

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: May 7, 2013

Reference No.: 2.3b.(1)  
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Terry L. Abbott  
Chief  
Division of Design

Subject: **NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION, 08-Riv-60 PM 29.0**  
**RESOLUTION S-756**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution S-756 and map authorizing a new public road connection to State Route 60 at Potrero Boulevard in the city of Beaumont.

## **ISSUE:**

The City of Beaumont has requested approval of a new public road connection to State Route 60. 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 to State Route 60 at Potrero Boulevard in the city of Beaumont, in the county of Riverside, at Post Mile 29.0.

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_  
KARLA SUTLIFF  
Chief Engineer

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Beaumont, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Department), proposes to construct a new modified partial cloverleaf interchange including a bridge overcrossing at State Route 60 (SR 60) at Potrero Boulevard. The Department is the Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is being initiated by the City of Beaumont to mitigate increased traffic volumes in the area associated with future development and to implement the City of Beaumont's General Plan. Significant growth is anticipated in the near future in this area from approved development. There is currently no access from north of SR 60 to the south except via crossing the expressway median at Western Knolls Avenue (East) approximately 0.5 mile east of the proposed Potrero Boulevard interchange.

Due to potential funding issues, the project will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1 will involve the construction of the Potrero overcrossing structure, installation of concrete median barrier throughout the project limits, and will include extending existing Potrero Boulevard, a two-lane local roadway, from 1,350-ft north of the SR 60 centerline to approximately 592-ft south of SR 60 centerline. A temporary connection will be made to existing Western Knolls Avenue, a two-lane frontage road located north of SR 60. No ramp connections to the SR 60 mainline will be constructed as part of Phase 1. Phase 2 will involve constructing the remainder of the project to include eastbound and westbound on and off ramps and the realignment of the existing Western Knolls Avenue frontage road. Phase 2 is anticipated to start construction in the summer of 2014.

SR 60 begins at SR 10 near the Los Angeles River in the city of Los Angeles, and runs east to SR 215 in Riverside via Pomona. SR 60 then continues east from SR 215 near Moreno Valley to SR 10 near Beaumont. It is part of the National Highway System, Highways of National Network System for Federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act, and the Truck Networks on California State Highways. SR 60 is a major regional freeway that provides for east-west travel movements in Riverside, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles Counties. SR 60 varies in width from four lanes in rural areas to ten lanes in urbanized areas.

In its current condition the SR 60 mainline effectively acts as a physical barrier between developed and undeveloped lands located north and south of SR 60. Access to existing lands (developed and undeveloped) within the western area of the city of Beaumont is limited to two interchanges along Interstate 10 at Oak Valley Parkway and Beaumont Avenue. Traffic analyses show that as growth increases in the western area, these interchanges as well as SR 60 and Interstate 10 would degrade in level of service. The Potrero Boulevard interchange would provide a north-south crossing at SR 60 allowing for a redistribution of traffic into and within the western area of the city of Beaumont. The City of Beaumont's General Plan Circulation Element calls for the new interchange and the north-south roadway connection to existing east-west roadways at Oak Valley Parkway and Fourth Street. The project would provide a new north-south roadway overcrossing at SR 60 and allow local traffic destined for the western area of the city of Beaumont to move across Route 60 without affecting mainline operations. Additionally, the north-south crossing would reduce east-west traffic that must use the Oak Valley Parkway and Beaumont Avenue interchanges.

In August 1999, the Department adopted a Route Concept Fact Sheet for SR 60 between San Bernardino (PM R0.0) and Riverside (PM R30.5). The Route Concept Fact Sheet calls for expanding SR 60 from four lanes to eight lanes from Perris Boulevard to the Interstate 10/SR 60 Junction. Two of the additional lanes are planned to be High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

The project is identified in the City of Beaumont's General Plan Circulation Element (2007) and in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities (RTP/SCS). On April 4, 2012, the Regional Council of SCAG adopted the RTP/SCS. On June 4, 2012, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) found the RTP/SCS and the 2010/2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Plan (FTIP) (through Amendment 11-24) to conform to the applicable State Improvement Plan (SIP). The design concept and scope of the project is consistent with the project description in the RTP/SCS (ID# RIV 050535).

A Project Development Cooperative Agreement between the State and the City of Beaumont was approved on February 28, 2008.

On September 27, 2011, the Department delegated authority to the City of Beaumont to advertise, award, and administer (AAA) the construction phase of Phase 1 and Phase 2. Construction Cooperative Agreements between the State and City of Beaumont were approved on January 26, 2012, (Phase 1) and March 12, 2012 (Phase 2).

A Freeway Maintenance Agreement will be required. The proposed roadway and traffic signal systems at the interchange ramps will be owned operated and maintained by the State after construction. Maintenance costs will be shared between the City of Beaumont and State in accordance with the Departments' established policies. This agreement will be developed during the design phase and will be addressed in the Cooperative Agreement for the construction phase.

The cost estimate for Phase 1 is \$23,000,000 and the cost estimate for Phase 2 is \$54,400,000.

The Final Project Report was approved on March 1, 2013. A Final Environmental Document was approved on March 1, 2013. The finding of the Initial Study supports a Mitigated Negative Declaration under California Environmental Quality Act. A Finding of No Significant Impact was issued on March 1, 2013, under National Environmental Policy Act. The environmental document for this new connection is being submitted for Commission approval as a concurrent environmental action under Item 2.2c(21).

All applicable Mandatory and Advisory Design Exceptions have been approved. Freeway Agreements are currently with the City of Beaumont and the County of Riverside and should be executed in the very near future.

#### Attachments

Resolution S-756  
Location Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
Resolution Authorizing a New Public Road Connection**

**8-Riv-60 PM 29.0**

**Resolution S-756**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Beaumont has requested approval of a new public road connection on State Route 60 for Potrero Boulevard; and

**WHEREAS**, the Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact was approved on March 1, 2013, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act; and

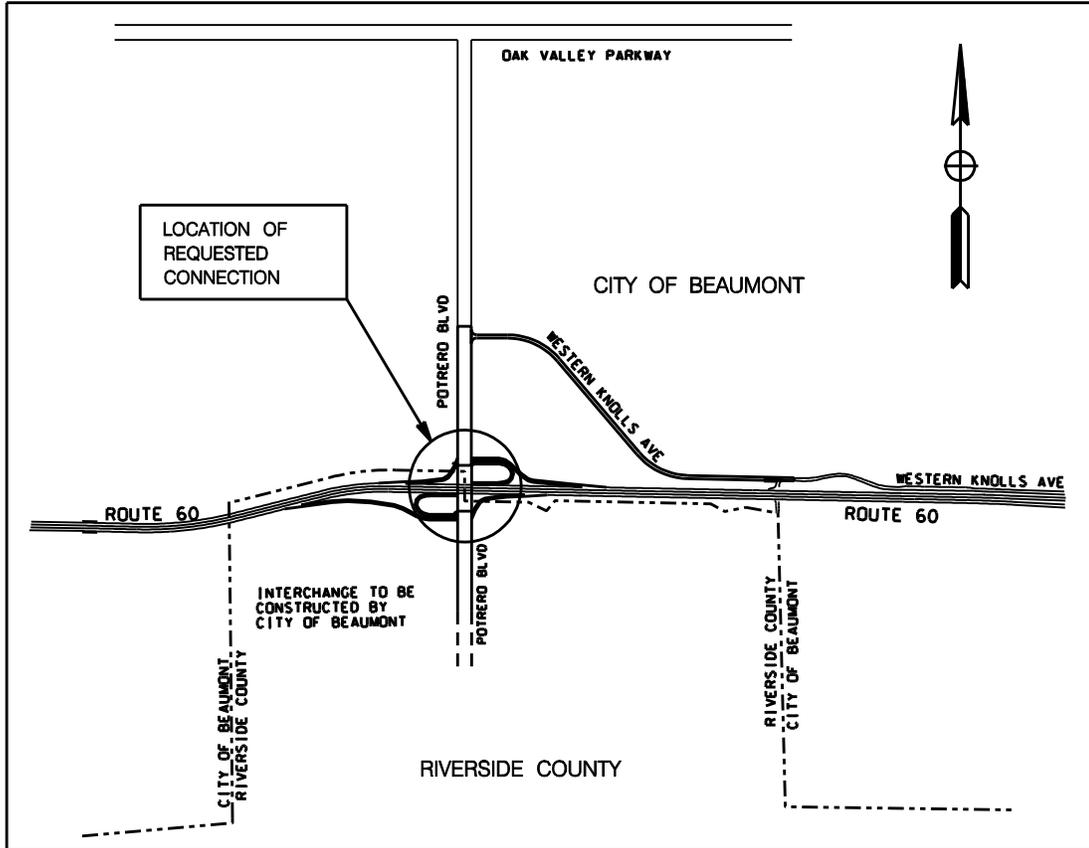
**WHEREAS**, the project will have no significant impact on the human environment.

**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 State Route 60 at Potrero Boulevard PM 29.0, in the city of Beaumont, in the county of Riverside.



# NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION

08-Riv-60 PM 29.0



## COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



LOCATION MAP