

Appendix H

Vehicle Miles Traveled Analysis



VMT Analysis – Technical Memorandum

Project: Avenida Encinas Coastal Rail Trail, Carlsbad California
Date: May 20, 2022
To: Brandon Miles, PE, TE, Associate Engineer – Public Works (Transportation), City of Carlsbad
From: David DiPierro, TE, Senior Principal Manager, STC Traffic, Inc.
Philip Wragg, AICP, Project Planner, STC Traffic, Inc.

STC is pleased to present this Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Analysis Technical Memorandum to support the proposed Avenida Encinas Coastal Rail Trail (CRT) project in the City of Carlsbad California. This memorandum provides a VMT Analysis in line with the City of Carlsbad VMT Analysis Guidelines (September 15, 2020).

Project Description

The project includes a variety of complete street, traffic system, and aesthetic improvements along Avenida Encinas within the City limits and is state and federally funded with an Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant. The purpose of this project is to create a balanced multi-modal corridor with improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities that will increase mobility and safety along the corridor for all users. The project is located within the City limits along Avenida Encinas between Palomar Airport Road and Carlsbad Boulevard. **Attachment A** shows the project location. The proposed enhancements include:

- Class II directional bikeway separated from the adjacent travel lane with a buffer. Where parking is provided, the parking lane will be against the curb with the bike lane situated to the left of the parking lane separated with a buffer.
- Pedestrian accessibility improvements including sidewalk, curb ramps, crosswalk enhancements, curb extensions to reduce crossing distance, LED countdown heads and audible signals.
- Enhanced pedestrian and bicycle access to regional and local transit and important community destinations along the corridor.
- Installation of a Pedestrian Signal at Avenida Encinas & San Carlos Street / Shopping Plaza driveway.
- Installation of new sidewalks where sidewalk gaps exist.
- Traffic signal system and operation improvements.
- Traffic calming improvements.

Attachment B shows the proposed project enhancements.

VMT Analysis

The City of Carlsbad has published VMT Analysis Guidelines (September 15, 2020) to implement Senate Bill 743. Consistent with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Guidelines, the City has changed the metric for evaluating CEQA transportation impacts from level of service (LOS) to VMT.



Section 4.1 of the guidelines lists certain types of transportation projects that are presumed to have a less than significant impact on transportation including the following which are consistent with the proposed project:

- Installation, removal, or reconfiguration of traffic lanes that are not for through traffic, such as left, right, and U-turn pockets, two-way left turn lanes, or emergency breakdown lanes that are not utilized as through lanes.
- Reduction in number of through lanes.
- Timing of signals to optimize vehicle, bicycle, or pedestrian flow.
- Installation or reconfiguration of traffic calming devices.
- Addition of new or enhanced bike or pedestrian facilities on existing streets/highways or within existing public rights-of-way.

Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on VMT because it screens out based on project type. Based on this analysis, STC understands that the project will not be subject to VMT mitigation measures and no further VMT analysis is required. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Phil Wragg (Philip.Wragg@stctrffic.com) should you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
STC Traffic

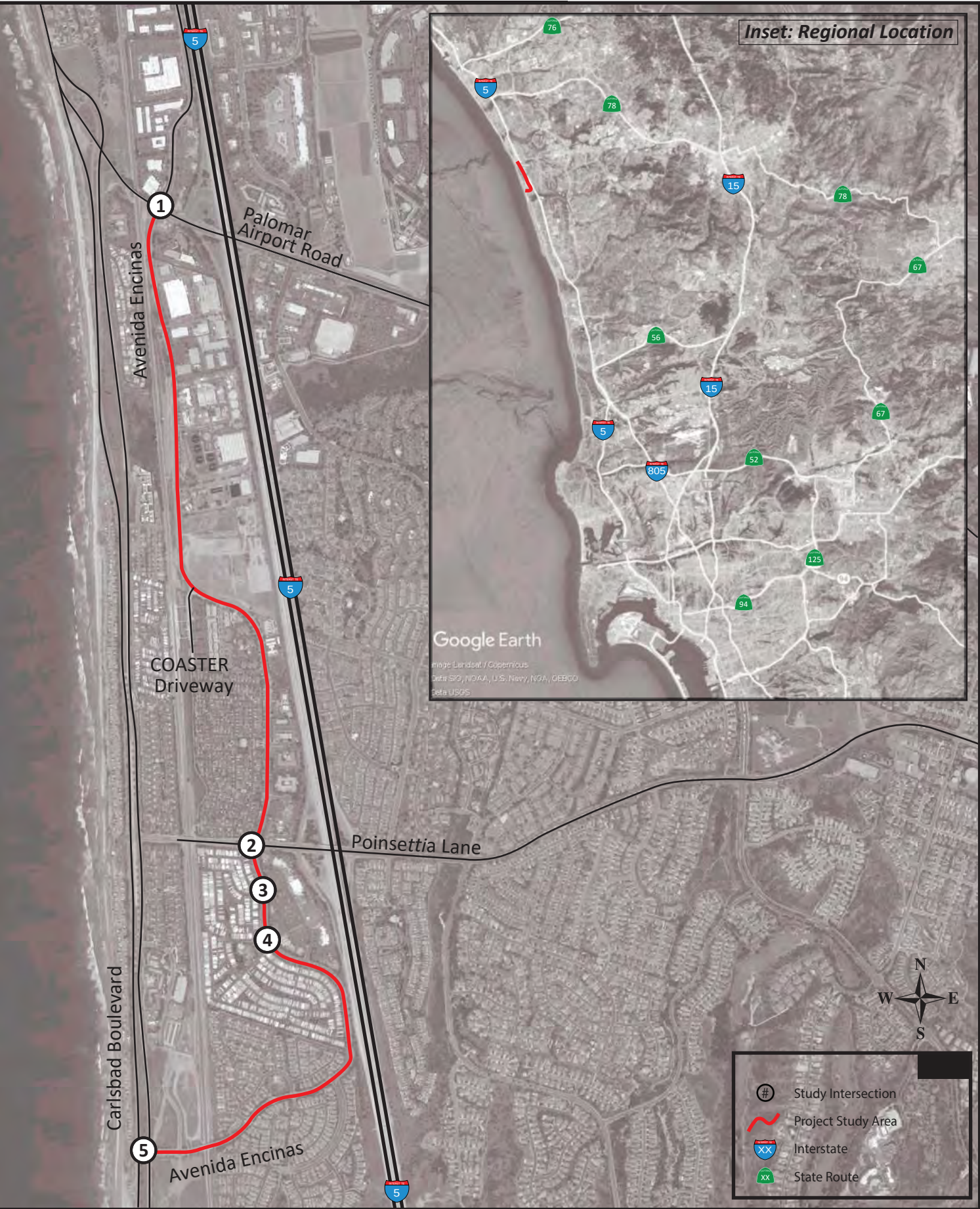
David DiPierro, TE,
Senior Principal Manager

Attachment A: Project Location
Attachment B: Proposed Project Enhancements



Attachment A: Project Location

Avenida Encinas CRT





Attachment B: Proposed Project Enhancements

Avenida Encinas CRT

