



# Public Notice



## I-5 Improvement Project from San Diego County Line to Avenida Pico Notice of Public Scoping Meetings for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/ Environmental Assessment (EA) and Availability of Notice of Preparation for an EIR



### WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), proposes improvements to increase person and vehicle throughput on Interstate 5 (I-5) between the San Diego County Line (11-SD-5, PM 71.0) and the I-5/Avenida Pico Interchange (12-ORA-5, PM 3.4) (Proposed Project) in the city of San Clemente and unincorporated San Diego County. The Proposed Project would add a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane in both directions along this 3.5 mile stretch of I-5. This Proposed Project would also reestablish existing auxiliary lanes, widen existing undercrossings, and replace two existing overcrossings to accommodate the proposed HOV lanes. This I-5 corridor improvement project is intended to increase vehicle occupancy and vehicle throughput, improve mobility and trip reliability, provide inter-county and regional system connectivity, provide improvements to accommodate projected regional growth, incorporate environmentally sustainable design elements by developing efficient transportation improvements, and improve multimodal efficiency and provide advanced technology to meet the current and future transportation demands. HOV lane and operational improvements have been made on I-5 throughout Orange County north of the project limits. This project is vital to enable the completion of the HOV lane network along the I-5 corridor in Orange County. The need, or current deficiencies of I-5 within the project limits, include a lack of HOV lane connectivity from Avenida Pico to the San Diego County Line, and the existing aging facility lacks advanced technology to meet current and future transportation demands. The Proposed Project is currently in the environmental document and preliminary engineering phase. Two alternatives, including one Build and one No Build Alternative are under consideration.

### WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans and OCTA are initiating environmental and engineering studies for the Proposed Project. We are engaging in a scoping process to consider input from the public, resource agencies, and stakeholders on the depth and breadth of issues that the environmental document should address. In-person and virtual scoping meetings will be held to inform you about the project and to 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, an overview of the environmental process, schedule, and other information will be available for viewing at these meetings.

### WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) and additional project materials will be available for public review and comment at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-12/district-12-programs/district-12-environmental/i-5-hov-south-county-project>.

The NOP will also be available at the following locations for viewing:

- Caltrans District 12, 1750 E. 4th St. #100, Santa Ana, CA 92705
- OCTA, 550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA 92868.
- City of San Clemente Public Library, 242 Avenida Del Mar, San Clemente, CA 92672
- Oceanside Public Library, 330 N. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA 92054
- City of San Clemente, City Hall, 910 Calle Negocio, San Clemente, CA 92672

### WHERE YOU COME IN?

Comments may be submitted during the public scoping period (June 30, 2022-August 15, 2022) in any of the following formats:

- Project email to [I-5HOVSouthCounty@dot.ca.gov](mailto:I-5HOVSouthCounty@dot.ca.gov) with the subject line "I-5 Improvement Project from the County Line to Avenida Pico".
- Regular mail to Jayna Harris, Associate/Senior Environmental Planner, 20 Executive Park, Suite 200, Irvine, CA 92614
- Court reporter during our scoping meeting

Please submit your comments no later than August 15, 2022 by 5 PM.

## WHEN?

The **in-person** public scoping will take place at the following time and the location specified below.

**Date:** July 28, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Location:** Triton Center San Clemente High School

## WHERE?

The **virtual public** scoping meeting will take place at the online Zoom link specified below:

**Date:** August 2, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Location:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-ljZdO2zSzy6mvYdDoPqnA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-ljZdO2zSzy6mvYdDoPqnA)

## CONTACT?

To request alternative accommodations for accessing project information or for attending public scoping meetings please contact the Caltrans District 12 Public Information Office at (657) 328-6000. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service line at 1 (800) 735-2929 or Voice Line at 1(800) 735-2922. Requests for alternative accommodations to attend scoping meetings must be made 15 days prior to the scoping meeting.