

MID COUNTY CONNECTIVITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

PROJECT SCOPE, COST & BENEFITS:

The Mid County Connectivity Enhancement Program will address Riverside County's growing population with greater access to multimodal transportation options, provide safety improvements, and help improve air quality. Together, this Program advances the state's climate action goals as outlined in the California State Transportation Agency's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure.

The Program includes two mutually reinforcing improvements: addition of a second main track via the Metrolink Double Track Project: Moreno Valley to Perris (MVP Project) to support higher service levels on the 91/Perris Valley Line (91/PVL) and completion of the Mid County Parkway (MCP) Ramona Expressway Project to improve roadway safety getting to the 91/PVL.

MVP Project: This project will improve 6.5 miles of existing freight railroad track to meet standards for Metrolink passenger rail service. The upgrades will provide two sets of tracks between Moreno Valley/ March Field Station and just north of the Perris-Downtown Station along the 91/PVL. The estimated construction cost is approximately \$31 million.

MCP Ramona Expressway: This project will improve 8.6 miles of roadway in the County of Riverside between two of the fastest growing communities in the region - Perris and San Jacinto. The project will improve safety and enhance connections to multiple modes of travel. Safety upgrades include adding a lane in both directions with a raised median to minimize head-on collisions, improving traffic signals, building a wildlife crossing, and constructing a Class II bicycle lane with three-foot buffer. The estimated construction cost is approximately \$176 million.

RCTC is requesting \$60 million in funding from the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program and \$25 million from the Local Partnership Program for construction of the Mid County Connectivity Enhancement Program and is committing \$122 million in local and federal formula funds to match the request. The benefits of the Program over a 20-year period are monetized at \$445.7 million resulting in an estimated internal rate of return of 10.7 percent. The Program offers a benefit-cost ratio of 2.0.



GHG EMISSIONS, EQUITY, IMPACT MITIGATION:

The Mid County Connectivity Enhancement Program will promote transportation equity for this long-underserved area, which has a greater number of residents (25.9% in Perris and 17.4% in San Jacinto) living below the poverty level in 2013 compared to Riverside County as a whole (16.2%). Improvements delivered by the Program will open economic development opportunities for the region and expand access to employment, health care, and education, including job centers adjacent to the 91/PVL. Examples of key destinations served include: March Air Reserve Base, UCPATH, Western Municipal Water District, Riverside University Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente medical offices, Mt. San Jacinto College, Moreno Valley College, University of California-Riverside, and Cal Baptist University.

The Program will be constructed primarily within the existing right of way with minimal impact to residents and businesses. Residential sound walls are in place along much of the 91/PVL corridor to reduce noise impacts from increased train service. This section of the corridor is fully grade separated so there is no mandatory need to use train horns.

Estimated greenhouse gas emissions reductions from the Program are projected to be 90,340 tons over 20 years, an annual average of 4,517 tons.

