



Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment & Public Scoping Meeting for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project. Caltrans is issuing this NOP to solicit public and agency input into the development of the scope of the project and the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR/EA. This NOP also advises the public that outreach activities will be conducted by Caltrans in partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in support of the preparation of the EIR/EA.

SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD: June 15 through July 29, 2020

PROJECT OVERVIEW

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, traffic bottlenecks within the corridor, and increased travel times. To improve system continuity, congestion relief and operations, the project—part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program—proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The purpose of the EIR/EA process is to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project on the physical, human, and natural environment. A wide variety of resource areas will be studied during the environmental review to identify potential impacts, including air quality, biological resources, climate change/greenhouse gas, community impacts, cultural resources (historic buildings, structures, and districts; archaeology), economic impacts, environmental justice, geology/soils/seismicity, growth, hazardous waste/hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality/storm water, land use, noise, paleontology, right of way/relocation, transportation/traffic studies, utilities, and visual impacts. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential adverse impacts will be identified and evaluated in the EIR/EA.

ONLINE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A 45-day public scoping comment period will begin on June 15 and end on July 29, 2020. For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public scoping meeting will be available during this time to provide project information and seek public and agency input into the scope of the environmental review. The online public meeting can be found by visiting the Innovate 680 Program website at ccta.net/INNOVATE680.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and suggestions on the environmental scope of the project are invited from all interested parties for a period of 45 days from June 15 through 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2020.

Submit comments utilizing any of the following:

- **Direct Mail:** Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA
111 Grand Ave, Oakland, CA 94612
- **Project Email:** info@INNOVATE680.com
- **Online Meeting comment card submittal**
- **Project Telephone:** 925-278-5978

SPECIAL MEETING ACCOMMODATIONS

The online public scoping meeting is American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible and can be viewed in the desired language through use of Google translate. For additional accessibility preferences, email info@INNOVATE680.com, call **925-278-5978** or for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired (TDD), users may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at **1-800-735-2929**, or **711**.

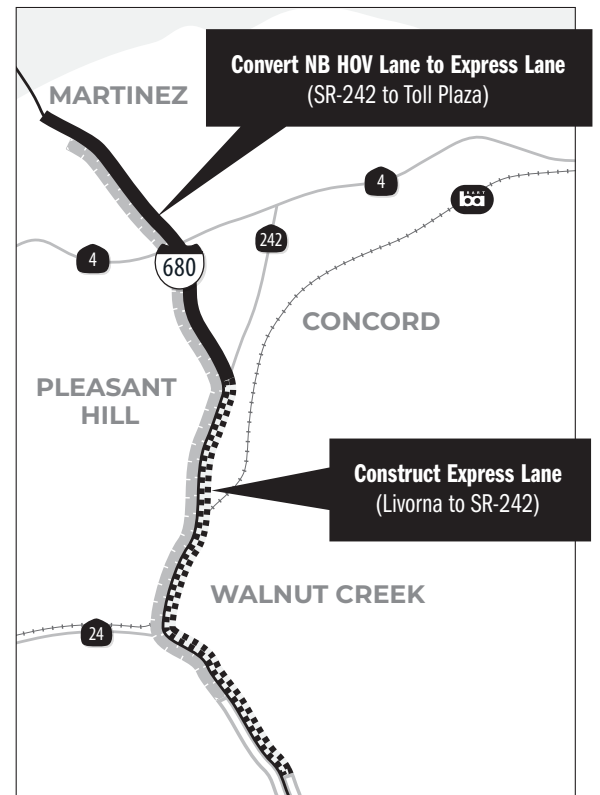
ADAPTACIONES ESPECIALES PARA LA REUNIÓN

La reunión de consulta preliminar pública en línea es accesible de conformidad con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades o ADA y puede verse en el idioma de su preferencia mediante el uso del traductor de Google. Para otras preferencias de accesibilidad envíe un mensaje a info@INNOVATE680.com, llame al **925 278 5978**, o los usuarios con problemas del oído o del habla (TDD por su sigla en inglés) pueden comunicarse con el Servicio de Retransmisión por Teletipo de California (TTY por su sigla en inglés) y/o con la Línea de Voz al **1 800 735 2929** o al **711**.

會議特殊情況遷就安排

我們的線上公共範圍網站符合《美國殘障人法》(Americans with Disabilities Act, 簡稱 ADA) 無障礙存取標準, 並且使用者可借助 Google 翻譯工具以所需的語言查看網站內容。如需查詢能否安排額外的協助工具, 請傳送電郵至 info@INNOVATE680.com, 或致電 **925-278-5978** info@INNOVATE680.com。聾啞人士或聽力語言障礙 (TDD) 使用者請撥電話 **1-800-735-2929** 或 **711** 與加州殘障轉接服務 TTY 和/或語音熱線聯絡。

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this Project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.



Lead Agency for CEQA/NEPA



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