

# NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

From: California Department of Transportation  
464 West 4th Street, MS 829  
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report**  
*Reference:* California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Project Title: Interstate 10 (I-10) Corridor Project

Project Location: Along Interstate 10, approximately 2 miles west of the Los Angeles - San Bernardino County Line in the City of Pomona (Post Mile [PM] 46.12) to Ford Street in the City of Redlands (PM 33.80).

Project Description: The proposed I-10 Corridor Project consists of improvements and widening along an existing 35-mile segment of the I-10 freeway.

This is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation will be the lead agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the project described below. Your participation as a responsible agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that 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.

A more detailed project description, location map, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials.

A copy of the Initial Study 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 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please direct your response to Mr. Aaron Burton, Branch Chief, California Department of Transportation, District 8 - Environmental Studies 'B', Telephone (909) 383-2841, at the address shown above. Please supply us with the name for a contact person in your agency.

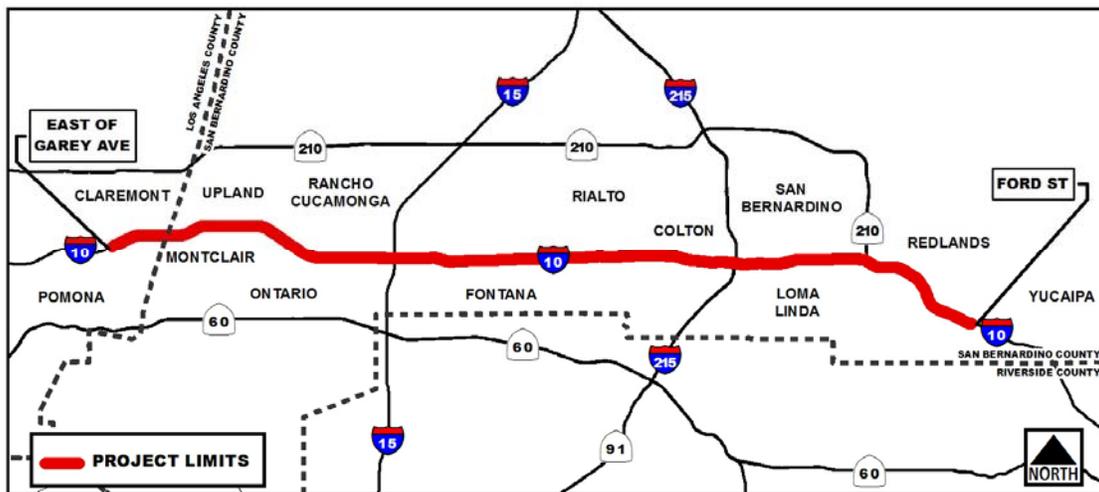
Date 10/18/2012

Signature   
Title DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Attachment: Project Information

## The I-10 Corridor Project Description

The proposed I-10 Corridor Project consists of widening and/or increasing capacity and improvements along the existing 35-mile stretch of the I-10 freeway from approximately 2 miles west of the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line, in the City of Pomona to Ford Street in the City of Redlands. As a major regional east-west freeway corridor, I-10 is heavily used by commuters between Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. In addition, the I-10 is a major truck route for facilitating goods movement from Southern California to the rest of the nation. With the existing traffic demand, the I-10 freeway lanes are at capacity resulting in heavy congestion during peak hours. Future trends are expected to increase congestion for westbound commutes during morning peak hours, and eastbound commutes during afternoon peak hours. The purpose of the proposed project is to facilitate the movement of people and goods through the I-10 corridor by managing traffic demand, improving travel times and increasing the use of carpooling and transit.



## Probable environmental effects

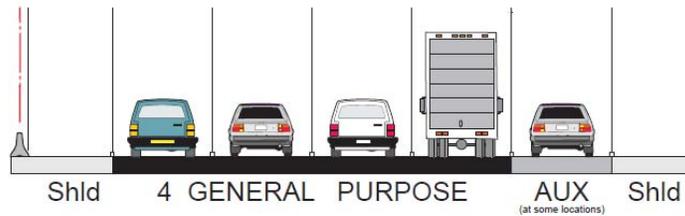
Specific federal and state permits and approvals have not been identified for the build alternatives; however, it is anticipated that a 404 permit (issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers), a Section 408 permit (issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers), a Section 4(f) *De Minimis* Finding (issued by the California Department of Transportation), a Section 7 Biological Opinion (issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) a Section 106 Finding of Effect Determination (issued by the State Historic Preservation Office), a Streambed Alteration Agreement (issued by the California Department of Fish and Game), a 2080.1 Consistency Determination (issued by the California Department of Fish and Game), and a Water Quality Certification (issued by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board) will be required for the project.

## Project Alternatives

The project will include studying one no build and two build alternatives. Both build alternatives include the construction of additional lane(s) in each direction, median barriers, sound walls, retaining walls, drainage facilities, as well as improvement of some bridges and freeway ramps.

### Alternative 1: No Build

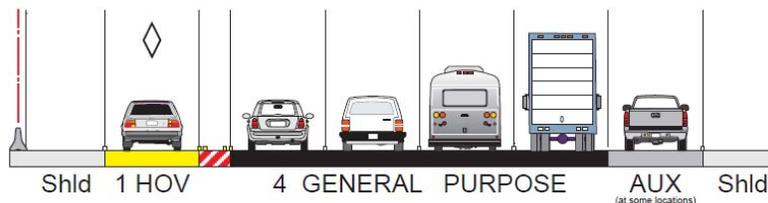
Under the No Build Alternative, the I-10 corridor and associated bridge and ramp improvements within the I-10 project area would not be constructed. The existing lane configuration would be maintained, as shown below.



ALTERNATIVE 1: TYPICAL CROSS SECTION

### Alternative 2: One High Occupancy Vehicle Lane in Each Direction

Alternative 2 includes extending a High Occupancy Vehicle lane that would allow access to vehicles with multiple passengers. Improvements for this alternative would begin from where the existing HOV lanes end approximately 0.2-mile west of Haven Avenue in the city of Ontario to Ford Street in the city of Redlands, a distance of approximately 25 miles. The main features of this alternative include widening of the I-10 corridor through the addition of a HOV lane modified in each direction, auxiliary lanes, and inside and outside shoulders in each direction, as shown below. This alternative would also upgrade standards of roadway features. Within the project area, approximately 57 existing bridges and 102 ramp facilities would need to be improved and additional right-of-way would be required.

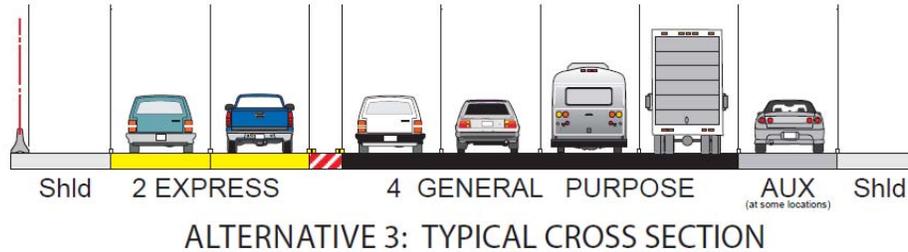


ALTERNATIVE 2: TYPICAL CROSS SECTION

### Alternative 3: Two Express Lanes in Each Direction

Alternative 3 would add two express lanes, also known as high occupancy toll lanes. Express lanes allow vehicles carrying multiple passengers to access the lanes and other vehicles, including single passenger vehicles to access the lane by paying a toll. This alternative would begin from approximately 2 miles west of the San Bernardino/Los Angeles County line, in the city of Pomona and end at Ford Street in the city of Redlands, a total distance of approximately 35 miles. Restriping of the existing HOV lanes into transitional lanes for the express lanes would begin in Los Angeles County near Garey Avenue and continue east for approximately 2 miles. At the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line, an express lane would be added in each direction from the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line to 0.2 miles west of Haven Avenue. The existing HOV lane and the new express lane would be managed jointly as an express facility with two lanes in each direction. Two express lanes in each direction would be added from 0.2 miles west of Haven Avenue to the I-10/SR-210 interchange. From SR-210 to Ford Street, a single express lane would be provided in each direction. Alternative 3 would require improvement of

approximately 81 bridge structures and 140 ramp facilities. This alternative would require additional right-of-way.



### Scoping Process

Per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), agencies are required to analyze and document potential project impacts to environmental resources. Preparation of environmental studies and impact assessments are required. Circulation of these documents to other agencies and the public for comment is necessary before a decision is made regarding the approval and implementation of the proposed project. It has been determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed project to comply with CEQA/NEPA.

### Public Involvement during the Environmental Process

There are several ways to get involved with the environmental process. Opportunities for public involvement include:

- Review and respond to the Notice of Preparation (NOP)
- Attend scoping meetings. The following provides information on the meetings:
  - Scoping meeting #1: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 from 5-7pm at the Hilton San Bernardino, 285 East Hospitality Lane, San Bernardino, California 92408
  - Scoping meeting #2: Thursday, November 15, 2012 from 5-7pm at the Sheraton Ontario Airport Hotel, 429 North Vineyard Avenue, Ontario, California 91764
- Review and comment on the draft EIR/EIS when circulated for public review
- Attend public hearing(s)/meeting(s) regarding the draft EIR/EIS
- Review responses to comments on the Final EIR/EIS

Contact Information about the proposed project and the EIR/EIS:

Mr. Aaron Burton, Branch Chief  
California Department of Transportation, District 8  
Environmental Studies "B"  
I-10 Corridor Project  
464 West 4th Street, MS 829  
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400  
Phone: (909) 383-2841

Information about the proposed project as well as an online comment form are available at the I-10 Corridor Project website at: [http://sanbag.ca.gov/projects/mi\\_fwy\\_I-10-Corridor.html](http://sanbag.ca.gov/projects/mi_fwy_I-10-Corridor.html).