

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 23-24, 2011

Reference No.: 2.3b.(2)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Terry L. Abbott
Chief
Division of Design

Subject: **NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION, 8-SBd-15 PM 30.4**
RESOLUTION S-747

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution S-747 and map authorizing a new public road connection at Rancho Road to Interstate 15 in the city of Hesperia in San Bernardino County.

ISSUE:

The Department is requesting approval of a new public road connection to Interstate 15. Pursuant to Section 100.2 of the Streets and Highways Code, no local road shall be connected with any freeway until the Commission adopts a resolution consenting thereto. It is recommended that the Commission approve the resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Engineer. The resolution grants approval of a new public road connection as an interchange to Interstate 5 in the county of San Bernardino, at Post Mile (PM) 30.4.

Recommended by: _____
RICHARD D. LAND
Chief Engineer

BACKGROUND:

The City of Hesperia (City) in cooperation with the Department and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), proposes the construction of a new interchange at Interstate 15 and Rancho Road which is approximately 1.8 miles north of the existing Oak Hill Road interchange.

The proposed project is needed to provide access to future development along Rancho Road and reduce congestion at the Main Street interchange, the Joshua Street interchange, and the Oak Hill Road interchange by adding a new interchange at Rancho Road. In addition to reducing congestion, the project is expected to enhance traffic operations and provide a Level of Service that is consistent with the goals of the City's Congestion Management Plan.

Interstate 15 (I-15) originates at its junction with Interstate 8 in San Diego and extends north through California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Montana, joining the Alberta Highway 4 at the Canadian border. I-15 is a major corridor for interstate and interregional goods movement and travel, and it serves as a major commuter route in urbanized areas. It is designated in the National Highway System (NHS) as a High Priority Corridor, along with Interstate 40, providing an economic lifeline for inter-regional travel and goods movement between the major shipping ports and population centers of southern California and various communities throughout the southwestern and western regions of the United States. I-15 is also included in the Department of Defense's Rural and Single Interstate Routing System and the Strategic Highway Corridor Network for movement of military equipment and personnel in support of national defense.

In southern California, I-15 links commuters between Inland Empire cities, including Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga and Ontario; with the high desert communities of Hesperia, Apple Valley, Adelanto, Victorville and Barstow. It serves recreational traffic between southern California and tourist destinations such as Las Vegas, the Colorado River, and the eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Within the project limits, I-15 north of the Oak Hill Road interchange and south of the Route 395 junction consists of four 12 foot wide mixed flow lanes in each direction. North of the US 395 junction to the Interstate 40 junction, I-15 consists of three 12 foot wide mixed flow lanes in each direction. Consistently throughout the project there are 10-foot-wide inside and outside shoulders. The median width is 44 feet wide, which includes bi-directional 10-foot-wide inside shoulders and unpaved area with double thrie beam barrier. Rancho Road is an east-west roadway that currently ends at Mariposa Road. The general plans for Hesperia classify Rancho Road as a major arterial and future development is planned along Rancho Road. Main Street, Joshua Street, and Oak Hill Road have existing interchanges that provide access to I-15 and are nearing capacity. With continued growth and development in the vicinity, conditions at the Main Street/I-15, Joshua Street/I-15, and Oak Hill Road/I-15 interchanges will continue to worsen. Continued increases in traffic volumes at these interchanges will ultimately reduce the effectiveness of the interchanges, cause congestion, reduce the capability of the limited local street network to maintain traffic flow, and reduce the Level Of Service in and around the interchanges.

The environmental document for the Rancho Interchange was approved at the May 2010 Commission meeting (Resolution E-10-34).

The Project Study Report for this project was signed August 22, 2006. The Project Report was approved March 18, 2010. The total current project cost including support costs is \$69,280,000; \$80,125,000 is currently programmed through a combination of City funds, local developer fees, County Measure I funding and State Regional Improvement Program funds.

No Mandatory Design Standard Exceptions were required for this project. A fact sheet for Nonstandard Advisory Design Features was approved in 2007.

A supeceding Freeway agreement was adopted by the City of Hesperia on January 18th, 2011, and will be executed by the Department after Commission approval of the new connection.

Attachments

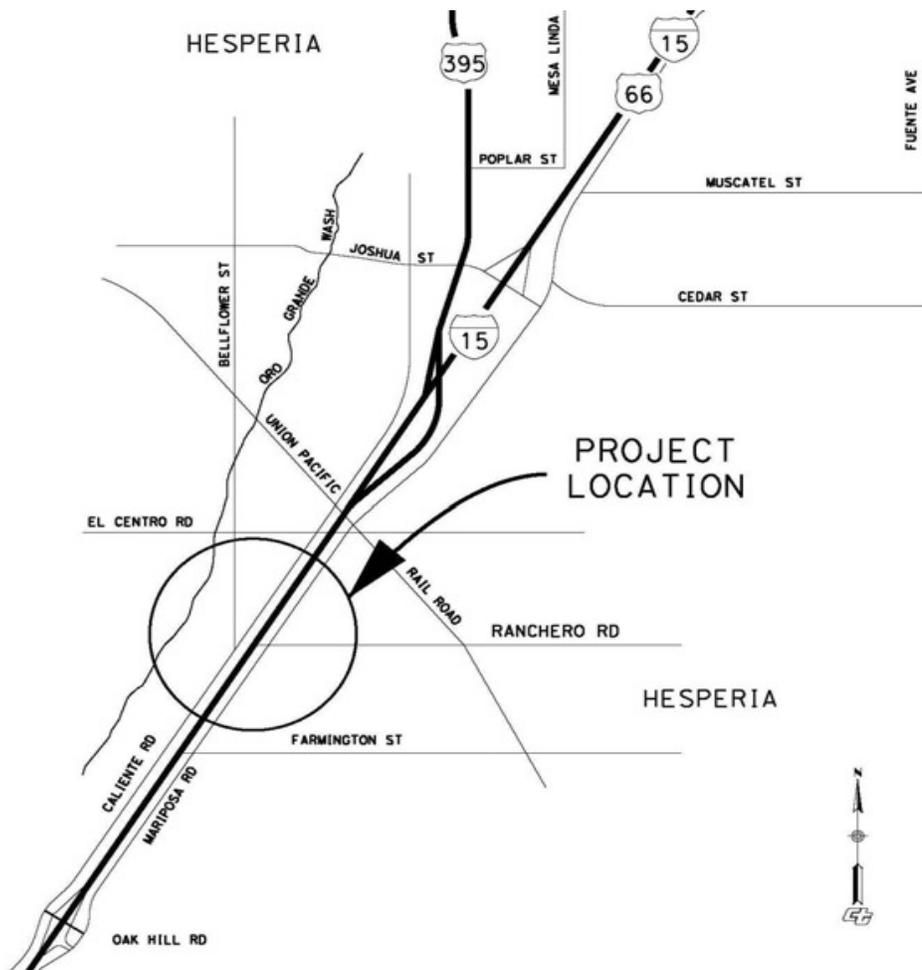
Resolution S-747
Location Map



Caltrans

NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION

08-SAN BERNARDINO-15



**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution Authorizing a New Public Road Connection
08-SBd-15 PM 30.4**

Resolution S-747

WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino and the City of Hesperia have requested approval of a new public road connection on Interstate 15 for Rancho Road; and

WHEREAS, the Department has prepared an Initial Study (with Negative Declaration)/Environmental Assessment with Finding of Significant Impact in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, the project will have impacts on the environment that will be mitigated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the California Transportation Commission that pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, this Commission does hereby authorize one new public road connection on Interstate 15 at Rancho Road, Post Mile 30, in the city of Hesperia.