PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Final Environmental Impact Report/ Final Environmental Impact Statement

Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement Available for State Route 79 Realignment Project: Domenigoni Parkway to Gilman Springs Road

What's Being Planned?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Riverside County Transportation Commission, the City of Hemet, the City of San Jacinto, and the County of Riverside is proposing to realign approximately 18 miles of existing State Route 79 (SR 79) in the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto and unincorporated Riverside County. The Project would begin 1.26 miles south of Domenigoni Parkway and end south of Gilman Springs Road. The realigned highway would be approximately 12 miles long and constructed as a limited access, four-lane expressway, with two travel lanes in each direction separated by a median.

A Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) has been prepared and includes responses to comments received on the Draft EIR/EIS circulated in February 2013, and Partially Recirculated DEIR/Supplemental DEIS circulated in August 2015. Based on comments received, the Final EIR/EIS identifies the preferred alternative as Preferred Alternative 1b with Refinements (1br).

Anticipated federal approvals include air quality conformity, Section 7 consultation for threatened and endangered species, and a Clean Water Act Section 404 Individual Permit. State approvals are also expected, including a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Why This Ad?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will significantly affect the quality of the environment. This notice is to advise the public of the availability of the Final EIR/EIS, and the accompanying documents, and to offer the opportunity for public comments.

What's Available?

You can review a hard copy of the Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement at the Caltrans District 8 office at 464 West Fourth Street, San Bernardino, CA, 92401 on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There are also hard copies available at the Riverside County Transportation Commission, 4080 Lemon Street, Third Floor, Riverside, CA 92501, Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; during business hours at the Hemet Public Library, 300 E. Latham Avenue, Hemet, CA 92543; and the San Jacinto Public Library, 500 Idyllwild Drive, San Jacinto, CA 92583.

An electronic copy is available online at http://www.sr79project.info/.

Where You Come In

Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included?

Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to comment on the Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement, submit your written comments by December 4, 2016 to Aaron Burton, California Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 12008, Riverside, CA 92502-2208 or submit through our website at www.sr79project.info.

Contact

Individuals who require special accommodations (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact Caltrans District 8, Aaron Burton at (951) 824-8706 prior to the scheduled open house hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TTY line at 1 (800) 735-2929 or Voice Line at 1 (800) 735-2922. For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call District 8 Public Affairs at (866) 383-4631 or (909) 383-4631.