

**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL**

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November 23, 2020

File No.: 834.15244.14319

Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

Gabrielle Duff, Senior Environmental Planner  
Caltrans District 8  
464 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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**Nov 24 2020****STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

RE: SCH # 2020110050

The Needles Area of the California Highway Patrol received the "Notice of Preparation" of the Environmental document for the proposed I-40/Colorado River Bridge Replacement Project, State Clearinghouse (SCH) # 2020110050. After review, we have concerns with the potential impact this project could have on traffic congestion.

Our concern relates to the utilization of Alternative #1, which would require restricting traffic flow from two lanes down to one lane, in both eastbound and westbound directions of travel. This option will have a substantial impact on traffic congestion in both directions, on a consistent basis, throughout the project. The traffic congestion may also potentially increase the number of traffic collisions prior to and within the project construction zone. Large, commercial type vehicles consistently traverse the I-40/Colorado River Bridge. Constricting the bridge to one lane of travel in each direction, with limited to no freeway shoulders available may cause a clearance issue for larger type vehicles. Alternatives 2 or 3 would have less potential of restricting traffic flow and would likely result in fewer traffic collisions throughout the course of this project. Alternatives 2 or 3 would also have less negative impact on the general traffic flow as motorist could proceed as normal, utilizing two traffic lanes in both directions, at normal freeway speeds throughout completion of the project.

The I-40 Colorado River Bridge separates the states of Arizona and California. This project has potential to subsequently cause traffic congestion within the state of Arizona. Therefore, the Needles Area of the California Highway Patrol requests this "Notice of Preparation" be provided to the Arizona Department of Public Safety, District 1, Captain J. Clark, at 2319 East Andy Devine, Kingman AZ 86401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lance Berns" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lance Berns, Lieutenant  
Commander  
Needles Area

