



PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Adopt a MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION and OPPORTUNITY for a VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

(Study Results Available)

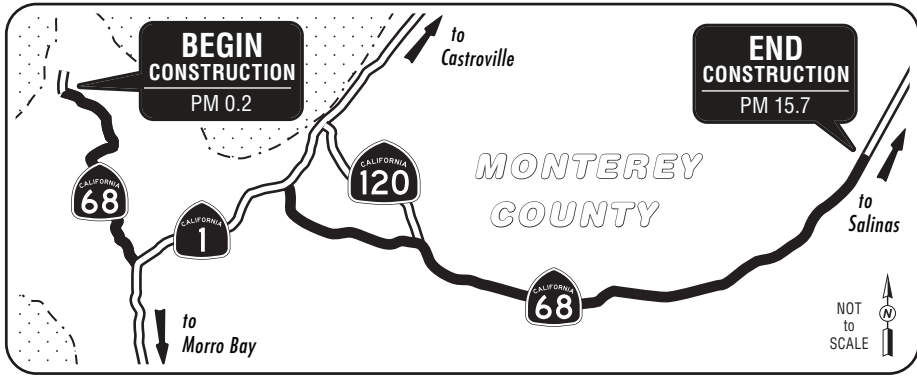
Do you want a virtual public meeting on changes proposed for the State Route 68 Drainage Improvements Project in Monterey County?

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments will be accepted from
January 21, 2022 to February 21, 2022.

If there are no major comments or requests for a hearing, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.

Visit the project page here:



WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to improve existing drainage infrastructure, provide improved lighting equipment, and install transportation management system equipment at various locations along State Route 68 from post mile 0.2 to post mile 15.7 in Monterey County. Improvements to 25 drainage culvert systems are proposed, including joint repair and/or complete pipe replacement specific to the conditions at each location. Some of the proposed improvements would require drainage and maintenance access easements and temporary construction easements. Lighting system improvements are proposed on the State Route 68/State Route 1 east connectors near the Fairground Road Overcrossing at post mile R4.04. Underground conduit systems and service connection cabinets for the lighting would be replaced as needed. Two new traffic census stations would be installed east of Fairground Road and west of State Route 1 to provide complete and accurate traffic data for the State Route 68 corridor. The proposed work will encroach upon wetlands. The project is being evaluated to determine if there are any practical alternatives to avoid encroachment, or if not, to ensure that all practical measures are taken to minimize harm to the wetlands.

WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show the project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment with the incorporation of proposed mitigation measures. The report that explains why is called an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration. This notice is to inform you of the preparation of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and of its availability for you to read and comment on. This notice also offers you an opportunity to request a virtual public meeting.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is available in the following ways:

- Online at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/>
(The technical environmental studies are available upon request)
- If you prefer that a printed or email copy or compact disc of the document be sent to your home address, call Matt Fowler at (805) 779-0793 or email him at matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov.

WHERE YOU COME IN?

Do you have any comments about processing the project with an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration? Do you disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Would you like a virtual public meeting? Please submit your comments or requests for a virtual public meeting in writing by U.S. Mail or email no later than February 21, 2022, to Caltrans Environmental Planning, Attention: Matt Fowler, Environmental Branch Chief, 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, California 93401; or by email to matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov. The date Caltrans will begin accepting comments is January 21, 2022. If there are no major comments or requests for a virtual public meeting, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.

CONTACT

For more information about this project or to request a copy of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, please contact Matt Fowler, Environmental Branch Chief, at 805-779-0793, or by email at matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov. For information on other state highway projects, please visit the Caltrans District 5 website at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/> or contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Information Office at 805-549-3138 or by email at info-d5@dot.ca.gov.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, individuals who require accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documents in alternative formats, etc.) are requested to contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Information Office at Info-D5@dot.ca.gov or by phone at 805-549-3138. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 (Teletype to Voice), 1-800-735-2922