

2.3 Utilities/ Emergency Services

This section is based on information from the Draft Project Report for the proposed project (May 2018), which include Utility Plans and Utility Conflict Matrices.

2.3.1 Affected Environment

This section describes the existing utilities and emergency services facilities and providers within the project footprint (the maximum disturbance limits for the Build Alternative) and study area extending 0.5 mile from the limits of the project footprint.

2.3.1.1 Utilities

The following utility providers have facilities located within the study area along the project segment of State Route 133 (SR-133) (the study area is shown on Figure 1-1, Project Location Map, in Chapter 1):

- **Cox Communications:** Telecommunication cables
- **ExteNet:** Telecommunication cables
- **Frontier (formerly Verizon and MCI):** Telecommunication cables and a cell tower
- **Laguna Beach County Water District:** Water service lines, fire service lines, and sewer lines
- **Southern California Gas Company:** Underground distribution pipelines and high-pressure pipelines
- **Southern California Edison:** Overhead and underground transmission lines, transformers, and power poles

2.3.1.2 Fire Protection/Emergency Services

Fire protection services in the study area are provided by the City of Laguna Beach Fire Department, which include four fire stations. In addition, Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) provides additional fire protection under an automatic aid agreement for the fringe areas of the City. OCFA has jurisdiction over the unincorporated County land adjacent to the study area, including Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Aliso and Woods Canyons Wilderness Park. There are two fire stations within three miles of the study area: OCFA Fire Station No. 57 (57 Journey, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656) and Laguna Beach Fire Department Station No. 3 (900 Alta Laguna Boulevard, Laguna Beach, CA 92651).

Emergency medical services in the study area are provided by the Laguna Beach Fire Department, which includes a two-person ambulance crew at Station No. 2 (intersection of Glenneyre Street and Agate Street, 3.6 miles south of the study area) and the primary paramedic unit at Station No. 4 (31646 2nd Avenue, 5.75 miles south of the study area). In addition, CARE Ambulance would serve the unincorporated portions of Orange County adjacent to the study area.

2.3.1.3 Police Protection

Police protection services in the study area are provided by the City of Laguna Beach Police Department. The closest Police Department office is located approximately three miles from the study area at 505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651. In addition, the Orange County Sheriff's Department would provide police protection services for unincorporated Orange County adjacent to the study area. The Orange County Sheriff Southwest Operations would have jurisdiction in the study area, and the closest office is located 2.15 miles southeast of the study area (11 Journey, Aliso Viejo, California).

The California Highway Patrol provides police services on State highways in California, including SR-133. The nearest California Highway Patrol office is 8.75 miles southeast of the study area in the City of San Juan Capistrano (32951 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, California).

2.3.2 Environmental Consequences

2.3.2.1 Temporary Impacts

Alternative 1 (Build Alternative)

Utilities

The construction of the Build Alternative would affect existing underground and overhead utility facilities, which could require protection in-place, removal, replacement, or relocation. The utility facilities that could potentially be affected during construction of the Build Alternative are listed in Table 2.3.1. All utilities are proposed to be undergrounded from El Toro Road to State Route 73 as part of Component 4. However, utilities south of El Toro Road could require protection in-place, removal, replacement, or relocation. Relocation is proposed in the same general area, pursuant to the utility provider's requirements. The affected utilities would be relocated in accordance with federal and state law and regulations, and county and city policies. An updated utility search will be conducted during final design to verify all utility conflicts that would require protection in-place or relocation have been identified. Completion of the utility work described in

**Table 2.3.1 Potential Effects on Utility Facilities During
Construction of the Build Alternative**

Utility Owner	Type	Utility Conflict Description	Recommended Action/Resolution
Laguna Beach County Water District	36" Water Line	Within excavation area.	Remain in place.
Laguna Beach County Water District	Manhole and Vent	Conflict with pull out for Edison.	Relocate outside pull out area.
SCE/Frontier/Cox	Electric/Communications Pole	Conflict with widening/does not meet horizontal clearance.	Relocate to meet clearance requirement.
SCE/Frontier/Cox	Electric/Communications Pole	Conflict with construction area. Underground Master Plan.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
SCE	Electric UG Conduit	Conflict with widening.	Relocate to accommodate new widening.
SCE/ExteNet/Cox	Electric/Communications Poles (14)	In conflict with widening; inside recovery area or within construction area.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
Cox	Communications OH Cable	Conflict with widening.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
SCE	Electric Anchor Wires (5)	Conflict with widening or between poles proposed for undergrounding.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
SCE	Electric Anchor Poles (2)	In conflict with widening; inside recovery area.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
SCE	Electric UG Conduit	In conflict with widening; inside recovery area.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.
Frontier/Cox	Communications Poles (3)	In conflict with pull out for Edison (2) and in conflict with widening/ does not meet horizontal clearance (1).	(1) Guy wire and anchor; (2) Relocated outside pull out area.
Frontier/Cox	Communications Anchor Wire	Anchor wire between poles to be relocated.	Relocate with associated poles.
SCE/Cox	Electric/Communications Anchor Poles (2)	Conflict with widening.	County proposed to underground overhead lines.

Source :Draft Project Report (2018)

OH = overhead
UG = underground

Table 2.3.1 may result in temporary service disruptions during construction to some utility users in the vicinity of the study area; however, utilities users will be notified in advance of planned temporary service disruption during construction.

The following Project Feature PF-UES-1 would minimize this effect:

PF-UES-1

During final design, utility relocation plans will be prepared in consultation with the affected utility providers/owners for those utilities that will need to be relocated, removed, or protected in-place. If relocation is necessary, final design will focus on relocating utilities within the State right-of-way (ROW) or other existing public ROWs and/or easements. If relocations outside of existing ROWs or additional public ROWs and/or easements required for the project are necessary, final design will focus on relocating those facilities to minimize environmental impacts as a result of project construction and ongoing maintenance and repair activities. The utility relocation plans will be included in the project specifications. Additional environmental impacts from permanent utility relocations beyond those identified in this analysis would require additional environmental analysis.

Prior to and during construction, the contractor will implement the components of the utility relocation plans provided in the project specifications.

Prior to utility relocation activities, the Resident Engineer will coordinate with affected utility providers regarding potential utility relocations and inform affected utility users in advance about the date and timing of potential service disruptions.

With implementation of these project features, temporary impacts to utilities during construction would be minimized.

Emergency Services

During construction of the Build Alternative, some impairment to emergency services, including fire and police response time, may occur during temporary lane closures. However, disruptions to emergency services would be minimal because at least one lane of the existing SR-133 alignment would remain open and maintained in the project vicinity during construction, allowing police, fire, and medical personnel to respond to dispatch calls. Potential impacts from temporary lane closures during construction would be addressed by Project Feature UES-2.

PF-UES-2

All temporary lane closures would be coordinated with law enforcement, fire protection, and emergency medical service

providers to minimize temporary delays in emergency response times, including identification of alternative routes for emergency vehicles and route across the construction areas that are developed in coordination with the affected agencies.

As discussed in Project Feature PF-TR-1, the Transportation Management Plan (TMP), described in more detail in Section 2.4, Traffic and Transportation, all traffic handling will be coordinated with the City of Laguna Beach, Orange County, and Caltrans District 12. Caltrans has and will continue to coordinate with stakeholders such as affected cities, emergency responders, the California Highway Patrol, and others.

With implementation of these project features, temporary impacts to emergency services during construction would be minimized.

Alternative 2 (No Build Alternative)

No improvements to SR-133 other than routine maintenance are proposed under the No Build Alternative. SR-133 would remain as is, with the exception of other proposed projects that are under development or currently under construction. Therefore, the No Build Alternative would not result in temporary adverse effects on utilities and emergency services.

2.3.2.2 Permanent Impacts

Alternative 1 (Build Alternative)

Operation of the Build Alternative would not result in any disruptions to utilities in the study area. All utilities would be restored to existing capacity following construction and therefore implementation of the project would have no effect on utilities.

In addition, the Build Alternative being non-capacity increasing would not increase long-term employment or induce population growth that would require additional fire, police, or medical personnel or facilities. Operation of the Build Alternative would have no effect on fire, police, or medical response services because no change in SR-133 traffic operation would occur. The Build Alternative proposes standard shoulders and as a result would improve existing emergency response times of emergency service providers by giving them an option to use shoulders during congestion.

Alternative 2 (No Build Alternative)

No improvements to SR-133 are proposed under the No Build Alternative other than routine maintenance. SR-133 would remain as is, with the exception of other proposed projects that are under development or currently under construction. Therefore, the No Build Alternative would not result in permanent adverse effects related to emergency service and utility facilities and services.

2.3.3 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

Project features have been incorporated into the Build Alternative as discussed above and in Section 2.4, Traffic and Transportation, to address the potential temporary impacts of project construction on utilities and emergency services; therefore, no avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures are required.