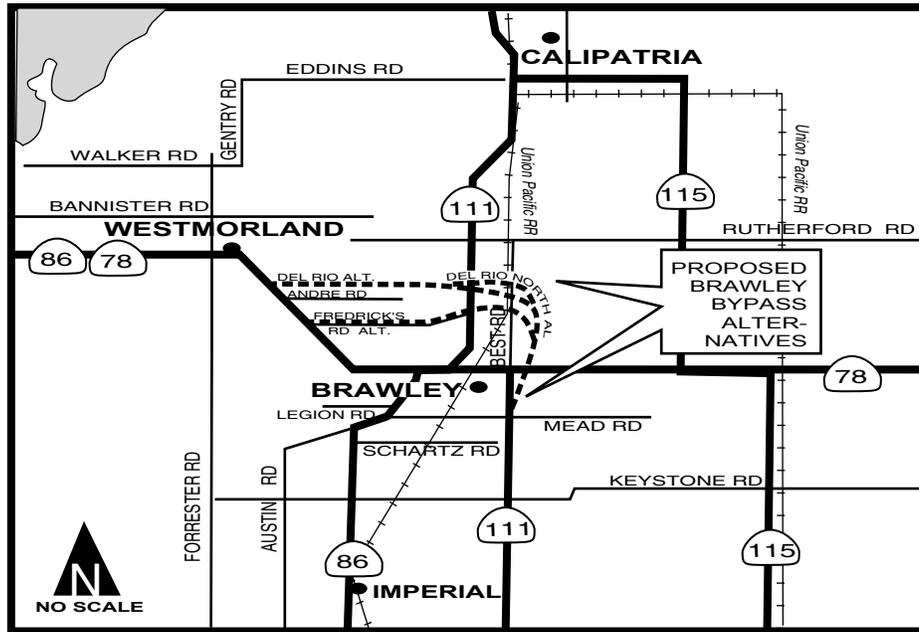




PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Document and Public Hearing SR-78/111 Expressway (Brawley Bypass)



WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Department) is proposing to construct a new four-lane expressway from State Route 78/86, northwest of the city of Brawley, to 2.4 km (1.5 miles) south of the eastern junction of State Route 111 & 78, in Imperial County.

WHY THIS AD?

Caltrans has studied the effects the project alternatives may have on the environment. Our studies show that the project could significantly affect the quality of the environment. A Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) which discusses potential project impacts has been prepared. This notice is to inform you of the Draft EIR/EIS and its availability for review, and a scheduled public hearing. The public hearing is to give you an opportunity to review and discuss proposed project features and the results of environmental studies before a final route alignment is selected. The proposed project could impact up to 0.17 ha (0.42 acres) of ACOE Jurisdictional wetlands.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC HEARING:

There will be no formal presentation. This will be an "Open Forum" hearing where you will have the opportunity to speak directly with Caltrans representatives about the project and its environmental impacts. A Certified Court Reporter will be available to take your comments for the record, or you may make them in writing, if preferred. All pertinent comments will be addressed in the Final Environmental Document.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The Draft EIR/EIS which describes the project is now available to the public for review at the following locations:

Brawley Public Library, 400 Main Street, Brawley; Imperial County Free Library, 539 W State Street, El Centro; Imperial Valley College Library, 380 E. Aten Road, Imperial; City of Brawley Planning Department, 400 Main Street; Caltrans District 11 in Old Town, 2829 Juan Street, San Diego.

Project maps, the Draft EIR/EIS, technical reports, and other project information are also available for review and copying at the Caltrans District Office located at 2829 Juan Street, San Diego on weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To obtain a copy of the Draft EIR/EIS, telephone or write to Gustavo Dallarda, Caltrans, P.O. Box 85406, San Diego, CA 92186-5406. The document is also available on-line at the following web address: www.dot.ca.gov/dist11.

WHERE YOU COME IN

Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Do you agree with the findings? Your comments will be part of the public records. If you wish, you may make comments at the public hearing, or submit written comments until August 14, 2001 to: Gustavo Dallarda, Caltrans, P.O. Box 85406, San Diego, CA 92186-5406. If there are no major concerns or comments on the project, Caltrans will request approval from the Federal Highway Administration and proceed with the final project design.

PUBLIC HEARING:

TIME: July 18, 2001
4:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Lions Memorial Center
225 A Street
Brawley, California

Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign or Foreign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact the District 11 Public Information Office at (619) 688-6670 at least 21 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.

CONTACT

For more information about this project, please contact Gustavo Dallarda, Project Manager, at (619) 688-6738, or John Chisholm, Senior Environmental Planner, at (619) 688-3272. For general information about transportation issues, please call the Caltrans Public Information Office at (619) 688-6670.