



PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration and Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing

(Study Results Available)

Freeman Gulch Safety Improvements

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments will be accepted from
August 10th to September 8th, 2026.

If there are no major comments, Caltrans
will proceed with the projects design.

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to reduce collisions, enhance safety, preserve, repair, and extend the life of the existing pavement and improve access for multiple modes of transportation on State Route 14 from post miles 46.20 to 58.60 in Kern County.

WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show the project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains why is called an Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration. This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration and of its availability for you to read and comment on.

Please visit the following website for more information:
<https://engage.dot.ca.gov/09-39140>

WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration, maps, and other project information are available for review in the following ways:

- Online at: <http://engage.dot.ca.gov/09-39140>
- At the Ridgecrest Branch Library at 131 East Las Flores Avenue, Ridgecrest, CA 93555 during business hours.
- At the Caltrans District 9 Office (Bishop) at 500 South Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514 during business hours.

*There is no public meeting currently scheduled for this project, however, one can be organized upon request.

WHERE YOU COME IN?

Do you have any comments about processing the project with an Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration? Do you disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed Negative Declaration? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Please submit your comments or requests for a public hearing in writing by U.S. Mail or email no later than September 8, 2026, to Caltrans, Attention: Amber Stoerp, Environmental Scientist, 500 South Main Street, Bishop, California 93514, or by email to amber.stoerp@dot.ca.gov. Caltrans will begin accepting comments August 10, 2026. If there are no major comments, Caltrans will finalize the environmental document and proceed with the project's design.

CONTACT

For more information about this project, please contact Amber Stoerp, Environmental Scientist, by email at amber.stoerp@dot.ca.gov or by phone at 760-937-4666. For all other state highway matters in the area, please visit the Caltrans District 9 website at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-9> or contact the District 9 Public Information Office at 760-872-0603 or by email at D9PublicInfo@dot.ca.gov.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, individuals who require accommodation (American Sign Language Interpreter, accessible seating, documents in alternative formats, etc.) are requested to contact the Caltrans District 9 Public Information Office at 1-760-872-0603 or by email at D9PublicInfo@dot.ca.gov. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service line at 1-800-735-2929, Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922, or contact the California Relay Service Teletype Voice Line by dialing 711

