

## MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: December 4-5, 2025

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.2c.(7), Action Item

Prepared By: Jeremy Ketchum, Chief  
Division of Environmental Analysis

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
RESOLUTION E-25-78A**

### **ISSUE:**

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a responsible agency, approve attached Resolution E-25-78A?

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve attached Resolution E-25-78A.

### **BACKGROUND:**

#### **12-Ora-91, PM R17.8/R18.2 Resolution E-25-78A**

The attached resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and Addendum have been completed:

- Coal Canyon Interim Bridge Widening Project: State Route (SR) SR 91 in Orange County. Construct an interim widening of Coal Canyon bridge (bridge #55-0507L) – a component of the SR 91 Corridor Improvement Project (CIP) Ultimate Project. (PPNO 0077J)

The project is located on SR 91 from Post Mile (PM) R17.8 to R18.2, in Orange County. The Department proposes to construct an interim widening of Coal Canyon bridge (bridge #55-0507L) – a component of the SR 91 CIP Ultimate Project. The project is currently programmed in the 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The total

programmed amount, which includes Right of Way (Capital) and Construction (Capital) is \$1,344,829,000 which includes the Regional Improvement Program and State Local Partnership Program. Construction for the interim widening of the Coal Canyon bridge will begin in Fiscal Year 2025-26. The scope, as described for the preferred alternative, is consistent with the project scope as programmed by the Commission in the 2012 STIP.

Copies of the FEIR and Addendum have been provided to Commission staff. The Commission accepted the FEIR and approved the project for future consideration of funding on October 24, 2012, under Resolution E-12-61. Since the approval of the FEIR, there have been changes to the project and an Addendum was prepared pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Specifically, the Addendum addresses design modifications, including a reduction in the total widening needed on the westbound (WB) Coal Canyon Bridge to accommodate the auxiliary WB express lane as analyzed in the approved SR 241/SR 91 Express Connector Project, resulting in ramp restriping for the SR 91 Coal Canyon Road WB on-ramp (for maintenance road access only) to tie into the revised WB SR 91 lane configuration, a reduction in the need for slope grading and reseeding, reconstruction of the existing concrete barriers along the inside shoulder of WB SR 91 along with the addition of approach concrete barrier guard railing along the outside of WB SR 91, and temporary project features including restriping (maintaining existing number of through lanes during construction), use of construction barriers, detours, and closures during removal and construction of two post overhead signs, and establishment of construction access and staging areas along SR 91 within existing Department right-of-way. The Addendum also addresses changes in environmental circumstances, including hazardous materials/waste, air quality, traffic and transportation/pedestrian and bicycle facilities, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program permits (resulting in incorporation of replacement or amended water quality permits into the design of the project), and biological resource topics (specifically the addition of ten special-status species all of which are not expected to occur or have low potential to occur within the Biological Study Area). Conclusions of the FEIR remain applicable. The FEIR concluded that the project would have significant and unavoidable impacts on noise resources, biological resources, cumulative impacts related to the human environment, and adverse effects on human beings as a result of the cumulative impacts on the human, physical, and biological environment. These impacts would remain significant and unavoidable even with implementation of mitigation measures, which include noise abatement, construction of noise barriers, conducting interior noise analyses, delineation of environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs), ESA monitoring, removal of trees and construction activities outside of bird nesting season, fire readiness measures, use of nonsensitive areas for construction staging, wildlife fencing, habitat restoration, delineation of wildlife corridors and avoidance of barriers during construction, various other construction best management practices relating to wildlife, design modifications for wildlife passage, consistency with regional habitat conservation plans, obtaining all required water quality permits, weed abatement, compliance with the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, minimizing property acquisitions, relocation assistance, reconfiguration of land uses, and preparation of a transportation management plan and ramp closure plan for short-term traffic impacts. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, no Subsequent FEIR is required for the project because new information and changes in circumstances, project description, impacts, and mitigation are not substantial and

do not involve new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified impacts. As a result, the Department completed an Addendum to the FEIR pursuant to CEQA.

The Department has approved this project for construction. This approval and the Addendum will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the planning process.

Attachments

# Attachment 1

## CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

### Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 12-Ora-91, PM R17.8/R18.2 Resolution E-25-78A

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed a Final Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Coal Canyon Interim Bridge Widening Project: SR 91 from PM R17.8 to R18.2 in Orange County. Construct an interim widening of Coal Canyon bridge (bridge #55-0507L) – a component of the SR 91 Corridor Improvement Project (CIP) Ultimate Project. (PPNO 0077J)
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the Department has certified that a Final Environmental Impact Report has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report and Addendum; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the project will have a significant effect on the environment;
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above referenced project to allow for consideration of funding.

# Attachment 2

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Transportation Commission  
Attn: Cherry Zamora  
1120 N Street, MS 52  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 654-4245

**Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code.**

**Project Title:** Coal Canyon Interim Bridge Widening Project

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2008071075	Hannah Duarte	(909) 472-5756
<b>State Clearinghouse Number</b>	<b>Lead Agency Contact Person</b>	<b>Area Code/Telephone</b>

**Project Location** (include county): The project is located on State Route (SR) 91 from post mile (PM) R17.8 to R18.2 in Orange County.

**Project Description:** Construct an interim widening of Coal Canyon bridge (bridge #55-0507L) – a component of the SR 91 Corridor Improvement Project (CIP) Ultimate Project

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above described project on \_\_\_\_\_ ( Lead Agency/  Responsible Agency) December 4-5, 2025, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project ( will/  will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2.  An Environmental Impact Report and Addendum was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures ( were/  were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan ( was /  was not) adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations ( was /  was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings ( were/  were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: Caltrans District 8, 464 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Bernardino, CA 92401.

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TANISHA TAYLOR		Executive Director
<i>Signature (Public Agency)</i>	<i>Date</i>	California Transportation Commission
		<i>Title</i>

Date received for filing at LCI:

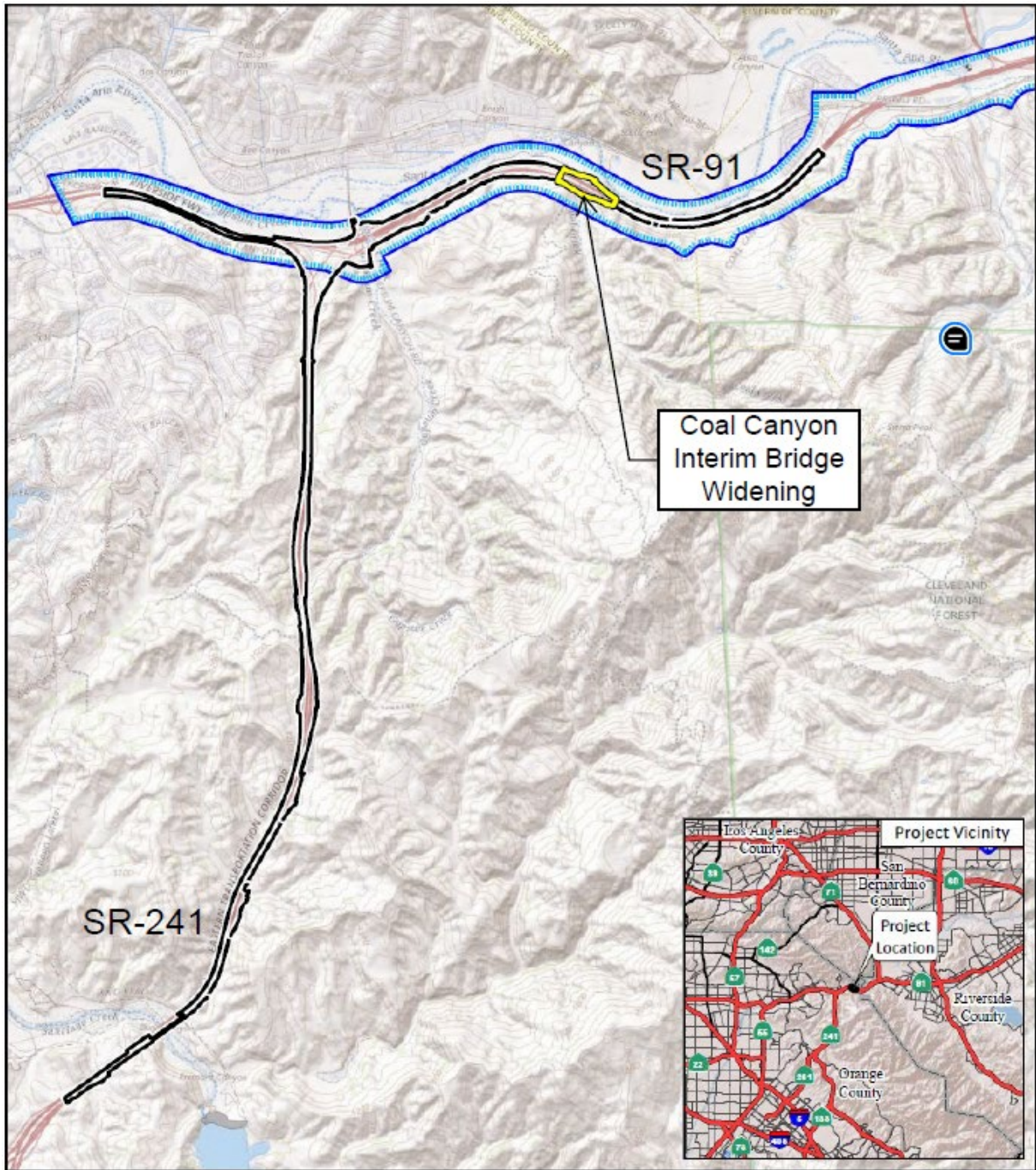


FIGURE 1

LSA

LEGEND

- Maximum Disturbance Limit
- SR-241/SR-91 PS&E Maximum Impact
- Limit SR-91 CIP Study Area



0 2250 4500  
FEET

COLEBURN, ENR (2011); TCA (2011); E (2011); DR (2011); DR (2011); DR (2011); DR (2011)

Coal Canyon Interim Bridge Widening Project  
Regional Location and Vicinity Map