

# **Interstate 80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM) Project**

ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA  
DISTRICT 4 – ALA-80 (PM 1.99-8.04)  
CC-80 (PM 0.0-13.49)  
EA 3A7720

## **Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration/ Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact**



**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.



**July 2011**

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT**

This Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment (IS-MND/EA) has been prepared by the California Department of Transportation (Department) upon completing an environmental review process that followed the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives being considered for the project in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, California. The Project Development Team evaluated public review comments received during the review period, made revisions to the proposed project and selected a preferred alternative. This document discusses the preferred alternative selection and documents the Finding of No Significant Impact in this Final IS-MND/EA.

Changes to the Draft IS/EA are marked by a vertical line in the margins when text has been inserted that is specific to the needs of a Final IS-MND/EA. Edits resulting from minor project changes are also denoted by a vertical line in the margin. Minor edits to grammar and punctuation have not been marked in the document margins.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, 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 Caltrans District 4, Attn: Valerie Shearer, Office of Environmental Analysis, MS-8B, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA, 94623-0660; (510) 286-5594, Voice, or use the California Relay Service TTY number, 711.

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SCH# 2011042087  
04-ALA-80-PM 1.99/8.04  
04-CC-80-PM 0.0/13.49  
EA 3A7720  
Project Number 04 0000 2039

Implementation of systems management strategies (ramp metering and incident management) along I-80, from the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Toll Plaza (Alameda County; postmile 1.99) to the Carquinez Bridge (Contra Costa County; postmile 13.49).

**Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration/  
Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact**

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

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Department of Transportation

Alameda County Transportation Commission

July 29-11  
Date of Approval

  
Bijan Sartipi  
District Director  
California Department of Transportation  
NEPA and CEQA Lead Agency

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**California Department of Transportation  
Finding of No Significant Impact**

**for**

**Interstate 80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM) Project**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) have determined that the Build Alternative will have no significant impact on the human environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) which has been independently evaluated by the Department and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impacts of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures. It provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. The Department takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the attached EA.

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 the Department under its assumption of responsibility pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327.

7-29-11  
Date

  
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**Bijan Sartipi**  
District Director  
California Department of Transportation, District 4

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## Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to Division 13, Public Resources Code

### Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (the Department) proposes to implement systems management strategies (ramp metering and incident management) along a 19.5-mile portion of I-80 from the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Toll Plaza to the Carquinez Bridge. The project would monitor traffic operations through the use of closed circuit television cameras and traffic congestion detection devices. At seven out of 40 on-ramps where ramp metering would be installed, preferential High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes would be constructed to minimize delay for carpools and transit.

### Determination

The Department has prepared an Initial Study for this project, and following public review, has determined from this study that the proposed project would not have a substantial effect on the environment for the following reasons:

The proposed project would have no effect on land use, community impacts, growth, farmlands/timberlands, and utilities/emergency services.

In addition, the proposed project would have no significant effect on the coastal zone, traffic and transportation, visual/aesthetics, cultural resources, hydrology and floodplain, water quality and storm water runoff, geology, hazardous waste/materials, air quality, noise, and biological resources.

The proposed project would have no significant adverse effect on paleontological resources because the following mitigation measure would reduce potential effects to insignificance:

***Mitigation Measure PAL-1:** Prior to the start of construction, a qualified paleontologist shall be retained to conduct a field survey of the project right-of-way (ROW) to identify exposures of sensitive stratigraphic units that may be disturbed during project construction. A Paleontological Evaluation Report (PER) shall be prepared to define actual locations where monitoring will be necessary based upon the project design. The PER shall be prepared in accordance with the Department's Standard Environmental Reference (SER).*

*For any areas where surface expressions of sensitive stratigraphic units are identified, and for any areas where subsurface excavation is anticipated, the project paleontologist shall both design and implement a paleontological mitigation program (PMP) for the project. The PMP shall be designed by the project paleontologist consistent with Society of Vertebrate Paleontology guidelines (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology 1995, 1996) and with the Department's SER. The PMP shall include at a minimum: Preconstruction surveys ; construction monitoring; data recovery; fossil treatment; curation procedures; and reporting.*

  
 Bijan Sartipi  
 District Director  
 California Department of Transportation, District 4

7-29-11  
 Date

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