

California Department of Transportation



DISTRICT 4
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April 4, 2023

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044



Dear Governor's Office of Planning and Research:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is pleased to announce that the Draft Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the proposed State Route (SR) 116 – Stage Gulch Road/Lakeville Highway Intersection Safety Project (Project) has been completed and will be released for public review and comment. This Draft IS/ND is also referred to as the Draft Environmental Document (DED).

The proposed Project occurs on SR 116 at post mile 39.27, approximately 1.2 miles southeast of Petaluma, in Sonoma County, California. The purpose of the proposed Project is to reduce the number and severity of accidents and to improve traffic operations at the Stage Gulch Road/Lakeville Highway intersection. The Project proposes two build alternatives: signalization of the intersection or construction of a new roundabout. The Project also includes roadway widening, improvements to the existing drainage infrastructure, and the addition of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Caltrans has analyzed the impacts that the proposed Project would have on the environment. The findings of the analysis are presented in the Draft IS/MND, which is available for review for a 30-day public review period from April 3, 2023 to May 3, 2023.

An electronic copy of the Draft IS/ND and additional Project information are available for review online at the Caltrans District 4 website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/Caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-popular-links/d4-environmental-docs>. Additionally, hard copies of the Draft IS/ND will be made available at the following locations:

- Petaluma Regional Library, 100 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma, CA 94952
- Sonoma County Regional Library, 755 West Napa Street, Sonoma, CA 95476

Caltrans will host a virtual public meeting for this Project on April 20, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/94744160403>. At the meeting, Caltrans will

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present an overview of the Project and the Draft IS/ND. A brief question and answer session will also be conducted. However, questions and discussion at the meeting are not considered formal comments and all comments on the Draft IS/ND must be submitted in writing. Attendance at the virtual public meeting is not required to submit formal comments.

Written comments must be submitted by **May 3, 2023**. Comments can be sent via email to sr116stagegulch@dot.ca.gov or postal mail to:

Caltrans District 4 Environmental
ATTN: Maxwell Lammert
P.O. Box 23660, MS-8B
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

For individuals with sensory disabilities, or who require translation or help with other assistance materials, please contact Bart Ney at (510) 715-7212.

TTY users may request copies of the document in alternate formats through the California Relay Service at 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice) or 711.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (510) 506-9862 or Arnica MacCarthy, Branch Chief at (510) 506-0481 or sr116stagegulch@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Lammert

MAXWELL LAMMERT
Acting Office Chief
Office of Environmental Analysis