



Transportation Corridor Agencies™

PUBLIC SCOPING NOTICE

South County Traffic Relief Effort

Availability of Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Notice of Public Meetings

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (F/ETCA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the South County Traffic Relief Effort (proposed project) in Orange County and San Diego County, California. The purpose and fundamental objective of the proposed project is to improve north-south regional mobility in South Orange County and accommodate regional travel demand. The proposed improvements include: the extension of the tolled State Route (SR) 241 lanes to Interstate (I) 5, the extension of Crown Valley Parkway to SR 241, new connections between Ortega Highway, Antonio Parkway, Avery Parkway, and SR-73, new general-purpose lanes on I-5, new managed lanes on I-5, or combinations of these preliminary alternatives; and range between approximately 4 and 22 miles in length. The study area encompasses 10 cities and unincorporated areas in Orange County and San Diego County adjacent to the proposed improvements.

Caltrans is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EIR/EIS, a study required by federal and state statutes, will be prepared and is an assessment of the likely influences that future improvements may have on the environment and communities within and adjacent to the study area. It includes analyses of ways to reduce or avoid possible adverse environmental impacts.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

The project team is initiating environmental and engineering studies for this project. Public Scoping Meetings will be held to inform you about the project and we will give you an opportunity to provide comments or concerns. Your comments will become part of the public record and will be considered in developing the environmental document and defining the project scope. A purpose and need statement for the project, preliminary alternative concepts, the environmental process, schedule and other display information will be available for viewing.

WHEN AND WHERE

You are invited to the public scoping meetings about the South County Traffic Relief Effort EIR/EIS. The purpose of the public scoping meetings are to obtain public feedback on the project's purpose and need as well as on the range of improvement alternatives, and the issues to be studied in the EIR/EIS. These meetings will be held in an Open House format. No formal presentation will be given, and attendees can arrive at any time.

We want to hear your thoughts and welcome your participation.

PLEASE JOIN US:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center

24932 Veterans Way

Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Nearby transit: OCTA Routes 86 and 182

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Ocean Institute

24200 Dana Point Harbor Drive

Dana Point, CA 92629

Nearby transit: OCTA Routes 1 and 90

WHAT IS AVAILABLE?

The Notice of Preparation (NOP), Notice of Intent (NOI), and other project materials are available for public review and comment via <http://www.SCTRE.org> between **November 8, 2019** and **February 7, 2020** in conformance with CEQA and NEPA, respectively.

WHERE YOU COME IN

Comments may be submitted in person at the public meetings on **November 20, 2019** or **December 4, 2019**, or mailed to the following address: Caltrans District 12, 1750 East 4th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705, attn.: Env/SCTRE Scoping. Comments may also be submitted via email at scoping@SCTRE.org. All comments must be received no later than **February 7, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** For more information, please visit the project website at <http://www.SCTRE.org>.

CONTACT/SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Individuals who require special accommodations (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact Caltrans District 12: phone (657) 328-6000. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1 (800) 735-2929 or Voice Line at 1 (800) 735-2922.

