

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Date: February 27, 2024

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment

Project: The Old Road over Santa Clara River and the Southern Pacific Transportation Company

Bridge, et al. Project [Project No. BRLS-5953(601), STPL-5953(682)]

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles (CEQA); California Department of Transportation (NEPA)

Review Period: 45 days

The County of Los Angeles (County), through Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works), prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (Draft EIR/EA) for The Old Road over Santa Clara River and the Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT Co.) Bridge, et al. Project (Project). The County is the lead agency for this Project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the lead agency for the Project under the National Environmental protection Act (NEPA), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Project is located in the unincorporated community of Stevenson Ranch, along The Old Road from Magic Mountain Parkway to Henry Mayo Drive, west of the City of Santa Clarita.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Project includes the replacement of two bridges and the reconstruction and widening of The Old Road, Rye Canyon Road, and Sky View Lane, including reconfiguration of its intersection with The Old Road. The purpose of the Project is to improve existing traffic operations and accommodate future traffic projections along the roadway. The Project would also extend the County Multi-Purpose Regional River Trail from its existing terminus just south of Rye Canyon Road to just northwest of the Interstate-5 (I-5) on- and off-ramps.

The Old Road over Santa Clara River bridge is currently classified as Structurally Deficient per FHWA standards for seismic, flood, and highway design. Replacing the bridge would eliminate this classification. Additionally, the existing roadway does not meet Public Works highway design speed safety standards, and does not incorporate bicycle improvements proposed in the County Bicycle Master Plan. Widening The Old Road from four to six lanes, adding a protected bicycle lane in each direction, and modifying the roadway to meet current Public Works design standards are critical for traffic operations and to ensure emergency vehicle access in the Project area.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Draft EIR/EA evaluates the potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed Project related to the areas of Existing and Future Land Use, Relocations and Real Property Acquisition, Utilities/Emergency Services, Transportation and Traffic/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities, Visual/Aesthetics, Cultural Resources. Hydrology and Floodplain, Water Quality and Storm Water Runoff, Paleontology, Tribal Cultural Resources, Hazardous Waste/Materials, Air Quality, Natural Communities, Wetlands and other Waters, Plant Species, Wildlife Species, Threatened and Endangered Species, Invasive Species, Aesthetics, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Public Services, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Wildfire; and identifies feasible mitigation measures that would reduce the Project's impacts to less-than-significant levels. After incorporation of these mitigation measures, the Project would not result in significant environmental effects in any resource area.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

In accordance with section 15105, subdivision (a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, the formal <u>45-day</u> public review period for the Draft EIR/EA will begin on February 27, 2024 and conclude on April 11, 2024. Interested parties may submit their comments in writing by April 11, 2024. All comments received by the closing of the public review period will be considered in the Final EIR/EA for the Project.

Written comments may be submitted via postal or electronic mail to the following address:

Los Angeles County Public Works Attention: Ebigalle Voigt P.O. Box 1460 Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

e-mail: TheOldRoadEIR@pw.lacounty.gov

PUBLIC MEETING

Public Works will hold a hybrid in-person and virtual public meeting for the The Old Road over Santa Clara River and SPT Co. Bridge, et al. Project. Attendees can join in-person or online:

Date: March 14, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Stevenson Ranch Library

25950 The Old Road

Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381

Virtual Online, via Zoom meeting link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85952997321

Meeting: Or via Zoom telephone number: +1 (669) 900 6833

Webinar ID: 859 5299 7321

Translation in other languages can be made available at the meeting upon request. Please submit translation requests at least seven business days in advance of each scheduled meeting to TheOldRoadEIR@pw.lacounty.gov.

PROJECT HEARING

Following the public meeting, a hearing on the Project and Final EIR will be scheduled before the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors at a time, date, and location to be determined. Notice will be provided to all interested parties and will be posted in advance of the hearing on the Project website at https://pw.lacounty.gov/pmd/TheOldRoad-over-SantaClaraRiver/.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

An electronic version of the Draft EIR/EA and this Notice of Availability are available on the Project website at https://pw.lacounty.gov/pmd/TheOldRoad-over-SantaClaraRiver/.

A copy of the Draft EIR/EA will also be available for review at the following locations during normal business hours:

Los Angeles County Public Works 900 S Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor Alhambra, CA 91803

Stevenson Ranch Library 25950 The Old Road Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381

Valencia Library 23743 Valencia Boulevard Valencia, CA 91355 Castaic Library 27971 Sloan Canyon Road Castaic CA 91384

Questions regarding this Notice of Availability should be directed to Ms. Ebigalle Voigt at (626) 458-3967 or TheOldRoadEIR@pw.lacounty.gov, Monday through Thursday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Si necesita asistencia con la traducción a Español, por favor comuniquese con el representante del departamento de Obras Públicas del Condado de Los Angeles, Sandra Perez (626) 458-3955, 72 horas antes de la reunión.

ADA and Title VI Accommodations: Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, interpretation services, and materials in other languages or in an alternate format may contact the department coordinator at (626) 458-7901. Individuals with hearing or speech impairment may use California Relay Service 711.



Multi-Use Trail Project Limits **Project Location Map**

1,000 Feet