



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Announcement of a Public Meeting for the US Highway 101 (US-101)/State Route 46 East (SR-46E) Improvement Project

#### WHERE AND WHEN

Date: August 26, 2009  
Time: 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Place: City of Paso Robles,  
1000 Spring Street  
Conference Room: 1st Floor

#### WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

Caltrans, in cooperation with the City of Paso Robles, is proposing operational, access, and drainage improvements within San Luis Obispo County in the general area between the US-101/SR-46E interchange southward to 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Specific improvements include restriping SR-46E from the US-101 southbound on-ramp intersection to the eastern edge of the Salinas River Bridge, reconstructing the US-101 southbound on-ramp at SR-46E, constructing US-101 southbound on-and-off ramps at 17<sup>th</sup> Street, constructing an auxiliary lane for US-101 southbound between the on-ramp at SR-46E and the proposed off-ramp at 17<sup>th</sup> Street, replacing the 13<sup>th</sup> Street bridge barriers and reconstructing the retaining walls near the Riverside Avenue intersection, reconstructing the 13<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk and curb returns between Riverside Avenue and Paso Robles Street, installing new and modifying existing traffic signals, and installing a ramp meter at the US-101 southbound on-ramp at Spring Street.



#### WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

The City, with approval from Caltrans, prepared an Initial Study for the US-101/SR-46E improvements, which concluded that the project would not significantly affect the environment under the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The public meeting will give you an opportunity to learn about the project, discuss it with Caltrans and City staff, and make comments before final design is determined. The public meeting will be open-house style. Feel free to stop by during the times noted above.

#### WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

During the period of August 11, 2009 to September 11, 2009, the US-101/SR-46E Initial Study document will be available for review at the following locations:

- Caltrans offices at 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo
- City of Paso Robles Public Library, 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles
- City of Paso Robles Public Works Department, 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles

#### WHERE DO YOU COME IN?

We welcome your comments. If the project is of interest to you, please review the US-101/SR-46E Initial Study document. If you would like further information, please attend the public meeting. If you have

concerns that you would like to share with us, please provide written comments to Caltrans by September 11, 2009, Attn: Matt Fowler, 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. You may also submit your comments via e-mail to [Matt\\_C\\_Fowler@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Matt_C_Fowler@dot.ca.gov). Comments may also be submitted in writing to Caltrans at the public information meeting on August 26, 2009. A court reporter will also be available to take comments at the public meeting.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information or to receive a copy of the US-101/SR-46E Initial Study document, please contact Matt Fowler, Senior Environmental Planner at (805) 542-4603 or e-mail [Matt\\_C\\_Fowler@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Matt_C_Fowler@dot.ca.gov). For information on other California State Highway projects, please contact Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at (805) 549-3318.

#### **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

Individuals who require special accommodations (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternative formats, etc.) are required to contact the District 5 Public Affairs Office at (805) 549-3318 at least five days prior to the scheduled public meeting date. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at (800) 735-2922.

## Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

### **Project Description**

Caltrans is proposing operational, access, and drainage improvements within San Luis Obispo County in the general area between the US-101/SR-46E interchange southward to 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Specific improvements include restriping SR-46E from the US-101 southbound on-ramp intersection to the eastern edge of the Salinas River Bridge, reconstructing the US-101 southbound on-ramp at SR-46E, constructing US-101 southbound on-and-off ramps at 17<sup>th</sup> Street, constructing an auxiliary lane for US-101 southbound between the on-ramp at SR-46E and the off-ramp at 17<sup>th</sup> Street, replacing the 13<sup>th</sup> Street bridge barriers and reconstructing the retaining walls near the Riverside Avenue intersection, reconstructing the 13<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk and curb returns between Riverside Avenue and Paso Robles Street, installing new and modifying existing traffic signals, and the installation of a ramp meter at the US-101 southbound on-ramp at Spring Street.

### **Determination**

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is included to give notice to interested agencies and the public that it is Caltrans' intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project. This does not mean that Caltrans' decision regarding the project is final. This Mitigated Negative Declaration is subject to modification based on comments received by interested agencies and the public. Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study for this project and, pending public review, expects to determine from this study that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons.

The proposed project would not have a significant effect on land use and planning, cultural resources, mineral resources, population and housing, or recreation.

In addition, the proposed project would have no significant adverse effect on aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, parks and recreation, or transportation/traffic, because the proposed mitigation and minimization measures would reduce potential effects to insignificance.

---

Jennifer H. Taylor, Office Chief  
Office of Environmental Management, South  
Central Region Environmental Division  
California Department of Transportation

---

Date