

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 7
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June 18, 2026

To:
Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals
Interested in the California Street Northbound
Off-Ramp Relocation Project

Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a Negative Declaration for the California Street Northbound Off-Ramp Relocation Project

The City of Ventura (City/Ventura), in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7, proposes to relocate the existing United States Route 101 (US-101) northbound (NB) off-ramp at California Street to Oak Street, and to replace/extend the California Street Overcrossing in Ventura, Ventura County, California (project). The existing US-101/California Street off-ramp is located near the west end of the Ventura city limits at Post Mile (PM) 30.1, approximately 0.6 mile east of State Route 33 (SR-33) and 0.4 mile west of San Jon Road, near the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

California Street provides access to the City's downtown business district and leads to City Hall, located north of US-101. South of US-101, California Street terminates at Harbor Boulevard, which provides access to the Ventura County Fairgrounds, Amtrak station, Ventura Promenade, Ventura Pier, and the oceanfront. California Street is one of only two roadways in Ventura that provides direct access for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles between the downtown business district and the oceanfront; the other roadway providing direct access is Figueroa Street, located approximately 0.25 miles west of California Street.

The proposed project includes a No-Build Alternative and Build Alternative.

Alternative 1 – No Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would not include any construction or result in changes to existing conditions; the existing northbound US-101/California Street off-ramp would remain in the same location, and there would be no improvements to traffic, pedestrian, or bicycle facilities on California Street.

Alternative 2 – Build Alternative

The Build Alternative would include relocation of the existing northbound US-101/California Street off-ramp from its present terminus at California Street to Oak Street. The existing NB US-101/California Street off-ramp hook-type alignment would be retained, though it would originate and terminate at different points than what currently exists. The off-ramp would begin as one lane at the highway, transition to two lanes beneath the California Street Overcrossing, and widen to three lanes at the terminus with Oak Street. The widening

from one to three lanes is proposed to provide additional room for vehicles to stack within the off-ramp instead of onto the mainline.

Caltrans has studied the environmental and community impacts of the proposed project and has prepared an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Draft IS/EA evaluates the potentially significant environmental effects of the project related to the areas Aesthetic/Visual, Air quality, Archeological/Historical, Biological Resources, Coastal Zone, Drainage/Absorption, Economic/Jobs, Flood Plain, Geologic/Seismic, Noise, Public Services/Facilities, Sewer system, Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading, Solid Waste, Toxic/Hazardous, Traffic/Circulation, Water Quality, Growth/Inducement. The Draft IS/EA identifies feasible avoidance and minimization measures that would reduce potential impacts to these resource areas. The project would not result in substantial adverse impacts in any resource area.

Project-level conformity analysis shows that the project will conform to the State Implementation Plan.

Because the project area is Attainment/Unclassified for carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), no hot spot analysis is required for the project-level conformity determination by the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Sections 93.116 and 93.123. The project comes from a conforming Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. Comment is requested regarding the project-level conformity analysis.

The IS/EA is available online at <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/2760/US-101-Oak-Street-Off-Ramp-Improvement-P>. A copy of the Draft IS/EA will also be available for review at the following location between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at: Ventura City Hall located at 501 Poli Street, Ventura, CA 93001.

A public hearing to provide information and gather public input about the project will be held at the following location:

LOCATION
July 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM
Museum of Ventura County
100 E Main Street
Ventura, CA 93001

"Improving lives and communities through transportation"