



SR-71/91 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) is requesting \$25 million in **Better Utilizing Investments for Leveraging Development (BUILD)** funds to improve a heavily-congested and operationally obsolete interchange at the intersection of State Route (SR)-71 and SR-91 in Riverside County. This project would leverage \$92 million in matching funds and the recently completed \$1.4 billion SR-91 Project. The SR-71/91 Interchange Improvement Project is located in Riverside County at the border of San Bernardino and Orange Counties, serving as a gateway for international, national, state, and regional trade, connecting the region to the Central Coast agricultural freight corridor, the San Diego border region, and rural communities to the east.

The Project will:

- Replace the existing single-lane loop connection between eastbound SR-91 and northbound SR-71 with a new, two-lane, direct connector ramp;
- Build a new, separate eastbound road just south of and parallel to SR-91 to provide improved access between the Green River Road interchange and the SR-71/91 interchange; and
- Realignment of the eastbound entrance ramp from Green River Road to improve access to the SR-71/91 interchange.

PROJECT PARTNERS

RCTC: BUILD applicant and implementing agency.

Caltrans: Owns, operates, and maintains SR-71 and SR-91 right-of-way.

SHOVEL-READY STATUS

The Project received Caltrans approval of the environmental document in June 2011 and final design in 2015. Once funding is secured, construction is anticipated to begin in June 2019 and be completed in December 2022.

KEY BENEFITS

Economic Competitiveness: The project will provide more efficient movement for commuters and freight traffic traversing SR-91 and accessing SR-71, which increases the efficiency of goods movement, improves mobility, and promotes the continued expansion of private economic development. Existing traffic levels in the Project area are at near-failing levels. Without this Project, future conditions on eastbound SR-91 between Green River Road and the SR-71/91 interchange will be at failing levels. The Project will eliminate bottlenecks caused by existing on-and-off ramps in the Project area, helping to increase the overall reliability of the system, improving trip times for goods movement and current and future residents of private development.

Safety: The Project will reduce accidents, serious injuries, and fatalities by providing additional capacity and storage for eastbound SR-91 travelers accessing SR-71, eliminating congestion, queuing, and dangerous weaving from Green River Road to mainline SR-91.

Environmental Protection: The Project will reduce energy consumption and improve air quality by improving overall operations of the regional freeway system and reducing idling. It will also reduce stormwater runoff through construction of new drainage facilities.

