

News from SANBAG and Caltrans



San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor ■ San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
■ www.sanbag.ca.gov ■ Contact: Jane Dreher, Public Information Officer ■ (909) 884-8276

October 27, 2009 – For Immediate Release

Public Comments Sought for Proposed Improvements to I-10 Interchange at Tippecanoe Avenue

San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will host a public hearing next month to present the results of the Draft Environmental Document for proposed improvements to the Tippecanoe Avenue/Anderson Street interchange at Interstate 10 in San Bernardino and Loma Linda.

The public hearing will be held November 5 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Victoria Elementary School, 1505 Richardson Street in San Bernardino.

The hearing will be held in an “open house” format with no formal presentation. Residents, business operators, commuters and other interested parties can attend the hearing to comment on the project using forms available at the meeting or by giving verbal remarks to an on-site court reporter.

SANBAG and Caltrans, working with the County of San Bernardino and the cities of Loma Linda and San Bernardino, have completed preliminary engineering and environmental studies for the interchange. The findings are presented in the Draft Environmental Document. Comments received from the public and governmental and regulatory agencies will be considered in preparation of the Final Environmental Document, which is expected to be completed next spring.

Engineering studies conducted for the Draft Environmental Document include land surveying, mapping, current and future traffic operations, the location of public utilities, right of way requirements, drainage needs, geometric drawings, seismic conditions, the evaluation of the project alternatives and preliminary cost estimates.

Environmental studies also were conducted to assess how private properties, cultural and historic properties, sensitive plants and wildlife, air quality, water quality and noise levels may be impacted by the project.

-- MORE --

News from SANBAG and Caltrans
Page 2 of 2

Proposed improvements include widening and reconfiguring the freeway on-ramps and off-ramps, adding an eastbound auxiliary lane on I-10 between Waterman Avenue and Tippecanoe Avenue, eliminating a traffic signal on Tippecanoe north of the freeway, building sound walls, and widening local streets.

The project is expected to relieve the traffic bottleneck at this interchange and on nearby surface streets, especially at the intersection of Anderson Street and Redlands Boulevard in Loma Linda and the intersection of Tippecanoe and Harriman Place in San Bernardino.

“Improvements to the Tippecanoe interchange are sorely needed,” said City of San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris. “This project will unclog the bottleneck in this area and boost access to the many retailers, restaurants and offices on Hospitality Lane, the San Bernardino International Airport, Loma Linda University Medical Center and the Jerry Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital.”

Pending approval of the Final Environmental Document next spring, project planners will begin the final project design. Final design, which includes the preparation of plans, project specifications and cost estimates, as well as the acquisition of property for the project, is scheduled to be completed by early 2012. Construction is estimated to start by mid-2012 and end by late 2013. These dates are tentative and are subject to change.

Project funding has been secured for this \$76.3 million project. Funding is provided by \$47.8 million from federal sources, \$2.5 million from state sources and \$26 million from local sources. Local funding is made up of contributions from the cities of San Bernardino and Loma Linda, as well as from Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County.

For more information, call SANBAG at (909) 884-8276.

###