

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
 BY: GREGORY P. PRIAMOS DATE: 9/21/15

Departmental Concurrence

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

318A



**FROM:** TLMA – Transportation Department

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
 September 14, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Plans and Specifications and Authorization to Advertise for Bids for the Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvements at Warm Springs Creek in the French Valley Area. 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Clerk to Advertise). [\$279,412]; Local Funds 100%; CEQA Exempt.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find that the Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvements at Warm Springs Creek in the French Valley Area is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301(c) (existing facilities); and
2. Approve the Plans and Specifications for the Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvements at Warm Springs Creek in the French Valley Area; and

Patricia Romo  
 Patricia Romo  
 Assistant Director of Transportation

Juan C. Perez  
 Juan C. Perez  
 Director of Transportation and Land Management

JCP:jrj:ts:rr

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (Per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 279,412	\$ 0	\$ 279,412	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Gas Tax [ABX8-9 Mar 2010 New HUTA] (100%).  
 There are no General Funds used in this project.

**Budget Adjustment:** No  
**For Fiscal Year:** 15/16

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**

APPROVE  
 BY: Rohini Dasika  
 Rohini Dasika

County Executive Office Signature

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- A-30
- 4/5 Vote
- Positions Added
- Change Order

Prev. Agn. Ref.: \_\_\_\_\_ District: 3 Agenda Number. \_\_\_\_\_

3-48

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**FORM 11:** Approval of the Plans and Specifications, and Authorization to Advertise for bid for Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvements at Warm Springs Creek in the French Valley Area. 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Clerk to Advertise). [\$279,412]; Local Funds 100%. CEQA Exempt

**DATE:** September 14, 2015

**PAGE:** 2 of 3

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** (Continued)

3. Authorize the Clerk of the Board to advertise for bids to be received in the office of the Director of Transportation and Land Management at the Transportation Annex located at 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Riverside, CA 92501. All bids must be received up to the hour of 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 4, 2015, at which time bids will be opened; and
4. Direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk for posting within five working days.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

Briggs Road is a two lane rural road, one lane in each direction, located in the French Valley area of the County of Riverside (County), east of the City of Menifee. The road crosses Warm Springs Creek at approximately 1.2 miles south of the Scott Road intersection over a timber culvert. The current width of the culvert is approximately 18 feet; therefore, the two lane road is narrowed down to one lane for bidirectional traffic at the culvert crossing. Currently, there is signage and striping warning northbound motorists to yield to the oncoming traffic.

Traffic on Briggs Road has increased due to new development and the opening of the Dorothy McElhinney Middle School and Lisa J. Mails Elementary School. This project will widen the existing structure on Briggs Road at Warm Springs Creek by 13 feet in order to allow two-way traffic, accommodating both the northbound and southbound traffic.

The east edge of the pavement north and south of the Warm Springs Creek crossing will transition to join the widened structure. Striping improvements within the limits of the pavement transitions will provide continuous two-way travel.

The submitted plans and specifications have been approved as to form by County Counsel.

Project No.: C5-0057

The project involves the minor widening of an existing facility within the County right-of-way. The project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15301(c), which describes the minor alteration of existing public facilities. The project involves negligible, or no expansion, of an existing use because Briggs Road is a one lane road in each direction immediately north and south of the existing timber culvert. At the timber culvert, the road is wide enough for only one lane for both directions. The widening of the culvert to one lane in each direction does not involve expansion of an existing use; consequently, the project qualifies as an exemption under Section 15301(c) of CEQA.

**Impact on Residents and Businesses**

The proposed low water crossing widening will improve traffic safety by providing two-way traffic at the section of Briggs Road over the Warm Springs Creek.

The construction work is scheduled to begin in early 2016. Briggs Road will be closed during construction of the project, which will take approximately three months to complete, and traffic will be detoured to alternate routes.

**SUPPLEMENTAL:**

**Additional Fiscal Information**

The construction contract is estimated to cost approximately \$279,412, and construction is expected to finish in FY 2015/2016. The project construction will be funded with Gas Tax [ABX8-9 Mar 2010 New HUTA]. There are no General Funds used in this project.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**FORM 11:** Approval of the Plans and Specifications, and Authorization to Advertise for bid for Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvements at Warm Springs Creek in the French Valley Area. 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Clerk to Advertise). [\$279,412]; Local Funds 100%. CEQA Exempt

**DATE:** September 14, 2015

**PAGE:** 3 of 3

**Contract History and Price Reasonableness**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS**

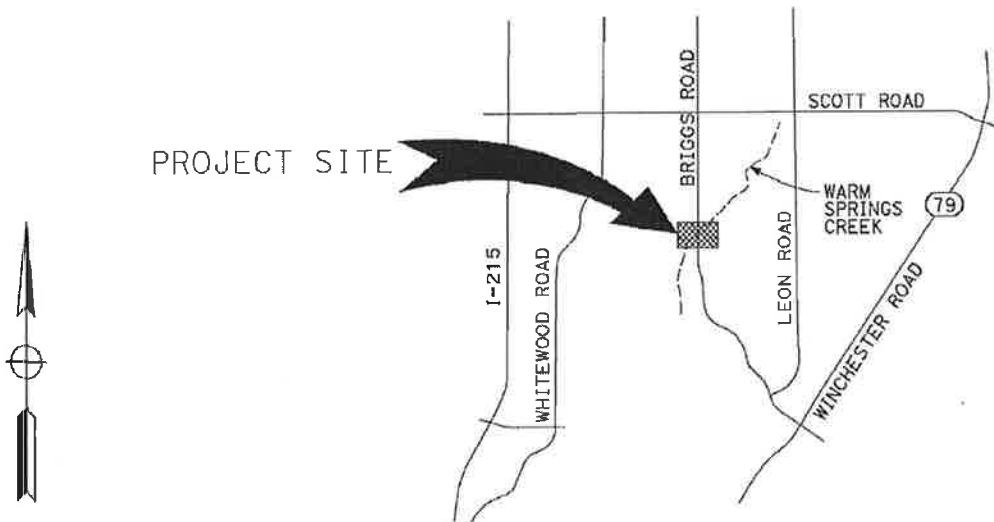
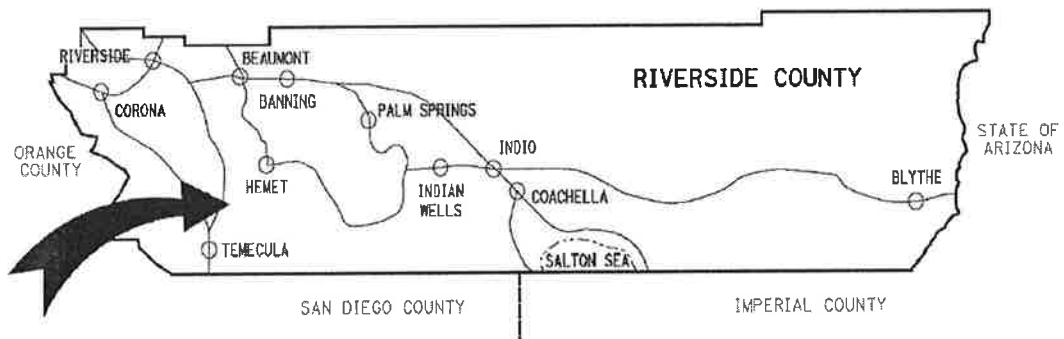
Vicinit Map

Project Location Map

Notice of Exemption

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BRIGGS ROAD LOW WATER CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS  
AT WARM SPRINGS CREEK  
IN THE FRENCH VALLEY AREA  
Project No. C5-0057



VICINITY MAP

NO SCALE



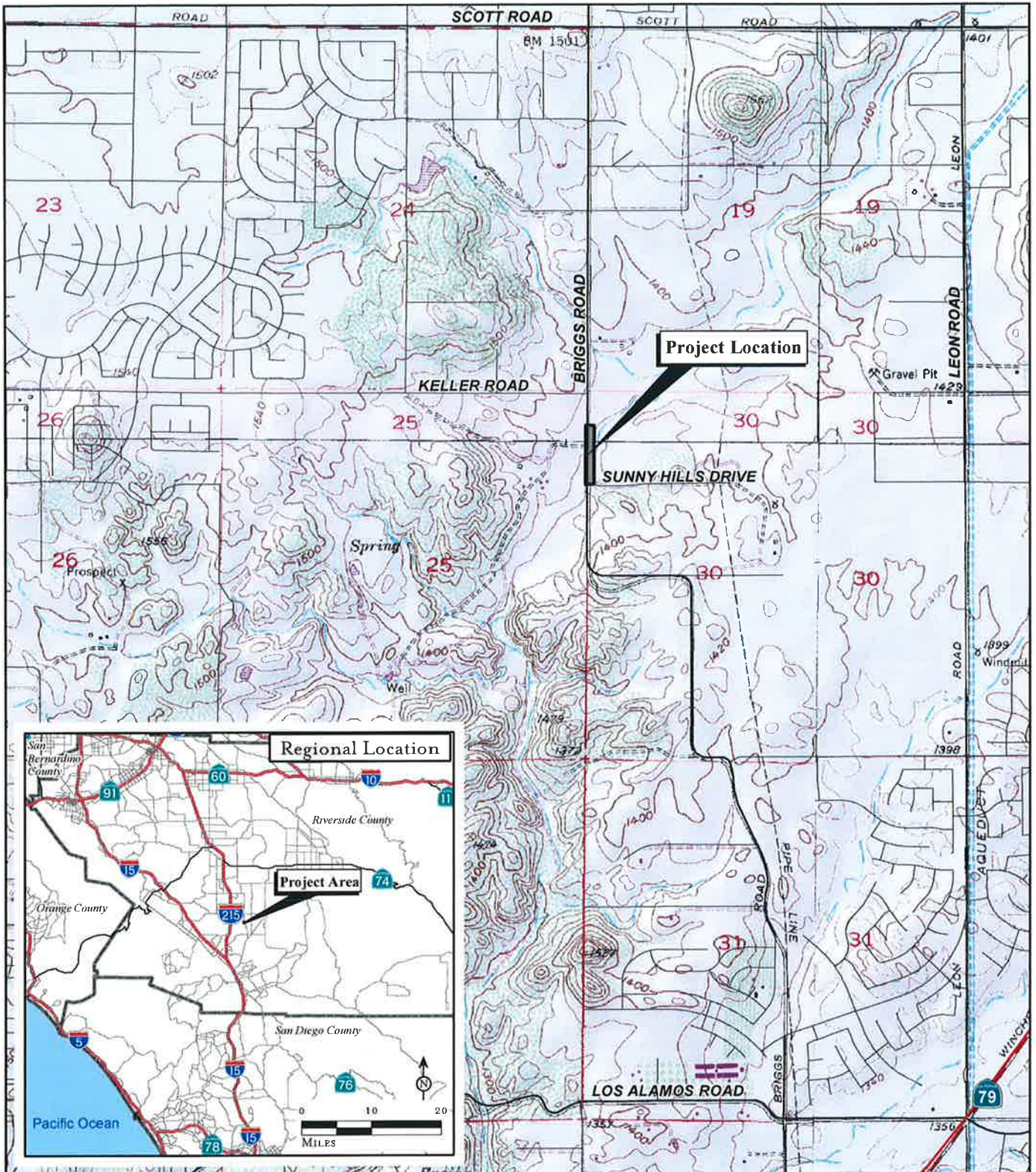
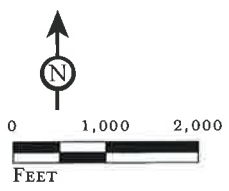


FIGURE 1

LSA



*Briggs Road Improvements  
at Warm Springs Creek*

Regional and Project Location

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quads: Murrieta, Romoland, Winchester (1979), & Bachelor Mtn. (1973), CA; Riverside County, 2014





**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**  
**TRANSPORTATION AND**  
**LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY**  
**Transportation Department**  
**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**



*Juan C. Perez, P.E., T.E.*  
*Director of Transportation*

September 8, 2015

**PROJECT TITLE:** Briggs Road Low Water Crossing Improvement Project  
Work Order #ZC5-0057, Task Code #Z1530

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** Riverside County Transportation Department

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Located in Western Riverside County, French Valley Community

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT:** Third

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Riverside County Transportation Department (COUNTY) proposes roadway improvements to Briggs Road over Warm Springs Creek. Briggs Road is a two-lane rural road, with a 60-foot wide right-of-way and one lane in each direction, located in Riverside County east of the City of Menifee. Briggs Road is classified as a Major Highway in the Riverside County General Plan.

Briggs Road crosses Warm Springs Creek with a timber culvert approximately 1.2 miles south of the intersection of Scott Road. The timber culvert serves as a low-flow culvert over the Warm Springs Creek to convey an approximately 4-year flood. Warm Springs Creek intersects Briggs Road at a skew of approximately 20 degrees. At approximately 18 feet wide, the two-lane road is narrowed to a one-lane road for bidirectional traffic through the culvert. There is signage and striping warning northbound motorists to yield to oncoming traffic. West of Briggs Road, Warm Springs Creek flows south close to Briggs Road.

Improvements to Briggs Road at Warm Springs Creek are necessary in order to provide for one lane in each direction. Briggs Road is one lane in each direction north and south of Warm Springs Creek.

The improvements along the east side of Briggs Road will provide an edge-to-edge pavement width of 32 feet to accommodate a 12-foot wide travel lane and a 4-foot wide shoulder in each direction. The roadway improvements consist of a 240-foot long taper beginning approximately 300 feet south of the culvert offsetting the centerline by 8 feet to the east. The offset provides an edge of pavement 24 feet east of the existing centerline. North of the culvert, the roadway improvements taper back to join the existing edge of pavement approximately 340 feet north of the existing culvert. Along the widened portion of Briggs Road, there will be a 3-foot wide unpaved shoulder and the remaining area between the east right-of-way and the edge of the shoulder will be graded to join the existing original ground elevations. Briggs Road, within the limits of work, will be striped with a double yellow solid stripe and white edge stripes.

The embankment of Warm Springs Creek will receive minor grading within Briggs Road right-of-way in order to construct the extension of the culvert abutments. No excavation of the channel bottom is anticipated inside or outside of the roadway right-of-way.

The structural widening improvements will consist of relocating the east metal railing of the existing structure, constructing an extension of abutments matching the alignment and the span length of the existing culvert and installing a timber deck matching the existing roadway finished surface elevation. It is anticipated that the structural widening will be approximately 13 feet to achieve a total culvert deck width of 32 feet. Metal beam guard rail will be installed along the approach on both the west and east side of the culvert and double thick metal beam guard rails will be installed along the culvert railings for increased safety protection.

In accordance with Section 7.1 of the Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), necessary operation and maintenance activities of public facilities are considered a Covered Activity.

Compliance with the MSHCP is documented through the preparation of the focused surveys and consistency analysis (LSA 2015).

A Cultural Resources Assessment (LSA 2015) did not identify any cultural resources within the project area.

The Riverside County Transportation Department Staff conducted a review of the above referenced project and has determined that the proposal qualify for a Categorical Exemption per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

**The Riverside County Transportation Department has found that the above-described project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), based on the following:**

**California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, Section 15301 (c)** – Minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of lead agency's determination. Briggs Road is an existing highway with a one lane low water crossing. The COUNTY determined that the minor alteration to the crossing is necessary for consistency with the existing two-lane roadway. The project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use because Briggs Road is a one lane road in each direction immediately north and south of the existing timber culvert. At the timber culvert, the road is wide enough for only one lane for both directions. The widening of the culvert to one lane in each direction does not involve expansion of an existing use; therefore, the project qualifies as an exemption under Section 15301(c) of CEQA.

By: Andrew Huneck, Senior Transportation Planner

Signed:   
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Russell Williams, Environmental Division Manager