

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGES TO COMPLETE STREETS FACILITIES (PROJECT DELIVERY)

DISTRICT 8 EA 08-1M350 SHOPP ID 21763
COUNTY: RIVERSIDE ROUTE: 15
PROJECT POSTMILES: PM 3.0/8.1 PHASE: PA&ED (ENVIRONMENTAL)
APPROVED BY: DONNA BERRY, CHIEF ENGINEER, JULY 10, 2026

Complete Streets Scope Change:

This is a State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Project with pavement preservation as the anchor asset that also includes upgrades to existing traffic safety systems. At Project Initiation, three locations were identified in the project corridor for implementation of complete streets elements. These included bike lanes at the Rancho California Road overcrossing and the Overland Drive overcrossing, as well as a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the I-15/Winchester Road Northbound Loop On-Ramp. It is proposed to eliminate the bike lanes at Rancho California Road and the RRFB at the I-15/ Winchester Ramp after coordinating with the locals regarding current plans and projects.

Justification:

Caltrans District 8 met with the City of Temecula on June 4, 2025, to share the proposed project scope and gather input. During this meeting, the city confirmed that its Bikeway Plan does not include bike lanes along the Rancho California Road Overcrossing or nearby streets. As a result, adding bike lanes within the Caltrans Right-of-Way at this location would not contribute to a connected or planned bikeway network. Additionally, design analysis of the overcrossing showed that the existing lanes would need to be reduced to less than ten-foot widths to accommodate appropriate bike lanes, which would be nonstandard. The RRFB was eliminated when the Project Development Team (PDT) determined that a separate project (EA 08-43272) was in construction at the proposed I-15/Winchester ramp crossing location. Project 08-43272 includes several pedestrian safety enhancements at this ramp including crosswalk signage, lane reconfiguration to eliminate the double righthand turn lanes, and a high-visibility ladder crosswalk. These countermeasures mitigate the crossing concerns where the RRFB was previously proposed. The PDT will reassess this location during the PS&E phase to determine whether any additional pedestrian safety countermeasures are warranted. For the Overland Drive overcrossing, the district clarified that this overcrossing is not connected to an existing bikeway. However, the City of Temecula has indicated plans to implement a Class II bikeway and has already completed conceptual designs. While the City anticipates implementing the bikeway by 2028, a definitive timeline has not yet been established. Caltrans will continue to coordinate with the city on the timeline for the implementation of the bikeway. If the project timelines align, this project will continue to provide the bikeway on Overland Drive in the State right of way.