



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION, STUDY RESULTS AVAILABLE, OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON A SECTION 4(F) DE MINIMIS DETERMINATION FOR THE INTERSTATE 80/GILMAN STREET INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN OPEN FORUM HEARING.



WHAT'S BEING PLANNED: The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) propose the Interstate 80 (I-80)/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement Project in the cities of Berkeley and Albany to improve traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle operations by constructing roundabout intersections and pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements at the Gilman Street interchange. The proposed project would simplify and improve navigation, mobility and traffic operations; reduce congestion, vehicle queues and conflicts; improve local and regional bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and improve safety at the I-80/Gilman Street interchange.

Project-level conformity analysis shows that the project will conform to the State Implementation Plan, including localized impact analysis with interagency consultation for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) required by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 93.116 and 93.123. Alameda County is in an attainment-maintenance (moderate) area for CO and nonattainment (moderate-24 hour) for PM_{2.5}.

This project is not considered a Project of Air Quality Concern regarding particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) as defined in 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1). A detailed PM_{2.5} hot-spot analysis was not completed because Clean Air Act and CFR 93.116 requirements are met without an explicit hot-spot analysis. Per the CO Protocol, the project will not worsen air quality, and no further analysis is needed. The proposed project comes from a conforming Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Comments are requested regarding the project-level conformity analysis, which is included in the I-80 Gilman Street Interchange Improvement Project Initial Study/Environmental Assessment.

Caltrans also announces their intent to adopt a U.S. Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f) De Minimis Determination for this intersection improvement project. Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 seeks to protect publicly owned parks and recreation areas, wildlife refuges, and historic sites that are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Provisions to carry out this evaluation are recorded in 23 CFR 774.17, Section 4(f). As part of the Safe, Accountable and Efficient Transportation Equity Act- A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005, the legislature established the de minimis finding process, in which determinations are made regarding 4(f) resources when no adverse effects would occur. De minimis impacts are defined as those that do not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes for which the property qualifies as a 4(f) resource.

WHY THIS AD: 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 explains why it is called an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment. This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the Proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and of its availability for you to read and to offer the opportunity for an open forum public hearing.

A hearing will be held to give you an opportunity to talk about certain design features of the project with Caltrans staff before the final design is selected. The tentative schedule for the purchase of land for right-of-way and construction will be discussed by Caltrans staff.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE: Maps for the Proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study/Environmental Assessment are available for review and copying at the Caltrans District Office (111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA, 94612), on weekdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The document is also available at the Berkeley Public Library West Branch (1125 University Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94702), the Albany Library (1247 Marin Avenue, Albany, CA 94706), and the Berkeley Tool Library (1901 Russell Street, Berkeley, CA 94703). The document may be downloaded at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm> or at: <https://www.alamedactc.org/i80gilman>.

WHERE YOU COME IN: Do you have any comments about processing the project with a Negative Declaration and the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment? Do you disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed Negative Declaration? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Please submit your comments in writing no later than February 5, 2019 to Caltrans (Zachary Gifford, Caltrans; Office of Environmental Analysis, MS 8B, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612 or by email at Zachary.Gifford@dot.ca.gov). If there are no major comments, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.

WHEN AND WHERE: The open forum hearing will be January 15, 2019, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the James Kenney Community Center, 1720 Eighth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 (between Delaware Street and Virginia Street).

Individuals who require special accommodation (interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternative formats), are requested to contact Zachary Gifford, Associate Environmental Planner, Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Analysis, MS 8B, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 286 5610, e-mail: Zachary.Gifford@dot.ca.gov at least 5 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.

CONTACT: For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call Caltrans (Zachary Gifford, 510-286-5610) or email inquiry@I80Gilman.com.