



**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA)**

Pursuant to USDOT Order 5610.1C, Paragraph 5.b

Date: May 19, 2021

To: State Clearinghouse
PO Box 3044
Sacramento, CA, 95812-3044

From: California Department of Transportation

District 7
100 S. Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020060275

Project Description: The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG), Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW), and City of Industry propose to improve mobility and relieve congestion, capacity constraints, and other related deficiencies on Interstate 605 (I-605) at the Valley Boulevard interchange including high accident rate locations, inadequate truck turn paths, nonstandard lane and shoulder widths along loop ramps, and noncompliant Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) facilities.. The I-605/Valley Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project (project) is an Early Action Project (EAP) of the I-605 Corridor Improvement Project (CIP). An EAP has been identified as a project that can be implemented quickly and easily to ease congestion as soon as possible. Caltrans is the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is located adjacent to the I-605 approximately two miles north of State Route 60 (SR-60) and 0.8 of a mile south of Interstate 10 (I-10) within portions of the City of Industry and unincorporated Los Angeles. The project would include reconfiguring, widening, and/or modifying I-605 freeway on-/off-ramps as well as improvements to Valley Boulevard (additional through lane and turn lanes) and widening Temple Avenue to improve traffic flow.

The purpose of the project is to accomplish the following objectives:

- Reduce congestion on Valley Boulevard;
- Improve traffic operation at the I-605/Valley Boulevard interchange;

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- Alleviate mobility constraints; and
- Enhance overall safety.

The I-605/Valley Boulevard interchange currently experiences significant congestion, heavy truck traffic, and operational deficiencies which are forecasted to increase and exacerbate existing traffic conditions without any planned improvements. Operational deficiencies include inadequate vehicle queueing space on the existing off-ramps, and nonstandard roadway geometrics. The interchange currently operates at unacceptable levels of service with accident rates that exceed the statewide average. Additionally, the interchange does not have sufficient capacity to support the existing and planned traffic volumes.

Currently, the walkway under the I-605 freeway along westbound Valley Boulevard is a dirt path, and curb ramps are not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Draft Initial Study (IS) with proposed Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the Project was circulated for public review between June 15, 2020, and July 15, 2020. Due to the pandemic, a notice of (virtual) public hearing opportunity for the Project Draft IS/EA. There was no request to host a public hearing during the circulation period. All comments received during the public review period have been considered. Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse on May 19, 2021.

This is to advise you that a finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been made for this project by the California Department of Transportation as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration pursuant to 23 USC 327. A copy of the FONSI and the attached Environmental Assessment can be obtained from the California Department of Transportation office located at the above address and online at the Project website: <https://www.metro.net/projects/i-605-corridor-hot-spots-program/i-605-early-action-projects/>.