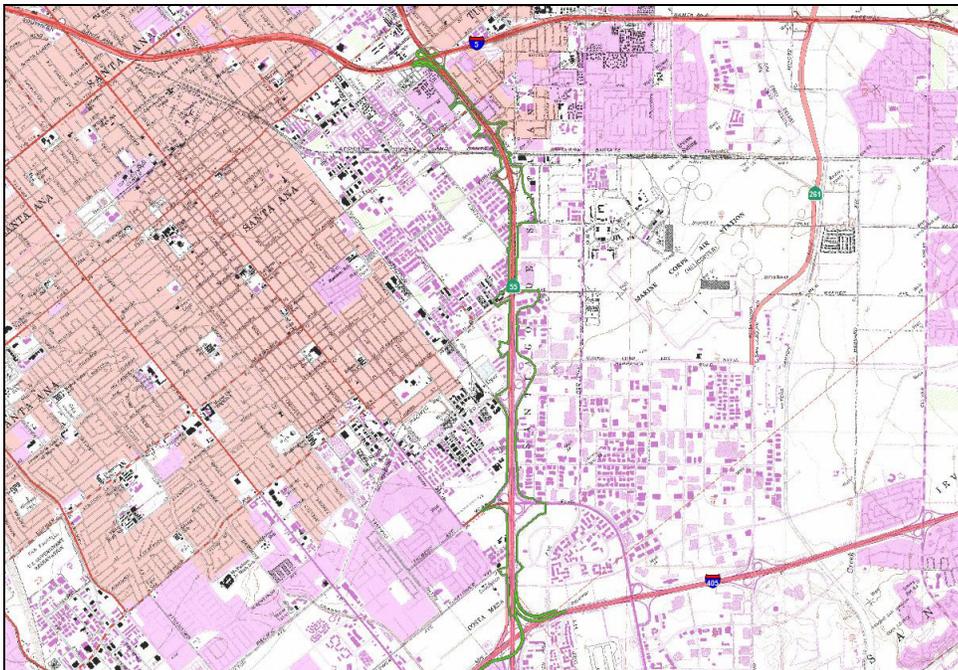


State Route 55 (SR-55) Improvement Project Between Interstate 405 (I-405) and Interstate 5 (I-5)

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
DISTRICT 12 – ORA – 55, PM 6.4/10.3
EA 0J3400/EFIS 1200020328

Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment



**Prepared by the
State of California Department of Transportation**

The environmental review, consultation, and any other action required in accordance with applicable federal laws for this project is being, or has been, carried out by Caltrans under its assumption of responsibility pursuant to 23 USC 327.



November 2015

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General Information About This Document

What's in this document:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA), which examines the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives being considered for the proposed project located in Orange County, California. Caltrans is the lead agency under the Natural Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document tells you why the project is being proposed, what alternatives we have considered for the project, how the existing environment could be affected by the project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

What should you do:

- Please read the document.
- Copies of this document and related technical studies are available for review at the following locations:

Caltrans District 12
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92616-1692

Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street
Orange, CA 92868

Santa Ana Public Library
26 Civic Center Plaza
Santa Ana, CA 92701

City of Irvine City Hall
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606-5207

Tustin Library
345 East Main Street
Tustin, CA 92780

- This document may be downloaded at the following website:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/DEA/SR55IMPROV/>
- Attend the public meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2015
- We'd like to hear what you think. If you have any comments about the proposed project, please attend the public meeting and/or send your written comments to Caltrans by the deadline.
- Send comments via postal mail to:
Charles Baker, Senior Environmental Planner
Department of Transportation, District 12
Environmental Analysis – Specialist Branch
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612-1692
- Send comments via email to: D12SR55ImprovementProject@dot.ca.gov
- Send comments by the deadline: January 8, 2016

What happens next:

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, Caltrans, as assigned by FHWA, may: (1) give environmental approval to the proposed project, (2) do additional environmental studies, or (3) abandon the project. If the project is given environmental approval and funding is appropriated, Caltrans could design and construct all or part of the project.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to Department of Transportation, Attn: Charles Baker, Caltrans Environmental Analysis – Specialist Branch, Caltrans District 12, 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612-1692; (949) 724-2252 Voice; or use the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice) or 711.

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SCH# _____
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1200020328

Widening of State Route 55 (SR-55) between Interstate 405 (I-405) and Interstate 5 (I-5) (Post Mile 6.4 to Post Mile 10.3) in the Cities of Irvine, Santa Ana, and Tustin, California

**INITIAL STUDY WITH PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code
(Federal) 42 USC 4332(2)(c)

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Transportation

11/24/15

Date of Approval



Ryan Chamberlain
District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 12
CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency

The following persons may be contacted for more information about this document:

Charles Baker, Caltrans Environmental Analysis – Specialist Branch
Caltrans District 12
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92612-1692
(949) 724-2252

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