

# APPENDIX C

## Consultation & Coordination

The Federal Highway Administration and the California Department of Transportation (Department) are serving as lead agencies in preparation of this Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA), with the cooperation of the City of El Centro, the County of Imperial, and the Imperial Valley Association of Governments (IVAG).

This document was prepared following consultation and coordination with various federal, state, and local agencies as well as with organizations and individuals within the vicinity of the proposed project in the Imperial Valley. Agency consultation and public participation have been accomplished through formal and informal methods, including a public scoping meeting held June 18, 2002 in the City Council Chambers at the El Centro City Hall, and a variety of formal and informal meetings and conversations between Department personnel and agency representatives. Various departments within the City of El Centro were consulted, including the Department of Public Works, Department of Planning, and the Department of Parks and Recreation. Public comments received during the scoping period supported noise abatement barriers at the R/W line and the proposed berm/wall combination in the northeast quadrant of the project area. Concern was also expressed about potential for transients occupying the “dead space” between the berm/wall and the property lines of homeowners.

In addition to public commentary, the results of coordination with all appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies have been incorporated into the environmental analysis presented in this document. Coordination with agencies included:

- April 14, 2003 – telephone conversation with John Gay, City Engineer, regarding relocation of the sewer lift station and planned growth in the area.
- August 21, 2002 from 2 – 4 pm -- Participation in the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Economic Development Corridors Initiative, Expert Panel Development Forecasting Workshop: I-8/Imperial Avenue Interchange Reconstruction. The workshop took place at the El Centro Chamber of Commerce, 1095 S. 4th Street, El Centro, CA. Participants in the workshop were:
  - \* Sandra Balmir - Transportation Planner, FHWA California Division
  - \* Mark Baza - Chief, Planning, District 11 California Department of Transportation
  - \* Harold Carter (or representative) - Sheriff Imperial County
  - \* Louis Fuentes – Director, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC)
  - \* Brent Grizzle - Developer/Farmer
  - \* Steve Hogan - Public Works Director, City of El Centro
  - \* Gary McFetrich – Developer, G-MAC Development (Desert Villages Subdivision)
  - \* Oscar Rodriquez – Director, Redevelopment, City of El Centro
  - \* David Selman – CEO, El Centro Regional Medical Center
  - \* Ed Snively – Realtor, Ed Snively Realty

- \* Dennis R. Ybarra - Senior Economist, HLB Decision Economics Inc.
- \* Michael W. Brewster – Associate Environmental Planner, District 11, California Department of Transportation
- September 17, 2002 -- Telephone conversation between Mike Brewster and Ken Skillman, Director of Development Services, city of El Centro, regarding relocation of the sewer lift station.
- August, 2002 -- Several email conversations during the month between Mike Brewster and Ken Skillman, on various details of the project.
- July 25, 2002 – meeting between Ann Fox and IID to discuss possible impacts of project.
- June 17, 2002 -- Letter from the City of El Centro (Mr. Martin Tracey, Director of Parks and Recreation) to the Department, regarding park/retention basins within the proposed Farmer’s Estates Subdivision.
- June 13, 2002 -- Telephone conversation between Mike Brewster and Martin Tracey, Director of Parks and Recreation, city of El Centro, regarding potential for park issues.
- May 22, 2002 -- Email letter to the Department from Steve Hogan, Director of Public works, city of El Centro, indicating that no active farming has occurred in any portion of the project area for at least 10 years.
- May 1, 2002 - meeting between Ann Fox and Steve Hogan, Director of Public Works, city of El Centro, to discuss project status and potential landscape themes.
- April 24, 2002 - meeting between Ann Fox and IVAG to discuss project status.
- April 10, 2002 - meeting between Ann Fox and Imperial Valley City Managers to discuss project development schedule.
- March 19, 2002 at 10:00 a.m -- Phone conversation between Mike Brewster and Ken Skillman, Director of Development Services for El Centro, (various details discussed).
- March through April 2002 -- Several phone conversations between Norma Lillegard, Associate City Planner for El Centro, and Michelle McCartt, District Socioeconomic Analyst, regarding community impacts.
- Several telephone conversations between Mike Brewster and Oliver Alvarado, Director of Planning & Housing, city of El Centro, November 2001, regarding socioeconomic impacts.