

State of California  
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency  
Department of Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
Notice of Preparation of an Environmental  
Impact Report  
7-LA/Ora-5 KP 67.9/71.7; 0.0/22.1  
Action Item  
CTC Meeting: January 23-24, 2002  
Agenda Item: 2.2.a (1)

Prepared by:  
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Original signed by  
ROBERT L. GARCIA  
Chief Financial Officer  
January 2, 2002

**SUMMARY- NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**ROUTE 5 IN LOS ANGELES AND ORANGE COUNTIES**

**7-LA/Ora-5**

Between Route 91 and Route 605 in the cities of La Mirada, Norwalk, Downey, Santa Fe Springs and Buena Park.

**Proposed Action:**

Widen the existing six-lane freeway to add High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and/or general purpose lanes.

**Programming:**

This corridor project is currently programmed in the 2000 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for \$275.5 million and the Governor's Transportation Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) for \$109.0 million. In addition, a total of \$26.0 million has been committed from local measures and federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds. The current total cost for the scope of work covered by the Draft EIR/EIS is \$576 million. Construction will be completed in phases and the estimated \$166 million of additional funding needed to complete the corridor will be programmed in the future.

**Alternatives Being Considered:**

- No Build- includes interim improvements
- Transportation Systems Management/Transportation Demand Management
- Transit Enhancement
- Ten-lane Facility
- Twelve-lane Facility

**Potential Significant Environmental Effects:**

- Impacts to businesses and residences that require displacement
- Impacts on existing transportation systems, altering present circulation patterns
- Impacts associated with construction activities

**Proposed Measures to Minimize Harm:**

- Implement best management practices and a Traffic Management Plan

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

TO: Responsible/Cooperating Agency

FROM: State of California Department of Transportation  
Ronald J. Kosinski, Deputy District Director  
Division of Environmental Planning  
120 South Spring Street, Mail Stop 16A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
[References: Division 13, Public Resources Code, Section 21080.4 (State); 40 C.F.R. 1501.7 and 1508.22 (Federal)]

This is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation (Department) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority, will prepare an EIR/EIS for the project identified below. Several other agencies are expected to be involved in this process. Your participation as a responsible/cooperating agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

We need to know the applicable permit and environmental review requirements of your agency and the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR/EIS prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

TITLE: Interstate 5 Corridor Improvement Project from SR-91 to I-605

LOCATION: Cities of La Mirada, Norwalk, Downey and Santa Fe Springs in Los Angeles County and Buena Park in Orange County

## DESCRIPTION:

The proposed improvement is to widen the existing six lane I-5 facility between SR-91 and I-605 to add High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and/or general purpose lanes. This project is the initial phase of the I-5 Ultimate HOV Project, which proposes to widen I-5 between SR-91 in Orange County, and I-710 in Los Angeles County. The I-5 Ultimate HOV Project is part of the Governor's Traffic Congestion Relief Plan. A Major Investment Study (MIS) for the ultimate project, which recommended a ten lane facility, was completed July 1998.

## ALTERNATIVES:

1. No Build Facility – includes interim improvements
2. Transportation Systems Management/Transportation Demand Management
3. Transit Enhancement
4. Ten Lane Facility
5. Twelve Lane Facility

These basic alternatives will have additional design variations which provide optional lane use (general, HOV, or auxiliary use), optional on and off ramp modifications, and other engineering details. A final selection of alternatives and their subset variations will not be made until all public and agency comments are reviewed following the scoping process.

## IMPACTS:

Various environmental resources and community impacts are known to exist within the limits of the study area for this project. These include, but are not limited to: geotechnical, erosion, hydrology, wetland, air quality, water quality, noise, biology, public utilities, vehicle traffic patterns, parking, land use planning and hazardous waste. Displacement of businesses and homes is a significant issue. Soundwalls, relocation assistance, construction impact management and other mitigation measures will be incorporated into the proposed project.

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Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response and direct any comments or questions regarding this project to Mr. Ronald J. Kosinski at the address shown above or by telephone at (213) 897-0703. We will need the name of a contact person in your agency.

Date: 11.15.01

Signature: 

Title: Deputy District Director

# Interstate 5 Corridor Improvement Project From State Route 91 to Interstate 605

