

Notice of Preparation

Date: December 3rd, 2025

To: Reviewing Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the State Route 52 Operational Improvements

Caltrans District 11 will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which 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.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are described below. A copy of the Initial Study (☐ is ☒ 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 or by Monday January 5th, 2026. Comments can be submitted between Wednesday December 3rd, 2025 and Monday January 5th, 2026.

Please send your response to Caltrans at the address or email shown below. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title

State Route 52 (SR-52) Operational Improvements

Project Applicant (if any)

Caltrans District 11

Project Description

The project is in the City of Santee and San Diego County on SR-52 from the Interstate (I)-15 interchange to the SR-125 interchange. Project improvements proposed for study include the addition of a westbound managed lane, a new two-way bike path and bike bridges, a reversible managed lane, reduction of bottlenecks at the San Diego River Bridge and at the westbound Santo Road interchange, and reconfiguration of the westbound Mast Boulevard onramp.

Project Location

The proposed project limits are from the I-15/SR-52 connector to the Mission Gorge Road Undercrossing and includes the SR-52/Mast Boulevard Interchange.

The State Route 52 is a 6-lane freeway from I-15 to Mast Blvd, then it becomes 4-lane from Mast Blvd to Mission Gorge Rd. There are two bridges crossing Oak and Spring Canyons, an overcrossing at Mast Blvd and a 2-lane viaduct over San Diego River. A barrier separated class IV bikeway is currently operational on EB shoulders. There is an auxiliary lane on WB direction from Santo Rd to I-15.

Probable Environmental Effects of the Project

Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) Analysis

Public Services

Recreation/Parks

Socioeconomics:

- Relocations (Home and Business Displacements)

- Community Character and Cohesion

- Parks and Recreational Facilities

Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs

Land Use

Cultural Resources:

- Archaeological Recourses

- Historic Resources

Biological Resources:

- Resources Natural Communities

- Wetlands and Other Waters of the U.S.

- Threatened and Endangered Species

- Plant Species

- Animal Species

- Invasive Species

Cumulative and Growth

Visual/Aesthetics

Noise

Traffic and Transportation

Paleontology Resources

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases

Utilities and Emergency Services

Hydrology and Floodplain

Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff

Geology and Soils

Water Quality

Hazardous Waste/Materials

Public Scoping Meeting

December 11th, 2025 at 6 PM

Santee City Hall

Building 7

10601 Magnolia Ave

Santee, CA 92071

Contact Information

Jack Parker

Work Cell: (858) 289-1282

Email: jack.parker@dot.ca.gov

Signature: *Koji Tsunoda*

Title: Chief, Environmental Analysis – Branch C

Attachments: Attachment A: Project Vicinity Map

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Attachment A Project Vicinity Map



SR 52 Operational Improvements- Project Vicinity Map