TWO ADDITIONAL RETAINING WALLS

Viewpoint ⬢: From quarry entrance looking west

At the quarry entrance at 5550 Niles Canyon Road (pictured at left), the highway will be widened to allow a lengthened left-turn pocket and other features that bring the intersection with the quarry road up to current standards. The quarry entrance is in the middle section of the project area, about two miles west of Sunol. The highway's southbound lane will be widened from 8 to 22 feet toward the Niles Canyon Railway and the northbound lane will be widened up to 17 feet to the south.

To accomodate widening at the quarry entrance, two additional retaining walls will be constructed. One will extend west from the quarry entrance for about 250 feet, reaching a height of seven feet. The other will extend east from the quarry entrance for about 650 feet and will reach heights up to 12 feet.

Approximate wall ├──┤ locations

TRAFFIC BARRIER CHANGE

Traffic barriers are placed on top of slopes and walls to retain and redirect errant vehicles. The barriers on top of downslope retaining walls which face the creek will now be stained solid concrete rather than metal-beam guardrail, as had been shown in simulations in the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment. This allows retaining walls to be constructed approximately three feet closer in to the roadway and away from the creek, and so will mimimize impacts to the creek.

Metal-beam guard rail on Niles Canyon Road

Example of stained solid concrete traffic barrier, used here under a retaining wall.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P. O. BOX 23660 MS 8B
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
ATTN: O. IBERIEN

Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!

PROJECT UPDATE for State Route 84 Niles Canyon Safety Improvement Project

This is to let you know that since the issue of the Niles Canyon Safety Improvement Project Draft Enviromental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (DEIR/EA), the project has been modified.

The project proposes roadway widening for safety improvements and the installation of retaining walls to accomodate this widening.

This flyer describes these modifications, which consist of the construction of two additional retaining walls and a change of traffic-barrier type on retaining walls overlooking the creek from metal-beam guardrail to stained solid concrete. Because of these changes, the comment period for this document under the California Enviromnental Quality Act has been extended by 45 days.

The original document can be found online at:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/documents/EIR-EA_2A3300-DED-FINAL-WEB.pdf

These modifications are now part of the proposed project and will be analyzed in the final environmental document. The preliminary determination is that they will not result in any additional significant environmental impacts.

Caltrans welcomes your comments on this document. To comment on the document or on these modifications:

- Submit comments via postal mail to: Valerie Heusinkveld, Environmental Branch Chief, Attention: Oliver Iberien, Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Analysis MS 8B 111 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94612
- Submit comments via e-mail to: valerie_heusinkveld@dot.ca.gov
- Submit comments by the deadline: October 7, 2010