- Notice of Availability of Study Results
- Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration Pursuant to CEQA

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency and using state and federal funding, is proposing the Fix 5 Cascade Gateway Project/Cascade State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Project which would make improvements to Interstate 5 in Shasta County from the Hartnell Avenue overcrossing (PM R13.9) to 0.8-miles north of Union School Road (PM R23.2) and in Tehama County at the California Highway Patrol Cottonwood Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility (PM 40.7). The Fix 5 Cascade Gateway Project would install a managed lane (truck-only) in the northbound and southbound directions of travel, extend auxiliary lanes between interchanges, widen bridges with rail upgrades and install in-fill walls, install median barrier, install signage, upgrade drainage facilities, install and/or upgrade ITS/TMS elements, paving, and install a medium/heavy-duty vehicle charging facility. The Cascade SHOPP Project would also improve the pavement quality to enhance smoothness, reduce maintenance efforts, minimize field maintenance and exposure to traffic, upgrade bridge rails and install in-fill walls, upgrade drainage facilities, install and/or upgrade ITS/TMS elements, increase the vertical clearance at two structure locations, upgrade signs, lighting, and striping and install median barrier.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. These studies indicate that the project, as proposed with mitigation, will not significantly affect the environment. Environmental factors that could potentially be affected by the project include aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, public services, transportation, utilities and service systems, and wildfire. The report that explains this is called a Draft Initial Study (IS) and was prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The draft will be available for public review and comment. Based on the findings in this document, if additional information does not become available during the public review and comment period, Caltrans expects to finalize the Draft IS with the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the draft and of its availability for you to review. The draft will be circulated for public and agency review in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The draft will be available for public review from November 16, 2023 to December 16, 2023. A copy of the will be available for review at the following locations:

- Caltrans District 2, 1657 Riverside Drive in Redding
- Shasta County Library at 1100 Parkview Avenue in Redding
- City Hall at 777 Cypress Avenue in Redding
- City Hall at 4477 Main Street in the City of Shasta Lake
- Tehama County Library at 545 Diamond Avenue in Red Bluff

The Draft will also available for review from November 16, 2023 until December 16, 2023 at Caltrans' website <u>https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-3/d3-programs/d3-environmental/d3-environmental-docs</u> or <u>https://bit.ly/Fix5Environmental</u> (see the Shasta County folder) and at the State Clearinghouse website <u>https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/</u>

WHERE DO YOU COME IN?

We encourage you to review the draft and provide any comments or information regarding the draft, project alternatives, or environmental issues. Please submit any comments you may have in writing by December 16, 2023, to:

California Department of Transportation District 2 1657 Riverside Drive Redding, CA 96001 or <u>D2PIO@dot.ca.gov</u>

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, or in digital format. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please contact the Caltrans Public Information Office at 530-225-3426 or TTY 711.