

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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July 18, 2023

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

File No.: 834.16081.17050

Jul 18 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Gabrielle Duff, Senior Environmental Planner
Caltrans District 8
464 W. 4th Street, 6th Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400

RE: SCH # 2020110050

The Needles Area of the California Highway Patrol received the "Notice of Completion" 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, potentially demand additional enforcement efforts, and/or increase response time to emergency situations. 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 Completion" be provided to the Arizona Department of Public Safety, District 1, at 2319 East Andy Devine, Kingman AZ 86401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Adelmann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. ADELMANN, Lieutenant
Commander

