# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment and Announcement of Open Forum Public Hearing

## SR 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus-on-Shoulder Improvements - Freedom Blvd. to State Park Drive - and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project

### PUBLIC HEARING

Two public hearings are being proposed, one virtual zoom meeting on May 2, 2023, and a second in-person meeting on May 4, 2023:

**Date:** May 2, 2023 (virtual)
**Time:** 6:00pm – 7:30pm
**Place:** https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoceurqzgrH91-n8Hgf3LeH0PWx3JGUME3

**Date:** May 4, 2023 (in-person)
**Time:** 6:00pm – 7:30pm
**Place:** Rio Sands Hotel, 116 Aptos Beach Dr., Aptos.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment is now available for public review and comment.

**Comment Deadline: June 2, 2023**

#### WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

Caltrans, in cooperation with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission and the County of Santa Cruz, proposes to widen State Route 1 to include auxiliary lanes, accommodate bus-on-shoulder operations between the Freedom Boulevard and State Park Drive interchanges, and construct Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 in the community of Aptos, Santa Cruz County.

#### WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effect this project may have on the environment and prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment that identifies the project's potential impacts and potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures. The build alternative would result in significant and unavoidable impacts related to Aesthetics (loss of trees). Significant impacts related to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Paleontological Resources, would be reduced to less-than-significant levels after implementation of mitigation measures. The project site is not located on any list of hazardous materials waste sites compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

This notice is to tell you of the availability of the draft environmental document for you to read and review, and the opportunity to provide comments. A public hearing will be held to give you the opportunity to learn more about the project and to talk with Caltrans staff before the final design is selected.

#### WHAT'S AVAILABLE

The Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment and other project information are available for review and copying at the Caltrans District 5 Office at 50 Higuera Street in San Luis Obispo on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The document is also available at the Capitola Branch Library at 2005 Wharf Road in Capitola, the Live Oak Library at 2380 Portola Drive in Santa Cruz, the Watsonville Public Library at 275 Main Street Ste. 100 in Watsonville, and County of Santa Cruz Public Works at 701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor in Santa Cruz, and online at the Caltrans District 5 website: https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5. Electronic copies are also available at Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's website: https://bit.ly/StatePark-FreedomBlvd.

#### WHERE YOU COME IN

Do you believe the project's potential impacts have been adequately addressed by the draft environmental document? Do you have additional information that should be included? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Please submit your comments in writing no later than June 2, 2023 to Lara Bertaina, Department of Transportation, 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, or lara.bertaina@dot.ca.gov.

You may also submit comments at the virtual public hearing on May 2, 2023 or the in-person public hearing on May 4, 2023. Comment cards will be available, and a court reporter will be present to record individual comments.

After considering and replying to comments on the draft environmental document, Caltrans will make a decision on the project and proceed with the project's design.

#### CONTACT

For more information about this project or about the meeting, please contact Lara Bertaina, Senior Environmental Planner, at (805) 779-0792 or lara.bertaina@dot.ca.gov. For other state highway matters in the area, please contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Information Office at 805-549-3318 or by email at info-d5@dot.ca.gov.

#### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Individuals who require special accommodation (e.g., American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate forms, etc.) are requested to contact the District 5 Public Affairs Office at (805) 549-3318. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 711.