



PUBLIC NOTICE

Coachella Valley – San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project



Notice of Intent (NOI) and Notice of Preparation (NOP) for a Joint Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (Program EIS/EIR)

<p>WHAT'S BEING PLANNED</p>	<p>The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in cooperation with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) are initiating the environmental process for the Coachella Valley – San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project (Project). The Project will study options for providing intercity rail services between the cities of Los Angeles and Indio, California, also known as the Coachella Valley – San Gorgonio Pass Corridor (the Corridor).</p> <p>FRA has released a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). RCTC has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to prepare an EIR under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). FRA will prepare the Programmatic EIS/EIR jointly with RCTC and Caltrans for the Project.</p> <p>The Programmatic EIS/EIR will be prepared consistent with the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA set forth in 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, the FRA's Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts as set forth in 64 FR Part 28545, dated May 26, 1999 (Environmental Procedures) and updated in 78 FR 2713 dated January 14, 2013, 23 U.S.C. 139, CEQA (Section 21000 – 21178 and California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3 Section 15000-15387), and other applicable federal and state laws and regulations.</p>												
<p>WHY THIS AD?</p>	<p>The purpose of this Notice is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information about the Project, proposed Purpose and Need for the Project, and proposed alternatives to be considered; and, • Invite public and agency participation in the EIS/EIR process. <p>The Programmatic EIS/EIR will compare the No Build Alternative to a range of reasonable Build Alternatives for a new intercity rail service that would meet the future mobility needs of residents, businesses, and visitors between the cities of Los Angeles and Indio.</p>												
<p>WHEN AND WHERE</p>	<p>The meeting times and locations are as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="256 1333 1572 1741"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Time</th> <th>Location</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wednesday, October 12, 2016</td> <td>5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM</td> <td>Springbrook Clubhouse at Reid Park 1011 N. Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, October 13, 2016</td> <td>5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM</td> <td>Indio Senior Center 45-700 Aladdin Street Indio, CA 92201</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday, October 17, 2016</td> <td>5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM</td> <td>Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Headquarters Plaza Level: One Gateway Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90012</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All scoping meeting locations are Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) accessible facilities. Spanish language interpreters will be present. You may call (909) 627-2974 at least 72 hours in advance of the meetings to request other ADA accommodations or interpretation services.</p>	Date	Time	Location	Wednesday, October 12, 2016	5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM	Springbrook Clubhouse at Reid Park 1011 N. Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501	Thursday, October 13, 2016	5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM	Indio Senior Center 45-700 Aladdin Street Indio, CA 92201	Monday, October 17, 2016	5-7 PM Brief Presentation: 5:45 PM	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Headquarters Plaza Level: One Gateway Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90012
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<p>WHAT'S AVAILABLE?</p>	<p>Scoping materials and information regarding the scoping meetings are available through RCTC's website http://rctc.org/projects/rail-projects/coachella-valley-san-gorgonio-pass-corridor-rail-service</p>												
<p>WHERE YOU COME IN</p>	<p>The public review and comment period for the NOI and NOP is October 5, 2016 to November 10, 2016. Federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and public are invited to provide input into the scope of the Programmatic EIS/EIR. Interested persons should send written comments to FRA's Office of Program Delivery, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. (Mail Stop 20), Washington, DC 20590, or Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), P.O. Box 12008, Riverside, California, 92502, or via e-mail to Robert Yates, Multimodal Services Director, at CoachellaValleyRail@ArellanoAssociates.com. Comments should include "Coachella Valley – San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project – NOI Scoping Comments" or "Coachella Valley – San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Project – NOP Scoping Comments" in the subject line and the commenter's physical mailing address in the body of the letter or email. Persons interested in providing written comments on the scope of the Project must do so by Thursday, November 10, 2016.</p>												