the energy intensiveness of materials and equipment required for the project.
2. Total energy requirements of the project by fuel type and end use.
3. Energy conservation equipment and design features.
4. Initial and life-cycle energy costs or supplies.
5. Total estimated daily trips to be generated by the project and the additional energy consumed per trip by mode.

B. Environmental Setting may include existing energy supplies and energy use patterns in the region and locality.

C. Environmental Impacts may include:

1. The project's energy requirements and its energy use efficiencies by amount and fuel type for each stage of the project's life cycle including construction, opera-

tion, maintenance and/or removal. If appropriate, the energy intensiveness of materials may be discussed.

2. The effects of the project on local and regional energy supplies and on requirements for additional capacity.
3. The effects of the project on peak and base period demands for electricity and other forms of energy.
4. The degree to which the project complies with existing energy standards.
5. The effects of the project on energy resources.
6. The project's projected transportation energy use requirements and its overall use of efficient transportation alternatives.

D. Mitigation Measures may include:

1. Potential measures to reduce wasteful, inefficient and unnecessary consumption of energy during construction, operation, maintenance and/or removal. The discussion should explain why certain measures were incorporated in the project and why other measures were dismissed.
2. The potential of siting, orientation, and design to minimize energy consumption, including transportation energy.
3. The potential for reducing peak energy demand.
4. Alternate fuels (particularly renewable ones) or energy systems.
5. Energy conservation which could result from recycling efforts.

E. Alternatives should be compared in terms of overall energy consumption and in terms of reducing wasteful, inefficient and unnecessary consumption of energy.

F. Unavoidable Adverse Effects may include wasteful, inefficient and unnecessary consumption of energy during the project construction, operation, maintenance and/or removal that cannot be feasibly mitigated.

G. Irreversible Commitment of Resources may include a discussion of how the project preempts future energy development or future energy conservation.

H. Short-Term Gains versus Long-Term Impacts can be compared by calculating the energy costs over the lifetime of the project.

I. Growth Inducing Effects may include the estimated energy consumption of growth induced by the project.

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



October 20, 2011

Reply To: FHWA110826B

Chris Flynn, Branch Chief
Environmental Analysis
Caltrans District 12
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92612-1692

Re: Determination of Eligibility for the I-405 Improvement Project in Orange and Los Angeles Counties, CA

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Thank you for consulting with me about the subject undertaking in accordance with the *Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as it Pertains to the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in California (PA)*.

Caltrans has determined that the 332 properties listed on pages 9-17 of the Historic Property Survey Report are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). **I concur.**

In addition Caltrans has determined that Westminster Lanes, located at 6471 Westminster Boulevard in Westminster is eligible for the NRHP under criterion A at the local level of significance as a unique element of the suburban development of Orange County. I do not have enough information at this time to either concur or disagree on the eligibility of this property. Given that Caltrans is making a finding of no historic properties affected for this undertaking, I think it would be expedient for Caltrans to move forward leaving the eligibility of this property indeterminate.

Caltrans has also determined Leisure World, located at 1901 Golden Rain Road in Seal Beach to be eligible for the NRHP under criterion A at the local level of significance as an innovative senior community that established a new model for senior citizen communities. Caltrans determined that the property is also eligible under criterion B for its association with Ross Cortese, who was a significant real estate developer in Orange County at the time. I do not have enough information at this time to either concur or disagree on the eligibility of this property. Given that Caltrans is making a finding of no historic properties affected for this undertaking, I think it would be expedient for Caltrans to move forward leaving the eligibility of this property indeterminate.

Mr. Flynn
October 20, 2011
Page 2 of 2

Caltrans also has found that the Segerstrom House and Barn, located at 3315 Fairview Road in Costa Mesa is eligible for the NRHP under criterion A for the importance of the Segerstrom Family to the local and county agricultural industry and real estate development. The building is also eligible under criterion C as an excellent, intact example of Craftsman styling and design in Costa Mesa. I concur that the Segerstrom house is eligible under criterion C as an excellent, intact example of Craftsman styling in Costa Mesa. However I do not have sufficient information at this time to concur that the property is eligible under criterion A. While the Segerstrom's were very important to the development of the local region I am not sure of the relationship of this house to their formative years. In the interest of expediency I recommend that Caltrans move forward and leave the property's eligibility under criterion A as indeterminate.

According to Stipulation IX.A. of the PA Caltrans has found that no historic properties will be affected by this undertaking.

Thank you for considering historic properties during project planning. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Lindquist of my staff at (916) 445-7014 or email at nlindquist@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer