

Notice of Preparation

Notice of Preparation

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies

(Address)

From: California Department of Transportation, District
8 Division of Environmental Planning

464 W 4th Street

San Bernardino, CA 92401

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Caltrans District 8

_____ will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to 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 prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (☐ is ☒ is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 39 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Boniface Udotor, Senior Environmental Planner, MS 830 at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

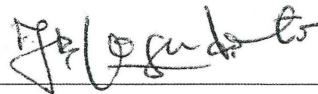
Project Title: SR-60/World Logistics Center Parkway Interchange

Project Applicant, if any: _____

Date

November 14, 2019

Signature



Title

Senior Environmental Planner

Telephone

(909) 888-2347

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375. [Governor's Office of Planning & Research](#)

NOV 22 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 8, in cooperation with the City of Moreno Valley (City), proposes to reconstruct and improve the SR-60 (SR-60)/World Logistics Center Parkway (WLC Pkwy) interchange. Theodore Street has been renamed to WLC Pkwy between Hemlock Avenue and its southern terminus at Alessandro Boulevard. Therefore, the SR-60/Theodore Street Interchange Project will now be referred to as the SR-60/WLC Pkwy Interchange Project (project). The purpose of the project is to enhance safety by upgrading the geometry at the existing interchange, to provide standard vertical clearance for the WLC Pkwy overcrossing, to alleviate future traffic congestion at the SR-60/WLC Pkwy interchange ramps during peak hours, and to improve traffic flow along the freeway and through the interchange. The City has identified Alternative 6 as the locally preferred alternative.

Caltrans will be the lead agency for the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The document for environmental analysis of this project under CEQA and NEPA was originally scoped as an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) anticipated to result in a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact (MND/FONSI). Following completion of the environmental technical studies and the Screencheck Draft IS/EA, Caltrans, as the CEQA lead agency, determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) would be the most appropriate level of environmental document under CEQA to address potentially significant impacts. Therefore, a joint EIR/EA is anticipated to be prepared in accordance with CEQA and NEPA.

LOCATION OF STUDY AREA

The majority of the project site is located in the City of Moreno Valley. The northeast quadrant of the site is located within unincorporated Riverside County, and within the City's Sphere of Influence. The total length of the project on SR-60 is 2 miles between SR-60 Post Mile (PM) 20.0 and PM 22.0. The attached figure shows the project location and project vicinity.

ALTERNATIVES

In addition to the No Build Alternative (Alternative 1), two Build Alternatives (Alternatives 2 and 6) and design variations (Design Variations 2a and 6a) are under consideration. Alternatives 1, 2, 6, and Design Variations 2a and 6a are described in further detail below.

Alternative 1 (No Build)

The No Build Alternative assumes that no improvements will be made to the freeway mainline or to the existing SR-60/WLC Pkwy interchange. Without the planned improvements proposed as part of the project (e.g. upgrading to current geometric design standards and improving the existing vertical clearance over SR-60), the desired safety benefits would not be realized. In addition, the traffic Level of Service at the on- and off-ramps and traffic operations at the interchange would continue to

worsen over time resulting in increased delays. For these reasons, Alternative 1 would not meet the project purpose and need.

Build Alternative 2 (Modified Partial Cloverleaf Interchange)

Alternative 2 proposes to reconstruct the SR-60/WLC Pkwy interchange in a modified partial cloverleaf configuration. Improvements under Alternative 2 include the construction of a new westbound direct on-ramp and a new westbound loop off-ramp in the northwest quadrant of the interchange, in a cloverleaf configuration. A new eastbound direct off-ramp, a new eastbound loop on-ramp, and a new eastbound direct on-ramp would be constructed in the southwest and southeast quadrants, in a partial cloverleaf configuration. The westbound on-ramp is widened from one to three 12-foot lanes and all other proposed ramps are widened from one to two 12-foot lanes.

Alternative 2 removes and replaces the existing two through lane (one lane in each direction) WLC Pkwy overcrossing with a new four through lane (two through lanes in each direction) overcrossing that is approximately 137 ft wide and 298 ft long. Included within the proposed overcrossing width are two 12-foot left-turn lanes in the northbound direction and one 17-foot right-turn lane in the southbound direction. In total, the proposed bridge accommodates seven (7) lanes of traffic (through lanes and turn lanes). The proposed minimum bridge vertical clearance over SR-60 is 18'-10".

Additional improvements as part of Alternative 2 include the installation of signals at both the proposed eastbound and westbound ramp intersections, as well as at the intersection of Eucalyptus Ave/WLC Pkwy. Bike lanes are provided on both sides of WLC Pkwy throughout the project limits. On WLC Pkwy north of the Eucalyptus Avenue intersection and on Eucalyptus Avenue, bike lanes are provided on both sides within the width of the proposed shoulders.

Design Variation 2a (Alternative 2 with Design Variation)

Design Variation 2a will have the same features as Alternative 2 with the exception of the location of the Eucalyptus Avenue/WLC Pkwy intersection. Design Variation 2a will consist of moving the current Eucalyptus Avenue/WLC Pkwy intersection approximately 900 ft south of its current location. The shift will cause a partial realignment of Eucalyptus Avenue from approximately 2,600 ft west of WLC Pkwy to connect with the west side of WLC Pkwy and align with the continuation of Eucalyptus Avenue east of WLC Pkwy. The design variation will be moved forward with the build alternatives to PS&E (as applicable) and studied until it is removed from consideration.

Alternative 6 (Modified Partial Cloverleaf with Roundabout Intersections)

Alternative 6 proposes to reconstruct the SR-60/WLC Pkwy interchange in a modified partial cloverleaf configuration. Improvements under Alternative 6 would include the construction of a new westbound direct on-ramp and a new westbound loop off-ramp in the northwest quadrant, in a partial cloverleaf configuration. New eastbound direct off- and on-ramps would be constructed in the southwest and southeast quadrants, respectively, in a partial cloverleaf configuration. The westbound on-ramp is widened from one to three 12-foot lanes and all other proposed ramps are widened from one to two 12-foot lanes.

Alternative 6 removes and replaces the existing two through lane (one lane in each direction) WLC Pkwy overcrossing with a new four through lane (two through lanes in each direction) overcrossing that is approximately 90 ft wide and 245 ft long. The proposed minimum bridge vertical clearance over SR-60 is 20'-3½". Roundabouts are proposed at the eastbound and westbound ramp intersections, as well as at Eucalyptus Avenue/WLC Pkwy. On WLC Pkwy north of the Eucalyptus Avenue intersection and on Eucalyptus Avenue, bike lanes are provided on both sides within the width of the proposed shoulders. Through the roundabouts, bicyclists have the option to either merge with vehicular traffic or cross the roundabout with pedestrian traffic. Lighting and signage will be determined during final design to provide pedestrian and trail user safety.

Design Variation 6a (Alternative 6 with Design Variation)

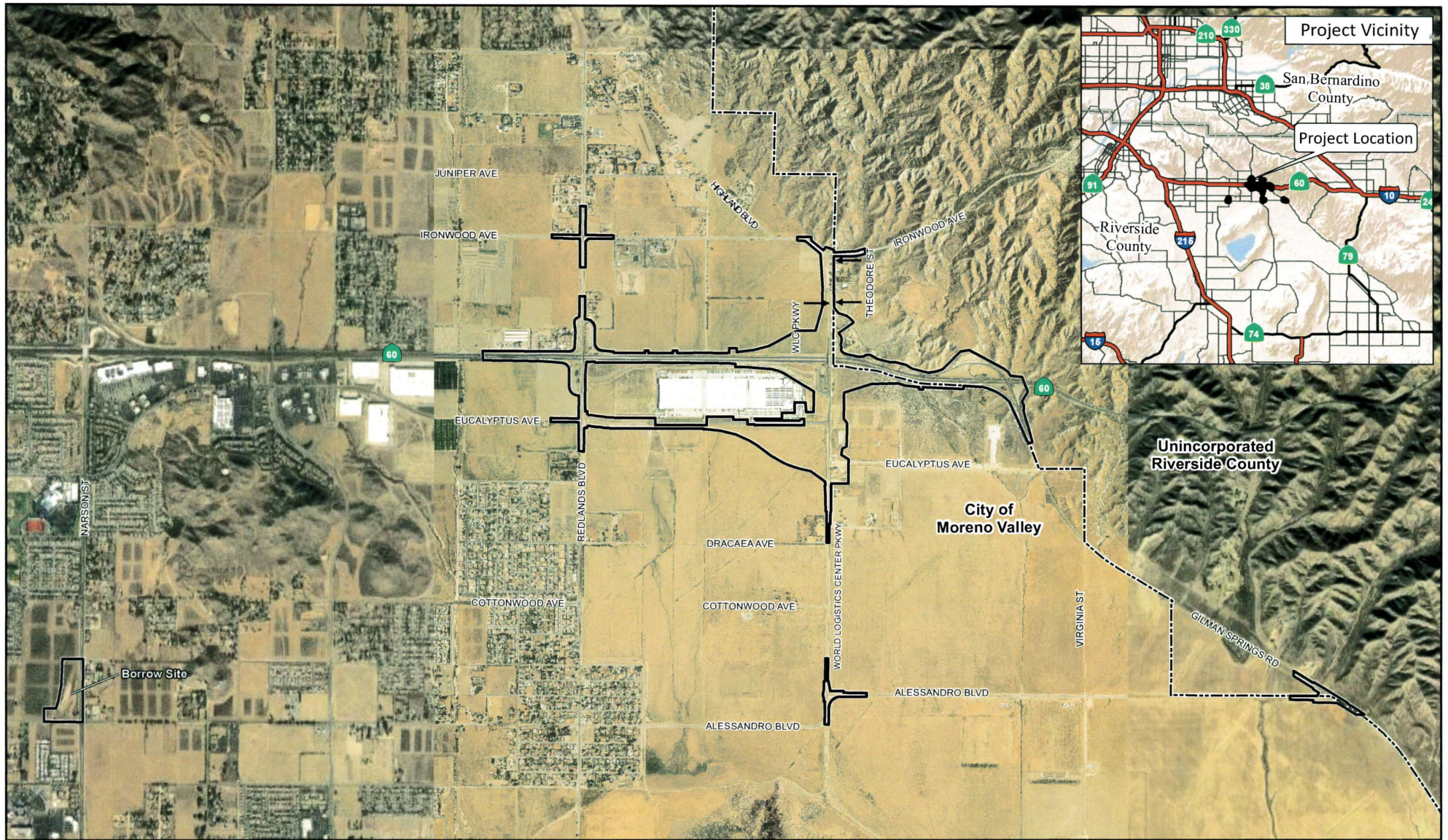
Design Variation 6a will have the same features as Alternative 6 with the exception of the alignment of Eucalyptus Avenue on the west side of WLC Pkwy and the location of the Eucalyptus Avenue/WLC Pkwy intersection. The design variation consists of moving the current Eucalyptus Avenue/WLC Pkwy intersection approximately 900 ft south from its current location, in order to align the roadway with the existing Eucalyptus Ave on the east side of WLC Pkwy. The shift would result in a partial realignment of Eucalyptus Avenue from approximately 2600 ft west of WLC Pkwy to connect to the west side of WLC Pkwy. Construction of the roundabout at WLC Pkwy and Eucalyptus Avenue east would result in one residential displacement in the southeast quadrant of WLC Pkwy and Eucalyptus Avenue east. The design variation will be moved forward with the build alternatives to final design (as applicable) and studied until it is either selected or removed from consideration.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Various environmental and community resources are known to exist within the limits of the study area and the potential effects to these resources will be studied in the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA). Environmental effects anticipated for study include, but are not limited to: Land Use, Farmlands, Growth, Community Impacts, Utilities and Emergency Services, Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities, Visual/Aesthetics, Cultural Resources, Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff, Hydrology and Floodplains, Geology/Soils/Seismicity/Topography, Paleontology, Hazardous Waste/Materials, Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change, Noise, Mineral Resources, Wildfire, Energy, Biological Resources, and Cumulative Impacts. Of these environmental resources, further study may determine potentially significant impacts to climate change due to new State policy regarding Greenhouse Gases (GHG). It is anticipated that the project will have a less than significant impact on all other environmental resources.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Caltrans will hold a public scoping meeting to provide an overview of the project, present a summary of the environmental process and issues addressed, and receive input regarding environmental issues and the suggested scope and content of the EIR/EA. The scoping meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2019 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Moreno Valley Conference and Recreation Center: 14075 Frederick St., Moreno Valley, CA 92553, Room A&B.



LEGEND

- Project Area
- City Boundary



0 1500 3000
FEET

SOURCE: Google (2014, 2016); MBI (6/2018); ESRI (07/2012)

SR-60/World Logistics Center Parkway Interchange Project

Project Location and Vicinity

08-RIV-60 PM 20.0/22.0

EA No. 0M590

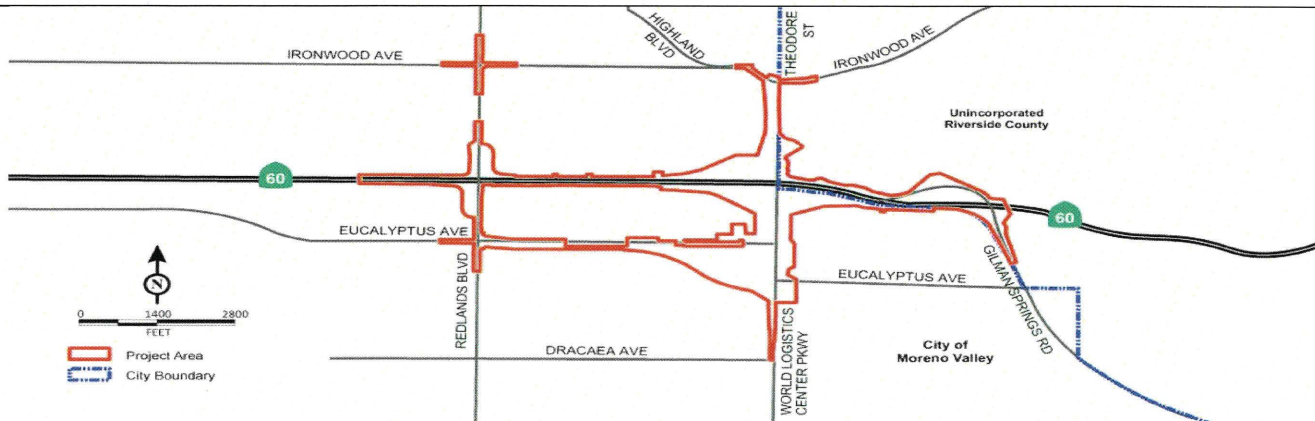
Project No. 0813000109



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/ Environmental Assessment (EA) for the State Route 60/World Logistics Center Parkway Interchange Project

Announcement of Public Scoping Meeting (Open House Format)



WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the City of Moreno Valley (City), proposes to reconstruct and improve the State Route (SR-60)/World Logistics Center Parkway (WLC Pkwy) interchange. The project site is located in the City, with the northeast quadrant located within unincorporated Riverside County within the City's Sphere of Influence. The purpose of the project is to address existing geometric deficiencies, to alleviate future traffic congestion, and to improve connectivity at the SR-60/WLC Pkwy interchange by improving traffic operations. Three Alternatives are evaluated: Alternative 1 (No Build Alternative), Alternative 2 (Modified Partial Cloverleaf), and Alternative 6 (Modified Partial Cloverleaf with Roundabout Intersections). There are two design variations for each Build Alternative that realign a portion of Eucalyptus Avenue where it intersects with WLC Pkwy. The City has identified Alternative 6 as the locally preferred alternative. The length of the project on SR-60 is 2 miles. The project also adds one auxiliary lane in each direction on SR-60 between Redlands Boulevard and Gilman Springs Road.

WHY THIS AD?

This public notice is to inform the public of the availability of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Assessment (EA). An Initial Study (IS) was drafted for the project; Caltrans determined through the IS process that an EIR/EA was recommended and would be prepared. Additionally, a date, time and location has been identified for a public scoping meeting (open house format) to provide an opportunity to talk about features of the project with Caltrans staff before the Draft EIR/EA is prepared. A future public meeting (open house format) will be scheduled once the Draft EIR/EA is prepared and available for public review.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The NOP will be available starting on November 25, 2019 for review and copying (for a fee) at the Caltrans District 8 Office, 464 W 4th Street, MS-830, San Bernardino, CA 92401, on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The NOP is also available at the following locations during normal business hours:

- Moreno Valley City Hall: 14177 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553
- Moreno Valley Main Library: 25480 Alessandro Boulevard, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

WHERE YOU COME IN

Please submit comments in writing no later than **5:00 p.m., January 3, 2020** to Boniface Udotor, Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans District 8, Division of Environmental Analysis, 464 W 4th Street, San Bernardino, CA 92401, or via e-mail to boniface.udotor@dot.ca.gov

The date we will begin accepting comments is **November 25, 2019**. Please note additional review days were provided to account for national holidays.

WHEN & WHERE?

A public scoping meeting (open house, no formal presentation will be given) will be held on the following date and location to give you an opportunity to talk about the project with Caltrans and City staff:

December 16, 2019, 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Moreno Valley Conference and Recreation Center: 14075 Frederick St., Moreno Valley, CA 92553, Room A&B

Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact Colin Valles at 909-247-1034, SR60WLCpkwy@arellanoassociates.com at least 14 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.

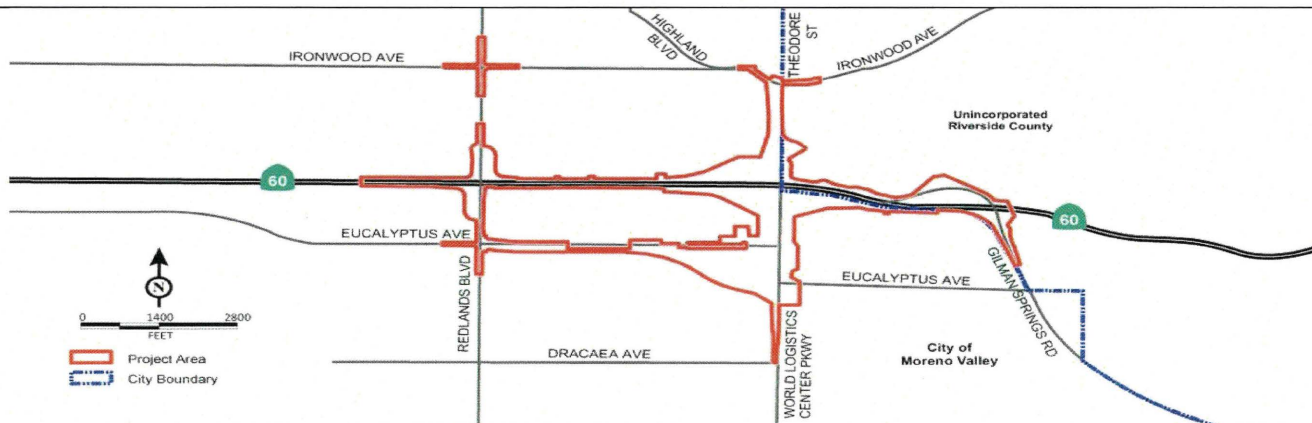
CONTACT

For more information about this project or any transportation matter, please contact the Caltrans District 8 Office of Public Affairs at 1(909) 383-4631. For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document may be made available in Braille, large print, audiocassette, or a computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these formats, please write to Colin Valles (909-247-1034), SR60WLCpkwy@arellanoassociates.com. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.



AVISO PÚBLICO

Aviso de preparación de un borrador del Reporte de impacto ambiental (EIR) y Evaluación ambiental (EA) para el Proyecto del cruce de la Ruta estatal 60 y World Logistics Center Parkway Anuncio de reunión pública (foro abierto)



| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ¿QUÉ SE PLANEA HACER? | <p>El Departamento de Transporte de California (Caltrans), en cooperación con la Ciudad de Moreno Valley (Ciudad), propone reconstruir y mejorar el cruce entre la Ruta estatal (SR-60) y World Logistics Center Parkway (WLC Pkwy). El proyecto está ubicado principalmente en la Ciudad, con el cuadrante al noreste situado en área no incorporada del Condado de Riverside, pero dentro de la Zona de influencia de la Ciudad. El propósito del proyecto es mejorar las deficiencias geométricas existentes, aliviar la futura congestión de tráfico y mejorar la conexión en el cruce de la SR-60 y WLC Pkwy a través de mejoras en las operaciones de tráfico. Se evalúan tres alternativas: Alternativa 1 (alternativa sin construcción), Alternativa 2 (trébol parcial modificado) y Alternativa 6 (trébol parcial modificado con intersecciones en forma de glorieta). Hay dos variaciones de diseño para cada alternativa de construcción que realinean una parte de Eucalyptus Avenue, en el lugar donde se cruza con WLC Pkwy. La Ciudad ha identificado la Alternativa 6 como la preferida localmente. La longitud del proyecto en SR-60 es de 2 millas. El proyecto también agrega un carril auxiliar, en cada dirección, de la SR-60 entre Redlands Boulevard y Gilman Springs Road.</p> |
| ¿POR QUÉ HACEMOS ESTE ANUNCIO? | <p>Este aviso público es para informarle sobre la disponibilidad del Aviso de preparación (NOP) de un borrador del Reporte de impacto ambiental (EIR) y Evaluación ambiental (EA). Se preparó un Estudio inicial (IS) para el proyecto, y Caltrans determinó, a través de ese proceso, que la elaboración de un EIR y EA es recomendado. Además, se ha identificado la fecha, hora y lugar para una reunión de alcance público (formato foro abierto) con fin de ofrecer la oportunidad para hablar sobre las características del proyecto con el personal de Caltrans antes de preparar el Borrador del EIR y EA. Una vez que el Borrador del EIR y EA esté preparado y disponible para revisión pública, se programará una nueva reunión pública (formato foro abierto).</p> |
| ¿QUÉ ESTÁ DISPONIBLE? | <p>El NOP estará disponible a partir del 25 de noviembre de 2019 para su revisión y copia (a cierto costo) en la Oficina del Distrito 8 de Caltrans, 464 W 4th Street, San Bernardino, CA 92401, entre semana de 8:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m. El NOP también está disponible en las siguientes ubicaciones durante las horas laborales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moreno Valley City Hall: 14177 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553• Moreno Valley Main Library: 25480 Alessandro Boulevard, Moreno Valley, CA 92553 |
| ¿DÓNDE PUEDE COMENTAR? | <p>Favor de enviar sus comentarios por escrito antes de las 5:00 p.m. el 3 de enero de 2020, dirigidos a Boniface Udotor, Planificador Ambiental Principal, Distrito 8 de Caltrans, División de Planificación Ambiental, 464 W 4th Street, MS-830, San Bernardino, CA 92401, o por correo electrónico a: boniface.udotor@dot.ca.gov.</p> <p>Comentarios serán aceptados a partir del 25 de noviembre de 2019. Tome en cuenta que se han proveído días adicionales para revisión del NOP dado los días feriados nacionales.</p> |
| ¿CUÁNDO Y DÓNDE? | <p>Se llevará a cabo una reunión pública (formato foro abierto, sin una presentación formal) en la siguiente fecha y lugar para darle la oportunidad de hablar sobre el proyecto con el personal de Caltrans y de la Ciudad:</p> <p>16 de diciembre de 2019, desde las 6:00 p.m. hasta las 8:00 p.m., en el Conference and Recreation Center de Moreno Valley, ubicado en: 14075 Frederick St., Moreno Valley, CA 92553, Sala A&B.</p> <p>Las personas que requieran arreglos especiales (intérprete de lenguaje de señas estadounidense, asientos accesibles, documentos en formatos alternativos, etc.) deben contactar a Colin Valles al 909-247-1034, SR60WLCpkwy@arellanoassociates.com, al menos 14 días antes de la fecha de la reunión programada. Los usuarios de TDD pueden comunicarse con la línea TDD del Servicio de retransmisión de California al 1-800-735-2929 o la Línea de voz, al 1-800-735-2922.</p> |
| CONTACTO | <p>Para obtener más información sobre este proyecto o cualquier asunto de transporte, comuníquese con la Oficina de Relaciones Públicas del Distrito 8 de Caltrans al 1 (909) 383-4631. Para personas con discapacidades sensoriales, este documento puede estar disponible en Braille, letra grande, casete de audio o un disco compacto. Para obtener una copia en uno de estos formatos, escriba a Colin Valles (909-247-1034), SR60WLCpkwy@arellanoassociates.com). Los usuarios de TDD pueden comunicarse con la línea TDD del Servicio de retransmisión de California al 1-800-735-2929 o la Línea de voz al 1-800-735-2922.</p> |