



PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Adopt a MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION and ANNOUNCEMENT of VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

(Study Results Available)

Do you want to comment on changes proposed to State Route 25 Curve Alignment Restoration Project in San Benito County?

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to provide a permanent solution to the failure of the cut slopes of the original State Route 25 Curve Realignment Project that was completed in December of 2015. The proposed project will repair the failed cut slopes on both sides of State Route 25 by flattening them to 2:1 (2 horizontal to 1 vertical dimensions) to reduce erosion, promote re-vegetation, and prevent repeated slope failure. The project would construct two 12-foot lanes with 4-foot outside shoulders. An estimated 17 blue oak trees and 1 valley oak tree may need to be removed to accommodate the proposed project. Replacement planting, including a required 3-year plant establishment period, is proposed.

WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains why is called an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration. This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and of its availability for you to read, and to provide information on the public hearing.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE

The Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at:

- Online at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/>
- Caltrans District 5 Office at 50 South Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA (Weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm)
- **Virtual public hearing is available on July 14, 2020 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.**
For information on how to join, go to:
<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/district-5-current-projects>

Given the unique circumstances with the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines, a virtual public hearing has been prepared instead of an in-person public hearing. Information on the virtual public hearing is available at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/district-5-current-projects>

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? Please submit your comments no later than August 7, 2020 to Caltrans, Attn: Jason Wilkinson, District 5 Office at 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, by email at jason.wilkinson@dot.ca.gov, or contact Jason Wilkinson by phone at 805-542-4663. If there are no major comments, Caltrans will proceed with the project design.

CONTACT

For more information about this study or to request a copy of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, please contact Jason Wilkinson, Senior Environmental Planner, at (805) 542-4663 or by email at jason.wilkinson@dot.ca.gov. For information on other State Highway projects, please contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs Office at (805) 549-3318 or visit the Caltrans District 5 website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5>

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Individuals who require special accommodations (American Sign Language, interpreter, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs Office by email: info-d5@dot.ca.gov or by phone: (805) 549-3318. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may call 1-800-735-2929 or contact the California Relay Service TTY voice line by dialing 711.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**Comments will be accepted from
June 26, 2020 to August 7, 2020.**

If there are no major comments,
Caltrans will proceed with the project design.

