State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

M e m o r a n d u m

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: October 24, 2012

Reference No.: 2.2b.(3)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

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Subject: **SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, INTERSTATE 5 NORTH COAST CORRIDOR PROJECT IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY– ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR LA JOLLA**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) review and comment at the October 2012 Commission meeting on the following Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR):

- 11-SD-5, PM R28.4/R55.4, PPNOs 0615, 0615A, 0615B, and 0615C, Interstate 5 North Coast Corridor Project. Roadway improvements on Interstate 5 (I-5) near La Jolla.

PROGRAMMING:

This project in San Diego County will construct improvements to the traffic operations on Interstate 5 (I-5) for 27 miles from La Jolla Village Drive in San Diego to Harbor Drive in Oceanside/Camp Pendleton. The project will be built in multiple phases to be completed over more than 20 years. The total estimated cost for the entire Interstate 5 North Coast Corridor Project is $3.5 billion for capital and support. The project is not fully funded.

The first four phases (PPNOs 0615, 0615C, 0615A, and 0615B) are programmed in the 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program and are fully funded. These phases are as follows:

- PPNO 0615 is the environmental clearance phase for the entire I- North Coast Corridor Project, with a total estimated cost for the environmental phase being $72,695,000, which includes $7,677,000 for right of way.
- PPNO 0615C will extend High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes from Lomas Santa Fe Drive to Birmingham Drive and will replace the San Elijo Lagoon Bridge and the Manchester Avenue direct access ramps. The total estimated cost for this phase is $179,417,000 for capital and support. This is the first phase to be constructed, beginning in Fiscal Year 2014-15.
- PPNO 0615A will extend HOV lanes from Manchester Avenue to State Route 78. The total estimated cost is $244,811,000 for capital and support.
- PPNO 0615B will construct soundwalls from Manchester Avenue to State Route 78. The total estimated cost is $54,441,000 for capital and support.

The project is not funded beyond the first four phases.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

Alternatives considered for the proposed project include:

- No Build Alternative.
- Alternative 1: 10 + 4 Barrier. Would build one general purpose lane in each direction and two HOV/Managed Lanes in each direction; HOV/Managed Lanes and general purpose lanes would be separated by a concrete barrier.
- Alternative 2: 10 + 4 Buffer. Would build one general purpose lane in each direction and two HOV/Managed Lanes in each direction; HOV/Managed Lanes and general purpose lanes would be separated by a painted buffer.
- Alternative 3: 8 + 4 Barrier. This alternative would not add any general purpose lanes to the existing highway. Two HOV/Managed Lanes would be added in each direction separated from the existing general purpose lanes by a concrete barrier.
- Alternative 4: 8 + 4 Buffer. This alternative would not add any general purpose lanes to the existing highway. Two HOV/Managed Lanes would be added in each direction separated from the existing general purpose lanes by a painted buffer.

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The decision to prepare an EIR was made due to analysis results indicating unavoidable significant environmental impacts in conjunction with the project's public controversy. Impacts include:

- Aesthetics.
- Land Use/Planning.
- Impacts to waters of the U.S.

PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:

- Incorporate design characteristics and aesthetic treatments to minimize visual impacts.
- Design features including bicycle and walking trails to connect recreational areas existing in the corridor.
- Relocations and Real Property Acquisition.

Attachment

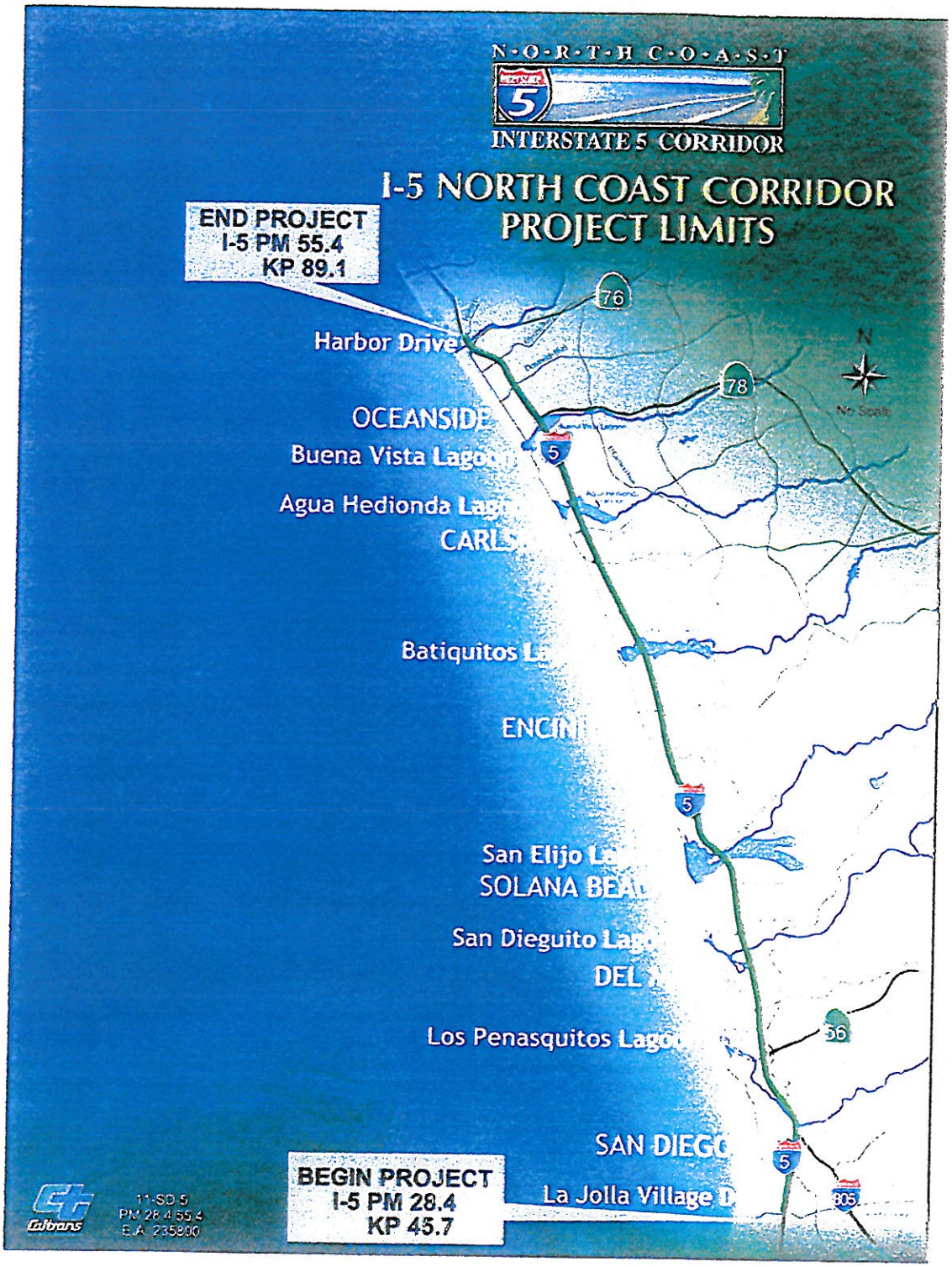

Figure 1: Project Location Map