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## **Summary of Public Scoping Meetings— DRAFT #1 November 2008**

Two public scoping meetings were held on November 13, 2008, in Salida, California, and on November 20, 2008, in Oakdale, California.

November 13, 2008  
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Salida Regional Library  
4835 Sisk Road, Salida

November 20, 2008  
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Oakdale Community Center  
110 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Oakdale

### **Publicity/Advertising**

#### **Direct Mail**

Jumbo postcard invitations in English and Spanish inviting recipients to both public scoping meetings were sent on October 24, 2008, to a mailing list that included 2,648 property owners and 240 stakeholders, such as local officials; emergency responders; civic and community groups; pertinent local, state, and federal agencies; and other potentially interested individuals and organizations. Extra copies of the postcard invitation were also left at the counters of the Community Development Departments of Oakdale and Riverbank.

Kome Ajise, District Director, Caltrans District 10, was provided a letter and list to send a personal invitation to local, state, and federal elected officials in Stanislaus County and in southern San Joaquin County.

#### **Advertisements**

An advertisement was placed in *The Modesto Bee* on October 18, 2008; in *The Oakdale Leader* on October 22, 2008; in *The Riverbank News* on October 22, 2008; and in *Bilingual Weekly* on November 30 and 20, 2008.

#### **News Releases**

On November 6, 2008, a news release invited the public to the two public scoping meetings and provided background information on the project and a project description. On November 14, 2008, a news release with the same background information and project description invited members of the public to the November 20, 2008, public scoping meeting. The news releases were sent to the following mainstream and alternative media outlets: Ceres Chamber of Commerce, Citadel Broadcasting, Clear Channel, Hispanic Chamber of South San Joaquin County, Hispanic Chamber of Stanislaus County, Hughson Chronicle, KANM/KBUL, KAT Country 103, KCBC-770 AM, KCIV-

99.9 FM; KCSO Telemundo 33, KCSS-FM, KHKK 104.1 The Hawk, KHOP, KJAX 1280, KJSN, KVFX, KKME, KQOD, KMRQ, KOSO, KRVR, KUYL, KVIN, Mattos Newspapers, *Modesto Bee*, Modesto Chamber of Commerce, Newman Chamber of Commerce, *Oakdale Leader*, Patterson-Westley Chamber of Commerce, Riverbank Chamber of Commerce, *Escalon Times*, *Riverbank News*, Rock 96.7, *Stanislaus Farm News*, *Stanislaus Magazine*, *The Ceres Courier*, *The Signal*, Turlock Chamber of Commerce, *Turlock Journal*, and Valley Builders Exchange.

Articles announcing the meeting or reporting on the meeting appeared in print on the following dates and in the following publications:

#### **Web site**

Work to provide a Fact Sheet began for the Caltrans District 10 Web site.

## **Dry Run**

A dry run to prepare for the public scoping meeting was held on November 20, 2008, at Caltrans District 10 offices, with the following individuals:

- **Caltrans:** Kome Ajise, District 10 Director; Dinah Bortner, Deputy Director; Julie Dunning, Deputy Director; Jane Perez; Ken Baxter; Christina Hibbard, Project Manager
- **JPA:** Laurie Barton, Project Manager
- **Jacobs Engineering Project Team:** Kris Balaji, Jacobs; Judith Buethe, Buethe Communications

## **Maps and Other Exhibits and Signs**

Sixteen maps, signs, and other exhibits were prepared of the area being studied, the involved agencies, funding sources, project objectives and description, environmental considerations, and information on how attendees can be involved and continue to be involved in the project. Following is a list of the maps, signs, and other exhibits:

- **Welcome:** Outdoor Directional Sign, Welcome to the Public Scoping Meeting
- **Project Objectives/Description:** What Is a Route Adoption? Route Adoption Objective, Project Description, State Route Adoption Process Schedule
- **Agencies and Funding:** Agency Involvement, Joint Powers Authority Board, Technical Advisory Committee, Potential Funding Sources
- **Maps:** Conceptual Corridor Map, Interregional Map
- **Environmental:** What Is Scoping? Potential Environmental Considerations
- **Comment Station:** How to Comment on the Project, What's Next?

## **Public Scoping Meetings Format**

#### **Attendance**

- 121 people signed in at the November 13, 2008, meeting at the Salida Regional Library.
- 116 people signed in at the November 20, 2008, meeting at the Oakdale Community Center.

#### **Format**

The public scoping meetings were held in an open house format. During the meetings, project staff members were available to explain the maps and other exhibits (listed below) and answer questions. A Spanish-language interpreter was available at the November 13, 2008, meeting; two Spanish-language interpreters were available at the November 20, 2008, meeting. At the door, members of the Public

Outreach staff welcomed attendees, explained the evening's format, asked attendees to sign in, and handed a comment sheet and program handout to each person. Attendees were invited to fill out and submit a comment sheet that evening or instructed on how to comment after the meeting. They were also informed of the public stenographer and invited to dictate comments to her. The Public Outreach staff also frequently introduced attendees to members of the project team and answered questions of a general nature, e.g., "Will other meetings be held?" "Is this the only meeting?" "Where can I see a map of the project?" etc. Some attendees expressed disappointment that no presentation would be made.

### **Amenities**

Refreshments were provided. Two tables were provided where attendees could fill out their comment sheets.

## **Comments**

### **Statistics**

#### November 13, 2008

Approximately 19 comment sheets were received.

Approximately 10 people dictated comments to the public stenographer.

#### November 20, 2008

Approximately 31 comment sheets were received from approximately 24 people.

Approximately 9 people dictated comments to the public stenographer.

### **Concerns/Comments**

#### November 13-14, 2008

- Impact on business operations.
- Assault on prime farmland
- Congestion
- Use the money for other needs.
- Use existing highways
- Expand to six lanes now.
- Do not use Ladd Road.
- Get it done!
- Noise and pollution
- Not necessary, not needed.
- Need to make a formal presentation
- Need more maps
- Avoid property on Plainview Road
- Use an existing highway
- The planned route is a good one.

#### November 20, 2008

- Use existing roadways.
- Increased traffic and noise are not compatible with farming.
- Historical sites
- Potentially detrimental to Oakdale's economy.
- Effect on environment, e.g., endangered species, wells and other water sources, trees, vernal pools, fairy shrimp, California tiger salamanders, white and blue cranes
- M.I.D. needs opportunity to comment.
- Potential loss of property taxes

- Williamson Act issues
- Growth-inducing
- Greenbelt area near Patterson Road and Crane Road
- Is this project being proposed to serve developer interests?
- Our comments will not really be considered; distrust of public servants
- Need for open forum/discussion
- Why not connect to Pelandale?
- Why route up Claribel and then to Patterson?
- Alternative B would be best route.
- Route A (Claribel Road) is best.
- Protected habitat with National Wildlife Foundation.
- Potential decrease in property values
- Effect on Con Agra's wastewater capacity with options A and B.
- Try a corridor south of Option A.
- Oakdale Bypass proposal disrupted lives and livelihoods. Will this happen again?
- Project is not needed.