MCI (Verizon Business) 2400 N Glenville Richardson, TX 75082

Verizon 295 N Sunrise Way Palm Springs, CA 92262

Southern California Gas Company – Palm Desert 1981 W Lugonia Ave Redlands, CA 92374

Kenneth Tom Manager of Industry and Public Projects Union Pacific Railroad 2015 South Willow Ave Bloomington, CA 92316

Rodney Bonner
Tribal Administrator and Head
Of Economic Development
Torres-Martinez
66-725 Martinez St.
Thermal, CA 92274

Supervisor John J. Benoit Fourth, District, Riverside County Board of Supervisors Mecca Satellite Office 91-260 Avenue 66 Mecca, CA 92254

Roland Ferrer Planning Director Torres-Martinez 66-725 Martinez St. Thermal, CA 92274

Mecca Community Library Miguel Guitron-Rodriguez, Library Manager 91-260 Avenue 66 Mecca, CA 92254

Maria G. Machuca Chair Mecca Community Council P.O. Box 193 Mecca, CA 92254 Nachhattar Chandi Council Member Mecca Community Council 46-211 Road Runner Ln La Quinta, CA 92225

Jaime Gonzales Council Member Mecca Community Council 65-136 Fernand Cir. Mecca, CA 92254

Duane Young Cocopah Nursery 81-910 Arus Ave Indio, CA 92201 (and via email at duaneoung@aol.com)

Mike Bozick South Valley Grower Richard Bagdasarian, Inc. 65-500 Lincoln St Mecca, CA 92254 (and via email at mbozick@mrgrape.com)

Nick Bozick
South Valley Grower
Richard Bagdasarian, Inc.
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Mecca, CA 92254
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Mark Nickerson
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86705 Ave 54 Ste A
Coachella, CA 92236
(and via email at mnickerson@primtimeproduce.com)

Kathy Jones
Primetime Produce
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Coachella, CA 92236
(and via email at kjones@primetimeproduce.com)

David Turner
Coachella Valley Engineers
77-933 Las Montanas Road, Suite 101
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(and via email at dturner@cve.net)

Sergio Carranza
Executive Director
Pueblo Unido CDC
St. Anthony Mobile Home Park
78-115 Calle Estado Suite 204
La Quinta, CA 92253
(and via email at scarranza@pucdc.org)

Colorado Regional Water Quality Control Board 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100 Palm Desert, CA 92260

California Transportation Commission 1120 N Street, Room 2221 (MS-52) Sacramento, CA 95814

#### Notices to the following:

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Maxine Resvaloso, Chairperson P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA 92274

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Raymond Torres, Vice Chairperson P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA 92274

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Patricia Tuck, THPO 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264

David Roosevelt Chairperson 84-245 Indio Springs Drive Indio, CA 922003-3499

Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 189 Warner Springs, CA 92086

Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA 92539 John Marcus, Chairperson 56 Louis Lane Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA 92539

Mary Ann Green, Chairperson Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians P.O. Box 846 Coachella, CA 92236

Karen Kupcha Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians P.O. Box 846 Coachella, CA 92236

Michael Contreras Cultural Heritage Program Morongo Band of Mission Indians 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA 92220

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Patricia Tuck, THPO 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264

Luther Salgado, Sr., Chairperson Cahuilla Band of Indians P.O. Box 391760 Anza, CA 92539

South Valley Grower 66500 Lincoln Street Mecca, CA 92254

Working One Sunset Ranch 77933 Las Montanas Suite 101 Palm Desert, CA 92260

Rodney Bonner 66725 Martinez Rd Thermal, CA 92274

Duane Young Cocopah Nursery 81910 Arus Ave Indio, CA 92201

Sergio Carranza 78115 Calle Estado Suite 204 La Quinta, CA 92253

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# Appendix A Project Listing in SCAG 2011 FTIP and Air Quality Documentation

#### U.S. Department of Agriculture FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency) Date Of Land Evaluation Request May 14, 2015 Name of Project Avenue 66 UPRR Grade Separation Federal Agency Involved Caltrans (as assigned by FHWA) Proposed Land Use Right-of-Way County and State Riverside County, CA PART II (To be completed by NRCS) Date Request Received By Person Completing Form: NRCS Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? NO Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form) Major Crop(s) Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Name of Land Evaluation System Used Name of State or Local Site Assessment System Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS Alternative Site Rating PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site A Site B Site D Site C A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly 21 B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly C. Total Acres In Site 141 PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points) PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria Maximum Site A Site B Site C Site D (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106) **Points** 1. Area In Non-urban Use (15)14 (10) 2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use 9 (20) 3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed 3 (20) 4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government 20 (15) 5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area 0 (15)6. Distance To Urban Support Services 0 7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average (10) 10 8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland (10)10 9. Availability Of Farm Support Services (5) 5 (20) 10. On-Farm Investments 10 11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services (10)0 (10) 12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use 0 160 TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS 81 0 0 0 PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency) Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V) 0 100 0 0 0 Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment) 160 81 0 0 0 TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines) 260 0 81 0 0 Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Site Selected: Date Of Selection YES NO Reason For Selection: Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: Cherry Brent (Dokken Engineering) Date: 5/14/15

#### Appendix C Noise Memorandum and County General Plan Noise Element

All subsections	
Mount	
LOCAL RIV110130 0 IN COACHELLA VALLEY IN RANCHO MIRAGE – WIDENING OF SOUTH BOUND MONTEREY AVE. FROM 2 TO 3 LANES FROM DINAH SHORE HIGHWAY DR TO GERALD FORD DR. (APPROX. 3,480 L.F.). OTHER IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF CURB AND GUTTER, DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS (RETENTION BASINS), SIGNING AND STRIPING, AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATION AT GINGER ROGERS RD.	
LOCAL RIV091208 0 IN COACHELLA VALLEY IN THE CITY OF INDIO – JACKSON ST TRAFFIC SIGNAL INTERCONNECT AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL INSTALL: NSTALL HIGHWAY A NEW TS AT JACKSON ST & MARKET ST/DILLON AVE., & INSTALL. OF A WIRELESS INTERCONNECT SYSTEM ON JACKSON ST BTWN AVE., 4 INSTALL: NTERCONNECT SYSTEM INCLUDES 2 EXIST. TS & 1 NEW TS (\$38 TOLL CREDITS USED FOR CMAQ MATCH IN CONS).	LLA VALLEY IN THI AT JACKSON ST & I NO. & AVE. 45 TO T
LOCAL RIV011241 0 IN CORONA ON AUTO CENTER DRIVE – CONSTRUCT 4 LANE OVERCROSSING (GRADE SEPARATION) OVER EXISTING BNSF TRACKS (\$1,835/\$1,240 TOLL CREDITS IN CONST TO MATCH CMAQ/PNRS).	ON AUTO CENTER 240 TOLL CREDIT
LOCAL RIVO11240 0 IN CORONA ON EXISTING MCKINLEY ST — CONSTRUCT GRADE SEPARATION AT BNSF RAILROAD CROSSING (PROJECT STUDY REPORT & HIGHWAY PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS REPORT ACTIVITIES)	ON EXISTING MCK 3Y ENV!RONMENT,
LOCAL RIVO60108 0 IN CORONA ON N. MAIN ST. ADD NB DEDICATED RIGHT-TURN LANE (APPROX 300') FROM SR91 EXIT RAMP TO N. GRAND BLVD, ADD 3RD HIGHWAY WALL AT PARK-N-RIDE LOT	ON N. MAIN ST: AI IN RAMP LANE, SI
LOCAL RIV071259 0 IN EASTERN COACHELLA VALLEY — MECCA COMMUNITY ROUNDABOUT: CONSTRUCT A ROUNDABOUT ENTRY TO THE UNINCORPORATED  MECCA COMM. ON HAMMOND RD & 4TH ST BTWN 5TH & 3RD STREETS, CONSISTING OF A SINGLE LN. TRAFFIC CIRCLE W/ONE BYPASS RT LN FOR THE SE TRAFFIC; MOUNTABLE MEDIAN APRONS; LANDSCAPED CENTER; S/W & PED. X-ING; LANDSCAPE BUFFER; REALIGNMENT OF HAMMOND RD.; AND AN ENTRY MONUMENT.	I COACHELLA VAL AM. ON HAMMONI LN FOR THE SE TI NT OF HAMMOND
LOCAL RIV071288 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE CO. IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY – 66TH AVE GRADE SEPARATION: CONSTRUCT A TWO-LN (1-LN IN EA DIR) 66TH HIGHWAY AVE ELEVATED STRUCTURE OVER THE UPRR, HAMMOND RD., AND SH-111., FROM WESTERLY OF LINCOLN ST TO JOHNSON ST ON THE EAST IN THE COMMUNITY OF MECCA. ADD. IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO TIE BACK INTO THE EXISTING ALIGNMENT.	J RIVERSIDE CO. I ED STRUCTURE C E COMMUNITY OF
LOCAL RIV091006 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE CO. IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY — HWY 111 WIDENING W/IN INDIAN WELLS CITY LIMITS: WID FROM 4 TO 6 THRU HIGHWAY HIGHWAY RINSTAL OF A RAISED, LANDSCAPE MEDIAN, LEFT TURN PH @ EL DORADO DR, DUAL LEFT TURN PH @ THE SB AND EB COOK ST, RT TURN ONLY LNS AT THE EAST, WEST, AND SB COOK ST.	I RIVERSIDE CO. IN IN EA DIR) BTWN I I RAISED, LANDSC T THE EAST, WEST
LOCAL RIV091209 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE CO. IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY — HWY 111 WIDENING WITHIN INDIAN WELLS CITY LIMITS: WIDENING FROM 4  TO 6 THRU LNS (3 LNS IN EA DIR) BTWN EL DORADO & EAST CITY LIMITS (W/O WASHINGTON), INCLUDING THE INSTALL OF A RAISED, LANDSCAPE MEDIAN AND RIGHT TURN ONLY LANE AT INDIAN WELLS LN (RTP ID'S 3A07259).	
LOCAL RIV070302 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY – DATE PALM DR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT/WIDENING: REPLACEMENT OF A TWO LANE (1 LN IN EA DIR) LOW WATER CROSSING BRIDGE OVER LONG CANYON CREEK (BRIDGE NO. 00L0043) WITH A SIX LANE (3 LNS IN EA DIR), FOR APPROXIMATELY 350 FT. (FROM VARNER RD. TO 350' S/O VARNER RD).	I RIVERSIDE COUN 11 LN IN EA DIR) LC 50R APPROXIMATE
LOCAL RIV091011 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY — DATE PALM DR OVER THE WHITEWATER RIVER: WIDENING OF DATE PALM HIGHWAY DR FROM 4 TO 6 LNS (3 LNS IN EA DIR), FROM APPROX. 350' S/O THE BRIDGE TO 250' N/O THE BRIDGE (VIA ESTRADA TO THE NORTH AND PEREZ RD. TO THE SOUTH), INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAISED MEDIAN AND SIDEWALK ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF THE PROJECT (BRIDGE NO. 56C0189).	A RIVERSIDE COUNT. TO 6 LNS (3 LNS IN RD. TO THE SOUTH) RIDGE NO. 56C0189
LOCAL RIV110501 0 IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY — DATE PALM DR WIDENING FROM 1-10 TO 350' S/O VARNER RD.: WIDENING OF DATE PALM DR. FROM 2 TO 6 LNS (3 LNS IN EA DIR) FROM 1-10 TO 350' S/O VARNER RD. OTHER IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE ADDITIONAL TURNING LANES AT INTERSECTION OF DATE PALM DR. & VARNER RD., TRAFFIC SIGNALIZATION, SIDEWALKS, MEDIANS AND BIKE LANES.	A RIVERSIDE COUNT DF DATE PALM DR. F L TURNING LANES A



# Final 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program

# Riverside County Project Listing Local Highway (In \$000`s)

ProjectID	ProjectID County Air Basin Model	Air Basin		RTP ID	Program Route Begin	Route		End	System	System Conformity Category	Amendment
RIV071285 Riverside	Riverside	SSAB	RIVO	RIV071285	NCN31					EXEMPT - 93.126	0
Description:						Δ.	PTC	26,700	Agency	26,700 Agency RIVERSIDE COUNTY	
IN THE SOUT	THEAST COACH	ELLA VALLEY II	N EASTERN RIVE	RSIDE COUNT	Y, JUST SOUTH	OF THE	CITY OF CO	DACHELLA (	ON AVE. 56	IN THE SOUTHEAST COACHELLA VALLEY IN EASTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY, JUST SOUTH OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA ON AVE. 56 (AIRPORT BLVD) - FROM POLK ST TO THE WEST TO	TO THE WEST TO
ORANGE ST.	TO THE EAST (	OF THE R/R X-IN	DRANGE ST. TO THE EAST OF THE R/R X-ING: REPLACE EXISTING 2 I	ISTING 2 LN (1	LN IN EA DIR)	AT GRADE	ER/RX-ING	WITH A 2 LI	NOC (1 LN	LN (1 LN IN EA DIR) AT GRADE R/R X-ING WITH A 2 LN OC (1 LN IN EA DIR - NON-CAPACITY) ACROSS THE UPRR	SS THE UPRR
TRACKS.											

ent	Amendment	atedory	Conformity Category	System	Fnd	Benin	Route	Program Route	(	OL STP ID	Model	Air Basin Model	County	ProjectID
26,700						20,900		5,800	26,700	20,900	3,300	2,500	otal	RIV071285 Total
10,000						10,000			10,000	10,000			TRADE CORRIDOR PROGRAM	TRADE CORR
16,700						10,900		5,800	16,700	10,900	3,300	2,500		AGENCY
Total	2016/2017 2017/2018	2016/2017	2015/2016	2014/2015	2013/2014	2012/2013		Prior	Total	CON	R/W	ENG		Fund

013000	Allingo Cinociol		5000	2	- 200	ממנים		2	o) SICILI	Lighten Conformity Category	
RIV071288 Riverside	Riverside	SSAB		3G0705	NCN31	,			_	EXEMPT - 93.126	0
Description:						<u> </u>	TC	25,250	Agency	25,250 Agency RIVERSIDE COUNTY	
IN EASTER	N EASTERN RIVERSIDE CO. IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY ~ 66TH AVE (	. IN THE COACH	<b>JELLA VALL</b>	.EY ~ 66TH AVE GRAI	DE SEPARATIC	SNOO : NC	STRUCT A 1	WO-LN (1-L <sup>1</sup>	IN EADIR	GRADE SEPARATION: CONSTRUCT A TWO-LN (1-LN IN EA DIR) 66TH AVE ELEVATED STRUCTURE OVER THE UPRR,	IRE OVER THE UPRR,
HAMMOND	RD., AND SH-111	., FROM WESTE	ERLY OF LIF	NCOLN ST TO JOHNS	SON ST ON THE	E EAST IN	THE COM	MUNITY OF	MECCA. AL	JAMMOND RD., AND SH-111., FROM WESTERLY OF LINCOLN ST TO JOHNSON ST ON THE EAST IN THE COMMUNITY OF MECCA. ADD. IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO TIE	NSTRUCTED TO TIE
BACK INTC	<b>SACK INTO THE EXISTING ALIGNMENT.</b>	LIGNMENT									
							-		THE RESERVE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN THE PERSON NAMED IN THE PERSON NAMED I		A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

Fund	ENG	R/W CON	CON	Total	Prior	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017 2017/2018	2017/2018	Total
FFY 2009 Appropriations Earmarks	950	- Company of the Comp	en announce anno proprieta communicativa de communicativa	950		950	A AMMERICAN MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTY AND A SAN AND A SAN AND A SAN	er mangamen v man vanne vrom vanne vanne vrom van van vanne verom verom verom verom verom verom verom verom ve	Months of April 1 is presented in understanding to the community county resolutions.	caleman and any communication of the fact of the company of the column o		920
CMAQ	350			350		350						320
EASTERN RIV TUMF	200			200	200							200
RIV CO SALES TAX	200			200		200						200
RIV071288 Total	2,300			2,300	200	1,800						2,300

ProjectID	County Air Basin Mc	Air Basin	Model	RTP ID	Program	Route	Begin	Program Route Begin End System	System	Conformity Category	Amendment
RIV100103	Riverside	SCAB	3A041	A04WT139	CAX67				_	NON-EXEMPT	0
Description:	::					ı	TC	33,327 Agency	Agency	RIVERSIDE COUNTY	
IN WESTE	I WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF	OUNTY IN THE	ININCORPORATE	D ARFA OF THE	COUNTY OF	RIVERSII	OF - PIGFO	N PASS RD (	SORRIDOR	THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE - PIGEON PASS RD CORRIDOR: CONSTRUCT A NEW 4-1 ANF PIGEON PASS RD	FON PASS RD

	Total	2	3,027		3,029
ED ONLY).	2016/2017 2017/2018	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER			
ECT) (PA&E	2016/201				
RSION PROJE	2015/2016	A CANADA TO THE STATE OF THE ST			
AN AC CONVE	2014/2015	in constitution and which can can be a substitute and substitute and the constitution of foundations.			
GS RD, INCLUDING SIGNALS AND MEDIANS (THIS IS AN AC CONVERSION PROJECT) (PA&ED ONLY).	2013/2014	or or definition that the first care that a constitution of expension is used for every desired a number of expension of the first care of			
SNALS AND MEI	2012/2013	2		-5	
INCLUDING SIC	Prior	and state of the designation of the state of	3,027	2	3,029
RINGS RD,	Total	2	3,027		3,029
IIDDEN SPF	CON				
AVE. AND H	RW				
T. VERNON /	ENG	2	3,027		3,029
ETWEEN M		de ses sois à la sellemen services sittes de cate d <b>e</b> professive destruites faitnesses faitnesses des services de securities de la categories			
CORRIDOR FACILITY BETWEEN MT. VERNON AVE. AND HIDDEN SPRIN	Fund	STP LOCAL	COUNTY	LOCAL ADVANCE	RIV100103 Total

CAX60	yin End		by Category	Amendment
ition:  TERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE CITY OF JURUPA VALLEY - MARKET STREET BRIDGE REPLACE  T STREET BRIDGE OVER THE SANTA ANA RIVER, 0.4 MILES NORTHWEST OF SR60 WITH A FOUR  ENG RW CON Total Prior 2012/207		-	VON-EXEMPT	0
STERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE CITY OF JURUPA VALLEY - MARKET STREET BRIDGE REPLACE ET STREET BRIDGE OVER THE SANTA ANA RIVER, 0.4 MILES NORTHWEST OF SR60 WITH A FOUR  ENG RW CON Total Prior 2012/207 3 634 35 30 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36 36		40,900 Agency RIVE	RIVERSIDE COUNTY	
ET BRIDGE OVER THE SANTA ANA RIVER, 0.4 MILES NORTHWEST O  ENG R/W CON Total 3 634 35 200 36 208	(CEMENT: REPLACE	E THE EXISTING	TWO LANE (ONE LANE IN EACH D	RECTION)
-und ENG R/W CON Total Prior 2012/201	JR LANE (TWO LAN	<b>ES IN EACH DIRI</b>	CTION) BRIDGE. BRIDGE NO. 560	024
3 634 354 30 200 36 208	2013 2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016 2016/2017 2017/7	118 Total
0,00	A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	354	32,220	36,208

#### December 3, 2013 Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

#### In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori Metro
Morris, Michael FHWA
Kamhi, Philip Metro
Sherwood, Arnie TCA

#### **SCAG**

Asuncion, John Luo, Rongsheng Lin, Margaret

#### Via Teleconference:

Behtash, Arman Caltrans, District 12 Brady, Mike Caltrans Headquarters DeHate, Eric **RCTC** Garcia, Dan **SCAQMD** Gallo, Ilene Caltrans, District 11 Lay, Keith LSA Associates Louka, Tony Caltrans, District 8 O'Connor, Karina EPA, Region 9

Sheehy, Erin OCTA

Tax, Wienke EPA, Region 9
Yoon, Andrew Caltrans, District 7
Zamora, Cherry Dokken Engineering

#### December 3, 2013 Minutes

#### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

#### 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

#### 3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1 <u>TCWG August 27, 2013 Meeting Minutes</u> The minutes were approved.
- 3.2 <u>TCWG September 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes</u> The minutes were approved.
- 3.3 <u>TCWG October 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes</u> The minutes were approved.

#### 4.0 <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form



#### 2) RIV120201

It was determined that this is an exempt project (FHWA concurrence received via email after meeting).

#### 4.2 Review of PM Hot Spot PM Qualitative Analyses

#### 1) ORA100511

The revised analysis was reaffirmed to be acceptable for NEPA circulation (FHWA and EPA concurrence received via email after meeting).

#### December 3, 2013 Minutes

#### 4.3 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2013 FTIP Administrative Modification #13-14 was approved in late October 2013; Thus all 2013 FTIP Amendments through # 13-14 had received necessary approvals.
- 2013 FTIP Amendment #3-15 had been submitted to Caltrans and FHWA/FTA for review and approval.
- Approval of 2013 FTIP Amendment Modification #13-16 was anticipated around Christmas.
- County submittals of 2015 FTIP are due to SCAG early January 2014.

#### 4.4 <u>RTP Update</u>

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, noted that Margaret Lin will be the new SCAG staff to provide the RTP update from this meeting on.

There was no new RTP update.

#### 4.5 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported that the Regional Administrator had signed a proposal to approve the South Coast Lead SIP on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, confirmed the following regarding the Quantitative PM Hot Spot Class to be held from January 17 to 19, 2014 at the Caltrans District 7 office in downtown Los Angeles:

- Class attendees would need to bring their own laptop computers to the class.
- Class materials and software needed to be downloaded to the laptop computers prior to class.
- Instructions on how to prepare for the class would be emailed to registered attendees.
- Information and class materials were also available to download for those who cannot make it to the class.

#### 4.6 ARB Update

On behalf of Jason Crow, ARB, Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported that ARB is planning to have another EMFAC2013 workshop in February 2014 where ARB will provide information on the model update and perform demonstration of the beta version.

#### December 3, 2013 Minutes

4.6 <u>Air Districts Update</u> There was no new update.

#### 5.0 <u>INFORMATION SHARING</u>

There was no information sharing.

#### 6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday January 28, 2014 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.

# Appendix D Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Commitment Source				
Timing/Phase	Construction/Post- Construction	Final Design	Final Design	Final Design/Construction
Responsible Party/Monitor	County	County	County	County
Description of Commitment	Re-vegetation: Exposed slopes shall be revegetated with standard erosion control planting.	Lighting too shall be appropriately shielded. The project's lighting design shall be consistent with Caltrans, Community of Mecca, and Riverside County lighting guidelines and standards and will be developed in coordination with Caltrans Landscape Architecture staff for areas within state right-of-way. Lights will be designed to face away and be shielded away from the adjacent Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Species Conservation Plan area.	The overcrossing over State Route 111 will harmonize with the natural surroundings by applying aesthetic treatment(s) such as artwork, color, and/or veneer. Such aesthetic treatment(s) will be determined by the County and incorporated during final design.	Should landscaping be installed within and/or adjacent to the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Conservation Area , the project shall not incorporate invasive, non-native plant species or plants listed in the CVMSHCP Table 4-112. Any landscape treatments within or adjacent to the Conservation Area shall incorporate native plant materials to the maximum extent feasible; recommended native species are listed in CVMSHCP Table 4-112. This list may be amended from time to time through a Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agency Concurrence.
	AES-1: Re-veg	AES-2: Lightin project Caltran County be dev Landsc right-of and be Coache Coache Coache Coache Conser	AES-3 The overall part of	AES-4 Should adjace adjace Chann shall no species to the (to the (to the CVMS) amend Amend

Timing/Phase Commitment	Construction	Construction		
Responsible Party/Monitor	Contractor	Contractor		
Description of Commitment	The construction contractor shall comply with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 14-9.03 Dust Control of Caltrans' Standard Specifications (2010).	The Wind Erosion Control BMP (WE-1) from Caltrans' Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual will be implemented as follows:	<ul> <li>Water shall be applied by means of pressure-type distributors or pipelines equipped with a spray system or hoses and nozzles that will ensure even distribution.</li> <li>All distribution equipment shall be equipped with a positive means of shutoff</li> <li>Unless water is applied by means of pipelines, at least one mobile unit shall be available at all times to apply water or dust palliative to the project.</li> <li>If reclaimed water is used, the sources and discharge must meet California Department of Health Services water reclamation criteria and the Regional Water Quality Control Board requirements. Non-potable water shall not be conveyed in tanks or drain pipes that will be used to convey potable water and there shall he are conveyted in tanks or drain pipes that will be used to</li> </ul>	potable and non-potable supplies. Non-potable tanks, pipes and
No.	AQ-1	AQ-2		

The state of the s				
Commitment Source	,			
Timing/Pinese		Construction	Final Design/Permitting	Final Design
Responsible PartyMonitor		Contractor	County	County
Description of Continitinent	other conveyances shall be marked "NON-POTABLE WATER – DO NOT DRINK."  • Materials applied as temporary soil stabilizers and soil binders will also provide wind erosion control benefits.	Construction of the project would comply with the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Rule 403—Fugitive Dust.	The Lincoln Street Stormwater Channel will be designated an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) and will either be staked with high visibility flagging or fenced with orange snow fencing to ensure the construction areas will not encroach further than the designated work limits. Prior to work within the channel, the project will obtain a CWA Section 404 authorization (Nationwide Permit 14) from the USACE, a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the RWQCB, a Section 402 NPDES Permit regulated by the SWRCB, and a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW.	The Conservation Area shall be designated an ESA and fenced with high visibility snow fencing at the project limits. Where feasible, mesquite within the Conservation Area shall be designated an ESA and fenced with high visibility snow fencing at the tree's dripline. Remaining areas within Impact Area #1 (see NES) must be provided ESA fencing or staking. Contractor is restricted from encroaching within any areas designated as ESA.
No.		AQ-3	BIO-1	BIO-2

Committeett Source				41-7-12	
Timing/Phase	Post-construction	Pre-construction			
Responsible Party/Monitor	County	County			
Description of Commitment	At construction completion, the County shall apply a seed mix comprised of native, locally adapted species to temporarily impacted native habitats (excluding agricultural and developed areas) and within the Conservation Area boundaries. The seed mix shall be approved by a biologist.	The project biologist shall conduct preconstruction surveys consistent with the 2012 CDFW Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation for burrowing owls within 1-2 weeks before construction activities begin. If no burrowing owl will be required.	If active burrowing owl burrows are found in or near the permanent or temporary construction impact area, the County will implement the following:	Occupied burrows must not be disturbed during the breeding season (February 1 to August 31) unless a qualified biologist approved by the CDFW verifies through non-invasive methods that either:  1) the birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation; or 2) that juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. If avoidance of active nests is preferred, the biologist must consult with the CDFW to determine appropriate buffer widths and acreage of foraging habitat to be permanently preserved contiguous with the occupied burrow site. The Contractor must not disturb identified burrowing owl burrows until the containing the propriet has been cleared.	Should destruction of occupied burrows be unavoidable during the non-breeding season
No.	BIO-3	BIO-4			

Thase Commitment Source		Pre- construction/constructi on		Pre- construction/constructi on
Timing/F	-1	Pre- construct on		Pre- construct on
Responsible Party/Monitor		County		Contractor/County
Description of Commitment	(September 1 – January 31) either, unsuitable burrows must be enhanced (enlarged or cleared of debris) or new burrows created (by installing artificial burrows) at a ratio of 2:1 on protected lands approved by the CDFW. Newly created burrows will follow guidelines established by the CDFW.	If the construction contractor needs to remove vegetation (shrubs or trees) during the migratory bird breeding season (February 15th – September 1st), a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted within 7 days prior to vegetation removal. Within 2 weeks of the nesting bird survey, all vegetation cleared by the project biologist shall be removed by the contractor.	A minimum 100 foot no-disturbance buffer shall be established around any active nest to limit the impacts of construction activities. The contractor shall immediately stop work in the nesting area until the appropriate buffer is established and is prohibited from conducting work that could disturb the birds (as determined by the project biologist and in coordination with wildlife agencies) in the buffer area until the project biologist determines the young have fledged.	To minimize direct mortality to potentially roosting bats, each date palm/palm tree requiring removal shall be trimmed using a two-step process conducted over two consecutive days. Contractor shall only trim the outermost fronds for each individual tree on the first day; innermost fronds shall not be trimmed. On the second day the remaining fronds on each tree shall be removed.
No.		BIO-5		BIO-6

Commitment Source					
Timing/Phase		Pre- construction/constructi on	Construction	Construction	Construction
Responsible Party/Monitor		County	Contractor	Contractor	Contractor
Description of Commitment	chainsaws- no dozers, backhoes, cranes, or other heavy equipment is permitted. Should bats emerge during the tree trimming, trimming activities shall temporarily cease at the individual tree until bats are no longer actively emerging from the tree. A survey within 2 weeks of tree removal will be conducted to detect if bats are using trees for nesting.	To allow subterranean wildlife enough time to escape initial clearing and grubbing activities, equipment used during initial clearing and grubbing shall be operated at speeds no greater than 3 miles per hour.	Prior to arrival at the project site and prior to leaving the project site, the construction contractor shall clean all construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.	Contractor shall remove all tamarisk within the construction limits and shall remove the entire root ball using a large excavator to mechanically remove individual trees from the ground.	The contractor shall not apply rodenticides or herbicides in the project area during construction activities.
No.		BIO-7	BIO-8	BIO-9	BIO-10

No.	Description of Contributing	Responsible Party/Monitor	Timing/Phase Commitment Source
BIO-11	The contractor shall dispose of all food-related trash in closed containers, and shall remove it from the project area each day during the construction period. Construction personnel shall not feed or otherwise attract wildlife to the project area.	Contractor	Construction
BIO-12	If any wildlife is encountered during the course of construction, said wildlife shall be allowed to leave the construction area unharmed. In the unlikely event a worker inadvertently injures or kills a special-status species or finds one dead, injured, or entrapped, the worker shall immediately report the incident to the project biologist.	Contractor	Construction
BIO-13	Prior to construction, clearance surveys shall be conducted by an Acceptable Biologist during the Crissal thrasher and Le Conte's thrasher nesting season, January 15 – June 15, to determine if active nest sites for this species occur within 500 feet of the Conservation Area; survey restrictions are not required outside the boundary of the Conservation Area. If nesting Crissal thrashers or Le Conte's thrashers are found within the Conservation Area, a 500-foot buffer within the Conservation Area shall be established; the buffer is not required to extend into areas outside the Conservation Area. The buffer will be staked and flagged. No construction activities will be permitted within the buffer during the breeding season of January 15 – June 15 or until the young have fledged, as determined by the project biologist.	Contractor	Construction

Commitment Source			·
Timing/Phase	Construction	Construction	Construction
Responsible Party/Monitor	Contractor	Contractor	Contractor
Description of Commitment	Prior to conducting pre-construction surveys for CVMSHCP covered species, the County must submit the names of biologists to the CVCC for inclusion in the CVMSHCP list of Acceptable Biologists.	Prior to construction, the County's CVMSHCP Acceptable Biologists must survey the Conservation Area to be affected by the project for applicable Covered Species during the appropriate seasons and in accordance with established accepted protocols, if they exist. For those species for which protocols do not exist at the time surveys are needed, the Acceptable Biologist will use a survey protocol generally accepted by biologists familiar with the species. Survey results must be documented in both mapped and text form and must be submitted to the CVCC for review.	Should landscaping be installed within and/or adjacent to the Conservation Area, the project shall not incorporate invasive, non-native plant species or plants listed in CVMSHCP Table 4-113. Any landscape treatments within or adjacent to the Conservation Area shall incorporate native plant materials to the maximum extent feasible; recommended native species are listed in CVMSHCP Table 4-112. This list may be amended from time to time through a Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agency Concurrence.
Wo.	BIO-14	BIO-15	BIO-16

Commitment				
Timing/Phase.	Construction	Construction	Construction	Final Design/Construction
Responsible Party/Monitor	Contractor	Contractor	Contractor	County
Description of Commitment	In areas adjacent to or within the Conservation Area, the project shall incorporate barriers into the project design to minimize unauthorized public access, illegal trespass, or dumping in the Conservation Area. Final design for barriers will occur following consultation with the CVCC.	Within State Right-of-Way, if buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, it is Caltrans policy that work stop within 60 feet of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. The archaeological monitor must notify the Caltrans District Environmental Branch Chief (DEBC), Gabrielle Duff, if buried cultural resources are encountered.	Outside of State Right-of-Way, if buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, work will stop within 60 feet of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. The archaeological monitor must notify the Riverside County Transportation Department Project Manager, Scott Staley, at (951) 955-6800, if buried cultural resources are encountered.	Sampling will be conducted on bores that result in intact stratigraphic samples from which fossils can be recovered. Samples may be collected during geotechnical studies during final design, or alternatively, collected from the sidewalls of trenches dug for geotechnical investigations or during construction.
No.	BIO-17	CUL-1	CUL-2	CUL-3

Commitment			
Timing/Phase	Construction	Construction	Construction
Responsible Party/Monitor	Contractor	Contractor	Contractor
Description of Commitment.	Within State Right-of-Way, in the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Cormission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the District 8 Division of Environmental Planning; Gabrielle Duff, DEBC: (909)383-6933 and Gary Jones, DNAC: (909)383-7505. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.	Outside State Right-of-Way, in the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Cornmission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the Riverside County Transportation Department Project Manager, Scott Staley, at (951) 955-6800. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.	Within State Right-of-Way, all ground-disturbing activities must be monitored by an archaeological and Native American monitor (approved by the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians [TMDCI]). The archaeological and Native American monitor must attend the preconstruction meeting. Both monitors and the Caltrans DEBC, Gabrielle Duff, must be notified 5
No.	CUL-4	CUL-5	CUL-6

ming/Phase Commitment Source		Construction	Construction	Final Design
Responsible Party/Monitor		Contractor	Contractor	County
Description of Commitment	days in advance of ground-disturbing activities. Additionally, the Caltrans DEBC must be notified within 24 hours of construction completion within State Right-of-Way. A monitoring report must be submitted to Caltrans Cultural Studies within 30 days of end of construction in State Right-of-Way.	Outside State Right-of-Way, all ground-disturbing activities must be monitored by an archaeological and Native American monitor (approved by the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians [TMDCI]). The archaeological and Native American monitor must attend the preconstruction meeting. Both monitors must be notified 5 days in advance of ground-disturbing activities.	BMPs will be implemented during construction to minimize erosion. BMPs include any facilities and methods used to remove, reduce, or prevent storm water runoff pollutants from entering receiving waters. Erosion control methods, temporary and permanent BMPs, and improvement of drainage facilities along the roadway would minimize impacts from storm water runoff.	The project will be designed in accordance with County design and construction requirements as well as the Caltrans Highway Design Manual, Caltrans Design Specifications, and applicable seismic standards.
No.		CUL-7	GEO-1	GEO-2

Commitment				
Timing/Phase	Final Design	Final Design	Construction	Final Design
Responsible Party/Monitor	County	County	Contractor	County
Description of Commitment	The project will be designed in accordance with recommendations provided in the final Geotechnical Design Report.	The project would incorporate the use of energy-efficient lighting, such as light-emitting diode (LED) traffic signals. LED bulbs cost \$60 to \$70 each, but last five to six years, compared to the one-year average lifespan of the incandescent bulbs previously used. The LED bulbs themselves consume 10 percent of the electricity of traditional lights, which will also help reduce the project's CO <sub>2</sub> emissions.	According to the Department's Standard Specifications, the contractor must comply with all local Air Quality Management District rules, ordinances, and regulations for air quality restrictions.	Based on preliminary plans, right-of-way acquisition is not expected at the Former Coachella Valley Minimex, Former Mecca Chevron or the Riverside County Fire Department Station # 40 Station. These sites are adjacent to the project. Should final plans indicate that a portion of this parcel will be acquired for new right-of-way, a preliminary environmental screening (limited subsurface sampling and laboratory analysis) should be performed for potentially elevated levels of petroleum hydrocarbons and MTBE contamination within the limits of proposed construction, and/or right-of way acquisition.
No.	GEO-3	CC-1	CC-2	HAZ-1

Phase Commitment	esign	esign	ngise	esign
Timing	Final Design	Final Design	Final Design	Final Design
Responsible Party/Monitor	County	County	County	County
Description of Commitment	If site screening encounters elevated levels of petroleum hydrocarbons and/or MTBE, a limited Phase II ISA should be performed. The Phase II ISA should consist of subsurface sampling and laboratory analysis and be of sufficient quantity to define the extent and concentration of contamination within the areal extent and depths of planned construction activities adjacent to these sites. The Phase II ISA should also provide both a Health and Safety Plan for worker safety and a Work Plan for handling and disposing contaminated soil during construction.	Test for potential pesticide and herbicide residuals in soils at the agricultural properties on Parcels 727-272-021, 727-272-031, 727-272-032, and 727-272-033.	To avoid impacts from pavement striping during construction it is recommended that testing and removal requirements for yellow striping and pavement marking materials be performed in accordance with Caltrans Standard Special Provision 15-300 REMOVE TRAFFIC STRIPE AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS.	Any leaking transformers observed during the course of the project should be considered a potential PCB hazard. A detailed inspection of individual electrical transformers was not conducted for this ISA. However, should leaks from electrical transformers (that will either remain within the construction limits or will require removal and/or relocation) be encountered during construction, the transformer fluid should be
No.	HAZ-2	HAZ-3:	HAZ-4	HAZ-5

Commitment Source						
Timing/Phase		Construction	Construction			
Responsible Party/Monitor		County	County/Contractor			
Description of Commitment	sampled and analyzed by qualified personnel for detectable levels of PCB's. Should PCBs be detected, the transformer should be removed and disposed of in accordance with Title 22, Division 4.5 of the California Code of Regulations and any other appropriate regulatory agency. Any stained soil encountered below electrical transformers with detectable levels of PCB's should also be handled and disposed of in accordance with Title 22, Division 4.5 of the California Code of Regulations and any other appropriate regulatory agency.	As is the case for any project that proposes excavation, the potential exists for unknown hazardous contamination to be revealed during project construction. For any previously unknown hazardous waste/ material encountered during construction, the procedures outline in Appendix E (Caltrans Unknown Hazard Procedures) shall be followed.	Best management practices:	The area of construction and disturbance would be limited to as small an area as feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation.	Measures would be implemented during land-disturbing activities to reduce erosion and sedimentation. These measures may include mulches, soil binders and erosion control blankets, silt fencing, fiber rolls, temporary berms, sediment desilting basins, sediment traps, and check dams.	Existing vegetation would be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation would be preserved by installing
No.		HAZ-6	WQ-1			

ase Commitment Source							
Timing/Phase							
Responsible Party/Monitor:							
Description of Commitment temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around areas to be protected.	Exposed soils would be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events.	Exposed soils would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities.	All construction roadway areas would be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution.	All vehicle and equipment maintenance procedures would be conducted off-site. In the event of an emergency, maintenance would occur away from the stormwater channel.	All concrete curing activities would be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly.	All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas would be situated outside of the stream channel as feasible. All stockpiles would be covered, as feasible.	Energy dissipaters and erosion control pads would be provided at the bottom of slope drains. Other flow conveyance control mechanisms may include earth dikes, swales, or ditches. Stream bank
No.							

Commitment Source						
Timing/Phase					Permitting	Permitting
Responsible Party/Monitor					County	County
Description of Commitment	stabilization measures would also be implemented.	All erosion control measures and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state.	All disturbed areas would be restored to pre- construction contours and revegetated, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive exotic species.	All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction.	Any requirements for additional avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures will be contained in the permits obtained from all required regulatory agencies.	The proposed project would require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit for Discharges of storm water associated with construction activities (Construction General Permit 09-2009-DWQ). A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would also be developed and implemented as part of the Construction General Permit.
No.					WQ-2	WQ-3

Commitment				
Timing/Phase, 👍	Construction	Final Design	Final Design	Final Design
Responsible Party/Monitor	Contractor	County	County	County
Description of Commitment	The construction contractor shall adhere to the SWRCB Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ NPDES Permit pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA. This permit authorizes storm water and authorized nonstorm water discharges from Caltrans construction properties, facilities and activities and would be required prior to construction of this project. As part of this Permit requirement, a SWPPP shall be prepared prior to construction consistent with the requirements of the RWQCB. This SWPPP will incorporate all applicable BMPs to ensure that adequate measures are taken during construction to minimize impacts to water quality.	The project shall incorporate plans and design to ensure that the quantity and quality of runoff discharged to the adjacent Conservation Area is not altered in an adverse way when compared with existing conditions.	Stormwater systems shall be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources or ecosystem processes within the Conservation Area.	The project will be submitted to the CVMHCP to undergo the Project Review process and will comply with all pertinent CVMSHCP measures.
Nos	WQ-4	WQ-5	%O-6	LUP-1

Description of Commitment	Responsible Party/Monitor	Timing/Phase	Commitment. Source
Rubberized asphalt will be considered for conditionally acceptable noise levels at receivers R3 and R16.	County	Final Design	
Standard Specification 14-8.02, "Noise Control", and SSP S5-310, Section 14-8.02 states:	Contractor	Construction	
Do not exceed 86 dBA at 50 feet from the job site activities from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.			
Equip an internal combustion engine with the manufacturer recommended muffler.			
Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler.			
In areas adjacent to or within the Conservation Area, the project shall be designed to maintain noise levels at or below 75 dBA Leq hourly. Noise in excess of 75 dBA Leq hourly shall require setbacks, berms, or walls, as appropriate, to minimize the effects of noise on the adjacent Conservation Area.	County/Contractor	Construction	
Impacts to traffic flow as a result of construction activities would be reduced by implementing the traffic management plan and a construction phasing plan for the proposed project. The traffic management plan includes requirements to provide the public with information through brochures and mailers, media releases, public meetings, and notification to impacted groups. Under the traffic management plan, travelers would be informed with changeable message signs, traveler information systems (internet), and	Contractor	Construction	

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#### Appendix E Acronyms

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act
AUL Activity and Use Limitations
B.S. Bachelor of Science

BLM Bureau of Land Management BMP Best Management Practices

BSA Biological Study Area

CA California

CALTRANS California Department of Transportation

CBC California Building Code

CDCA California Desert Conservation Plan
CDFG California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

C-G General Commercial
CO Carbon Monoxide
Dba decibels a-weighted

DWQ Department of Water Quality EMFAC Emissions Factors Model

EPA Environmental Protection Agency FHWA Federal Highway Administration

FTIP Federal Transportation Improvement Program

GHG Greenhouse Gases

IS Initial Study

ISA Initial Site Assessment
LED light emitting diode
LOS Level of Service
M.A. Master of Arts

MDAQMD Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

MLD Most Likely Descendent

NAHC Native American Heritage Commission

MND Mitigated Negative Declaration

NESMI Natural Environment Study-Minimal Impact

NOX Nitrogen Oxide(s)

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

O-P Office Professional
P.E. Professional Engineer
P.G. Professional Geologist
PCB Polychlorinated biphenyls

PM Particulate matter

PM<sub>10</sub> Particulate matter, diameter 10 micrometers PM<sub>2.5</sub> Particulate matter, diameter 2.5 micrometers

POAQC Project of Air Quality Concern

ppm parts per million

PRC Public Resources Code

PS&E Project Specifications and Estimates
R.E.A. Registered Environmental Assessor
REC Recognized Environmental Condition

RTIP Regional Transportation Improvement Program

RTP Regional Transportation Plan SBD San Bernardino (county code)

SCAG Southern California Association of Governments

SCEW Small Construction Erosivity Waiver

SIP State Implementation Plan

SO<sub>2</sub> Sulfur dioxide SR State Route

SWPPP Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TCWG Transportation Conformity Working Group

U.S. United States

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service VOCS Volatile Organic Compounds

Appendix F

Response to Public Comments (July 1, 2015—July 30, 2015)

<u>Comment 1</u>: Mr. Michael Tadayon, property owner (phone conversation with Marcia Rose, County of Riverside, July 14, 2015).

Mr. Tadayon contacted Marcia Rose, Senior Environmental Planner, County of Riverside, regarding the project. Mr. Tadayon expressed concern about the project's potential impact to his property.

Response 1: A follow-up email was sent from the County on July 14, 2015. An email with a link to the environmental document including maps was sent to Mr. Tadayon on July 15, 2015. In a July 18, 2015 email, Mr. Tadayon requested a map detailing the angle at which the road goes through his property. A map was emailed to Mr. Tadayon on August 4, 2015. Mr. Tadayon left a message with Dokken Engineering on August 7, 2015. Dokken Engineering called and left a follow-up message on August 10, 2015.

Subject: Attachments:

FW: Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project; RE: Question from Michele Tadayon Exhibit\_Tadayon.pdf; Exhibit\_Tadayon.jpg

From: Cherry Brent

Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 10:20 AM

To: 'smtaccessla@verizon.net'

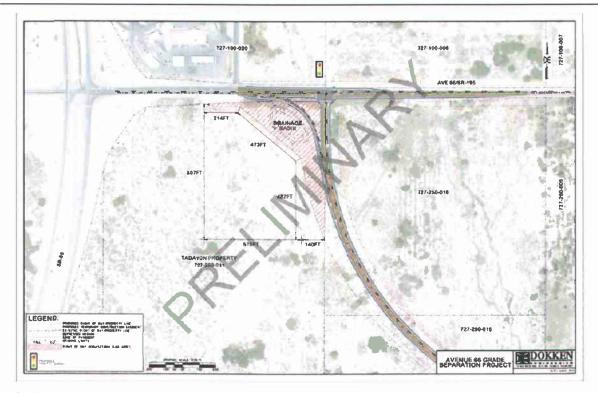
Cc: 'CSTALEY@rctima.org'; Rose, Marcia Frances (MFROSE@rctima.org); Juann Ramos; Namat Hosseinion

(nhosseinion@dokkenengineering.com)

Subject: Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project; RE: Question from Michele Tadayon

#### Hello Ms. Tadayon:

Attached is an exhibit showing where the project would be located on your property. Dimensions are included along with the estimated acres. The purpose of the project is to construct a new route over State Route 111 and the railroad to improve access and allow traffic to cross while trains are passing. Please let us know if you have any questions.



Regards,
Cherry Brent
Associate Environmental Planner
DOKKEN ENGINEERING
110 Blue Ravire Road, Surte 200, Folsom, CA \$5680
Phone (916) 858-0642 Fax: (916) 858-0643

Date: July 18, 2015 at 8:24:53 PM PDT To: "Staley, Scott" < CSTALEY@rctlma.org>

Reply-To: MICHELE S TADION < smtaccessla@verizon.net>

Hello Scott.

Please send me a pathagrophy plane detailing what angele the road goes through my property ,how much of my land is needed, another words exact dimensions in detail.

What is the purpose of this road (project)?

Where does it end/

Thank you . Michele Tadayon .

On Friday, July 17, 2015 10:19 AM, "Staley, Scott" < CSTALEY@rctima.org> wrote:

#### Hello Micheal.

This is Scott Staley. Sorry it's taken me awhile to get back to you. I hope the information the team has provided clarifies the proposed project and impacts to your property. Let me know if it does not.

#### Begin forwarded message:

From: Cherry Brent < cbrent@dokkenengineering.com >

Subject: RE: Avenue 66th Grade Separation Project Public Circulation: Question from Mr. Michael

Tadayon-

Date: July 15, 2015 at 3:27:23 PM PDT

To: "smtaccessla@verizon.net" <smtaccessla@verizon.net>

Cc: "Rose, Marcia Frances (MFROSE@rctima.org)" < MFROSE@rctima.org>, "CSTALEY@rctima.org" < CSTALEY@rctima.org>, Juann Ramos < iramos@dokkenengineering.com>, Namat Hosseinion < nhosseinion@dokkenengineering.com>

#### Mr. Tadayon,

As a follow-up to your inquiry on the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project, Marcia Rose at Riverside County requested that we provide to you a link to the environmental document. Please use the link below to download. We also wanted to clarify that the 0.06 acre of impact mentioned was incorrect and was for a different assessor's parcel number.

The environmental document includes maps of the project. Figure 3 of the document shows the proposed project and your parcel location.

https://zendto.dokkenengineering.com/pickup.php?claimID=CVofJdgr94gsWAxv&claimPasscode=fQcCk5FhRCTrZTBr&emailAddr=cbrent%40dokkenengineering.com

Thank you, Cherry Brent Associate Environmental Planner DOKKEN ENGINEERING 110 Blue Ravine Road, Suite 200, Folsom, CA 95630 Phone: (916) 858-0642 - Fax: (916) 858-0643 From:

Rose, Marcia Frances < MFROSE@rctlma.org>

Sent

Tuesday, July 14, 2015 2:38 PM

To:

'smtaccessla@verizon.net'

Cc:

Staley, Scott

Subject:

Avenue 66th Grade Separation Project Public Circulation: Question from Mr. Michael

Tadayon-

Attachments:

1822\_Notice\_061115\_englishpublish.docx

#### Dear Mr. Tadayon:

Per your call this afternoon, you indicated you received the Notice of Intent (NOI) to circulate the Initial Study/MND for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project.

You are concerned about impact to the APN: 727250011( Shahram Tadayon) property. According to the Community Impact Assessment, your property will be slightly impacted at the northwest tip by 0.06 acres.

You are welcome to comment on this project. Please send all comments to my attention by July 30, 2015.

Please call the Project Manager, Scott Staley (951-955-2092) to discuss further questions.

And you are welcome to call me, if you need me to send you the Initial Study/MND or other technical reports that are open to the public during circulation.

Thank you,

Marcia Frances Rose, M.S., PMP
Senior Transportation Planner
Riverside County Transportation Department- Environmental Division
Riverside County - Transportation and Land Management Agency
3525 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501
951-955-1505

<u>Comment 2:</u> Molly A. Penberth, Manager, Division of Land Resource Protection, Department of Conservation (July 30, 2015)



State of California - Natural Resources Agency Department of Conservation Division of Land Resource Protection 801 K Street - MS 18-01 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 324-0850 - FAX (916) 327-3430

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor John M. Lowrie, Assistant Director

July 30, 2015

VIA EMAIL: mfrose@rctima.org

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose Senior Environmental Planner Transportation Department-Environmental Division 3525 14th Street Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Ms. Rose:

AVENUE 66 GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT; SCH# 201451063

The Department of Conservation's (Department) Division of Land Resource Protection (Division) has reviewed the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration submitted by the County of Riverside (County). The Division monitors farmland conversion on a statewide basis and administers the California Land Conservation (Williamson) Act and other agricultural land conservation programs. We offer the following comments and recommendations with respect to the proposed project.

#### **Project Description**

The project proposes to construct a new grade separation and roadway to cross the Union Pacific Railroad and Highway 111 from Avenue 66 to Lincoln Street in the community of Mecca. The total length of the project is approximately 1.7 miles. The project area has historically been used for agricultural production and currently the area east of the railroad is planted with bell peppers. The Department of Conservation's Division of Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program classifies the project site as Prime Farmland and Farmland of Local Importance.

A portion of the project site (assessor's parcel number 727-272-021) is currently under Williamson Act contract. The current contract is in the process of non-renewal; however, the possibility exists that the contract will still be valid when the project receives approval.

#### **Public Acquisition Notification Process**

The Williamson Act statute states that public agencies shall notify the Director of the Department, before making a decision to acquire property located in an agricultural preserve (Government Code(GC) §51291(b)). To date, the Department has not received the required notice. The effect of GC §51291(b) is to enable the acquiring public agency to evaluate the ramifications of purchasing land located in an agricultural preserve. The manner in which property acquisition is followed is important as purchase by a public agency does not, by itself, nullify a Williamson Act contract. If the acquisition is not made in compliance with § 51295, the contract will stay on the land and the acquiring agency may incur additional costs and time delays if the contract must be removed via a different mechanism. The Department will be in a better position to assist the County in accomplishing its goal, if the Department is provided the pre-acquisition and post-acquisition notices required by § 51291.

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose July 30, 2015 Page 2 of 2

It is important that the notice come to the Department before the County begins negotiating with landowners. In order for the County to meet the notice requirements and facilitate the project, it should directly notify the Director of the Department of Conservation of its intent to acquire land located within an agricultural preserve for the above mentioned project.

Enclosed for your benefit is a copy of the Public Acquisition Notification Provisions of the Williamson Act, which we offer as a guide for the public process. Notice is required in the following instances:

- Notice before making a decision to acquire property located in an agricultural preserve;
- Notice within 10 days when the property is actually acquired;
- 3. Notice if the public entity proposes any significant changes to the acquisition; and
- Notice after acquisition if the acquiring public agency decides not to acquire the property for the intended purpose.

As part of the notice process (GC § 51292(a)), the County will provide findings and support information to the Department that the location of the project is not based primarily on the lower cost of acquiring agricultural land and that there is no other land within or outside of the preserve on which it is reasonably feasible to locate the public improvement.

#### **Department Comments**

The Department suggests that in order for the County to meet the notice requirements and facilitate the project, it should directly notify the Director of the Department of Conservation of its intent to acquire land located within an agricultural preserve for the above mentioned project. The Department also suggests that the County mitigate for the loss of farmland impacted by the proposed project.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project, Mitigated Negative Declaration. Please provide this Department with notices of any future hearing dates as well as any staff reports pertaining to this project. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Farl Grundy, Environmental Planner at (916) 324-7347 or via email at Farl.Grundy@conservation.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Molly A. Penberth, Manager

Division of Land Resource Protection

Conservation Support Unit

Molly Africath

**Enclosure** 

cc: State Clearinghouse

В

<u>Comment 2A</u>: A portion of the project site (assessor's parcel number 727-272-021) is currently under Williamson Act contract. The current contract is in the process of non-renewal; however, the possibility exists that the contract will still be valid when the project receives approval.

The Williamson Act statute states that public agencies shall notify the Director of the Department, before making a decision to acquire property located in an agricultural preserve (Government Code (GC) §5129(b). To date, the Department has not received the required notice. The effect GC §51291(b) is to enable the acquiring public agency to evaluate the ramifications of purchasing land located in an agricultural preserve. The manner in which property acquisition is followed is important as purchase by a public agency does not, by itself, nullify a Williamson Act contract. If the acquisition is not made in compliance with §51295, the contract will stay on the land and the acquiring agency may incur additional costs and time delays if the contract must be removed via a different mechanism. The Department will be in a better position to assist the County in accomplishing its goal, if the Department is provided the pre-acquisition and post-acquisition notices required by §51291.

Response 2A: Assessor's parcel number 727-272-021 is currently owned by the County of Riverside. Pre-acquisition notices are therefore not required related to the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project. Additionally, after re-review of the project area, project activities can be conducted outside of this parcel. The Figures 3 and 4 have been updated accordingly. Section II. Agriculture and Forest Resources, answer "b" was revised as follows:

b) No Impact. The project footprint does not go onto Williamson Act Contract land. While parcel 727-272-021 is nearby and in current non-renewal, the project does not require work within it.

<u>Comment 2B</u>: Enclosed for your benefit is a copy of the Public Acquisition Notification Provisions of the Williamson Act, which we offer as a guide for the public process . . . [a]s part of the notice process (GC §51292(a), the County will provide findings and support information to the Department that the location of the project is not based primarily on the lower cost of acquiring agricultural land and that there is no other land within or outside of the preserve on which it is reasonably feasible to locate the public improvement.

Response 2B: Enclosures were not found, however, contact was made with Farl Grundy, Environmental Planner, Department of Conservation, to ask if particular forms are needed for the notice. Mr. Grundy directed the environmental consultant, Dokken Engineering, to the webpage <a href="http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/lca/basic contract provisions/Pages/public acquisitions.aspx">http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/lca/basic contract provisions/Pages/public acquisitions.aspx</a> to download the Public Acquisition Notification Procedures-A Step by Step Guide and related example materials.

As a result of the County's further review of the project activities and the location of parcel 727-272-021, it was determined that the project footprint does not go onto this parcel or other Williamson Act contract land. Pre-acquisition notices are therefore not required related to the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project.

<u>Comment 2C:</u> Please provide this Department with notices of any future hearing dates as well as any staff reports pertaining to this project.

<u>Response 2C:</u> The Department of Conservation will be notified of future hearing dates, as well as the circulation of public documents related to the project.

Comment 3: Mark L. Johnson, Director of Engineering, Coachella Valley Water District (July 31, 2015).



Established in 1918 as a public agency

#### Coachella Valley Water District

Directors:
John P. Powell, Jr., President - Div. 3
Peter Nelson, Vice President - Div. 4
G. Patrick O'Dowd - Div 1
Ed Pack - Div. 2
Cástulo R. Estrada - Div. 5

Officers: .im Barrett, General Manager Julia Fernandez, Board Secretary

Best Best & Krieger LLP, Afforneys

July 31, 2015

File: 0074.302 0074.308 1150.01.11

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Ms. Rose:

Subject: Revised Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project

Thank you for affording the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) the opportunity to review the Revised Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project in the community of Mecca, Riverside County. CVWD provides domestic water, wastewater, recycled water, irrigation/drainage, regional stormwater protection and groundwater management services to a population of nearly 300,000 throughout the Coachella Valley.

At this time, CVWD submits the following comments regarding the proposed project:

#### Irrigation Facilities

There are existing U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) facilities not shown on the development plans. There may be conflicts with these facilities. CVWD requests that Riverside County withhold issuance of grading permits until CVWD has reviewed the proposed development, related impacts to the USBR facilities, associated right-of-way, and provided Riverside County with written confirmation that there is no interference. The USBR conflicts include, but are not limited to, Lateral 94.2 and Lateral 94.2-3.6.

This area is underlain with agricultural drainage lines. There are CVWD and private facilities not shown on the development plans. There may be conflicts with these facilities. CVWD requests that Riverside County withhold issuance of grading permits until CVWD has reviewed the proposed development and related impacts to the CVWD and private facilities, associated right-of-way, and provided Riverside County with written confirmation that there is no interference. The private conflicts include, but are not limited to: Johnson Mecca Drain; Lincoln Street Open Channel; and Private Tile Drain 228.

Α

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose County of Riverside

2

July 31, 2015

#### Stormwater Facilities

The project lies within the Eastern Coachella Valley Master Stormwater Planning Project, which will provide flood protection to the communities of Thermal, Vista Santa Rosa, Oasis, Mecca and North Shore. CVWD is in the early stages of this planning effort. Upon completion of the design phase, developers and property owners within the area may be required to dedicate right-of-way for flood control facilities and/or participate in the financing of a portion of these facilities.

CVWD's Stormwater Master Plan for the Mecca area will require future modification of the existing Lincoln Street Stormwater Channel. The modification may require a right-of-way width of approximately 180 feet (west to east) at the proposed channel crossing for the project; please consider this during planning stage of project. The 100-year peak flow at this location is approximately 7,000 cubic-feet per second.

The County has proposed a bridge or culvert crossing over the existing Lincoln Street Channel. The bridge/culvert required for the channel crossing should be built to the ultimate condition per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan. CVWD is coordinating with the County to design and construct the remaining additional capacity (culverts) to convey the entire 100-year peak flow per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan.

Please update and revise the project description to include CVWD's proposed 10-cell box culvert across the Lincoln Street Channel as part of the proposed project.

#### **Wastewater Facilities**

Please include the 12-inch and 18-inch sewer force mains located at the Avenue 66/ Lincoln Street intersection as part of this project. Also, please include a proposed 6-inch sewer force main along the eastern roadway shoulder of Lincoln Street from Avenue 66 to Avenue 68 as part of the project description.

#### **Domestic Water Facilities**

There is an existing CVWD 12-inch-diameter domestic water main within Hammond Road that may need to be relocated to accommodate the proposed project.

Also, please include CVWD's proposed 30-inch domestic water main within the roadway alignment/project area between State Route 195/Avenue 66 to Avenue 66/Home Avenue in Mecca as part of the project description.

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E

July 31, 2015

Also, please see the enclosed previous CVWD comment letter dated June 16, 2014 regarding this project.

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If you have any questions, please call Luke Stowe, Environmental Supervisor, extension 2545.

Sincerely.

Mark L. Johnson Director of Engineering

Enclosure/1/as

LS: kf\Env Srvs\Env\2015-07\RIVCO Avc 66 Grade Sep



#### Comment 3A:

#### **Irrigation Facilities**

There are existing US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) facilities not shown on the development plans. There may be conflicts with these facilities. CVWD requests that Riverside County withhold issuance of grading permits until CVWD has reviewed the proposed development, related impacts to the USBR facilities, associated right-of-way, and provided Riverside County with written confirmation that there is no interference. The USBR conflicts include, but are not limited to, Lateral 94.2 and Lateral 94.2-3.6.

This area is underlain with agricultural drainage lines. There are CVWD and private facilities not shown on the development plans. There may be conflicts with these facilities. CVWD requests that Riverside County withhold issuance of grading permits until CVWD has reviewed the proposed development and related impacts to the CVWD and private facilities, associated right-of-way, and provided Riverside County with written confirmation that there is no interference. The private conflicts include, but are not limited to: Johnson Mecca Drain; Lincoln Street Open Channel; and Private Tile Drain 228.

#### **Stormwater Facilities**

The project lies within the Eastern Coachella Valley Master Stormwater Planning Project, which will provide flood protection to the communities of Thermal, Vista Santa Rosa, Oasis, Mecca and North Shore. CVWD is in the early stages of this planning effort. Upon completion of the design phase, developers and property owners within the area may be required to dedicate right-of-way for flood control facilities and/or participate in the financing of a portion of these facilities.

CVWD's Stormwater Master Plan for the Mecca area will require future modification of the existing Lincoln Street Stormwater Channel. The modification may require a right-of-way width of approximately 180 feet (west to east) at the proposed channel crossing for the project; please consider this during planning stage of project. The 100-year peak flow at this location is approximately 7,000 cubic-feet per second.

Response 3A: Thank you for your comments. The County will continue utility coordination during the Final Design phase of the project to address Lateral 94.2, Lateral 94.2-3.6, the Johnson Mecca Drain, Lincoln Street Open Channel, Private Tile Drain 228, CVWD 18-inch-diameter sewer force main along Avenue 66, and the existing CVWD 12-inch-diameter domestic water main within Hammond Road. Please also see Responses 3B, 3C, and 3D for related information.

<u>Comment 3B:</u> The bridge/culvert required for the channel crossing should be built to the ultimate condition per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan. CVWD is coordinating with the County to design and construct the remaining additional capacity (culverts) to convey the entire 100-year peak flow per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan.

Response 3B: The County is coordinating with CVWD to build the bridge/culvert to the ultimate condition per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan. The Final IS/MND project description now includes the sentence, "The project would include the construction of a bridge or

culvert to span the Lincoln Street Stormwater Channel's ultimate condition per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan."

The bridge or culvert to span the Lincoln Street Stormwater Channel's ultimate condition per the completed Mecca/North Shore Stormwater Master Plan is within the footprint of the project as proposed. Modifications to the analysis in the Initial Study were not necessary.

<u>Comment 3C:</u> Please include the 12-inch and 18-inch sewer force mains located at the Avenue 66/Lincoln Street intersection as part of this project. Also, please include a proposed 6-inch sewer force main along the eastern roadway shoulder of Lincoln Street from Avenue 66 to Avenue 68 as part of the project description.

Response 3C: The County will continue coordination with CVWD for the existing facilities that may be affected by the Avenue 66 Grade Separation.

<u>Comment 3D:</u> There is an existing CVWD 12-inch-diameter domestic water main within Hammond Road that may need to be relocated to accommodate the proposed project.

<u>Response 3D:</u> The County will coordinate with CVWD during Final Design of the Avenue 66 Grade Separation to address utility work that may be needed with an existing CVWD 12-inch-diameter domestic water main within Hammond Road.

<u>Comment 3E:</u> Also, please include CVWD's proposed 30-inch domestic water main within the roadway alignment/project area between State Route 195/Avenue 66 to Avenue 66/Home Avenue in Mecca as part of the project description.

<u>Response 3E:</u> The Final Initial Study's project description now includes CVWD's proposed 30-inch domestic water main within the roadway alignment/project area between State Route 195/Avenue 66 to Avenue 66/Home Avenue in Mecca as part of the project description.



## THE TORRES MARTINEZ DESERT CAHUILLA INDIANS P.O. Box 1160

Thermal, CA 92274 (760) 397-0300 - FAX (760) 397-8146

July 27, 2015

Marcia Frances Rose Riverside County Transportation Department Environmental Division 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside, CA 92501

Re: Revised Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project

Dear Ms. Rose:

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (TMDCI) has the following comments to the Revised Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project:

Meeting with County, Tribe and Caltrans: In the March 10, 2015 meeting with the County, Tribe and Caltrans it was discussed that due to the known cultural resources in the area that the CEQA document would incorporate a cultural monitoring requirement. The County agreed to incorporate provisions for cultural monitoring as a mitigation measure in the CEQA document.

As per Gary Jones with Caltrans: Because the monitoring requirements are listed in the federal level documents, they are required for the project overall, even if the CEQA documents don't mention them. At our meeting in March, Gary Jones recommended to RCTD's consultant that they include the monitoring measures in their CEQA documents for consistency, but it appears they did not choose to do it. This does not change the fact that monitoring is required under the federal documents; it just would be cleaner to have the entire paperwork match.

Cultural Study: Please forward a copy of the revised cultural study which should have been amended to include an indication of cultural sensitivity in the area as discussed in the March 10, 2015 meeting.

В

Marcia Frances Rose Page 2 of 2

Please feel free to contact Robert Powell, GIS Analyst by email at <a href="mailto:rpowell@tmtanf.org">rpowell@tmtanf.org</a> at or phone at (760)397-0300, extension 1254 with any questions or comments.

//

Roland G. Ferrer Planning Director

C: Gary Jones, Caltrans

Gary Resvaloso, Torres Martinez M.L.D. Russell Williams, County of Riverside <u>Comment 4A:</u> Meeting with County, Tribe and Caltrans: In the March 10, 2015 meeting with the County, Tribe and Caltrans it was discussed that due to the known cultural resources in the area the at the CEQA document would incorporate a cultural monitoring requirement. The County agreed to incorporate provisions for cultural monitoring as a mitigation measure in the CEQA document.

As per Gary Jones with Caltrans: Because the monitoring requirements are listed in the federal level documents, they are required for the project overall, even if the CEQA documents don't mention them. At our meeting in March, Gary Jones recommended to RCTD's consultant that they include the monitoring measures in their CEQA documents for consistency, but it appears they did not choose to do it. This does not change the fact that monitoring is required under the federal documents; it just would be cleaner to have the entire paperwork match.

Response 4A: Thank you for your comment. Additional environmental commitments, Measure CUL-6 and CUL-7 included below, were added to clearly indicate potential for buried deposits. This is in addition to Measures CUL-1 through CUL-5, which were already included in the draft Initial Study (as CUL-1 through CUL-3). The measures below are what have been included and updated in the Final Initial Study.

CUL-1: Within State Right-of-Way, if buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, it is Caltrans policy that work stop within 60 feet of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. The archaeological monitor must notify the Caltrans District Environmental Branch Chief (DEBC), Gabrielle Duff, if buried cultural resources are encountered.

CUL-2: Outside of State Right-of-Way, if buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, work will stop within 60 feet of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. The archaeological monitor must notify the Riverside County Transportation Department Project Manager, Scott Staley, at (951) 955-6800, if buried cultural resources are encountered.

CUL-3: Sampling will be conducted on bores that result in intact stratigraphic samples from which fossils can be recovered. Samples may be collected during geotechnical studies during final design, or alternatively, collected from the sidewalls of trenches dug for geotechnical investigations or during construction.

CUL-4: Within State Right-of-Way, in the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the District 8 Division of Environmental Planning; Gabrielle Duff, DEBC: (909)383-6933 and Gary Jones, DNAC: (909)383-7505. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

CUL-5: Outside State Right-of-Way, in the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the Riverside County Transportation Department Project Manager, Scott Staley, at (951) 955-6800. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

CUL-6: Within State Right-of-Way, all ground-disturbing activities must be monitored by an archaeological and Native American monitor (approved by the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians [TMDCI]). The archaeological and Native American monitor must attend the pre-construction meeting. Both monitors and the Caltrans DEBC, Gabrielle Duff, must be notified 5 days in advance of ground-disturbing activities. Additionally, the Caltrans DEBC must be notified within 24 hours of construction completion within State Right-of-Way. A monitoring report must be submitted to Caltrans Cultural Studies within 30 days of end of construction in State Right-of-Way.

CUL-7: Outside State Right-of-Way, all ground-disturbing activities must be monitored by an archaeological and Native American monitor (approved by the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians [TMDCI]). The archaeological and Native American monitor must attend the pre-construction meeting. Both monitors must be notified 5 days in advance of ground-disturbing activities.

Comment 4B: Please forward a copy of the revised cultural study which should have been amended to include an indication of cultural sensitivity in the area as discussed in the March 10, 2015 meeting.

Response 4B: The County is forwarding a copy of the revised cultural study and the Final Initial Study to the Torrez-Martinez Tribe.

Comment 5: Thomas S. Freeman, Chief Administrative Officer & Executive Vice President, Chandi Group USA (July 6, 2015).



CHANDI GROUP

July 6, 2015

Marcia Frances Rose Transportation Department-TLMA 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside, CA. 92501

Re: Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project

Dear Ms. Rose:

Thank you for your letter of July 1, 2015 which we received on July 6, 2015 here in our corporate offices in the City of Indio. We will review the documents at the Mecca-North Shore Public Library, 91260 Avenue 66. Mecca, CA.

Initial review of the information provided has Chandi Group USA in support of the draft initial study and the proposed mitigated negative declaration. Should you have additional information or questions please contact me at <a href="mailto:treeman@chandigroupusa.com">treeman@chandigroupusa.com</a> or via 760.625.3703.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Freeman

Chief Administrative Officer & Executive Vice President

Cc: President & CEO Chandi Group USA 4<sup>th</sup> District County Supervisors TLMA Director Response 5: Thank you for your response letter. The County acknowledges your support of the draft initial study and the proposed mitigated negative declaration.

Comment 6: Donald Vargas, Environmental Regulatory Compliance Administrator, Imperial Irrigation District (July 28, 2015).



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**GS-ERCS** 

July 28, 2015

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose Senior Environmental Planner Transportation Department – Environmental Division County of Riverside 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside. CA 92501

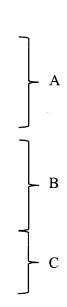
SUBJECT: Ave. 66 Grade Separation Project Revised IS and Proposed MND

Dear Ms. Rose

On July 7, 2015 we received from the Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency - Transportation Department, a revised Initial Study (IS) and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project. The project, which proposes to construct a new grade separation and road to cross the Union Pacific Railroad and Highway 111 from Avenue 66 to Lincoln Street in the community of Mecca, CA; for a total length of 1.5 miles, has been modified to begin its alignment ±1,100 ft. east of SR-86 (±2,600 ft. west of Lincoln Street); consequently the corresponding technical studies have been revised.

The Imperial Irrigation District has reviewed the IS and proposed MND and in addition to the comments contained in our letter on the original IS/MND dated June 10, 2014 (see attached letter), has the following comments:

- 1. The project affects five (5) intersection areas in which the IID has electric transmission and/or distribution facilities. Please be advised that additional IID electrical infrastructure could potentially be needed due to the characteristics of the project and that proper clearance must be maintained to meet California GO 95 specifications. IID Energy La Quinta Customer Operations, 81-600 Avenue 58, La Quinta, CA 92253, telephone no. (760) 398-5841, should be contacted for additional information regarding IID electric facilities in and around the project (see attached maps) as well as clearance restrictions.
- 2. It is important to note that due to the fact that the relocation of existing utilities (i.e. electricity) is a consequence of the grade separation project, the County of Riverside will be responsible for any environmental mitigation required for the relocation of IID facilities, and as such, has included the relocation of utilities in the project's description included in the revised IS and MND. Thus to avoid project delays and downtime, it is essential to mindful of this and coordinate our efforts as the project evolves into the construction phase and the relocation of IID infrastructure is undertaken.
- Any construction or operation on IID property or within its existing and proposed right of way or easements will require an encroachment permit, including but not limited to: surface improvements such as proposed new streets, driveways, parking lots,



Mr. Marcia Frances Rose July 28, 2015 Page 2

landscape; and all water, sewer, storm water, or any other above ground or underground utilities (e.g. power lines). A copy of the encroachment permit application is included in the District's Developer Project Guide 2008, and can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=2328">http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=2328</a>. Instructions for the completion of an IID encroachment application can be found at the following website: <a href="http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=3306">http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=3306</a>. The IID Real Estate Section should be contacted at (760) 339-9239 for additional information regarding encroachment permits.

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

D

4. Any new, relocated, modified or reconstructed IID facilities required for and by the project (which can include but is not limited to electrical utility substations, electrical transmission and distribution lines, canals, drains, etc.) need to be included as part of the project's CEQA and/or NEPA documentation, environmental impact analysis and mitigation. Failure to do so will result in postponement of any construction and/or modification of IID facilities until such time as the environmental documentation is amended and environmental impacts are fully mitigated. Any and all mitigation necessary as a result of the construction, relocation and/or upgrade of IID facilities is the responsibility of the project proponent.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 760-482-3609 or by e-mail at dvargas@iid.com. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Respectfully,

Donald Vargas

Environmental Regulatory Compliance Administrator

Kevin Kelley – General Manager
Kristine Fontaine – Asst. General Manager
Mike Pachaco – Manager, Water Dept.
Tins Shields – Co-Manager, Water Dept.
Carl Shills – Manager, Energy Dept.
Vance Taylor – Asst. General Counsel
Tom King – Deputy Energy Manager, Engineering & Operations
Paul G. Peschel – Manager Planning & Engineering, Energy Dept.
Angela Evans – Manager Distribution Services & Maintenance Operations
Oscar Kebriti – Supt. Gen. Project Implementation, Energy Dept.
Michael P. Kemp – Superintendent, Real Estate & Environmental Compliance
Randy Gray – Interim Supervisor, Real Estate
Bruce Wilcox – Manager Environmental and Salton Sea Programs

Comment 6A: The project affects five (5) intersection areas in which the IID has electronic transmission and/or distribution facilities. Please be advised that additional IID electrical infrastructure could

potentially be needed due to the characteristics of the project and that proper clearance must be maintained to meet California GO 95 specifications. IID Energy La Quinta Customer Operations, 81-600 Avenue 58, La Quinta, CA 92253, telephone no. (760) 398-5841, should be contacted for additional information regarding IID electric facilities in and around the project (see attached maps) as well as clearance restrictions.

Comment 6B: It is important to note that due to the fact that the relocation of existing utilities (i.e. electricity) is a consequence of the grade separation project, the County of Riverside will be responsible for any environmental mitigation required for the relocation of IID facilities, and as such, has included the relocation of utilities in the project's description included in the revised IS and MND. Thus to avoid project delays and downtime, it is essential to [be] mindful of this and coordinate our efforts as the project evolves into the construction phase and the relocation of IID infrastructure is undertaken.

Response 6A and 6B: Thank you for your comment. The County will coordinate with IID regarding any and all conflicts with existing IID facilities as the project evolves into design and construction phases. The relocation of utilities is included in the project description.

Comment 6C: Any construction or operation on IID property or within its existing and proposed right of way or easements will require an encroachment permit, including but not limited to: surface improvements such as proposed new streets, driveways, parking lots, landscape; and all water, sewer, storm water, or any other above ground or underground utilities (e.g. power lines). A copy of the encroachment permit application is included in the District's Developer Project Guide 2008, and can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=2328">http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=2328</a>. Instructions for the completion of an IID encroachment application can be found at the following http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=3306. The IID Real Estate Section should be contacted at (760) 339-9239 for additional information regarding encroachment permits.

Response 6C: The County will coordinate with IID regarding any encroachment permits required for the project.

Comment 6D: Any new, relocated, modified or reconstructed IID facilities required for and by the project (which can include but is not limited to electrical utility substations, electrical transmission and distribution lines, canals, drains, etc.) need to be included as part of the project's CEQA and/or NEPA documentation, environmental impact analysis and mitigation. Failure to do so will result in postponement of any construction and/or modification of IID facilities until such time as the environmental documentation is amended and environmental impacts are fully mitigated. Any and all mitigation necessary as a result of the construction, relocation and/or upgrade of IID facilities is the responsibility of the project proponent.

Response 6D: Utility relocations are included as part of the project CEQA and NEPA documents. As stated in the project description, "Existing utilities, including electricity, phone, gas, and irrigation would be relocated or protected in place." Utility coordination will continue during of the Final Design phase of the project and will include a prior rights determination. Mitigation responsibilities will be dependent on the prior rights determination results.



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



July 31, 2015

Marcia Rose Riverside County 3525 14th Street Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project

SCH#: 2014051063

Dear Marcia Rose:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on July 30, 2015, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely

Scott Morgan

Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures

cc: Resources Agency

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 8044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044 TEL 916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov

#### **Document Details Report** State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2014051063

Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project Project Title

Lead Agency Riverside County

> Type MND Mitigated Negative Declaration

Description The County proposes to construct a new grade separation and roadway to cross the Union Pacific

Railroad and Highway 111 from Avenue 66 to Lincoln Street in the community of Mecca. The total length of the project is approximately 1.5 miles. Currently, the only UPRR crossing in the area is at 4th Street; because the 4th Street crossing is at-grade, east-west travel is delayed when trains cross.

**Lead Agency Contact** 

Name Marcia Rose **Riverside County** Agency

951 955 1505 Phone

emali

3525 14th Street Address

> City Riverside

State CA Zip 92501

Base SBB&M

**Project Location** 

County Riverside

City

Region

Lat/Long 33° 33' 54.5" N / 116° 4' 24.8" W

Cross Streets SR 111 and Avenue 66

Parcel No. 727-272-027, 727-272-010, 727-250-016

Township Range 9E Section 7/8

Proximity to:

Highways Hwy 111, 195, 86

**Airports** 

Railways

Waterways Lincoln Storm Water Channel Saul Martinez, Mecca ES Schools Land Use Z: A-1, W-2, and CP-S

Project Issues Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Flood Plain/Flooding; Geologic/Seismic; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality;

Wetland/Riparian, Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects

Agencies

Resources Agency, Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6, Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 8; Air Resources Board, Transportation Projects; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission; Public Utilities Commission

Date Received 07/01/2015

Start of Review 07/01/2015

End of Review 07/30/2015

#### Comment 7:

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

#### Response 7:

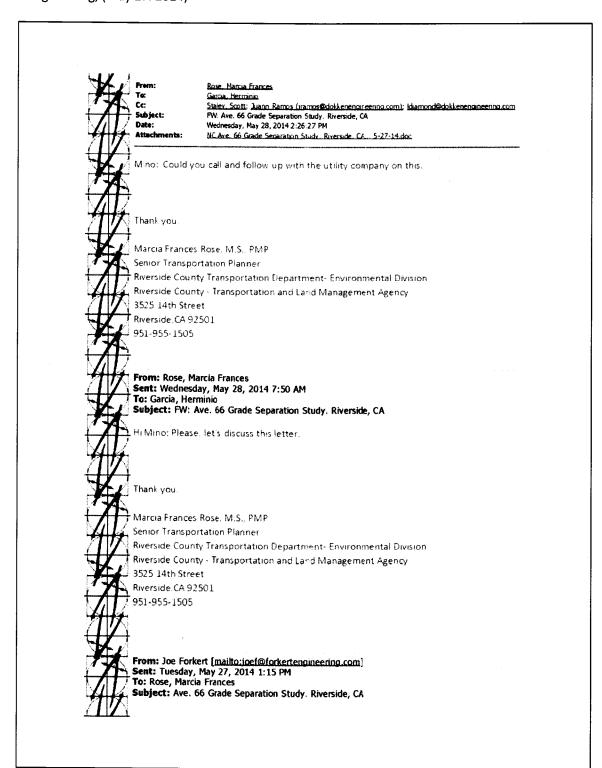
The County has included this July 31, 2015 letter from the State Clearinghouse. Thank you.

### Appendix G

# Response to Public Comments on Previous Alignment (May 21, 2014—June 21, 2014)

This appendix includes public comments received on the draft *Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration* issued in May 2014. These comments are included for informational purposes. The May 2014 draft analyzed the potential impacts from a similar alignment that connected to Avenue 66 approximately 2,500 feet east of State Route 86. Upon receipt of public comments, the County made revisions to the Build Alternative. The revised Build Alternative was subsequently analyzed in the *Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project Revised Draft Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration* circulated from July 1, 2015 to July 30, 2015.

<u>Comment 1</u>: Joe Forlerk, Forkert Engineering & Surveying, Inc., Consultant and Liaison to AT&T – Legacy T Engineering, (May 27. 2014)



Marcia...

Attached is the AT&T Long Distance No Conflict Letter for this project.

Joseph Forkert
Inquiries
Forkert Engineering & Surveying, Inc.
Consultant and Liaison to AT&T - Legacy T Engineering
22311 Brookhurst Street, Suite 203
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
Phone: 714-963-7964
ioef@forkertengineering.com

<u>Response 1</u>: Thank you for the response and No-Conflict Letter. Due to feedback received during the public circulation of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed project was modified to intersect farther west on State Route 195-Avenue 66. As a result of the change, the County circulated a Revised Draft Initial Study to discuss the anticipated environmental effects of the revised proposed Build Alternative.

<u>Comment 2</u>: Mr. Jose Cervantes and daughter (phone conversation with Marcia Rose, County of Riverside, May 28, 2014).

Mr. Cervantes and daughter contacted Marcia Rose, Senior Environmental Planner, County of Riverside, to say that he approved of the project. Ms. Rose informed Mr. Cervantes, via his daughter that he is welcome to view the environmental documents at the Riverside County Transportation Department or the Mecca-North Shore Public Library in Mecca. Ms. Rose encouraged Mr. Cervantes to write a letter to the Riverside County Transportation Department stating his position on the project.

Response 2: Thank you. The County welcomes your input and acknowledges your support of the original project alignment. Due to feedback received during the public circulation of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed project was modified to intersect farther west on State Route 195-Avenue 66. As a result of the change, the County circulated a Revised Draft Initial Study to discuss the anticipated environmental effects of the revised proposed Build Alternative.

<u>Comment 3:</u> Luke Stowe, Environmental Scientist, Coachella Valley Water District (May 28, 2014).

Luke Stowe contacted Marcia Rose to request an electronic copy of the IS/Proposed MND.

<u>Response 3:</u> Ms. Rose gave this information to Cherry Zamora at Dokken Engineering. Ms. Zamora called Mr. Stowe the same day to follow-up. Mr. Stowe said he no longer needed the electronic copy because he had just received the hardcopy in the mail.

Please see Comment # 11 for subsequent comments from Coachella Valley Water District.

#### Comment 4:

Ken Chiang, P.E., Utilities Engineer, Railroad Crossing and Engineering Section, Safety and Enforcement Division, California Public Utilities Commission (letter dated June 10, 2014).

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4<sup>TK</sup> STREET, SUITE 500 LOS ANGELES, CA 900°3

June 10, 2014

Marcia Rose County of Riverside 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside, CA 92501

Re: SCH 2014051063; Riverside County Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project - DMND

Dear Marcia

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has jurisdiction over the safety of highway-rail crossings (crossings) in California. The California Public Utilities Code requires Commission approval for the construction or alteration of crossings and grants the CPUC exclusive power on the design, alteration, and closure of crossings. The CPUC's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) is in receipt of the *draft Mitigated Negative Declaration* (DMND) for the proposed Riverside County (County) Avenue 66 Grade Separation project from the State Clearinghouse. According to the DMND, the County proposes to construct a new 1.5-mile grade-separated roadway crossing over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks and Highway 111 from Avenue 66 to Lincoln Street in the community of Mecca. Currently, the only UPRR crossing in the area is the nearby 4th Street at-grade crossing.

As part of its mission to reduce hazards associated with at-grade crossings, the CPUC's policy is to reduce the number of such crossing configurations. The project includes the construction of a new overhead roadway and new bridge. Due to serious rail safety concerns, especially given the number of trains, the rate of speed and the volume of vehicular traffic, CPUC staff is in support of grade separation of any of the new or existing rail crossings in this project to prevent vehicle/pedestrian vs. train collisions. This is the only way to guarantee no future at-grade crossing accidents.

Construction of a new public crossing or modification of an existing public crossing requires authorization from the Commission, through the formal application or the General Order (GO) 88-B request processes, respectively, in accordance with the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure. If interested parties do not reach agreement regarding proposed modifications, a Formal Application to the CPUC will be required in order to obtain authorization to implement the modifications. Prior to submission of a formal application or GO 88-B request, the County should arrange a diagnostic meeting with RCES, UPRR and interested parties to discuss relevant safety issues and requirements for authorization to construct a new crossing and/or alter the existing crossing. More information can be found at: <a href="http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/go88b.htm">http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/go88b.htm</a>.

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at 213-576-7085 or Sergio Licon@cpuc.ca.gov, or myself at <a href="mailto:vkc@cpuc.ca.gov">vkc@cpuc.ca.gov</a>, 213-576-7076.

Sincerely,

Ken Chiang, P.E. Utilities Engineer Rail Crossings Engineering Section Safety and Enforcement Division

CC: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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4B

<u>Comment 4A:</u> Due to serious rail safety concerns, especially given the number of trains, the rate of speed and the volume of vehicular traffic, CPUC staff is in support of grade separation of any of the new or existing rail crossings in this project to prevent vehicle/pedestrian vs. train collisions. This is the only way to guarantee no future at-grade crossing accidents.

Response 4A: The County acknowledges that CPUC is in support of a grade separation.

<u>Comment 4B:</u> Prior to submission of a formal application or GO 88-B request, the County should arrange a diagnostic meeting with RCES, UPRR and interested parties to discuss relevant safety issues and requirements for authorization to construct a new crossing and/or alter the existing crossing.

#### Response 4B:

Thank you for your comment. Based on previous coordination with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), a new crossing application will need to be approved by CPUC. The new crossing application will require a concurrence letter from the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). The UPRR requires near final plans before providing a concurrence letter. As a result, the County will continue coordination with both CPUC and UPRR as part of the final design phase.

Note that due to feedback received during the public circulation of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed project was modified to intersect farther west on State Route 195-Avenue 66. As a result of the change, the County circulated a Revised Draft Initial Study to discuss the anticipated environmental effects of the revised proposed Build Alternative.

#### Comment 5:

Donald Vargas, Environmental Analyst, Imperial Irrigation District (letter dated June 10, 2014).



www.iid.com

Executive-ES

June 10, 2014

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose Senior Environmental Planner Transportation Department - Environmental Division County of Riverside 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street Riverside, CA 92501

SUBJECT: Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project Draft IS/MND

Dear Ms. Rose:

On May 27, 2014 we received at our La Quinta Customer Operations offices, the Draft Initial Study (IS) and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project. The County of Riverside proposes to construct a new grade separation and road to cross the Union Pacific Railroad and Highway 111 from Avenue 66 to Lincoln Street in the community of Mecca, CA with a total length of 1.5 miles.

The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) has reviewed the Draft IS/MND and has the following comments:

- 1. IID policy dictated that any new, relocated, modified or reconstructed IID facilities required for and by a non-IID project (which can include but is not limited to electrical utility substations, electrical transmission and distribution lines, canals, drains, etc.) need to be included as part of the project's CEQA and/or NEPA documentation, environmental impact analysis and mitigation. Failure to do so will result in postponement of any construction and/or modification of IID facilities until such time as the environmental documentation is amended and environmental impacts are fully mitigated. Any and all mitigation necessary as a result of the construction, relocation and/or upgrade of IID facilities is the responsibility of the project proponent.
- Given that the relocation of existing utilities (i.e. electricity) is a consequence of the grade separation project and is included in the project's description, hence the County of Riverside, as the project proponent, is responsible for any mitigation required for the relocation of IID facilities. Thus, it is important to mindful of this fact

5A

5B

Ms. Marcia Frances Rose June 9, 2014 Page 2

as the project evolves into the construction phase and the relocation of IID infrastructure is undertaken.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 760-482-3609 or by e-mail at dvargas@iid.com. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Respectfully,

Donald Vargas

**Environmental Analyst** 

5B cont'd

Kevin Kelley – General Manager
Kristine Fontaine – Asst. General Manager & Interim Portfolio Management Officer
Carl Stills –Manager, Energy Dept.
Ismael Gomez – Interim Manager, Water Dept.
Vance Taylor – Asst. General Counsel
Tom King –Deputy Energy Manager, Engineering & Operations
Paul G. Peschel – Interim Manager Planning & Engineering, Energy Dept.
Angela Evans - Manager Distribution Services & Maintenance Operations
Juan Carlos Sandoval – Asst. Mgr., Transmission Expansion Development, Energy Dept.
Michael P. Kemp - Superintendent, Real Estate & Environmental
Shayne Ferber – Asst. Supervisor, Real Estate
Vikki Dee Bradshaw – Environmental Compilance Officer

Comment 5A: IID policy dictated that any new, relocated, modified or reconstructed IID facilities required for and by a non-IID project (which can include but is not limited to electrical utility substations, electrical transmission and distribution lines, canals, drains, etc.) need to be included as part of the project's CEQA and/or NEPA documentation, environmental impact analysis and mitigation. Failure to do so will result in posteponement of any construction and/or modification of IID facilities until such time as the environmental documentation is amended and environmental impacts are fully mitigated. Any and all mitigation necessary as a result of the construction, relocation and/or upgrade of IID facilities is the responsibility of the project proponent.

Response 5A: The various study areas discussed in the environmental document, including the cultural Area of Potential Effect/Project Area Limit, Biological Study Area, paleontological Project Study Area, noise study area, etc., include the areas anticipated for modification. Due to feedback received during the public circulation of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed project was modified to intersect farther west on State Route 195-Avenue 66. As a result of the change, the County circulated a Revised Draft Initial Study to discuss the anticipated environmental effects of the revised proposed Build Alternative. The Revised Draft IS/MND also includes the statement, "Existing utilities, including, electricity, phone, gas, and irrigation would be relocated or protected in place" in the project description.

Utility coordination will continue during of the Final Design phase of the project and will include a prior rights determination. Mitigation responsibilities will be dependent on the prior rights determination results.

<u>Comment 5B:</u> Given that the relocation of existing utilities (i.e. electricity) is a consequence of the grade separation project and is included in the project's description, hence the County of Riverside, as the project proponent, is responsible for any mitigation required for the relocation of IID facilities. Thus, it is important to mindful of this fact as the project evolves into the construction phase and the relocation of IID infrastructure is undertaken.

Response 5B: Thank you for your comment. Please see response to Comment 5A.

#### Comment 6:

Mark T. Deveau, Vice President, Chandi Group, USA (email dated June 16, 2014).

From: Mark Deveau

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 11:55 AM

To: Rose, Marcia Frances

Cc: Ariana Ayon; Susana Chandi; Nachhattar Chandi

Subject: RE: The Mecca Community Council Meeting 6- 11-2014: Follow up to your request - Avenue 66 Grade

Separation Project Importance: High

Good morning Marcia, please consider this electronic mail transmission of our formal response to the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project presented to the Mecca Community Meeting on June 11, 2014. We have attached an exhibit map that indicates our proposed road alignment in lieu of the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency presented "Build Alternative" road alignment, including a traffic signal at 66 Ave. We believe that our proposed road alignment will better serve both the residential and business communities in Mecca. In addition, our proposed road alignment along 66 Ave will synchronize with future new large scale commercial and residential developments planned for this area. For over ten years, our existing Mecca Travel Center serves as a local (food, fuel, etc.) resource for the Mecca residents, it has always been our goal to provide direct and easy access for them. We are available to meet with your planners and engineers to provide any details of our proposal. We trust that you will recognize the significance of our proposal and revise the road alignment for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project accordingly.

For our records, please reply to this email as confirmation of receipt.

Thank you,

Mark T. Deveau Vice President

**CHANDI GROUP USA, INC.** 

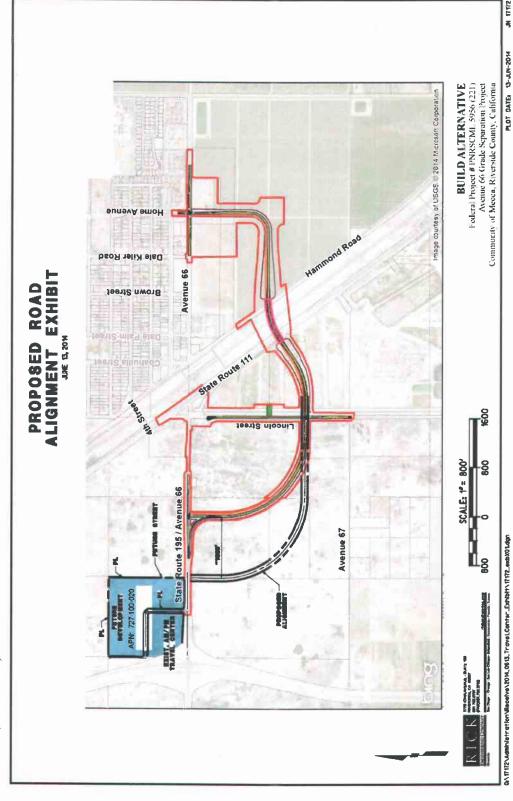
Office: 90480 66th Ave, Mecca, CA 92254 Mail: P.O. Box 2817, Indio, CA 92202

Land: 760.396.9260 Ext.203

Cell: 760.485.7752 Fax: 760.396.5245

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Comment 6: We have attached an exhibit map that indicates our proposed road alignment in lieu of the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency presented "Build Alternative" road alignment, including a traffic signal at 66 Ave. We believe that our proposed road alignment will better serve both the residential and business communities in Mecca. In addition, our proposed road alignment along 66 Ave will synchronize with future new large scale commercial and residential developments planned for this area. For over ten years, our existing Mecca Travel Center serves as a local (food, fuel, etc.) resource for the Mecca residents, it has always been our goal to provide direct and easy access for them. We are available to meet with your planners and engineers to provide any details of our proposal. We trust that you will recognize the significance of our proposal and revise the road alignment for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project accordingly.

#### Response 6:

Due to feedback received during the public circulation of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed project was modified to intersect farther west on State Route 195-Avenue 66. As a result of the change, the County circulated a Revised Draft Initial Study to discuss the anticipated environmental effects of the revised proposed Build Alternative.

The Build Alternative has been modified to begin approximately 1,100 feet east of SR-86 (approximately 2,600 feet west of Lincoln Street). The Build Alternative travels south of Avenue 66/SR-195 and crosses Lincoln Street. East of Lincoln Street, the Build Alternative and the original alternative were identical. Technical studies for the project have been revised to reflect the revised project area.