

Chapter 5 Comments and Coordination

Early and continuing coordination with the general public and appropriate public agencies is an essential part of the environmental process. It helps planners determine the necessary scope of environmental documentation and level of analysis required, and to identify potential impacts, mitigation measures, and related environmental requirements. Agency consultation and public participation for this project has been accomplished through a variety of formal and informal methods, including Project Development Team (PDT) meetings, speakers bureau briefings, Policy Working Group meetings, Stakeholder Working Group meetings, meetings with corridor city staff, meetings with other organizations or groups as requested, interagency coordination meetings, public scoping meetings, and public announcements placed in local newspapers, the *Federal Register*, at the County Clerk’s office, and in public libraries. This chapter summarizes the results of Caltrans efforts to fully identify, address, and resolve project-related issues through early and continuing coordination. Table 5-1 includes a summary of coordination activities conducted to date.

Table 5-1: Summary of Coordination Activities Conducted to Date

Timing	Activity
May 2009	A letter was sent by Caltrans requesting information on protected, threatened, and endangered species and critical habitats that would be in the vicinity of the proposed project.
May 2009	A cultural resources records search was conducted at the SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton.
June 30, 2009	Invitation letters were sent to all agencies with known or potential jurisdiction over land or resources within the project area to comply with SAFETEA-LU 6002’s rules on coordinating with agencies.
July 2009	A records search of the Sacred Land File was conducted by the NAHC. A list of Native American individuals and organizations was provided by the NAHC for additional information.
August 2009	A meeting was held with NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach to introduce the project and discuss potential issues related to the proposed project.
August 21, 2009	Invitation letters were sent to all agencies with known or potential jurisdiction over land or resources within the project area to comply with SAFETEA-LU 6002’s rules on coordinating with agencies.
August 26, 2009	An NOI of an EIS was drafted and submitted to FHWA to the Office of the Federal Register to be published in the <i>Federal Register</i> .
August 31, 2009	An NOP of an EIR was sent to the State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit of the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, distributed to agencies with potential interest in the project, sent for posting to local libraries in surrounding cities, and posted online on OCTA’s and Caltrans Web sites.

Table 5-1: Summary of Coordination Activities Conducted to Date

Timing	Activity
September 2009	Additional information was sought from the list of Native American individuals and organizations provided by the NAHC.
September 4, 2009	A public notice advertisement was published in English in the <i>Orange County Register</i> and <i>Long Beach Press-Telegram</i> , in Vietnamese in <i>Ngoui-Viet</i> , and in Spanish in the <i>Excelsior</i> to announce the beginning of the scoping period and to provide information related to the proposed project.
September 22, 2009	Public scoping meeting was held at the Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, Fountain Valley.
September 23, 2009	Public scoping meeting was held at the Huntington Beach Library, Huntington Beach.
September 24, 2009	Participating and resources agencies were invited to attend a scoping meeting to be held on October 6, 2009.
September 30, 2009	Public scoping meeting was held at the Westminster Community Center, Westminster.
October 1, 2009	Public scoping meeting was held at the Rush Park Auditorium, Rossmore.
October 6, 2009	A scoping meeting was held for participating and resource agencies at Parsons' offices, Irvine.
November 9, 2009	USACE submitted letter accepting Department's offer to become a Cooperating Agency.
December 14, 2009	Letters were sent to local government agencies soliciting information related to cultural resources.
December 2009	Letters were sent to local historical societies/historic preservation groups soliciting information related to cultural resources.
March 2010	A cultural resources records search was conducted at SCCIC, California State University, Fullerton.
May 3, 2010	USACE submitted letter with comments on the Coordination Plan.
May 2010	A records search of the Sacred Land File was conducted by NAHC. A list of Native American individuals and organizations was provided by the NAHC for additional information. Additional information was sought from the list of Native American individuals and organizations provided by the NAHC.
June 2010	Additional information was sought from the list of Native American individuals and organizations provided by the NAHC.
June 22, 2010	A response was received from Anthony Morales, Chairperson for the Gabrielino Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians. Mr. Morales inquired about the extent of the project, if any Native American observers would be included during the field survey, and, if not, he would appreciate being kept apprised of the results, noting that sites may be located near the San Gabriel River, Bolsa Chica Creek, and NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach. No additional responses received.
June 22, 2010	A response was received from Sonia Johnston, Tribal Vice Chairperson Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, indicating she has no comments at present; however, she would like to be notified if sites are found. No additional responses received.

Table 5-1: Summary of Coordination Activities Conducted to Date

Timing	Activity
June 22, 2010	A response was received from Anita Espinosa, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, asking to be notified if sites are discovered during construction and requested the presence of a Native American monitor. No additional responses received.
August 26, 2010	Letters and Chapter 1, Proposed Project, and Chapter 2, Project Alternatives, of this Draft EIR/EIS were sent to participating agencies for review and comment.
September 20, 2010	Letters were sent to local government agencies soliciting information related to cultural resources.
October 20, 2009	USACE submitted letter with comments on Purpose and Need Statement and Range of Alternatives. Letter was commenting on August 26, 2010, letter.
January 25, 2011	The Air Quality Interagency Consultation (TCWG) determined the project is not a project of air quality concern (POAQC) and a qualitative PM hot-spot analysis is required.
August 2011	The HPSR was transmitted to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
August 2011	The “Summary of Methodology/Impacts Table” and revised project schedule was mailed to the participating and cooperating agencies.
August/September 2011	In response to August 2011 mailing of Summary of Methodology/Impacts Table, five Cities asked to be Participating Agencies, including the City of Garden Grove, City of Long Beach, City of Los Alamitos, City of Seal Beach, and City of Westminster.
October 19, 2011	Letters were sent to United States Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service providing rationale as to why a finding of no effect is appropriate for the project.
October 2011	A letter was received from the SHPO concurring that 332 properties are not eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR, and the Segerstrom House, 3315 Fairview Road, was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C. Westminster Lanes, 6471 Westminster Avenue, Westminster; Leisure World, 1901 Golden Rain Road, Seal Beach; and Segerstrom Barn, 3315 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, eligibility status was deemed indeterminate. The SHPO recommended moving forward given the finding of No Historic Properties Affected.
October 23, 2012	A letter was received from the City of Huntington Beach concurring with Caltrans regarding De Minimis Section 4(f) determination for Pleasant View Park
November 5, 2012	A letter was received from the City of Westminster concurring with Caltrans regarding De Minimis Section 4(f) determination for Buckingham Park.
November 5, 2012	A letter was received from the City of Westminster concurring with Caltrans regarding De Minimis Section 4(f) determination for Cascade Park.
December 19, 2012	A letter was received from the County of Orange concurring with Caltrans regarding De Minimis Section 4(f) determination for the Santa Ana River Trail.
October 23, 2013	A letter was received from the Ocean View School District concurring with Caltrans regarding De Minimis Section 4(f) determination for the Ocean View Preparatory Preschool.
July 14, 2014	Caltrans submitted request for a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination.
August 13, 2014	Caltrans received the Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination from the USACE.
October 2014	Caltrans obtained an updated species list from the USFWS on-line Information Planning and Conservation System (IPaC).
October 28, 2014	The PM hot-spot analysis was concurred with by the TCWG.

Table 5-1: Summary of Coordination Activities Conducted to Date

Timing	Activity
January 2015- March 2015	Caltrans and OCTA are meeting with all the corridor cities to provide project status, information pertaining to “identification of PA” and how we are addressing their concerns/comments providing during the circulation of the Draft and Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS.
February 9, 2015	FHWA issued a project-level conformity determination.

5.1 Permits and Approvals Needed

The permits and/or approvals listed in Tables S-4 and 2-2 are anticipated to be required for project construction. Caltrans will work closely with all of the agencies, utility companies, municipalities, and/or local jurisdictions to maintain communication and coordination throughout the project development process and receipt of the various permits.

5.2 Coordination with Agencies and Public

5.2.1 23 U.S.C. 139 Coordination

In compliance with 23 U.S.C. 139, Caltrans undertook an extensive effort first to provide an opportunity for public and interagency involvement, followed by agency participation in the definition of the project's purpose and need. Caltrans utilized the 23 USC 139 guidance to establish a plan to continue providing opportunities for public involvement, as well as closely working with participating and cooperating agencies.

Many means were used to announce the beginning of the environmental process and updates thereafter. Stakeholders in the Orange County area, as well as local, state, and federal agencies, were notified of the commencement of the environmental process for the project, invited to the four public scoping meetings, and given the opportunity to submit comments in a variety of formats. These are described below.

5.2.1.1 Consultation and Coordination with Agencies

23 U.S.C. 139 requires that the lead agencies establish a Coordination Plan for public and agency participation and comment during the environmental review process. The plan establishes a framework and timeframe for regular communication among all of the agencies involved in the EIR/EIS process and the public. In addition, the plan explains the roles of and provides contact information for agencies involved in the EIR/EIS process (see Appendix I, Public and Agency Coordination).

Participating Agency Invitation Letter

The initial step in complying with the 23 U.S.C. 139 rules on coordinating with agencies is to invite all agencies with known or potential jurisdiction over land or resources within the project area to participate in the project process. Invitation letters were sent in two rounds; one set was sent June 30, 2009 (13 invitations to cities and 28 to state and federal agencies), with a follow-up round of 16 letters sent August 21, 2009, to agencies added to the SER guidelines' list of recommended agencies. Letters to the agencies invited comments and a commitment to taking on participating agency status. The letters mapped out the protocol for accepting the invitation: for state or local agencies, a letter accepting status was required; for federal agencies, participating agency status would be granted unless a written letter declining the status was received.

Of the invited agencies, 16 responded with acceptance letters. USACE and EPA were later invited to serve as cooperating agencies; only USACE accepted, as evidenced by their letter to Caltrans dated November 9, 2009 (see Appendix I). Several federal agencies assumed participating status, even though they did not respond to the invitation. Additionally, several

agencies are granted special participating status on projects, such as “responsible agency” (i.e., CTC) and “trustee agency” (i.e., CDFW); these agencies have the opportunity to participate in the project and are included in the environmental review process. In total, 25 cities and agencies have a role in the environmental process of the project. Table 5-2 shows the agencies involved and their role(s).

Table 5-2: Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
FHWA	Approving Agency	Provide government-to-government consultation and air quality conformity determination.
Caltrans	Lead Agency, Sponsor Agency	Manage responsibilities under 23 U.S.C 139; prepare EIR/EIS; provide opportunity for public and participating/cooperating agency involvement; provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS, including preparation of a conceptual mitigation plan.
OCTA	Sponsor Agency; Participating Agency	Provide funds, resources, and leadership attention needed to complete EIR/EIS; provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
CTC	Responsible Agency	Review CEQA documents and make decision about programming and allocating funds to project.
USACE	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Assist in identifying any waters of the U.S. and wetlands within the project area and provide feedback on the 404 process; provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS; provide Section 404 Nationwide Permit for filling or dredging waters of the United States.
United States Department of Navy	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIS.
USFWS	Participating Agency	Assist in identifying federally listed species within the project area and provide guidance on the Section 7 processes; provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
EPA	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
NAHC	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
SCAG	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
Transportation Corridor Agencies	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.

Table 5-2: Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
Orange County Department of Education	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Fountain Valley	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Costa Mesa	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
RWQCB, Region 8	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS; provide Section 401 Water Quality Certification.
Rossmoor Community Services District	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Irvine	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Huntington Beach	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
CHP	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/ EIR/EIS.
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIS.
SCAQMD	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
CDFW	Trustee Agency; Responsible Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS; provide Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement.
USDA NRCS	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
Department of Parks and Recreation-Orange Coast District	Trustee Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Garden Grove	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Long Beach	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Los Alamitos	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Seal Beach	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.
City of Westminster	Participating Agency	Provide comments on purpose and need, range of alternatives, and Draft/Final EIR/EIS.

On October 6, 2009, a meeting was held for participating and resource agencies. The agencies were provided with a project overview, a discussion of alternatives and purpose and need, and a list of anticipated permits and studies. The process for input on the purpose and need and range of alternatives was discussed. In a letter to Caltrans dated May 3, 2010, USACE submitted comments on the Coordination Plan (see Appendix I). On August 26, 2010, letters were sent to participating agencies, along with the first two chapters of the Draft EIR/EIS – Chapter 1, Proposed Project (including the Purpose and Need), and Chapter 2, Project Alternatives. Comments received from the participating agencies were taken into consideration and in a letter to Caltrans dated October 20, 2009 [sic] (see Appendix I).

On August 1, 2011, the “Summary of Methodology/Impacts Table” and revised project schedule were mailed to the Participating Agencies and the Cooperating Agency. This table was a synopsis of the detailed analyses in the Draft EIR/EIS, and the Participating Agencies and Cooperating Agency were asked for comments/questions in compliance with the Section 6002 Coordination Plan. At this time, five Cities asked to be Participating Agencies and were added to the list in Table 5-2. The cities were the City of Garden Grove, City of Long Beach, City of Los Alamitos, City of Seal Beach, and City of Westminster. These cities will be considered Participating Agencies from August 2011 forward.

On July 24, 2014, the PDT identified Alternative 3 as the PA. The Summary, Section S.3 and Chapter 2, Section 2.2.7 discusses the rationale and process pertaining to “identification of the PA”. On February 18, 2015, Caltrans mailed out a letter to all the Participating Agencies and Cooperating Agency regarding identification of the PA.

Table 5-3 is from the Coordination Plan and summarizes the general schedule for the EIR/EIS. Also shown in the table below is the status of each of the coordination points.

Table 5-3: Coordination Points for the 139 Process

Coordination Point	Date	Agency Responsible	Agency Providing Input
Notice of Intent EIR/EIS	Fall 2009 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Purpose and Need	Spring 2010 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Range of Alternatives	Spring 2010 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Collaboration on methodologies	Spring 2010 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Socioeconomic and environmental impacts	Summer 2011 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency

Table 5-3: Coordination Points for the 139 Process

Coordination Point	Date	Agency Responsible	Agency Providing Input
Circulation of Draft EIR/EIS	Summer 2012 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Circulation of the Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS	June 2013 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Identify Preferred Alternative	Summer 2014 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Circulation of Final EIR/EIS and the level of design detail	Spring 2015 (completed)	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Issue ROD	Spring 2015	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency
Completion of anticipated permits, licenses, and approvals after ROD	Summer 2016	Caltrans/OCTA	Participating Agencies/ Cooperating Agency

5.2.2 Project Team Coordination

5.2.2.1 Project Development Team Meetings

An interdisciplinary PDT was established for this project with extensive structure involvement to ensure the best plan and quality design that could be safely and efficiently constructed and maintained within scope, budget and schedule.

The PDT is an Interdisciplinary team (a mandate from NEPA)- which utilized a systematic, interdisciplinary approach ensuring the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts in planning and in decision making which could have impacted the environment. The PDT’s interdisciplinary approach used interaction of different disciplines in the planning, developing, and construction, evaluating available options. The PDT advised and assisted the project manager in directing the course of studies, made recommendations to the project manager and executive management in making decisions based on weighing all the facts/ information available, and worked to carry out the project work plan.

Members of the PDT participated in major meetings, public hearings, and community involvement. The PDT also served as the nucleus for the value analysis team. The PDT was responsible for conducting/approving of studies and the accumulation of data throughout project development.

To ensure thorough analysis of the social, economic, environmental and engineering aspects of the project, the PDT included representatives of various disciplines as needed. The PDT had members from engineering, traffic, maintenance, Right of Way, biology, culture, water quality, hydrology, landscaping, etc. as well as external members representing the interests of the local cities, Orange and Los Angeles counties, and OCTA. An extensive program of community involvement was carried out by the public outreach team (member of PDT) to encourage citizen and local agency participation throughout the project, including public meetings and the public hearings.

Regularly scheduled monthly PDT meetings assisted in maintaining group dynamics and communication. Besides, PDT meetings were called as necessary. More meetings were necessary during initial studies, with decreasing need during the technical studies, and increasing again during completion and analysis of results prior to making specific recommendations for the draft and final EIR/EIS. Focused PDT meetings were also conducted to resolve specific project issues. The PDT members attended meetings when their involvement was necessary.

5.2.2.2 Value Analysis

A 6-day Value Analysis (VA) study was conducted in July 2010. The findings of this study were summarized in a *Final Value Analysis Study Report* (VMS 2011). The VA team included representatives of Caltrans, OCTA, and the consultant.

The Value Metrics process was utilized to evaluate the three design alternatives currently being considered. The evaluation process considered five attributes that included key aspects of project performance. The performance scores for each of the design alternatives were then divided by their construction costs to derive a value index. The value indices for each concept were normalized, and the results were then expressed as a percent (%) score.

All three design alternatives were required to fit within the footprint, as presented in the MIS, with no additional acquisition of ROW outside of agreed-upon limits. As such, all of the design alternatives shifted the centerline of I-405 and eliminated the buffer separation between the HOV and GP lanes. The project required that all overcrossing structures be replaced, regardless of design alternative, to accommodate the widened mainline. The new structures would span the ultimate cross-section configuration, regardless of design alternative.

Generally speaking, Alternative 1 was found to provide the lowest level of improvement to mainline operations, while Alternatives 2 and 3 would provide approximately the same level of improvement. Alternative 3 was found to rank slightly higher in mainline operations because it would provide the ability to manage the traffic by adjusting the toll amounts based on traffic

congestion in the GP lanes and would provide a direct connection to/from the I-405 express lanes to SR-73.

At the time of the study, Measure M funding was estimated to be able to generate approximately \$600 million for the proposed project. The estimates for the various design alternatives are all more than \$1 billion. The revenue-generating ability of Alternative 3 would provide additional funding and allow construction at the earliest possible time. Alternatives 1 and 2 would take longer to acquire necessary funds to construct all of the project elements.

The VA team used the differences in time to acquire funds as a means of including the “fundability” of the design alternatives in their respective evaluations. The three VA suggestions accepted by the PDT and project decision makers provided project funding and construction staging considerations and suggested the continuation and expansion of a construction method to reduce the vertical profile of the structures. The VA workshop also recommended segmenting and awarding the proposed project, which would allow packaging and phasing of the proposed project based upon funding availability.

5.2.2.3 Early Scoping

To complete the public scoping activities for the preliminary engineering and environmental document phase of the I-405 Improvement Project, Caltrans coordinated with several agencies. The scoping period of 30 days extended from September 4 to October 8, 2009, and was officially initiated by circulation of a notice mailer, as well as the formal NOI and the NOP announcing the undertaking of a joint EIR/EIS. In addition, four Public Scoping Meetings were held as part of the public notification process required under NEPA and CEQA. Comments from the public, as well as from interested parties and public agencies, were welcomed via comment cards at each meeting, by mail, or through e-mail. All comments were documented to inform the proceeding environmental review process.

Notice of Preparation

To fulfill CEQA requirements, an NOP of an EIR was drafted announcing commencement of the EIR/EIS process for the project (see Appendix I). The NOP was sent to the State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit of the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, distributed to agencies with potential interest in the project, sent for posting to local libraries in surrounding cities, and posted online on OCTA’s and Caltrans’ Web sites on August 31, 2009. Pursuant to PRC 21092.3 and 21152, the notice was officially submitted to the Orange County Clerk-Recorder, Tom Daly, to be posted for 30 days for public review. Additionally, the NOP was formally submitted to the California Transportation Commission (CTC), along with a memorandum and NOP summary providing further information.

Notice of Intent

To fulfill NEPA requirements, an NOI of an EIS was drafted and submitted by FHWA to the Office of the Federal Register to be published in the *Federal Register* on August 26, 2009 (see Appendix I). The NOI was also posted on OCTA's and Caltrans's Web sites.

Public Notice Advertisement

A public notice advertisement (see Figure 5-1) was designed containing information on the proposed project and the scoping period, including the dates and locations of the four public scoping meetings, as well as contact information for submitting comments. The advertisement was designed using the template available on the Standard Environmental Reference (SER) Web site and, as part of a public outreach made in good faith, was translated into Spanish and Vietnamese. On September 4, 2009, the beginning of the public scoping period, the advertisement ran as a ¼ page spread in English in the *Orange County Register* and *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, in Vietnamese in *Nguoi-Viet*, and in Spanish in the *Excelsior*.

Public Notice Direct Mail Distribution

A mailer (see Figure 5-2), including all of the relevant information as published in the NOP and NOI, was designed and produced for distribution to all property owners/occupants within 0.25-mile buffer around I-405 from SR-73 to I-605. Approximately 23,000 residents and businesses received the mailer announcing the project, inviting them to the public scoping meetings and providing them with the necessary information to file their official comments.



Public Notice

Notice of Preparation and Announcement of Public Scoping Meetings



WHAT'S BEING PLANNED	<p>Caltrans (California Department of Transportation), in cooperation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), is proposing to widen the San Diego Freeway (I-405) between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605). The purpose of the proposed improvement is to improve travel conditions for work, recreation, school, and commerce by increasing freeway capacity, improving traffic and interchange operations, and enhancing road safety to meet state and federal standards.</p>
WHY THIS AD	<p>As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Caltrans and OCTA are releasing the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Notice of Intent (NOI - Published in the Federal Register) for the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Project. There are currently four Build Alternatives, and a Transportation Systems Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management/Mass Transit Alternative, and one No Build Alternative. During the EIR/EIS, environmental and engineering analyses will be completed to identify the alternative that will meet the existing and future transportation needs in the corridor.</p> <p>This Notice is to inform you of the start of the environmental process and to give you an opportunity to comment on the project. The EIR/EIS will be undertaken to analyze factors that include, but are not limited to, the following: aesthetics, cultural resources, biological resources, hazardous wastes and materials, public services and facilities, water quality, floodplain, noise, air quality, recreation, community impacts, and transportation/traffic.</p>
WHAT'S AVAILABLE	<p>The NOP/NOI is available for public review and comment between September 4, 2009 and October 8, 2009 at www.octa.net/405improvement and www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm or at Caltrans District 12, 3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380, Irvine, CA 92612 on weekdays (M-Thu) from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.</p>
WHERE YOU COME IN	<p>Four Public Scoping Meetings (time, date, and location listed below) will be held to provide an early exchange of information and to give interested parties an opportunity to provide comments or concerns. Comments will become part of the public record and will be considered in defining the scope of the project and developing the EIR/EIS.</p>
WHEN AND WHERE	<p>Public Scoping Meetings will be held at the following times and locations:</p> <p>Tuesday, September 22, 2009 - 6:00-8:00 p.m., Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center 17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708</p> <p>Wednesday, September 23, 2009 - 6:00-8:00 p.m., Huntington Beach Library 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.</p> <p>Wednesday, September 30, 2009 - 6:00-8:00 p.m., Westminster Community Center AB Room 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683.</p> <p>Thursday, October 01, 2009 - 6:00-8:00 p.m., Rush Park Auditorium 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720.</p>
CONTACT	<p>All written comments, questions, or concerns must be submitted no later than October 8, 2009, to Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief, Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 Scoping", 2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200, Irvine, CA, 92612. Comments may also be sent via email to 405scoping.parsons@parsons.com.</p> <p>Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact CALTRANS District 12, Attn: Smita Deshpande at (949) 724-2000 at least 21 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TTY line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1 800 735 2922</p>

Figure 5-1: Public Notice of Scoping Advertisement

Public Scoping Notice

Interstate 405 Improvement Project:
From State Route 73 to Interstate 605



Why Improve the 405?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), proposes to increase capacity, improve traffic and interchange operations, and enhance safety by widening the segment of I-405 from SR-73 to I-605 in Orange County. The total length of the project is approximately 14 miles and would relieve congestion and improve operational efficiency on I-405.

The proposed project is one of several projects in the renewed Measure M initiative needed to respond to a lack of freeway capacity and roadway deficiencies. Currently, I-405 in both the northbound and southbound directions within the project limits experiences heavy peak-hour congestion and traffic delays due to high traffic volumes, weaving, and merging/diverging. The need for this project is based on an assessment of the transportation demand and current and predicted future traffic.

Purpose of Public Scoping:

- Provide the public and the governmental agencies with information about the proposed widening of Interstate 405 (I-405) from State Route 73 (SR-73) to Interstate 605 (I-605) in the County of Orange
- Provide an opportunity for the public to officially comment on the project.

Caltrans is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Lead Agency and the OCTA is the Funding Agency and a Responsible Agency under CEQA. A combined Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for this project.

Public Scoping Meetings:

Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Huntington Beach Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Westminster Community Center - A/B Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683

Thursday, October 01, 2009, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720

Project Location



Alternatives:

Baseline Alternative (No Build)

- No additional lanes or interchange improvements

Build Alternative 1: Add One General Purpose Lane in Each Direction

- Adds a single general purpose freeway lane in each direction of the I-405 freeway from Euclid Street to the I-605 interchange
- Interchange improvements for some interchanges within the project limits

Build Alternative 2: Add Two General Purpose Lanes in Each Direction

- Adds two general purpose lanes in each direction
- Two lanes in each direction will extend from Euclid Street to the I-605 Interchange

Build Alternative 3: Express Facility Alternative

- Adds one toll lane to the existing carpool lane that will be managed together (Federal Highway Administration tolling authority required)
- Adds a general purpose lane in each direction north of Euclid Street to I-605

Build Alternative 4: Localized Improvements

- Adds one additional general purpose lanes at various locations and improves various interchanges between Euclid Street and I-605 on I-405

The Transportation Systems Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM)/Mass Transit Alternative

- Involves low-cost operational improvements and not major capital projects

Comments:

We welcome your input on this project. Please provide any comments concerning alternatives to be studied or potential social, economic, or environmental impacts resulting from this project. Submit your comments, questions, and contact information by October 8, 2009 to:

Smita Deshpande
Branch Chief
Caltrans- District 12
Attn: 405 Scoping
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92612
Tel: 949.724.2000

In addition, comments can be emailed to:
405scoping.parsons@parsons.com

The NOP and NOI can be found at:
www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm
www.octa.net/405improvement

Environmental Analysis:

The environmental document will analyze impacts that include, but are not limited to the following:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Aesthetics | • Environmental Justice | • Invasive Species | • Utilities/Emergency Services |
| • Air Quality | • Floodplain | • Natural Communities | • Threatened and Endangered Species |
| • Animal Species | • Farmlands | • Noise | • Transportation/Traffic |
| • Biological Resources | • Growth | • Paleontology | • Visual/Aesthetics |
| • Community Character and Cohesion | • Geology | • Plant Species | • Water Quality |
| • Cultural Resources | • Hydrology and Floodplain | • Public Services | • Wetlands |
| • Energy | • Hazardous Wastes and Materials | • Recreation | |
| | | • Relocations | |

Figure 5-2: Public Scoping Notice Mailer

Web Site

Web sites were developed by OCTA detailing the proposed project, featuring an image gallery, project overview, and a chart of environmental phase milestones. The site also included downloadable fact sheets on the project, as well as maps, conceptual drawings, and copies of all public notices and presentations given. Contact information for official comments was also provided.

The NOP and NOI were available for review on OCTA's and Caltrans' Web sites at the following addresses:

- www.octa.net/405improvement
- www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm

5.2.3 NOP/NOI Scoping Process

The NOP/NOI was sent to all agencies who received letters of invitation to be participating agencies, regardless of their response. Those that had accepted participating agency status, whether by written response or by not responding (in the case of federal agencies), also received a Coordination Plan outlining the roles and responsibilities of agencies, as well as the process of collaborating on the project.

Agencies that responded to the NOP with specific comments on the environmental process expressed the following concerns and provided the following points of guidance:

- **OC Public Works** commented regarding ROW, bikeways, riding and hiking trails, and water quality.
- **EPA** commented on water and air quality, environmental justice issues, and suggested a refinement of the project's scope, purpose and need, and explanation of the range of alternatives.
- **SCAG** commented on the regional significance of the project, providing detailed policies for guidance to consider the project within the context of regional goals and plans, and suggested a source for information on mitigation measures.
- **OCWD** requested that issues be addressed in the Draft EIR/EIS that relate to bridges, water district facilities, the Orange County Groundwater Basin, and BMPs that would be used.
- **NAHC** responded with feedback regarding consultation with tribes and the procedures for cultural resources and sacred lands.
- **CDFW** responded with guidance for dealing with wetland and riparian habitats, streams, channels, waters of the U.S., and threatened or endangered species, as well as feedback for biological mitigation monitoring.

- The **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** responded by explaining they had no jurisdiction or authority in the project area, and thus no comments on the project.
- **John Wayne Airport** sent information that would be relevant for the EIR/EIS if the project study area is extended into the vicinity of the airport.
- **Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA)** requested that the EIR/EIS evaluate a tolled connection between the proposed I-405 Express Facility and the tolled portion of SR-73.

After the official scoping period ended on October 8, 2009, agencies continued to send feedback on the NOP. The following issues were brought to attention:

- The **City of Long Beach** requested that consideration be given to the proposed project's impacts, particularly in conjunction with the SR-22 WCC Project, on regional transportation and traffic beyond the study area in Long Beach.
- The **Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection**, provided information regarding the proposed project's potential impacts on agricultural lands.
- **CEC** sent information on how to reduce the energy usage involved in the proposed project.

Scoping Meeting for Participating and Resource Agencies

An e-mail was sent on September 24, 2009, inviting participating and resource agencies to attend a scoping meeting dedicated to hearing agencies' comments on the proposed project. The meeting was held on October 6, 2009, at the Parsons Irvine office, 2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200, Irvine, CA 92612. Fourteen (14) agencies were represented. Topics presented by project team members included information on the public scoping meetings, the range of alternatives, the project's purpose and need, and anticipated permits for the environmental process. The meeting gave agencies the chance to voice their views and concerns about the project, as well as obtain more detailed information on the project and their roles in coordinating throughout the EIR/EIS process.

5.2.3.1 Public Participation

Public Scoping

During the public scoping process at the commencement of the environmental process, several opportunities were afforded to the public to get involved.

The environmental process encourages public participation, and public scoping meetings were held as follows:

- Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

- Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Huntington Beach Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
- Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Westminster Community Center - A/B Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683
- Thursday, October 1, 2009, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720

The scoping meetings were designed to explain the proposed project and the environmental process to residents, business operators, commuters, elected officials, and other stakeholders. All four meetings provided visitors with the opportunity to hear a detailed presentation on the proposed project; speak with staff from OCTA, Caltrans, and Parsons; view boards depicting the EIR/EIS process; and visualize the alternatives under consideration as they had been designed at that time. All attendees were provided with a project newsletter and a frequently-asked-questions handout.

Attendees were encouraged to document their comments with the court reporter and with submission of a comment card. The meetings had strong attendance, including visits from local government officials.

Public Scoping Comment Summary

Several written comments and numerous e-mails were received during the public scoping period. Most of the comments came from concerned business and home owners; however, many of the comments came from agencies with specific guidance on the environmental process. The most common issues that residents in the surrounding areas expressed concern about at the public scoping meetings and via mail or e-mail are the following:

- Concern over how many homes, if any, would be taken, and where those homes would be located
- Opposition to the idea of being tolled to use the freeway
- Questions about noise impacts and soundwalls
- How the project would impact property values
- Inquiries into the environmental study process, including which studies would be undertaken, with emphasis on noise and air quality
- Suggestions about mass transit options
- Questions about funding the project
- Suggestions about alternatives and possible design modifications

The public's scoping comments were considered in the preparation of the Draft EIR/EIS as appropriate.

5.2.3.2 Ongoing Public Participation

Between February 2009 and January 2012, a robust public outreach effort was undertaken. To date, 155 meetings have been held and fall within the general classifications provided below.

- Scoping Meetings – Formal Scoping Meeting, advertised for public input.
- Task Meetings.
- Resource Agency Meetings – Meetings per the Section 6002 process to solicit input.
- City Council Meetings – Meetings to inform local decision makers about project. Input provided by members of the City Council.
- Policy Working Group – Regular meetings to inform OCTA and local decision makers about the project. Input provided by members of the group.
- Stakeholders Working Group – Regular meetings to inform local stakeholders, including business leaders and community members, about the project. Input provided by members of the group.
- Stakeholder Meetings – Meetings held with interested groups that will be affected by the project, including NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach, businesses, and residential and community groups and individuals. Input was provided from these meeting regarding specific issues for the project.
- OCTA Board Meetings – Business matters and/or updates on the project at regularly scheduled OCTA Board and Committee meetings. Input provided by OCTA Board Members.
- OC Public Works and Local City Representatives – Meeting with County of Orange Public Works and affected local city staff members to receive input about project-specific issues.
- PDT Meetings.
- Agency Coordination/Tech Workshops.

These meetings have included project briefings to cities along the project area, as well as individual businesses, business groups, community groups, and community leaders. Table 5-4 includes the details of the major meetings that have been conducted. The public outreach will continue throughout the environmental and construction phases of the project.

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
Westminster City Council	March 2, 2009	Rose Casey	20	City Council and Staff	8200 Westminster Avenue Westminster, CA 92683	(714) 898-3311 ex. 229	Adolfo Ozaeta
Policy Working Group	March 4, 2009	Rose Casey Christina Byrne	20	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Fountain Valley City Council	April 7, 2009	Rose Casey	40	City Council and Staff	10200 Slater Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708	(714) 593-4445	Mark Lewis
Orange County Business Council Infrastructure Committee	April 14, 2009	Rose Casey	20	Infrastructure Committee	2 Park Plaza, Suite 100 Irvine, CA 92614		Kris Murray
Huntington Beach City Council	April 20, 2009	Rose Casey	12	City Council and Staff	2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648	(714) 536-5523	Bob Stachelski
Office of Supervisor Janet Nguyen	May 6, 2009	Rose Casey	1	Matthew Harper	Orange County Hall of Administration 10 Civic Center Plaza Santa Ana, CA 92701	(714) 834-3110	Matthew Harper
Costa Mesa City Council	May 12, 2009	Rose Casey	15	City Council and Staff	77 Fair Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626	(714) 754-5032	Raja Sethuraman
Stakeholder Working Group	May 12, 2009	Rose Casey Christina Byrne Kevin Haboian	28	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
Huntington Beach Chamber Transportation Committee	May 15, 2009	Rose Casey	10	Transportation Committee	19891 Beach Boulevard, Suite 140 Huntington Beach, CA 92648	(714) 536-8888	Perry Cain
Growth Management Area 2	June 24, 2009	Rose Casey	20	Ken Wilhelm LSA			Ken Wilhelm
Stakeholder Working Group	July 2, 2009	Kevin Haboian Neal Denno Christina Byrne	21	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Westminster Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee	August 12, 2009	Rose Casey	15	Legislative Committee	Huntington Westminster Independent Senior Living 13920 Hoover Street Westminster, CA 92683	(714) 890-1252	Steve Navares
Congressman Dana Rohrabacher	August 12, 2009	Rose Casey	2	Kathleen Hollingsworth	101 Main Street, Suite 380 Huntington Beach, CA 92648	(714) 960-6483	Kathleen Hollingsworth
Assemblyman Van Tran	August 21, 2009	Christina Byrne	2	Dave Everett	1503 South Coast Drive, Suite 205 Costa Mesa, CA 92626		Dave Everett
Policy Working Group	August 26, 2009	Rose Casey Kevin Haboian Macie Cleary Christina Byrne		Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Operating Engineers Local 12	September 2, 2009	Christina Byrne	25	Doug Clark	3311 W. Ball Road Anaheim, CA 92804	(714) 827-4591	Doug Clark

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
Stakeholder Working Group	September 15, 2009	Rose Casey Kevin Haboian Macie Cleary Christina Byrne		Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Bella Terra	December 3, 2009	Christina Byrne Rose Casey	7	Staff Members	7777 Edinger Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92647	(714) 897-2534	Patricia Apel
Stakeholder Working Group	October 19, 2010	Niall Barrett Kevin Haboian Neal Denno Macie Cleary Christina Byrne	16	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Policy Working Group	December 2, 2010	Niall Barrett Kevin Haboian Neal Denno Macie Cleary	18	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
Mayor Pro Tem Righheimer, City of Costa Mesa	May 10, 2011	Niall Barrett	6	City Staff	77 Fair Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626	(714) 754-5285	Raja Sethuraman
Costa Mesa Taxpayer Association	May 16, 2011	Christina Byrne	1	Colin McCarthy			Colin McCarthy
City of Costa Mesa City Council	May 17, 2011	Niall Barrett Christina Byrne Rose Casey	50	City Council and Staff	77 Fair Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626	(714) 754-5285	Raja Sethuraman
City of Rossmoor Staff Briefing	July 11, 2011	Niall Barrett	1	Henry Taboada	Parsons 2201 Dupont Drive, # 200 Irvine, CA 92612	(562) 430-3707	Henry Taboada

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
City of Westminster Staff Briefing	July 11, 2011	Niall Barrett	3	City Staff	Parsons 2201 Dupont Drive, # 200 Irvine, CA 92612	(714) 898-3311 ex. 229	Adolfo Ozaeta
City of Huntington Beach Staff Briefing	July 11, 2011	Niall Barrett	1	City Council	Parsons 2201 Dupont Drive, # 200 Irvine, CA 92612	(714) 536-5523	Bob Stachelski
City of Fountain Valley Staff Briefing	July 11, 2011	Niall Barrett	1	City Staff	Parsons 2201 Dupont Drive, # 200 Irvine, CA 92612	(714) 593-4445	Mark Lewis
City of Costa Mesa Staff Briefing	July 11, 2011	Niall Barrett	1	City Staff	Parsons 2201 Dupont Drive, # 200 Irvine, CA 92612	(714) 754-5285	Raja Sethuraman
Westminster Chamber of Commerce	September 14, 2011	Christina Byrne	6	Membership	Huntington Westminster Independent Senior Living 13920 Hoover Street Westminster, CA 92683	(714) 890-1252	Steve Navares
City of Huntington Beach	October 3, 2011	Niall Barrett	10	City Council and Staff	2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648		
City of Fountain Valley	October 4, 2011	Niall Barrett	15	City Council and Staff	10200 Slater Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708		
Policy Working Group	October 5, 2011	Niall Barrett Kevin Haboian Macie Cleary Christina Byrne	17	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
City of Seal Beach	October 10, 2011	Niall Barrett	30	City Council and Staff	211 8 th Street Seal Beach, CA 90740		
Fountain Valley Senior Center	October 11, 2011	Christina Byrne	100	TBD	17967 Bushard Street Fountain Valley, CA 92708		
Stakeholder Working Group	October 18, 2011	Niall Barrett Kevin Haboian Macie Cleary Christina Byrne	30	Membership	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		
City of Garden Grove	October 25, 2011	Niall Barrett		City Council and Staff	11222 Acacia Parkway Garden Grove, CA 92840		
City of Westminster	October 26, 2011	Niall Barrett		City Council and Staff	8200 Westminster Avenue Westminster, CA 92683		
City of Costa Mesa	November 1, 2011	Niall Barrett		City Council and Staff	77 Fair Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626		
Westminster Senior Center	November 2, 2011	Niall Barrett		City Council and Staff	8200 Westminster Avenue Westminster, CA 92683		
Building Industry Association Government Relations Committee	October 16, 2013	Jim Beil	15	Membership	RBF Consulting 14725 Alton Parkway Irvine, CA 92618-2027	(714) 560-5717	Christina Byrne
City of Fountain Valley Community Meeting	November 13, 2013	Mark Lewis	64	Community Members	Fountain Valley City Hall, 10200 Slater Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708		Mark Lewis

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
Citizen's Advisory Committee	January 21, 2014	Christina Byrne		Committee members	OCTA 600 S. Main Street Orange, CA 92868	(714) 560-5717	Christina Byrne
City of Costa Mesa	March 25, 2014	Jeff Mills	3	Ernesto Munoz, Raja Sethuraman	City Hall, 77 Fair Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626	(714) 754-5343	Corrie Viera
City of Garden Grove	March 27, 2014	Jeff Mills	3	Bill Murray	Garden Grove City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway Garden Grove, CA 92840		Bill Murray
City of Los Alamitos	March 27, 2014	Jeff Mills	3	Steven Mendoza, Brett Plumlee	Los Alamitos City Hall, 3191 Katella Avenue Los Alamitos, CA 90720		Steven Mendoza
Fountain Valley Kiwanis Club	March 28, 2014	Christina Byrne	15	Steve Nagle, Mayor Pro Tem, and members	Fountain Bowl 17110 Brookhurst Street Fountain Valley, CA 92708	(714) 349-1693	Leslie Lee
City of Huntington Beach	March 31, 2014	Jeff Mills	5	Travis Hopkins, Tom Herbel, Bob Stachelski, Ken Domer	Huntington Beach City Hall 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648	(714) 536-5437	Kristy Wapner
City of Fountain Valley	March 31, 2014	Jeff Mills	2	Mark Lewis	Fountain Valley City Hall 10200 Slater Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708		Mark Lewis
City of Seal Beach	April 8, 2014	Jeff Mills	3	Sean Crumby and Michael Ho	Seal Beach City Hall 211 8 th Street Seal Beach, CA 90740		Sean Crumby

Table 5-4: Speakers Bureau Briefings

Organization	Presentation Date	Presenter	Number of Attendees	Attendees	Address	Phone Number	Coordinator Contact
City of Long Beach	April 15, 2014	Jeff Mills	2	Dave Roseman and Paul Van Dyk	Long Beach City Hall 333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802		
City of Long Beach	August 15, 2014	Jeff Mills	4	Dave Roseman and Paul Van Dyk	Long Beach City Hall 333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802	(714) 560-5717	Christina Byrne
I-405 Improvement Project TMP	August 18, 2014	Jeff Mills	5		Fountain Valley City Hall, 10200 Slater Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708	(949) 333-4544	Omar Merhen
Assembly-womam Harkey	August 18, 2014	Jeff Mills	8	Assembly-woman Harkey's Office	29122 Rancho Viejo Road Suite #111 San Juan Capistrano, 92675		
I-405 Improvement Project TMP	August 21, 2014	Jeff Mills	5	Council Member Diana Carey, Adolfo Ozaeta	Westminster Civic Center 8200 Westminster Boulevard Westminster, CA 92683	(949) 333-4544	Omar Merhen
District Staff Briefing, Orange County Legislative Delegations	August 26, 2014	Jeff Mills and Christina Byrne	13		OCTA 600 S. Main Street Conference Room 103/104 Orange, CA 92868		

Draft EIR/EIS Public Review Period

The public review period for the Draft EIR/EIS was originally scheduled for May 18 to July 2, 2012, but it was extended to July 17, 2012, at the request of the City of Long Beach. Public notices to notify the public regarding the public review period were published in English in the *Orange County Register* and *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, in Vietnamese in *Nguoi-Viet*, and in Spanish in the *Excelsior*. Figures 5-3 and 5-4 show the public notices that were published in English regarding the public review period and the extension, respectively. The public notice was also provided on Caltrans' and OCTA's Web sites.

Four public hearings were held for the Draft EIR/EIS for the project at the following times and locations:

- Monday, June 4, 2012 – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Orange Coast College Student Center, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.
- Wednesday, June 6, 2012 – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Westminster Community Center AB Room, 8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683.
- Thursday, June 7, 2012 – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Rush Park Auditorium, 3021 Blume Drive, Rossmore, CA 90720.
- Thursday, June 14, 2012 – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

The public hearing format consisted of a combination of an open house session and a project presentation. During the open house session, participants had the opportunity to visit the various stations (e.g., noise, visual, design, environmental), view project exhibits, and direct questions to the project team members located at each station. Staff and consultants provided a brief presentation providing an overview of the project, environmental impacts, and construction schedule. A certified court reporter was present during the open house to take verbal comments from participants. Participants also were encouraged to submit their comments in writing during the public hearing, via mail, or by e-mail by the public circulation end date.



Public Notice

Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement Available for Interstate 405 and Announcement of Public Hearing

**WHAT'S
BEING
PLANNED**

California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is proposing to improve the San Diego Freeway (I-405) by adding either one general purpose (GP) lane, or two GP lanes, or one GP lane and a tolled Express lane in each direction to be managed with the existing HOV lanes as a tolled Express facility between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605). The proposed action would improve the operations on I-405 primarily in the County of Orange for approximately 16 miles between 0.2-mile south of Bristol Street and 1.4 miles north of I-605, as well as portions of State Route 22 (SR-22), SR-73, and I-605 to reduce congestion and improve lane continuity through the corridor. This project is considered a Project of Air Quality Concern regarding particulate matter PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} as defined in 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1). A qualitative PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} hot spot analysis was completed, as required by 40 CFR 93.116 and 93.123, based on U.S. EPA Guidance."



**WHY THIS
AD**

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains the environmental impacts is called an Environmental Impact Report/Statement (EIR/S). This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement and its availability for review.

Four public hearings will be held to give you an opportunity to review project design features before the final alternative is selected. Staff will be available to discuss CALTRANS' right-of-way acquisition process.

**WHAT'S
AVAILABLE**

The Draft EIR/S is available for review at CALTRANS District 12, 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612 on weekdays (M-Fri) from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Maps and other information are also available. There are also copies available at the following public libraries during their regular business hours:

- Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Branch Library (1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627),
- Mesa Verde Branch Library (2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626),
- Garden Grove Regional Library (11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840),
- Huntington Beach Central Library (7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1296),
- Heritage Park Regional Library (14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604),
- Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library (12700 Montecito, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Mary Wilson Library (707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Westminster Branch Library (8180 13th Street, Westminster, CA 92683),
- Fountain Valley Library (17635 Los Alamos, Fountain Valley, CA 92708),
- Main Library (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822),
- Ruth Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90808),
- Santa Ana Public Library (26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4087),
- Main Library & History Center (407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866), and
- Newport Beach Public Library (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660).

In addition, the document is also available for review on-line at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm.

**WHERE YOU
COME IN**

Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to make a comment on the Draft EIR/S, you may submit your written comments to CALTRANS until July 2, 2012 at:

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief,
Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 DEIR-DEIS Comment Period"
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200,
Irvine, CA, 92612

Comments may also be sent via email to 405.dedcomments.parsons@parsons.com.

**WHEN AND
WHERE**

The public hearings will be held at the following times and locations (presentation at 6:30 PM):

- Monday, June 4, 2012**- 6:00-8:00 p.m., *Orange Coast College, Student Center*
2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.
- Wednesday, June 6, 2012**- 6:00-8:00 p.m., *Westminster Community Center AB Room*
8200 Westminster Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683.
- Thursday, June 7, 2012**- 6:00-8:00 p.m., *Rush Park Auditorium*
3021 Blume Drive, Rossmoor, CA 90720.
- Tuesday, June 14, 2012**- 6:00-8:00 p.m., *Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center*
17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact CALTRANS District 12, Attn: Public Affairs Office at (949) 724-2000 at least 21 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TTY line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1 800 735 2922.

CONTACT

For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call Smita Deshpande at CALTRANS District 12: (949) 724-2000.

Figure 5-3: Public Notice for Draft EIR/EIS Public Review Period



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Extension of Public Review Period to Thursday, July 17, 2012 for I-405 Improvement Project Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement

WHAT'S BEING PLANNED: California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is proposing to improve the San Diego Freeway (I-405) by adding either one general purpose (GP) lane, or two GP lanes, or one GP lane and a tolled Express lane in each direction to be managed with the existing HOV lanes as a tolled Express facility between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605). The proposed action would improve the operations on I-405 primarily in the County of Orange for approximately 16 miles between 0.2-mile south of Bristol Street and 1.4 miles north of I-605, as well as portions of State Route 22 (SR-22), SR-73, and I-605 to reduce congestion and improve lane continuity through the corridor.

WHY THIS AD: This notice is to inform you that the public review period for the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement has been extended to **Thursday, July 17, 2012**.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE: The Draft EIR/S is available for review at CALTRANS District 12, 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612 on weekdays (M-Fri) from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Maps and other information are also available. There are also copies available at the following public libraries during their regular business hours:

- Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Branch Library (1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627),
- Mesa Verde Branch Library (2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626),
- Garden Grove Regional Library (11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840),
- Huntington Beach Central Library (7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1296),
- Heritage Park Regional Library (14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604),
- Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library (12700 Montecito, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Mary Wilson Library (707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA 90740),
- Westminster Branch Library (8180 13th Street, Westminster, CA 92683),
- Fountain Valley Library (17635 Los Alamos, Fountain Valley, CA 92708),
- Main Library (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822),
- Ruth Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90808),
- Santa Ana Public Library (26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4087),
- Main Library & History Center (407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866), and
- Newport Beach Public Library (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660).

In addition, the document is also available for review on-line at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm.

WHERE YOU COME IN: Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to make a comment on the Draft EIR/S, you may submit your written comments to CALTRANS until **Thursday, July 17, 2012** at:

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief,
Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 DEIR-DEIS Comment Period"
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200,
Irvine, CA, 92612

Comments may also be sent via email to 405.dedcomments.parsons@parsons.com.

CONTACT: For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call Smita Deshpande at CALTRANS District 12: (949) 724-2000.



Figure 5-4: Public Notice for Extension of Draft EIR/EIS Public Review Period

Circulation of Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS

The public review period for the Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS was from June 28 to August 12, 2013. Public notices to notify the public regarding the public review period were published in English in the *Orange County Register* and *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, in Vietnamese in *Nguoi-Viet*, and in Spanish in the *Excelsior*. Figure 5-5 shows the public notice that was published in English regarding the public review period. The public notice was also provided on Caltrans' and OCTA's Web sites.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement Available for Interstate 405 & Announcement of Public Hearing

WHAT'S BEING PLANNED: California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is proposing to improve the San Diego Freeway (I-405) by adding either one general purpose (GP) lane, or two GP lanes, or one GP lane and a tolled Express lane in each direction to be managed with the existing HOV lanes as a tolled Express facility between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Interstate 605 (I-605). The proposed action would improve the operations on I-405 primarily in the County of Orange for approximately 16 miles between 0.2-mile south of Bristol Street and 1.4 miles north of I-605, as well as portions of State Route 22 (SR-22), SR-73, and I-605 to reduce congestion and improve lane continuity through the corridor. This project is considered a Project of Air Quality Concern regarding particulate matter PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} as defined in 40 CFR 93.123 (b)(1). A qualitative PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} hot spot analysis was completed, as required by 40 CFR 93.116 and 93.123, based on U.S. EPA Guidance."

WHY THIS AD: A Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed I-405 Improvement Project provides new information relevant to the proposed project, information that was not available when the Draft EIR/EIS was circulated for public review and comments in May 2012. This document is called a Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS because it only includes information and analysis updated since the Draft EIR/EIS was circulated. This recirculation focuses on new traffic information in the Long Beach area. This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement and its availability for review. One public hearing will be held to give you an opportunity to review and comment on the new project information before the final alternative is selected.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE: The Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS is available for review at CALTRANS District 12, 3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612 on weekdays (M-Fri) from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Maps and other information are also available. There are also copies available at the following public libraries during their regular business hours:

- Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Branch Library (1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627)
- Mesa Verde Branch Library (2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626)
- Garden Grove Regional Library (11200 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840)
- Huntington Beach Central Library (7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1296)
- Heritage Park Regional Library (14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92604)
- Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library (12700 Montecito, Seal Beach, CA 90740)
- Mary Wilson Library (707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA 90740)
- Westminster Branch Library (8180 13th Street, Westminster, CA 92683)
- Fountain Valley Library (17635 Los Alamos, Fountain Valley, CA 92708)
- Main Library (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822)
- Ruth Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90808)
- Santa Ana Public Library (26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4087)
- Main Library & History Center (407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866), and
- Newport Beach Public Library (1000 Avocado Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92660).

In addition, the document is also available for review on-line at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm.

WHERE YOU COME IN: Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to make a comment on the Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS, you may submit your written comments to CALTRANS until **August 12, 2013** at:

Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief,
Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 SDEIR-DEIS Comment Period"
2201 Dupont Drive, Suite 200,
Irvine, CA, 92612

Comments may also be sent via email to 405_Supplemental_Draft_EIR_EIS@parsons.com. Please submit comments limited to the information included in the Supplemental Document. The public review period for the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement is closed.

WHEN AND WHERE: The public hearing will be held at the following time and location:

Wednesday, July 24, 2013 - 6:00-8:00 p.m. (presentation at 6:30 PM)
Hill Middle School
1100 Iroquois Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90815

Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact CALTRANS District 12, Attn: Public Affairs Office at (949) 724-2000 at least 21 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TTY line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1 800 735 2922.

CONTACT: For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call Smita Deshpande at CALTRANS District 12: (949) 724-2000.



Figure 5-5: Public Notice for Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS Public Review Period

The public hearing for the Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS was held on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at Hill Middle School, 1100 Iroquois Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90815 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Response to Comments

Approximately 3,000 comments were received from the general public and local, regional, state, and federal agencies during the public review periods. The majority of the comments indicated support for the addition of capacity on I-405 but expressed opposition to Alternative 3 because of the toll aspects and the construction impacts to Fairview Road Overcrossing in Costa Mesa. Other major comments included opposition to relocation/reconstruction of a soundwall along NB I-405 adjacent to Almond Avenue in Seal Beach under Alternative 2 and Alternative 3, proposed braided ramps between Warner Avenue and Magnolia Street, and soundwall heights. Responses to Comments are included in Appendix R1 and R2 and Table R1-1 and R-2 organizes all the comments from the respective groups. It identifies each of the groups and the commenters in that group, with comment ID, page number for comment and response, and the Subject code. Subject code key is provided at the bottom of the table. Many of the comments are repetitive or needed more explanation. Twenty three (23) common responses have been developed to aid groups to understand issues as a whole and the re-design efforts that were performed and part of addressing public comments. These common responses have been discussed in Appendix R-1, Volume 1.

Public Comments Received on the Draft EIR/EIS

A total of 1061 entities and individuals provided their comments on the Draft EIR/EIS which are as below:

- Federal Agencies - 3
- State Agencies – 4
- Industry & Business Groups – 11
- Local Agencies- 15
- Regional Agencies – 6
- Community Group – 7
- Public – 920

These comments were divided into the following general categories:

- Preferred alternative selection
- Compensation for property acquisition
- Air quality
- Health risks
- Property values
- Compensation for construction impacts
- Relocation of gas lines

- Relocating utilities underground
- Impacts to businesses
- Northbound braided ramps at the Magnolia Street/Warner Avenue interchange
- Noise/noise analysis
- Almond Avenue soundwall
- Replacement of Fairview Road overcrossing/truncation of tolled Express Lanes
- Opposition to tolling
- Measure M Funding
- Comparison of tolled Express Lane operation of SR-91 to I-405
- Substantiation of reported corridor travel times for build alternatives
- Insufficient environmental document/mitigation measures
- Coordination between Caltrans Districts 7 and 12, OCTA, Los Angeles Metro, Gateway City Council of Governments, and the City of Long Beach
- Shifting improvements away from residential properties onto NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach property
- Traffic flow at the Orange County/Los Angeles County line
- Elimination of light-rail transit and bus rapid transit alternatives
- Induced demand

Public Comments Received on the Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS

A total of 170 entities and individuals commented on the Supplemental DEIR/EIS.

- Federal Agencies – 2
- State Agencies – 4
- Industry & Business Groups – 2
- Local Agencies- 6
- Regional Agencies – 3
- Community Group – 2
- Long Beach Public Hearing - 5
- Public – 144
- Petitions – 2

Comments received on the Supplemental DEIR/EIS are divided into the following major themes:

- Traffic mitigation agreement fair share versus full share
- Traffic data used in calculation of the traffic mitigation agreement fair share deferment

- Almond Avenue soundwall
- Fair share amount in mitigation
- Northbound braided ramps at the Magnolia Street/Warner Avenue interchange
- Impacts to businesses
- Traffic forecasting methodology
- Traffic flow at the Orange County/Los Angeles County line
- Noise/noise analysis
- Air quality
- Measure M Funding
- Health risks

5.2.4 Native American Coordination

A records search of the Sacred Lands File maintained by the California NAHC was conducted in July 2009, and a response from the NAHC was received in September 2009. According to the NAHC, no cultural resources within their Sacred Lands Files are located within the Direct APE. The NAHC provided a list of Native American individuals and organizations to contact for further information. Letters and maps were sent to these contacts to inform the individuals and organizations about the project, to inquire if they knew of any unrecorded Native American cultural resources or other areas of concern within or adjacent to the Direct APE, and to solicit comments in regard to the project.

The NAHC was again contacted in May 2010 for supplemental information due to revisions in the original project limits. According to the NAHC, no cultural resources within their Sacred Lands Files are located within the Direct APE. The NAHC provided a new list of Native American contacts that may have an interest in the project. URS Corporation followed up with another letter to the individuals and organizations to solicit their comments. Follow-up phone calls were made in June 2010. Anthony Morales, Chairperson for the Gabrielino Tongva enquired as to the extent of the project, if any Native American observers would be included during the field survey and if not, he would appreciate being kept apprised of the results noting that sites may be located near the San Gabriel River, Bolsa Chica Creek, and NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach. Caltrans will comply with this request. Of the tribal representatives contacted, Sonia Johnston, Tribal Vice Chairperson of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, and Anita Espinosa of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, responded and indicated they were not aware of cultural resources located within the APE, but they requested to be informed if cultural resources are

discovered during ground-disturbing activities. Additionally, Ms. Espinoza requested Native American monitoring. No other responses were received. Caltrans will comply with this request.

5.2.5 Cultural Resources Coordination

Archival research was conducted to determine the location of previously documented cultural resources proximate to the project and to help establish a context for resource significance. Pre-field survey research included a records search conducted by staff at the SCCIC on May 29, 2009, within a 0.5-mile radius of the project study area for historic architectural resources. A supplemental records search was conducted by Parsons' staff on March 2 and 17, 2010, at the SCCIC. One property, the Segerstrom House located at 3315 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, California, was previously determined to appear eligible for listing in the NRHP. It should be noted that different search radii were used for the historical architectural and archaeological records searches conducted for this project.

Letters requesting information on cultural resources were sent to relevant local governments via United States Postal Service (USPS) on December 14, 2009 (see Table 5-1). An additional letter was sent to the City of Hawaiian Gardens, Community Development Department, on September 20, 2010 (see Table 5-1). No known cultural resources located within the APE were identified as a result of this public participation process.

In August 2011, the HPSR prepared for this project was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for review. On October 20, 2011, the SHPO responded as follows:

- Concurred with Caltrans' determination that the 332 properties listed on pages 9-17 of the HPSR are not eligible for the NRHP.
- Determined that they did not have enough information at the time to either concur or disagree on the eligibility of Westminster Lanes and suggested moving forward leaving the eligibility of this property as indeterminate.
- Determined that they did not have enough information at the time to either concur or disagree on the eligibility of Leisure World in Seal Beach, and suggested moving forward leaving the eligibility of this property as indeterminate given Caltrans' finding of no historic properties affected.
- Lastly, the SHPO concurred that the Segerstrom House was eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C, but they did not have sufficient information at that time to concur that the property is eligible under Criterion A. The SHPO suggested moving forward and leaving the eligibility under Criterion A as indeterminate.

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