

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA) AND NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

What's Being Planned: The County of San Bernardino ("County"), in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to replace the existing two-lane timber bridge on Baker Boulevard, with a new four lane structure located near the unincorporated community of Baker in San Bernardino County, California. The purpose of the proposed Project is to improve structure safety and operations through replacement of the existing bridge and approach roadways. The proposed Project is needed to meet current bridge structural design and safety standards along with projected future traffic capacity needs albeit the project in and of itself will not generate increase traffic volume and/or demand.

The Project includes the demolition of the existing two-lane 22 span timber bridge and its replacement with a four-lane, 10-span cast-in-place reinforced concrete slab structure founded on cast-in-drilled hole piles (CIDH) or driven concrete pile extensions. This proposed structure will meet and address County and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards and criteria, or equivalent. Approximately 1,200 feet of approach roadway work would be required to widen Baker Boulevard to its ultimate width.

The design would construct and/or tie into existing, planned and projected ultimate roadway improvements from 0.14 miles west of the existing structure to Death Valley Road (State Highway 127). Additionally, the new bridge will include sidewalks, streetlights, and bridge barrier railing meeting current MASH safety and testing requirements. Existing driveways located within the Project area may require improvements to ensure conformity with the widened bridge and roadway approaches. Further, the existing mid-block pedestrian crossing located approximately 300 feet southwest of the Mojave River Channel may also be removed, including its the striping and signage.

What's Available: The draft IS/MND, including maps and other Project information, can be viewed on the County of San Bernardino website at: <https://dpw.sbcounty.gov/#notices> If unavailable on the website, you may obtain the document in electronic format by telephoning the Department of Public Works at (909) 387-8109, or by emailing the Senior Planner at arnold.gerber@dpw.sbcounty.gov. To request a PDF version of the document, please reference the project title above.

Where You Come In: Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Do you disagree with the findings of the Draft IS/MND? Would you care to make any other comments on the Project? A 30-day public review period for the Draft IS/MND will commence on March 7, 2025 and end on April 7, 2025. Please submit your comments in writing no later than **April 7, 2025** to Arnold (AJ) Gerber, Senior Planner at arnold.gerber@dpw.sbcounty.gov or at the following address.

Arnold (AJ) Gerber
Senior Planner – Capital Improvement Section
Department of Public Works, Environmental Management Division
825 E. Third Street, Rm. 123
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Project Location: The Project is located along Baker Boulevard, in the community of Baker, San Bernardino County.

