

**Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal**

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SCH #
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**Project Title:** National Trails Highway at 19 BridgesLead Agency: San Bernardino CountyContact Person: Arnold GerberMailing Address: 825 E. Third Street, Rm 123Phone: 909-387-8109City: San BernardinoZip: 92415County: San Bernardino**Project Location:** County: San BernardinoCity/Nearest Community: EssexCross Streets: National Trails Highway/VariousZip Code: 92332Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 34 ° 38 ' 42.44" N / 115 ° 22 ' 32.8 " W Total Acres: 367Assessor's Parcel No.: NumerousSection: Various Twp.: 5,6,7Range: 9,11,14,15,16 Base: MDWithin 2 Miles: State Hwy #: n/aWaterways: Unnamed ditchesAirports: Amboy AirfieldRailways: BNSFSchools: n/a**Document Type:**CEQA:  NOP Draft EIRNEPA:  NOIOther:  Joint Document Early Cons Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Final Document Neg Dec

(Prior SCH No.) \_\_\_\_\_

 Draft EIS Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Mit Neg Dec

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 FONSI**Local Action Type:** General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: Transportation**Development Type:** Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Office: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation: Type Bridge Replacements Commercial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_ Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_ Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_ Power: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MW \_\_\_\_\_ Educational: \_\_\_\_\_ Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_ Recreational: \_\_\_\_\_ Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_**Project Issues Discussed in Document:** Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other: Tribal Cultural Resources**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**Agricultural/Transportation/Resource Conservation**Project Description:** *(please use a separate page if necessary)*

Please see separate sheet.

## Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".  
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>8</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>7</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board	<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
<input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>6</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission	

### Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date February 28, 2025 Ending Date March 31, 2025

### Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Dokken Engineering</u>	Applicant: <u>County of San Bernardino</u>
Address: <u>110 Blue Ravine Road, Suite 200</u>	Address: <u>825 E. Third Street, Rm. 123</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Folsom, CA 95630</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>San Bernardino, CA 92415</u>
Contact: <u>Amy Dunay</u>	Phone: <u>909-387-8109</u>
Phone: <u>916.858.0642</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: *AJ Gerber* Date: 02.20.25

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

## NATIONAL TRAILS HIGHWAY AT 19 BRIDGES - PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

San Bernardino County Department of Public Works (County), in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes to replace nineteen (19) timber trestle bridges with concrete bridges on the National Trails Highway (NTH), formerly known as Route 66. The project is located between the unincorporated communities of Ludlow and Essex in the County of San Bernardino. A summary of the existing bridges including their length, width, and locations is listed below.

Bridge Name	State Bridge No.	Fed Project No.	Existing Bridge Length (Feet)	Approximate Width (Feet)	Location
Kalmia Ditch	54C0242	5954(168)	190	28	11.8 miles east of Crucero Rd
Baroda Ditch	54C0269	5954(169)	38	28	24.8 miles east of Crucero Rd
Terzilla Ditch	54C0296	5954(170)	38	28	10.2 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Edloft Ditch	54C0300	5954(171)	38	28	12.7 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Atajo Ditch	54C0303	5954(172)	57	28	14.3 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Ellita Ditch	54C0304	5954(173)	38	28	15.3 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Tenino Ditch	54C0305	5954(174)	38	28	16 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Cota Ditch	54C0306	5954(175)	38	28	16.7 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Danby Ditch	54C0307	5954(176)	38	28	17.2 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Dalmatia Ditch	54C0308	5954(177)	38	28	17.8 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Tareco Ditch	54C0311	5954(178)	38	28	19.2 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Ava Ditch	54C0312	5954(179)	57	28	19.6 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Nicola Ditch	54C0313	5954(180)	57	28	20.6 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Califa Ditch	54C0314	5954(181)	57	28	21.2 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Clipper Ditch	54C0318	5954(182)	57	28	23.6 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Izzy Ditch	54C0319	5954(183)	57	28	24.2 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Elrita Ditch	54C0320	5954(184)	38	28	24.6 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Axton Ditch	54C0322	5954(185)	38	28	26 miles east of Kelbaker Rd
Bandera Wash	54C0323	5954(186)	152	28	26.1 miles east of Kelbaker Rd

The existing bridges were constructed in 1930 and span over man-made ditches or "flash flood washes". The existing bridges vary in length but share similar construction components. The typical existing timber trestle bridges are composed of simply-supported timber stringer spans with a laminated timber deck supported on timber strutted abutments and bents consisting of timber piles. The bridges are approximately 28 wide with guardrails that are substandard. Due to the poor bridge conditions Caltrans has approved federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds for their replacement.

Through the years, the bridges have been modified by various maintenance and repair work with the intent of maintaining public safety and prolonging the service life of the bridges. The proposed replacements will resolve all the bridge deficiencies and will remove the bridges from the Eligible Bridge List (EBL).

The 19 existing two-lane timber bridges will be replaced with bridges designed to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards for two-lane concrete bridges, guardrail, guardrail end treatments, and approaches. The existing soil is sandy and susceptible to scour, so pile extensions would be utilized at the piers and the abutment foundation would be designed for scour. The bridge barrier would be steel California ST-85 Bridge Rail painted white which is Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) approved and best matches the existing railing. The bridge lengths would match the existing lengths if possible, but would be lengthened as needed to convey the storm flows. Each replacement bridge would accommodate two 12-foot-wide lanes, two 3-foot-wide shoulders and two 2-foot-wide railings. The vertical profile of the bridges will remain close to the existing profile except for those bridges locations in which it is determined that additional vertical clearance is required to provide sufficient water conveyance beneath the bridge. It is anticipated that any such necessary changes in vertical profiles would be 3 feet or less, with the elevation gradually conforming to the existing roadway elevations.

The National Trails Highway is posted at a speed limit of 55 miles per hour, with all the bridges located on straight segments of the road. The alignment would remain unchanged; however, up to 800 feet of pavement improvements on either side of each bridge may be needed to conform to the existing roadway vertical profile. Grading within the existing channels around the bridges may be needed to ensure sufficient storm conveyance and drainage of the area.

A temporary, parallel road (also known as a "shoo-fly") would be constructed at each bridge location to accommodate through-traffic during construction. Construction of each bridge replacement is expected to be completed in one season, limiting the time the detour would be in place to one season as well. Based on weather conditions and construction activities, it is possible that there could be intermittent closures of the temporary parallel road.

Permanent acquisition of right-of-way is not anticipated; however, temporary construction easements may be needed to accommodate construction of the temporary detour routes. There is one existing utility, a fiber optic telecommunication line, which may require relocation as part of this project. All utility relocations would be included within the defined limits of the Project area.

Typical equipment for roadway construction would include heavy construction earthmoving equipment, dump trucks and pavers. Typical bridge construction equipment would include cranes, pile drivers, excavators, and concrete pumps.

This project is funded with federal funds and compliance will be required through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 8 Office of Local Assistance. Caltrans is the lead agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. The County is the lead agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to replace structurally deficient bridges in order to:

- Enhance safety on National Trails Highway by providing new vehicular crossings for 19 bridges;
- Provide a transportation facility consistent with County and Caltrans Standards, as well as local and regional plans.

#### Need

The existing National Trails Highway Bridges are rated "Structurally Deficient" by Caltrans under Federal Highway Administration prescribed inspection criteria. Full replacement of the bridges is needed because the current structures do not meet structural design standards.