

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 6, 2013

Reference No.: 2.2b. (1)
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SDEIR/EIS) FOR THE SAN DIEGO FREEWAY (I-405) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, provide comments in response to the SDEIR/EIS for the San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project in Orange and Los Angeles Counties?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission make no comments relative to the alternatives or environmental impacts addressed in the SDEIR/EIS. However, staff recommends that a letter be sent to the Department that states the following:

- The Commission has no comments with respect to the alternatives or environmental impacts addressed in the SDEIR/EIS.
- The Commission recommends that the Department and its partners identify and secure the necessary funding to complete the project.
- If funds or other actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, upon completion of the final environmental document, notification should be provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency.
- Since design-build procurement and tolling are under consideration, the Commission encourages Caltrans and its partners to ensure early communication and coordination with the Commission in the event it is anticipated that the Commission will be requested to approve the project for delivery through either a design-build or public private partnership procurement consistent with the provisions of Senate Bill 4 (SBX2 4, Statutes of 2009), or for construction approval to allow for financing approval by the California Transportation Financing Authority as provided for in Assembly Bill 798 (AB 798, Statutes of 2009).

BACKGROUND:

The Department is the designated CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency responsible for the environmental review of the project. For project summary information, please see the Department's memorandum included as agenda item 2.2b (1).

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: August 6, 2013

Reference No.: 2.2b.
Action Item

From: STEVEN KECK
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Katrina Pierce
Division Chief
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **COMMENTS ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) review and comment at the August 2013 Commission meeting on the following Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR):

ISSUE:

**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**

This project in Los Angeles and Orange Counties proposes to construct roadway improvements on Interstate 405 (I-405) within the project limits, including 15 local street interchanges and three freeway-to-freeway interchanges. The project is not fully funded. Depending on the alternative selected, the total estimated project cost ranges between \$1.3 billion and \$1.7 billion. The project will seek funding through the State Transportation Improvement Program, federal and local fund sources, and possibly toll revenue. Depending on the availability of funding, construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2015-16.

Alternatives considered for the proposed project include:

- No Build Alternative.
- Alternative 1 - This alternative would add one general purpose lane in each direction of I-405 from Euclid Street to the Interstate 605 (I-605) interchange.
- Alternative 2 - This alternative would add one general purpose lane in each direction of I-405 from Euclid Street to the I-605 interchange and add a second general purpose lane in the northbound direction from Brookhurst Street to the State Route 22 (SR-22)/ 7th Street interchange.

- Alternative 3 - This alternative would add one general purpose lane in each direction of I-405 from Euclid Street to the I-605 interchange and add a tolled Express Lane in each direction from State Route 73 (SR-73) to SR-22 East.

The decision to prepare a Supplemental Draft EIR was made after information from a supplemental traffic study indicated additional project related impacts were possible. The supplemental traffic study was prepared in response to comments on the original Draft Environmental Impact Report for the project. Impacts include:

- Traffic and Circulation
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Facilities
- Cumulative Impacts

The following measures would be incorporated to minimize impacts of the project:

- A payment shall be made by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) to the City of Long Beach to cover the project's fair share cost of the improvements at intersections owned by the City of Long Beach.
- A payment shall be made by OCTA to the California Department of Transportation based on a Traffic Mitigation Agreement Fair Share Deferment.

Attachments

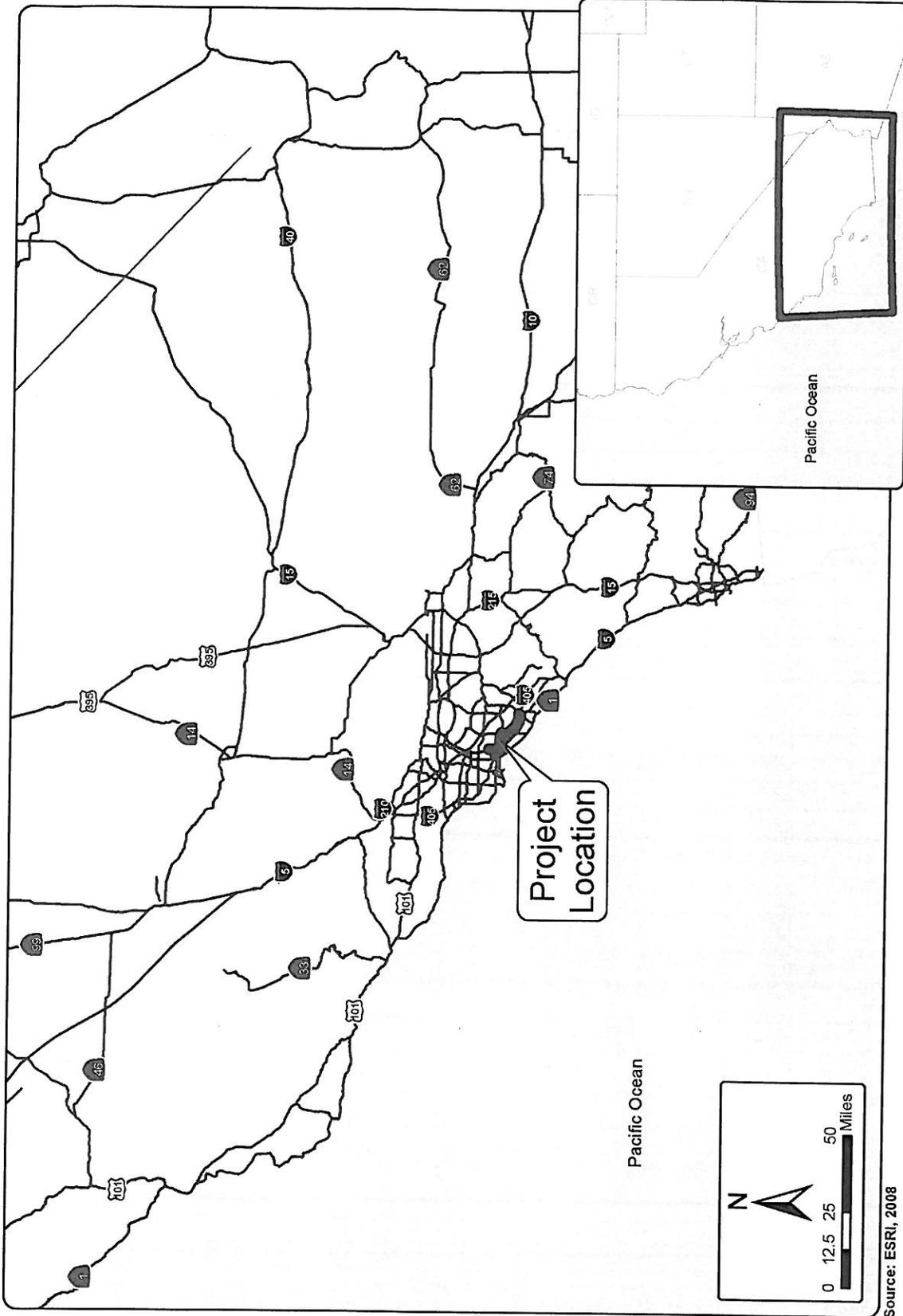


Figure 1-1: Regional Vicinity Map

