

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 6, 2013

Reference No.: 2.2a. (2)
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE STATE ROUTE 67 (SR 67) MEDIAN BARRIER FEASIBILITY SAFETY PROJECT**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, provide comments in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the SR 67 Median Barrier Feasibility Safety Project?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission make no comments regarding the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR for this project; however Staff recommends that a letter be sent to the Department that states the following:

- The Commission has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied, the impacts to be evaluated, and the evaluation methods used.
- As the project is programmed in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program and actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated, notification should be provided to the Commission as a Responsible Agency.

BACKGROUND:

The Department is the designated CEQA Lead Agency responsible for the environmental review of these projects. For project summary information, please see the Department's memorandum included as agenda item 2.2a. (2).

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: August 6, 2013

Reference No.: 2.2a.(2)
Action Item

From: STEVEN KECK
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Katrina Pierce
Division Chief
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a responsible agency, review and comment at the August 2013 Commission meeting on the following Notice of Preparation (NOP):

ISSUE:

- 11-SD-67, PM 6.7/19.0. State Route 67 (SR 67) in San Diego County. Construct roadway improvements along a portion SR 67 in the cities of Lakeside, Poway, and Ramona.

PROGRAMMING:

The proposed project in San Diego County will construct safety improvements on State Route 67 near the city of Poway. The project is programmed in the 2012 State Highway Operation and Protection Program. The total estimated cost is \$49,183,000 for capital and support. Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2015-16. The scope, as described for the preferred alternative, is consistent with the project scope programmed by the Commission in the 2012 State Highway Operation and Protection Program.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

Alternatives for the project include:

- Alternative 1 – This alternative would remove the existing inside lane to install a median barrier in the three and four- lane segments of SR 67.
- Alternative 2 – This alternative would install a median barrier on the existing centerline of SR 67 without removing a lane.
- Alternative 3 – This alternative would remove a lane and install a 12-foot painted buffer in the median of SR 67 in the three and four-lane segments of the highway.
- Alternative 4 – No-build

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

- Community
- Wildlife Crossings
- Visual
- Traffic

Based on the potential for significant impacts to the areas listed above, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared for the project.

Attachments

ATTACHMENT 1

SCH NO. _____

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: _____
(leave blank—will be filled in with Responsible/Trustee
Agency)

From: Caltrans, District 11
4050 Taylor Street MS: 242
San Diego CA 92110

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: State Route 67 Median Barrier Feasibility Safety Project

Project Location: 11-SD-67 Postmiles: 6.7-19.0

Project Description: Install a median barrier on State Route 67 (SR-67) from postmile 6.7 to 19.0. to reduce the number and severity of cross centerline accidents.

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 SR-67 Median Barrier Feasibility Safety Project. Caltrans is proposing three build and one no-build alternative to be studied for this project. The proposed project is approximately 13 miles in length and proposes to install a median barrier to reduce the number and severity of cross centerline accidents. Alternatives 1 and 2 each have three types of barrier as options: either a concrete barrier, high tension cable barrier, or metal barrier rail. Alternative 1 proposes removing the existing inside lane to install the median barrier. Alternative 2 proposes to install a median barrier on the existing centerline. Alternative 3 proposes to remove a lane and install a 12' median buffer. Alternative 4 is the no-build alternative. 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 David Nagy Telephone 619-688-0224 at the address shown above. Please supply us with the name for a contact person in your agency.

Date 5/15/13

Signature 
Title Senior Environmental Planner

