

SR-241/SR-91 Tolled Express Lanes Connector Project

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
DISTRICT 12

12-ORA-241 PM 36.1/39.1

12-ORA-91 PM 14.7/18.9

08-RIV-91 PM 0.0/1.5

EA No. 12-0K9700

Project No. 1200020097

SCH No. 1989010410

Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation



**Prepared by the
State of California Department of Transportation**

The environmental review, consultation, and any other action required in accordance with applicable Federal laws for this project is being, or has been, carried out by Caltrans under its assumption of responsibility pursuant to 23 USC 327.

Caltrans will issue a single document that consists of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision pursuant to Pub. L. 112-141, 126 Stat. 405, Section 1319(b) unless it is determined that statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude issuance of such a combined document.



October 2016

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General Information About This Document

What's in this document:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), which examines the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives being considered for the SR-241/SR-91 Tolloed Express Lanes Connector Project located in Orange and Riverside counties, California. The document tells you why the project is being proposed, what alternatives we have considered for the Proposed Project, how the existing environment could be affected by the Proposed Project and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

What you should do:

- Please read the document. Additional copies of the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS and the related technical studies we relied on in preparing it, are available for review at Caltrans District 12, 1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100, Santa Ana, California 92705; the TCA office, 125 Pacifica, Suite 120, Irvine, California 92618; and at:

East Anaheim Library

8201 East Santa Ana Canyon Road
Anaheim, California 92808

Corona Public Library

650 South Main Street
Corona, California 92882

El Modena Branch Library

380 South Hewes Street
Corona, California 92869

In addition, the documents may be downloaded at the following website:

Caltrans Website: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/d12/DEA/241-91/0K9700/>

- Attend the public hearing on Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at the East Anaheim Community Center, 8201 East Santa Ana Canyon Road, Anaheim, CA 92808.
- We would like to hear what you think. If you have any comments about the Proposed Project, please attend the public hearing and/or send your written comments to Caltrans by **January 5, 2017**.

- Send written comments via postal mail to:

Smita Deshpande, Generalist Branch Chief
Division of Environmental Analysis
Department of Transportation, District 12
1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705
(657) 328-6533

- Submit comments via email to: D12.SR241-91ELC@dot.ca.gov

What happens next:

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, Caltrans, may: (1) give environmental approval to the Proposed Project, (2) do additional environmental studies, or (3) abandon the Proposed Project. If the Proposed Project is given environmental approval and funding is obtained, Caltrans, in cooperation with F/ETCA, could design and construct all or part of the Proposed Project.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to Department of Transportation, Attn: Bahar Heydari, Environmental Analysis, Caltrans District 12, 1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100, Santa Ana, California 92705; (657) 328-6533 Voice; or use the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY-English), 1 (800) 735-2929 (Voice) or 711.

SCH No. 1989010410
12-ORA-241 PM 36.1/39.1
12-ORA-91 PM 14.7/18.9
08-RIV-91 PM 0.0/1.5
EA No. 12-0K9700
Project No. 1200020097

Construct a direct connector between State Route 241(SR-241) and the State Route 91 (SR-91) Tolloed Express Lanes, from Orange County, (12-ORA-241 PM 36.1/39.1 and 12-ORA-91 PM 14.7/18.9 to 08-RIV-91 PM 0.0/1.5) to the Riverside County line.

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code
(Federal) 42 USC 4332(2)(C) and 49 USC 303

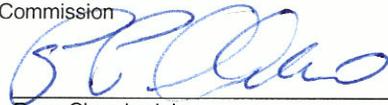
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Transportation

Cooperating Agency:
United States Army Corps of Engineers

Responsible Agencies:

United States Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Foothill Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency
Regional Water Quality Control Board
County of Orange
California Transportation Commission

10/24/16
Date of Approval


Ryan Chamberlain
District Director
California Department of Transportation
NEPA and CEQA Lead Agency

The following person may be contacted for more information about this document:

Smita Deshpande,
Generalist Branch Chief
California Department of Transportation, District 12
1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705
D12.SR241-91ELC@dot.ca.gov

Abstract: The purpose of the Proposed Project is to implement the build out of the Eastern Transportation Corridor (ETC), as approved in 1994. The overall objective of the ETC project was to accommodate traffic growth associated with planned and approved development in Orange County. The need for the Proposed Project is to address roadway deficiencies including: peak-hour demand exceeding capacity between the SR-241 and SR-91 connectors, lack of connectivity between tolled/managed facilities, and weaving between general purpose connectors and median lanes reducing traffic flow. The F/ETCA, in cooperation with Caltrans, proposes to construct a direct connector between SR-241 and the *91 Express Lanes*. Currently, there is no direct connection between the SR-241 toll road and the *91 Express Lanes*. A Preferred Alternative was identified by the Project Development Team, which is the Proposed Project (the Build Alternative) discussed in this document. The only substantial effects from the Proposed Project include impacts to paleontological resources and biological resources. Caltrans will issue a single document that consists of the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision pursuant to Pub. L. 112-141, 126 Stat. 405, Section 1319(b) unless it is determined that statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude issuance of such a combined document.

Submit comments on this document to: Smita Deshpande, Generalist Branch Chief, Division of Environmental Analysis, Department of Transportation, District 12, 1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100, Santa Ana CA 92705, D12.SR241-91ELC@dot.ca.gov by January 5, 2017.

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