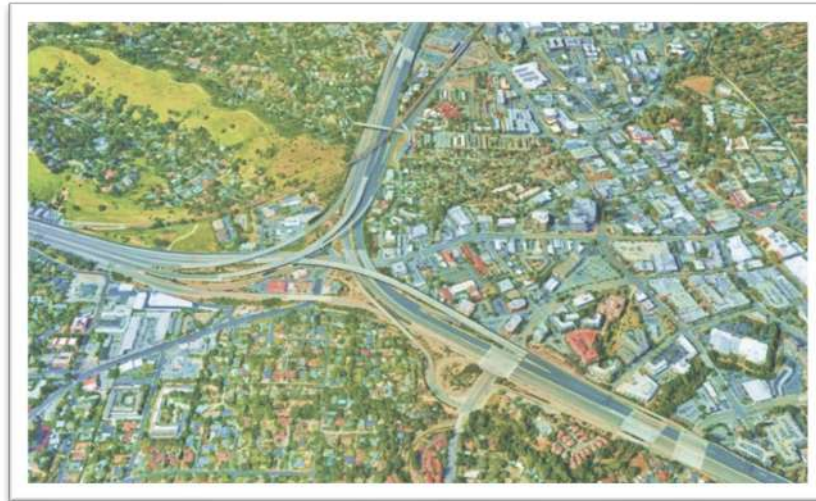


# Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
04-CC-680 (PM R10.7/23.1)  
EA 04-0Q3100/Project ID 0418000070

## Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment



Prepared by the  
State of California, Department of Transportation, and  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority

The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.



May 2024

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# General Information About This Document

## What's in this Document:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the proposed Interstate 680 (I-680) Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) located in Contra Costa County, California. Caltrans is the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document tells you why the Project is being proposed, what alternatives have been considered for the Project, how the existing environment could be affected by the Project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

## What You Should Do:

- Please read this document.
- Additional copies of this document and the related technical studies are available for review at Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612.
- Additional copies of this document will be available for review at:
  - Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2999 Oak Road # 100, Walnut Creek, CA 94597
  - Martinez Library, 740 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553
  - Concord Library, 2900 Salvio Street, Concord, CA 94519
  - Pleasant Hill Library, 2 Monticello Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
  - Walnut Creek Library, 1644 N Broadway, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
  - Lafayette Library, 3491 Mount Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549
  - Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
  - Danville Library, 400 Front Street, Danville, CA 94526
  - San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St, San Ramon, CA 94583
  - Dougherty Station Library, 17017 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94582
  - Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Road, Moraga, CA 94556
- This document may be downloaded at the following website:  
[ccta.net/expresslane](http://ccta.net/expresslane)

- Attend in-person public meeting on June 5, 2024, at  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
2999 Oak Road, Suite 100  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597-2281
- Attend virtual public meeting on June 6, 2024, at  
<https://ccta.net/projects/innovate-680/express-lane-completion/>
- We would like to hear what you think. If you have any comments about the proposed project, please attend the virtual and/or in-person meetings and/or provide comment via voicemail or send your written comments via postal mail, email, or website ([ccta.net/expresslane](https://ccta.net/expresslane)) to Caltrans by the deadline.
- Send comments via postal mail to:  
Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis  
Attn: Lily Mu, Environmental Scientist  
Mail Station 8B, P.O. Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660  
(925) 278-5978
- Send comments via email to: [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)
- Provide comment via voicemail: (925) 278-5978
- Be sure to send comments by the deadline: June 24, 2024

### **What Happens Next:**

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, Caltrans, as assigned by the FHWA, may: (1) give environmental approval to the proposed project, (2) do additional environmental studies, or (3) abandon the project. If the project is given environmental approval and funding is obtained, Caltrans could design and construct all or part of the project.

### **Alternative Formats:**

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660; (925) 278-5978 (Voice); or use the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY to Voice), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 855-3000 (Spanish TTY to Voice and Voice to TTY), 1-800-854-7784 (Spanish and English Speech-to-Speech), or 711.

Modify Northbound Interstate 680 from Livorna Road to South of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (Postmile R10.7 to 23.1) in Contra Costa County, California.

## **Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment**

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code  
(Federal) 42 USC 4332(2)(C)

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Department of Transportation,  
and  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Responsible Agencies: California Transportation Commission, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Metropolitan Transportation Commission

*David Ambushl*

**04/25/2024**

FOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dina A. El-Tawansy  
District 4 Director  
California Department of Transportation  
CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The following persons may be contacted for more information about this document:

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## Summary

The proposed Interstate 680 (I-680) Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is a joint project by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans or Department) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and is subject to state and federal environmental review requirements. Project documentation, therefore, has been prepared in compliance with both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Caltrans is the lead agency under NEPA. Caltrans is the lead agency under CEQA. In addition, FHWA's responsibility for environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this Project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 United States Code (USC) Section 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Some impacts determined to be significant under CEQA may not lead to a determination of significance under NEPA. Because NEPA is concerned with the significance of the Project as a whole, often a "lower level" document is prepared for NEPA. One of the most common joint document types is an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA).

After receiving comments from the public and reviewing agencies, a Final EIR/EA will be prepared. Caltrans may prepare additional environmental and/or engineering studies to address comments. The EIR/EA will include responses to comments received on the Draft EIR/EA and will identify the preferred alternative. If the decision is made to approve the Project, a Notice of Determination will be published for compliance with CEQA, and the Department will decide whether to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for compliance with NEPA. A Notice of Availability (NOA) of the FONSI will be sent to the affected units of federal, state, and local government, and to the State Clearinghouse in compliance with Executive Order 12372.

### NEPA Assignment

California participated in the "Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program" (Pilot Program) pursuant to 23 USC 327, for more than five years, beginning July 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2012. MAP-21 (P.L. 112-141), signed by President Obama on July 6, 2012, amended 23 USC 327 to establish a permanent Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program. As a result, the Department entered into a Memorandum of Understanding pursuant to 23 USC 327 (NEPA Assignment MOU) with FHWA. The NEPA Assignment MOU became effective October 1, 2012, and was renewed on May 27, 2022, for a term of ten years. In summary, the Department continues to assume FHWA responsibilities under NEPA and other federal environmental laws in the same manner as was assigned under the Pilot Program, with minor changes. With NEPA Assignment, FHWA assigned and the Department assumed all of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary's

responsibilities under NEPA. This assignment includes projects on the State Highway System and Local Assistance Projects off the State Highway System within the State of California, except for certain categorical exclusions that FHWA assigned to the Department under the 23 USC 326 CE Assignment MOU, projects excluded by definition, and specific project exclusions.

## Proposed Project

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with Caltrans, is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, congestion relief, and operations.

On I-680, the post mile (PM) limits for the Project are from PM R10.7 at the southern limit to PM 23.1 at the northern limit, which encompasses the operational improvement area for the Project. The Project Study Limits, which include all potential work areas for the Project, are from just south of Stone Valley Road (PM R10.0) to north of Arthur Road (PM 23.2). The Project Study Limits are within the cities of San Ramon, Danville, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez and the community of Alamo in Contra Costa County, California. The total Project length is approximately 13.2 miles.

The purpose of the Project is to reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680; reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor; encourage use of high occupancy vehicles (HOV) and transit service; optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands; and offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.

The Project is needed to address existing transportation problems within the Project Study Limits related to congestion, system continuity, and operation improvements. Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours. There is also a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and State Route (SR) 242. System continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system and increasing travel time for all users. There is also weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard that creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period.

The following alternatives are being considered in this environmental document:

**Build Alternative 1C:** Add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242, realign southbound I-680 through the SR-24 Interchange, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp.

**Build Alternative 2:** Add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242 with a two-mile gap through the SR-24 Interchange, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and

convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp.

Build Alternative 3: Add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242, realign southbound I-680 through the SR-24 Interchange, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp.

Build Alternative 5: Convert the inside general-purpose lane to an express lane from south of North Main Street to SR-242, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, this Build Alternative would not add any new lanes to I-680.

No-Build Alternative: I-680 remains in its current configuration, and no improvements would be implemented.

## Project Impacts

This environmental document evaluates the potential effects of the No-Build Alternative and four Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5). The Preferred Alternative will be selected following circulation of the Draft EIR/EA. **Table S-1** summarizes the effects of each Build Alternative compared to the No-Build Alternative. The proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures to reduce the effects of the Build Alternatives are presented in **Table S-2**. A complete description of potential effects under NEPA and recommended measures is provided in Chapter 2 of this environmental document.

Under CEQA, an EIR must be prepared whenever substantial evidence in the record supports a fair argument that a project would have a significant effect on the environment. Caltrans has not adopted thresholds of significance under CEQA. As a statewide agency covering diverse geographic areas, Caltrans has, as a matter of policy, left the determination of significance to the Caltrans' District Project Development Team members. As discussed in Chapter 3, *CEQA Evaluation*, of this environmental document, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would all increase vehicle miles traveled, which would result in a significant and unavoidable impact on transportation even with the implementation of proposed mitigation measures. Alternative 5 would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts under CEQA.



**Table S-1. Summary of Impacts**

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Existing and Future Land Use	None	Alternative 1C would require temporary construction easements (TCE; 0.44 acre), permanent easements (0.67 acre), and partial fee acquisitions (0.05 acre). No full acquisitions would be required. Right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions would not affect the land use designation or zoning for the remainder of the properties. No permanent change to land use would result.	Alternative 2 would require TCEs (0.59 acre) and partial fee acquisitions (0.50 acre). No full acquisitions or permanent easements would be required. ROW acquisitions would not affect the land use designation or zoning for the remainder of the properties. No permanent change to land use would result.	Alternative 3 would require TCEs (0.63 acre), permanent easements (0.67 acre), and partial fee acquisitions (0.53 acre). No full acquisitions would be required. ROW acquisitions would not affect the land use designation or zoning for the remainder of the properties. No permanent change to land use would result.	Alternative 5 would require temporary construction easements (0.19 acre) and partial acquisitions (0.47 acre). No full acquisitions or permanent easements would be required. ROW acquisitions would not affect the land use designation or zoning for the remainder of the properties. No permanent change to land use would result.





Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs	The No-Build Alternative would be inconsistent with <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> and the Measure J Expenditure Plan because it would not contribute to the Regional Express Lanes Network	Alternative 1C would be generally consistent with all applicable state, regional, and local plans and programs. Coordination with local and regional agencies would continue in accordance with Measure <b>CIA-1</b> .	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C
Coastal Zone	None	None	None	None	None
Wild and Scenic Rivers	None	None	None	None	None

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Parks and Recreational Facilities	None	Alternative 1C would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Measures <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would be implemented, which would minimize and avoid impacts on parks and recreational facilities.	Alternative 2 would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge, and a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge during construction. Measures <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would be implemented, which would minimize and avoid impacts on parks and recreational facilities.	Alternative 3 would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge, and a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge during construction. Measures <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would be implemented, which would minimize and avoid impacts on parks and recreational facilities.	Alternative 5 would require a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge during construction. Measures <b>PR-1</b> and <b>PR-2</b> would be implemented, which would minimize and avoid impacts on parks and recreational facilities.
Farmlands	None	None	None	None	None
Timberlands	None	None	None	None	None



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Growth	None	Alternative 1C would increase the capacity of I-680 but would not influence the rate, type, or amount of growth that would otherwise occur.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Alternative 5 would not increase capacity of I-680 or influence the rate, type, or amount of growth that would otherwise occur.
Community Character and Cohesion	Local and regional priorities would not be addressed.	Alternative 1C would reduce congestion on I-680. Alternative 1C would not impact existing or forecasted population levels, housing substantially, or community character or cohesion.  Alternative 1C would require TCEs, permanent easements, and partial acquisition of ROW. Appraisals and acquisition of ROW would be conducted in accordance with any applicable requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance Program (CIA-2).	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Relocations and Real Property Acquisitions	None	Alternative 1C would require an 805-foot TCE from one private parcel. Alternative 1C would not require the full acquisition of any property nor would it result in the relocation or displacement of any home or business.	Alternative 2 would not require any temporary or permanent ROW from private property. Alternative 2 would not result in the relocation or displacement of any home or business.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 2
Environmental Justice	None	Alternative 1C would not cause disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income population. However, some low-income drivers may not receive the benefits of the proposed new northbound express lane.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Utilities/ Emergency Services	None	<p>The relocation of electrical facilities may result in temporary interruptions of utility services.</p> <p>Implementation of Measures <b>UES-1</b> through <b>UES-3</b> would minimize and avoid impacting utility or emergency services during construction.</p> <p>Alternative 1C would not result in long-term effects on utilities or emergency services.</p>	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Traffic and Transportation / Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities	As traffic demand increases, traffic operations along northbound I-680 would further deteriorate, resulting in increased congestion and vehicle delay.	Alternative 1C would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build condition for both the morning and afternoon peak periods. Alternative 1C would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Measures <b>TRAN-1</b> and <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would reduce potential impacts on traffic and transportation and pedestrian and bicycle facilities during construction.	Alternative 2 would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build condition for both the morning and afternoon peak periods. Alternative 2 would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge, and a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Measures <b>TRAN-1</b> and <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would reduce potential impacts on traffic and transportation and pedestrian and bicycle facilities during construction.	Alternative 3 would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build condition for both the morning and afternoon peak periods. Alternative 3 would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge, and a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Measures <b>TRAN-1</b> and <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would reduce potential impacts on traffic and transportation and pedestrian and bicycle facilities during construction.	Alternative 5 would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build condition for the afternoon peak period but would increase travel time and delay in the morning peak period. Alternative 5 would require a temporary detour of the Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Measures <b>TRAN-1</b> and <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> would reduce potential impacts on traffic and transportation and pedestrian and bicycle facilities during construction.



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Visual/Aesthetics	None	Segments of I-680 and SR-24 within the Visual Resources Study Area are officially designated state scenic highways. With the introduction of new soundwalls, ramps, and signage, Alternative 1C would have moderate to high visual impact. Measures <b>VIS-1</b> through <b>VIS-5</b> and <b>BIO-GEN-10</b> , and Mitigation Measure <b>BIO-MM-1</b> , would minimize and avoid impacting visual/aesthetic resources.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Cultural Resources	None	The records search identified 14 resources within the area of potential effect (APE), including 3 prehistoric (archaeological) sites and 11 built environment resources. Alternative 1C was designed to avoid impacting known cultural resources. Ground-disturbing activities during construction could affect unknown buried cultural resources. Measures <b>CUL-1</b> through <b>CUL 2</b> would be implemented to avoid impacting archaeological resources.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C





Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Hydrology and Floodplain	None	Alternative 1C would not result in a longitudinal floodplain encroachment nor would it support incompatible floodplain development. There is a potential BMP treatment in proximity to a floodplain. With implementation of Measures <b>HYD-1, WQ-1 through WQ-4, BIO-GEN-1 through BIO-GEN-16, BIO-PLANTS-1, BIO-TURTLE-1, BIO-FROG-1, and BIO-FROG-2</b> impacts on floodplains would be minimized or avoided.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Water Quality and Storm Water Runoff	None	Alternative 1C would disturb 30.83 acres of soil. Alternative 1C would permanently add 12.84 acres of net new impervious surface area, which includes new and replaced impervious surface area. The Project would comply with standard practices to reduce impacts on water quality and would be in compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). With implementation of Measures <b>WQ-1</b> through <b>WQ-4</b> , no substantial adverse impacts are anticipated to occur.	Alternative 2 would disturb 24.41 acres of soil. Alternative 2 would permanently add 9.06 acres of net new impervious surface area. The Project would comply with standard practices to reduce impacts on water quality and would be in compliance with NPDES. With implementation of Measures <b>WQ-1</b> through <b>WQ-4</b> , no substantial adverse impacts are anticipated to occur.	Alternative 3 would disturb 37.24 acres of soil. Alternative 3 would permanently add 16.27 acres of net new impervious surface area. The Project would comply with standard practices to reduce impacts on water quality and would be in compliance with NPDES. With implementation of Measures <b>WQ-1</b> through <b>WQ-4</b> , no substantial adverse impacts are anticipated to occur.	Alternative 5 would disturb 10.65 acres of soil. Alternative 5 would permanently add 2.93 acres of net new impervious surface area. The Project would comply with standard practices to reduce impacts on water quality and would be in compliance with NPDES. With implementation of Measures <b>WQ-1</b> through <b>WQ-4</b> , no substantial adverse impacts are anticipated to occur.



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Geology/ Soils/ Seismic/ Topography	None	Construction activities could be affected indirectly by ground motion, liquefaction and lateral spreading, and potential ground deformation if an earthquake event were to occur during construction. Standard practices relating to Geotechnical Design Standards, <b>GEO-1</b> , and <b>HAZ-6</b> would be implemented. No substantial impacts are anticipated.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Paleontology	None	Construction activities have the potential to encounter native sediments with high paleontological potential, both at the surface and in the subsurface beneath low sensitivity deposits and artificial fill. Measure <b>PAL-1</b> would be implemented, which would avoid impacting significant paleontological resources.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Hazardous Waste/ Materials	None	Construction could result in the potential disturbance of hazardous materials in the soil and groundwater. Measures <b>HAZ-2</b> through <b>HAZ-6</b> would avoid or minimize adverse effects with known or suspected hazardous materials and wastes during construction. No long-term impacts are expected to occur.	Construction could result in the potential disturbance of hazardous materials in the soil and groundwater. Unlike Alternative 1, Alternative 2 would require right-of-way at one parcel with a recognized environmental condition (511 Lawrence Way). Measures <b>HAZ-1</b> through <b>HAZ-6</b> would avoid or minimize adverse effects with known or suspected hazardous materials and wastes during construction. No long-term impacts are expected to occur.	Same as Alternative 2.	Same as Alternative 2.
Air Quality	None	Alternative 1C would increase the capacity of I-680. Alternative 1C would be consistent with <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> and the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Alternative 1C is not a Project of Air	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Alternative 5 would not increase the capacity of I-680. Regional conformity is pending an update to the 2023 TIP. Alternative 5 is not a POAQC. Alternative 5 would result in slightly lower CO and PM <sub>2.5</sub> , lower

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>Quality Concern (POAQC) for project-level conformity. Alternative 1C would result in slightly higher or lower (i.e., less than one percent) long-term operational emissions of criteria air pollutants and mobile source air toxics (MSAT) compared to the No-Build for the Design Year.</p> <p>Short-term air quality impacts would not be substantial and are expected to be localized around construction activities. Measures <b>AQ-1</b> through <b>AQ-7</b> and <b>HAZ-2</b> and <b>HAZ-3</b> would be implemented to reduce construction emissions.</p>			<p>PM<sub>10</sub>, slightly higher ROG, and lower NO<sub>x</sub>, than the No-Build. Alternative 5 would also result in slightly higher or lower long-term operational MSAT emissions than the No-Build except for Acetaldehyde (which would be higher than the No-Build); diesel particulate matter (which would be lower than the No-Build); and polycyclic organic matter (which would be higher than the No-Build).</p> <p>Short-term air quality impacts would not be substantial and are expected to be localized around construction activities. Measures <b>AQ-1</b> through <b>AQ-7</b> and <b>HAZ-2</b> and <b>HAZ-3</b> would be implemented to reduce construction emissions.</p>
Noise and Vibration	None	Alternative 1C would not substantially	Alternative 2 would not substantially increase	Alternative 3 would not substantially increase	Alternative 5 would not substantially increase

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>increase future noise levels. Noise abatement is being considered because projected highway noise levels are expected to approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria at multiple locations. Caltrans intends to incorporate noise abatement by replacing existing soundwalls in-kind at Noise Barrier System E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/E.3/SW No. 3 and Noise Barrier System 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4. Caltrans also intends to construct a new soundwall (Barrier 2).</p> <p>Construction noise for all receptors would be short-term and intermittent. Construction activities have the potential to temporarily increase noise levels at St. Mary School, Futures Academy, Las Lomas High School, and</p>	<p>future noise levels. Noise abatement is being considered because projected highway noise levels are expected to approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria at multiple locations. Caltrans intends to incorporate noise abatement by replacing Noise Barrier System E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/E.3/SW No. 3 and Noise Barrier System 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4. Caltrans also intends to construct a new soundwall (Barrier 2).</p> <p>Construction noise for all receptors would be short-term and intermittent. Construction activities have the potential to temporarily increase noise levels at St. Mary School, Futures Academy, Las Lomas High School, and Dorris-Eaton School. Measure <b>NOI-1</b> would</p>	<p>future noise levels. Noise abatement is being considered because projected highway noise levels are expected to approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria at multiple locations. Caltrans intends to incorporate noise abatement by replacing existing soundwalls in-kind at Noise Barrier System E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/E.3/SW No. 3 and Noise Barrier System 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4. Caltrans also intends to construct a new soundwall (Barrier 2).</p> <p>Construction noise for all receptors would be short-term and intermittent. Construction activities have the potential to temporarily increase noise levels at St. Mary School, Futures Academy, Las Lomas</p>	<p>future noise levels. Noise abatement is being considered because projected highway noise levels are expected to approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria at multiple locations. Caltrans intends to construct a new soundwall (Barrier 2).</p> <p>Construction noise for all receptors would be short-term and intermittent. Construction activities have the potential to temporarily increase noise levels at St. Mary School, Futures Academy, Las Lomas High School, and Dorris-Eaton School. Measure <b>NOI-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary noise impacts.</p> <p>Vibration levels could potentially impact industrial structures</p>

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>Dorris-Eaton School. Measure <b>NOI-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary noise impacts.</p> <p>Vibration levels from proposed retaining wall RSM-RW2 could potentially impact residential apartment buildings at Near Court and Creekside Drive. Measure <b>VIB-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary vibration impacts.</p>	<p>be implemented to reduce the potential temporary noise impacts.</p> <p>Vibration levels from proposed retaining wall RSM-RW2 could potentially impact residential apartment buildings at Near Court and Creekside Drive and industrial structures adjacent to Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp. Measure <b>VIB-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary vibration impacts.</p>	<p>High School, and Dorris-Eaton School. Measure <b>NOI-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary noise impacts.</p> <p>Vibration levels from proposed retaining wall RSM-RW2 could potentially impact residential apartment buildings at Near Court and Creekside Drive and industrial structures adjacent to Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp. Measure <b>VIB-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary vibration impacts.</p>	<p>adjacent to Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp. Measure <b>VIB-1</b> would be implemented to reduce the potential temporary vibration impacts.</p>





Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Energy	None	Alternative 1C would reduce traffic congestion along I-680 and yield energy savings compared to the No-Build. It is anticipated that energy expenditures required to construct the Project would be partially offset by long-term operational reductions in energy consumption. Measures <b>E-1</b> through <b>E-3</b> would be sufficient to minimize energy use and consumption.	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C	Same as Alternative 1C



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Natural Communities	None	Alternative 1C would permanently impact less than 0.01 acre of arroyo willow thicket, 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, and 0.51 acre of non-native woodland. Alternative 1C would impact approximately 114 native and 117 non-native trees. No impacts on fish passage or wildlife movement would occur. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) would be sufficient to avoid and minimize impacting natural communities.	Alternative 2 would permanently impact the same number of acres as Alternative 1C of arroyo willow thicket, coast live oak woodland, and non-native woodland. Alternative 2 would impact approximately 107 native and 161 non-native trees. No impacts on fish passage or wildlife movement would occur. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) would be sufficient to avoid and minimize impacting natural communities.	Alternative 3 would permanently impact the same number of acres as Alternative 1C of arroyo willow thicket, coast live oak woodland, and non-native woodland. Alternative 3 would impact the same number of native and non-native trees as Alternative 2 (approximately 107 native and 161 non-native trees). No impacts on fish passage or wildlife movement would occur. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) would be sufficient to avoid and minimize impacting natural communities.	Alternative 5 would not impact arroyo willow thicket, coast live oak woodland, or non-native woodland. Alternative 5 would impact approximately 65 native and 127 non-native trees. No impacts on fish passage or wildlife movement would occur. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) would be sufficient to avoid and minimize impacting natural communities.



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Wetlands and Other Waters	None	Alternative 1C would temporarily impact approximately 0.26 acre of aquatic resources, which may fall within USACE, RWQCB, and/or CDFW jurisdiction. Alternative 1C would not impact wetlands or waters in the vicinity of McNabney Marsh. Mitigation Measure <b>BIO-MM-1</b> would be implemented to achieve no net loss of aquatic resources.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Plant Species	None	Alternative 1C would impact approximately 1.55 acres of brome grassland, which is suitable habitat for the following special-status plant species: Congdon's tarplant ( <i>Centromadia parryi ssp. Congdonii</i> ). General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) and Measures <b>BIO-PLANT-1</b> would be sufficient to minimize and avoid impacting special-status plant species.	Alternative 2 would impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland, which is suitable habitat for the Congdon's tarplant. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) and Measures <b>BIO-PLANT-1</b> would be sufficient to minimize and avoid impacts on special-status plant species.	Alternative 3, like Alternative 2, would impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland, which is suitable habitat for the Congdon's tarplant. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) and Measures <b>BIO-PLANT-1</b> would be sufficient to minimize and avoid impacts on special-status plant species.	Alternative 5 would impact approximately 0.37 acre of brome grassland, which is suitable habitat for the Congdon's tarplant. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) and Measures <b>BIO-PLANT-1</b> would be sufficient to minimize and avoid impacts on special-status plant species.
Animal Species	None	Alternative 1C has the potential to affect habitat for the following special-status animal species: American badger ( <i>Taxidea taxus</i> ), Bridges' coast range shoulderband ( <i>Helminthoglypta nickliniana bridgesi</i> ), coast horned lizard ( <i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> ), obscure bumble bee ( <i>Bombus caliginosus</i> ),	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Alternative 5 has the potential to affect habitat for the following special-status animal species: American badger, Bridges' coast range shoulderband, western burrowing owl, roosting bats, and nesting raptors and other nesting birds.. Measures <b>BIO-BADGER-1, BIO-BAT-1, BIO-BAT-2, BIO-</b>



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (<i>Neotoma fuscipes annectens</i>), western burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia hypugaea</i>), roosting bats, and nesting raptors and other nesting birds. Measures <b>BIO-BADGER-1, BIO-BAT-1, BIO-BAT-2, BIO-BEE-1, BIO-FALCON-1, BIO-KITE-1, BIO-HAWK-1, BIO-LIZARD-1, BIO-OWL-1, BIO-SNAIL-1, BIO-WOODRAT-1, and BIO-WOODRAT-2</b> would be sufficient to minimize or avoid impacting animal species.</p>			<p><b>BEE-1, BIO-FALCON-1, BIO-KITE-1, BIO-HAWK-1, BIO-LIZARD-1, BIO-OWL-1, BIO-SNAIL-1, BIO-TURTLE-1, BIO-WOODRAT-1, and BIO-WOODRAT-2</b> would be sufficient to minimize or avoid impacts on animal species.</p>
Threatened and Endangered Species	None	<p>Alternative 1C would result in permanent and temporary impacts on suitable habitat for the following listed species: Alameda whipsnake (<i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i>), and California red-legged frog (<i>Rana</i></p>	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	<p>Alternative 5 would impact less suitable habitat for the bumble bees than Alternative 1C. Although there is also a low potential for northwestern pond turtle to be in the vicinity of Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard</p>

Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p><i>draytonii</i>). Alternative 1C would also result in temporary and permanent impacts on suitable habitat for the following candidate species for listing: Crotch bumble bee (<i>Bombus crotchii</i>) and western bumble bee (<i>B. occidentalis</i>). There is also a low potential for northwestern pond turtle (<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>) to be in the vicinity of Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard and Rudgear Road to Livorna Road. The following species-specific avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented the following species-specific avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented. General biological resources measures (<b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b>) and Measures <b>BIO-BEE-1</b>, <b>BIO-FROG-1</b>, <b>BIO-FROG-2</b>, <b>BIO-SNAKE-</b></p>			<p>and Rudgear Road to Livorna Road, Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge.</p>



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		1, <b>BIO-SNAKE-2</b> , and <b>BIO-TURTLE-1</b> would be sufficient to minimize and avoid impacting threatened and endangered species.			
Invasive Species	None	Construction activities have the potential to inadvertently spread noxious weed species. General biological resources measures ( <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> ) would be sufficient to avoid the introduction of invasive species.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>CEQA Impacts</b>					
Transportation	As traffic demand increases, traffic operations along northbound I-680 would further deteriorate, resulting in increased congestion and vehicle delay. Daily VMT is anticipated to continue to increase by the Design Year resulting in increased emissions and reduced mobility.	Alternative 1C would have 99,389 more daily VMT (without trucks) than the No-Build Alternative in the Design Year. Mitigation Measures <b>TRAN-MM-1, TRAN-MM-2, and TRAN-MM-3</b> would be in place to offset Alternative 1C's forecasted induced VMT through the Design Year. However, VMT impacts would individually and cumulatively continue to be a significant and unavoidable even with mitigation.  No other impacts would be significant and unavoidable under CEQA.	Alternative 2 would have 82,353 more daily VMT (without trucks) than the No-Build Alternative in the Design Year. Mitigation Measures <b>TRAN-MM-1, TRAN-MM-2, and TRAN-MM-3</b> would be in place to offset Alternative 1C's forecasted induced VMT through the Design Year. However, VMT impacts would individually and cumulatively continue to be a significant and unavoidable even with mitigation.  No other impacts would be significant and unavoidable under CEQA.	Alternative 3 would have 99,986 more daily VMT (without trucks) than the No-Build Alternative in the design year. Mitigation Measures <b>TRAN-MM-1, TRAN-MM-2, and TRAN-MM-3</b> would be in place to offset Alternative 1C's forecasted induced VMT through the Design Year. However, VMT impacts would individually and cumulatively continue to be a significant and unavoidable even with mitigation.  No other impacts would be significant and unavoidable under CEQA.	Alternative 5 is screened from VMT analysis. Alternative 5 would not result in any significant and unavoidable impact under CEQA and mitigation is not required.





Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Wildfire		Alternative 1C would not impair implementation of an emergency response or emergency evacuation plan, exacerbate wildfire risks or expose project occupants to pollutants from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.



Affected Resource	Potential Impact				
	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Climate Change		<p>Overall, Alternative 1C would have lower operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to baseline conditions and slightly less GHG emissions than the No-Build Alternative.</p> <p>Project construction would result in an increase in GHG emissions that would be offset by the long-term improvement in operational GHG emissions.</p> <p>The Project is outside the coastal zone and not in an area subject to sea-level rise.</p> <p>Alternative 1C is not anticipated to exacerbate the effects of climate change in terms of precipitation depth or wildfire.</p>	Same as Alternative 1C.	Same as Alternative 1C.	Similar to Alternative 1C. However, GHG emissions would be slightly less than the No-Build Alternative in future years.

**Table S-2. Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Existing and Future Land Use	None
Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs	<b>CIA-1:</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will continue to coordinate with the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project to improve traffic conditions along I-680 within Contra Costa County.
Coastal Zone	None
Wild and Scenic Rivers	None
Parks and Recreational Facilities	<p><b>PR-1:</b> Temporary Detours for Recreation Trails. Contra Costa Transportation Authority will require that recreation trails within the Study Area remain open to the public during construction. If a segment of a recreation trail must be closed, Contra Costa Transportation Authority will work with the officials with jurisdiction and local agencies to identify detours and appropriate signage and flagging to minimize impacts to trail users. All temporary trails will have a minimum width in compliance with current Americans with Disability Act standards.</p> <p><b>PR-2:</b> Temporary Construction Areas. All temporary construction areas within or adjacent to recreation areas, including parks, trails, pathways, and/or other recreational facilities, will be restored to a condition as good or better than that of the property prior to construction. Contra Costa Transportation Authority, along with the construction contractor, will work with affected agencies and the officials with jurisdiction to identify the necessary rehabilitation activities.</p> <p><b>PR-3:</b> Ironhorse Regional Trail Relocation. Should Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, Caltrans and CCTA will work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify a suitable location to shift the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Contra Costa Transportation Authority will also assist the East Bay Regional Park District in acquiring any necessary ROW or easements for this segment of the trail.</p>
Farmlands	None
Timberlands	None

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Growth	None
Community Character and Cohesion	<b>CIA-2:</b> Caltrans will follow the process required for acquisition of right-of-way under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance Program.
Relocations and Real Property Acquisitions	None
Environmental Justice	No additional measures. Measures would be implemented for air quality ( <b>AQ-1</b> through <b>AQ-7</b> ), community character and cohesion ( <b>CIA-2</b> ), hydrology ( <b>HYD-1</b> ), water quality ( <b>WQ-1</b> through <b>WQ-4</b> ), parks and recreation ( <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> ), noise and vibration ( <b>NOI-1</b> and <b>VIB-1</b> ), visual ( <b>VIS-1</b> through <b>VIS-5</b> ), utilities ( <b>UES-1</b> and <b>UES-2</b> ), and access and circulation ( <b>TRAN-1</b> ).
Utilities/ Emergency Services	<p><b>UES-1:</b> During construction, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that utility services for any underground or aboveground utilities that will be disturbed and/or removed during construction of the proposed Project will be maintained to avoid interruptions in service. If interruptions in service are unavoidable, notice will be given, and proper arrangements will be made with the affected residents and businesses.</p> <p><b>UES-2:</b> Prior to grading activities, Underground Service Alert (USA) will be notified at least 2 days prior to excavation, by calling 811.</p> <p><b>UES-3:</b> To minimize risk of fires during construction activities, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the implementation of the following minimization measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain defensible spaces around active construction areas.</li> <li>b. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain firefighting equipment (e.g., extinguishers, shovels, water tankers) in active construction areas.</li> <li>c. Post emergency services phone numbers (i.e., fire, emergency medical, police) in visible locations in all active construction areas.</li> </ol>
Traffic and Transportation/	<b>TRAN-1:</b> No two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction will be closed concurrently during construction.

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities	See <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i> for Measures <b>PR-1</b> through <b>PR-3</b> . See <i>CEQA</i> for Mitigation Measures <b>TRAN-MM-1</b> through <b>TRAN-MM-3</b> .
Visual/Aesthetics	<p><b>VIS-1: Vegetation Removal.</b> During construction, the construction contractor will minimize the removal of groundcover, shrubs, and mature trees to the maximum extent possible, and utilize unvegetated areas for contractor staging/storage areas, when feasible. The construction contract will protect vegetation outside the clearing and grubbing limits from the contractor’s operations, equipment, and materials storage. High visibility temporary fencing will be placed around vegetation to be protected before roadway work begins. Regular watering of vegetation should be provided to vegetation when construction interrupts normal automated irrigation.</p> <p>All disturbed areas will receive hydroseeded treatment of erosion control grasses, and if appropriate, locally native grasses. Any roadside vegetation and irrigation systems that are damaged or removed during project construction will be replaced according to Caltrans policy.</p> <p>When trenching for utilities, the construction contractor will avoid trenching within drip lines of trees and screening shrubs. Directional drilling that would avoid damaging root systems of established plant material will be used, when reasonable, as opposed to open trenching to install new conduit in places where work within the drip line would be required. Trees and screening shrubs will be protected from damage during construction.</p> <p><b>VIS-2: Landscape Plan.</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans or designated contractors will prepare a highway landscape plan that will identify all opportunities to use areas within the state ROW for full landscaping consistent with the Caltrans Highway Design Manual. This will include planting for graded areas with plant species consistent with adjacent vegetation and enhancement of new Project structures such as ramps and tunnels to the extent feasible. This plan will incorporate all applicable procedures and requirement detailed in the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 900 – Landscape Architecture- Roadside (July 2020), consistent with the Classified Landscaped Freeway policies, and consistent with applicable city general plans or municipal codes, as applicable.</p> <p>During the design phase, the Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect will verify that the design minimizes removal of existing mature trees. If removal of mature trees cannot be avoided, additional landscape improvements will be incorporated into the final design for these areas, where feasible.</p> <p>Highway planting within Caltrans right-of-way will be provided where feasible to screen residential views of proposed express lane signs and lights and other highway activity and infrastructure. Caltrans safety-setback requirements will apply for all plantings within State right-of-way.</p> <p>During the design phase, CCTA will consider topography, visual screening, and adjacent development in the placement of overhead signs, sign gantries, and sign lighting to minimize visual impacts on residents along the</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>project corridor. Locations of project features may be adjusted where feasible given highway safety standards and other engineering and environmental considerations.</p> <p><b>VIS-3: Construction Shields.</b> During construction, the construction contractor will place unsightly materials, equipment storage, and staging so that they are not visible within the foreground of the highway corridor to the maximum extent feasible. Where such siting is unavoidable, material and equipment will be stored and visually screened to minimize visibility from the roadway and nearby sensitive off-road receptors.</p> <p><b>VIS-4: Lighting Plan.</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will prepare a Lighting Plan and ensure that lighting fixtures be selected to minimize glare on adjacent properties and into the night sky. Lighting will be shielded with non-glare hoods and focused within the Project ROW. The Lighting Plan will be reviewed and approved by Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect prior to construction to ensure compliance with these criteria. Construction lighting will be limited to within the area of work and light trespass will be avoided through the use of directional lighting and shielding as needed.</p> <p><b>VIS-5: Aesthetic Treatments.</b> During the design phase, CCTA or designated contractors will work with Caltrans District 4 staff in order to verify that design elements are consistent with the vision for the Contra Costa County regarding aesthetic enhancements, scenic corridors, landscaping, and tree removal and plantings policies. During the design phase, the Project team will evaluate the aesthetic enhancements to be incorporated into the constructed elements to the extent feasible, such as design and color treatment for the new overhead sign structures, gantries, VTMSs and light standards shall be similar to the existing adjacent structures and poles, so to be visually compatible and consistent with the existing installations along the corridor. Additionally, where feasible, new concrete safety barriers and retaining walls should match the aesthetics (color, pattern and/or texture) of the existing barriers/walls along corridor for visual consistency. Treatments of color, pattern and/or texture are required in order to reduce visual impacts, glare, and the possible incidence of graffiti. If needed, maintenance agreements will be established during the design phase. Where feasible, vines could be planted along soundwalls to reduce visual impacts, potential for glare, and reduce the incidence of graffiti. Reference <i>Contra Costa I-680 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan</i> for aesthetic and landscape guidelines.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measure <b>BIO-GEN-10</b> and Mitigation Measure <b>BIO-MM-1</b>.</p>
Cultural Resources	<p><b>CUL-1: Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources.</b> If cultural materials are discovered during construction, all earth-moving activity within and around the immediate discovery area will be diverted until a qualified archaeologist can assess the nature and significance of the find.</p> <p><b>CUL-2: Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains.</b> If human remains are discovered, California Health and Safety Code (H&amp;SC) Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall stop in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County Coroner contacted. If the remains are thought by the coroner to</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), who, pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98, will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At this time, the person who discovered the remains will contact District Environmental Branch so that they may work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.</p>
<p>Hydrology and Floodplain</p>	<p><b>HYD-1:</b> During final design, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that treatment Best Management Practices (BMP) in close proximity to the floodway along San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (PM R11.33) will be analyzed to confirm the BMPs will have no impact on the base flood elevation or floodplain. The analysis will be coordinated with floodplain management agencies, including Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (CCCFC &amp; WCD) during the design phase.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measure <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b>. See <i>Plant Species</i> for <b>BIO-PLANTS-1</b>. See <i>Animal Species</i> for <b>BIO-TURTLE-1</b>. See <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> for <b>BIO-FROG-1</b> and <b>BIO-FROG-2</b>.</p>
<p>Water Quality and Storm Water Runoff</p>	<p><b>WQ-1:</b> During construction, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the Project complies with the provisions of the Caltrans National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Statewide Storm Water Permit and the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges of Stormwater Runoff Associated with Construction Activities in effect at the time of construction.</p> <p><b>WQ-2:</b> Prior to construction, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and implemented to address all construction-related activities, equipment, and materials that have the potential to impact water quality. The SWPPP will identify the sources of pollutants that may affect the quality of stormwater and include the construction site best management practices (BMP) to control pollutants such as sediment control, drainage inlet protection, construction materials management, and non-stormwater BMPs. Additional BMP reference material is contained within the Project Planning and Design Guide (Caltrans, 2019) and Construction Manual (Caltrans, 2022). These include, but are not limited to, temporary sediment control, temporary soil stabilization, scheduling, waste management, materials handling, and other non-stormwater BMPs.</p> <p><b>WQ-3:</b> During the design phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved design pollution prevention BMPs for the Project will be further investigated. Design pollution prevention BMPs may include preservation of existing vegetation, slope/surface protection systems, and permanent erosion control measures (e.g., hydroseeding, hydromulch, fiber rolls, and netting).</p> <p><b>WQ-4:</b> During the design phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved treatment BMPs will be further investigated and be consistent with the requirements of the NPDES Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the State of California, Department of Transportation, in effect at the time of</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>design. Treatment BMPs may include infiltration devices, biofiltration devices, detention devices, media filters, and gross solids removal devices (GSRD) (e.g., trash capture devices).</p>
<p>Geology/ Soils/ Seismic/ Topography</p>	<p><b>GEO-1:</b> Prior to completion of final design, CCTA or designated contractor will ensure that a professional geologist or professional engineer prepare a design-level geotechnical report. Recommendations from the final design-level geotechnical report will be incorporated into the final Project plans and specifications during the final design phase to ensure the geotechnical stability of the Project. This report will document soil-related constraints and hazards, such as slope instability, settlement liquefaction, or related secondary seismic impacts, which may be present. The report will also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of expansive and potentially corrosive soils and recommendations regarding construction procedures and/or design criteria to reduce the effect of these soils on Project development,</li> <li>• Identification of potential liquefiable areas within the Project Study Limits and recommendations for mitigation measures,</li> <li>• Demonstration that the design of all proposed retaining walls is geotechnically suitable for soils within the Project Study Limits, and</li> <li>• Geotechnical recommendations for the specific foundation design and earthwork construction considered for this Project.</li> </ul> <p>See <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> for Measure <b>HAZ-6</b>.</p>
<p>Paleontology</p>	<p><b>PAL-1: Paleontological Mitigation Plan.</b> Prepare a Paleontological Mitigation Plan once Project design is nearly complete. The final plan will be implemented during construction. Include a specification in the construction contract stating that paleontological monitoring will occur in accordance with the Paleontological Mitigation Plan. Prepare a final report documenting the implementation of the approved Paleontological Mitigation Plan (i.e., Paleontological Mitigation Report). It is anticipated that the Paleontological Mitigation Plan would include the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project-specific Paleontological Mitigation Plan will be prepared by a qualified principal paleontologist (MS or PhD in paleontology) once adequate project design information regarding subsurface disturbance location, depth, and lateral extent is available.</li> <li>• The qualified principal paleontologist will be present at pre-construction meetings to confer with contractors who will be performing ground-disturbing activities.</li> <li>• Paleontological monitors, under the direction of the qualified principal paleontologist, will be on site to inspect cuts for fossils at all times during original ground disturbance involving sensitive geologic formations.</li> </ul>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When fossils are discovered, the paleontologist (or paleontological monitor) will recover them. Construction work in these areas may be halted or diverted by the Resident Engineer to allow the prompt recovery of fossils.</li> <li>• Fossils collected during the monitoring and salvage portion of the mitigation program will be prepared to the point of identification, sorted, and cataloged.</li> <li>• Prepared fossils, along with copies of all pertinent field notes, photos, and maps, will be deposited in a scientific institution with paleontological collections.</li> <li>• A Paleontological Mitigation Report will be completed that outlines the results of the mitigation program.</li> <li>• Where feasible, selected road cuts or large finished slopes in areas with critically interesting paleontological features may be left exposed to serve as important educational and scientific features. This may be possible if no substantial adverse visual or safety impacts result.</li> </ul>
Hazardous Waste/ Materials	<p><b>HAZ-1: Preliminary Site Investigation.</b> During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that a Preliminary Site Investigation (PSI) is conducted at City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard, 511 Lawrence Way, Walnut Creek, CA (Assessor Parcel Number 173-014-005) in the area that would be disturbed by the Project should Alternatives 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative. The PSI would assess for the presence of site contamination, including hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds in soil and groundwater.</p> <p><b>HAZ-2: Aerially Deposited Lead.</b> Soils located within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) have the potential to contain aerially deposited lead (ADL). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that soil sampling and analysis for ADL be conducted on Caltrans ROW (within the Project disturbance limits) that have not been previously characterized, to determine the proper handling and disposal requirements. Soil determined to contain lead concentrations exceeding stipulated thresholds must be managed in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.08 Regulated Material Containing Aerially Deposited Lead (2022) and under the July 1, 2016, ADL Agreement between Caltrans and the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This ADL Agreement allows such soils to be safely reused within the Project Study Limits, as long as all requirements of the ADL Agreement are met.</p> <p><b>HAZ-3: Asbestos-Containing Material and Lead-Based Paint.</b> Structures, including buildings and bridges, may contain asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that structures be sampled for ACM and LBP prior to any demolition or disturbance activities. Soils surrounding the structures that will be disturbed should also be sampled for ACM and LBP. In addition, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that the survey be conducted in conformance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>1403, and in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.13, Disturbance of Existing Paint Systems on Bridges, and Section 14-11.16, Asbestos-Containing Construction Materials in Bridges (2022).</p> <p><b>HAZ-4: Agricultural Land Uses.</b> Soils within the Project Study Limits that have not been previously disturbed may contain residual pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum from historical agricultural uses. During the design phase, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that undisturbed soil on historic agricultural land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum.</p> <p><b>HAZ-5: Railroad Land Uses.</b> Soil and groundwater within the Project Study Limits may be contaminated with common railroad-related contaminants, including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides, from existing and historical railroad uses. During the design phase, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that soil and groundwater on historical and existing railroad land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for common railroad-related contaminants should Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative.</p> <p><b>HAZ-6: Construction Health and Safety Plan.</b> Prior to construction, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the development of a Health and Safety Plan to guide all construction activities. A Certified Industrial Hygienist will review this plan, based on evaluations of proposed construction activities, the potential hazards identified in Project’s Phase I Initial Site Assessment (Parikh Consultants, Inc. 2022), and any future assessment prepared for the Project. This plan will contain specific procedures for encountering expected and unexpected contaminants. It will prescribe safe work practices, contaminant monitoring, personal protective equipment, emergency response procedures, and safety training requirements to protect construction workers and third parties. The plan will meet the requirements of 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910 and 1926, and all other applicable federal, State, and local regulations and requirements. The designated contractor will be responsible for preparing the Health and Safety Plan before the start of construction.</p>
Air Quality	<p><b>AQ-1: Equipment Maintenance.</b> During construction, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans’ Standard Specifications Section 7-1.02C, which requires that the construction contractor keep engines properly tuned and limit idling.</p> <p><b>AQ-2: Stormwater Best Management Practices.</b> During construction, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans’ Standard Specifications Section 13 – Water Pollution Control, which requires a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and use of best management practices (BMP) that manage fugitive dust and material track-out from construction sites. Many of the SWPPP requirements and BMPs are the same as Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s (BAAQMD) basic controls for construction sites (see AQ-5 and AQ-6).</p> <p><b>AQ-3: Compliance with Air Quality Regulations and Ordinances.</b> During construction, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans’ Standard Specifications Section 14-9 – Air Quality, which</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>specifically requires compliance by the construction contractor with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including air pollution control district and air quality management district regulations and local ordinances.</p> <p><b>AQ-4: Dust Control.</b> During construction, the Project’s Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans’ Standard Specifications Section 18 – Dust Palliatives, which includes requirements for the use of dust suppressants or controls that the construction contractor must follow.</p> <p><b>AQ-5: Construction Best Practices for Exhaust.</b> During construction, the Project’s or designated contractor will ensure that exhaust control BMPs for construction related emissions are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the <i>Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050</i> (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards, and it shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.</li> <li>• Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.</li> <li>• All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers’ specifications.</li> <li>• Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites; or propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.</li> </ul> <p><b>AQ-6: Construction Best Practices for Dust:</b> During construction, CCTA or CCTA’s designated contractor will ensure that dust control BMPs for construction related emissions during ground disturbance are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the <i>Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050</i> (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.</li> <li>• On-site dirt piles or other stockpiled particulate matter shall be covered, wind breaks installed, and water and/or soil stabilizers employed to reduce wind-blown dust emissions. The use of approved nontoxic soil stabilizers shall be incorporated according to manufacturers’ specifications to all inactive construction areas.</li> </ul>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. Dry power sweeping should only be performed in conjunction with thorough watering of the subject roads.</li> <li>• All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads and surfaces shall be limited to 15 mph.</li> <li>• All roadway, driveway, and sidewalk paving shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be paved as soon as possible after grading.</li> <li>• All construction sites shall provide a posted sign visible to the public with the telephone number and person to contact at the lead agency regarding dust complaints. The recommended response time for corrective action shall be within 48 hours. BAAQMD's Complaint Line (1-800-334-6367) shall also be included on posted signs to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.</li> <li>• All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 mph.</li> <li>• Wind breaks (e.g., trees, fences) shall be installed on the windward side(s) of actively disturbed areas of construction. Wind breaks should have at maximum 50 percent air porosity.</li> <li>• Vegetative ground cover (e.g., fast-germinating native grass seed) shall be planted in disturbed areas as soon as possible and watered appropriately until vegetation is established.</li> <li>• The simultaneous occurrence of excavation, grading, and ground-disturbing construction activities on the same area at any one time shall be limited. Activities shall be phased to reduce the amount of disturbed surfaces at any one time.</li> <li>• All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off before leaving the site.</li> <li>• Site accesses to a distance of 100 feet from the paved road shall be treated with a 6- to 12-inch compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.</li> </ul> <p><b>AQ-7:</b> Prior to demolition activities, the presence or absence of asbestos in the structures would be confirmed. If asbestos-containing materials are identified, the Project must also comply with BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing), which requires all asbestos-containing material found in the Project footprint be removed prior to demolition or renovation activity. There are specific requirements for surveying, notification, removal, and disposal of asbestos containing materials required by BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing). BAAQMD Regulation should be consulted for specific requirements that pertain to the materials encountered.</p> <p>See <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> for Measures <b>HAZ-2</b> and <b>HAZ-3</b>.</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Noise and Vibration	<p><b>NOI-1:</b> During construction, CCTA or their designated contractor will ensure the following measures be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary noise impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All construction equipment shall conform to Standard Special Provision (SSP) Section 14-8.02, Noise Control, which requires noise not to exceed 52 dBA, preparation of a Noise Control Plan (NCP), and noise monitoring.</li> <li>• When feasible, noise-generating construction activities shall be restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, with no construction occurring on weekends or holidays. If work is necessary outside of these hours, Caltrans shall require the contractor to implement a construction noise monitoring program and provide additional noise controls where practical and feasible.</li> <li>• Pile driving activities shall be limited to daytime hours only.</li> <li>• All internal combustion engine driven equipment shall be equipped with manufacturer recommended intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.</li> <li>• Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.</li> <li>• Noise-generating equipment shall be located as far as practical from sensitive receptors when sensitive receptors adjoin or are near the construction Project area.</li> <li>• "Quiet" air compressors and other "quiet" equipment shall be utilized where such technology exists.</li> </ul>
Vibration	<p><b>VIB-1:</b> During construction, CCTA or their designated contractor will ensure that the following measures be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary vibration impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit impact or vibratory pile driving methods when within the exceedance distances from vibration-sensitive structures as listed in Table 2.2.7-4. Cast-in-Drilled Hole (CIDH) Piles is an alternative method that causes lower vibration levels. CIDH Piles should be used where geological conditions permit their use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CIDH piles would exceed the 0.25-inches per second peak particle velocity (PPV) threshold for historic structures at 10 feet, the 0.3-inches per second PPV threshold for older structures at 9 feet, and the 0.5-inches per second PPV threshold for newer construction structures at 6-feet.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Avoid the use of vibratory rollers within 25 feet of sensitive structures. Static mode compaction shall be used when construction activities are less than 25 feet from sensitive structures.</li> <li>• Avoid dropping heavy objects or equipment within 25 feet of sensitive structures.</li> <li>• Place operating equipment on the construction site as far as possible from vibration-sensitive receptors.</li> </ul>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designate a person responsible for registering and investigating claims of excessive vibration. The contact information of such person shall be clearly posted on the construction site.</li> </ul>
Energy	<p><b>E-1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Efforts.</b> During construction, CCTA will ensure that the following site-specific measure will be implemented where necessary and feasible to avoid or minimize impacts related to construction greenhouse gas emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A program that incentivizes construction workers to carpool and/or use public transit or electric vehicles to commute to and from the project site will be implemented.</li> </ul> <p><b>E-2: Construction Equipment Operation.</b> Prior to construction, CCTA will ensure that a list of all off-road equipment greater than 25 horsepower (hp) that would be operated for more than 20 hours over the entire duration of project construction, including equipment from subcontractors, be submitted to the relevant air district (e.g., Bay Area Air Quality Management District) for review and certification. The list shall include all information necessary to ensure the equipment meets the following requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards and shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.</li> <li>Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.</li> <li>All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications.</li> <li>Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites. Propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.</li> </ul> <p><b>E-3: Emergency Services Management.</b> Prior to and during construction, CCTA will ensure that the designated contractor will communicate with emergency service providers through the public information program to avoid emergency service delays, by ensuring all providers are aware of lane closures well in advance of implementation. Proactive public information systems, such as changeable message signs, will notify travelers of pending construction activities and new operational activities.</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Natural Communities	<p><b>BIO-GEN-1: Qualified Biologist.</b> A qualified biologist would be present during all construction activities in or adjacent to California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>) and/or Alameda whipsnake (<i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i>) habitat at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2).</li> <li>• Rudgear Road to Livorna Road – between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3).</li> </ul> <p><b>BIO-GEN-2: Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT).</b> All construction personnel will attend a mandatory WEAT delivered by a biologist prior to entering the job site. New personnel will attend a training session before they are allowed to enter the job site. All personnel will sign a form stating that they completed training and understand all applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance. The contractor will provide translated training material. Caltrans will keep the forms on file and make them available to regulatory agencies upon request. At a minimum, the training will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A description of special-status species that could occur onsite and their habitats, and other sensitive resources.</li> <li>• A review of applicable conservation measures and how to avoid impacts by implementing them.</li> <li>• A discussion of applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance.</li> </ul> <p><b>BIO-GEN-3: Stop Work Authority.</b> The biologist will have the authority to stop work if they determine any permit and authorization requirements are not being fully implemented or unpermitted impacts to sensitive natural resources may occur.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-4: Pre-Construction Surveys for Nesting Birds.</b> To avoid take of migratory birds during the nesting season (February 1 to September 30), to the extent feasible, vegetation and tree removal will only occur between October 1 and January 31. The biologist will conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys no more than 72 hours prior to the start of construction. If an active nest is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate exclusion buffer around the nest. The buffer will depend on species, an individual’s response to disturbance, or the line-of-sight from the construction area to the nest. Equipment and personnel will not enter the buffer until the nest is inactive or juvenile birds are no longer dependent on adults. To prevent occupation or reoccupation, the biologist will remove partially constructed or inactive nests. If a nesting special-status bird species is discovered, Caltrans will coordinate with regulatory agencies for assistance.</p>





Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p><b>BIO-GEN-5: Best Management Practices (Water Pollution Control).</b> Standard Caltrans BMPs, such as dust control, spill prevention and control, stockpile management, and other waste management practices as outlined in Section 13-1.01 of the Caltrans Standard Specifications shall be implemented. See also Measures <b>WQ-1</b> and <b>WQ-2</b>, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>.</p> <p>The Project will comply with the Construction General Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board and with Provisions of the Caltrans Statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The contractor will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Spill Prevention Plan for approval prior to the start of construction. Personnel will adhere to the instructions, protocols, and specifications, outlined in the most current Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual and Caltrans Standard Specifications. At a minimum, protective measures will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing pollutants generated by vehicle and equipment maintenance or cleaning from entering storm drains or aquatic resources</li> <li>• Servicing or storing vehicles and equipment no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources unless the features are protected by impermeable barriers</li> <li>• Maintaining vehicles and equipment to prevent fluid leaks</li> <li>• Storing hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, solvents, etc., in sealed containers at a designated location no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources</li> <li>• Collecting and disposing of concrete waste and contaminated water from curing in appropriate washouts located no less than 50 feet from storm drains and aquatic resources</li> <li>• Using water trucks to control dust</li> <li>• Capturing or controlling sediment with erosion control devices such as silt fence, fiber rolls, and appropriate erosion control netting, and covering temporary stockpiles.</li> </ul> <p>The SWPPP would reference the Caltrans Construction Site BMPs Manual. This manual is comprehensive and includes many other protective measures and guidance to prevent and minimize pollutant discharges. See also Measure <b>WQ-2</b>, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>.</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p><b>BIO-GEN-6:</b> <i>Delineation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA).</i> ESA will be delineated using high-visibility fencing or alternative delineators. The fencing or delineators will be installed prior to the start of construction and regularly maintained and remain in place until construction is completed. Construction personnel or equipment will not access ESAs unless authorized by the biologist.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-7:</b> <i>Prohibition of Mono-Filament Netting.</i> To prevent animals from being entangled, trapped or injured, monofilament fiber will not be used in erosion control devices or animal exclusion devices.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-8:</b> <i>Covering of Excavations and Trenches.</i> To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife during construction excavated holes or trenches more than 1-foot-deep with walls steeper than 30 degrees would be covered by plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day. Alternatively, one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks would be installed. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they would be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-9:</b> <i>Tree and Shrub Avoidance.</i> Tree and shrub removal will be avoided unless necessary to complete construction. Construction activities would avoid the dripline of, as well as the direct removal of, trees and shrubs to the greatest extent practicable. The following conservation measures will be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each tree or group of trees to be retained will be enclosed by a buffer demarcated with ESA fencing at least one foot from the edge of the dripline(s) of the tree(s) prior to the beginning of construction. Fencing shall remain in place during all construction activities in the vicinity of the trees.</li> <li>• The amount of water provided to the tree(s) should not differ from that which was supplied prior to the beginning of construction activities.</li> <li>• The parking of vehicles or construction equipment, or storage of materials within the dripline of the tree(s), should not occur at any time.</li> <li>• Signs, ropes, cables, or other items will not be attached to unremoved trees.</li> <li>• The following measures will be implemented if any disturbance is necessary within a tree’s dripline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If grades must be altered more than plus or minus six inches, an appropriate aeration will be installed, and positive drainage will be maintained.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If trenching is unavoidable, the number of trenches will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. Trees will be trimmed to remove branches proportional to the number of roots lost.</li> <li>● Limit the amount of excavation and compaction within the root protection zone (equals the dripline radius) to the greatest extent possible.</li> <li>● No materials should be placed or stored within the root protection zone at any time through the duration of the Project. Spoils shall not be placed within the tree protection zone either temporarily or permanently.</li> <li>● If trees must be removed:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a certified arborist will mark trees necessary for removal before removal begins.</li> <li>○ tree pruning or removal would be performed by a certified arborist according to ANSI A300 pruning standards. Trees that need to be removed or pruned should be identified in the preconstruction walk through.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>BIO-GEN-10: <i>Invasive Species Control.</i></b> After construction is complete, the contractor will restore disturbed topographical contours to preconstruction conditions. The contractor would contain and remove noxious weeds and associated plant material, and obtain all permits, licenses, and certifications for proper disposal. The contractor would replant disturbed areas with fast-growing native grasses or a native erosion control seed mixture. Where seeding is not practical, the contractor would cover temporarily disturbed areas with black plastic solarization material. The contractor would maintain the material throughout the duration of construction and removed the material at the end of construction.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-11: <i>Revegetation Following Construction.</i></b> All areas that are temporarily affected during construction shall be revegetated with an assemblage of native grass, shrub, and trees as appropriate. Invasive, exotic plants would be controlled within the proposed Project area to the maximum extent practicable, pursuant to Executive Order 13112.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-12: <i>Fugitive Dust.</i></b> Dust control measures would consist of regular truck watering of construction access areas and disturbed soil areas with the use of organic soil stabilizers to minimize airborne dust and soil particles generated from graded areas. Regular truck watering would be a requirement of the construction contract. In addition, for disturbed soil areas, an organic tackifier to control dust emissions blowing off of the ROW or out of the construction area during construction would be included in the contract special provisions. Watering guidelines would be established to avoid any excessive run-off that may flow into contiguous areas. Any material stockpiles would be watered, sprayed with tackifier, or covered, to minimize dust production and wind erosion.</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p><b>BIO-GEN-13: Lighting.</b> To the extent practicable, nighttime construction shall be minimized. Approximately 63 days of nightwork are anticipated. Artificial lighting of the proposed Project area during nighttime hours would be minimized to the maximum extent practicable and would be directed away from sensitive resources. Artificial lighting would be directed away from vegetated areas and only directed at areas where active construction is occurring. If lighting cannot be directed away from vegetated areas, shielding will be implemented to avoid spillover.</p> <p>Permanent light fixtures would have shielding, light-emitting diodes configured at the minimum necessary number of bulbs, as well as optimal mounting height, mast-arm length, and angle to restrict light to the roadways (projected light spread from proposed new permanent lighting fixtures is shown on the figure set in <b>Appendix A</b>).</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-14: Noise (Construction).</b> Construction-generated noise associated with the proposed Project will not surpass baseline ambient noise levels as described in the Noise Study Report for the proposed Project (Illingworth &amp; Rodkin, Inc., 2023).</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-15: Trash.</b> All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps would be disposed of in closed containers and removed regularly from the work area.</p> <p><b>BIO-GEN-16: Vehicle Use.</b> All personnel working on the proposed Project would be required to comply with guidance governing vehicle use, speed limits on unpaved roads, fire prevention, and other hazards.</p> <p><b>BIO-MM-1: Oak Woodlands.</b> In accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands, native oak woodlands will be avoided to the maximum extent feasible. Any oak trees that are impacted would be mitigated through replacement or compensatory mitigation at a ratio to be determined in consultation with CDFW and based on the size of the tree removed, with large-diameter trees requiring greater replacement numbers than small trees. A Tree Protection Plan will be prepared and implemented to minimize damage to native trees during construction. Precise tree planting locations will be determined during the final design phase and will occur within the Caltrans ROW. Replanted areas will be monitored for success for up to 3 to 10 years and subject to success criteria. The performance criterion for replacement tree plantings is 70 percent survival of all plantings at the end of the monitoring period.</p>
Wetlands and Other Waters	<p><b>BIO-MM-2:</b> Where impact areas overlap or would be adjacent to potential wetlands/waters, these wetlands/waters would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. The location of permanent BMPs will be refined during final design and wetlands and other waters would be avoided where feasible. Mitigation for any permanent impacts on aquatic resources shall be provided at a minimum of 1:1 ratio, which would be determined in consultation with the permitting agencies during final design. Mitigation can be achieved through onsite restoration, in-lieu fee payment, or purchase of mitigation credits at</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>a mitigation bank approved by USACE or RWQCB. Mitigation as required in regulatory permits issued through USACE and/or the RWQCB may be applied.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measures <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b>.</p>
Plant Species	<p><b>BIO-PLANTS-1: Protocol-Level Botanical Surveys.</b> Protocol-level botanical surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist in appropriate habitat for Congdon’s tarplant (brome grassland) during the appropriate blooming period for the species (May through October). Surveys will be conducted during the two seasons prior to initial ground disturbance. If Congdon’s tarplant, or any other rare plants are detected during these surveys, they will be mapped and flagged or fenced off for avoidance. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measures <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b>.</p>
Animal Species	<p><b>BIO-BADGER-1: American Badger Pre-Construction Burrow Mapping and Avoidance.</b> While carrying out protocol burrowing owl surveys (BIO-OWL-1), mapping of all mammal burrows will be conducted within suitable habitat up to 500 meters of proposed Project impact areas. During these surveys, any American badger burrows in the survey area will be mapped. Any American badger burrows identified during these surveys will be avoided by a minimum of 200 feet (occupied by adult badgers), and 500 feet if it is found to be a natal burrow (badger young present). Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if American badger dens are discovered.</p> <p><b>BIO-BAT-1: Bats Pre-construction Surveys.</b> A CDFW-approved bat biologist will conduct preconstruction bat surveys no more than 3 days prior to the start of construction. If an active maternity roost is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate buffer around the roosts. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if roosting bats or evidence of roosting are observed.</p> <p><b>BIO-BAT-2: Bat Roost Avoidance.</b> If bats are detected roosting within a bridge structure within 250 feet of disturbance, lighting will be directed away from the roosts, and combustion equipment and vehicles will not be parked or operated under the bridge or structure. If a roost is discovered in a structure or tree that is to be removed, then an appropriate exclusion method will be implemented in coordination with a qualified bat biologist.</p> <p><b>BIO-BEE-1: Bumble Bee Pre-Construction Nest Survey.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction bumble bee nest survey prior to any ground disturbance associated with the proposed Project in brome grassland, semi-natural ornamental, or non-native woodland habitat. If a bumble bee nest is discovered in or within 50 feet of any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey, then the nest will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.</p> <p><b>BIO-FALCON-1: Peregrine Falcon Pre-Construction Survey.</b> If an active peregrine falcon nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 500 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until</p>

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
	<p>the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.</p> <p><b>BIO-KITE-1:</b> <i>White-tailed Kite Pre-Construction Surveys.</i> If an active white-tailed kite nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.</p> <p><b>BIO-HAWK-1:</b> <i>Cooper’s Hawk Nest Buffer.</i> If an active Cooper’s hawk nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. If necessary, Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if a Cooper’s hawk nest is discovered.</p> <p><b>BIO-LIZARD-1:</b> <i>Coast Horned Lizard Pre-Construction Surveys.</i> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure coast horned lizards are absent in proposed Project impact areas between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road (PM R11.3 and PM R12.6).</p> <p><b>BIO-OWL-1:</b> A qualified biologist will conduct burrowing owl surveys in brome grassland habitat in and within 500 meters (1,640 feet) of the BSA following CDFW’s protocols (CDFW 2012) in the year prior to ground disturbance. Surveys will be repeated if construction is delayed or suspended for more than 30 days. If an occupied burrow or structure is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer around it following CDFW’s 2012 guidelines.</p> <p><b>BIO-SNAIL-1:</b> <i>Bridges’ Coast Range Shoulderband Pre-Construction Surveys.</i> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for shoulderband snails prior to any ground disturbance in brome grassland, coast live oak woodland, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, or semi-natural ornamental habitats. If a shoulderband snail colony is discovered in any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey during the pre-construction survey, then it will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.</p> <p><b>BIO-WOODRAT-1:</b> <i>San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Pre-Construction Survey.</i> Prior to clearing of any vegetation in the proposed Project impact areas or within 50 feet of ground disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a survey for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests. If San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests are located, an exclusion buffer of at least 50 feet from these nests will be established to avoid disturbing the nests.</p> <p><b>BIO-WOODRAT-2:</b> <i>San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Nest Translocation.</i> Nest relocation will only occur if necessary and performed by a permitted biologist. Caltrans will contact CDFW if it is necessary to relocate a nest.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measures <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b>.</p>



Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Threatened and Endangered Species	<p><b>BIO-FROG-1: Pre-construction Surveys.</b> A USFWS-approved biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure California red-legged frog are absent within the proposed work areas listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the NB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2)</li> <li>Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the SB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3)</li> </ul> <p><b>BIO-FROG-2: California Red-Legged Frog Stop Work/Technical Assistance.</b> If a California red-legged frog were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.</p> <p><b>BIO-SNAKE-1: Alameda Whipsnake Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for Alameda whipsnake prior to any ground disturbance between Rudgear Road to Livorna Road (PM R12.7 and PM R11.3).</p> <p><b>BIO-SNAKE-2: Alameda Whipsnake Stop Work/Technical Assistance.</b> If an Alameda whipsnake were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.</p> <p><b>BIO-TURTLE-1: Northwestern Pond Turtle Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey to ensure northwestern pond turtles are absent from the proposed impact area prior to any ground disturbance at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area – between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 to PM R18.2)</li> <li>Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 to PM R11.3)</li> </ul> <p>If a northwestern pond turtle is observed in any proposed impact area, ground disturbance would not commence until the turtle leaves the proposed impact area on its own or is relocated by a qualified biologist.</p> <p>See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measures <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> and <i>Animal Species</i> for <b>BIO-BEE-1</b>.</p>
Invasive Species	See <i>Natural Communities</i> for Measures <b>BIO-GEN-1</b> through <b>BIO-GEN-16</b> .
Cumulative Impacts	No additional measures.

Affected Resource	Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
<b>Additional Avoidance, Minimization, or Mitigation Measures under CEQA</b>	
CEQA	<p><b>TRAN-MM-1: I-680 Express Bus Service.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will work with County Connection and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority to implement a new I-680 express bus service and provide funding to rebrand, refurbish, and upgrade six existing buses for interim service (before hydrogen fuel-cell buses are available) and acquire six hydrogen fuel-cell buses (and 1 spare) when they are available for purchase.</p> <p><b>TRAN-MM-2: Shared Mobility Hubs.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of the following mobility hubs: Bollinger Canyon Road, Walnut Creek BART Station, and Martinez Amtrak Station. These hubs will be designed to support I-680 Express Bus Service as well as other fixed-route transit services. The hubs may include mobility hub improvements and Mobility-on-Demand (MoD)/Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) application and could potentially include additional mobility services, such as microtransit and/or increased eBike/eScooter operations.</p> <p><b>TRAN-MM-3: Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of a countywide TDM Program for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. This program will consist of enhancing existing and creating new TDM incentives within Contra Costa County. The program will not supplant, supersede, or replace current CCTA TDM initiatives that are funded by Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) or Measure J. CCTA will operate the program through the County’s existing TDM program (511 Contra Costa).</p>
Wildfire	No additional measures
Climate Change	No additional measures. See <i>Air Quality</i> for Measures <b>AQ-1</b> through <b>AQ-3</b> and <i>Energy</i> for Measures <b>E-1</b> through <b>E-2</b> .



## Permits and Approvals Needed

The following permits, licenses, agreements, and certifications (PLAC) are required for Project construction:

**Table S-3. Permits and Approvals**

Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Section 7 Consultation for threatened and endangered (terrestrial) species	A Biological Assessment is being prepared for the Alameda whipsnake ( <i>Masticophis</i> [= <i>Coluber</i> ] <i>lateralis euryxanthus</i> ), California red-legged frog ( <i>Rana draytonii</i> ), and northwestern pond turtle ( <i>Actinemys marmorata</i> ). Concurrence letter expected from USFWS following informal consultation.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination for jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the United States	A preliminary jurisdictional delineation was submitted to USACE for concurrence on October 12, 2023, and resubmitted on February 15, 2024.
	Section 404 Permit for filling or dredging waters of the United States	A permit application would be submitted during the design phase.
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)	Section 1602 Agreement for Streambed Alternation	Applications for Section 1602 will be submitted to CDFW after Final Environmental Document approval, during the design phase.
	Section 2080.1 Agreement for Threatened and Endangered Species	Incidental take of CDFW listed species is not currently anticipated.
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification or Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR)	Water Quality Certification or WDR will be sought from RWQCB during the final design phase.
	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	NPDES application will be submitted in the design phase, prior to construction.  Notice of Intent and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and submitted prior to construction.
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation	Request for consultation letter sent. Concurrence letter expected from SHPO prior to final environmental document.
Air Quality Conformity Task Force	Project of Air Quality Concern Determination	Task Force determined the Project was not a project of air quality concern on December 19, 2023.
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Clean Air Act Conformity Determination	Air Quality Studies will be submitted to FHWA following public review of the Draft EIR/EA.



Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
Official(s) with Jurisdiction	Section 4(f) <i>De Minimis</i> Concurrences	<p>Notification letter will be sent to SHPO for historic sites prior to final environmental document.</p> <p>Concurrence letters will be sent to officials with jurisdiction for parks, recreation areas, and refuges following selection of the preferred alternative. Concurrence to be obtained prior to final environmental document certification/signature.</p>
California Transportation Commission (CTC)	CTC vote to approve Project funds	Following the approval of the final Environmental Document, CTC approval will be required to allocate any CTC-managed funding for the Project.
Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)	Construction Permit/Plan Review	Additional coordination with BART will be conducted and an application will be submitted during design phase.
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Encroachment Permit(s)	Encroachment permits would be needed for investigations conducted during the design phase and for construction activities within Caltrans ROW.
Contra Costa County Public Works and other Local Agencies	Encroachment Permit(s) and/or Right(s) of Entry	Encroachment permit(s) and/or right(s) of entry would be needed for investigations conducted during the design phase and/or construction activities within County or City ROW.

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# Chapter 1 Proposed Project

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## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, relieve congestion, and improve operations.

The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, would address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges. The post mile (PM) limits for the Project on I-680 are from PM R10.7 at the southern limit to PM 23.1 at the northern limit. More than one Build Alternative is under consideration for the Project, including the construction of a northbound express lane between Livorna Road and State Route (SR) 242. The Project would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane.

The Project is subject to both State and federal environmental review requirements. Project documentation is being prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Caltrans, as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is the lead agency under NEPA. Caltrans is also the lead agency under CEQA. CCTA is the Project Sponsor.

The Project is included in the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and MTC's *Plan Bay Area 2050*, the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). Plan Bay Area 2050 was adopted on October 21, 2021. The Project is an element of MTC's Express Lanes Regional Program (21-T12-116). Plan Bay Area 2050 provides the following description for this program:

*This program includes funding to implement express lanes through HOV lane conversions on I-80 (ALA, CC), I-280 (SCL), I-680 (CC), I-880 (SCL), US-101 (SCL), SR-4 (CC), SR-84 (ALA), SR-85 (SCL), SR-87 (SCL), and SR-92 (ALA); partial HOV lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SF), I-680 (CC), and US-101 (SF); freeway lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SCL), I-580 (ALA), I-680 (SCL), and I-880 (ALA); new lanes on I-80 (SOL), I-680 (ALA, CC), I-880 (ALA), and US-101 (SM); new dual lanes with HOV lane conversions on SR-85 (SCL); and new dual lanes on US-101 (SCL).*

The Project is also included in the *2023 Final Transportation Improvement Program* (TIP), which MTC approved on September 28, 2022, as CC-170017 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022). The 2023 Final TIP provides the following description for the Project:

*Contra Costa County: I-680 NB from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge : I 680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane; from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane; from N Main to Treat: Operational improvements; various locations along I680: install limited access buffers.*

The 2023 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) was approved in December 2022 (California Department of Transportation, 2022b).

## 1.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING

Figure 1-1 shows the regional Project location and vicinity. I-680 is a major north-south freeway that passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano Counties. The Project is located in Contra Costa County, primarily within the cities of San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez; town of Danville; and the community of Alamo.

Figure 1-2 provides the Project Study Limits for the Project. The Project Study Limits include all potential work areas for the Project. As such, the Project Study Limits extend slightly beyond the PM limits from just south of Stone Valley Road (PM 10.0) to north of Arthur Road (PM 23.2). The Project is located in an urbanized area with residential and commercial development south of SR-4 and industrial and residential areas north of SR-4. As described further in Section 1.4.6, *Alternatives Considered but Eliminated*, the total length of the project was reduced from R4.4/24.5 in October 2023.

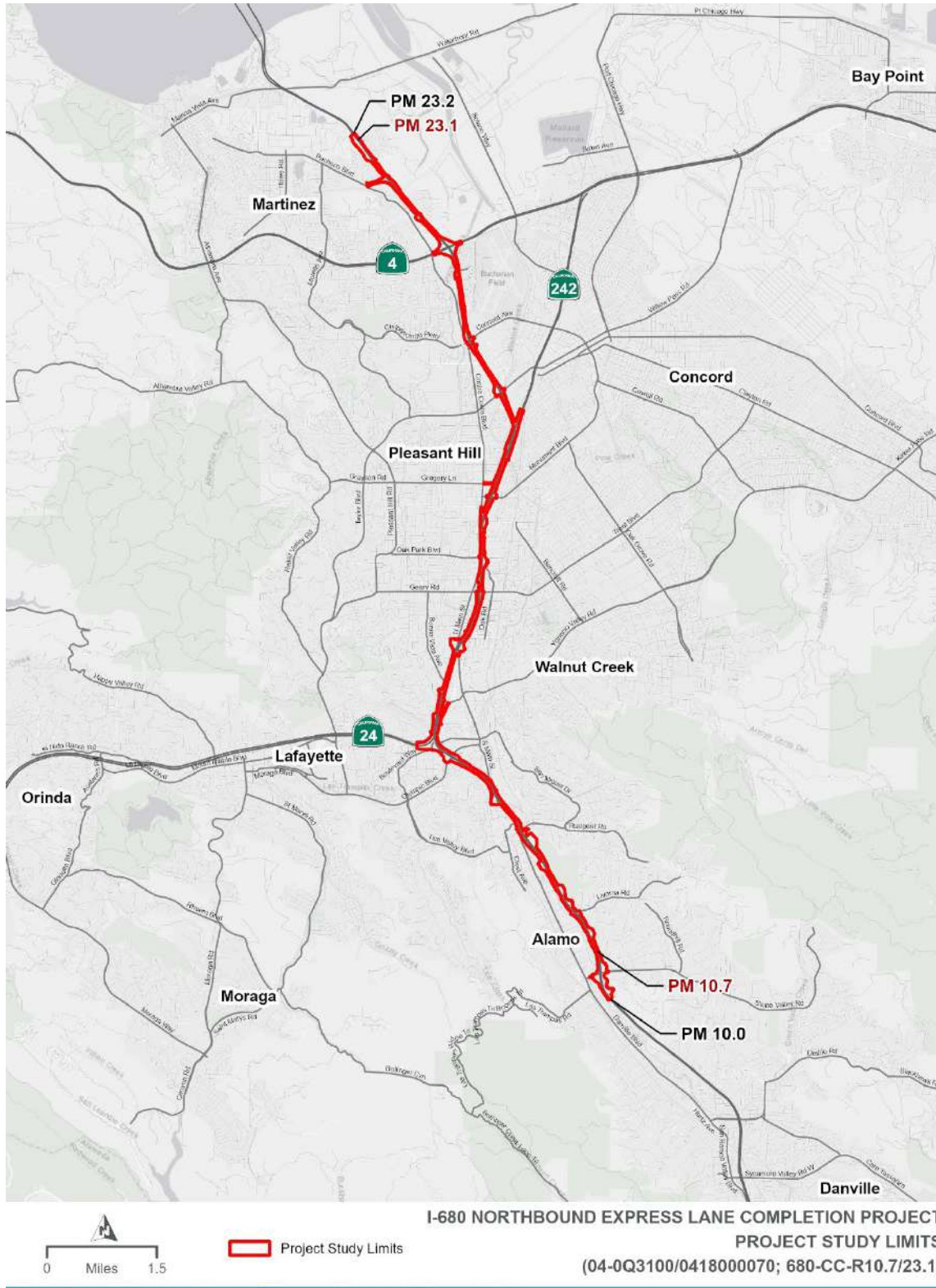
Within the Project Study Limits, I-680, in its existing configuration, is a divided freeway separated by a concrete median barrier. Northbound I-680 currently has two types of managed lanes—HOV lanes and express lanes. An express lane is in operation currently on northbound I-680 from Alameda County (i.e., south of Alcosta Boulevard) to Livorna Road. An HOV lane is provided from north of the SR-242 junction to south of Benicia-Martinez Bridge. There is an existing 7.5-mile gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 between Livorna Road and the SR-242 junction. An express lane is also in operation currently along southbound I-680.

The I-680 roadway profile is generally level with minimal grades. Northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to Marina Vista Avenue contains three to five general-purpose (mixed flow) lanes that vary from 11 to 12 feet in width and one 11- to 12-foot-wide HOV lane north of SR-242. Auxiliary lanes generally span from one interchange to the next, while accelerating and decelerating lanes span only one portion of an interchange.





**Figure 1-1. Regional Location and Project Vicinity**



**Figure 1-2. Project Study Limits**



The freeway is supplemented with auxiliary lanes from Willow Pass Road to Burnett Avenue, Treat Boulevard to Monument Boulevard, Lawrence Way to Treat Boulevard, Diablo Road to El Cerro Boulevard, and Bollinger Canyon Road to Crow Canyon Road. Inside shoulder widths along I-680 vary from 2 to 10 feet, and outside shoulder widths are approximately 10 feet with localized reductions at structures.

The corridor contains several design constraints, such as center columns to support overcrossing structures, structure abutments, adjacent frontage roads, retaining walls, and sound walls. The most notable constraints are the columns for the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) overcrossing of I-680 just north of the SR-24 Interchange. Three northbound California Highway Patrol (CHP) median observation areas also exist within the Project Study Limits.

I-680 has been officially designated as a State Scenic Highway from the Alameda/Contra Costa County Line to the I-680/SR-24 Interchange. SR-24 is officially designated as a State Scenic Highway west of I-680. Segments of I-680 within the Project Study Limits are also designated as a Landscaped Freeway.

## 1.3 PURPOSE AND NEED

### 1.3.1 Project Purpose

The purpose of the proposed Project is to:

- Reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680.
- Encourage use of high occupancy vehicles (HOV) and transit service.
- Offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.
- Optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands.
- Reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor.

### 1.3.2 Project Need

The need for the Project to address existing transportation problems within the Project Study Limits are:

- **Congestion** – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the Project Study Limits experience substantial congestion – over 30 minutes of delay – during peak hours.
- **System Continuity** – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity

is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system and increasing travel time for all users.

- **Operational Improvements** – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the afternoon peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.

The northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the Project Study Limits experience congestion during peak periods. Speed and travel times throughout the corridor would continue to degrade in the future, while the HOV lane currently has, and would continue to have, available capacity to accommodate forecasted increases in travel demand through the Project's Design Year (2047). The Project is intended to shift single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) drivers choosing to pay a toll from the general-purpose lanes to the proposed express lane, thereby optimizing the use of the existing HOV lane and offering more reliable travel time options.

Additional details regarding existing and projected congestion and bottlenecks are provided in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*.

### 1.3.3 Legislation

The following legislation is applicable to the proposed Project:

Assembly Bill (AB) 194, Chapter 687 (amending Section 149.7 and 149.12) of the California Streets and Highways Code, which was passed in 2015, allows regional transportation agencies and Caltrans to develop and operate express lanes or other toll facilities. The legislation removes the prior limits on the number of facilities and the approval deadline. The legislation created the Highway Toll Account in the State Transportation Fund to manage funds received for toll facilities operated by Caltrans. Before 2016, tolling authority in California was granted typically only through legislation that specifically authorized an entity to implement a tolled facility.

23 United States Code (USC) 166 provides rules for operation of HOV facilities and high-occupancy toll (HOT) facilities by a public authority (any federal, State, county, town, municipal, or other local government with authority to finance, build, operate or maintain toll or toll-free facilities). 23 USC 166 provides the public authority the ability to define the number of occupants in a qualified HOV (as long as it is no fewer than two occupants per vehicle); restrict motorcycle use of an HOV or HOT facility for safety, as needed; and allow or restrict public transportation vehicles on the HOV or HOT facility. 23 USC 166 requires these lanes to maintain a 45-mph minimum average operating speed (90 percent of the time over a consecutive 180-day period). The public authority has several options they can use to increase operating speed performance if this average operating speed is not met, including the following:

- Increasing the occupancy requirements for HOVs
- Vary the toll charged to vehicles
- Limiting the lane to HOVs only

23 USC 301 prohibits tolls on federal highways, unless otherwise authorized by 23 USC 129. 23 USC 129 authorizes the federal participation in projects that impose new tolls on federal highways under certain circumstances. For example, 23 USC 129 allows for the conversion of HOV lanes to a toll facility for a highway, bridge, or tunnel on the interstate system. In addition, 23 USC 129 allows for the initial construction of one or more lanes or other improvements that increase the capacity of a highway, bridge, or tunnel on the interstate system and the conversion of that highway, bridge, or tunnel to a toll facility, as long as the number of toll-free, non-HOV lanes (i.e., general-purpose lanes) following construction is not less than the number of toll-free, non-HOV lanes prior to construction, not including auxiliary lanes.

### 1.3.4 Logical Termini and Independent Utility

FHWA regulations (23 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 771.111 [f]) require that the action evaluated:

1. Connect logical termini and be of sufficient length to address environmental matters on a broad scope.
2. Have independent utility or independent significance (be usable and be a reasonable expenditure even if no additional transportation improvements in the area are made).
3. Not restrict consideration of alternatives for other reasonably foreseeable transportation improvements.

Logical termini are defined as (1) rational end points for a transportation improvement, and (2) rational end points for a review of the environmental impacts. The PM limits for the Project on I-680 are from post PM R10.7 at the southern limit to PM 23.1 and encompass the operational improvements for the Project. As part of the traffic operations analysis conducted for this Project, these limits were chosen based on the limits of existing express lanes along I-680 in Contra Costa County and include the HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to south of the Benicia -Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza.

The Project Study Limits on I-680 are from PM R10.0 at the southern limit to PM 23.2 at the northern limit. The Project Study Limits fully encompass the 7.5-mile gap in managed lanes, the existing HOV lanes on northbound I-680, and all potential work areas for the Project. As described further in Section 1.4.6, *Alternatives Considered but Eliminated*, the PM limits and Project Study Limits were reduced in October 2023. Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*, shows the Project Study Limits in

relation to proposed project features and impact areas for the Build Alternatives that are being carried forward for evaluation.

Independent utility, or independent significance, is defined as being a usable and reasonable expenditure even if no additional transportation improvements are made in the area. The proposed Project would not require any additional transportation improvements in the Project area to meet the purpose and need. Accordingly, the Project is a usable and reasonable expenditure.

Approving the Project would not restrict consideration of alternatives for this or other reasonably foreseeable transportation improvements. CCTA is the county transportation authority and Project Sponsor. The Project is being designed in coordination with other local and regional transportation authorities in the area. Continuous coordination would avoid potential conflicts with proposed alternatives and other planned area transportation improvements.

## 1.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section describes the proposed action and the Project alternatives developed to meet the purpose and need of the Project, while avoiding or minimizing environmental impacts. The Project alternatives are as follows:

- Build Alternative 1C: Close the Gap with Realignment
- Build Alternative 2: Reduce the Gap Plus Braided Ramps
- Build Alternative 3: Close the Gap with Realignment Plus Braided Ramps
- Build Alternative 5: Reduce the Gap with General-Purpose Lane Conversion Plus Braided Ramps
- No-Build Alternative: The No-Build Alternative does not include any improvement on I-680.

The Project Study Limits are just south of Stone Valley Road (PM R10.0) to north of Arthur Road (PM 23.2). The total Project length is approximately 13.2 miles. All Build Alternatives include the creation of a northbound express lane (in various lengths) between Livorna Road and SR-242 (PM R11.30 to R18.87) and conversion of an existing HOV lane to an express lane north of Arthur Road (PM R18.87 to R22.87). Within this area, northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to Marina Vista Avenue is an interstate freeway that contains three to five general-purpose (mixed flow) lanes. On northbound I-680, express lanes currently end around Livorna Road. There is a 7.5-mile gap in managed lanes (i.e., HOV and express lanes) between Livorna Road and the SR-242 junction. HOV lanes are currently operational from SR-242 to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. There are also operating express lanes on southbound I-680 between Alcosta Boulevard and Marina Vista Road.

The purpose of the Project is to reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680, encourage HOV and transit service use, offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option, optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands, and reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor.

The following subsections describe the Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative in more detail. Alternatives that were considered but eliminated from evaluation are described in Section 1.4.6, *Alternatives Considered but Eliminated*.

Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*, contains detailed exhibits of proposed improvements and impact areas for each Build Alternative.

## **1.4.1 Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives**

### **1.4.1.1 Express Lane Operations**

All eligible vehicles would be able to use the express lane during the hours of operation. HOVs, motorcycles, buses, and decal vehicles, as authorized by the California Air Resources Board, would be eligible express lane users. Depending on the operational business rules, these vehicles may travel for free or may incur a reduced fee, which is discussed in more detail below. The proposed express lane is expected to operate with a vehicle occupancy requirement of two or more (2+) persons per HOV, unless a different vehicle occupancy is decided. SOV drivers would also be eligible to use the express lane for a toll. Trucks or other vehicles with three or more axles would be excluded from the express lane.

It is currently anticipated that the hours of operations would be the same as other existing express lanes on I-680, which is from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The express lane would operate like a general-purpose lane outside of these hours.

Additional details regarding the proposed express lane's operation are provided below.

### **Pricing and Tolling**

Tolling would operate similar to the existing express lanes on I-680. The tolling operation would be fully electronic, with no ability to stop and make payments at a toll plaza. Tolls are assessed to users based on FasTrak® transponders and/or license plates. All vehicles in the express lane must have FasTrak®. License Plate Recognition cameras would capture vehicle license plate images and assess tolls to a valid FasTrak® account or issue toll violation notices if no valid account is associated with the vehicle.

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Bay Area. The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority delivers, owns, and operates the express lanes toll system, and sets toll pricing in the Bay Area. Tolls for express lanes are dynamic, meaning they change periodically based on

real-time traffic volumes. During periods of lower traffic congestion, the toll would be lower to encourage SOVs to pay the toll and use the additional express lane capacity. During periods of higher traffic congestion, the toll would be higher to discourage SOVs from using the express lane. Toll increases for SOVs would be used to meet the minimum average operating speed of 45 miles per hour (mph) for HOVs (23 USC 166[d][2]). Qualifying HOVs, Clean Air Vehicles (CAV), and motorcycles with a properly set FasTrak® Flex or FasTrak® CAV toll tag would travel free or at a discounted rate. Outside of the hours of operation, the express lane would operate as a general-purpose lane, open to all users for no toll.

## Enforcement

All Build Alternatives include the installation of overhead signs, toll gantries, toll readers and antennas, vehicle sensors, rear-plate facing cameras, enforcement beacons, closed-circuit television cameras, zone controllers, utility cabinets, CHP enforcement areas, and maintenance vehicle pullouts within the Project Study Limits.

The tolling operation would be fully electronic, with no ability to stop and make payments at a toll plaza. Tolls are assessed to users based on FasTrak® transponders and/or license plates. License Plate Recognition cameras would capture vehicle license plate images and assess tolls to a valid FasTrak® account or issue toll violation notices if no valid account is associated with the vehicle.

Although the use of License Plate Recognition and toll transponders would automate toll violations, CHP is responsible for enforcing all laws that apply to the express lane, including toll and HOV violations. Toll violations would be enforced through an automated violation process. Toll gantries would be installed at the beginning and end of the proposed express lane, near the SR-242 Interchange, and at the SR-24 Interchange (Alternatives 1C and 3).

Vehicles with a valid FasTrak® transponder would trigger a transaction indicator beacon. CHP officers would monitor the indicator beacon and observe from a distance whether the identified vehicle is self-declaring its status as SOV, HOV2 (a driver and one additional passenger), HOV3+ (a driver and two or more additional passengers), or if the vehicle does not have a valid FasTrak® transponder. If CHP determines that a driver is self-declaring (via FasTrak® transponder) a higher occupancy than observed in the vehicle, or if the vehicle does not have a valid FasTrak® transponder or a properly mounted and readable license plate, the vehicle may be pulled over and cited.

Existing CHP enforcement locations would be retained to allow CHP enforcement of the express lane. One new CHP area would be located in the vicinity of the SR-242 Interchange for northbound I-680 express lane enforcement under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. The final locations would be identified in coordination with CHP during the Project's final design phase and would consider line of sight and officer and vehicle safety. A tentative CHP area is proposed in the highway median that would be approximately 115 feet long and vary between 10 and 14 feet wide.



## Signage

The proposed express lane would include several types of signs to provide graphic or text messages that inform motorists of pricing by toll zone and operating rules. As depicted in Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*, the overhead sign structure locations would vary by alternative. Smaller signs would be mounted on the concrete median barrier. Larger signs would be mounted on cantilevered overhead sign structures spanning above the express lane. The total height of the overhead sign structure (including the sign) would depend on the type of sign being mounted. The sign types are summarized below.

- **Variable Toll Message Sign (VTMS)** – Electronic message signs would display two prices: one for the zone the driver is entering and the other for traveling to an upcoming destination in the express lane facility. The prices shown upon a driver’s entry into the express lane would apply regardless of whether they change during the driver’s trip as a result of increased (or decreased) levels of traffic. These signs would be mounted on overhead structures and be located approximately 2 miles apart, with additional signs placed in advance of the express lane facility, zone changes, and near on-ramps with heavy traffic volumes. The signs would have sensors that adjust the brightness of the toll cost numbers to ambient light conditions automatically, so that the light-emitting diode (LED) components are no brighter than needed for motorist visibility at any time.
- **Static/Nonelectrical Signs** – Sign panels indicating FasTrak® use only would be placed approximately 0.75 mile apart within each toll zone, no more than 0.5 mile after each VTMS, and at entrance ramps. Signs would also be placed at the start of the express lane and at the start of limited access locations. Among other things, static signs would provide the express lane hours of operation.

### 1.4.1.2 Utility Relocation, Rerouting, and Removal

Electrical utilities would be required to power overhead signs, toll gantries, toll readers and antennas, vehicle sensors, rear-plate facing cameras, enforcement beacons, closed-circuit television cameras, zone controllers, and utility cabinets. Electrical and communications conduits and fiber would be extended from existing sources along the outside edge of pavement or along local roads. Extending electrical and communication conduit and fiber would require trenching and/or horizontal directional drilling to bring these services to the electronic tolling equipment and signage. Installation of pull boxes, controller cabinets, and service enclosures for electrical and/or fiber optic conduits would also be required. The locations for proposed electrical service lines and cabinets would be determined in coordination with utility providers during final design. Potential locations have been identified for each Build Alternative.

Relocating overhead utilities could lead to temporary service interruptions. In addition, ground disturbance activities could damage existing utility infrastructure and lead to temporary service interruptions. See Chapter 2.1.7, Utilities and Service Systems, for

more information regarding potential utility relocations, rerouting, or removals. In accordance with Section 4216 of the California Government Code, local utilities would be notified prior to ground disturbance.

### 1.4.1.3 Safety Lighting

All Build Alternatives would provide enhanced lighting to improve roadway visibility. Lighting may be upgraded at ramp merges and diverges, if necessary. Lighting would also be added to overhead signs, the express lane entrance, toll zone boundaries, locations on the highway where visibility is restricted by barriers, locations where the median width is narrow and drivers may be exposed to headlight glare, and locations where concentrations of nighttime collisions are known to have occurred. Although preliminary locations have been identified for the purpose of this evaluation, the exact locations of new lighting would be determined during the final design phase. The lighting would have LEDs configured at the minimum necessary illumination level and optimal angle to restrict light to the freeway right-of-way (ROW). Shields on the fixtures would be used to reduce light trespass to surrounding properties.

### 1.4.1.4 Permanent Stormwater Treatment

All Build Alternatives would include the installation of permanent best management practices (BMP) to avoid the potential for Project-related stormwater discharges to alter drainage patterns substantially, violate water quality standards, or degrade water quality substantially. All Build Alternatives propose biofiltration swales, designed for bioretention, with either trash nets or gross solids removal devices (GSRD) to provide stormwater treatment and achieve trash capture. For bioretention swales, retention would be achieved using an engineered soil mix and an underdrain system. The final location of permanent BMPs would be determined during the final design phase and be in compliance with permit requirements from regulatory agencies. Table 1-1 describes the potential permanent BMP locations that could be used for all Build Alternatives, all of which would be located within existing State ROW. BMP areas for each Build Alternative are also depicted in Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*.

**Table 1-1. Proposed Permanent BMP Areas**

PM	Side (NB/SB)	Potential Trash Capture Device	Location Description
R11.3	SB	GSRD	Livorna Road SB off-ramp
13.9	SB	GSRD	Olympic Ramp to I-680 S Entrance
14.8	NB	GSRD	NB I-680 Off Road Hillside Avenue
15.6	NB	GSRD	North Main Street Loop off-ramp
16.0	SB	TRASH NET	North of North Main Street off-ramp
16.0	NB	GSRD	North of North Main Street on-ramp
16.4	NB	GSRD	Treat Boulevard/Geary Road Exit



PM	Side (NB/SB)	Potential Trash Capture Device	Location Description
R17.3	NB	GSRD	Gore area of I-680 NB and Contra Costa on-ramp
R18.9	NB	GSRD	Before Willow Pass Road
19.1	SB	TRASH NET	Willow Pass Road off-ramp
19.15	SB	GSRD	After Willow Pass Road off-ramp
19.7	SB	TRASH NET	Between Willow Pass SB off-ramp and Concord Avenue on-ramp, where Golf Club Road dead-ends at I-680
19.7	NB	TRASH NET	South of Concord Avenue off-ramp
21.0	SB	TRASH NET	SR-4 EB / I-680 SB Connector
21.0	NB	TRASH NET	SR-4 EB to I-680 NB on-ramp
21.1	SB	GSRD	I-680 SB near SR-4
21.1	NB	TRASH NET	SR-4 EB / I-680 SB Connector Gore
21.1	SB	TRASH NET	South of Crow Canyon Road on I-680 NB
21.1	NB	TRASH NET	Next to SR-4 on-ramp from I-680 NB
21.1	SB	TRASH NET	I-680 SB off-ramp to SR-4 EB
21.2	NB	TRASH NET	Next to SR-4 off-ramp from I-680 NB
21.25	SB	TRASH NET	SR-4 WB to I-680 SB on-ramp
21.3	SB	GSRD	I-680 SB / SR-4 WB Connector Gore
22.4	SB	GSRD	Pacheco Road SB on-ramp

Notes: EB = eastbound, GSRD = gross solids removal devices, NB = northbound, PM = post mile, SB = southbound, SR = State Route, WB = westbound

### 1.4.1.5 Design Standards

Caltrans establishes and supports the consistent application of highway design standards to ensure optimal safety for the traveling public and those who work to construct, operate, and maintain the state highway system. Exceptions to these standards are necessary when the proposed design deviates from the standard design features presented in the Caltrans Highway Design Manual (California Department of Transportation, 2020). Chapter 21 of the Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual (California Department of Transportation, 2022c) defines Boldface design standards as those considered most essential to achieving the overall design objectives. Underlined design standards are important and allow greater flexibility in application to accommodate design constraints or be compatible with local conditions on resurfacing or rehabilitation projects. The Project Study Limits contain existing, nonstandard design elements that do not meet current design standards. Exceptions to

Boldface and Underlined design standards would be required for all Build Alternatives to minimize environmental impacts.

#### **1.4.1.6 Standardized Project Measures**

This Project contains a number of standardized project measures which are employed on most, if not all, Caltrans projects and were not developed in response to any specific environmental impact resulting from the proposed Project. These measures are addressed in more detail in the Environmental Consequences sections found in Chapter 2.

Each Project alternative includes the following standardized measures as part of the Project description. Standardized measures (such as BMPs) are generally applied to most or all Caltrans projects. These standardized, or pre-existing, measures allow little discretion regarding their implementation and are not specific to the circumstances of a particular project. More information on each measure can be found in the applicable sections of Chapter 2. The construction contractor would be required to follow all standard requirements and procedures included in detailed design, specifications, permits, or other authorizations.

Example standardized project measures that would be implemented as part of the Project are described below.

#### **Transportation Management Plan**

During the final design phase for the Build Alternatives, a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) would be prepared in accordance with Caltrans' requirements and guidelines to minimize construction-related delays and inconvenience for travelers in the Project area (California Department of Transportation, 2015). The TMP would address potential traffic impacts as they relate to staged construction, detours, and other traffic handling concerns associated with proposed Project construction. The TMP would include the following:

- Press releases and other documents would be distributed, as necessary, to notify local jurisdictions, agencies, and the public about upcoming road closures and detours.
- Contingency plans would be coordinated with CHP and local law enforcement.
- Portable changeable message signs, the CHP Construction Zone Enhanced Enforcement Program, and the Freeway Service Patrol would be used, where possible, to minimize delays.
- Access would be maintained for emergency response vehicles.

## Highway Planting

Planting would be installed in areas where planting is removed for construction activities and to provide screening, where feasible. Highway planting and irrigation would follow completion of the roadway construction and could potentially be installed under a separate construction contract. A three-year, plant-establishment period would be included.

## Erosion Control and Construction Discharges

The following standard practices for erosion control and construction discharges would be part of the Project for all Build Alternatives during construction:

- As part of construction, no debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, slash, sawdust, cement, concrete, washings, petroleum products, or other organic or earthen material shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into waters of the United States or drainages. No discharges of excessively turbid water would be allowed, and all equipment would be well-maintained and free of leaks.
- A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and erosion control BMPs would be developed and implemented to minimize any wind or water-related material discharges, in compliance with Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) requirements, Section 13 of the 2022 Caltrans Standard Specifications (California Department of Transportation, 2022a), and Caltrans' Construction Site BMP Manual (California Department of Transportation, 2017). The SWPPP would provide water pollution control practices to limit stormwater and non-stormwater discharges. Temporary construction BMPs would be used to the maximum extent necessary.
- Erosion control methods may include silt fencing, straw wattles, straw bales, coir blankets, sediment traps, and other protective methods to limit the potential for sediment erosion beyond the work area.

## Geotechnical Design Standards

Caltrans' design and construction guidelines incorporate engineering standards that address seismic risks. Project elements would be designed and constructed to meet seismic design requirements for ground shaking and ground motions, as determined for the Project vicinity and site conditions. Caltrans also requires additional geotechnical subsurface and design investigations to be performed during the final Project design and engineering phase.

## Executive Order 13112

Compliance with Executive Order (EO) 13112 on invasive species is a standard practice that Caltrans adheres to for all projects. In compliance with EO 13112, and subsequent guidance from FHWA, the landscaping and erosion control included in the Project would

use species that are not listed as noxious weeds. The following methods would be used in accordance with standard construction practices:

- No disposal of soil and plant materials would be allowed from areas that support invasive species to areas dominated by native vegetation.
- Construction workers would be educated on weed identification and the importance of controlling and preventing the spread of identified, invasive, nonnative species.
- Gravel and/or fill material to be placed in relatively weed-free areas would come from weed-free sources. Certified weed-free imported materials (or rice straw in upland areas) would be used.

### **Species Protection**

Caltrans Standard Specifications include several protective measures for regulated species and their habitat (California Department of Transportation, 2022a). For example, construction contractors would be required to stop all work within 100 feet of a discovery of a regulated species. Construction contractors are also required to stop all work upon the discovery an injured or dead bird or discovery of migratory or nongame bird nests that may be adversely affected by construction activities.

### **Cultural Resources, Human Remains, and Paleontological Resources**

Construction contractors are required to stop all work within 60 feet of the unanticipated discovery of a cultural resource, human remains, or paleontological resource and to not resume work until authorized. Construction contractors are instructed to secure the area and not move or take cultural or paleontological resources or human remains from the job site until the discovery can be assessed.

### **Air Quality**

Construction contractors would be required to comply with all applicable air-pollution-control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes that apply to the work being performed.

### **Noise**

Construction contractors would be required to control and monitor their construction noise. Caltrans Standard Specifications require that construction noise not exceed 86 A-weighted decibels (dBA) maximum sound level (L<sub>max</sub>) at 50 feet from the job site from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. (California Department of Transportation, 2022a).

## Aesthetics

Concrete surface textures proposed for retaining walls and sound walls would be designed to match existing walls and be consistent with the *I-680-24 Interchange Architectural Visual Design Guidelines* (California Department of Transportation, 1989).

### 1.4.1.7 Transportation System Management, Transportation Demand Management, and Mass Transit Alternatives

Transportation Systems Management (TSM) strategies increase the efficiency of existing facilities by accommodating a greater number of vehicle trips without increasing the number of through lanes. Examples of TSM strategies include ramp metering, traffic operation systems, auxiliary lanes, turning lanes, reversible lanes, and traffic signal coordination. TSM also promotes automobile, public, and private transit; ridesharing programs; and bicycle and pedestrian improvements as elements of a unified urban transportation system. Modal alternatives integrate multiple transportation modes, such as pedestrian, bicycle, automobile, rail, and mass transit.

TSM strategies, such as auxiliary lanes, are already in use within the Project Study Limits. In addition, separate ramp metering projects and a bus-on-shoulder project are currently in the Project Initiation Document Phase and Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) Phase within the Project Study Limits. The proposed express lane would encourage transit use and increase I-680's efficiency. Additional traffic operation systems for transportation management would be installed as part of this Project. Although TSM measures alone could not satisfy the purpose and need of the Project, the following TSM measures have been incorporated into the Build Alternatives for this Project: vehicle detection systems to monitor traffic speed, density, and enforcement; incident management; and other subsystems to maintain acceptable traffic flow in the express lane.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) focuses on regional means of reducing the number of vehicle trips and VMT as well as increasing vehicle occupancy. TDM facilitates higher vehicle occupancy or reduces traffic congestion by expanding the traveler's transportation options in terms of travel method, travel time, travel route, travel costs, and the quality and convenience of the travel experience. A typical TDM activity would be providing funds to regional agencies that are actively promoting ridesharing, maintaining rideshare databases, and providing limited rideshare services to employers and individuals. The proposed express lane would help to facilitate transit use and ridesharing. In addition, the vehicle detection systems for monitoring traffic speed and density to maintain an acceptable level of service in the express lane would benefit transit and encourage HOV use on northbound I-680 between Livorna Avenue and SR-242. Additional mass transit improvements and TDM strategies are also being considered as CEQA mitigation for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, as described in Chapter 3.

### 1.4.1.8 Project Funding

Funding has currently been committed through Measure J, Surface Transportation Program (STP), Local Partnership Program – Formula, and State Transportation

Improvement Program (STIP). Additional funding is anticipated to come from Bay Area's Regional Measure 3, Local Partnership Program – Competitive, Senate Bill (SB) 1 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Mega Grant Program, and other local funds.

## 1.4.2 Unique Features of Build Alternatives

### 1.4.2.1 Alternative 1C: Close the Gap with Realignment

Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5-mile gap between the two existing managed lane segments by adding a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242. Alternative 1C would also convert the existing northbound HOV lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane.

Alternative 1C includes the following proposed improvements:

- Add a northbound express lane from the Livorna Road on-ramp to south of the Olympic Boulevard on-ramp through widening and restriping.
- Add a northbound express lane from the Olympic Boulevard on-ramp to the Trinity Avenue Overcrossing as a barrier-separated express lane through widening and restriping.
- Add a northbound express lane from the Trinity Avenue Overcrossing to the Treat Boulevard off-ramp as a striped, buffer-separated express lane through widening and restriping.
- Realign southbound I-680 and the Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector around three existing BART structure columns to make room for the northbound I-680 express lane.
  - **Realign Southbound I-680** – The existing southbound I-680 roadway pavement would be reconfigured to include northbound and southbound express lanes. Southbound I-680 would be realigned westward. The southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp would be realigned. The Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector would be realigned and widened.
  - **Realign Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector** – The existing roadway would be demolished to accommodate southbound I-680 realignment, and the Westbound SR-24 Connector would be realigned westward.
- Add a northbound express lane from the Treat Boulevard off-ramp to the SR-242 junction through widening and restriping.
- Convert the existing HOV lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane.



- The number of general-purpose lanes would be the same as existing conditions from Livorna Road to north of Arthur Road.

### State Route 24 Interchange

Alternative 1C would reconfigure northbound and southbound I-680 at the SR-24 Interchange. Alternative 1C includes adding a separated northbound express lane from the Olympic Boulevard on-ramp to the Trinity Avenue Overcrossing and a striped, buffer-separated northbound express lane from the Trinity Avenue Overcrossing to the Treat Boulevard off-ramp. Figure 1-3 provides a visual simulation of Alternative 1C at the BART crossing. Drivers traveling on northbound I-680 who intend to exit on North Main Street, Treat Boulevard, or Ygnacio Valley Road would be required to leave the express lane prior to the Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp.



**Figure 1-3. Alternative 1C: Simulation of SR-24 Interchange Looking South**

### Auxiliary Lanes

Other than the restriping and pavement widening described below, Alternative 1C would not create or modify (i.e., lengthen or shorten) any existing auxiliary lanes.

### Pavement Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 1C would add a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and convert the existing northbound HOV lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane.

Table 1-2 provides the approximate pavement widening and reconstruction locations and descriptions for Alternative 1C.

**Table 1-2. Alternative 1C: Pavement Widening and Reconstruction**

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
R11.34	R12.91	North of Livorna Road Undercrossing	South of South Main Street Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R12.74	R12.91	Rudgear Road Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
13.98	14.70	North of Olympic Boulevard Undercrossing	North of Oakvale Road Overcrossing	Mainline reconstruction (southbound)
13.92	14.19	Eastbound SR-24 to Southbound I-680 Connector		Outside widening along SR-24 Connector
14.02	14.09	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
14.31	14.71	Southbound I-680 to Westbound SR-24 Connector		Connector reconstruction
14.68	14.79	North of Oakvale Road Overcrossing	South of Ygnacio Valley Road Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.48	16.30	South or North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
16.69	17.02	South of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.20	R17.45	South of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.79	R17.87	North of Monument Boulevard Overcrossing	Monument Boulevard on-ramp gore	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.17	R19.10	South of SR-242 junction	South of Willow Pass Road Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.57	R18.69	Northbound I-680 to Northbound SR-242 Connector		Outside widening along SR-242 Connector

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route



## Bridge Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 1C would include new bridge structures for the Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing and for the northbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp. Alternative 1C would also require the existing Rudgear Road Undercrossing bridge to be widened. Table 1-3 provides additional information regarding the proposed bridge widening and reconstruction.

**Table 1-3. Alternative 1C: Bridge Widening and Reconstruction**

PM	Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Work Description	Location Description	Approx. Length (feet)	Approx. Area (square feet)
12.61	28-0059	Rudgear Road Undercrossing	Northbound I-680 Outside Widening	I-680/ Rudgear Road	575	10,159
14.14	28-0312K	Olympic Boulevard off-ramp	Separation Removal	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp	702	19,425
14.14	-	Eastbound SR-24 Connector Undercrossing	New Construction	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp	425	12,113
14.24	28-0128L	Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing	New Construction	I-680/ Mount Diablo Boulevard	258	19,737
14.28	28-126G	Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp	Column Modification (Bent 7)	Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp	N/A	N/A

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

## Concrete Barriers, Retaining Walls, and Sound Walls

Generally, the existing concrete median barrier would be retained between northbound and southbound I-680. However, some existing concrete barriers would be replaced where the northbound express lane physically separates from the general-purpose lanes (PM 13.98 to 14.16 and PM 14.60 to 14.73) and where the existing concrete barrier is non-standard (PM 16.44 to R18.69). A new concrete barrier would be placed between the northbound and southbound express lanes through the SR-24 Interchange (PM 14.16 to 14.60) and between existing southbound I-680 and proposed southbound I-680 (PM 14.14 to 14.52). In addition, existing retaining walls and sound walls may need to be replaced where highway widening is required. See Table 1-4 for specific locations. All new or replaced barriers, retaining walls, and sound walls would be constructed to current design standards.

**Table 1-4. Alternative 1C: Retaining Walls and Sound Walls**

Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
LR-RW1	Livorna to Rudgear	R11.53	R12.42	Soil Nail	No	4698	15	5	C
LR-RW2	Rudgear Off-ramp Gore	R12.49	R12.60	Type 1	No	585	10	5	F
RSM-RW1	Rudgear On-ramp Gore	R12.74	R12.76	Type 1	No	149	16	5	F
RSM-RW2	Rudgear to South Main Street	R12.75	12.89	5SWBP	Yes	1473	22	5	F
24-RW1	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.03	14.16	MSE	No	746	26	5	F
24-RW2	SR-24 Interchange Eastbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.03	14.19	MSE	Yes	422	16	5	F
24-RW3	SR-24 Interchange Olympic Off-ramp Right Shoulder	14.05	14.11	MSE	Yes	56	22	5	F
24-RW4	SR-24 Interchange Olympic Off-ramp Left Shoulder	14.08	14.11	MSE	No	120	26	5	F
SW. No. 1	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.16	14.20	Sound Wall	-	299	14	5	-
24-RW6	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.16	14.23	MSE	No	487	30	8	F



Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
24-RW7	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.27	14.29	MSE	No	151	32	8	F
24-RW8	SR-24 Interchange Westbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.32	14.58	Ground Anchor / Tangent Pile	No	1393	37	40	C
24-RW9	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.33	14.69	Soldier Pile / Ground Anchor	No	1878	16	25	C
24-RW10	SR-24 Interchange Westbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.58	14.70	Ground Anchor	No	567	33	40	C
M242-RW1	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.17	R18.22	Type 1 (Mod)	Yes	268	8	5	F
SW No. 3	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.22	R18.29	Sound Wall	-	185	14	5	-
M242-RW2	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.3	R18.49	Soil Nail	No	927	15	5	C
SW No. 4	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.55	R18.69	Sound Wall	-	789	14	5	-

Notes: MSE = mechanically stabilized earth; PM = post mile; SR = State Route

## Northbound Truck Scale Facility

The existing northbound truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard Overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location with minor off-ramp gore restriping.

## Project Construction

### *Construction Duration*

Alternative 1C construction is anticipated to take approximately 2 years to complete. Depending on funding availability, construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and be completed by 2027 (approximately 24 months).

### *Construction Closures and Detours*

Long-term full closure of I-680 is not anticipated. However, short-term nighttime closures of northbound I-680 would be required near the Westbound SR-24 Connector Ramp and the Northbound SR-242 Connector Ramp. Short-term nighttime lane closures would be needed along northbound I-680 for pavement overlay; striping; construction of sound walls, barriers, and retaining walls; and installation of temporary barriers along construction areas. Temporary daytime and/or nighttime closures of local streets, sidewalks, and bikeways would be needed to set up and remove falsework for bridge construction and widening, as described in more detail below. Additional lane closures or overnight closures could be required for new positive workzone protection.

Although temporary detours would be developed during the design phase and included in the TMP, potential temporary detours have been identified for the purposes of this Environmental Document.

- **Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge:** Widening and retrofitting the existing bridge would not require a lane closure on I-680. The two-lane, northbound I-680 on-ramp may be partially closed during construction. The existing shoulder would be reduced to provide room for construction activities. Falsework supports are anticipated to be set back from the channel walls to avoid impacting the San Ramon Creek structure. Falsework beams and a debris containment system would span over the channel, which would prevent debris from entering the channel during construction. A single lane of Rudgear Road would need to be closed for up to 2 months during the excavation, drilling, concrete placement, and backfill to retrofit footings on the south side of Rudgear Road. One of the proposed bridge bents would be located on the Iron Horse Regional Trail's paved portion, which would require a segment of the trail to be relocated. The trail would need to be detoured temporarily for falsework and to construct the bridge span over the trail.
- **Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp Bridge Separation:** Alternative 1C would include the demolition of the existing Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp Bridge and

construction of a new bridge structure, the Eastbound SR-24 Connector Undercrossing. It is anticipated that demolition of the old structure and construction of the new bridge would take approximately 14 months. The northbound I-680 Olympic Boulevard off-ramp would need to be closed for up to 11 months. Existing eastbound SR-24 lanes are planned to remain open during the daytime. Nighttime closures on eastbound SR-24 are expected during the existing bridge demolition, falsework erection and removal, restriping, and safety barrier placement.

- **Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing Bridge:** Alternative 1C would include the construction of a new bridge structure to support southbound I-680 general-purpose lanes. The existing southbound I-680 lanes could then be utilized for both the northbound and southbound express lanes. It is anticipated that the new bridge would take approximately 16 months to construct. Lane closures on Mount Diablo Boulevard and Camino Diablo are anticipated to be needed to construct the columns for bents 2 and 3; approximately 1-2 months per bent. Nighttime lane closures are anticipated on Mount Diablo Boulevard and Camino Diablo for erecting and removing falsework. Bents 2 and 3 would each require lane closures for up to 5 nights, and spans 1, 2, and 3 would each require lane closures for up to 10 nights.
- **Ygnacio Valley Road Off-ramp Bridge Modification:** Alternative 1C would modify a column on the existing bridge to provide adequate site distance along southbound I-680. An overnight lane closure to set up barrier protection is anticipated on southbound I-680, and an overnight closure of the Ygnacio Valley off-ramp is anticipated to be necessary to remove the existing column.

### **Staging Areas**

Staging areas would be determined during final design. Potential temporary staging areas that could be used during construction are shown in Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*. Construction materials, stockpiles, dumpsters, and vehicles and equipment, including but not limited to excavators, dozers, cranes, dump trucks, concrete trucks, concrete pumps, and pile drilling/driving equipment, could be stored temporarily at these staging areas during the construction period.

### **Water Quality**

Alternative 1C is anticipated to result in an approximately 30.83-acre disturbed soil area (DSA) and a net new increase of 9.46 acres in impervious surface area. The DSA includes the proposed total construction area and any soil that would be exposed through pavement removal. As described in Section 1.4.1, *Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives*, an SWPPP would be prepared before Project construction. SWPPP requirements would be inspected and maintained during construction.

## Right-of-Way

The proposed lane addition and supporting infrastructure are expected to be constructed primarily within existing State ROW. However, partial acquisitions, utility easements, and temporary construction easements (TCE) would be needed for tolling infrastructure, the widening of Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge, realignment of the Olympic Boulevard off-ramp, realignment of the Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector, and for M242-RW1 construction and replanting. In sum, Alternative 1C would require narrow strips of ROW (also called slivers) from five publicly owned parcels and three privately owned parcel, which includes five partial fee acquisitions (approximately 0.08 acre), two permanent easements (approximately 0.65 acre), and five TCEs (approximately 0.44 acre). All permanent ROW acquisitions would be in Walnut Creek. No permanent or temporary displacement or relocation of any residence or business would be required. Refer to Table 2.1.1-3, in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, for proposed ROW locations.

## Estimated Cost

The preliminary total cost estimate for Alternative 1C, including the support cost, is approximately \$315 to \$371 million.

### 1.4.2.2 Alternative 2: Reduce the Gap Plus Braided Ramps

Alternative 2 includes many of the same improvements as Alternative 1C. However, Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 at the SR-24 Interchange, specifically from north of the South Main Street off-ramp to just south of the North Main Street off-ramp. Alternative 2 also includes modifications to the on-ramp and off-ramp configurations between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard to address the existing major bottleneck and weaving issues in this area.

Alternative 2 includes the following proposed improvements:

- Add a northbound express lane from the Livorna Road on-ramp to just north of the South Main Street off-ramp through widening and restriping. A 2-mile gap in the express lane would remain.
- Construct braided ramps between the North Main Street/Lawrence Way Interchange and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp. Braided ramps are ramps that cross over each other and are separated vertically by concrete pillars that elevate one or more of the ramps.
- Add a northbound express lane from just south of the North Main Street off-ramp to the SR-242 junction through widening and restriping.
- Convert the existing HOV lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane.

- The number of general-purpose lanes would be the same as existing conditions from Livorna Road to north of Arthur Road.

### State Route 24 Interchange

Alternative 2 would not reconfigure the existing SR-24 Interchange. Alternative 2 would include new signage and luminaires in the vicinity of the interchange to indicate that the express lane is ending before the interchange and beginning again after the interchange.

### Auxiliary Lanes

Alternative 2 would include removing the Lawrence Way to Treat Boulevard auxiliary lane and constructing a braided ramp that would have the Lawrence Way on-ramp cross under the Treat Boulevard off-ramp. The braided ramp would shift northbound I-680 between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard slightly closer to existing BART tracks and facilities. Other than the restriping and pavement widening described below, Alternative 2 does not include modifying (i.e., lengthen or shorten) any other auxiliary lane.

### Pavement Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 2 would add a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to south of the SR-24 Interchange and convert the existing northbound HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road. Alternative 2 would also include the construction of braided ramps for the Lawrence Way on-ramp. Table 1-5 provides the approximate pavement widening and reconstruction locations for Alternative 2.

**Table 1-5. Alternative 2: Pavement Widening and Reconstruction**

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
R11.34	R12.91	North of Livorna Road Undercrossing	South of South Main Street Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R12.74	R12.81	Rudgear Road Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.46	16.24	South of North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Road Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.48	16.30	South or North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.48	16.30	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
15.56	15.63	North Main Street Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.61	15.71	Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
16.24	16.31	Truck Scales Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
16.69	17.02	South of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.20	R17.45	South of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.79	R17.87	North of Monument Boulevard Overcrossing	Monument Boulevard on-ramp gore	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.17	R19.10	South of SR-242 Junction	South of Willow Pass Road Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.57	R18.69	Northbound I-680 to Northbound SR-242 Connector		Outside widening along SR-242 Connector

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

## Bridge Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 2 includes the construction of a new bridge structure for the Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing and bridge widening for the existing Rudgear Road Undercrossing and the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing.

Table 1-6 provides more information regarding the proposed new and modified bridge structures.

**Table 1-6. Alternative 2: Bridge Widening and Reconstruction**

PM	Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Work Description	Location Description	Approx. Length (feet)	Approx. Area (square feet)
12.1	28-0059	Rudgear Road Undercrossing	Northbound I-680 Outside Widening	I-680/Rudgear Road	575	10,159



PM	Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Work Description	Location Description	Approx. Length (feet)	Approx. Area (square feet)
15.71	-	Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing	New Construction	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp/ Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp	420	17,430
16.08	28-0135	Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing	Northbound Outside Widening	I-680/ Contra Costa Canal	133	4,367

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

### Concrete Barriers, Retaining Walls, and Sound Walls

Generally, existing concrete median barriers between northbound and southbound I-680 would be retained. However, the existing median barrier would be reconstructed where it is non-standard (PM 16.44 to R18.69). Existing retaining walls and sound walls may need to be replaced where highway widening is required. See Table 1-7 for specific locations.

### Northbound Truck Scale Facility

The existing northbound truck scale facility would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks would access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

### Project Construction

#### *Construction Duration*

Alternative 2 is anticipated to take approximately 2 years to construct. Depending on the availability of funding, construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and be completed by 2027 (approximately 24 months).

#### *Construction Closures and Detours*

Long-term, full closure of I-680 is not anticipated. However, northbound I-680 would require short-term, nighttime closures near the Northbound SR-242 Connector Ramp.

**Table 1-7. Alternative 2: Retaining Walls and Sound Walls**

Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
LR-RW1	Livorna to Rudgear	R11.53	R12.42	Soil Nail	No	4698	15	5	C
LR-RW2	Rudgear Off-ramp Gore	R12.49	R12.60	Type 1	No	585	10	5	F
RSM-RW1	Rudgear On-ramp Gore	R12.74	R12.76	Type 1	No	149	16	5	F
RSM-RW2	Rudgear to South Main Street	R12.75	12.89	5SWVP	Yes	1473	22	5	F
NMT-RW1	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.57	15.68	MSE	No	485	30	5	F
NMT-RW2	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.65	15.68	MSE	No	98	30	5	F
NMT-RW3	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.74	15.88	MSE	No	707	28	5	F
NMT-RW4	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.74	16.08	MSE	No	1796	34	5	F
NMT-RW5	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	16.10	16.18	MSE	No	436	18	5	F
M242-RW1	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.17	R18.22	Type 1 (Mod)	Yes	268	8	5	F
SW No. 3	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.22	R18.29	Sound Wall	-	185	14	5	-
M242-RW2	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.3	R18.49	Soil Nail	No	927	15	5	C
SW No. 4	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.55	R18.69	Sound Wall	-	789	14	5	-

Notes: MSE = mechanically stabilized earth; PM = post mile; SR = State Route

Short-term, nighttime lane closures would be needed along I-680 for pavement overlay; striping; construction of sound walls, barriers, and retaining walls; and installation of temporary barriers along construction areas. Temporary daytime and/or nighttime closures of local streets, sidewalks, and bikeways may be needed to set up and remove falsework for bridge construction and widening, as described in detail below. Additional lane closures or overnight closures could be required for new positive workzone protection.

Although temporary detours would be developed during the design phase and included in the TMP, potential temporary detours have been identified for the purposes of this Environmental Document.

- **Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge:** The construction activities for the Rudgear Road Undercrossing would be identical to that described for Alternative 1C (See Section 1.4.2.1, Alternative 1C: *Close the Gap with Realignment*).
- **Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing Bridge:** This is a new structure for vehicles exiting at the Treat Boulevard off-ramp that spans the Lawrence Way on-ramp. The North Main Street off-ramp and Lawrence Way on-ramp would be reconstructed to accommodate the new bridge structure. The Lawrence Way on-ramp would remain open during construction, with a temporary ramp being provided during the existing Lawrence Way on-ramp's reconstruction. Overnight closures of the Lawrence Way on-ramp are anticipated during falsework erection and removal for spans 2 and 3. A long-term closure of the North Main Street off-ramp—up to 1 month—is anticipated to reconstruct the North Main Street off-ramp and match the proposed structure's grade.
- **Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing:** Widening and retrofitting the existing bridge would require shifting northbound I-680 lanes. Bridge widening construction would begin with the installation of a temporary barrier along the northbound I-680 outside shoulder to protect construction workers from freeway traffic. Once the temporary barrier is installed, access roads would be constructed at each abutment, which may require some tree removal and installation of temporary sheet pile shoring. It is anticipated that the Contra Costa Canal Trail would need to be closed and detoured for up to 1 month to widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing. This segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail is shared with the Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. Falsework would be installed to support bridge widening and prevent any debris from falling onto the public and canal water passing under falsework during the remainder of the bridge widening.

### **Staging Areas**

Staging areas would be identified during final design. Potential temporary staging areas that could be used during construction are shown in Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures*

*and Impact Maps.* Unlike Alternative 1C, Alternative 2 would not include temporary staging areas at the Southbound I-680/ Eastbound SR-24 Connector. Construction materials, stockpiles, dumpsters, and vehicles and equipment, including but not limited to excavators, dozers, cranes, dump trucks, concrete trucks, concrete pumps, and pile drilling/driving equipment, could be stored temporarily at staging areas during the construction period.

### **Water Quality**

Alternative 2 is anticipated to result in a DSA of approximately 24.41 acres and a net new increase of 7.69 acres of impervious surface areas. As described in Section 1.4.1, *Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives*, a SWPPP would be prepared before Project construction. SWPPP requirements would be inspected and maintained during construction.

### **Right-of-Way**

The proposed lane addition and supporting infrastructure are expected to be constructed primarily within existing State ROW. However, partial acquisitions and TCEs would be needed to widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge and reconfigure the Lawrence Way on-ramp and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp (i.e., braided ramps) and for M242-RW1 construction and replanting. In sum, Alternative 2 would require slivers from four publicly owned parcels, including three partial fee acquisitions (approximately 0.48 acre) and four TCEs (approximately 0.78 acre). No utility easement would be required. All permanent ROW acquisitions would be in Walnut Creek. No permanent or temporary displacement or relocation of any residence or business would be required. Refer to Table 2.1.1-3, in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, for more information regarding potential ROW.

### **Estimated Cost**

The preliminary total cost estimate for Alternative 2, including the support cost, is approximately \$240 to \$283 million.

#### **1.4.2.3 Alternative 3: Close the Gap with Realignment Plus Braided Ramps**

Alternative 3 represents the combined Project improvements proposed under Alternatives 1C and 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5-mile gap between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane from SR-242 to just north of Arthur Road to an express lane. This alternative would also include the traffic operational improvements proposed in Alternative 1C in the vicinity of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on-ramp and off-ramp configuration. The number of general-purpose lanes would be the same as existing conditions from Livorna Road to north of Arthur Road.

## State Route 24 Interchange

Alternative 3 would include the same changes at the SR-24 Interchange as Alternative 1C (see Section 1.4.2.1, *Alternative 1C: Close the Gap with Realignment*).

## Auxiliary Lanes

Alternative 3 would include the same auxiliary lane changes as Alternative 2, which includes removing the Lawrence Way to Treat Boulevard auxiliary lane and constructing braided ramps for the Treat Boulevard off-ramp and Lawrence Way on-ramp (see Section 1.4.2.2, *Alternative 2: Reduce the Gap Plus Braided Ramps*). Other than lane restriping, none of the other auxiliary lanes would be modified.

## Pavement Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 3 would add a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and convert the existing northbound HOV lane from SR-242 to north of Arthur Road to an express lane. Alternative 3 would also include the construction of braided ramps for the Lawrence Way on-ramp. Table 1-8 provides the approximate pavement widening and reconstruction locations for Alternative 3.

**Table 1-8. Alternative 3: Pavement Widening and Reconstruction**

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
R11.34	R12.91	North of Livorna Road Undercrossing	South of South Main Street Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R12.74	R12.91	Rudgear Road Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
13.98	14.70	North of Olympic Boulevard Undercrossing	North of Oakvale Road Overcrossing	Reconstruction of mainline (southbound)
13.92	14.19	Eastbound SR-24 to Southbound I-680 Connector		Outside widening along SR-24 Connector
14.02	14.09	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
14.31	14.71	Southbound I-680 to Westbound SR-24 Connector		Connector reconstruction
14.68	14.79	North of Oakvale Road Overcrossing	South of Ygnacio Valley Road Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.48	16.30	South or North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
15.54	16.22	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.56	15.63	North Main Street Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.61	15.71	Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
16.24	16.31	Truck Scales Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
16.69	17.02	South of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Oak Park Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.20	R17.45	South of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	North of Contra Costa Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R17.79	R17.87	North of Monument Boulevard Overcrossing	Monument Boulevard on-ramp gore	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.17	R19.10	South of SR-242 Junction	South of Willow Pass Road Undercrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
R18.57	R18.69	Northbound I-680 to northbound SR-242 Connector		Outside widening along SR-242 Connector

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

## Bridge Widening and Reconstruction

Like Alternative 1C, Alternative 3 would include two new bridge structures for the Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing and the Eastbound SR-24 Connector Undercrossing and bridge widening for the existing Rudgear Road Undercrossing. Similar to Alternative 2, Alternative 3 would include construction of a new bridge structure for the Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing and bridge widening for the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing. Table 1-9 provides more information regarding the proposed new and modified bridge structures.

**Table 1-9. Alternative 3: Bridge Widening and Reconstruction**

PM	Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Work Description	Location Description	Approx. Length (feet)	Approx. Area (square feet)
12.61	28-0059	Rudgear Road Undercrossing	Northbound I-680 Outside Widening	I-680/ Rudgear Road	575	10,159
14.14	28-0312K	Olympic Boulevard off-ramp	Separation Removal	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp	702	19,425
14.14	-	Eastbound SR-24 Connector Undercrossing	New Construction	Olympic Boulevard Southbound off-ramp	425	12,113
14.24	28-0128L	Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing	New Construction	I-680/ Mount Diablo Boulevard	258	19,737
14.28	28-126-G	Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp	Column Modification (Bent 7)	Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp	N/A	N/A
15.71	-	Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing	New Construction	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp/ Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp	420	17,430
16.08	28-0135	Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing	Northbound Outside Widening	I-680/ Contra Costa Canal	133	4,367

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

### Concrete Barriers, Retaining Walls, and Sound Walls

Generally, the existing concrete median barrier between northbound and southbound I-680 would be retained. However, existing concrete barriers would be replaced where the northbound express lane physically separates from the general-purpose lanes (PM13.98 to 14.16 and PM 14.60 to 14.73) and where the existing concrete barrier is non-standard (PM 16.44 to R18.69). Additionally, a new concrete barrier would be placed between the northbound and southbound express lanes through the SR-24 Interchange (PM 14.16 to 14.60) and between existing southbound I-680 and proposed southbound I-680 (PM 14.14 to 14.52). In addition, existing retaining walls and sound



walls may need to be replaced where highway widening is required. See Table 1-10 for specific locations.

### **Northbound Truck Scale Facility**

As with Alternative 2, the existing northbound truck scale facility would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks would access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

## **Project Construction**

### ***Construction Duration***

Alternative 3 is anticipated to take approximately 2 years to construct. Depending on the availability of funding, construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and be completed by 2027 (approximately 24 months).

### ***Construction Closures and Detours***

Long-term, full closure of I-680 is not anticipated. However, short-term, nighttime closures of northbound I-680 would be required near the Westbound SR-24 Connector Ramp and the Northbound SR-242 Connector Ramp. Short-term nighttime lane closures would be needed along northbound I-680 for pavement overlay; striping; construction of sound walls, barriers, and retaining walls; and installation of temporary barriers along construction areas. Temporary daytime and/or nighttime closures of local streets, sidewalks, and bikeways would be needed to set up and remove falsework for bridge construction and widening. Although temporary detours would be developed during the design phase and included in the TMP, potential temporary detours have been identified for the purposes of this Environmental Document. Additional lane closures or overnight closures could be required for new positive workzone protection. Alternative 3 is anticipated to include the same closures and detours as Alternatives 1C and 2 combined.

### ***Staging Areas***

Staging areas would be identified during final design. It is assumed that Alternative 3 would use the same temporary staging areas as those described for Alternative 1C. Construction materials, stockpiles, dumpsters, and construction vehicles and equipment, including excavators, dozers, cranes, dump trucks, concrete trucks, concrete pumps, and pile drilling/driving equipment, as well as construction vehicles, could be stored temporarily at staging areas.

### ***Water Quality***

Alternative 3 is anticipated to result in a DSA of approximately 37.24 acres and a net new increase of 11.69 acres of impervious surface areas. As described in Section 1.4.1, *Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives*, a SWPPP would be prepared



before Project construction. SWPPP requirements would be inspected and maintained during construction.

### **Right-of-Way**

Most of the proposed lane addition and supporting infrastructure are expected to be constructed primarily within existing State ROW. In sum, Alternative 3 would require slivers from seven publicly owned parcels and three privately owned parcel, which includes seven partial fee acquisitions (approximately 0.54 acre), two permanent easements (approximately 0.65 acre), and seven TCEs (approximately 0.82 acre). All permanent ROW acquisition would be in Walnut Creek. No permanent or temporary displacement or relocation of any residence or business would be required. Refer to Table 2.1.1-3 in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, for more information regarding potential ROW.

### **Estimated Cost**

The preliminary total cost estimate for Alternative 3, including the support cost, is approximately \$393 to \$463 million.

**Table 1-10. Alternative 3: Retaining Walls and Sound Walls**

Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
LR-RW1	Livorna to Rudgear	R11.53	R12.42	Soil Nail	No	4698	15	5	C
LR-RW2	Rudgear Off-ramp Gore	R12.49	R12.60	Type 1	No	585	10	5	F
RSM-RW1	Rudgear On-ramp Gore	R12.74	R12.76	Type 1	No	149	16	5	F
RSM-RW2	Rudgear to South Main Street	R12.75	12.89	5SWVP	Yes	1473	22	5	F
24-RW1	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.03	14.16	MSE	No	746	26	5	F
24-RW2	SR-24 Interchange Eastbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.03	14.19	MSE	Yes	422	16	5	F
24-RW3	SR-24 Interchange Olympic Off-ramp Right Shoulder	14.05	14.11	MSE	Yes	56	22	5	F
24-RW4	SR-24 Interchange Olympic Off-ramp Left Shoulder	14.08	14.11	MSE	No	120	26	5	F
SW. No. 1	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.16	14.20	Sound Wall	-	299	14	5	-
24-RW6	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.16	14.23	MSE	No	487	30	8	F
24-RW7	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.27	14.29	MSE	No	151	32	8	F
24-RW8	SR-24 Interchange Westbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.32	14.58	Ground Anchor / Tangent Pile	No	1393	37	40	C



Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
24-RW9	SR-24 Interchange Southbound I-680 Right Shoulder	14.33	14.69	Soldier Pile / Ground Anchor	No	1878	16	25	C
24-RW10	SR-24 Interchange Westbound SR-24 Connector Right Shoulder	14.58	14.70	Ground Anchor	No	567	33	40	C
NMT-RW1	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.57	15.68	MSE	No	485	30	5	F
NMT-RW2	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.65	15.68	MSE	No	98	30	5	F
NMT-RW3	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.74	15.88	MSE	No	707	28	5	F
NMT-RW4	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.74	16.08	MSE	No	1796	34	5	F
NMT-RW5	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	16.10	16.18	MSE	No	436	18	5	F
M242-RW1	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.17	R18.22	Type 1 (Mod)	Yes	268	8	5	F
SW No. 3	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.22	R18.29	Sound Wall	-	185	14	5	-
M242-RW2	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.3	R18.49	Soil Nail	No	927	15	5	C
SW No. 4	Monument to SR-242 Right Shoulder	R18.55	R18.69	Sound Wall	-	789	14	5	-

Notes: MSE = mechanically stabilized earth; PM = post mile; SR = State Route

#### **1.4.2.4 Alternative 5: Reduce the Gap with General-Purpose Lane Conversion Plus Braided Ramps**

Alternative 5 is similar to Alternative 2. Alternative 5 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange. The primary difference between Alternative 2 and Alternative 5 is that Alternative 5 would not add any new lanes to northbound I-680. Instead, an express lane would be constructed by converting existing general-purpose and HOV lanes.

Project improvements under Alternative 5 would include the following:

- Add a northbound express lane from the Livorna Road on-ramp to north of the South Main Street off-ramp by converting an existing general-purpose lane to an express lane.<sup>1</sup>
- Construct braided ramps between the North Main Street/Lawrence Way Interchange and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp.
- Convert an existing general-purpose lane to an express lane from just south of the North Main Street off-ramp to the SR-242 junction.<sup>1</sup> Pavement widening and restriping at SR-242 junction.
- Convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane between SR-242 to north of Arthur Road.
- The number of general-purpose lanes would be one less than existing conditions from the Livorna Road on-ramp to SR-242 junction.

#### **State Route 24 Interchange**

Like Alternative 2, Alternative 5 would not reconfigure the SR-24 Interchange. Alternative 5 would add lighting and signage to indicate the end and beginning of express lanes at this interchange.

#### **Auxiliary Lanes**

Like Alternatives 2 and 3, Alternative 5 would remove the Lawrence Way to Treat Boulevard auxiliary lane and construct braided ramps for the Treat Boulevard off-ramp and Lawrence Way on-ramp. Other than lane restriping, none of the other auxiliary lanes would be modified.

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<sup>1</sup> The existing inside general-purpose lane would be converted to an HOV lane and then concurrently converted to an express lane.

## Pavement Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 5 would have less pavement widening and reconstruction than Alternatives 1C, 2, or 3. Table 1-11 provides the approximate pavement widening and reconstruction locations for Alternative 5.

**Table 1-11. Alternative 5: Pavement Widening and Reconstruction**

Begin PM	End PM	Begin	End	Type of Work
15.46	16.24	South of North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Road Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.48	16.11	South of North Main Street Overcrossing	South of Treat Boulevard Overcrossing	Outside widening along mainline (northbound)
15.54	16.22	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.56	15.63	North Main Street Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
15.61	15.71	Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
16.24	16.31	Truck Scales Northbound off-ramp		Ramp reconstruction
R18.81	R19.07	North of SR-242 Interchange		Outside widening along mainline (northbound)

Notes: PM = post mile; SR = State Route

## Bridge Widening and Reconstruction

Alternative 5 includes the construction of a new bridge structure for the Treat Boulevard Overcrossing and bridge widening for the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Table 1-12 provides more information regarding the proposed new and modified bridge structures for Alternative 5.

**Table 1-12. Alternative 5: Bridge Widening and Reconstruction**

PM	Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Work Description	Location Description	Approx. Length (feet)	Approx. Area (square feet)
15.71	-	Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing	New construction	Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp/ Lawrence Way Northbound on-ramp	420	17,430
16.08	28-0135	Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing	Northbound outside widening	I-680/ Contra Costa Canal	133	4,367

### Concrete Barriers, Retaining Walls, and Sound Walls

Generally, existing concrete median barriers between northbound and southbound I-680 would be retained. However, the existing median barrier would be reconstructed where it is non-standard between PM 16.44 and R18.55. Existing retaining walls and sound walls may need to be replaced where highway widening is required. See Table 1-13 for specific locations.

### Northbound Truck Scale Facility

As with Alternative 2, the existing northbound truck scale facility would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks would access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.



**Table 1-13. Alternative 5: Retaining Walls and Sound Walls**

Wall Number	Location	Begin PM	End PM	Retaining Wall Type	Sound Wall (Yes/No)	Length (feet)	Max Height (feet)	Excavation Depth (feet)	Cut(C)/ Fill(F)
NMT-RW1	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.57	15.68	MSE	No	485	30	5	F
NMT-RW2	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.65	15.68	MSE	No	98	30	5	F
NMT-RW3	North Main to Treat Left Shoulder	15.74	15.88	MSE	No	707	28	5	F
NMT-RW4	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	15.74	16.08	MSE	No	1796	34	5	F
NMT-RW5	North Main to Treat Right Shoulder	16.10	16.18	MSE	No	436	18	5	F

Notes: MSE = mechanically stabilized earth

## **Project Construction**

### ***Construction Duration***

Alternative 5 is anticipated to take approximately 2 years to construct. Depending on the availability of funding, construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and be completed by 2027 (approximately 24 months).

### ***Construction Closures and Detours***

Full closure of I-680 is not anticipated. However, temporary nighttime lane closures would be needed along I-680 for pavement overlay, striping, construction of barriers and retaining walls, and installation of temporary barriers along construction areas. Temporary daytime and/or nighttime closures of local streets, sidewalks, and bikeways may be needed to set up and remove falsework for bridge construction and widening. Although temporary detours would be developed during the design phase and included in the TMP, potential temporary detours have been identified for the purposes of this Environmental Document. Additional lane closures or overnight closures could be required for new positive workzone protection. It is anticipated that Alternative 5 would include the same closures and detours as Alternative 2 between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard.

### ***Staging Areas***

Staging areas would be identified during final design. It is assumed that Alternative 5 would have two staging areas—one at the SR-4 Interchange and one at the North Main Street off-ramp. Both staging areas would be within State ROW. Construction materials, stockpiles, dumpsters, equipment, and vehicles, including but not limited to excavators, dozers, cranes, dump trucks, concrete trucks, concrete pumps, and pile drilling/driving equipment, could be stored temporarily at staging areas during the construction period.

### ***Water Quality***

Alternative 5 is anticipated to result in a DSA of approximately 10.65 acres and a net new increase of 2.93 acres impervious surface areas. As described in Section 1.4.1, *Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives*, an SWPPP would be prepared before Project construction. SWPPP requirements would be inspected and maintained during construction.

### ***Right-of-Way***

Alternative 5 does not propose any lane additions. However, partial acquisitions and TCEs would be needed for the reconfiguration of the Lawrence Way on-ramp and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp (i.e., braided ramps). In sum, Alternative 5 would require slivers from two publicly owned parcels, including two partial fee acquisitions (approximately 0.46 acre) and two TCEs (approximately 0.38 acre). All permanent ROW acquisitions would be in Walnut Creek. No permanent or temporary displacement or relocation of any residence or business would be required. Refer to Table 2.1.1-3 in



Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, for more information regarding potential ROW.

### **Estimated Cost**

The preliminary total cost estimate for Alternative 5, including the support cost, is approximately \$127 to \$150 million.

### **1.4.3 No-Build Alternative**

Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements would be implemented. The gap in the northbound managed lane would remain and, as traffic demand increases, traffic operations along northbound I-680 would further deteriorate, resulting in increased congestion, vehicle delay, vehicle operating costs, and vehicle emissions due to slower operating speeds on northbound I-680.

The No-Build Alternative would avoid construction costs (no capital expenditure). It would avoid impacts from construction activities on environmental resources that are anticipated under the Build Alternatives related to widening the highway, and it would avoid temporary impacts. However, the substantial existing traffic backups would worsen over time, leading to longer vehicle delays and travel times. The No-Build Alternative would not address or alleviate the existing and forecasted operational issues on northbound I-680 and would not satisfy the Project purpose and need. The No-Build Alternative represents the baseline condition against which the Build Alternatives would be compared for NEPA.

### **1.4.4 Comparison of Alternatives**

Table S-1 in the Summary provides a comparison between the effects of the Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative. The complete evaluation of alternatives under NEPA is provided in Chapter 2, and the complete evaluation of alternatives under CEQA is provided in Chapter 3. In addition to their environmental impacts, alternatives are being compared and evaluated based on their ability to meet the Project's purpose and need.

Alternative 1C would add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242, realign southbound I-680 through the SR-24 Interchange, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to north of the Arthur Road on-ramp. This alternative would close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680. Alternative 1C would not change the number of general-purpose lanes from Livorna Road to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza.

Alternative 2 would add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242 with a two-mile gap through the SR-24 Interchange, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp. As

such, this alternative would reduce but would not close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680. Alternative 2 would not change the number of general-purpose lanes from Livorna Road to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza.

Alternative 3 is a combination of Alternatives 1C and 2. Alternative 3 would add an express lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to SR-242, realign southbound I-680 through the SR-24 Interchange, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp. This alternative would close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680. Alternative 3 would not change the number of general-purpose lanes from Livorna Road to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza.

Alternative 5 would convert the inside general-purpose lane (i.e., the lane along the median) to an express lane from south of North Main Street to SR-242, construct braided ramps between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, and convert the existing HOV lane to an express lane from SR-242 to the Arthur Road on-ramp. Similar to Alternative 2, Alternative 5 would reduce but would not close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680. Unlike Alternative 2, Alternative 5 would not add any existing through lanes on I-680. Alternative 1C would result in one less general-purpose lane from Livorna Road to the SR-242 junction. This alternative was developed to avoid increasing vehicle-miles travelled.

As described further in the *Traffic Operations Analysis Report (TOAR)* (DKS Associates, 2023), prepared for the proposed Project, while none of the Build Alternatives would fully eliminate bottlenecks and associated queuing along northbound I-680, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would substantially lessen the afternoon peak period bottlenecks that would develop under the No-Build alternative north of SR-24 due to increased mainline capacity. Alternative 5 reduces mainline capacity when compared to the No-Build alternative, but the braided ramps and the conversion to express lane generally offset the capacity reduction and result in improved mainline operations during the afternoon peak period. All Build Alternatives would reduce delay and improve travel times compared to the No-Build Alternative during the afternoon peak period. While the express lane benefits traffic operations along I-680, under Alternatives 1C and 3, the queues approaching the bottlenecks north of SR-24 extend onto eastbound SR-24, thereby deteriorating the operations on eastbound SR-24. Under Alternative 2, vehicles traveling on eastbound SR-24 would access the proposed northbound I-680 express lane at its starting point or have a direct merge to the start of the proposed northbound I-680 express lane, resulting in improved operations on eastbound SR-24.

The traffic operations analysis results indicate that the combination of the extended but non-continuous express lane and the braided ramp improvements in Alternative 2 provides similar benefits on I-680 as those with the continuous express lane (Alternatives 1C and 3), while also improving the operations on SR-24. Based on the analysis presented in the TOAR, Alternative 2 provides the best overall operational benefits of the Build Alternatives.

All Build Alternatives would have a two-year construction schedule. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would have similar costs, with Alternative 3 being the costliest of all Build Alternatives. Alternative 3 would also have the largest DSA and require more ROW, more pavement widening, and more bridge widening/reconstruction than any of the other Build Alternatives. Since Alternative 5 would not add a new through lane on I-680, Alternative 5 would have a much lower cost and smaller DSA than the other Build Alternatives. However, Alternative 5 is currently not in conformity with Plan Bay Area 2050; project approval may be delayed should this alternative be selected as the preferred alternative.

### **1.4.5 Alternatives Selection Process**

After the public circulation period of the Draft EIR/EA, all comments will be considered, and Caltrans will select a preferred alternative and make the final determination of the Project's effect on the environment. Under CEQA, Caltrans will certify that the Project complies with CEQA, prepare findings for all significant impacts identified, prepare a Statement of Overriding Considerations for impacts that will not be mitigated below a level of significance, and certify that the findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations have been considered prior to Project approval. Caltrans will then file a Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse that will identify whether the Project will have significant impacts, if mitigation measures were included as conditions of Project approval, that findings were made, and that a Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted. Similarly, if Caltrans, as assigned by the FHWA, determines the NEPA action does not significantly impact the environment, Caltrans will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). If it is determined that the Project is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared.

### **1.4.6 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated**

This section identifies alternatives that were considered during the Project development process but were eliminated prior to circulation of the Draft EIR/EA. In accordance with Section 15126.6(c) of the CEQA Guidelines, the factors that may be used to eliminate an alternative from detailed consideration in an EIR are (1) failure to meet most of the basic project objectives, (2) infeasibility, or (3) inability to avoid significant environmental impacts. Cost should not be used as a primary determining factor for eliminating an alternative; rather, cost can be one of several considerations in alternative selection.

Several alternatives were proposed in the Project's Project Study Report-Project Development Support (PSR-PDS) document during the Project Initiation Document phase. Adding a northbound express lane in the interchange area is complicated by both the complex configuration of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, and by the columns associated with the BART overcrossing structure over I-680 north of the interchange. During the preliminary engineering process of the PA/ED phase, the alternatives presented in the PSR-PDS were further examined and refined to determine which best addresses the project purpose and need while minimizing impacts and delivery risks. Design standards, safety, constructability, third party approvals, traffic operations, and

construction and user delay costs were major considerations in determining which solutions would potentially be technically and economically feasible.

The total length of the Project was reduced from R4.4/24.5 in October 2023. The northern Project limits were reduced to avoid potential impacts on biological resources and jurisdictional waters near the Waterbird Regional Preserve. The reduction of the northern Project limits would also align better with the Bay Area Toll Authority's planned conversion of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to open-road tolling. In addition, the southern Project limits were modified following the elimination of a design option for a 2.75-mile ramp buffer that would have restricted express lane access between the northbound Sycamore Valley Road off-ramp and northbound El Pintado Road on-ramp (See Section 1.4.6.5, *Design Option A*). Figure 1-4 compares the old Project Study Limits to the updated Project Study Limits.

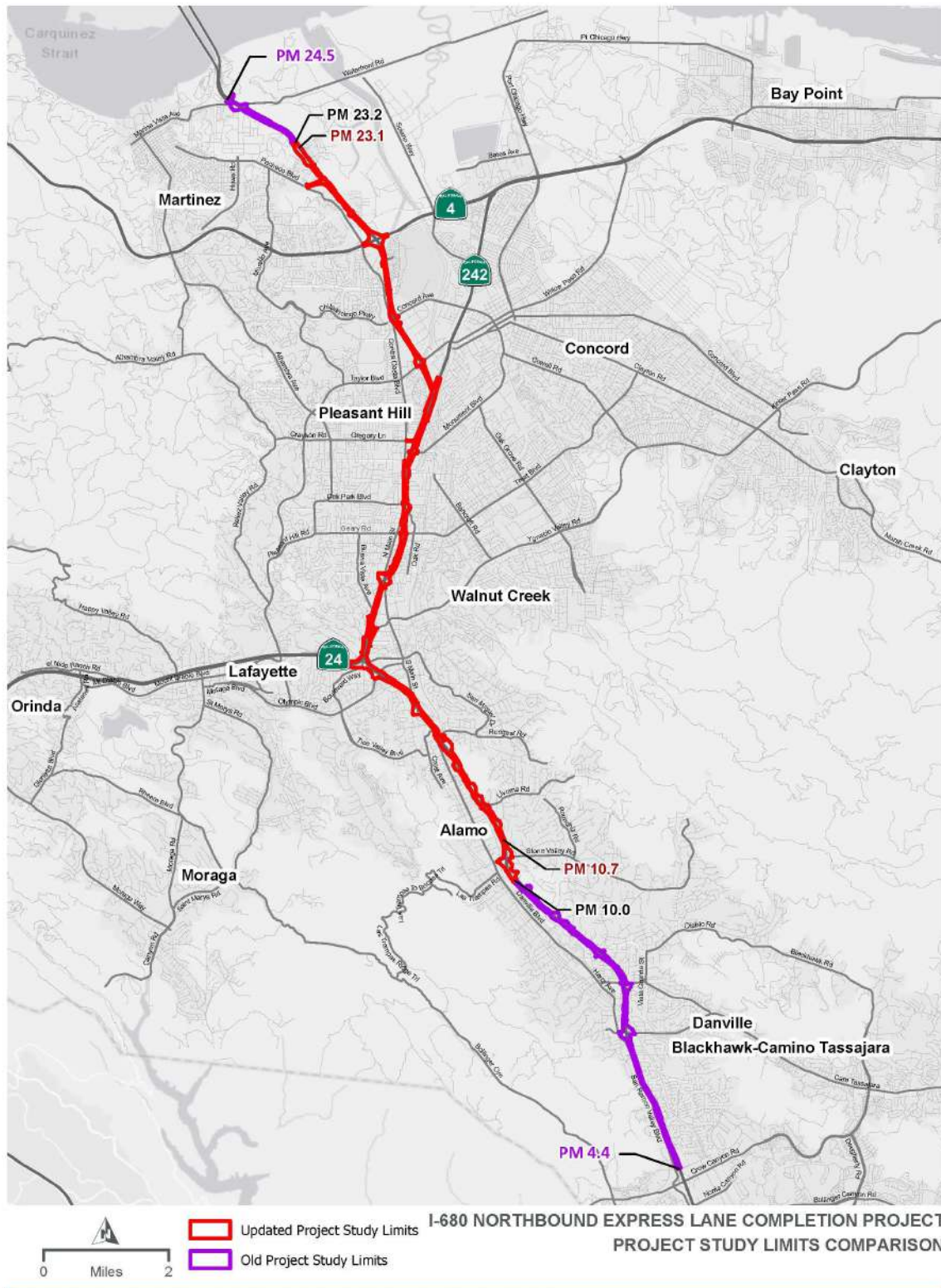
#### **1.4.6.1 Alternative 1A (From PSR-PDS)**

AB 2542 amended California Streets and Highways code to require, effective January 1, 2017, that Caltrans or a regional transportation planning agency demonstrate that reversible lanes were considered when submitting a capacity-increasing project or a major street or highway lane realignment project to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for approval (California Streets and Highways Code, Section 100.015). Reversible lanes add peak-direction capacity to a two-direction roadway and decrease congestion by using the available capacity from the direction of traffic that is not experiencing peak period congestion.

The Project's PSR-PDS included Alternative 1A, which proposed to construct a northbound contra-flow express lane through the SR-24 Interchange. The northbound contra-flow lane would operate during the afternoon peak traffic period. The northbound contra-flow lane would utilize the existing southbound pavement. Therefore, the alternative would not propose any pavement widening through the SR-24 Interchange. The northbound contra-flow lane would require an 18-inch-wide moveable barrier to separate it from the southbound general-purpose lanes. The moveable barrier's operation would require the purchase, maintenance, and daily operation of a "Zipper Truck" to move the barrier to open and close the northbound contra-flow lane. Given that the Zipper Truck travels at approximately 20 mph, travel to the offsite maintenance facility would likely be limited to night hours when it would be least likely to disrupt traffic. During the afternoon peak period, the proposed shoulder widths on either side of the movable barrier would be zero feet through the entire limits of the contra-flow lane.

A preliminary traffic analysis of Alternative 1A estimated that removing the southbound express lane in the afternoon peak period would negatively impact southbound traffic operations by approximately 2030. The current Project schedule assumes that construction would be complete in 2027. The contra-flow lane would only operate for 3 years before southbound traffic begins to degrade. Ultimately, the bidirectional traffic demand on this segment of I-680 (i.e., northbound and southbound) limits the viability of this alternative as a long-term solution for the corridor.





**Figure 1-4. Old Project Study Limits**

CCTA also recently completed construction of express lanes on southbound I-680, and there is a permanent median between northbound and southbound I-680. This alternative would require a moveable barrier, which would require dedicated personnel and equipment to routinely shift the location of the barrier on a daily basis, while maintaining safety for the crew working within an active freeway. A movable barrier has been used in other locations but adds annual operating costs and could be considered if adequate funding is allocated.

Ultimately, this alternative was determined to be geometrically infeasible due to the design exceptions that would be needed for a moveable barrier around the curve at the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, and the physical constraints associated with this segment of I-680. These design exceptions included all lane widths on southbound I-680 being non-standard and 0-to-3-foot shoulders. This alternative would require a full closure of the express lane if a collision or other incident occurred. For these reasons, Alternative 1A was eliminated from further discussion because it is infeasible from a highway engineering perspective, requires on-going operations and maintenance costs, and would only provide a short-term traffic operations solution.

#### **1.4.6.2 Alternative 1B (From PSR-PDS)**

The Project's PSR-PDS included Alternative 1B, which proposed to close the existing managed lane "gap" by providing a northbound express lane through the SR-24 Interchange. Alternative 1B would require modifying the BART overcrossing structure at this interchange to widen southbound I-680 and the Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector. Specifically, this alternative would have required replacing two existing BART columns (Pier 10 and Pier 11) with straddle bents to accommodate a new, northbound, barrier-separated express lane through the I-680/SR-24 Interchange.

BART has been assumed eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and on the California Register of Historic Resources under Criterion 1 for its association with transportation history in the San Francisco Bay Area (JRP Historical Consulting, 2023). This alternative would have required replacing the entire BART overcrossing structure and tracks to the Walnut Creek Station to comply with the latest BART facility standards, potentially adversely affecting this historic property.

The BART overcrossing structure currently has footings below the existing freeway. Alternative 1B would likely require full and partial closures of I-680 and the BART tracks during construction, resulting in long-term adverse transportation impacts during construction. Further, the curvature of southbound and northbound I-680 would be constrained and non-standard shoulder widths would be required, resulting in an operational design speed of 35 mph, which is a reduction from the existing highway speed of 45 mph. Therefore, Alternative 1B was considered but eliminated from detailed evaluation because it is undesirable from a design perspective, carries the risk of design approval from BART, and results in substantial construction impacts to traffic and BART operations. This alternative also did not avoid significant environmental impacts.

Alternative 1C, which is being carried forward for evaluation, is a refined version of Alternative 1B that avoids impacts to the existing BART columns.

### **1.4.6.3 Collector-Distributor Road (From PSR-PDS)**

A separated, three-lane, collector-distributor road was proposed during PSR-PDS. This road would start on northbound I-680 from the northbound North Main Street off-ramp and terminate just north of the existing northbound Truck Scale Facility. The intent of the collector-distributor road was to separate the heavy Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp demand from the freeway mainline. Vehicles exiting to North Main Street, Treat Boulevard, and the Truck Scale Facility would use the off-ramp just south of the North Main Street Interchange. The Lawrence Way on-ramp would then merge into the collector-distributor road and the collector-distributor road would enter northbound I-680 just north of the existing northbound Truck Scale Facility. Through further investigation of the geometrics and existing physical constraints between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard, several substantial challenges were identified for this collector-distributor road. The collector-distributor road was ultimately eliminated from further consideration because it would cause substantial impacts to the existing Truck Scale Facility and would likely require the removal or relocation of the Truck Scale Facility. This project feature is also less desirable from a design perspective than the braided ramps that were ultimately incorporated into Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 because it resulted in inferior bottleneck and system performance measures, decreasing travel times by more than 10 minutes and reducing unserved demand by nearly 1,800 vehicles from 2PM to 8 PM.

### **1.4.6.4 Alternative 4**

Alternative 4 had geometry and improvements similar to Alternative 5. However, Alternative 4 would convert a general-purpose lane south of SR-242 to HOV and would not convert the existing HOV lane north of SR-242 to an express lane. Like Alternatives 2 and 5, this alternative would reduce, but not close, the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680. Alternative 4 would also reduce I-680's capacity, thus avoiding increasing VMT and significant transportation impacts. Preliminary traffic analysis was conducted for Alternative 4 during the PA/ED phase. The traffic analysis determined that Alternative 4 would result in increased congestion on northbound I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative. Alternative 4 operationally performed worse than No-Build in freeway speeds, travel time, vehicle hours of delay, vehicle throughput, and freeway level of service. Alternative 4 adversely impacts the existing bottlenecks north of SR-24, with queues spilling back to the Oak Road bottleneck, which extends back as far as the study area limits, resulting in extensive congestion on northbound I-680. Therefore, the Project Development Team eliminated this alternative from consideration because it failed to meet most of the Project's basic objectives.

### **1.4.6.5 Design Option A**

An approximate 2.75-mile ramp buffer from PM R6.15 to R8.9 was included as a design option for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 during the preparation of the technical studies for PA/ED. The proposed buffer would have included a striped, double-white line restricting access to the express lane between the northbound Sycamore Valley Road off-ramp and northbound El Pintado Road on-ramp. During preparation of the technical studies for the Project, the Project Study Limits on I-680 were extended temporarily from

Livorna Road south to Fostoria Way (PM R4.4) to accommodate an overhead sign structure at the start of the proposed buffer and highway lighting in advance of the buffer (See Figure 1-4). The buffer was explored to address potential traffic congestion and weaving that may occur in this area. This design option would not have resulted in an increase in construction duration or required additional pavement widening, structural modifications, or ROW. Based on traffic modeling results, Design Option A was eliminated from consideration because more detailed traffic modeling did not show that the buffer would improve congestion or weaving, and the Project Study Limits and PM limits were reduced.

## 1.5 PERMITS AND APPROVALS NEEDED

The following permits, licenses, agreements, and certifications (PLAC) are required for Project construction (See Table 1-14):

**Table 1-14. Permits and Approvals**

Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Section 7 Consultation for threatened and endangered (terrestrial) species	A Biological Assessment is being prepared for the Alameda whipsnake ( <i>Masticophis</i> [= <i>Coluber</i> ] <i>lateralis euryxanthus</i> ), California red-legged frog ( <i>Rana draytonii</i> ), and northwestern pond turtle ( <i>Actinemys marmorata</i> ). Concurrence letter expected from USFWS following informal consultation.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination for jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the United States	A preliminary jurisdictional delineation was submitted to USACE for concurrence on October 12, 2023, and resubmitted on February 15, 2024.
	Section 404 Permit for filling or dredging waters of the United States	A permit application would be submitted during the design phase.
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)	Section 1602 Agreement for Streambed Alteration	Applications for Section 1602 will be submitted to CDFW after Final Environmental Document approval, during the design phase.
	Section 2080.1 Agreement for Threatened and Endangered Species	Incidental take of CDFW listed species is not currently anticipated.
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification or Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR)	Water Quality Certification or WDR will be sought from RWQCB during the final design phase.
	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	NPDES application will be submitted in the design phase, prior to construction.  Notice of Intent and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and submitted prior to construction.



Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation	Request for consultation letter sent. Concurrence letter expected from SHPO prior to final environmental document.
Air Quality Conformity Task Force	Project of Air Quality Concern Determination	Task Force determined the Project was not a project of air quality concern on December 19, 2023.
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Clean Air Act Conformity Determination	Air Quality Studies will be submitted to FHWA following public review of the Draft EIR/EA.
Official(s) with Jurisdiction	Section 4(f) <i>De Minimis</i> Concurrences	<p>Notification letter will be sent to SHPO for historic sites prior to final environmental document.</p> <p>Concurrence letters will be sent to officials with jurisdiction for parks, recreation areas, and refuges following selection of the preferred alternative. Concurrence to be obtained prior to final environmental document certification/signature.</p>
California Transportation Commission (CTC)	CTC vote to approve Project funds	Following the approval of the final Environmental Document, CTC approval will be required to allocate any CTC-managed funding for the Project.
Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)	Construction Permit/Plan Review	Additional coordination with BART will be conducted and an application will be submitted during final design.
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Encroachment Permit(s)	Encroachment permits would be needed for investigations conducted during the design phase and for construction activities within Caltrans ROW.
Contra Costa County Public Works and other Local Agencies	Encroachment Permit(s) and/or Right(s) of Entry	Encroachment permit(s) and/or right(s) of entry would be needed for investigations conducted during the design phase and/or construction activities within County or City ROW.

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## Chapter 2 Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences and Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures

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This chapter addresses the proposed Project's environmental impacts. The environmental resource discussions presented in this chapter are based on the technical studies cited at the beginning of each discussion. An evaluation of the proposed Project, consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) checklist criteria, is provided in Chapter 3. Avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures are discussed in the following sections and summarized in Appendix C, *Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Summary*.

For the proposed Project, the CEQA baseline for all resource areas is 2020, when environmental studies commenced. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) baseline for comparing environmental impacts is the No-Build Alternative.

### 2.0 TOPICS CONSIDERED BUT DETERMINED NOT TO BE RELEVANT

As part of the scoping and environmental analysis carried out for the Project, the following environmental issues were considered, but no adverse impacts were identified. As a result, there is no further discussion about these issues in this document.

#### Coastal Zone

The Project is not located within the coastal zone or San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission jurisdiction. Therefore, the Project would not have a foreseeable effect on coastal zone use or resources.

#### Wild and Scenic Rivers

No wild and scenic rivers are located in or adjacent to the Project Study Limits. Therefore, the Project would not affect wild and scenic rivers.

#### Farmlands/Timberlands

None of the lands within or immediately adjacent to the Project Study Limits are designated as important farmland (i.e., prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance) (California Department of Conservation, 2016). The California Department of Conservation identifies the Sugarloaf Open Space and several

unincorporated parcels north of State Route (SR) 4 as grazing land. These parcels are not designated for agricultural land use in either the City of Walnut Creek's *General Plan Land Use Map* (2023) or Contra Costa County's *General Land Use Plan Map* (Contra Costa County Department of Conservation, 2021). The Project would not convert any important farmland or conflict with current land use designations, including farmlands.

No timberlands exist in or adjacent to the Project Study Limits; therefore, the Project would not affect timberlands.

## **Relocations and Real Property Acquisition**

The Project would require permanent and temporary slivers of ROW, as described in Section 1.4.2, *Unique Features of Build Alternatives*. However, the Project would not result in the permanent or temporary relocation or displacement of any home or business. Refer to Table 2.1.1-3, in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, for more information regarding potential ROW. ROW estimates are preliminary and are subject to final design and negotiations with landowners.

## 2.1 Human Environment

### 2.1.1 Existing and Future Land Use

#### 2.1.1.1 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023.

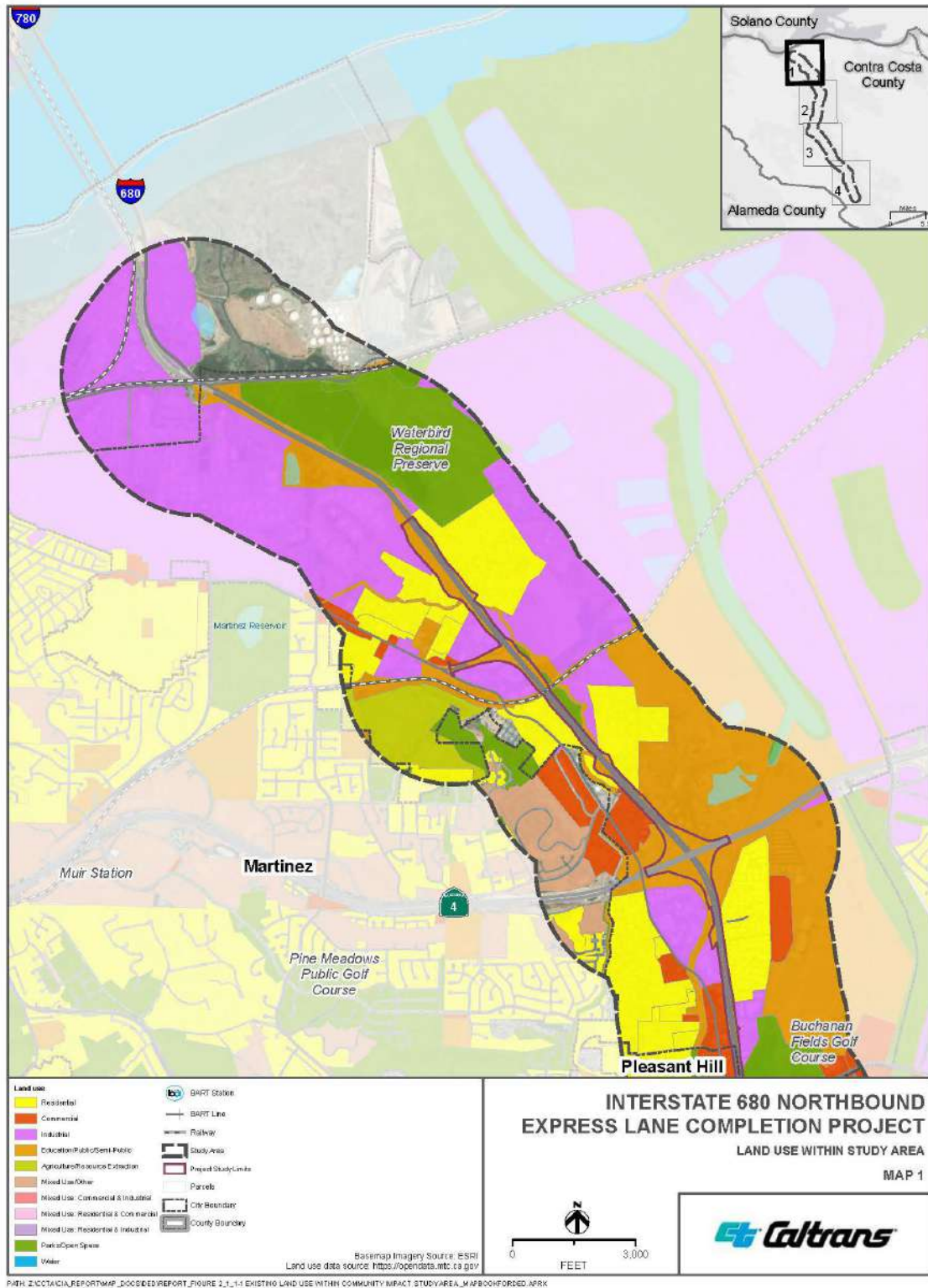
The Community Impact Study Area is depicted in Figure 2.1.1-1. The Community Impact Study Area was defined as the area within 0.5 mile of the old Project Study Limits (R4.4/24.5; See Figure 1.4). The Community Impact Study Area was expanded to the south to include a potential buffer area (i.e., Design Option A) that was removed from consideration.

The Community Impact Study Area is completely within Contra Costa County and passes through the town of Danville and the cities of Martinez, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, and San Ramon. In addition, the Community Impact Study Area includes the following census designated places (CDP): Vine Hill, Mountain View, Pacheco, Contra Costa Center, Acalanes Ridge, Saranap, San Miguel, Castle Hill, and Alamo (see Figure 2.1.1-1). Within the Community Impact Study Area, approximately 55 percent of the land use is residential (see Table 2.1.1-1), according to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) latest land use dataset (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). The rest of the Community Impact Study Area has a more even distribution of land uses, with the second-most prevalent land use designated as commercial (almost 13 percent), and the third-most being education/public use (roughly 10 percent). A review of the land use maps for each jurisdiction within the study area shows that they are generally consistent with the corresponding zoning designations.

**Table 2.1.1-1: Existing Land Use within the Community Impact Study Area**

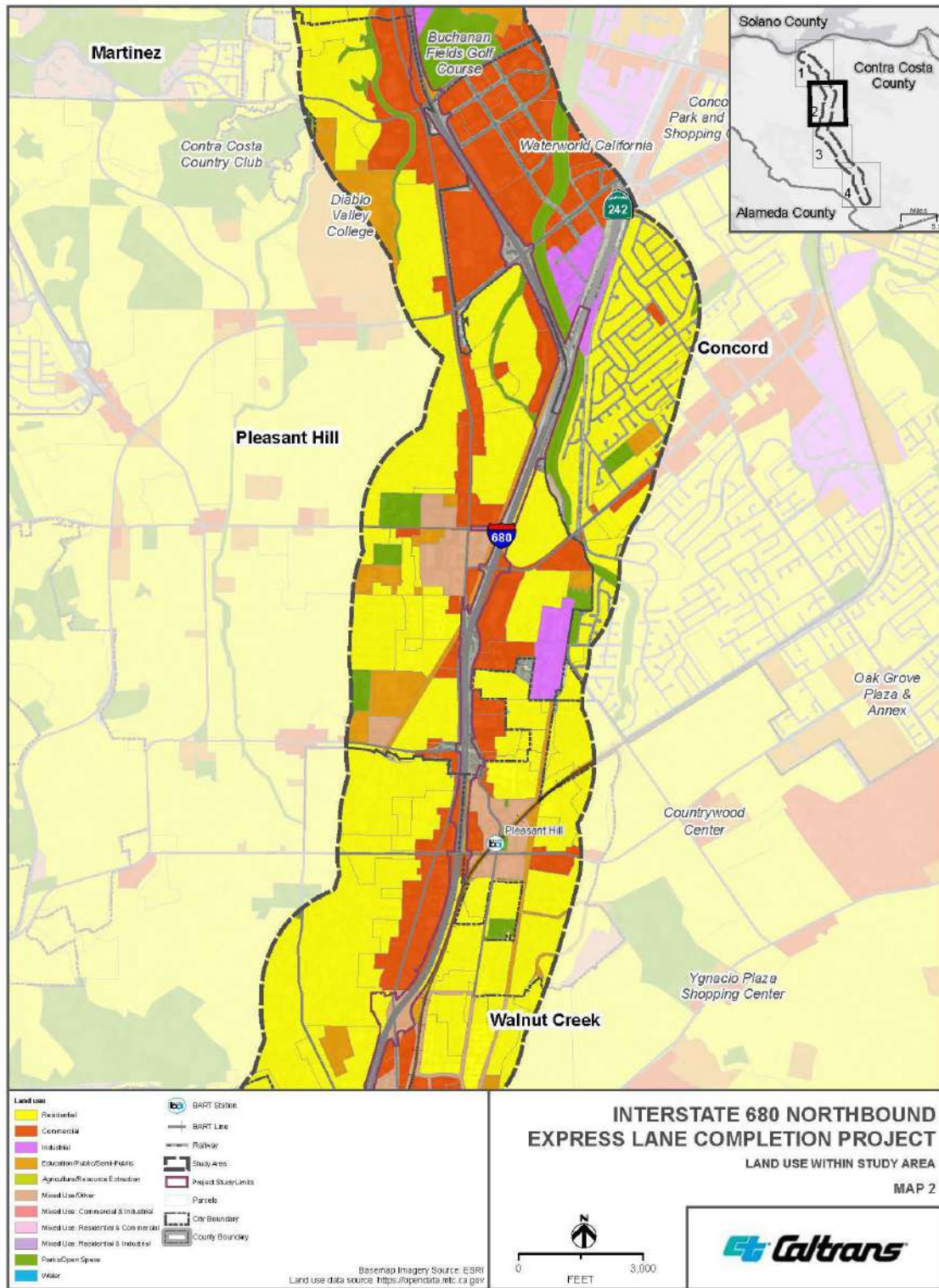
Land Use Type	Area (Acres)	Percentage (%)
Agriculture/Resource Extraction	328.04	2.3%
Commercial	1812.35	12.8%
Education/Public/Semi-Public	1463.82	10.3%
Industrial	1094.90	7.7%
Mixed Use	186.16	1.3%
Mixed Use: Agriculture/Resource & Parks/Open Space	0.01	0%
Mixed Use: Other	0.02	0%
Other/Unknown	274.49	1.9%
Parks/Open Space	1199.49	8.4%
Residential	7852.22	55.3%
Total	14211.49	100%

Source: (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021)



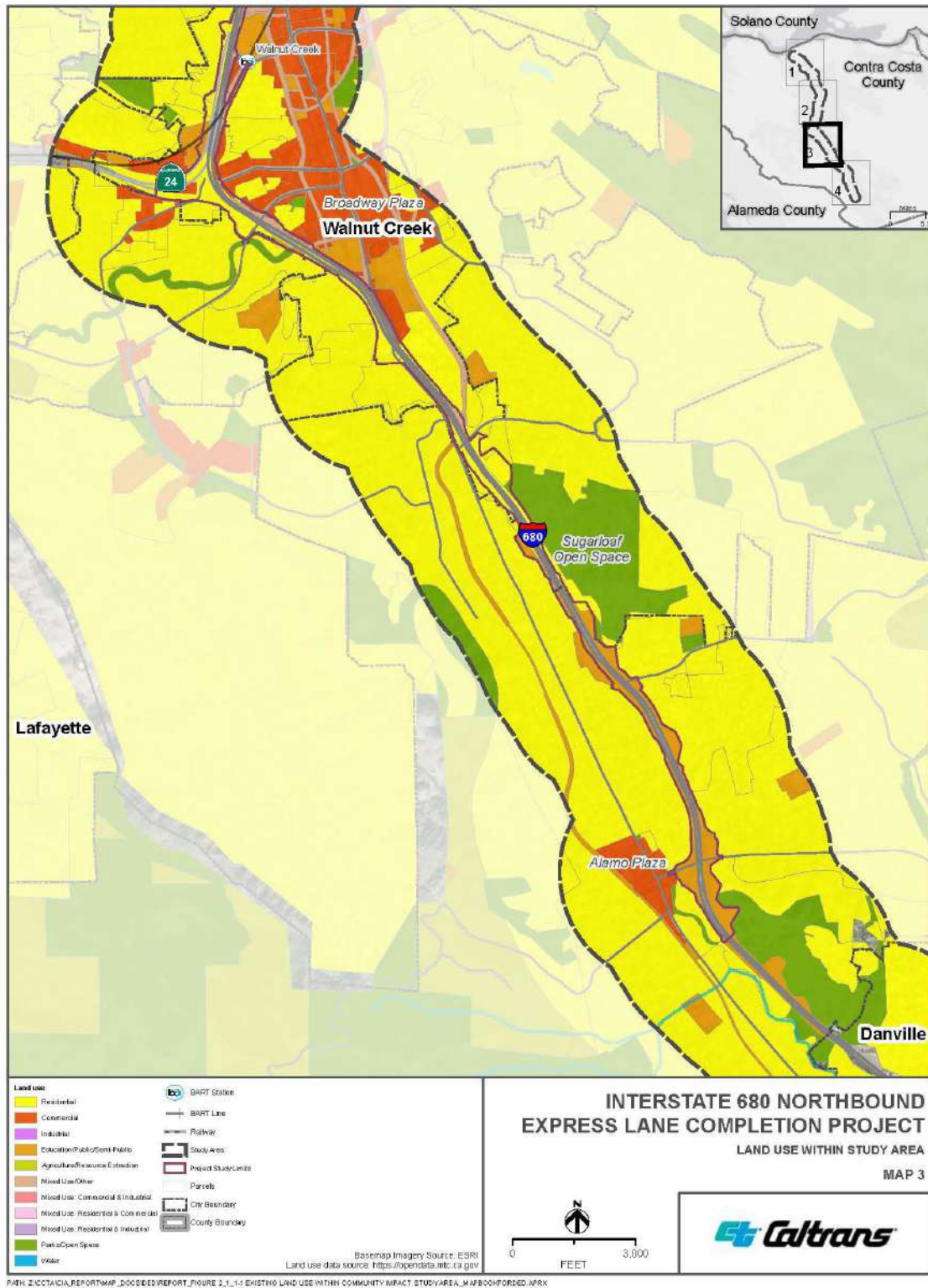
**Figure 2.1.1-1. Existing Land Use within Community Impact Study Area: Map 1 of 4**



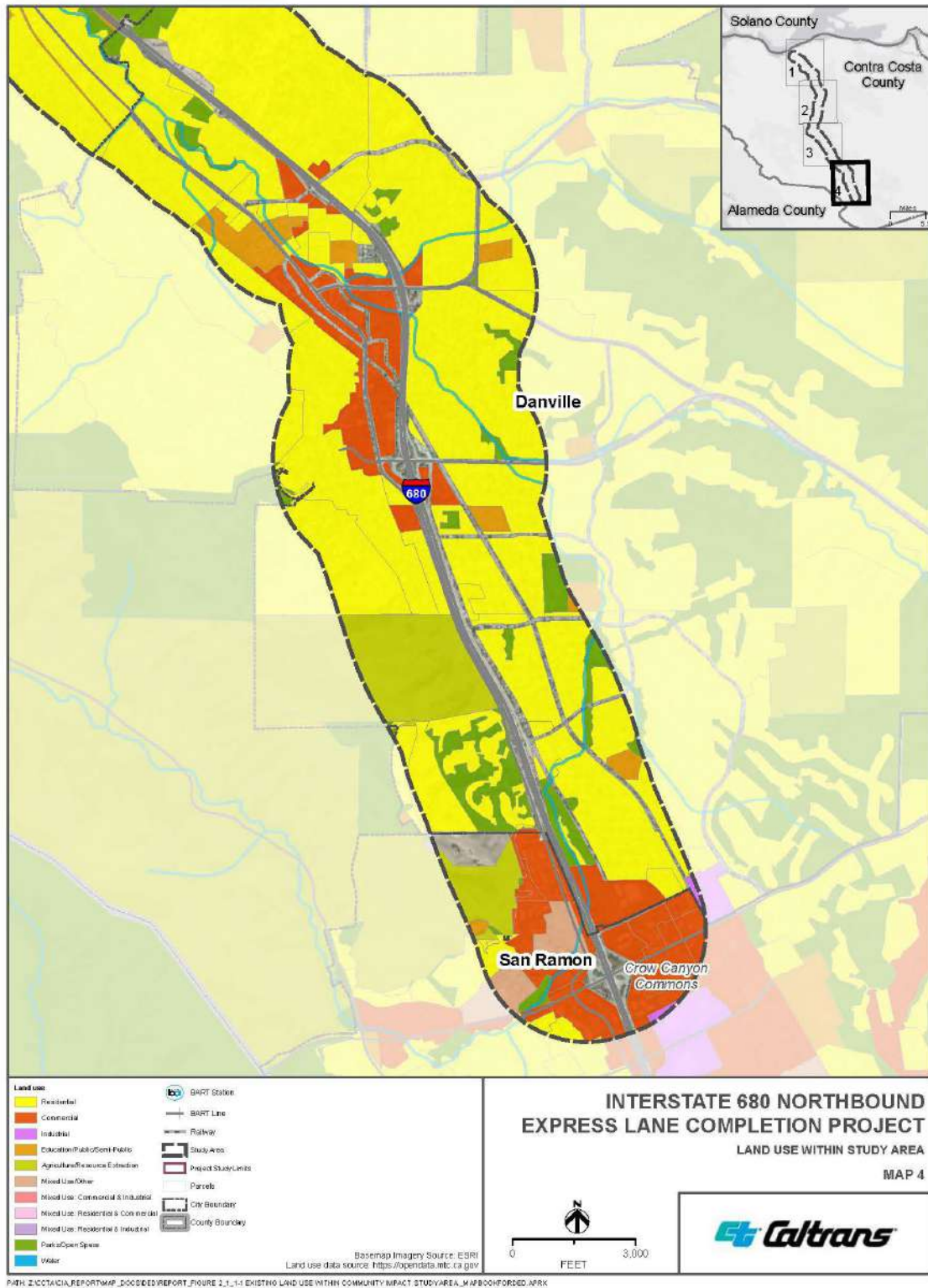


**Figure 2.1.1-1. Existing Land Use within Community Impact Study Area: Map 2 of 4**





**Figure 2.1.1-1. Existing Land Use within Community Impact Study Area: Map 3 of 4**



**Figure 2.1.1-1. Existing Land Use within Community Impact Study Area: Map 4 of 4**

## Development Trends

### Future Land Uses

*Plan Bay Area 2050* is the Bay Area’s long-range strategic plan focused on the interrelated elements of housing, the economy, transportation, and the environment (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). According to *Plan Bay Area 2050*, best estimates suggest the Bay Area’s population will rise from nearly 8 million to over 10 million residents between 2020 and 2050, reflecting a 25 percent increase.

California Department of Finance (CDF) forecasts indicate that Contra Costa County is expected to grow consistently by at least 1 percent each year (California Department of Finance, 2019). Additional population and employment growth within the Community Impact Study Area is expected to take place through the natural increase and redevelopment of existing land uses or infill development of vacant parcels.

Land uses within the Community Impact Study Area are already established, with limited opportunity for a new, unplanned, large-scale development. Due to the lack of undeveloped vacant private land in the Community Impact Study Area, there are limited opportunities for large-scale new development to occur in the study area.

### Planned Future Development Projects

Table 2.1.1-2 provides a list of planned future development projects within the Community Impact Study Area. The information in Table 2.1.1-2 was obtained by reviewing CEQAnet (Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 2023) as well as planning documents from Contra Costa County, East Bay Regional Park District, MTC, and the cities of Concord, Martinez, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon, and Walnut Creek and Town of Danville.

**Table 2.1.1-2. Planned Future Development Projects**

Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
Oak Park Properties Specific Plan	City of Pleasant Hill	<i>The City of Pleasant Hill Specific Plan</i> contemplates two development projects (the Civic project and the Residential project) within the <i>Specific Plan</i> area (plan area) boundaries. The Civic project would include construction of library facilities, a park, vehicular parking, roadway improvements, the creation of a new floodplain system with water detention basins, upgrading three existing outfalls to Grayson Creek, and the creation of a new pedestrian trail immediately west of the Grayson Creek Corridor. The Residential project would include demolition of the vacant	<b>Proposed.</b> The <i>Specific Plan</i> was adopted by the City of Pleasant Hill City Council on May 4, 2020.





Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
		administrative offices, the County library building, the paved parking lot, trees, and landscaping for development of 34 single-family dwelling units, seven accessory dwelling units, and a new pocket park.	
State Route (SR) 4 Capital Preventative Maintenance Project	California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Caltrans proposes to resurface existing pavement, upgrade metal beam guard rails, improve drainage, and replace/upgrade curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. The purpose is to preserve and extend the service life of pavement structures, improve motorist safety, and meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on June 28, 2019.
I-680 Roadway Repair	Caltrans	Roadway repairs will occur at six locations along Interstate 680 (I-680) from postmile 22.19 to 24.25.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on June 24, 2022.
Restore Pavement	Caltrans	Restore uneven pavement, cold planning, and hot mix asphalt (HMA) repaving at postmile 8.6 on Route 680 in the town of Danville, County of Contra Costa County.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on March 22, 2022.
Bridge Preservation Project	Caltrans	Work will include placing polyester concrete deck overlay, treating bridge deck with methacrylate, applying polyurethane under slabs to remove offset, repairing spalls, repairing asphalt concrete approaches, replacing joint seals, and upgrading drainage systems on I-680 between PM 12.61 and PM 24.26.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on March 15, 2022.
Bridge Preservation Project	Caltrans	Work will include overlaying polyester on bridge decks, removing and replacing rail work at six bridges (Bridge Numbers 28-0221, 28-0222, 28-0199, 28-0200, 28-0166, and 28-0162). All removed delineation will be replaced.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on March 8, 2022.
Bridge Preservation	Caltrans	Cleaning and placing methacrylate on the deck of bridge 28-0274 on I-580. Paint bridge ID at both approaches/abutments. Methacrylate will also be placed on the deck of Bridge 28-0128R on I-680.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on July 6, 2021.



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
Pavement Settlement	Caltrans	Repair pavement settlement at Bollinger Canyon Road overpass toward southbound I-680, postmile 2.89 in San Ramon, Contra Costa County.	<b>Proposed.</b> The Notice of Exemption for a Categorical Exemption was posted on June 21, 2021.
Corridor & Interchange Improvements Contra Costa County I-680	Caltrans	Implement interchange improvements at SR-4, as well as new auxiliary lanes between Rudgear Road and El Cerro Boulevard and between Bollinger Canyon Road and Alcosta Boulevard.	<b>Under Construction.</b> Phase 3 Construction was underway in 2020.
Corridor & Interchange Improvements SR-4 Contra Costa County	Caltrans	Implement Integrated Corridor Mobility between I-80 and SR-160 and operational improvements between Port Chicago Highway and San Marcos Boulevard/Willow Pass Road.	<b>Built.</b> According to the project schedule, construction and system integration began in 2017 and was completed by 2020.
Corridor & Interchange Improvements SR-242 Contra Costa County	Caltrans	Implement interchange improvements at Clayton Road and SR-242.	<b>Proposed.</b> Anticipated for completion between 2036 and 2050.
15-Minute Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Feeder Network	Central Contra Costa County Transit Authority's (CCCTA d/b/ "County Connection")	Make County Connection services a viable alternative to driving a car. The system needs to consider increasing frequency during the peak commute periods.	<b>Proposed.</b> This project was outlined as a potential project in CCCTA 2016–2025 <i>Short Range Transit Plan</i> .
I-680 Corridor Service Improvements	Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)	Enhanced transit service within the I-680 corridor, which includes new park and ride facilities constructed near I-680, more direct and local bus services between park and ride facilities and BART stations, the addition of auxiliary lanes on I-680 to allow buses to operate along the shoulders and bypass peak period congestion, and increased school bus service.	<b>Proposed.</b> This project was outlined as a potential project in CCCTA's 2016–2025 <i>Short Range Transit Plan</i> .
Iron Horse/BART Connector South	East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa County	Provide connection from BART Connector South Station to Iron Horse Regional Trail. .	<b>Planned.</b> Planned project within the 2017 <i>Countywide Transportation Plan</i> , <i>Central County Action Plan</i> .

Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
Iron Horse Trail to Walnut Creek BART North	East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa County	Provide connection from BART Walnut Creek Station to Iron Horse Regional Trail.	<b>Planned.</b> Planned project within the 2017 Countywide Transportation Plan's Central County Action Plan.
Bayview Residential Project	Contra Costa County	<p>The project proposes 144 single-family homes and associated internal roadways on an approximately 78-acre project site in the Vine Hill/Pacheco Boulevard area. The project also proposes four open space parcels, one of which is proposed as a park.</p> <p>To accomplish this, the applicant is requesting a General Plan Amendment from Heavy Industrial (HI) to Residential (SH), and Open Space (OS). The project is also requesting to Rezone the project site from Heavy Industrial (H-I) to Planned Unit Development (P-1).</p>	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved by the County Board of Supervisors on April 26, 2022.
Martinez Refinery Renewable Fuels Project	Contra Costa County	<p>On November 1, 2020, Tesoro Refining &amp; Marketing Company LLC, an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Marathon Petroleum Corporation, submitted an application for a Land Use Permit to implement the Martinez Refinery Renewable Fuels Project. The permit would allow the conversion of Marathon's Martinez Refinery facility from the processing of crude oil to the processing of renewable feedstocks. The feedstocks would be processed into renewable diesel, naphtha, propane, and treated fuel gas.</p>	<b>Approved.</b> The County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the project at their May 3, 2022, hearing.
Oak Road Townhouse Condominiums	Contra Costa County	<p>The 5.94-acre project site consists of eight parcels and is located at 2740 Jones Road, southeast of the intersection of I-680 and Treat Boulevard, within unincorporated Contra Costa County and adjacent to the city of Walnut Creek. The proposed project includes rezoning of the project site from Multiple-Family Residential (M-17 and M-29) and Single-Family Residential (R-15) to a Planned Unit District (P-1) and approval of a vesting tentative map reconfiguring the current eight parcels into 19 new residential parcels. The proposed project would involve a development plan to allow the demolition of all existing improvements currently</p>	<b>Proposed.</b> The Final EIR and Mitigation Monitoring Report Program were posted on January 12, 2022.



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
		present on-site, including buildings, foundations, asphalt, concrete, fence poles, and landscaping.	
Spieker Senior Continuing Care Community Project	Contra Costa County	<p>The Spieker Senior Continuing Care Community Project includes development of a self-contained continuing care retirement community, offering continuing care contracts that provide for housing, resident services, and long-term care.</p> <p>The Project Site consists of two existing parcels containing approximately 30.4 acres, situated in the unincorporated Walnut Creek area at the eastern end of Seven Hills Ranch Road.</p>	<b>Approved.</b> The project was scheduled and heard before the County Board of Supervisors on November 29, 2022, and the Board approved the project unanimously.
I-680/Treat Boulevard Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements	Contra Costa County	The project would provide a plan that identifies improvements to serve bicyclists and pedestrians using the I-680/Treat Boulevard corridor between the Iron Horse Trail, through the I-680 Overcrossing ("Overcrossing") near the Contra Costa Centre/Pleasant Hill BART Station area and extending west to Geary Road/North Main Street in the city of Walnut Creek. The I-680/Treat Boulevard Overcrossing is one of the main arteries into the Contra Costa Centre/Pleasant Hill BART Station area from areas of Walnut Creek west of the freeway.	<b>Complete.</b> The County Board of Supervisors approved the project on May 1, 2018. The final plan is complete and available to the public.
Iron Horse Corridor Active Transportation Study	Contra Costa County	This Study explored opportunities and constraints for further developing the active transportation features within the Iron Horse Corridor.	<b>Complete.</b> The final study was posted on the County's website in June 2020.
Amare Apartment Homes Project	City of Martinez	The project is located within the city of Martinez in Contra Costa County. The project site is approximately 6.06 acres and located between Arnold Drive and SR-4 on assessor parcel numbers (APN) 161-400-009 and 161-400-010. The proposed project would involve the construction of six buildings that include 104 one-bedroom units and 79 two-bedroom units for a total of 183 residential dwelling units. In addition, the proposed apartment complex would include on-site amenities, such as a workout facility, business center, children's play area, outdoor kitchen area and parking areas.	<b>Approved.</b> On October 11, 2022, following a public hearing, the Planning Commission certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), adopted the Statement of Overriding Considerations, and approved the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the project.



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
			Following action on the Final EIR, the Planning Commission approved the Design Review Permit and Density Bonus applications, subject to conditions of approval.
Sunrise Self-Storage	City of Martinez	The project site is located between Pacheco Boulevard and Sunrise Drive on the eastern boundary of the city of Martinez. The site is located approximately 700 feet (0.13 mile) west of Highway 680 and approximately 2,370 feet (0.45 mile) north of Highway 4. The project site consists of five parcels: APN 161-021-005, 161-021-006, 161-021-007, 161-021-008, and 161-021-009. The proposed project would develop the project site with a new 160,450-square-foot self-storage facility.	<b>Approved.</b> The Sunrise Self-Storage Project was approved by the Martinez Planning Commission at a regular meeting held on October 26, 2021.
Walnut Creek BART Transit Village	City of Walnut Creek	The project will construct 596 residential apartment units and a 30,000-square-foot, commercial (Phases 2 and 3) parking garage for 1,500 vehicles at 200 Ygnacio Valley Road	<b>Under Construction.</b> Phase 1 is complete. Phase 2 is currently under construction
1910 Noma	City of Walnut Creek	Proposed development of a 0.97 net-acre property with a six-story, mixed-use building consisting of 135 residential units and approximately 7,000 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor at 1910 North Main Street.	<b>Proposed.</b> The project is currently under review by the City of Walnut Creek.
1380 N. California	City of Walnut Creek	A new six-story, mixed use building consisting of 70 apartment units, 20 hotel rooms, above ground level retail (16,323 square-foot), and a three-level basement garage at 1380 N. California.	<b>Under Construction.</b> The project is anticipated to be complete by early 2023.
Harb MF Residential	City of Pleasant Hill	Major subdivision, new multi-family residential complex, density bonus at 230-240 Cleaveland Road.	<b>Proposed.</b> The project is currently under review by the City of Pleasant Hill.
Blake-Griggs Multi-Family Development	City of Pleasant Hill	General Plan amendment and related entitlements for a 189-unit multi-family project at 85 Cleaveland Road.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved by the City Council on March 16, 2021. The project is pending post approval follow-up.





Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
Kamali Townhomes	City of Pleasant Hill	Eight-unit residential project at 170 Cleaveland Road.	<b>Proposed.</b> The project application is currently incomplete.
Starbucks w/ Drive-Thru	City of Pleasant Hill	Permits for a new Starbucks at 999 Contra Costa Boulevard.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved by the Planning Commission and is pending post approval follow up.
Chick fil-A	City of Concord	Demolition of existing Claim Jumper and construction of 4,947-square-foot drive-thru restaurant within the Willows Shopping Center at 1981 Diamond Boulevard.	<b>Approved.</b> The Planning Commission approved the project on December 21, 2022.
Dialysis Center	City of Concord	The project would construct a 17,268 square-foot medical office building and associated site improvements for use as a Medical Services Facility (DaVita dialysis center) located at 1225 Willow Pass Road.	<b>Under Construction.</b> The latest Design Review Board Staff Report is dated August 13, 2020.
Autopia Car Wash	City of Concord	Construct a new 3,669 square-foot, full-service carwash and detail center.	<b>Under Construction</b>
Concord Senior Housing	City of Concord	The project would construct 63 senior affordable units within a six-story building.	<b>Application Under Review</b>
375 & 359 West El Pintado Road Senior Housing Project	Town of Danville	The project would include development of a 57-unit senior housing community at 375 and 359 West El Pintado Road in the Town of Danville. The senior housing community would include one-, two-, and three-bedroom units; landscaping improvements; parking area; and on-site mitigation area creation. This is an Addendum to the 2018 certified 375 West El Pintado Road Residential Project EIR.	<b>Approved.</b> In December 2018, the Danville Town Council approved the 375 West El Pintado Road Residential Project and the associated project EIR. An EIR addendum was prepared in June 2022 and posted to CEQAnet in July 2022.
Burger King Remodel	City of San Ramon	The Applicant is proposing to update the exterior and alter the drive through approach area at the Burger King located at 3240 Crow Canyon Road.	<b>Application Under Review</b>
3181 Crow Canyon Place	City of San Ramon	Addition of 257 outdoor seating spaces	<b>Application Under Review</b>



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
2010 Crow Canyon Place	City of San Ramon	Application for a Planning submittal for the telecommunications facility located at 2010 Crow Canyon Place. There will be a new generator installed in the existing lease to an existing wireless facility.	<b>Application Under Review</b>
Iron Horse Village Development Project	City of San Ramon	Request for a Development Plan, Major Subdivision, Tree Removal Permit, and Environmental Review applications for a new, 117-residential-unit development proposal, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolish approximately 212,000 square-feet of existing office buildings and associated parking lot and landscape;</li> <li>• Construct 86 single-family, detached condominium units (with an option for up to 64 attached Junior Accessory Dwelling Units [JADU]);</li> <li>• Construct 31 multi-family townhome units (including 8 live/work units);</li> <li>• Subdivide the project area with a Vesting Tentative Map for Condominium Purposes</li> </ul>	<b>Application Under Review</b>
Camp Bow Wow Development	City of San Ramon	Request for development entitlements to construct a new 8,280 square-foot, single-story building with a 21-space parking lot and landscape on an existing 0.60-acre vacant parcel at 2040 Faria Preserve Parkway. The tenant would be a new Animal Services – Boarding/Training land use (Camp Bow Wow) for up to 86 dogs at any one time. The project also includes a Minor Exception to reduce the perimeter landscape width and a Minor Exception to allow a 5-foot-high retaining wall.	<b>Under Construction.</b> The Building Permit was issued in 2019.
2590 San Ramon Valley	City of San Ramon	Request for approval for a new 40-foot-tall wireless telecommunications facility at the public storage facility at 2590 San Ramon Valley Boulevard	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in January 2022.
Home Depot Tool Rental Center	City of San Ramon	Request for approval of a Development Plan Amendment, Minor Use Permit, and Architectural Review applications to	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in April 2022.



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
		construct an approximately 4,473-square-foot building addition and an approximately 1,294-square-foot enclosure for a new tool rental center operation, including the rental of tools, equipment, and trucks, at 2750 Crow Canyon Road. The project also includes a new Minor Use Permit to replace a previously approved outdoor storage area Minor Use Permit.	
2671 Crow Canyon Road	City of San Ramon	Request for approval to convert an existing office building to a 10,225-square-foot day care for up to 165 students. Project proposal includes modifications to the parking lot to accommodate the proposed land use and traffic circulation.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in April 2022.
2001 Omega Road	City of San Ramon	T-Mobile Minor Modification	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in April 2022.
2416 San Ramon Valley Boulevard 200	City of San Ramon	Application for a business that would provide semipermanent makeup that will be tattooed on the face, brows, eyeliner, and lips.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in April 2022.
2770 Old Crow Canyon Road	City of San Ramon	Minor Use Permit Application for Parking Reduction.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in July 2022.
3130 Crow Canyon Place	City of San Ramon	New Dish Telecommunications Facility	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in August 2022.
The Preserve Development	City of San Ramon	Request for a vesting tentative map, architectural review, and development plan amendment for a 600-unit residential subdivision.	<b>Under Construction.</b> The Building Permit was issued in October 2012.
San Ramon Apartments	City of San Ramon	A mixed-use development consisting of 169 apartment units with 6,146 square feet for commercial uses.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in February 2015.
Promenade at the Preserve	City of San Ramon	Request for a Development Plan application for a 40-unit, single-family residential development and a 122-unit, multi-family development on a 10.6-acre parcel.	<b>Approved.</b> The Build Permit was issued in September 2018.



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
BR 6 Residential Development	City of San Ramon	Proposal to demolish three existing office buildings and develop a new 404-unit, for-sale residential project on a 31-acre site located at 2400-2440 Camino Ramon.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in January 2021.
TTLIC Townhomes	City of San Ramon	Proposal to construct 57 dwelling units within six multi-family buildings of varying sizes on an existing 2.46-acre lot located at 500 Deerwood Road.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in January 2021.
47-Unit Town Home Project	City of San Ramon	Proposal to construct 47 condo units within eight multi-family buildings of varying sizes on an existing 3.57-acre lot located at 2701 Hooper Drive.	<b>Approved.</b> The project was approved in April 2021.
City of San Ramon General Plan 2040 Update	City of San Ramon	<i>General Plan 2040</i> Update	<b>In Review.</b> The General Plan has been under review since June 2021.
North Camino Ramon Specific Plan Amendment	City of San Ramon	Request by the Applicant (Crow Canyon Commons Shopping Center Property Owner – Federal Realty Crow Canyon, LLC) to amend the <i>North Camino Ramon Specific Plan</i> to allow the Crow Canyon Commons Shopping Center, located at 3181 Crow Canyon Place, up to 40 percent non-retail land uses.	<b>In Review.</b> This application has been under review since January 2022.
Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering Project	Caltrans	The Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering (CARM) project will implement an adaptive ramp metering system on northbound I-680 between Alcosta Boulevard and Olympic Boulevard initially, and a future phase will expand that to both directions of I-680 in Contra Costa to proactively manage recurrent and non-recurrent congestion.	<b>Proposed.</b> The project is currently in the Environmental Document & Project Approval stage, which is anticipated to be complete by June 2023.
Northbound State Route 242 Rehabilitation Project Concord,	Caltrans	Caltrans District 4 will replace 3,500 linear feet of concrete paving in both lanes 2 and 3 of northbound SR-242 in Concord.	<b>Completed.</b> Construction for the project was completed in July 2021.
State Route 4 Operational Improvements: Interstate 680 to Bailey Road	Caltrans	The SR-4 Operation Improvements Project includes a continuation of a High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane on eastbound SR-4 from the Northbound I-680 on-ramp to the start of the existing HOV lane just east of SR-242, as well as the addition of several sections of mixed flow lanes on eastbound and westbound SR-4 between SR-242 and Bailey Road.	<b>Proposed.</b> Project Study Report/Project Development Support was approved in May 2017. The project is in the Project Approval & Environmental Document Phase. However, the project is



Name	Jurisdiction	Description of Project	Status
		The project will be constructed in two phases.	currently on hold until next steps to address SB 743 are determined.
Iron Horse Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing Project	East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa County	The City of San Ramon, in cooperation with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and Caltrans, proposes to construct a pedestrian and cyclist overcrossing along the existing Iron Horse Trail alignment at Bollinger Canyon Road. The project will improve safety and air quality by reducing at-grade crossing conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists and improve motor vehicle traffic by reducing idling at the intersection. The overcrossing would consist of a cable-stayed main span with a central support and remove the left turn lane on the side of Bollinger Canyon Road where the trail crossing would be.	<b>Under Construction.</b> Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2023.

Source: (City of Concord, 2023); (City of Martinez, 2023); (City of Pleasant Hill, 2023); (City of Walnut Creek, 2023b); (Town of Danville, 2023); (City of San Ramon, 2022); (Contra Costa County, 2023); (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2023); (Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 2023); (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2013); (Central Contra Costa Transit Authority, 2016); (TRANSPAC, 2017); (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2017)

Notes: BART = Bay Area Rapid Transit; I-680 = Interstate 680; MTC = Metropolitan Transportation Commission; SR = State Route

<sup>1</sup> The former Concord Naval Weapons Station is outside the Community Impact Study Area. The city of Concord is looking to potentially redevelop a portion of the site, referred to as "Concord Community Reuse Project." East Bay Regional Park District is also planning to create a new park on the site, called "Thurgood Marshall Regional Park – Home of the Port Chicago 50."

### 2.1.1.2 Environmental Consequences

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Community Impact Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on land use would occur.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

The Project Study Limits are located in incorporated cities and unincorporated communities, and the Project would not open new areas to development or lead to changes in density. This analysis evaluates existing land uses that would be converted to transportation uses for I-680 in the Community Impact Study Area. The analysis is based on the most current General Plan Land Use maps available from each jurisdiction.

Most of the proposed Project improvements would occur within State right-of-way (ROW). Table 2.1.1-3 identifies the potential ROW acquisitions that may be needed for each Build Alternative based on the current Project design, subject to the selection of the Preferred Alternative and Project approval. None of the Build Alternatives would require the full acquisition of any parcel; thus, no permanent or temporary residential or business relocations or displacements would occur as a result of the Project under the Build Alternatives. However, all Build Alternatives would require permanent partial acquisitions and temporary construction easements (TCE), consisting of narrow slivers of ROW, from publicly owned parcels along I-680. In addition, Alternatives 1C and 3 would require a TCE and permanent easements from private parcels (partial acquisition). All permanent ROW acquisitions would occur in the city of Walnut Creek.

TCEs would not result in a change in land use or zoning, because only a limited work area would be required for a limited period of time at any one location. Following completion of construction, TCE parcels would be restored to a condition as good or better than pre-project conditions. Construction would have no effect on the current zoning and land use designations of the TCE parcels or affect future land use or zoning. Because the affected parcels would be restored, no permanent change to any land use would result.

All permanent acquisitions (i.e., permanent easement or partial acquisition) would not affect the land use designation or zoning for the remainder of the properties. In addition, indirect impacts (e.g., changes in regional development and growth-related changes) to land use patterns are not anticipated with implementation of the Build Alternatives because impacts would be largely contained within existing ROW. All Build Alternatives have been designed to avoid impacts to existing built land uses, to the extent practicable, while adhering to design and operational criteria to maintain a safe roadway. During final design, efforts would be undertaken to further minimize construction and operation impacts to existing and planned land uses. Therefore, the Build Alternatives would not result in major changes to the land use or zoning of any parcels in the Community Impact Study Area.

The proposed Project is compatible with the existing pattern of land use and development in the Community Impact Study Area. Proposed Project elements are consistent with adopted land use plans, policies, and regulations of the applicable local and regional jurisdictions. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in any temporary or permanent adverse direct or indirect impacts related to land use, and no avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures are required.

#### **2.1.1.1 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

No avoidance, minimization, or mitigation is required.



**Table 2.1.1-3. Potential Right-of-Way Acquisitions by Build Alternative**

Location		Property Info							Right-of-Way * (Square feet)		
PM	NB/ SB	Alt	Owner	Address	City	Type	APN	Land Use	TCE	Permanent Easement	Partial Acquisition
12.7	NB	1C, 2, & 3	City of Walnut Creek, FC District	Rudgear Road	Walnut Creek	Local Road, Flood Channel	-	-	15,083	-	1,004
14.1	SB	1C & 3	Private	1236 Clover Lane	Walnut Creek	Parcel	184-033-008	SFM	813	-	-
14.1	SB	1C & 3	City of Walnut Creek	Clover Lane	Walnut Creek	Local Road	-	-	258	-	-
14.3	SB	1C & 3	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District	1250 Springbrook Road	Walnut Creek	Parcel	177-270-030	PU	715	1,772	88
14.4	NB	1C & 3	BART	Oakvale Road	Walnut Creek	Parcel	177-260-017	PU	-	26,378	1,225
14.6	NB	1C & 3	Private	1666 Terrace Road	Walnut Creek	Parcel	177-240-022	MFL	-	503	-
14.6	NB	1C & 3	Private	Vista Hermosa	Walnut Creek	Parcel	177-340-034	MFL	-	695	-
15.7	NB	2, 3, & 5	City of Walnut Creek	511 Lawrence Way	Walnut Creek	Parcel	173-014-005	MU-D	6,780	-	13,631
16	NB	2, 3, & 5	BART, FC District	Jones Road	Walnut Creek	BART ROW, Flood Channel	-	-	9,687	-	6,457
R18.2	NB	1C, 2, & 3	City of Pleasant Hill	Sherman Drive	Pleasant Hill	Local Road	-	SFHD	2,354	-	-

Sources: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023); (City of Walnut Creek, 2023a); (City of Pleasant Hill, 2022)

Notes: Alt = Alternative, APN = Assessor Parcel Number, AS-CM = Automobile Sales/Service and Custom Manufacturing District, BART = Bay Area Rapid Transit, FC District = Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, MFL = multiple-family low; MU-D = Mixed Use Downtown; NB = northbound, N/A = Not Applicable, PM = postmile, PU = Public/Semi Public, ROW = right-of-way, SFM = single-family medium, SB = southbound, SFHD = Single Family High Density, TCE = temporary construction easement

\* ROW estimates are preliminary and subject to final design and negotiations with landowners.



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## 2.1.2 Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs

### 2.1.2.1 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023. This section addresses the proposed Project's consistency with applicable adopted transportation and land use plans and programs.

The Community Impact Study Area, as shown in Figure 2.1.1-1, of Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, was used to assess land use plan and program regulatory consistency within the proposed Project's selected geographic boundary.

#### State Programs

##### ***California Scenic Highway Program***

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) manages the California Scenic Highway Program, which aims to protect and enhance the natural scenic beauty of California highways and adjacent corridors through special conservation treatments (California Department of Transportation, 2023). The California Scenic Highway System includes a list of highways that are either eligible for designation as State scenic highways or have been officially designated. These highways are identified in Section 263 of the Streets and Highways Code and can be found under the Scenic Highway System List (California Department of Transportation, 2023). Interstate 680 (I-680) is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between State Route (SR) 24 in Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in Fremont.

##### ***Classified Landscaped Freeways Program***

Caltrans manages the Classified Landscaped Freeways Program. A classified landscaped freeway is a section of freeway with ornamental vegetation planting that meets the criteria established by the California Code of Regulations, Outdoor Advertising Regulations, Title 4, Division 6. This designation is used in the control and regulation of outdoor advertising displays (California Department of Transportation, 2023). Sections of I-680 in Contra Costa County between the following post miles (PM) are Classified Landscaped Freeway, which primarily assists in the regulation of outdoor advertising placement:

- PM R3.90 to 9.05
- PM R9.22 to R12.05
- PM R12.16 to 20.54
- PM 21.19 to 21.71

- PM 22.48 to 22.81
- PM 24.47 to 24.95
- PM 24.55 to 25.01

## Regional Plans and Programs

### ***2023 Transportation Improvement Program***

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) lists the near-term transportation projects, programs, and investment priorities of the region's surface transportation system that have a federal interest, along with locally and State-funded projects that are regionally significant (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022). The TIP signifies the start of implementation for the programs and policies approved in the Bay Area's Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), *Plan Bay Area 2050*. It does this by identifying specific projects over a 4-year timeframe that would help move the region toward its transportation vision.

The proposed Project is included in the 2023 TIP as Project ID CC-170017, which MTC approved on September 28, 2022. The Project is currently described in the 2023 TIP as follows (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022):

*Contra Costa County: I680 NB from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: I680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane; from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane; from N Main to Treat: Operational improvements; various locations along I680: install limited access buffers.*

MTC forwarded the 2023 TIP to Caltrans to be included in the 2023 Federal-Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) by reference. The State approved the 2023 FSTIP on November 16, 2022. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the FSTIP on December 16, 2022 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022).

### ***Plan Bay Area 2050***

The proposed Project is included in the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) and MTC's *Plan Bay Area 2050*, the RTP/SCS for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). *Plan Bay Area 2050* was adopted on October 21, 2021. The proposed Project is an element of the Express Lanes Regional Program (21-T12-116).

*Plan Bay Area 2050* provides the following description for this program:

*This program includes funding to implement express lanes through HOV lane conversions on I-80 (ALA, CC), I-280 (SCL), I-680 (CC), I-880 (SCL), US-101*

(SCL), SR-4 (CC), SR-84 (ALA), SR-85 (SCL), SR-87 (SCL), and SR-92 (ALA); partial HOV lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SF), I-680 (CC), and US-101 (SF); freeway lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SCL), I-580 (ALA), I-680 (SCL), and I-880 (ALA); new lanes on I-80 (SOL), I-680 (ALA, CC), I-880 (ALA), and US-101 (SM); new dual lanes with HOV lane conversions on SR-85 (SCL); and new dual lanes on US-101 (SCL).

### **Connecting the Bay Area: Express Lanes Network 2021 Strategic Plan**

*Connecting the Bay Area: Express Lanes Network 2021 Strategic Plan* describes how MTC seeks to implement a system of managed lanes in the San Francisco Bay Area that is not only cost-effective and self-supporting, but also helps achieve the regional goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting transit priority, promoting use of transit and other high-occupancy modes, and advancing equity throughout the region in accordance with *Plan Bay Area 2050* and MTC's Equity Platform (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). The proposed Project is identified in the network recommendation partly as a new construction and a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) conversion and is selected for inclusion in *Plan Bay Area 2050*.

## **County Plans**

### **2017 Countywide Transportation Plan**

As the designated congestion management agency for Contra Costa County, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is required to adopt, and update periodically, a Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP) that serves as a long-range plan of at least 20 years into the future with specific details regarding the strategies and investments to maintain, manage, and improve the region's transportation network (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2017). CCTA adopted its first CTP in 1995. The first major update occurred in 2000, and a comprehensive update tied to the sales tax renewal was adopted in 2004. In 2009, as Measure J began to go into effect, the 2009 CTP, the third major update, was adopted. The 2017 CTP represents the fourth and most recent major update to the plan. The CTP provides the overall direction and a coordinated approach for achieving and maintaining a balanced and functional transportation system within Contra Costa with goals, strategies, and specific projects and other actions for achieving CCTA's vision for Contra Costa and its transportation system.

### **Measure J Expenditure Plan and 2022 Strategic Plan**

Measure J provides for the continuation of Contra Costa County's half-cent transportation sales tax from April 2009 through March 31, 2034. CCTA worked for over 2 years, along with local governments, organizations, and residents, to develop the *Measure J Expenditure Plan*, which specifies how the funds will be spent (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2011). The Expenditure Plan, which received the support of every Contra Costa city and town, as well as the County Board of Supervisors, includes funding for I-680 Carpool Lane Gap Closure/Transit Corridor Improvements. Strategic

plans are developed every 2 years with the latest being the *2022 Measure J Strategic Plan* (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2022). The proposed Project is project number 8009.02 in the *2022 Measure J Strategic Plan* and is identified as Strategy Number 2 for the INNOVATE 680 Program. CCTA provides the following scope for the proposed Project in the *2022 Measure J Strategic Plan*:

*Eliminate the gap in existing carpool lanes in the Northbound (NB) direction and convert to an express lane to increase efficiency.*

Measure J also contains a Growth Management Program that is designed to help Contra Costa County plan for and accommodate the continued increases in population, households, and jobs that are expected to occur within the County through the year 2035 (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2021).

### ***Central County Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance***

The Central County Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance (Central County Action Plan) (TRANSPAC, 2017) was adopted by the Transportation Partnership and Cooperation (TRANSPAC) on September 20, 2017, and addresses the key transportation issues that Central County will face by 2040. TRANSPAC is composed of representatives from the Cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Clayton, Concord, Martinez, and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County. The Central County Action Plan identified the completion of HOV lanes on I-680 as a major priority. The new Central County Action Plan is currently being drafted. As of March 2023, the draft Central County Action Plan has been reviewed and accepted by the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies in the County and forwarded to CCTA for acceptance and inclusion in the draft CTP.

### ***Tri-Valley Transportation Plan and Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance***

The Tri-Valley Transportation Plan and Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance (TVTC Action Plan) was adopted by the Tri-Valley Transportation Council (TVTC) in September 2017 and addresses the key transportation issues that the Tri-Valley area will face by 2040 (Tri-Valley Transportation Council, 2017). TVTC is made up of the cities of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon; the Town of Danville; and Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The TVTC Action Plan identified the need to add HOV and Express Lanes to I-680 to reduce travel times for rideshares and transit patrons and to enhance mobility during off-peak hours. The new TVTC Action Plan is currently being drafted. As of March 2023, the draft TVTC Action Plan has been reviewed and accepted by the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies in the County and forwarded to CCTA for acceptance and inclusion in the draft CTP.

### ***Contra Costa County General Plan***

The *Contra Costa County General Plan* was last adopted in 2005 and, as of March 2023, is in the process of being updated to be the *Contra Costa County General Plan 2040* (Contra Costa County, 2023). The Transportation Element's Draft Goals, Policies,

and Actions include several policies specifically aimed at support for HOV/High-occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes, or express lanes. The strategy to implement HOV lanes is discussed as part of the Plan's Transportation Element.

## **Local Plans**

### ***City of Martinez General Plan 2035***

On November 2, 2022, the City of Martinez adopted the *2035 General Plan*, superseding the *1973 General Plan*. The *Martinez 2035 General Plan* contains a set of public goals and policies to guide the future development and maintenance of the physical environment in Martinez. The plan has identified several goals and policies in the Circulation Element and the Growth Management Element related to the improvement of streets and highway circulation in Martinez (City of Martinez, 2023).

### ***City of Concord 2030 General Plan***

The *Concord 2030 General Plan* was adopted in October 2007 and amended in November 2010, January 2012, and July 2012 and includes several policies aimed at improving transportation in the City (City of Concord, 2012). The Transportation and Circulation Element and the Growth Management Element have policies that support the proposed Project.

### ***City of Pleasant Hill General Plan***

The *Pleasant Hill General Plan* was adopted in July 2003, and the Circulation Element was last amended in April 2015 (City of Pleasant Hill, 2015). The City is currently undergoing a General Plan update that will address the issues facing the City up to 2040. Several goals and policies in the Circulation Element and Growth Management Element are related to the proposed Project.

### ***City of Walnut Creek 2025 General Plan***

Walnut Creek's *2025 General Plan* was originally adopted in 2006 and most recently amended on October 13, 2020 (City of Walnut Creek, 2020). The plan's Transportation Element includes several policies aimed at improving transportation in the city.

### ***City of Lafayette General Plan***

Lafayette's *General Plan* was adopted on October 28, 2002, and most recently amended on November 13, 2012 (City of Lafayette, 2012). The plan's Circulation Element includes goals, policies, and programs related to the proposed Project.

### ***Town of Danville 2030 General Plan***

The *Town of Danville 2030 General Plan* was adopted on March 19, 2013, and the plan's Mobility Element includes several policies aimed at improving transportation in the town (Town of Danville, 2013).

### ***City of San Ramon General Plan 2035***

The *City of San Ramon General Plan 2035* articulates a long-term vision for the City. The plan was adopted on April 28, 2015, and the latest amendment was effective October 2019 (City of San Ramon, 2019). There are several guiding policies and implementing policies in the Traffic and Circulation Element, as well as in the Growth Management Element, that relate to the proposed Project.

### ***Contra Costa Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan***

The proposed improvements along northbound I-680 would coincide with several existing and proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including the Iron Horse Regional Trail and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. CCTA adopted the Contra Costa Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (CBPP) in July 2018 to support and encourage walking and bicycling in the County (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2018). The CBPP builds on and expands the CTP's goals, policies, and strategies.

### ***East Bay Regional Park District Master Plan 2013***

The *East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Master Plan 2013* (EBRPD Master Plan) defines the EBRPD's overall mission and vision (East Bay Regional Park District, 2013). The EBRPD Board of Directors approved the *EBRPD Master Plan* on July 16, 2013. The *EBRPD Master Plan* contains policies and descriptions of the programs in-place regarding resource conservation, management, interpretation, public access, and recreation. The policies contained in the *EBRPD Master Plan* guide the stewardship and development of the parks. The goal is to maintain a careful balance between the need to protect and conserve resources and the need to provide opportunities for recreational use of the parklands, both in the present and in the future.

#### **2.1.2.2 Environmental Consequences**

Table 2.1.2-1 summarizes the consistency of the No-Build and Build Alternatives with applicable plans and policies.





**Table 2.1.2-1. Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs**

Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>California Scenic Highway Program</b>					
<b>Goal:</b> The goal of the California Scenic Highway Program is to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of California.	<b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal would not be applicable.	<b>Consistent.</b> As discussed in Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics</i> , I-680 is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between SR-24 in Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in Fremont. The proposed Project under all Build Alternatives would not directly impact distant scenic resources but would directly impact vegetation adjacent to the highway. However, as discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i> , of this EIR/EA, replacement planting would occur in areas where planting is removed by construction activities.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Classified Landscaped Freeways Program</b>					
<b>Goal:</b> The goal of the Classified Landscaped Freeways designation is to control and regulate outdoor advertising displays.	<b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal	<b>Consistent.</b> As discussed in Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics</i> , sections of I-680 are Classified Landscaped Freeway in Contra Costa County. There are two locations in Walnut Creek where the	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
	would not be applicable.	proposed Project under all Build Alternatives would remove vegetation at the edge of the highway that are within zones classified as Landscaped Freeways. In general, the loss of Classified Landscaped Freeway would be high. However, the City of Walnut Creek prohibits billboards within the city limits. Further, as discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i> , of this EIR/EA, replacement planting would occur in areas where planting is removed by construction activities.			
<b>2023 Transportation Improvement Plan</b>					
<p><b>Policy Guideline:</b> Each project in MTC’s TIP submitted to Caltrans must be consistent with and reflect investment priorities established in the most recently adopted metropolitan transportation plan, in accordance with MAP-21. Each TIP project must show consistency with the project’s design concept, and timely</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions and would not implement the project as reflected in MTC’s 2023 TIP or <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in the 2023 TIP as Project ID CC-170017. Alternative 1C is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation of the Project as reflected in the 2023 TIP and <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 converts general-purpose lanes to express lanes without widening. CCTA and MTC would work to update the TIP should this alternative be selected. Alternative 5 will</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
implementation as reflected in the adopted RTP/SCS.					be consistent with the TIP once updated.
<b>Plan Bay Area 2050</b>					
<b>Build a Next-Generation Transit Network – T12.</b> Build an integrated regional express lanes and express bus network. Complete the buildout of the regional express lanes network to provide uncongested freeway lanes for new and improved express bus services, carpools and toll-paying solo drivers.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C is consistent with Express Lanes Regional Program (21 T12-116) design concept and implementation stated in <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> because it would implement express lanes through HOV conversion and new lanes in Contra Costa County. Alternative 1C would close a 7.5-mile gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 and directly contribute to the buildout of the regional express lanes network.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would contribute to the build out of the express lanes in the region. Although a 2-mile gap would remain at the SR-24 Interchange, Alternative 2 would reduce the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternatives 1C and 2.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be similar to Alternative 2. However, Alternative 5 would convert general-purpose lanes to express lanes without a new lane. As described above, CCTA and MTC would update the TIP should this alternative be selected.
<b>Connecting the Bay Area: Express Lanes Network 2021 Strategic Plan</b>					
<b>Goal:</b> Manage congestion and bring reliability to the traveling public.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would reduce congestion on northbound I-680 and bring reliability to the traveling public as described in Section 2.1.8, <i>Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities</i> .	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.

Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
	under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.				
<b>Goal:</b> Increase person throughput by creating a seamless network that incentivizes the use of transit, vanpools, and carpools.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would increase person throughput along northbound I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative by design year (2047) (DKS Associates, 2023). All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby encouraging the use of transit, vanpools, and carpools.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be similar to Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be similar to Alternative 1C.	<b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would reduce person throughput on northbound I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative in the morning peak period. However, Alternative 5 would increase person throughput in the afternoon peak period and encourage the use of transit and HOV vehicles.
<b>Goal:</b> Minimize greenhouse gas emissions.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would improve traffic flow and decrease congestion along I-680, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions from stop-and-go traffic. Further, Alternative 1C would add and improve HOV and Express Lane travel options along northbound I-680. All	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
	<p>under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.</p>	<p>eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby incentivizing the use of transit, vanpools, clean air vehicles, and carpools. This would also reduce overall automobile use and minimize automobile-related greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with this goal.</p>			
<p><b>Goal:</b> Focus on equity to improve transportation access and affordability, especially for Communities of Concern</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would address existing transportation problems along northbound I-680 regarding congestion, system continuity, and operational improvements. As discussed in Section 2.1.6, <i>Environmental Justice</i>, the benefits of the proposed Project under Alternative 1C may be realized by low-income drivers as much as or more than by other drivers, due to the potential value the express lane improvements may offer. Further, the Project includes a public engagement program that would incorporate plain, simple language and have</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		information translated into non-English languages as per CCTA's Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Program to facilitate access to toll tags.			
<p><b>Goal:</b> Deliver Bay Area Express Lanes Network in a timely manner.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> By closing the gap in express lanes, Alternative 1C would deliver the Bay Area Express Lanes Network in a timely manner and be consistent with this goal.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C, except it reduces the gap in managed lanes.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 2.</p>
<p><b>Goal:</b> Be responsible in the use of public funds.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in the 2023 TIP as Project ID CC-170017 and ABAG and MTC's <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC's adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, the</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>proposed Project under Alternative 1C would address existing transportation problems along northbound I-680 regarding congestion, system continuity, and operational improvements. Therefore, Alternative 1C would result in the responsible use of public funds.</p>			
<p><b>2017 Countywide Transportation Plan</b></p>					
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Support the efficient, safe, and reliable movement of people and goods using all available travel modes.</p> <p><b>Strategy 1.1:</b> Increase the efficiency of highways and arterial roads through capital investment, operational enhancements, and use of technology. This will include funding for capital projects that will increase efficiency on highways and roadways, such as by interchange improvements to reduce weaving and congestion at the I-680 and SR-4 interchange, and operational improvements</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these strategies.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would eliminate the gap in managed lanes on I-680. Alternative 1C would add and improve HOV and express lane travel options along northbound I-680. All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby incentivizing the use of transit, vanpools, and carpools. These improvements would improve traffic flow and decrease congestion along I-680. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the similar to Alternative 1C. However, Alternative 2 would reduce but not eliminate the gap in managed lanes.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 2.</p>





Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>proposed by the INNOVATE 680 project for transit investment and congestion relief through enhanced bus service and use of technology to support connected and autonomous vehicles.</p> <p><b>Strategy 1.2:</b> Engage in partnerships with jurisdictions, stakeholders, and other agencies to identify and implement strategies for managing congestion and increasing multimodal mobility. [...] In the future, the Authority will continue to engage with our partners and a diverse group of stakeholders to [...] [expand] express lanes on I-680 and elsewhere.</p> <p><b>Strategy 1.3:</b> Eliminate gaps in the existing highway, arterial, and trails systems, especially those in the regional HOV lane and express lane network. [...] Plans to eliminate I-680 gaps are well underway; I-680 express lanes in the northbound direction are about to open, and engineering for</p>		<p>Project to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits, consistent with the INNOVATE 680 Program. Therefore, Alternative 1C would support the efficient, safe, and reliable movement of people and goods using all available travel modes, including HOVs, non-carpool drivers, and transit.</p>			



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
southbound express lanes is under way.					
<p><b>Strategy 1.4:</b> Improve the highway and arterial system to influence the location and nature of anticipated growth in accordance with the General Plans of local jurisdictions and consistent with the Authority's adopted CTP.</p>					
<p><b>Goal 2:</b> Manage growth to sustain Contra Costa's economy, preserve its environment and support its communities.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Based on future projections on traffic demands and growth, the No-Build Alternative would result in further deterioration and result in increased congestion, vehicle delays, safety concerns, vehicle operating costs, and vehicle emissions. The No-Build Alternative would be inconsistent with this goal and strategy.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C includes capacity enhancements along northbound I-680 that are intended to respond to expected demand and growth for the region and to improve current operations. Alternative 1C would not induce growth. The Project has been developed cooperatively with local jurisdictions within Contra Costa County.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<p><b>Strategy 2.1:</b> Continue to require cooperative transportation and land use planning among Contra Costa County, cities, towns, and transportation agencies.</p>					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p><b>Goal 3:</b> Expand safe, convenient and affordable alternatives to the single-occupant vehicle.</p> <p><b>Strategy 3.5:</b> Promote the formation of more carpools and vanpools, and greater use of transit, bicycling, and walking.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and strategy.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would encourage HOV and transit service use on northbound I-680.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<p><b>Measure J</b></p>					
<p><b>Goal:</b> Support the construction and improvement of state highways, the construction, maintenance, improvement, and operation of local streets, roads, and highways, and the construction, improvement, and operation of public transit systems, including paratransit services, and for specific efforts supporting such investments.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project under all Build Alternatives is included in the Measure J Expenditure Plan and 2022 Strategic Plan and would support the improvement of northbound I-680 within the Community Impact Study Area.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>Central County Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance</b>					
<p><b>Goal 2:</b> Support the enhancement and expansion of an efficient transit system,</p> <p><b>Action 2-B:</b> Support the efforts of CCTA to evaluate congestion relief strategies along the I-680 corridor, including transit options and new technologies.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and action.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would add and improve express lane travel options along northbound I-680. A purpose of the proposed Project is to relieve congestion along the I-680 corridor. All eligible vehicles, including buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby supporting the enhancement of a more efficient transit system. Further, the proposed Project under Alternative 1C is part of the INNOVATE 680 Program.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<p><b>Goal 8:</b> Work to improve freeway flow.</p> <p><b>Action 8-A:</b> Continue to monitor and evaluate operational improvements at freeway interchanges on I-680, SR-242, SR-24, and SR-4</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would address existing transportation problems along northbound I-680 regarding congestion, system continuity, and operational improvements. Alternative 1C would reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680. This alternative would also reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor. Therefore,</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C, except Alternative 5, would only reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680 in the afternoon peak period.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
	this goal and action.	Alternative 1C would improve freeway flow.			
<p><b>Goal 9:</b> Support use of HOV and Express Lanes.</p> <p><b>Action 9-A:</b> Support the completion of a continuous HOV system on I-680.</p> <p><b>Action 9-B:</b> Support the connection of the SR-4 HOV system to I-680.</p> <p><b>Action 9-C:</b> Support consistent occupancy requirements for toll-free HOV lanes on the Benicia-Martinez Bridge and I-680.</p> <p><b>Action 9-D:</b> Support the implementation of express lanes on I-680, consistent with MTC's project.</p> <p><b>Action 9-E:</b> Support additional incentives for HOV users.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these actions.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would add and improve HOV and express lane travel options along northbound I-680. All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby supporting the use of HOV and express lanes. Tolling pricing, enforcement, and signage would occur similar to existing express lanes on I-680.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<b>Tri-Valley Transportation Plan and Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance</b>					
<p><b>Goal 5:</b> Maintain and actively pursue enhanced and expanded public transit service, ridesharing, and non-motorized mode options and trip reduction programs in order to increase accessibility, to</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would eliminate the gap in managed lanes on I-680. Alternative 1C would add and improve HOV and express lane travel options along northbound I-680. All eligible vehicles, including</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be similar to Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be similar to Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be similar to Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
increase the transit share of travel in the Tri-Valley, and to increase average vehicle occupancy.	the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these actions.	HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby incentivizing the use of transit, vanpools, and carpools. These improvements would increase the transit share of travel in the Tri-Valley and increase average vehicle occupancy.			
<b>Contra Costa County General Plan</b>					
<b>Policy 1.4:</b> Partner with the CCTA and Caltrans to better manage traffic operations on the State highway system in Contra Costa through application of ramp metering, construction of HOV/express lanes, and other capacity-management techniques.	<b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this policy would not be applicable.	<b>Consistent.</b> Coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>City of Martinez General Plan 2035</b>					
<b>Goal 1:</b> Encourage safe and convenient access to activities in the community and provide a well-designed local roadway system as well as pedestrian pathways and bicycle lanes.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers along northbound I-680. Alternative 1C would also encourage HOV and transit service use. Therefore, Alternative 1C would contribute to a safe and convenient roadway	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Policy 1.3:</b> Provide efficient citywide					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>automobile circulation by maintaining and, where necessary, improving local and regional roadway facilities.</p>	<p>under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.</p>	<p>system and be consistent with this goal and policy.</p>			
<p><b>Goal 2:</b> Maintain and/or improve mobility in the city by considering alternative circulation system improvements beyond those identified within Planned Major Improvements that increase system capacity and are found acceptable to the City, its residents, and where applicable, Caltrans or other agency.</p> <p><b>Implementation Measure 1C:</b> As both city and regional travel increase transportation demand, work cooperatively with regional partner agencies including Caltrans, CCTA, ABAG, MTC, and others to plan and fund improvement projects that increase roadway capacity while maintaining or improving access to multi-modal facilities following the City's community and circulation priorities</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these implementation measures.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C, including with the City of Martinez, to improve traffic conditions on I-680 within the Project's PM limits.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>





Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p><b>Implementation Measure 1F:</b> Continue to work with Caltrans, CCTA, ABAG, MTC, County Connection, and the County to plan, design, fund, and construct programmed improvements to state highways and major regional roadways in a timely, context-sensitive manner.</p>					
<p><b>Goal 3:</b> Participate in on-going multi-jurisdictional transportation planning programs, such as with other agencies, the Regional Transportation Planning Committee (RTPC) and CCTA that reflect the nature of the County’s land use and circulation system by focusing on facilities that serve regional travel demand, in order to create a balanced, safe and efficient transportation system and to manage the impacts of growth.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal and these policies would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located adjacent to the Project Study Limits. Therefore, Alternative 1C</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<p><b>Policy 1:</b> Participate with TRANSPAC and CCTA in developing Action Plans to address problems on Routes of Regional</p>					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>Significance that have been designated by the City in cooperation with TRANSPAC and CCTA. In Martinez, these are: I-680, SR-4, Alhambra Avenue and Pacheco/Contra Costa Boulevard.</p> <p><b>Policy 2:</b> Participate in multi-jurisdictional transportation planning by participating in TRANSPAC activities including development of Regional Route Action Plans and by cooperating in planning for intersections subject to Findings of Special Circumstances located in other jurisdictions, and CCTA's Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Planning Process (no longer required by CCTA but maintained by the City as long-term goals).</p>		<p>would be consistent with the City of Martinez' goal and policies regarding participation with multi-jurisdictional transportation planning programs.</p>			
<p><b>City of Concord 2030 General Plan</b></p>					
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> A Safe and Efficient Multi-Modal Transportation System.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would reduce travel time and improve travel time</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>Policy 1.3:</b> Maintain and upgrade transportation systems to provide smooth flow of traffic, minimize vehicle emissions, and save energy.	would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.	reliability for travelers along northbound I-680. Alternative 1C would also encourage HOV, clean air vehicle use, and transit service use as well as decrease congestion by improving traffic flow along I-680, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions from stop-and-go traffic.	same as Alternative 1C.	same as Alternative 1C.	same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Goal 3:</b> Minimize single-occupancy vehicle travel in Concord.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would encourage HOV and transit service use including buses. Further, Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies, such as traffic operation systems and traffic signal coordination, would be implemented as a Standardized Project Measure as part of the proposed Project under Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Policy 3.1:</b> Work with employers to develop Transportation Demand Management plans to increase carpooling and encourage the use of public transportation, bicycling, and walking; consider other trip-reduction approaches such as telecommuting, shuttles, and transit passes.					
<b>Goal 4:</b> Reduce the number and length of commute trips made by single-occupancy vehicles.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions,	<b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would increase freeway capacity and speeds by closing a 7.5-mile gap between two existing managed lane	<b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> The only difference from Alternative 1C is that Alternative 2	<b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 represents the combined Project improvements	<b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 is similar to Alternative 2. The primary difference

Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
	<p>this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.</p>	<p>segments on northbound I-680 with the addition of a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242. Alternative 1C would also convert an existing northbound HOV lane to an express lane. Alternative 1C would improve traffic flow and decrease congestion along I-680. However, the average trip lengths resulting from Alternative 1C would be slightly higher but similar to the No-Build Alternative. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be somewhat consistent with this goal.</p>	<p>would leave a 2-mile gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 at the SR-24 Interchange. Therefore, Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p>proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Therefore, Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternatives 1C and 2.</p>	<p>between Alternative 2 and Alternative 5 is that Alternative 5 would not add any new lanes to northbound I-680. Instead, existing general-purpose and HOV lanes would be converted to a managed lane. Therefore, Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 2.</p>
<p><b>Goal 5:</b> A cooperative regional transportation and land use planning process.</p> <p><b>Policy 5.1:</b> Continue to participate in multi-jurisdictional transportation planning efforts.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal and policy would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC's <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC's adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with the City of Concord's goal and policy regarding participation in the regional transportation and land use planning process.			
<b>City of Pleasant Hill General Plan</b>					
<p><b>Goal 6:</b> Reduce congestion and vehicle trips through non-automobile transportation and public transit.</p> <p><b>Policy 6B:</b> Encourage use of carpooling and ridesharing for local and regional travel.</p> <p><b>Program 6.7:</b> Support new technologies that promote more effective use of transit and facilitate other innovative alternative modes of transportation.</p> <p><b>Program 6.12:</b> Encourage development of infrastructure (public and private) to support the use</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these programs.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would add and improve express lane travel options along northbound I-680. A purpose of the proposed Project is to relieve congestion along the I-680 corridor. All eligible vehicles, including buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby encouraging HOV and transit service use. Therefore, Alternative 1C would reduce congestion and vehicle trips through non-automobile transportation and public transit and be consistent with this goal and these programs.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>

Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles.					
<p><b>Goal 2:</b> Ensure an efficient regional and local transportation system that will meet the needs of the overall growth within the city and the region.</p> <p><b>Program 2.1:</b> Participate with TRANSPAC, CCTA, and other jurisdictions in an on-going multi-jurisdictional planning process.</p> <p><b>Program 2.2:</b> Work with TRANSPAC and CCTA in the designation of Routes of Regional Significance.</p> <p><b>Program 2.3:</b> Work with TRANSPAC to update and implement the Central County Action Plans for Routes of Regional Significance.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal and these programs would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, CCTA and Caltrans are conducting ongoing coordination between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680, which is defined as a Route of Regional Significance in the City of Pleasant Hill General Plan. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with the City of Pleasant Hill’s goal and programs regarding participation in the regional transportation and land use planning process.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>City of Walnut Creek 2025 General Plan</b>					
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Minimize future increases in congestion on regional transportation facilities.</p> <p><b>Policy 1.1:</b> In cooperation with State and regional agencies and other jurisdictions, develop and implement regional solutions to local traffic problems created by growth outside the city.</p> <p><b>Action 1.1.3:</b> Work with TRANSPAC in implementing the Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal, policy, and action would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies, including those communities within the Project Study Limits that are a part of TRANSPAC, to implement the proposed Project under Alternative 1C, which would improve traffic conditions on I-680 within the Project Study Limits. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with the City of Walnut Creek’s goal, policy, and action regarding the implementation of regional solutions to local traffic problems.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>





Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<b>City of Lafayette General Plan</b>					
<b>Goal 8:</b> Promote alternatives to the single-occupant automobile.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal.	<b>Consistent.</b> All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby encouraging the use of alternative modes of transportation other than single occupancy automobiles.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Goal 10:</b> Work closely with neighboring jurisdictions and agencies responsible for roadways, transit facilities, and transit services in Lafayette.	<b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal and policy would not be applicable.	<b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC's <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC's adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> . Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies within the Community Impact Study Area to improve traffic conditions	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Policy 10.1:</b> Participate in regional transportation planning in order to minimize adverse impacts on Lafayette's circulation system. Evaluation of proposed changes within Lafayette's circulation system must consider the seismic, soils, and scenic constraints in addition to					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
the goals and policies of the Lafayette General Plan.		on I-680 within in the Project Study Limits. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with the City of Lafayette's goal and policy regarding participation with neighboring jurisdictions and agencies responsible for roadways, transit facilities, and transit services in Lafayette.			
<b>Town of Danville 2030 General Plan</b>					
<b>Goal 13:</b> Create viable transportation alternatives to the single occupant automobile.	<b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these policies.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would add and improve managed lane travel options along northbound I-680. All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby supporting the use of managed lanes. Therefore, Alternative 1C would encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation other than single-occupant automobiles, and would be consistent with this goal and these policies.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.
<b>Policy 13.4:</b> Encourage ridesharing, car and vanpooling, infrastructure improvements (such as the Sycamore Valley Road Park and Ride Lot) and services which jointly reduce the need to travel by single-occupant automobile.					
<b>Policy 13.8:</b> Support the concepts of car-sharing and bike-sharing as an alternative mode of travel.					
<b>Goal 16:</b> Provide leadership and advocacy	<b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build	<b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3	<b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>for improved transportation planning at the local, sub-regional, and regional levels.</p> <p><b>Policy 16.1:</b> Work with other agencies, including neighboring cities, Contra Costa County, TVTC, CCTA, SWAT, County Connection, Caltrans, and MTC on multi-jurisdictional transportation issues affecting Danville.</p> <p><b>Policy 16.2:</b> Participate in regional transportation systems management (TSM) programs and maintain a consistent local program.</p> <p><b>Policy 16.3:</b> Work closely with the County and other involved agencies to ensure that the Interstate 680 right-of-way shall be the route for any future light rail or equivalent mass transit system. Any investment in fixed-route transit shall avoid adversely affecting the residential character of Danville’s neighborhoods and Danville’s street system.</p>	<p>Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal and policies would not be applicable.</p>	<p>ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies to implement the proposed Project under Alternative 1C, which would improve traffic conditions on I-680 within the Project Study Limits. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be consistent with the Town of Danville’s goals and policies regarding participation in local, sub-regional, and regional transportation planning.</p>	<p>would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p>would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p>would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p><b>Policy 16.4:</b> Encourage regional and sub-regional transportation agencies to consider local land use policies and growth management strategies when examining proposals for new transportation facilities.</p>					
<p><b>City of San Ramon General Plan 2035</b></p>					
<p><b>Guiding Policy 5.2-G-1:</b> Actively participate in local and regional transportation planning.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions.</p>	<p><b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116.</p>	<p><b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Somewhat Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 is similar to Alternative 2. The primary difference between Alternative 2 and Alternative 5 is that Alternative 5 would not add any new lanes to northbound I-680.</p>
<p><b>Implementing Policy 5.2-I-1:</b> Continue to develop and implement Action Plans for Routes of Regional Significance, in cooperation with the SWAT, the CCTA, and TVTC.</p>	<p>Therefore, this guiding policy and implementing policies would not be applicable.</p>	<p>The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits. Further, Alternative 1C would improve traffic flow and decrease congestion along I-680.</p>			<p>Instead, existing general-purpose and HOV lanes would be converted to a managed lane.</p>
<p><b>Implementing Policy 5.2-I-5:</b> Emphasize regional transportation demand management and trip reduction strategies as alternatives to improvements to existing facilities and the construction of new facilities.</p>					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>Alternative 1C would add and improve HOV and Express Lane travel options along northbound I-680. All eligible vehicles, including HOVs and buses, would be able to use express lanes, thereby incentivizing the use of transit, vanpools, clean air vehicles, and carpools. However, the average trip lengths resulting from Alternative 1C would be slightly higher but similar to the No-Build Alternative. Therefore, Alternative 1C would be somewhat consistent with the City of San Ramon’s guiding policy and implementing policies regarding participation in local, sub-regional, and regional transportation planning.</p>			
<p><b>Guiding Policy 3.1-G-1:</b> Manage the City’s growth in a way that balances existing and planned transportation facilities, protection of open space and ridgelines, provision of diverse housing options, and the preservation of high-quality community facilities and services.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this guiding policy and implementing policy would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would not induce growth because the proposed Project under Alternative 1C would be built along an existing corridor and is consistent with applicable land use plans. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p><b>Implementing Policy 3.1-I-6:</b> Join with and encourage other jurisdictions to participate in regional transportation planning programs.</p>		<p>government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits.</p>			
<p><b>Guiding Policy 3.4-G-1:</b> Utilize TDM strategies as an integral component of the City’s transportation program to reduce total vehicle trips on San Ramon roadways and reduce the corresponding vehicle emissions that promote regional air quality improvements.</p>	<p><b>Inconsistent.</b> Because the No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions, this alternative would not achieve the transportation improvements projected to result under the Build Alternatives and would be inconsistent with this goal and these policies.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 1C would close a 7.5-mile gap between two existing managed lane segments on northbound I-680 with the addition of a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242. Alternative 1C would convert an existing northbound HOV lane to an express lane and implement, as feasible, Transportation Demand Management strategies, such as traffic operation systems and traffic signal coordination, which are a Standardized Project Measure as part of the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives. Further, the proposed improvements under Alternative 1C would mostly be implemented north of the city of San Ramon and the town of</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 includes many of the same improvements as Alternative 1C. The only difference is that Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 at the SR-24 Interchange. Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>
<p><b>Implementing Policy 3.4-I-6</b> Locate future transit uses, such as light rail or BART, in the I-680 right-of-way. San Ramon, Danville, and Contra Costa County have adopted a memorandum of understanding that designates the I-680 right-of-way as the preferred alignment for future rail transit service through the San Ramon Valley for the purpose of serving major employment centers. The</p>					



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>Measure J Transportation Expenditure Plan allocates funding for the I-680 Carpool Lane Gap Closure/Transit Corridor Improvements including proposed HOV on/off ramps at Norris Canyon Road, auxiliary lanes, and increased express bus service for the San Ramon Valley.</p>		<p>Danville. The proposed Project is also included as part of the Measure J Expenditure Plan.</p>			
<p><b>Guiding Policy 3.5-G-1:</b> Participate in regional cooperative and multi-jurisdictional transportation planning for the maintenance of regional mobility and air quality standards as required by the Measure J Growth Management Program and the Contra Costa Congestion Management Plan (CMP).</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 3.5.-I-1:</b> Continue to develop and implement Action Plans for Routes of Regional Significance, in cooperation with the Southwest Area Transportation Committee (SWAT), the Contra Costa Transportation Authority</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this guiding policy and implementing policies would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> The proposed Project is identified in ABAG and MTC’s <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> as Project ID 21-T12-116. The proposed Project is consistent with the design concept and timely implementation as reflected in ABAG and MTC’s adopted <i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>. Coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project under Alternative 1C to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits. Further, Alternative 1C would implement, as feasible, Transportation</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>





Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
<p>(CCTA), and the Tri-Valley Transportation Council (TVTC).</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 3.5-I-3:</b> Participate in programs to mitigate regional traffic congestion, including implementation of regional and sub-regional traffic impact fees on new development.</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 3.5-I-4:</b> Emphasize regional transportation demand management and trip reduction strategies as alternatives to increased roadway capacity.</p>		<p>Demand Management strategies, such as traffic operation systems and traffic signal coordination, which are a Standardized Project Measure as part of the proposed Project under Alternative 1C.</p>			
<b>Contra Costa Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan</b>					
<p><b>Goal 3:</b> Create a safe, connected, and comfortable network of bikeways and walkways for all ages and abilities</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, this goal would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> As discussed in Section 2.1.3, <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i>, the proposed Project under Alternative 1C would require temporary closures of portions of the Iron Horse Regional Trail and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. However, with implementation of Measures <b>PR-1</b> to <b>PR-4</b> to avoid and/or minimize</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		<p>temporary and permanent impacts to park and recreational facilities, the proposed Project under Alternative 1C would maintain a safe and connected network of bikeways and walkways within the Community Impact Study Area.</p>			
<b>East Bay Regional Park District Master Plan 2013</b>					
<p><b>Goal:</b> Provide a diversified system of regional parklands, trails and related services that will offer outstanding opportunities for creative use of outdoor time.</p> <p><b>Goal:</b> Participate in partnerships with public agencies, nonprofit organizations, volunteers, and the private sector to achieve mutual goals.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable.</b> The No-Build Alternative would not result in any changes to existing conditions. Therefore, these goals would not be applicable.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> As discussed in Section 2.1.3, <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i>, the proposed Project under Alternative 1C would require temporary closures of portions of the Iron Horse Regional Trail and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. However, with implementation of Measures <b>PR-1</b> to <b>PR-4</b> to avoid and/or minimize temporary and permanent impacts to park and recreational facilities, the proposed Project under Alternative 1C would maintain a safe and connected network of bikeways and walkways within the Community</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 3 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>	<p><b>Consistent.</b> Alternative 5 would be the same as Alternative 1C.</p>



Policy/Goal	No-Build Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
		Impact Study Area. Further, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project, including EBRPD, to improve traffic conditions on I-680 throughout the jurisdictions located in the Project Study Limits.			

Sources: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023); (Contra Costa County, 2014); (California Department of Transportation, 2012); (California Department of Transportation, 2023); (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2011); (Tri-Valley Transportation Council, 2017); (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2018); (East Bay Regional Park District, 2013)

Notes: ABAG = Association of Bay Area Governments; BART = Bay Area Rapid Transit; CCTA = Contra Costa Transportation Authority; CMP = Congestion Management Plan; EA = Environmental Assessment; EBRPD = East Bay Regional Park District; EIR = Environmental Impact Record; HOV = High-occupancy Vehicle; LEP = Limited English Proficiency; MTC = Metropolitan Transportation Commission; RTP = Regional Transportation Plan; RTPC = Regional Transportation Planning Committee; SCS = Sustainable Communities Strategy; SR = State Route; SWAT = Southwest Area Transportation Committee; TDM = Transportation Demand Management; TIP = Transportation Improvement Program; TRANSPAC = Transportation Partnership and Cooperation; TSM = Transportation Systems Management; TVTC = Tri-Valley Transportation Council

### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on consistency with State, regional, and local plans and programs would occur. The No-Build Alternative would be inconsistent with various goals and policies from adopted plans as identified in Table 2.1.2-1. Therefore, temporary or permanent adverse direct or indirect impacts would occur under the No-Build Alternative.

### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

Construction under all Build Alternatives would not result in inconsistencies with adopted goals and policies of applicable federal, State, regional, and local plans in Table 2.1.2-1, specifically *Plan Bay Area 2050*, *Central County Action Plan for Routes of Regional Significance*, and each of the applicable City and County general plans. Further, under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would largely be constructed within existing State right-of-way. Therefore, no temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts would occur under any of the Build Alternatives.

The Build Alternatives would encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation, such as transit and rideshare usage, and offer HOV and express lane travel options that would encourage people to combine automobile trips, which would indirectly decrease congestion and greenhouse gas emissions and reduce overall single-occupancy automobile usage. As summarized in Table 2.1.2-1, under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would be generally consistent with adopted goals and policies of applicable federal, State, regional, and local plans. Specifically, the proposed Project would be consistent with the *2023 FTIP* (Project ID CC-170017), *Plan Bay Area 2050* (Project ID 21-T12-116), and the *Measure J Expenditure Plan* plans to implement express lanes on northbound I-680 that would improve travel speeds for motorists and reduce stop and go traffic. In accordance with Measure **CIA-1**, coordination is ongoing between the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project to improve traffic conditions on I-680 within Contra Costa County. Therefore, with the implementation of Measure **CIA-1**, no permanent adverse direct or indirect impacts would occur under any of the Build Alternatives.

#### **2.1.2.3 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

**CIA-1** During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will continue to coordinate with the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project to improve traffic conditions along I-680 within Contra Costa County.



## 2.1.3 Parks and Recreational Facilities

### 2.1.3.1 Regulatory Setting

The Park Preservation Act (California Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 5400-5409) prohibits local and state agencies from acquiring any property which is in use as a public park at the time of acquisition unless the acquiring agency pays sufficient compensation or land, or both, to enable the operator of the park to replace the park land and any park facilities on that land.

### 2.1.3.2 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project’s *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023. The Community Impact Study Area encompasses all properties within a 0.5-mile buffer from the old Project Study Limits (PM R4.4/24.5), as described in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*.

As depicted in Figure 2.1.3-1, a total of 33 public parks, 5 recreation areas, 1 wildlife refuge, and 40 bike, pedestrian, and equestrian paths are located within 0.5 mile of the old Project Study Limits, some of which are adjacent to I-680 right-of-way (ROW) or cross under the I-680 corridor. More information regarding these park and recreational facilities is provided in Table 2.1.3-1 and Table 2.1.3-2, including locations, descriptions, and amenities.

**Table 2.1.3-1. Public Parks and Other Recreational Facilities within the Community Impacts Study Area**

Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Park	Contra Costa County	Andrew H. Young Park	P21	1471 Jackson Way, Alamo	Open Access, Landscaping, Tables, Walking Path, Memorial Plaque
Park	Contra Costa County	Fox Creek Park	P8	118 Anthony Way, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Picnic Tables, Benches, Pedestrian Bridge
Park	Contra Costa County	Pacheco Creekside Park (Hayden Park)	P4	Aspen Drive, Martinez, along Grayson Creek	Open Access, Benches, Trashcans, Trails, Landscaping



Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Park	Contra Costa County	Hemme Station Park	P20	1193 Danville Boulevard, Alamo	Open Access, Picnic Tables, Landscaped Areas, Gazebos, Benches, Restrooms, Children's Play Areas, Walking Path, Adjacent to Iron Horse Regional Trail
Golf Course	Contra Costa County	Buchanan Fields Golf Course	P2	1091 Concord Avenue, Concord	9-Hole Golf Course, Driving Range, 18-Hole Putting Course
Park	City of Concord	Cambridge Park	P7	Victory Lane, Concord, adjacent to Cambridge Elementary School	Open Access, Picnic Table, Playground, Soccer Field, Children's Play Area, Expansive Turfed Play Fields for Soccer and Casual Play, Picnic Tables, and Shade Trees
Park	City of Concord	Len Hester Community Park	P11	Hookston Road and Hampton Drive, Concord	Open Access, Picnic Areas, Walking Track, Lawn, and Trees
Park	City of Concord	Meadow Homes Park	P6	Sunshine Avenue and Detroit Avenue, Concord, next to Meadow Homes School	Open Access, Spray Park, Multi-Use Sports Fields, Picnic/ Barbecue Areas, Landscaping
Park	Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District	Chilpancingo Park	P1	Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, along Grayson Creek	Open Access, Trails with Redwood and Oak Trees
Park	Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District	Pleasant Hill Park	P5	147 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill	Open Access, Group Picnic Sites, Playground Tables, Softball Diamond (No Lights), Basketball Courts, Horseshoe Pits, Children's Playground and Tot Lot, Community Gardens, Pool, and Diving Pool



Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Park	Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District	Shadowood Park	P3	69 Spar Court, Pleasant Hill, along Grayson Creek	Open Access, Playground, Landscaping, Trails, Basketball Hoop, Parking Area
Park	Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District	Sherman Acres Park	P34	Sherman Drive, Pleasant Hill	Open Access, Benches, Picnic Area, Children's Play Area, Landscaping.
Park	Pleasant Hill Recreation and Parks District	Pleasant Oaks Park	P9	2 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill	Open Access, Baseball/Softball Diamond, Paved Walking Path, Picnic Areas, Picnic Shelters, Playground, Soccer Field, Batting Cages
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Acalanes Ridge Open Space	P16	Sousa Drive, Walnut Creek	Open Access, 4 Miles of Trails, Limited Parking, No Developed Facilities, Connections to Briones-to-Mt. Diablo Trail
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Alma Park	P13	California Boulevard at Botelho Drive, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Lawn, Benches, Decorative Arbors, Picnic Area, Street Parking Only, Dogs Allowed on Leash
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Civic Park	P12	1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Playgrounds, Community Center, Dogs Allowed on Leash, Gazebo, Seasonal Ice Rink, Library, Parking Available, Picnic Area, Restroom, Trail Connections to Iron Horse Regional Trail and Creek Walk, Habitat Gardens
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Lancaster Park (Remembrance Park)	P15	Lancaster Road at Lilac Drive, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Benches, Picnic Tables, Plantings, Dogs Allowed on Leash
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Parkmead Pocket Park	P14	1671 Newell Avenue, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Open Space with Tree and Sign
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Sugarloaf Open Space	P18	2161 Youngs Valley Road, Walnut Creek	Open Access, 3 miles of Trails, Ranger Station, Picnic Tables, Amphitheater, Group Camping





Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Park	City of Walnut Creek	Walden Park	P10	2698 Oak Road, Walnut Creek	Open Access, Playground, Basketball Court, Disc Golf Course, Dogs Allowed on Leash, Handball Court, Parking Available, Picnic Area, Trail Connections to Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail and Iron Horse Regional Trail
Park	County of Contra Costa and San Ramon Unified School District	Alamo Elementary School Field and Batting Cages (Elem Park)	P17	100 Wilson Rd, Alamo	Restricted Access, Community Park, Youth Baseball Field, Batting Cage, Soccer Field, Picnic Barbeque Area, Multi-use Sport Courts
Park	Town of Danville	Bret Harte Park	P29	Diablo Road and Camino Tassajara, Danville	Open Access, Picnic Tables, Basketball Courts, Playgrounds
Park	Town of Danville	Danville Community Center/ Town Green	P26	420 Front Street, Danville	Open Access, Two-Building Complex, Plaza, Bandstand, Passive Open Space and Ancillary Parking
Park	Town of Danville	Danville South Park	P24	1885 Camino Ramon, Danville	Open Access, Lawn Area, Basketball Court, Play Structures, Swings, Sand Area, Benches, Picnic Tables, Portable Bathrooms
Park	Town of Danville	Eugene O' Neill Commemorative/Front Street Park	P25	403 Front Street, Danville	Open Access, Picnic Table, Benches, Drinking Fountain, Public Art
Park	Town of Danville	Greenbrook School Park	P23	1475 Harlan Dr, Danville	Open Access, Picnic Tables, Children's Play Areas, Connection to Iron Horse Regional Trail



Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Park	Town of Danville	Hap Magee Ranch Park	P19	1025 La Gonda Way, Danville	Open Access, Picnic Area, Barbeque, Playgrounds, Commemorative Drinking Fountain, Volleyball, Rental Buildings, Restroom, Gazebo, Benches, Off Street Parking, Community Garden, Dog Park, Water Play Features
Park	Town of Danville	Midden Area	P22	Briar Place and Meadowside Place, Danville	Open Access, Open space
Park	Town of Danville	Osage Station Park	P27	816 Brookside Dr, Danville	Open Access, Four Tennis Courts, Four Baseball Diamonds, Five Soccer Fields, Walking Path, Picnic Tables, Barbeque Pits, Children's Play Area, Three Osage Orange Trees
Park	Town of Danville	Prospect Corner Park	P30	Prospect Avenue and Harz Avenue, Danville	Open Access, seating area, kiosk
Park	Town of Danville	Iron Horse Regional Trail (Prospect/Quinterra Rest Area)	P31	Prospect Ave, Danville	Open Access, trail rest area
Park	Town of Danville	Railroad Plaza	P32	Railroad Avenue, Danville	Open Access, kiosk
Park	Town of Danville	Iron Horse Regional Trail (San Ramon Valley Blvd. Rest Area)	P28	Along Iron Horse Trail, Danville	Open Access, trail rest area
Park	Town of Danville	West El Pintado Pocket Park	P33	Adjacent to El Pintado between Valley Creek Lane and Diablo Road, Danville	Open Access, Benches, Creek Overlooks



Type	Jurisdiction	Name	Figure Reference Number <sup>1</sup>	Location	Description and Amenities
Refuge	East Bay Regional Park District	Waterbird Regional Preserve	RG1	801 Waterbird Way, Martinez	Open Access, Parking Area, Loop Road, Hiking Trails, Al McNabney Marsh

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The Figure Reference Numbers correspond to Figure 2.1.3-1, Figure 2.1.3-2, Figure 2.1.3-3, and Figure 2.1.3-4

**Table 2.1.3-2. Trails and Bicycle Paths within the Community Impact Study Area**

Trail Name	Figure Reference Number	Type
Iron Horse Regional Trail	T1	Existing Trail
Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail	T2	Existing Trail
EBMUD Trail	T3	Existing Trail
Freitas Road Trail	T4	Existing Trail
Las Trampas to Mt Diablo Regional Trail	T5	Existing Trail
Monument Corridor Trail	T6	Existing Trail
John Muir Trail	T7	Existing Trail
Danville Fire Trail/Fiddleneck Trail	T8	Existing Trail
Bay Area Ridge Trail (Martinez Shoreline Segment)	T9	Existing Trail
Sugarloaf Shell Ridge Trail	T10	Existing Trail
Trail along walnut creek	T11	Existing Trail
Parkmead Walking Path	T12	Existing Trail
Grayson Creek Trail	T13	Existing Trail
Remington Loop Trailhead	T14	Existing Trail
Along San Ramon Creek connecting Iron Horse Trail	T15	Potential Trail
Along Las Trampas Creek and Olympic Blvd	T16	Potential Trail
T16 connection	T17	Potential Trail
Potential Trail	T18	Potential Trail
Contra Costa Canal Proposed Trail	T19	Proposed Trail
Mokelumne Aqueduct Trail	T20	Proposed Trail
Waterfront Rd to Pacheco creek connecting T1 Trail	T21	Proposed Trail



Trail Name	Figure Reference Number	Type
Mayette Hanson Connector	T22	Proposed Trail
Southwest BART Trail	T23	Proposed Trail
Pine Creek bike path	B10	Existing Bike Path
Path along BART (under the bridge)	B11	Existing Bike Path
City of Concord planned bike path	B38	Planned Bike Path
City of Concord planned bike path	B39	Planned Bike Path
City of Concord planned bike path	B40	Planned Bike Path
Livorna Road Trail	B41	Planned Bike Path
Proposed bike path	B42	Planned Bike Path
City of Concord bike path	B43	Planned Bike Path
Iron Horse Regional Trail	T1	Existing Trail
Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail	T2	Existing Trail
EBMUD Trail	T3	Existing Trail
Freitas Road Trail	T4	Existing Trail

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

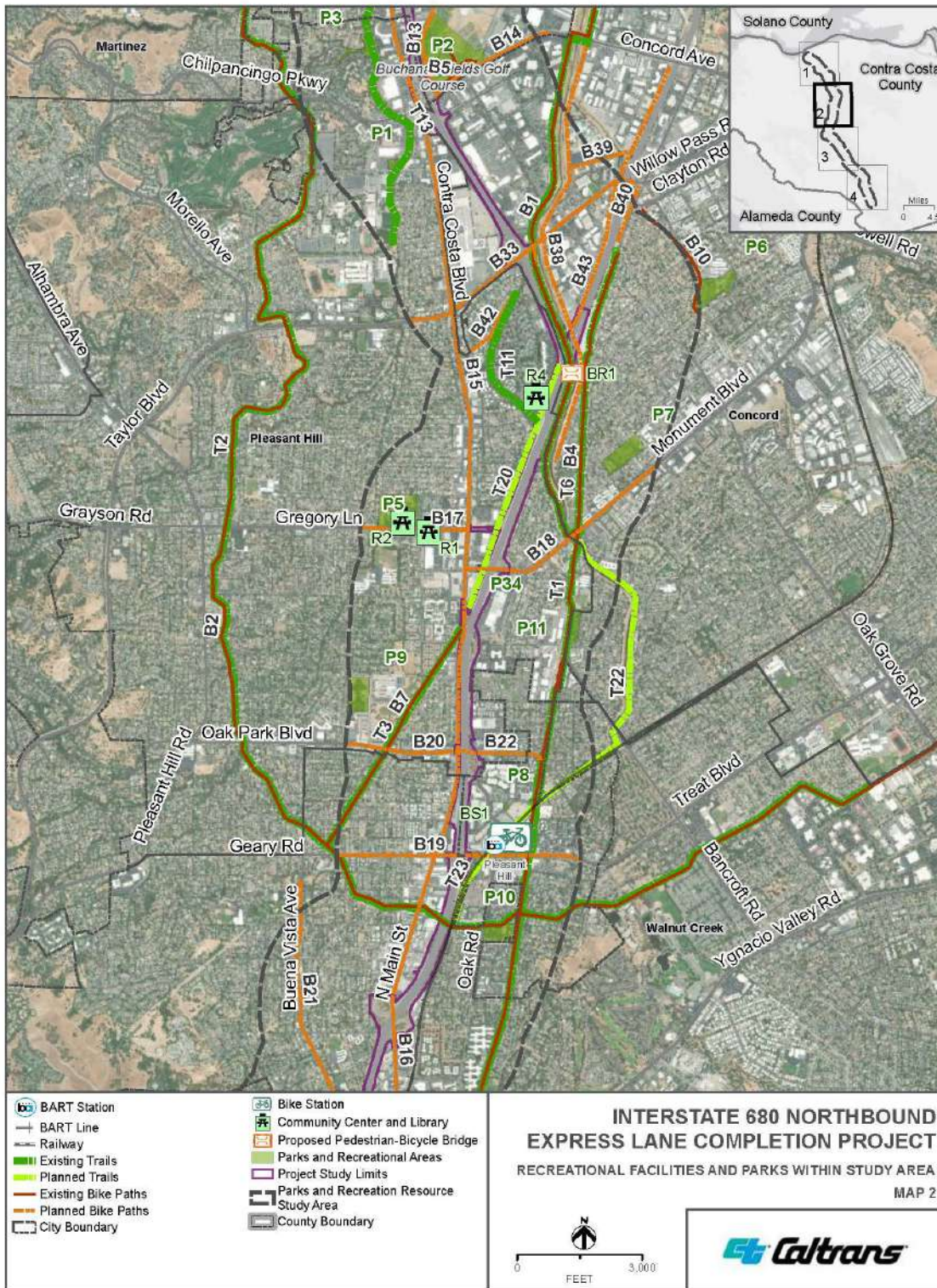
Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Figure Reference Numbers correspond to Figure 2.1.3-1.



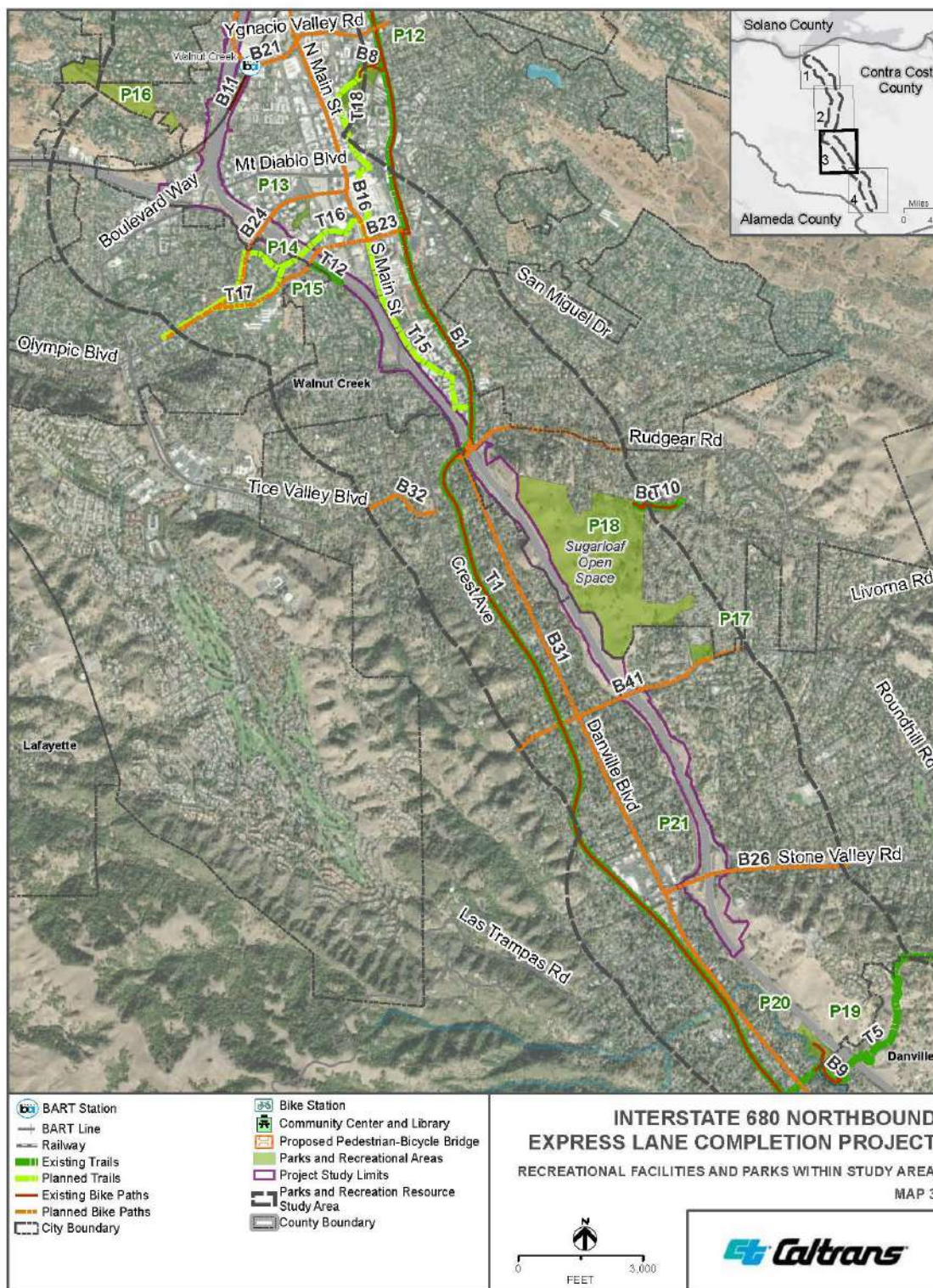
**Figure 2.1.3-1. Recreational Facilities and Parks within the Community Impact Study Area (Map 1)**





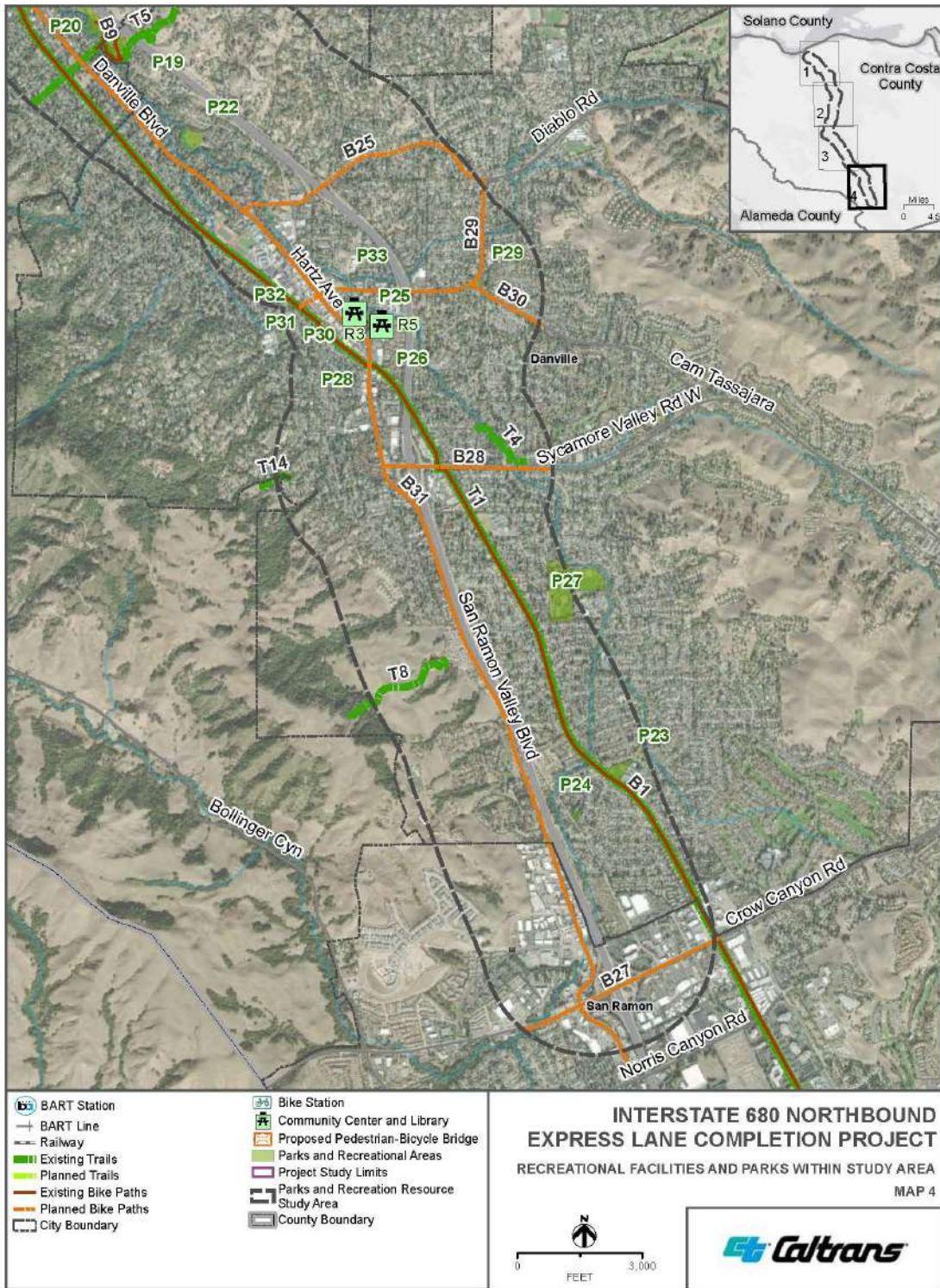
**Figure 2.1.3-1. Recreational Facilities and Parks within the Community Impact Study Area (Map 2)**





**Figure 2.1.3-1. Recreational Facilities and Parks within the Community Impact Study Area (Map 3)**





**Figure 2.1.3-1. Recreational Facilities and Parks within the Community Impact Study Area (Map 4)**

### 2.1.3.3 Environmental Consequences

There are parks and recreational facilities within the Project vicinity that are protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. This Project will result in a “use” of those facilities as defined by Section 4(f). Please see Appendix A, *Section 4(f)*, for additional details.

#### ***No-Build Alternative***

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on parks or recreational facilities would occur.

#### ***Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)***

All Build Alternatives would be largely contained within State ROW. The Project would not require the temporary or permanent use of any publicly owned park. As described below, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would require a temporary detour and permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. In addition, Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require a temporary detour of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. However, public access to all the impacted trails would be maintained during construction, as described below.

#### ***Iron Horse Regional Trail***

The Iron Horse Regional Trail is adjacent to I-680 and crosses under State Route (SR) 242 at the SR-242 Interchange. The Iron Horse Regional Trail also crosses under I-680 within the Project Study Limits at Rudgear Road and again at Laurel Drive. The East Bay Regional Park District is the official with jurisdiction over this trail.

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would replace existing sound barriers (Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3) with a new soundwall adjacent to the Iron Horse Regional Trail in the vicinity of the SR-242 Interchange, which is described further in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*. At this location, all work would be completed within State ROW and the Iron Horse Regional Trail would remain open. There are no benches or other amenities at this location. The potential exposure to noise and views associated with construction for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be temporary and is not expected to affect use of the trail at this location, which is described further in Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*, and Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*.

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge over the Iron Horse Regional Trail. Widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge would require installing a new bridge column in the existing paved footprint of the Iron Horse Regional Trail. In order to protect workers and the public during construction, a segment of the Iron Horse Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge



(approximately 500 feet of trail) would be closed temporarily for up to 4 weeks (See Figure 2.1.3-2). However, the trail would remain open during construction with detours.

Measure **PR-1** would be implemented for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, requiring coordination with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to identify potential temporary detours for trail users along this segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail, prior to and during construction. As depicted in Figure 2.1.3-2, a temporary detour has been proposed along Rudgear Road for the purposes of this assessment. Falsework would be installed to support bridge widening and prevent any debris from falling onto the public and canal water passing under falsework during the remainder of the bridge widening. In addition, Measure **PR-2** would be implemented, which requires temporary construction areas to be rehabilitated to a condition as good or better than that prior to construction. With the implementation of **PR-1** and **PR-2**, public access to all impacted trails would be maintained during construction.

Once Project construction is complete, the full use of the trail would be restored. Measure **PR-3** would be implemented requiring coordination with EBRPD to identify a suitable permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the bridge to avoid the proposed bridge column. The Project avoids directly impacting the Iron Horse Regional Trail parking lot on Danville Boulevard and the Rudgear Road Park-N-Ride at the Rudgear Road/Bishop Lane Intersection. In addition, there are no benches or other fixed amenities on the segment of the trail under Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. The trail is currently exposed to the sights and sounds of vehicular traffic on I-680 above the trail. As such, trail users are not anticipated to remain in any one location of the trail more than momentarily as they pass by.

Alternative 5 would not replace Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3 south of the SR-242 Interchange. Alternative 5 would also not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge.

Given the existing setting and the brief duration of recreationists' potential exposure to noise and views associated with construction, as well as implementation of Measures **PR-1** through **PR-3**, none of the Build Alternatives are expected to result in substantial adverse temporary or permanent direct or indirect impacts on the Iron Horse Regional Trail or its users.

### *Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail*

The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail crosses under I-680 at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. This segment of the trail is shared with the Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. The East Bay Regional Park District is the official with jurisdiction over these trails.

As depicted in Figure 2.1.3-3, all Build Alternatives, except Alternative 1C, propose to widen and construct a soundwall (Evaluated Barrier 2) on the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Evaluated Barrier 2 is further described in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*.



Widening the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing would require temporarily closing the trail under I-680 for approximately 2 to 3 weeks during construction. Measure **PR-1** would be implemented, which requires coordination with EBRPD to identify potential detours for this segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. A potential location for a detour has been identified that would route users to Treat Boulevard/Geary Road. This approximately 1-mile detour is depicted in Figure 2.1.3-3. Users may also be detoured along Oak Road east of Jones Road.

There are no benches or other amenities at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing. Falsework would be installed to support bridge widening and prevent any debris from falling onto the public and canal water passing under falsework during the remainder of the bridge widening. In addition, Measure **PR-2** would be implemented, which requires temporary construction areas to be rehabilitated to a condition as good or better than that prior to construction. Therefore, with the implementation of Measures **PR-1** and **PR-2**, these potential temporary impacts to the trail would be minimized. None of the Build Alternatives would result in substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail within the Community Impact Study Area.



**Figure 2.1.3-2. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3: Iron Horse Regional Trail at Rudgear Road Undercrossing with Proposed Bridge Widening and Potential Temporary Trail Detour**





**Figure 2.1.3-3. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5: Contra Costa Canal Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing with Proposed Bridge Widening and Potential Temporary Trail Detour**



#### 2.1.3.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

- PR-1 Temporary Detours for Recreation Trails.** Contra Costa Transportation Authority will require that recreation trails within the Study Area remain open to the public during construction. If a segment of a recreation trail must be closed, Contra Costa Transportation Authority will work with the officials with jurisdiction and local agencies to identify detours and appropriate signage and flagging to minimize impacts to trail users. All temporary trails will have a minimum width in compliance with current Americans with Disability Act standards.
- PR-2 Temporary Construction Areas.** All temporary construction areas within or adjacent to recreation areas, including parks, trails, pathways, and/or other recreational facilities, will be restored to a condition as good or better than that of the property prior to construction. Contra Costa Transportation Authority, along with the construction contractor, will work with affected agencies and the officials with jurisdiction to identify the necessary rehabilitation activities.
- PR-3 Ironhorse Regional Trail Relocation.** Should Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, Caltrans and CCTA will work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify a suitable location to shift the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Contra Costa Transportation Authority will also assist the East Bay Regional Park District in acquiring any necessary ROW or easements for this segment of the trail.





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## 2.1.4 Growth

### 2.1.4.1 Regulatory Setting

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, which established the steps necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, require evaluation of the potential environmental effects of all proposed federal activities and programs. This provision includes a requirement to examine indirect effects, which may occur in areas beyond the immediate influence of a proposed action and at some time in the future. The CEQ regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1508.8) refer to these consequences as indirect impacts. Indirect impacts may include changes in land use, economic vitality, and population density, which are all elements of growth.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) also requires the analysis of a project's potential to induce growth. The CEQA guidelines (Section 15126.2[d]) require that environmental documents "...discuss the ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment..."

### 2.1.4.2 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023. The Community Impact Study Area is described in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*.

The Community Impact Study Area for community impacts lies completely within Contra Costa County and passes through the Town of Danville and the Cities of Martinez, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, and San Ramon. In addition, the Study Area includes the following Census Designated Places (CDP): Vine Hill, Mountain View, Pacheco, Contra Costa Center, Acalanes Ridge, Saranap, San Miguel, Castle Hill, and Alamo.

*Plan Bay Area 2050* is the Bay Area's regional long-range plan adopted by Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) (Associate of Bay Area Governments, Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021). According to *Plan Bay Area 2050*, by 2050 "best estimates suggest the Bay Area's population will rise from nearly 8 million to over 10 million residents and that the number of jobs within the nine counties will climb from 4 million to more than 5 million." Household growth within Contra Costa County is projected to increase by 12 percent from 2015 to 2050 (the Plan's horizon year). Meanwhile, job growth within Contra Costa County is projected to increase by 9 percent by 2050. According to the California Department of Finance Forecasts, Contra Costa County is expected to grow consistently by at least 1 percent each year.

Traffic counts were conducted along the corridor in 2019 (DKS Associates 2023). By the Project's opening year (2027), traffic volumes are projected to grow by 11 to 18 percent

in the morning peak period and by 2 to 12 percent in the afternoon peak period. By the Project's design year (2047), traffic volumes are projected to grow by 18 to 48 percent in the morning peak period and by 4 to 36 percent in the afternoon peak period. The projected average annual growth rates from 2019 to 2047 for all segments combined are 1.0 percent in the morning peak period and 0.6 percent in the afternoon peak period. Recurrent traffic bottlenecks are sections along a freeway corridor where traffic demand exceeds the freeway's capacity and, as a result, cause traffic queueing (i.e., congestion) and delays to motorists approaching the bottleneck sections. Bottlenecks would continue to worsen along Interstate 680 (I-680) as described further in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*.

### **2.1.4.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Community Impact Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on growth would occur.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has developed guidance for determining whether a project is considered to be growth-inducing, both directly and indirectly. Based on a first-cut screening, it was determined that there is no potential for growth-related effects, and no further analysis is required. The results of the first-cut screening are described herein.

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would increase capacity to northbound I-680 by adding a new lane south of State Route (SR) 242 and by converting an existing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane north of SR-242 to an express lane. Alternative 1C, 2, and 3 also show higher vehicle-miles travelled (VMT) compared to the No-Build Alternative, due to additional capacity and the resulting increase in demand, as well as longer average trip lengths (DKS Associates 2023). Although Alternative 5 would also add capacity to northbound I-680 by converting an existing HOV lane north of SR-242 to an express lane, it would reduce capacity to northbound I-680 south of SR-242 by converting a general-purpose lane to an express lane. As described further in Section 3.1.7, *Transportation*, of the CEQA Evaluation, Caltrans determined that Alternative 5 would not increase regional VMT.

All Build Alternatives would provide substantial travel time and speed benefits along northbound I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative, which is described further in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*. As travel times improve, some vehicles are anticipated to shift to I-680 from local roadways that are currently used to avoid congestion on I-680. While no alternative fully eliminates bottlenecks and associated queuing, Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 all substantially lessen the impacts associated with bottlenecks north of SR-24, which can be seen between El Pintado Road and SR-24. Therefore, all Build Alternatives would improve the existing

highway facility (i.e., I-680) without altering access to or from this facility. None of the Build Alternatives would provide a new transportation facility or new access points. All Build Alternatives would facilitate improved mobility through reduced congestion and improved trip reliability, resulting in improved commute times for I-680 corridor users. The improvements in accessibility are not substantial and are not expected to influence travel behavior, trip patterns, or the attractiveness of some areas to development over others.

All Build Alternatives would also help to accommodate projected future (2047) traffic volumes, consistent with adopted local land use and transportation plans (as discussed in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*). The Build Alternatives would address existing operational and capacity deficiencies and would not foster growth in excess of what is projected per MTC and general plans. The Build Alternatives would not be expected to influence the amount, location, and/or distribution of growth in Contra Costa County because no new interchanges are proposed and much of the Study Area is built out. Some ramps or interchanges would be reconfigured to accommodate current and future traffic congestion. It is not anticipated that the proposed Project would induce land development because there are very few open areas available in the vicinity of the Study Area, and the Build Alternatives would not create new housing or opportunities for capital investment by the public or private sectors.

As noted above, the Build Alternatives would not result in proposed Project-related growth or influence growth. This “first-cut screening” analysis provided in the *Community Impact Assessment* demonstrates that the Build Alternatives would not change access but would instead facilitate improved mobility through reduced congestion and trip reliability, resulting in improved commute times for I-680 corridor users. The Build Alternatives would not influence the rate, type, or amount of growth that would otherwise occur. Therefore, the reasonably foreseeable growth anticipated to occur in the Study Area is not considered project related.

#### **2.1.4.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

No avoidance, minimization, or mitigation is required.



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## 2.1.5 Community Character and Cohesion

### 2.1.5.1 Regulatory Setting

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, established that the federal government use all practicable means to ensure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings (42 United States Code [USC] 4331[b][2]). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in its implementation of NEPA (23 USC 109[h]) directs that final decisions on projects are to be made in the best overall public interest. This requires taking into account adverse environmental impacts, such as destruction or disruption of human-made resources, community cohesion, and the availability of public facilities and services.

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an economic or social change by itself is not to be considered a significant effect on the environment. However, if a social or economic change is related to a physical change, then social or economic change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant. Since this project would result in physical change to the environment, it is appropriate to consider changes to community character and cohesion in assessing the significance of the project's effects.

### 2.1.5.2 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023.

The Community Impact Study Area is described in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*. Community or neighborhood boundaries can often be delineated by physical barriers (highways, waterways, open spaces, etc.), activity centers, home values, selected demographic characteristics (ethnic groups), and residents' perception.

This section addresses potential impacts on community character and cohesion within the Community Impact Study Area. Community character consists of all the attributes that make a community unique and establish a sense of place for its residents, including population demographics, economic and social history, importance of various facilities, and plans for the future.

Community cohesion is the degree to which residents have a sense of belonging to their neighborhood, their level of commitment to the community, or a strong attachment to neighbors, groups, and institutions, usually as a result of continued association over time. Community cohesion also refers to the degree of interaction among the individuals, groups, and institutions that make up a community.

Some factors that can influence a community's sense of belonging or level of commitment include housing, household size, household tenure, race and ethnicity, age, transit-dependent populations, and parks and recreational facilities. As described below, according to several indicators of community cohesion, including high



homeownership and occupancy rates and a high percentage of persons aged 65 and older, it can be concluded that a high degree of community cohesion exists in many parts of the Community Impact Study Area.

### Population Characteristics

Between 2000 and 2020, the overall population of Contra Costa County grew more than 20 percent (see Table 2.1.5-1). Over the same period, the number of housing units and jobs in the county increased by more than 20 percent.

**Table 2.1.5-1. Contra Costa County Demographic Trends**

	2000	2010	2020	Percent Growth 2000–2010 (%)	Percent Growth 2010–2020 (%)
Population	948,816	1,024,809	1,147,788	8.0	12.0
Housing Units	344,219	396,782	415,067	15.3	4.6
Jobs	451,357	482,898	563,813	7.0	16.8

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000a); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000b); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010a); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010b); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020a); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020b)

Despite the positive trends in Contra Costa County, the Community Impact Study Area experienced a decrease in population from 2010 to 2020, recording a 2 percent decrease in the average annual growth rate in the last decade (see Table 2.1.5-2). The Contra Costa Centre census designated place (CDP), which is located just north of the Interstate 680 (I-680)/State Route (SR) 24 Interchange, has the highest population growth (26.9 percent) from 2010 to 2020 within the entire Community Impact Study Area. No other geography analyzed in the Study Area exceeds a 20 percent increase in population within the same period.

According to the *Plan Bay Area 2050*, between 2020 and 2050, best estimates suggest the Bay Area’s population will grow from nearly 8 million to over 10 million residents, reflecting a 25 percent increase (Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments, 2021). According to California Department of Finance (CDF) forecasts, Contra Costa County is expected to grow by at least 1 percent each year (California Department of Finance, 2019).





**Table 2.1.5-2. Population Trends in the Community Impact Study Area**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>2010 Population</b>	<b>2020 Population</b>	<b>Percent Growth 2010–2020 (%)</b>
<i>Study Area</i>	206,532	202,429	-2.0
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	1,049,025	1,165,927	11.1
Acalanes Ridge CDP	1,137	1,285	13.0
Alamo CDP	14,570	15,314	5.1
Castle Hill CDP	1,299	1,271	-2.2
Concord city	122,067	125,410	2.7
Contra Costa Centre CDP	5,364	6,808	26.9
Danville town	42,039	43,582	3.7
Lafayette city	23,893	25,391	6.3
Martinez city	35,824	37,287	4.1
Mountain View CDP	2,372	2,622	10.5
Pacheco CDP	3,685	4,183	13.5
Pleasant Hill city	33,152	34,613	4.4
San Miguel CDP	3,392	3,591	5.9
San Ramon city	72,148	84,605	17.3
Saranap CDP	5,202	5,830	12.1
Vine Hill CDP	3,761	4,323	14.9
Walnut Creek city	64,173	70,127	9.3

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010c); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020c)

Notes: CDP=census designated place

## **Economic Conditions**

### ***Regional Economy***

Contra Costa County’s economic conditions reviewed to understand the region’s economic outlook and the Community Impact Study Area’s position in the overall economy. According to the *Contra Costa County Economic Forecast*, Contra Costa County’s population is expected to grow faster from 2021 to 2050 than the Bay Area average (Caltrans Department of Transportation, 2021). It is anticipated that the County lost residents through the migratory process in 2021 and 2022. Over the long term, it is likely that net migration would turn positive because homes in Contra Costa County are

much more affordable than those in other parts of the Bay Area. Additionally, more housing projects were recently approved in the cities of Concord and Antioch, and they will soon be under development.

Between 2021 and 2050, job growth in Contra Costa County is anticipated to be similar to that of the Bay Area average. According to the *Contra Costa County Economic Forecast*, the largest employment gains in 2021 were forecasted to be in leisure services, professional business services, private education, healthcare, and retail trade. In 2021, total employment in Contra Costa County was forecasted to expand by 5.8 percent annually.

### **Employment and Income**

The employment status of Contra Costa County residents is shown in Table 2.1.5-3. The communities with the highest unemployment rates are the Mountain View CDP (7 percent) and Acalanes Ridge CDP (6.7 percent). Meanwhile, the communities with the lowest unemployment rates are the Saranap CDP (1.2 percent) and the Alamo CDP (1.6 percent).

**Table 2.1.5-3. Employment Status**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Population 16 Years and Over</b>	<b>Percent Unemployed (%)</b>	<b>Percent Not in Labor Force (%)</b>
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	918,776	3.6	35.0
Acalanes Ridge CDP	654	6.7	33.2
Alamo CDP	11,412	1.6	47.2
Castle Hill CDP	816	2.7	19.1
Concord city	103,783	3.2	32.5
Contra Costa Centre CDP	6,070	2.8	21.3
Danville town	35,727	2.5	36.0
Lafayette city	20,109	2.7	36.1
Martinez city	31,341	3.1	31.6
Mountain View CDP	1,518	7.0	18.4
Pacheco CDP	4,174	4.1	28.9
Pleasant Hill city	28,897	2.3	34.4
San Miguel CDP (Contra Costa County)	2,607	2.3	39.5
San Ramon city	61,603	3.0	30.9



Jurisdiction	Population 16 Years and Over	Percent Unemployed (%)	Percent Not in Labor Force (%)
Saranap CDP	4,822	1.2	33.4
Vine Hill CDP	2,458	2.6	28.5
Walnut Creek city	60,334	2.9	42.6

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020b)  
 Notes: CDP = census designated place

According to the U.S. Census Bureau (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020d), most of the employed civilian population in Contra Costa County was employed in the educational, health, and social assistance sectors (22.2 percent). Most of the cities located within the Community Impact Study Area followed a similar trend, with the highest percentage of the employed population working in the educational, health, and social assistance sectors. The city of Martinez was the highest, at 25.4 percent. However, Acalanes Ridge CDP and Contra Costa Centre CDP had the highest percentage of their populations working in the professional and technical services (29.9 percent and 28.3 percent, respectively). Alamo CDP and the City of San Ramon had the highest percentages of manufacturing jobs (11.3 percent and 11.2 percent, respectively). The City of San Ramon had the lowest percentage of construction workers (2.7 percent), and Acalanes Ridge CDP and Saranap CDP had the lowest percentage of manufacturing jobs (both at 4.0 percent).

**Business Activity**

Many of the businesses adjacent to the Project Study Limits and within the Community Impact Study Area rely on visibility from and access to I-680. Most of the businesses and commercial office spaces within the Community Impact Study Area are located adjacent to I-680 and are largely considered visitor-serving, such as motels and hotels, fast-food restaurants, and gasoline service stations. Major employers within the Community Impact Study Area include the Chevron Corporation, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, Longs Drug Store, Nordstrom, and Shell Oil Production US Martinez. In addition, large commercial shopping centers that serve visitors and residents are located throughout the proposed Project corridor.

**Fiscal Considerations**

This section discusses property tax revenue, property value, and sales tax revenues for the affected proposed Project area.

*Property Tax Revenue*

Property taxes are levied on the assessed value of a privately owned property. The following property tax revenues were collected from the respective jurisdiction’s *2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports* for fiscal year 2021 (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023):

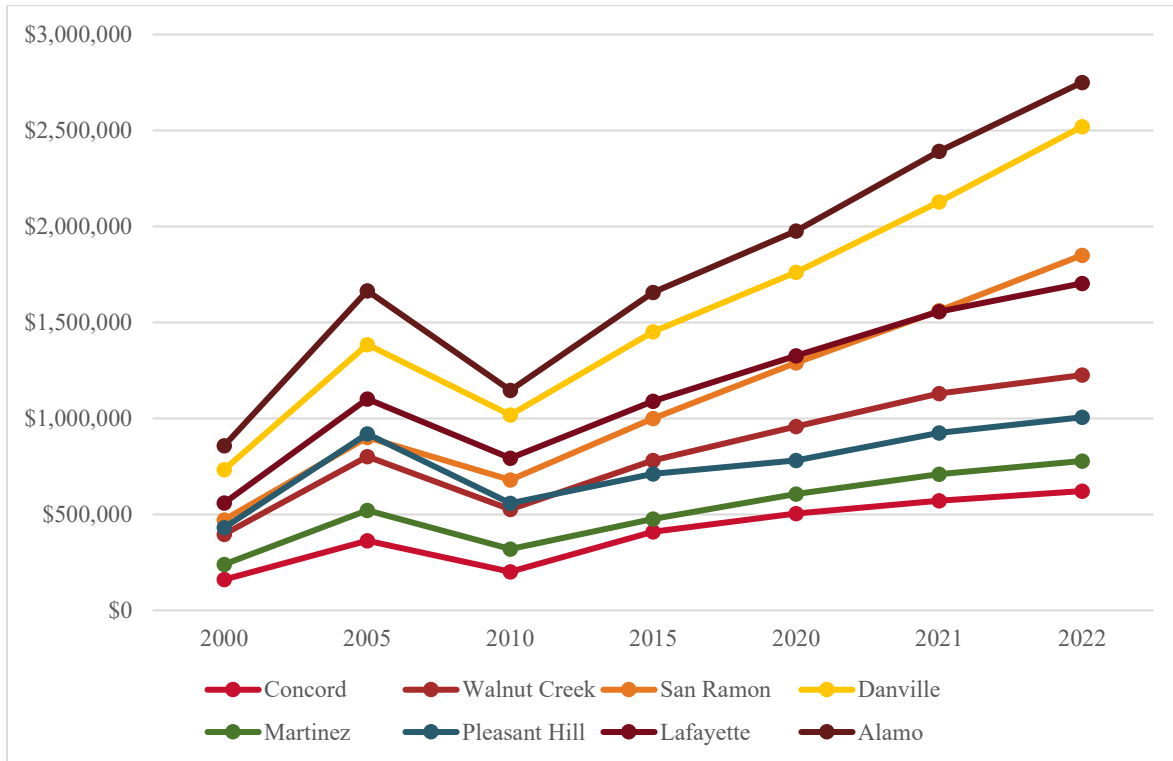
- City of Martinez: \$9.97 million
- City of Concord: \$24.1 million
- City of Pleasant Hill: \$8.3 million
- City of Lafayette: \$5.77 million
- City of Walnut Creek: \$27.7 million
- Town of Danville: \$17.21 million
- City of San Ramon: \$21.86 million

### *Property Values*

Residential property value is the amount at which a property is assessed for taxation (i.e., assessed value) and the value at which the property can be sold on the open real estate market (i.e., market value). Property value reflects the desirability of a particular property with regard to aesthetic qualities, accessibility, safety, and many other factors.

Figure 2.1.5-1 displays typical market value data from 2000 to 2022, according to the Zillow Home Value Index published by Zillow, a technology real estate marketplace company (Zillow Research, 2011).

The evaluated period depicted in Figure 2.1.5-1 is from 2000 to 2022, with the caveat that 2022 data is only captured through September 2022. The typical home values for properties in the Community Impact Study Area show that Alamo has the highest typical home value (\$2,750,822 in 2022) while Concord has the lowest (\$621,620 in 2022). The growth rate in typical home value within the Study Area (except Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon) has slowed since 2020. As shown in Figure 2.1.5-1, the typical home value in the city of Pleasant Hill used to be higher than the city of Walnut Creek before 2010. After 2010, the value of homes in Walnut Creek increased at a faster rate than Pleasant Hill, and the gap between home values continued to widen. Similarly, the typical home value in the city of Lafayette used to be higher than the city of San Ramon before 2020. After 2020, the value of homes in the city of San Ramon grew at a faster rate than the city of Lafayette, and the gap between home values in the two cities have widened ever since.



**Figure 2.1.5-1. Typical Home Value for Properties in the Community Impact Study Area**

More homes within Contra Costa County are expected to be built from 2021 to 2050 than were built in the 5 years prior to 2021. Home prices surged unexpectedly in 2020, rising by 13 percent. Prices were expected to increase by another 7 or 8 percent in 2021.

### Sales Tax Revenue

Many of the businesses in the Community Impact Study Area generate sales tax revenues for the affected cities. Retail sales-oriented businesses generate sales tax by means of selling taxable goods. Sales tax revenues are collected at a rate of 8.25 percent for the affected jurisdictions in Contra Costa County, with higher rates for the following affected jurisdictions:

- City of Martinez: 9.25 percent
- City of Concord: 8.75 percent
- City of Pleasant Hill: 8.75 percent

The following sales tax revenues were collected from the respective jurisdiction's *2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports*, for fiscal year 2021:

- City of Martinez: \$13.33 million
- City of Concord: \$40.3 million
- City of Pleasant Hill: \$10.6 million
- City of Lafayette: \$2.85 million
- City of Walnut Creek: \$30.9 million
- Town of Danville: \$6.65 million
- City of San Ramon: \$10.77 million

The cities of Walnut Creek and Concord have collected the most in sales tax revenue among the Community Impact Study Area jurisdictions in the 2020–2021 fiscal year, attributed primarily to their large-scale retail establishments within the Community Impact Resource Study Area, including Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek and Sunvalley Shopping Center and the Veranda in Concord. The two cities also have strong and vibrant downtowns that are home to many local business and restaurants.

## Housing

According to Contra Costa County’s latest housing element (Contra Costa County, 2023), the draft of which was published in January 2023, the predominant housing type in the county is single-family housing at approximately 79.7 percent; with a growing number of transit-oriented, multi-family, village developments at approximately 15.9 percent; and the remainder being mobile homes at approximately 4.4 percent.

Table 2.1.5-4 provides the breakdown of future regional needs by income for all incorporated and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County. Over the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) 2023–2031 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) period, the total housing needed for Contra Costa County was determined to be 49,043 new units (Association of Bay Area Governments, 2022).

**Table 2.1.5-4. Regional Housing Needs Allocations within Contra Costa County**

Jurisdiction	Very Low Income (<50% of Area Median Income)	Low Income (50-80% of Area Median Income)	Moderate Income (80-120% of Area Median Income)	Above Moderate Income (>120% of Area Median Income)	Total
Antioch	792	456	493	1,275	3,016
Brentwood	402	232	247	641	1,522
Clayton	170	97	84	219	570



Jurisdiction	Very Low Income (<50% of Area Median Income)	Low Income (50-80% of Area Median Income)	Moderate Income (80-120% of Area Median Income)	Above Moderate Income (>120% of Area Median Income)	Total
Concord	1,292	744	847	2,190	5,073
Danville	652	376	338	875	2,241
El Cerrito	334	192	241	624	1,391
Hercules	344	198	126	327	995
Lafayette	599	344	326	845	2,114
Martinez	350	201	221	573	1,345
Moraga	318	183	172	445	1,118
Oakley	279	161	172	446	1,058
Orinda	372	215	215	557	1,359
Pinole	121	69	87	223	500
Pittsburg	516	296	346	894	2,052
Pleasant Hill	566	326	254	657	1,803
Richmond	840	485	638	1,651	3,614
San Pablo	173	100	132	341	746
San Ramon	1,497	862	767	1,985	5,111
Unincorporated Contra Costa	2,072	1,194	1,211	3,133	7,610
Walnut Creek	1,657	954	890	2,304	5,805
<i>Total (Contra Costa County)</i>	<i>13,346</i>	<i>7,685</i>	<i>7,807</i>	<i>20,205</i>	<i>49,043</i>

Source: (Association of Bay Area Governments, 2022)

Notes: % = percent

Due to the County’s low vacancy rate and the growing demand for housing due to population growth, the County faces a high demand for housing at all income levels. The housing needs allocation varies from a low of 500 new units in Pinole to a high of 5,805 new units in Walnut Creek, as well as 7,610 new units in unincorporated Contra Costa County. Other communities that will absorb much of the region’s projected future housing growth are the cities of Concord (5,073) and San Ramon (5,111), which are within the Community Impact Study Area.

Housing production in Contra Costa County is constrained by geography and topology, growth management policies, and development costs. Nonetheless, as part of the County’s RHNA 2023–2031 update (Contra Costa County, 2023), the County performed a detailed parcel-by-parcel analysis of potential development sites. This analysis is



summarized in Table 2.1.5-5. Of the communities with the highest potential number of units, the unincorporated areas of Walnut Creek within the Community Impact Study Area have the third greatest potential number of units to be added to its housing stock (978 units).

**Table 2.1.5-5. Vacant and Underutilized Residential Sites Analysis within Contra Costa County**

Community	Total Number of Parcels	Potential Number of Units
Alamo	15	335
Bay Point	142	2,963
Bay View	5	969
Byron	2	184
Clyde	1	1
Contra Costa Center	6	458
Crockett	17	21
Discovery Bay	4	494
East Richmond Height	5	50
El Sobrante	103	1,180
Montalvin Manor	3	240
North Richmond	134	544
Pacheco	7	113
Pleasant Hill (unincorporated)	2	8
Reliez Valley	1	1
Rodeo	26	250
San Pablo	1	18
Saranap	1	1
Tara Hills	2	20
Vine Hill	30	430
Walnut Creek (unincorporated)	22	978
<i>Total (Contra Costa County)</i>	<i>529</i>	<i>9,258</i>

Source: (Contra Costa County, 2023)

### **Household Size**

Table 2.1.5-6 shows the average household sizes for communities in the Community Impact Study Area for 2016–2020. Average household sizes range from 1.84 persons



per household in the Contra Costa Centre CDP to 2.95 in the city of San Ramon. The average household size within the Community Impact Study Area is 2.54, indicating a higher degree of community cohesion.

**Table 2.1.5-6. Average Household Sizes and Overcrowding in the Community Impact Study Area**

Geography	Average Household Size	Percent Single Person Households (%)	Overcrowded Units <sup>1</sup>	Percent Overcrowded (%)
<i>Study Area</i>	2.54	26	3,350	4.2
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	2.86	22	19,927	5.0
Acalanes Ridge CDP	2.51	2	0	0.0
Alamo CDP	2.92	13	0	0.0
Castle Hill CDP	2.83	14	0	0.0
Concord city	2.76	25	3,691	8.0
Contra Costa Centre CDP	1.84	40	156	4.3
Danville city	2.72	18	131	0.8
Lafayette city	2.73	17	91	1.0
Martinez city	2.55	25	303	2.0
Mountain View CDP	2.33	24	15	1.9
Pacheco CDP	2.66	21	127	7.1
Pleasant Hill city	2.51	28	241	1.8
San Miguel CDP	2.88	9	0	0.0
San Ramon city	2.95	17	877	3.2
Saranap CDP	2.55	27	37	1.6
Vine Hill CDP	2.84	15	44	3.9
Walnut Creek city	2.14	36	968	3.0

Source: (California Department of Housing and Community Development, 2023); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020e); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020f); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020g)

Notes:

CDP=census designated place

<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Census defines an overcrowded unit as one occupied by 1.01 persons or more per room (excluding bathrooms and kitchens). Units with more than 1.5 persons per room are considered severely overcrowded.



## Housing Tenure

As shown in Table 2.1.5-7, the communities in the Community Impact Study Area have a comparable percentage of owner-occupied and renter-occupied units to Contra Costa County averages. The Castle Hill CDP, Acalanes Ridge CDP, Alamo CDP, and San Miguel CDP all have the highest proportions of owner-occupied units, at over 90 percent. Occupancy rates are high, ranging from 89.4 percent in the Vine Hill CDP to 100 percent in the Acalanes CDP, Castle Hill CDP, and Pacheco CDP. The data indicate a high level of community cohesion due to high occupancy and high owner occupancy rates.

**Table 2.1.5-7. Housing Tenure and Other Characteristics in the Community Impact Study Area**

Geography	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Percent Occupied (%)	Percent Owner Occupied (%)	Percent Moved in 1999 or Earlier (%)
<i>Study Area</i>	82,732	79,714	96.4	61.6	26.4
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	415,067	398,299	96.0	66.8	25.3
Acalanes Ridge CDP	348	348	100.0	95.4	51.1
Alamo CDP	5,074	4,734	93.3	93.1	41.4
Castle Hill CDP	410	410	100.0	96.6	41.0
Concord city	47,771	46,402	97.1	60.1	26.1
Contra Costa Centre CDP	3,635	3,618	99.5	20.1	12.0
Danville city	16,966	16,499	97.2	84.7	32.5
Lafayette city	10,014	9,470	94.6	71.4	35.6
Martinez city	15,340	14,853	96.8	69.6	31.5
Mountain View CDP	804	786	97.8	64.4	20.5
Pacheco CDP	1,798	1,798	100.0	70.7	22.5
Pleasant Hill city	14,286	13,762	96.3	64.2	27.8



Geography	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Percent Occupied (%)	Percent Owner Occupied (%)	Percent Moved in 1999 or Earlier (%)
San Miguel CDP	1,183	1,127	95.3	94.1	56.8
San Ramon city	28,370	27,524	97.0	71.8	15.9
Saranap CDP	2,404	2,348	97.7	67.0	34.0
Vine Hill CDP	1,270	1,135	89.4	74.5	27.0
Walnut Creek city	33,689	32,163	95.5	63.9	25.9

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020g); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020h); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020i)

Notes:

CDP=census designated place

## Race and Ethnicity

Table 2.1.5-8 shows the race and ethnicity characteristics for communities in the Community Impact Study Area in 2020. Based on the 2020 Census data, the majority (57.7 percent) of the Community Impacts Resources Study Area is White alone, Non-Hispanic. The highest percentages of non-white populations were Hispanic or Latino and Asian. The percentage of Black individuals within the Study Area ranges from 0.6 percent in the San Miguel CDP to 4.8 percent in the Contra Costa Centre CDP. The area with the highest percentage of minority populations is in the City of San Ramon (67.9 percent). Compared with the race and ethnicity population percentages in Contra Costa County as a whole, the Community Impact Study Area percentages show more homogeneity, which indicates a higher degree of cohesion in the community.

**Table 2.1.5-8. Race and Ethnicity Characteristics in the Community Impact Study Area**

Geography	Population	White alone, Non- Hispanic	Minority						
			Black Alone	Asian alone	American Indian / Native Alaskan	Hawaiian / Pacific Islanders	Other <sup>1</sup>	Hispanic or Latino	Minority Population
<i>Study Area</i>	202,429	116,761 (57.7%)	4,753 (2.3%)	31,116 (15.4%)	359 (0.2%)	456 (0.2%)	13,860 (6.8%)	35,124 (17.4%)	85,668 (42.3%)
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	1,165,927	455,421 (39.1%)	97,997 (8.4%)	214,520 (18.4%)	2,553 (0.2%)	5,720 (0.5%)	74,816 (6.4%)	314,900 (27.0%)	710,506 (60.9%)
Acalanes Ridge CDP	1,285	918 (71.4%)	9 (0.7%)	175 (13.6%)	1 (0.1%)	0 (0%)	75 (5.8%)	107 (8.3%)	367 (28.6%)
Alamo CDP	15,314	11,379 (74.3%)	114 (0.7%)	1,784 (11.6%)	16 (0.1%)	17 (0.1%)	889 (5.8%)	1,115 (7.3%)	03,935 (25.7%)
Castle Hill CDP	1,271	921 (72.5%)	9 (0.7%)	147 (11.6%)	0 (0%)	6 (0.5%)	97 (7.6%)	91 (7.2%)	350 (27.5%)
Concord city	125,410	54,104 (43.1%)	4,532 (3.6%)	18,435 (14.7%)	295 (0.2%)	644 (0.5%)	8,447 (6.7%)	38,953 (31.1%)	71,306 (56.9%)
Contra Costa Centre CDP	6,808	3,234 (47.5%)	329 (4.8%)	1,882 (26.8%)	15 (0.2%)	16 (0.2%)	559 (8.2%)	833 (12.2%)	3,574 (52.5%)
Danville town	43,582	29,819 (68.4%)	380 (0.9%)	6,540 (15.0%)	59 (0.1%)	42 (0.1%)	2,790 (6.4%)	3,952 (9.1%)	13,763 (31.6%)
Lafayette city	25,391	17,950 (70.7%)	170 (0.7%)	3,159 (12.4%)	27 (0.1%)	20 (0.1%)	1,993 (7.8%)	2,075 (8.2%)	7,441 (29.3%)



Geography	Population	White alone, Non- Hispanic	Minority						
			Black Alone	Asian alone	American Indian / Native Alaskan	Hawaiian / Pacific Islanders	Other <sup>1</sup>	Hispanic or Latino	Minority Population
Martinez city	37,287	22,558 (60.5%)	1,314 (3.5%)	3,746 (10.0%)	92 (0.2%)	106 (0.3%)	2,801 (7.5%)	6,670 (17.9%)	14,729 (39.5%)
Mountain View CDP	2,622	1,528 (58.3%)	65 (2.5%)	136 (5.2%)	22 (0.8%)	7 (0.3%)	195 (7.4%)	669 (25.5%)	1,094 (41.7%)
Pacheco CDP	4,183	1,996 (47.7%)	74 (1.8%)	470 (11.2%)	11 (0.3%)	15 (0.4%)	288 (6.9%)	1,329 (31.8%)	2,187 (52.3%)
Pleasant Hill city	34,613	20,716 (59.9%)	872 (2.5%)	5,241 (15.1%)	90 (0.3%)	102 (0.3%)	2,635 (7.6%)	4,957 (14.3%)	13,897 (40.1%)
San Miguel CDP	3,591	2,737 (76.2%)	23 (0.6%)	299 (8.3%)	1 (0.0%)	9 (0.3%)	234 (6.5%)	288 (8.0%)	854 (23.8%)
San Ramon city	84,605	27,140 (32.1%)	2,113 (2.5)	43,052 (50.9%)	100 (0.1%)	174 (0.2%)	4,924 (5.9%)	7,102 (8.4%)	57,465 (67.9%)
Saranap CDP	5,830	4,011 (68.8%)	86 (1.5%)	633 (10.9%)	7 (0.1%)	7 (0.1%)	463 (7.9%)	623 (10.7%)	1,819 (31.2%)
Vine Hill CDP	4,323	1,954 (45.2%)	140 (3.2%)	473 (10.9%)	26 (0.6%)	27 (0.6%)	368 (8.5%)	1,335 (30.9%)	2,369 (54.8%)
Walnut Creek city	70,127	44,922 (64.1%)	1,477 (2.1%)	11,538 (16.5%)	81 (0.1%)	103 (0.1%)	4,702 (6.7%)	7,304 (10.4%)	25,205 (35.9%)

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020j)

Notes:

CDP=census designated place; % = percent

<sup>1</sup> Other includes those identified as Other Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, or Two or More Races



## Age

Table 2.1.5-9 shows the median age for communities in the Community Impact Study Area for 2016–2020. The Community Impact Study Area has a median age of 41.9 years, which is slightly higher than the median age of Contra Costa County (39.9 years). The Community Impact Study Area also has a percentage of the population over 65 (20.1 percent) that is higher than Contra Costa County (15.8 percent). The city of Walnut Creek and Acalanes Ridge CDP have more than a quarter of their populations over the age of 65, which may indicate a higher degree of cohesion in these communities.

**Table 2.1.5-9. Median Age in the Community Impact Study Area**

Geography	Median Age (Years) <sup>(a)</sup>	Percent over 65 (%) <sup>(b)</sup>
<i>Study Area</i>	41.9	20.1
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	39.9	15.8
Acalanes Ridge CDP	45.6	27.1
Alamo CDP	49.2	23.5
Castle Hill CDP	45.1	15.1
Concord city	38.1	14.8
Contra Costa Centre CDP	32.0	7.9
Danville city	46.6	18.8
Lafayette city	45.5	19.0
Martinez city	42.2	16.4
Mountain View CDP	35.7	6.6
Pacheco CDP	41.3	14.8
Pleasant Hill city	42.2	16.5
San Miguel CDP (Contra Costa County)	49.6	24.3
San Ramon city	40.8	11.2
Saranap CDP	44.6	20.6
Vine Hill CDP	35.1	7.3
Walnut Creek city	48.3	30.4

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020k); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020l)

Notes:

CDP=census designated place





## Transit-Dependent Populations

The availability and convenience of transit services is especially important for transit dependent populations, which include zero-vehicle households or those who take transit or walk to work on a regular basis rather than driving. Residents who use public transportation more frequently or walk for travel tend to correlate with a higher degree of community cohesion.

Table 2.1.5-10 shows the mode choice for workers, as well as the numbers and percentages of households without a vehicle (therefore, transit-dependent) within the Community Impact Study Area. As shown in Table 2.1.5-10, the percentage of zero-vehicle households ranges from 2 percent (Vine Hill CDP and Saranap CDP) to 11.6 percent (Contra Costa Centre CDP). Contra Costa Centre CDP also has the highest percentage (42.9 percent) of residents that use transit to commute or walk to work, which suggests a higher degree of cohesion in this community compared to the rest of the Community Impact Study Area. Overall, the Community Impact Study Area is made up of approximately 6.5 percent of zero-vehicle households and approximately 12 percent that use transit, which is around the average among all evaluated communities within the proposed Project Study Limits.

**Table 2.1.5-10. Mode Choice and Transit-Dependent Populations**

Geography	Total Households	Zero Vehicle Households	Total Workers	Driving	Transit	Walk	Other <sup>1</sup>
<i>Study Area</i>	79,714	5,161 (6.5%)	102,695	72,639 (70.7%)	12,185 (11.9%)	2,815 (2.7%)	15,056 (14.7%)
<i>Contra Costa County</i>	398,299	21,003 (5.3%)	547,220	418,076 (76.4%)	56,364 (10.3%)	8756 (1.6%)	64,025 (11.7%)
Acalanes Ridge CDP	348	-	393	296 (75.3%)	40 (10.2%)	-	57 (14.5%)
Alamo CDP	4,734	151 (3.2%)	5,742	4,192 (73.0%)	379 (6.6%)	34 (0.6%)	1,137 (19.8%)
Castle Hill CDP	410	17 (4.1%)	621	328 (52.8%)	99 (15.9%)	-	194 (31.3%)
Concord city	46,402	2,891 (6.2%)	64,787	49,692 (76.7%)	7,191 (11.1%)	1,361 (2.1%)	6,543 (10.1%)



Geography	Total Households	Zero Vehicle Households	Total Workers	Driving	Transit	Walk	Other <sup>1</sup>
Contra Costa Centre CDP	3,618	420 (11.6%)	4,526	2,010 (44.4%)	1,869 (41.3%)	72 (1.6%)	575 (12.7%)
Danville city	16,499	695 (4.2%)	21,364	15,873 (74.3%)	1,004 (4.7%)	470 (2.2%)	4,016 (18.8%)
Lafayette city	9,470	336 (3.5%)	12,012	7,339 (61.1%)	1,874 (15.6%)	180 (1.5%)	2,619 (21.8%)
Martinez city	14,853	537 (3.6%)	19,886	15,988 (80.4%)	1,293 (6.5%)	398 (2%)	2,207 (11.1%)
Mountain View CDP	786	-	1,115	889 (79.7%)	186 (16.7%)	8 (0.7%)	32 (2.9%)
Pacheco CDP	1,798	86 (4.8%)	2,745	2,407 (87.7%)	22 (0.8%)	77 (2.8%)	239 (8.7%)
Pleasant Hill city	13,762	897 (6.5%)	17,994	13,064 (72.6%)	2,375 (13.2%)	396 (2.2%)	2,159 (12%)
San Miguel CDP	1,127	-	1,458	870 (59.7%)	217 (14.9%)	47 (3.2%)	324 (22.2%)
San Ramon city	27,524	949 (3.4%)	40,029	29,982 (74.9%)	3,362 (8.4%)	320 (0.8%)	6,365 (15.9%)
Saranap CDP	2,348	47 (2%)	3,080	2,202 (71.5%)	434 (14.1%)	15 (0.5%)	428 (13.9%)
Vine Hill CDP	1,135	23 (2%)	1,648	1,513 (91.8%)	69 (4.2%)	-	66 (4%)
Walnut Creek city	32,163	2,662 (8.3%)	32,097	19,868 (61.9%)	5,553 (17.3%)	1,027 (3.2%)	5,649 (17.6%)

Source: (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020m); (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020n)

Notes: CDP = Census Designated Place; % = percent

<sup>1</sup> The “Other” category includes residents who commute by taxi, those who commute by motorcycle, and those who work from home.

## **Parks and Recreational Facilities**

As discussed in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, several local parks and recreational facilities serve Contra Costa County along I-680. The Community Impact Study Area includes 28 public parks; 5 recreation areas; 1 wildlife or waterfowl refuge; 30 existing bike, pedestrian, and equestrian paths; and 22 public schools with recreation areas. This high number of parks and recreational facilities in the Community Impact Study Area, including multiple trails with good connectivity to other trails, parks, and communities, indicates a higher degree of cohesion in the community.

### **2.1.5.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### ***No-Build Alternative***

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Community Impact Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no direct impacts on community character or cohesion would occur. Potential indirect impacts to the neighborhoods, communities and community character, and regional economy could result from the continued decrease in traffic flow and capacity associated with congested roadways, such as I-680, and the lack of alternative commute choices.

#### ***Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)***

##### ***Population and Housing***

None of the Build Alternatives would require a permanent full acquisition of any parcel or otherwise result in the permanent relocation or displacement of any person or business. Although the Build Alternatives would result in increased short-term local employment and business activity during construction, no permanent employment or increase in business activity is anticipated as a result of construction activities. Therefore, proposed construction activities are not anticipated to permanently affect long-term population levels or housing within the Community Impact Study Area.

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would permanently add capacity to northbound I-680. Alternative 5 would not permanently add capacity to I-680. As described in Section 2.1.4, *Growth*, the increased capacity on northbound I-680 proposed by Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would not be expected to encourage more people or employers to relocate to Contra Costa County. The proposed Project is being designed to ease congestion along northbound I-680 and accommodate planned growth in the Community Impact Study Area.

In addition, the Build Alternatives should result in little to no impact on property values, because the proposed Project would be constructed largely within existing State right-of-way (ROW). None of the Build Alternatives would result in any permanent full acquisitions; only temporary construction easements, permanent utility easements, and partial acquisitions are required, which are fairly minor in scope. None of the partial

acquisitions would change the use of any existing structure. In accordance with **CIA-2**, all property owners would be treated in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Act and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (49 CFR Part 24), which allows for the uniform, fair, and equitable treatment of persons and agencies whose real property is acquired in connection with federally funded projects.

Although the Build Alternatives would reduce congestion and potentially shift some traffic onto northbound I-680, the Build Alternatives are not anticipated to alter employment or housing substantially. Therefore, none of the Build Alternatives would impact existing or forecasted population levels or housing substantially, either directly or indirectly, within the Community Impact Study Area.

### *Neighborhoods/Communities/Community Character*

Implementation of the Build Alternatives would result in several new structures associated with new bridge overcrossings, noise barriers, retaining walls, drainage systems, electronic toll collection equipment, and overhead sign structures, none of which would divide or introduce a new physical barrier to the communities and neighborhoods in the Study Area. The communities and neighborhoods in the Community Impact Study Area are already divided by a multi-lane highway; therefore, the addition of the structures described above would not further divide any communities or neighborhoods. Construction activities are temporary and are not anticipated to divide existing communities or change community character. For more information regarding short-term visual, air quality, and noise impacts from construction activities, see Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*; Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*; and Section 2.27, *Noise*, respectively.

In addition, the Community Impact Study Area would not experience a direct disruption in community character or cohesion from the activities proposed under the Build Alternatives because the Build Alternatives do not involve construction of a new roadway; all improvements are along existing roadways. None of the partial acquisitions would change the use of any existing structure and all property owners would be treated in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Act and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.

The Build Alternative would benefit the neighborhoods and communities in the Community Impact Study Area by reducing congestion and travel time. The improvements, especially the extended express lane, would provide a more efficient connection between the northern and southern sides of the Study Area, which could help to further link these communities together, increasing community cohesion for the area.

None of the Build Alternatives would impact any special groups, such as the elderly; persons with disabilities; racial, ethnic, or religious groups within the neighborhood; nor cause the displacement of residents resulting from the proposed Project, which could negatively affect the perceived quality of life in the neighborhood. Full freeway closures would only occur overnight. No ramp closures would extend longer than 12 months.



Property access would be maintained throughout Project construction. Implementation of a Transportation Management Plan (TMP), as discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, would minimize short-term construction impacts on neighborhoods and communities along I-680.

None of the Build Alternatives would affect access to or result in the removal of neighborhood facilities or services that are needed and valued by neighborhood residents. Although temporary detours would be needed for the Iron Horse Regional Trail and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail, access to these recreational facilities would be maintained, as discussed in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*.

Changes to the community's visual character and quality may occur as a result of all Build Alternatives. This includes removal of mature trees and the addition of urbanizing elements (e.g., new bridges, soundwalls, widened pavement sections). Refer to Section 2.1.9, *Visual and Aesthetics*, for further discussion of impacts to the visual quality of communities.

All Build Alternatives would be constructed along an existing corridor; therefore, permanent impacts on community cohesion are not anticipated within the Community Impact Study Area.

#### *Employment and Income/Business Activity/Fiscal Conditions*

The Build Alternatives would not adversely affect regional or local employment rates. As described above, a TMP would be developed and access to businesses and residences would be maintained throughout the 2-year construction period. Therefore, Project construction activities are not anticipated to result in substantial adverse direct or indirect impacts on the operation of any business along the corridor nor result in any unplanned development within the Community Impact Study Area.

Construction of any of the Build Alternatives, which could extend over the 2-year period, could potentially have a beneficial temporary economic impact. Construction could include purchases of local materials, goods, and services required for construction and employment of local workers. The increased economic activity would also prompt secondary economic activity as construction-related business and economic income is spent in sectors throughout the regional economy during construction. Although the Build Alternatives would result in increased short-term local employment and business activity, no permanent employment or increase in business activity is anticipated as a result of construction activities. In addition, temporary impacts should have little or no impact on property values in the Community Impact Study Area because the proposed Project would be constructed largely within existing State ROW. Although there are some lane and ramp closures, in accordance with **TRAN-1**, no two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction would be closed concurrently, and access would be maintained at all times during construction, as discussed in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*.

The Build Alternatives would generally improve access to adjacent and nearby land uses by reducing congestion. In addition, the Build Alternatives may promote interregional/intraregional trade and goods movement by reducing congestion within the Community Impact Study Area. Residents and workers within the Community Impact Study Area would benefit from enhanced commute options, less time spent in traffic congestion, and improved access associated with the Build Alternatives. Therefore, under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would contribute to the ability of communities to create a stronger sense of community character and cohesion by improving mobility for all users, residents, and businesses that provide employment and services within the Community Impact Study Area.

#### **2.1.5.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Refer to Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*; Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*; Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*; Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*; and Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*, for measures related to recreational facilities, traffic, visual impacts, air quality emissions, and noise, respectively. In addition, the following measure would be implemented for all Build Alternatives:

**CIA-2** Caltrans will follow the process required for acquisition of right-of-way under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance Program.



## 2.1.6 Environmental Justice

### 2.1.6.1 Regulatory Setting

All projects involving a federal action (funding, permit, or land) must comply with Executive Order (EO) 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, signed by President William J. Clinton on February 11, 1994. This EO directs federal agencies to take the appropriate and necessary steps to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects of federal projects on the health or environment of minority and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law.

All considerations under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and related statutes, have also been included in this project. The Department's commitment to upholding the mandates of Title VI is demonstrated by its Title VI Policy Statement, signed by the Director, which can be found in Appendix B of this document.

### 2.1.6.2 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023.

This section describes the race/ethnicity and poverty characteristics in the Study Area and Contra Costa County to identify communities that meet or exceed a threshold for minority populations and low-income households, collectively referred to as environmental justice communities of concern. The environmental justice analysis uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016–2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates for all census tract block groups fully or partially within 0.5 mile of the Project Study Limits, which is referred to as the Environmental Justice Study Area.

Census blocks and census block groups are geographical units used by the U.S. Census Bureau (U.S. Census Bureau, 1994). A block group is the smallest level of geography for census demographic data. A block group is a combination of census blocks.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has established the following definitions for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis (Council on Environmental Quality, 1997):

- Minority individuals are defined as members of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, or Hispanic.
- Minority populations should be identified where either: (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent or (b) the affected area's minority population percentage is meaningfully greater than the minority



population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis.

- Low-income populations in an affected area should be identified with the annual statistical poverty thresholds from the Bureau of the Census' *Current Population Reports, Series P-60 on Income and Poverty*. In identifying low-income populations, agencies may consider a community as either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native Americans) where either type of group experiences common conditions of environmental exposure or effect.

Although these are the official definitions for NEPA analyses according to the CEQ, these definitions may not always be appropriate for assessing environmental justice issues in California where minority individuals are the majority of residents and living expenses in some areas are unusually high (California Department of Transportation, 2011).

According to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Order 6640.23A, issued in June 2012, and U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Order 5610.2C, issued in May 2021, a minority person is one that is:

1. Black: a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa;
2. Hispanic or Latino: a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race;
3. Asian American: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent;
4. American Indian or Alaskan Native: a person having origins in any of the original people of North America, South America (including Central America), and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition;
5. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: people having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

This also includes individuals identifying as “some other race” and “two or more races.”

According to USDOT Order 5610.2C, “Minority Population means any readily identifiable groups of minority persons who live in geographic proximity, and if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons (such as migrant workers or Native Americans) who would be similarly affected by a proposed DOT program, policy, or activity.”

This analysis compares the percentage of minority persons in each block group to the Contra Costa County average to identify which block groups have a greater percentage of minority persons than the county as a whole and would thus be considered minority populations. The percentage of minority persons in Contra Costa County is



57.4 percent, and there are 17 block groups in the Environmental Justice Study Area with minority percentages that are greater than or equal to 57.4 percent.

According to FHWA Order 6640.23A, issued in June 2012, and USDOT Order 5610.2C, issued in May 2021, a low-income person is a “person whose median household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.” According to USDOT Order 5610.2C, “Low-Income Population means any readily identifiable group of low-income persons who live in geographic proximity, and, if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons (such as migrant workers or Native Americans) who would be similarly affected by a proposed DOT program, policy, or activity.”

The poverty level for a household of four in 2023 is an annual income of \$30,000 (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 2023). According to FHWA, “A State or locality may adopt a more inclusive threshold for low-income than that specified by the [Department of Health and Human Services], as long as it is inclusive of all persons at or below the [Department of Health and Human Services] poverty guidelines” (Federal Highway Administration, 2015a). This analysis includes all households with a median income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, consistent with the methodology of the Study Area’s metropolitan planning organization, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

This analysis compares the percentage of low-income households in each block group to the Contra Costa County average to identify which block groups have a greater percentage of low-income households than the county as a whole and would thus be considered low-income populations. The percentage of low-income households in Contra Costa County is 19.5 percent. There are 23 block groups in the Environmental Justice Study Area with low-income percentages that are greater than or equal to 19.5 percent.

Any block group that meets or exceed the thresholds described above is considered an environmental justice community. In total, 31 block groups were identified as either a minority population, low-income population, or both for the purposes of this assessment. Table 2.1.6-1 and Figure 2.1.6-1 identify the locations of these block groups, showing large concentrations in the cities of Martinez and Concord, with smaller areas in the cities of Pleasant Hill and San Ramon.

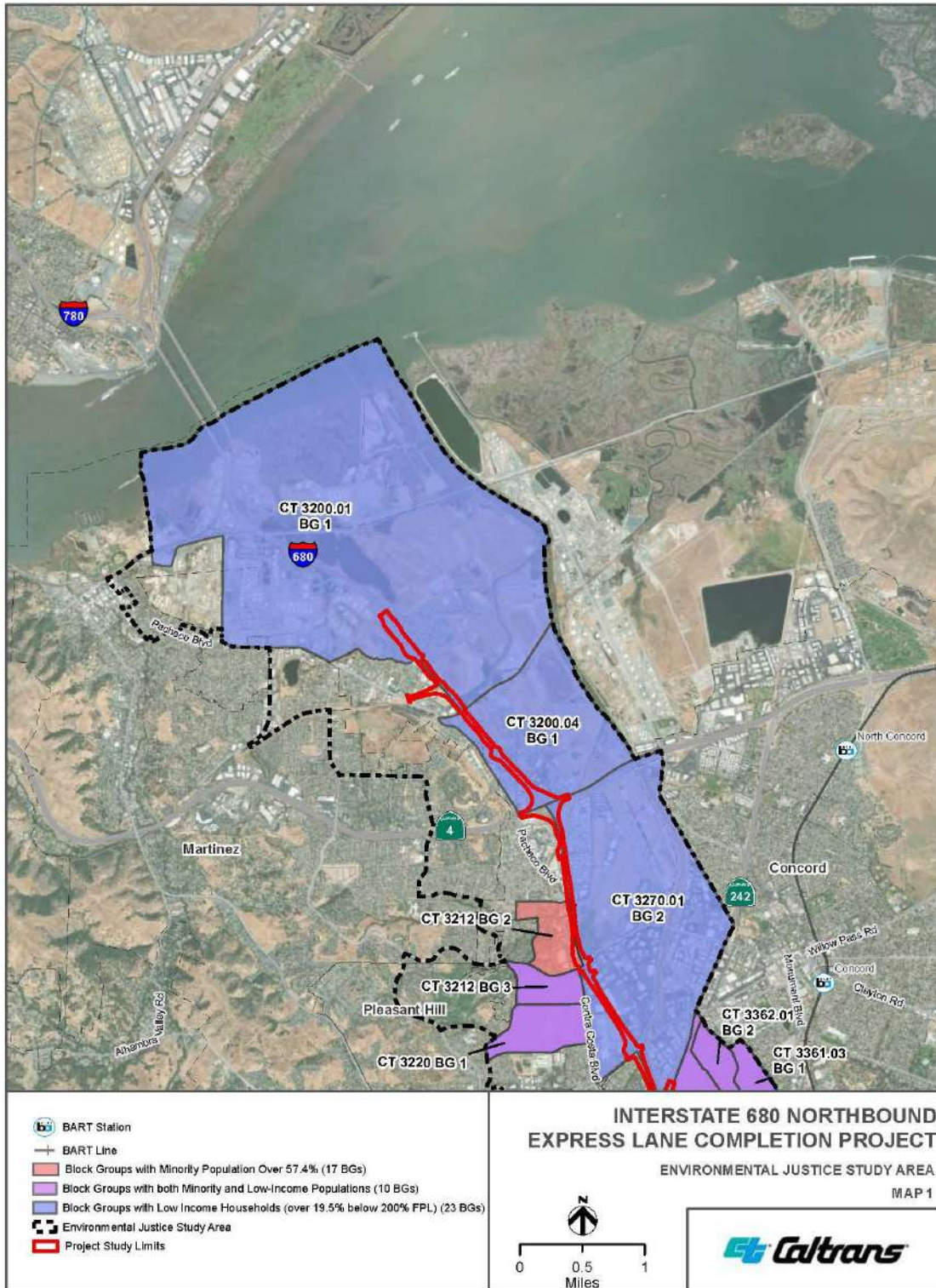


Figure 2.1.6-1. Environmental Justice Communities and Study Area (Map 1)



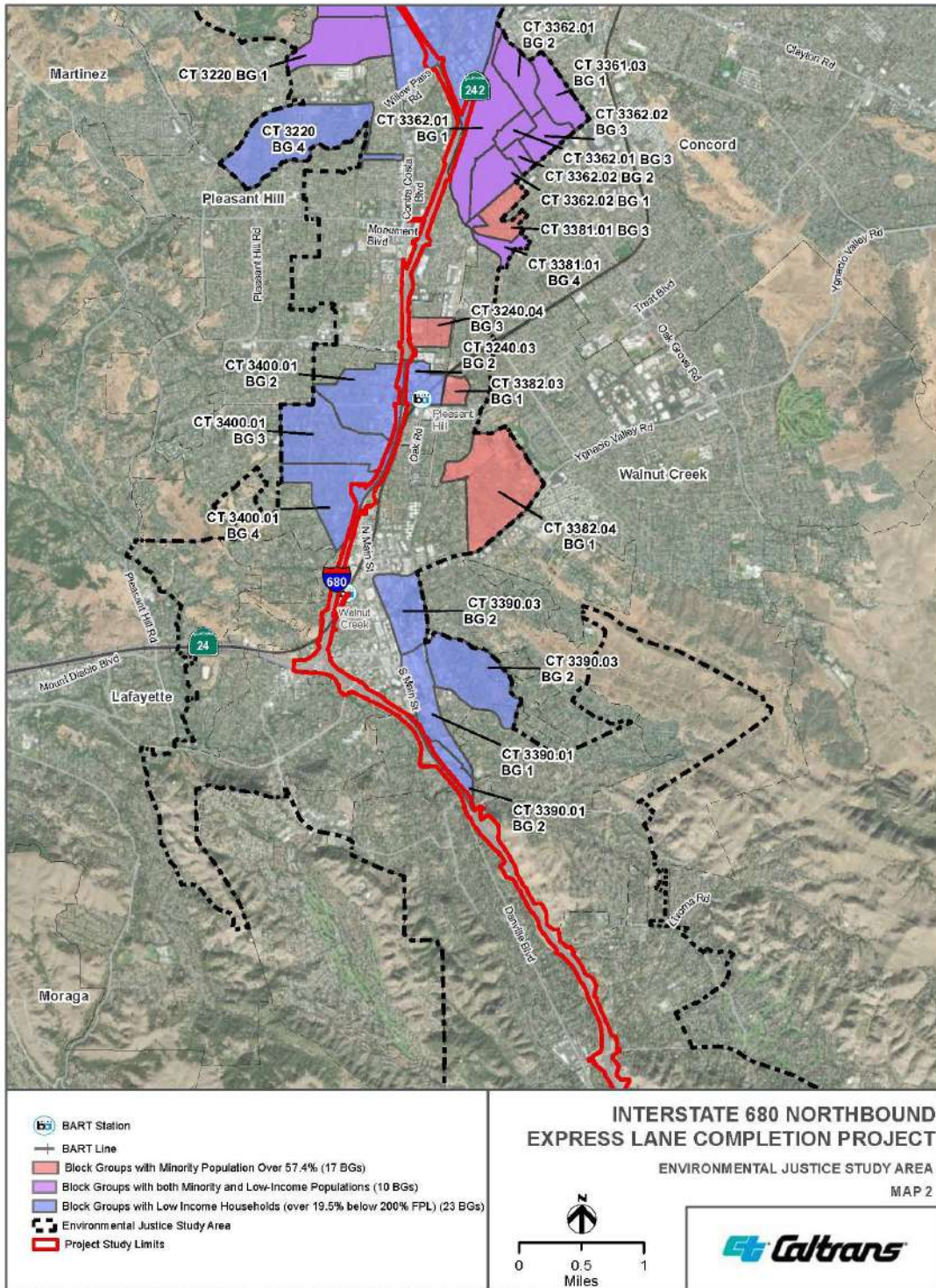


Figure 2.1.6-1. Environmental Justice Communities and Study Area (Map 2)



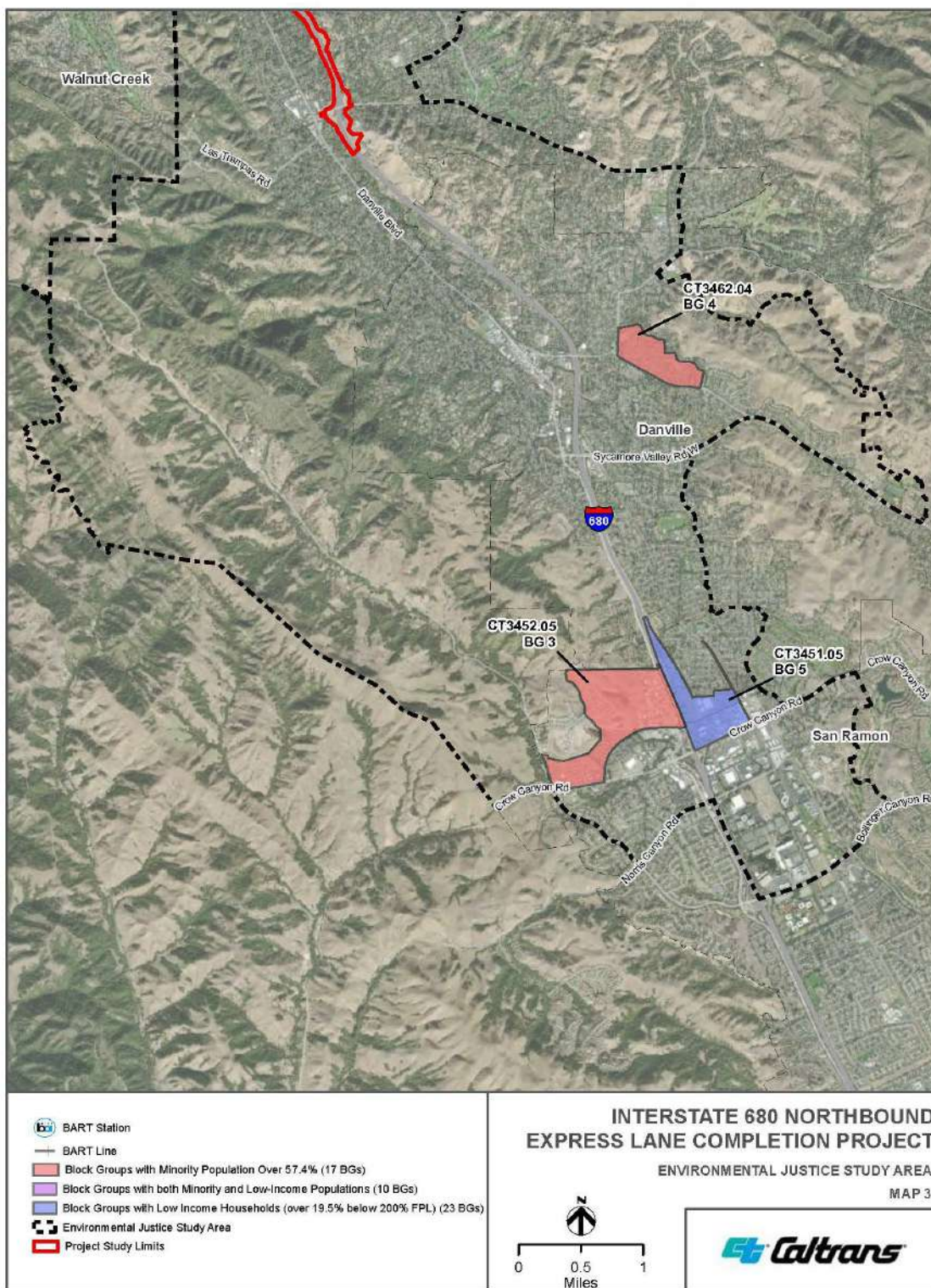


Figure 2.1.6-1. Environmental Justice Communities and Study Area (Map 3)



**Table 2.1.6-1. Environmental Justice Communities in the Study Area**

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Percent Minority <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percent Low-Income <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Environmental Justice Community</b>
<b>Contra Costa County</b>	<b>57.4%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Environmental Justice Study Area	36%	13%	N/A
Census Tract 3170, Block Group 1	17.9%	19.2%	No
<b>Census Tract 3200.01, Block Group 1</b>	<b>36.1%</b>	<b>31.2%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3200.01, Block Group 2	47.3%	8.5%	No
<b>Census Tract 3200.04, Block Group 1</b>	<b>40.8%</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3200.04, Block Group 4	38.8%	1.7%	No
Census Tract 3211.01, Block Group 1	40.9%	14.8%	No
Census Tract 3211.02, Block Group 1	41.5%	8.3%	No
Census Tract 3212, Block Group 1	42.4%	11.0%	No
<b>Census Tract 3212, Block Group 2</b>	<b>66.5%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3212, Block Group 3</b>	<b>72.5%</b>	<b>46.6%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3212, Block Group 4	51.4%	8.1%	No
<b>Census Tract 3220, Block Group 1</b>	<b>58.9%</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3220, Block Group 2	35.0%	10.9%	No
<b>Census Tract 3220, Block Group 4</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3220, Block Group 5	47.5%	3.9%	No
Census Tract 3230, Block Group 1	43.0%	0.2%	No
Census Tract 3230, Block Group 2	37.5%	7.3%	No
Census Tract 3240.02, Block Group 1	43.4%	9.1%	No
Census Tract 3240.02, Block Group 2	34.7%	18.8%	No
<b>Census Tract 3240.02, Block Group 3</b>	<b>53.4%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3240.03, Block Group 1	43.5%	17.2%	No
<b>Census Tract 3240.03, Block Group 2</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3240.03, Block Group 3	56.6%	11.6%	No



Geography	Percent Minority <sup>1</sup>	Percent Low-Income <sup>2</sup>	Environmental Justice Community
Census Tract 3240.04, Block Group 1	31.1%	17.4%	No
Census Tract 3240.04, Block Group 2	44.4%	17.5%	No
<b>Census Tract 3240.04, Block Group 3</b>	<b>58.2%</b>	8.7%	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3250, Block Group 1	49.9%	13.4%	No
Census Tract 3250, Block Group 5	18.6%	11.6%	No
<b>Census Tract 3270.01, Block Group 2</b>	52.9%	<b>35.4%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 1	32.7%	14.0%	No
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 2	26.3%	9.0%	No
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 3	21.4%	11.0%	No
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 4	48.4%	0.0%	No
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 5	22.0%	4.5%	No
Census Tract 3342, Block Group 6	26.9%	0.1%	No
<b>Census Tract 3361.01, Block Group 1</b>	<b>78.3%</b>	<b>54.4%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.01, Block Group 1</b>	<b>67.3%</b>	<b>36.4%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.01, Block Group 2</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>37.6%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.01, Block Group 3</b>	<b>61.4%</b>	<b>39.1%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.02, Block Group 1</b>	<b>79.7%</b>	<b>48.5%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.02, Block Group 2</b>	<b>86.6%</b>	<b>47.0%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3362.02, Block Group 3</b>	<b>86.6%</b>	<b>63.9%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3381.01, Block Group 3</b>	<b>85.0%</b>	17.7%	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3381.01, Block Group 4</b>	<b>65.1%</b>	<b>43.3%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3381.02, Block Group 1	26.9%	9.9%	No
<b>Census Tract 3382.03, Block Group 1</b>	<b>69.1%</b>	16.0%	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3382.03, Block Group 2	50.8%	9.9%	No
Census Tract 3382.03, Block Group 3	36.3%	11.9%	No
Census Tract 3382.03, Block Group 4	50.5%	1.1%	No





Geography	Percent Minority <sup>1</sup>	Percent Low-Income <sup>2</sup>	Environmental Justice Community
Census Tract 3382.03, Block Group 5	53.1%	6.2%	No
<b>Census Tract 3381.04, Block Group 1</b>	<b>60.0%</b>	3.6%	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3382.04, Block Group 2	49.6%	3.3%	No
<b>Census Tract 3390.01, Block Group 1</b>	41.1%	<b>42.9%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3390.01, Block Group 2</b>	46.7%	<b>27.2%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3390.01, Block Group 3	27.1%	19.0%	No
Census Tract 3390.03, Block Group 1	36.5%	14.0%	No
<b>Census Tract 3390.03, Block Group 2</b>	31.5%	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3390.04, Block Group 1	34.9%	10.0%	No
Census Tract 3390.04, Block Group 2	38.2%	3.3%	No
Census Tract 3400.01, Block Group 1	42.9%	13.2%	No
<b>Census Tract 3400.01, Block Group 2</b>	49.1%	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3400.01, Block Group 3</b>	37.6%	<b>47.3%</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Census Tract 3400.01, Block Group 4</b>	49.8%	<b>23.1%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3400.04, Block Group 1	4.9%	8.4%	No
Census Tract 3400.04, Block Group 2	10.3%	7.3%	No
Census Tract 3400.04, Block Group 3	47.4%	0.0%	No
Census Tract 3410, Block Group 1	28.9%	1.0%	No
Census Tract 3410, Block Group 2	30.9%	0.9%	No
Census Tract 3410, Block Group 3	34.9%	12.6%	No
Census Tract 3430.01, Block Group 2	19.1%	11.6%	No
<b>Census Tract 3430.01, Block Group 4</b>	21.1%	<b>29.8%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3430.03, Block Group 1	19.3%	2.5%	No
Census Tract 3430.03, Block Group 2	33.2%	6.4%	No
Census Tract 3451.05, Block Group 1	22.5%	2.1%	No
Census Tract 3451.05, Block Group 2	31.4%	3.6%	No



Geography	Percent Minority <sup>1</sup>	Percent Low-Income <sup>2</sup>	Environmental Justice Community
Census Tract 3451.05, Block Group 3	21.7%	2.5%	No
Census Tract 3451.05, Block Group 4	11.1%	12.3%	No
<b>Census Tract 3451.05, Block Group 5</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>27.0%</b>	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3451.14, Block Group 1	13.1%	2.2%	No
Census Tract 3451.18, Block Group 1	57.0%	7.8%	No
Census Tract 3452.03, Block Group 1	22.5%	19.1%	No
Census Tract 3452.03, Block Group 2	28.3%	18.7%	No
Census Tract 3452.03, Block Group 3	10.6%	15.7%	No
Census Tract 3452.03, Block Group 4	15.8%	5.6%	No
Census Tract 3452.04, Block Group 1	23.7%	0.9%	No
Census Tract 3452.04, Block Group 2	8.3%	3.9%	No
Census Tract 3452.05, Block Group 1	32.7%	4.5%	No
Census Tract 3452.05, Block Group 2	46.3%	7.1%	No
<b>Census Tract 3452.05, Block Group 3</b>	<b>63.1%</b>	11.8%	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3452.06, Block Group 2	39.4%	5.6%	No
Census Tract 3461.01, Block Group 1	41.5%	9.8%	No
Census Tract 3461.02, Block Group 1	17.9%	7.5%	No
Census Tract 3462.03, Block Group 1	12.5%	7.9%	No
Census Tract 3462.03, Block Group 2	14.4%	3.7%	No
Census Tract 3462.04, Block Group 1	29.0%	4.0%	No
<b>Census Tract 3462.04, Block Group 4</b>	<b>59.6%</b>	0.0%	<b>YES</b>
Census Tract 3462.06, Block Group 1	9.3%	11.7%	No
Census Tract 3462.06, Block Group 2	40.0%	7.2%	No

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2016–2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates Table B03002: Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race

<sup>2</sup> Based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2016–2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates Table C17002: Ratio of Income of Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months

### 2.1.6.3 Environmental Consequences

FHWA Order 6640.23A defines a disproportionately high and adverse effect on environmental justice communities as an adverse effect that either:

- is borne predominately by a minority and/or a low-income population;
- will be suffered by the minority and/or low-income population and is appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse effect that will be suffered by the non-minority and/or non-low-income population.

Before determining whether environmental justice communities would experience disproportionately high and adverse effects as a result of a project, any potential adverse effects of the proposed action are identified. With the consideration of any project avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures and offsetting benefits to the affected minority or low-income populations, the potential for the proposed action to result in disproportionately high and adverse effects is assessed. This section reviews the Project's potential adverse impacts and whether they would be borne disproportionately by any environmental justice community, as well as any benefits that would be experienced by environmental justice communities.

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of Interstate 680 (I-680) in the Environmental Justice Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on environmental justice communities would occur.

#### All Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

The Project's proposed improvements do not vary substantially among the Build Alternatives in terms of their environmental impacts on communities, the operational conditions and toll fees, or the transportation benefits they afford. Therefore, unless specifically noted, the following environmental justice evaluation applies to all Build Alternatives. The potential impacts to environmental justice communities are summarized below.

#### *Air Quality*

During construction, short-term degradation of air quality is expected from the release of diesel exhaust particulate matter and other emissions from equipment and on-road vehicles powered by gasoline and diesel engines, as well as temporary increases in on-road emissions from construction vehicles. As described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-7** would be implemented. With construction best management practices (BMP), the Project would not result in adverse temporary air quality impacts. MTC determined that the Project would not be a project of air quality concern. Moreover, based on the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) forecasts and speed

data, emissions with each Build Alternative would be lower than present levels. Since there are no temporary or permanent adverse air quality impacts, the Project is not expected to result in disproportionately high and adverse air quality effects on environmental justice communities.

### ***Community Character and Cohesion***

It is not anticipated that temporary roadway work would result in impacts on community character or cohesion during construction. Although temporary construction easements (TCE) may be required during construction for temporary staging on adjacent roadways, no properties would be temporarily displaced, and access to surrounding properties and city roadways would be maintained. As described in Section 2.1.5, *Community Character and Cohesion*, Measure **CIA-2** would be implemented requiring Caltrans follow the process required for acquisition of right-of-way under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance Program. Since the Project would not displace any residents, businesses, or community services and facilities, and neighborhood access would not be reduced, the Project would not result in adverse effects on community character and cohesion. Thus, environmental justice communities would not experience disproportionately high and adverse effects related to community character and cohesion.

### ***Hydrology***

Potential Project impacts to the existing floodplains are minimal and would not adversely affect communities in the Study Area. As described in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*, Measure **HYD-1** would be implemented to ensure during final design that there would be no impacts to the base flood elevation. As a result, no mitigation measures are required. Thus, the Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse hydrology effects on environmental justice communities.

### ***Water Quality***

Temporary construction impacts to water quality have the potential to occur during demolition and roadway construction activities. In addition, the proposed Project would result in a permanent increase in impervious surface area of 12.84 acres under Alternative 1C, 9.06 acres under Alternative 2, 16.27 acres under Alternative 3, and 2.93 acres under Alternative 5, which would increase the runoff from I-680. As described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*, Measures **WQ-1** through **WQ-4** would be implemented. With these measures in place, the Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse water quality effects on environmental justice communities.

### ***Parks and Recreation***

Construction activities would result in temporary, localized, site-specific disruptions to the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail and Iron Horse Regional Trail. Portions of these trails would be closed temporarily during construction,

and a segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge would be permanently relocated with Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. As described in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, Measures **PR-1** through **PR-3** would be implemented. Caltrans would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify temporary detours and the trail's permanent location prior to construction. These disruptions would not adversely affect nearby communities or minority or low-income populations since detours would be made available to maintain access.

### **Noise and Vibration**

Roadway construction activities would occur for relatively short periods in any specific location as construction proceeds along the Project's alignment. With the exception of possible nighttime construction involving heavy equipment, construction noise levels would not be expected to exceed the quantitative noise limits established by Caltrans. Impact pile driving during construction may be required near residential apartment buildings in southern Walnut Creek, which is identified as an environmental justice community. To reduce the potential for noise and vibration impacts resulting from Project construction, Measures **NOI-1** and **VIB-1** would be implemented, which are described in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*. This would require that the construction contractor consider implementing measures including the prohibition of impact pile driving within the exceedance disturbance distances and the use of an alternative method to impact pile driving (i.e., cast-in-drilled-hole piles) where geological conditions allow. All construction equipment shall conform to Standard Special Provision (SSP) Section 14-8.02, Noise Control, which requires noise not to exceed 52 dBA, preparation of a Noise Control Plan (NCP) and noise monitoring, and letters to be sent to sensitive receptors as part of the NCP. In addition, noise abatement in the form of soundwalls was considered, as discussed further in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*. The Project is not anticipated to result in adverse permanent or temporary noise or vibration impacts. Therefore, the Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse noise or vibration effects on environmental justice communities.

### **Visual**

During construction, viewers would temporarily see materials, equipment, workers, and construction operations. These temporary views are not considered adverse impacts and would be visible in both environmental justice and non-environmental justice areas. The permanent Project features located in various areas (both environmental justice and non-environmental justice) along the corridor—with the most visible being retaining walls, sound walls, and toll gantries—would result in moderate to moderate-high visual impacts for motorists on I-680 and adjacent sensitive receptors, including single-family residents, recreation facilities, churches, and schools. Sound walls would block motorists' views of the mature trees and screening shrubs to the east of Mount Diablo. Each Build Alternative would remove the existing trees and screening shrubs. Single- and multi-family residential neighborhoods would have views of the Project, including variable toll message signs, which emit and reflect light. As described in Section 2.1.9, *Visual and Aesthetics*, Measures **VIS-1** through **VIS-5** would be implemented, which would assist in reducing visual impacts from Project features. These measures, which

would be implemented in both environmental justice and non-environmental justice areas, include minimizing vegetation removal, vegetation protection, tree replacement, aesthetic treatments, and construction measures (e.g., limitations to construction lighting, storage of unsightly equipment and materials, revegetation of disturbed areas, and provision of screening).

Because temporary and permanent visual impacts would be minimized and not affect environmental justice communities more than non-environmental justice communities, the Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse visual effects on environmental justice communities.

### **Utilities**

Utilities would be protected in place or relocated to avoid any service disruptions. As described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities and Emergency Services*, Measures **UES-1** and **UES-2** would be implemented to ensure utility services are maintained during construction. Therefore, environmental justice communities would not experience disproportionately high and adverse effects related utilities and public services.

### **Access and Circulation**

Trips generated by construction activities would add additional traffic on the local roadway network and may temporarily generate additional delays at the Study Area roadways and intersections. Existing transit service may experience minor delays due to potential construction-related traffic and activities. In the event of temporary lane and/or street closures, alternate routes and signage would be provided, and access to and from residences and businesses would be maintained throughout the duration of construction.

Two ramps would potentially experience long-term closures during construction: southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp (closed for up to 11 months in Alternatives 1C and 3) and northbound North Main Street off-ramp (closed for up to 1 month in Alternatives 2, 3, and 5). Southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp is not located in an environmental justice community. Northbound North Main Street off-ramp is located in an environmental justice community. As described in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation / Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*, Measure **TRAN-1** would be implemented requiring that no two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction would be closed concurrently. In addition, a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) would be developed to ensure that all communities have freeway access and would not be adversely impacted by the temporary closures.

With all Build Alternatives, the Project is expected to improve travel times in both general purpose and managed lanes in the afternoon peak hours. The Project would also increase vehicle and person throughput with implementation of Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Since Alternative 5 reduces capacity, throughput (vehicle and person) is forecasted to be less than the No-Build. While no alternative fully eliminates bottlenecks and associated queuing within the transportation Study Area, Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and



5 would reduce bottlenecks in the afternoon peak hours. However, Alternatives 1C and 3 would extend queuing onto eastbound State Route (SR) 24. Travel times for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be similar to the No-Build in future years in the morning peak hours. Alternative 5 would increase travel time in the morning peak hours compared to the No-Build. Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 all provide substantial travel time benefits along northbound I-680 compared to the future No-Build Alternative for the afternoon peak hours. All users would benefit from these improvements, whether solo drivers who pay a fee or those who drive free of charge as carpools in the express lane or general-purpose lane.

With the incorporation of measures defined in the TMP and the consideration of the offsetting transportation benefits from the improvements, the Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse access and circulation effects on environmental justice communities.

### ***Economic Effects of Tolling***

Project operation would provide an opportunity for single-occupancy vehicles (SOV) to access a northbound express lane for a fee. In the northbound direction, high-occupancy vehicles (HOV) would continue to be able to use the express lane for free, and SOVs would have free access to the general-purpose lanes. When the express lane is in operation and charging a toll for access, (i.e., when there is congestion on the roadway and additional available capacity in the managed lane) a SOV would be given a choice to use the express lane or not; much of that decision would be based on the posted fee, which would vary depending on congestion levels. There is no direct economic impact to those who opt to not use the express lane. The decision to use the express lane is dependent upon users' ability to set up a FasTrak® account (also known as a transponder), their willingness to pay the toll, and their perceived benefit from using the lane.

#### ***Ability to Obtain a Toll Tag***

With the Project implemented, the policies related to how to obtain a toll tag and set up a user account would be the same for northbound I-680 users as they are currently for southbound I-680 users and bi-directional users south of the Study Area. It is anticipated that those who use the proposed northbound express lane would also be traveling along southbound I-680 and are already informed of the express lane in the southbound direction and the policies regarding the acquisition and maintenance of a toll tag account.

The tolling rules for the existing I-680 express lane operation, which would apply to the Project's new express lane, include:

- The toll fee adjusts dynamically depending on real-time traffic levels;
- Drivers always pay the toll displayed when they enter the Express Lane, even if toll rates change during their trip;

- All vehicles must have a FasTrak® account to use the lane as a paying customer;
- Carpools with two or more people, vanpools, buses, and motorcycles travel toll-free with a switchable toll tag (FasTrak® Flex tag) set to the 2 or 3+ position;
- Solo drivers in eligible clean-air vehicles (CAV) can use the lane for free with a FasTrak® CAV toll tag. Eligible CAVs are those with red, purple, orange, or blue decals;
- Other solo drivers pay the full toll to use the express lanes with either a standard FasTrak® toll tag or a FasTrak® Flex tag set to the 1 position.

Express lane users need to have a FasTrak® account to use the lane as a paying customer and carpoolers would need to have a FasTrak® Flex tag to access the express lane without incurring a fee. Based on the current policies for most systems, including the MTC Program, Bay Area FasTrak requires an up-front cost to acquire a toll tag and most systems also require a pre-paid balance from which tolls are deducted. These requirements can make it difficult for low-income persons who do not have a bank account, debit card, or credit card to purchase a toll tag and maintain an account balance.

Bay Area FasTrak offers multiple ways for someone to acquire a toll tag, including ordering one online, calling a toll-free number, printing out a form and mailing it to FasTrak®, going to the FasTrak® customer service center in San Francisco in person, or purchasing a FasTrak® tag at Costco or Walgreens stores. Once the tag is acquired, an account must be set up and toll charges are paid through various methods. Typically, the toll tag account is linked to a bank account, debit card, or credit card.

Offering a cash payment option is necessary for drivers who are unbanked, underbanked, do not want an account, or simply prefer to pay in cash. The 2021 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's *National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households* found that an estimated 4.5 percent of United States households were "unbanked" in 2021, meaning that no one in the household had a checking or savings account at a bank or credit union (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 2021). In California, the percentage of unbanked households ranges from 5.6 to 7.6 percent. Funds may also be added to a FasTrak® account by cash at more than 100 Cash Payment Network locations, including many Walmart stores.

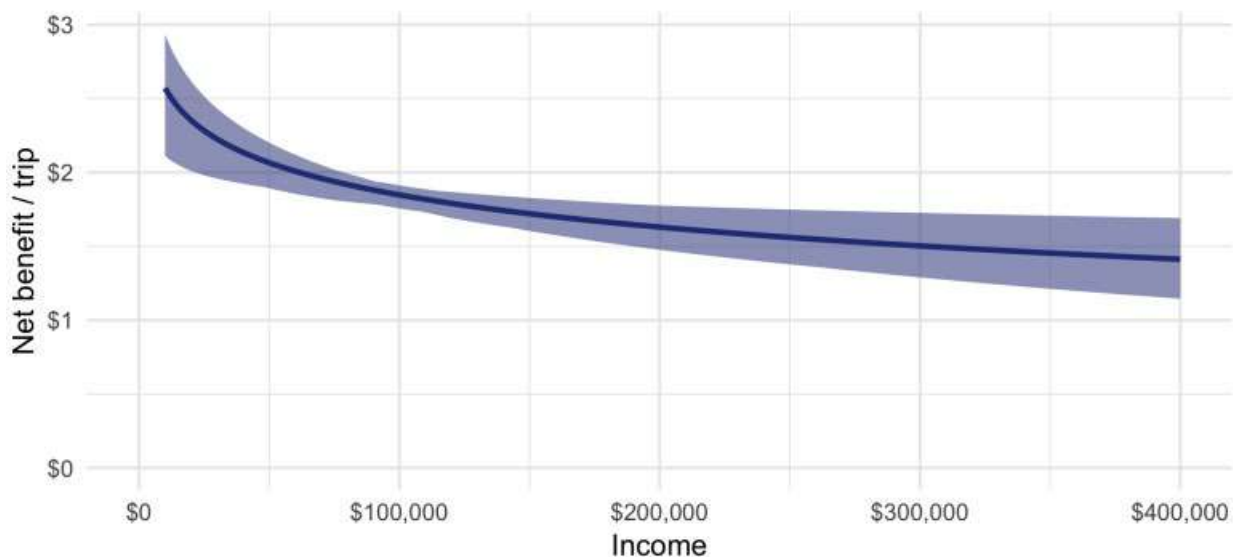
### *Ability and Willingness to Pay the Toll*

While the toll is the same for any driver at a given time across a certain distance, for low-income drivers, the toll would comprise a higher percentage of their household income and would be more of a burden on their household budget. While the toll is a larger percentage of income for lower-income users, the value of time may also play a factor in the decision to use a tolled lane. The choice by drivers to use the express lane

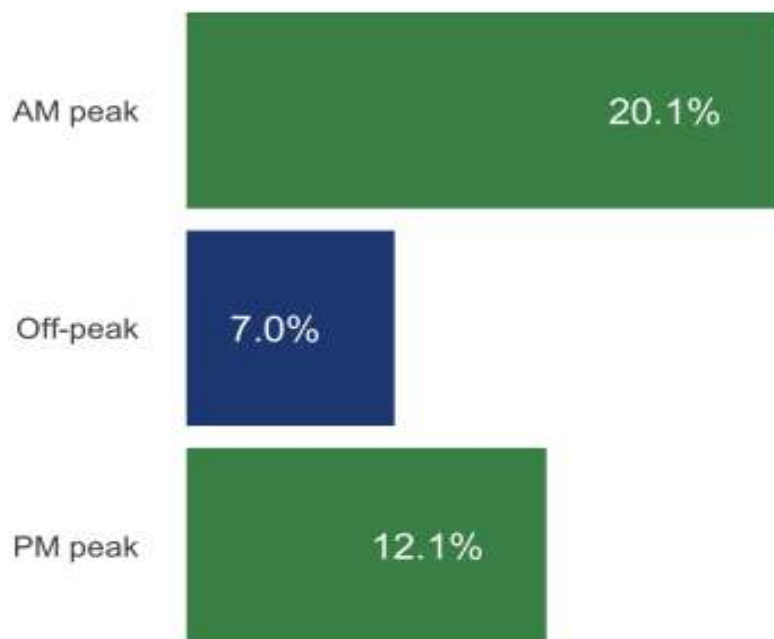
as a solo driver and incur a fee would be based on several factors, including the potential to be late for work or potential to be late for a child’s pick-up. These factors balance the price of the toll against other costs that may be incurred with a loss of time, thus factoring in the user’s value of time.

According to a 2019 study, *I-405 Express Toll Lanes Analysis: Usage, Benefits, and Equity*, conducted by the Washington State Transportation Center and reported in a June 2021 article, *Are Express Lanes Equitable?*, lower-income drivers benefit more than higher-income drivers per trip in variably priced toll lanes (University of Washington, 2019; Reason Organization, 2021). The study revealed that higher income groups used the facility more often, thereby obtaining a larger share of the benefits per user than lower income groups. However, lower income users were found to obtain higher net benefits per trip than higher income groups because they used the facility more strategically. The University of Washington (2019) found that higher income users gain 21 percent less in net benefit per trip than lower income users (see Figure 2.1.6-2)

**Figure 2.1.6-2. Net Benefit Per Trip by Income (University of Washington, 2019)**



The University of Washington (2019) also found that low-income users make up a larger percentage of users during peak periods and in peak directions (see Figure 2.1.6-3). Figure 2.1.6-4 shows that per-trip net benefit is highest precisely during peak periods. By travelling during peak periods when per-trip net benefits are highest, lower-income drivers across the region gain relative to higher-income drivers.



**Figure 2.1.6-3. Share of Users with Household Income below \$35,000 Per Year (University of Washington, 2019)**



**Figure 2.1.6-4. Net Benefit per Trip by Time of Day and Direction (University of Washington, 2019)**



According to research reported by FHWA in their Urban Partnership Agreement, *Low-Income Equity Concerns of U.S. Road Pricing Initiatives*, a wide range of income groups use value priced lanes at different frequency levels (Federal Highway Administration, 2015b). One example cited was the SR-91 express lanes in California that has approximately one-quarter of drivers using the toll facility at any given time being high-income, while the remainder of toll-lane users are low- and middle-income drivers.

### INNOVATE 680 User Surveys

A Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) INNOVATE 680 User Survey conducted between November 18, 2020, and January 4, 2021, asked potential I-680 users if they would rather save time or money. While a large number of respondents had no preference, 39 percent of people of color and 27.5 percent of low-income respondents indicated a preference for saving time, compared to 16.3 percent of people of color and 12.4 percent of low-income respondents preferring to save money.

CCTA’s INNOVATE 680 User Survey (Wave 2), conducted between November 1 and December 17, 2022, asked potential I-680 express lane users a series of questions related to their willingness to use express lanes on I-680. The results of the survey questions related to the use of the existing I-680 express lanes are summarized in Table 2.1.6-2 and indicate that minority (people of color) drivers and non-minority drivers share the same tendency to use the existing I-680 express lanes. However, the survey results also show that low-income drivers are more than twice as unlikely to use the existing I-680 express lanes as higher-income drivers. Just over 20 percent of low-income users cited the cost as a deterrent to using the existing express lanes, while 18.5 percent of low-income users noted that the express lanes do not provide a benefit to them.

**Table 2.1.6-2. INNOVATE 680 User Survey Results Regarding the Use of Existing I-680 Express Lanes**

Questions and Responses	People of Color	White	Low-Income <sup>1</sup>	Non-Low-Income <sup>1</sup>
Do you use the express lanes along I-680?				
No	41.5%	41.9%	58.8%	27.8%
Occasionally I pay a fee to use them when congestion is very bad	16.0%	18.8%	16.0%	20.5%
Sometimes, but only when I am carpooling	30.9%	35.4%	19.3%	43.8%
Yes, almost every day as a paying single occupant vehicle	5.3%	2.6%	3.4%	4.5%
Yes, almost every day as a carpool	6.4%	1.3%	2.5%	3.4%
Why don't you use them? Select all that apply.				
I am not carpooling	14.9%	13.2%	21.2%	9.7%



Questions and Responses	People of Color	White	Low-Income <sup>1</sup>	Non-Low-Income <sup>1</sup>
They are too expensive	17.0%	14.5%	20.3%	11.4%
They do not provide a benefit for me	11.7%	14.9%	18.5%	8.6%
I do not have a FasTrak toll transponder	8.5%	5.7%	8.4%	5.1%
I do not understand how they operate	3.2%	3.5%	4.2%	3.4%
Other	7.4%	7.9%	11.9%	4.5%
None of the above	3.2%	1.7%	2.5%	1.1%
Would you use express lane along northbound I-680 as a paying single occupant vehicle to avoid severe traffic congestion?				
Yes, regularly	35.1%	45.9%	40.3%	42.0%
Yes, if needed	11.7%	4.8%	7.6%	6.3%
No	48.9%	41.9%	40.3%	50.0%
Not applicable	4.3%	7.4%	11.8%	1.7%
How much would you be willing to pay to use an express lane as a single occupant vehicle to avoid severe traffic congestion?				
Not willing to pay	31.9%	43.7%	37.0%	38.1%
Up to \$2.00	44.7%	31.9%	45.4%	30.7%
Up to \$5.00	18.1%	19.7%	14.3%	24.4%
Up to \$10.00	3.2%	2.6%	1.7%	4.0%

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of this survey, “low-income” was defined as a household income of less than \$100,000 and “non-low-income” is defined as a household income of greater than \$100,000.

CCTA’s INNOVATE 680 User Survey (Wave 2) also asked questions about projected use of the proposed northbound express lanes, including how much a driver would be willing to pay to use the express lane as a solo driver (Table 2.1.6-2). While there were similar results between people of color and white drivers regarding use of the existing I-680 express lanes, a larger percentage of white drivers (45.9 percent) stated they would use the lane regularly as a paying solo driver than people of color (35.1 percent). However, people of color would use the lane more often as needed (11.7 percent, compared to 4.8 percent for white drivers). Low-income drivers and higher-income drivers indicated similar projections for express lane use as a paying solo driver, with 47.9 percent of low-income drivers responding that they would use the lane either regularly or as needed, compared to 48.3 percent of higher-income drivers. Interestingly, half of the higher-income respondents indicated they would not use the proposed express lane while only 40.3 percent of low-income respondents indicated they would not use it.



When asked how much these potential users of the proposed northbound express lane would be willing to pay as a solo driver, a larger percentage of white drivers indicated they would not be willing to pay anything (43.7 percent) compared to people of color (31.9 percent). Similar percentages of low-income (37.0 percent) and higher-income (38.1 percent) drivers would not be willing to pay anything. Over 45 percent of low-income drivers would be willing to pay up to \$2 to use the lane, and an additional 14.3 percent would pay up to \$5. However, higher income drivers would be more willing to pay higher tolls than low-income drivers, with 4.0 percent willing to pay \$10 compared to only 1.7 percent of low-income drivers willing to pay \$10.

### ***Offsetting Benefits to Environmental Justice Communities***

#### ***Transportation Benefits***

The purpose of the Project is to reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680, reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability in the corridor, encourage use of HOV and transit service, optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands, and offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.

Express lanes in the Bay Area reduce congestion by using additional and/or underutilized freeway capacity by allowing solo drivers to access express lanes for a fee. Qualifying HOVs and CAVs would be able to use the express lane for free. The SOV toll would be determined to ensure that free-flow traffic (i.e., traffic moving at least 45 miles per hour) is always maintained. With the technology necessary for the express lane implementation, express lanes provide improved enforcement for HOV “cheaters,” thereby providing greater benefit and improved access to law-abiding carpools, vanpools, CAV, transit vehicles, and paying SOVs permitted in the lane. The Project would improve transportation operations along I-680 by maximizing the system’s capacity.

Project operation provides drivers along I-680 the option to remain in general-purpose lanes free of charge, use the northbound express lane as a qualifying HOV free of charge, or use the northbound express lane as a SOV for a fee. For drivers opting to pay the fee to use the express lane, users would experience a more reliable trip with less congestion and decreases in travel time in the afternoon peak hours. For drivers opting to remain in the general-purpose lanes, there would be no degradation of trip reliability or travel time with the Project in the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build condition. Instead, with the Project, there is a forecasted improvement in travel times for all users as a result of reduced congestion within the general-purpose lanes during the afternoon peak hours (DKS Associates, 2023).

Project implementation would also improve travel time for buses that use I-680 during the afternoon peak hours. Transit users would enjoy the benefit of their buses traveling in the express lane with less congestion, resulting in more reliable travel time. According to the American Public Transportation Association, bus riders are predominantly people of color and/or lower income (American Public Transportation Association, 2017). In

2017, 65 percent of all bus riders in the United States were non-white and 69 percent of all bus riders had annual household incomes of less than \$50,000. The trend is similar in the San Francisco Bay Area. The *Link21 Equity Baseline Report*, which looked at transit use demographics, reports that 40 percent of all transit trips (including rail) taken by white riders are made via bus, while the proportion of transit trips made by bus is 60 percent for Hispanic riders, 66 percent for Black/African American riders, and 57 percent for Asian riders (Link21, 2022). As with the American Public Transportation Association's national findings, according to the *Link21 Equity Baseline Report*, the vast majority of transit users in the Bay Area with annual household incomes below \$50,000 ride buses. Given these data, the benefit that the Project affords to transit riders in the I-680 corridor would be experienced more so by people of color and lower-income bus riders.

### ***Economic Benefits***

The benefit of faster travel in the northbound I-680 express lane would be available to all users (both environmental justice and non-environmental justice); however, this option for environmental justice communities may have greater benefit at times when their travel is very time-sensitive, and the toll fee may be less than their value of time. The ability to reach a destination faster and spend less time in traffic could result in economic benefits that would be proportionately greater for lower-income users. These benefits may include avoidance of financial penalties for being late or reduction in expenditures for gasoline. A 2019 study on the I-405 corridor in the Puget Sound (Seattle) region (University of Washington, 2019) found that although higher-income households take more trips and accrue significantly more net benefits in aggregate than lower-income users, lower-income drivers benefit more than higher-income driver per trip because low-income users make up a larger fraction of users during peak periods and in peak directions. For some users, the Project may provide the improved mobility that would enable them to access educational opportunities or higher-paying jobs.

### ***Environmental Justice Finding***

Based on the evaluation of the Project's potential adverse impacts and offsetting benefits on environmental justice communities, Project implementation would not result in disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. However, some low-income drivers may not receive the benefits of the proposed new northbound express lane if they are not a qualifying HOV or CAV, are not riding transit, or opt to remain in the general-purpose lanes due to financial constraints. BAIFA is currently piloting a discounted toll pricing for low-income users on I-880.

The fee structure would be similar to that implemented currently in the southbound express lanes. By closing or reducing the existing gap in managed lanes, the Project would incrementally improve traffic in the general-purpose lanes during the afternoon peak period, directly benefiting drivers in the general-purpose lanes. In addition, all Build Alternatives, except Alternative 5, would improve traffic in the morning peak period compared to the No-Build scenario. Tolls collected from the express lane would be used to cover direct expenses related to operation, maintenance, construction, and



administration of the lanes in accordance with California Streets and Highways Code Section 149.7. The remaining toll revenue could be used for other transportation and transit improvements in the Project corridor subject to availability and eligibility. Therefore, the Project would provide direct benefits to both drivers and transit customers. In addition, as discussed in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) evaluation, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would include the implementation of CEQA mitigation for VMT, which would facilitate and incentivize transit in Contra Costa County.

#### **2.1.6.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Based on the above discussion and analysis, the Project will not cause disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations in accordance with the provisions of EO 12898. No further environmental justice analysis is required.



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## 2.1.7 Utilities/Emergency Services

### 2.1.7.1 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project’s *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), which was completed in November 2023, and the *Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) Utility Report* (HDR Engineering, Inc./WRECO, 2022). The Community Impact Study Area is described in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*.

#### Utilities

Table 2.1.7-1 identifies the existing utilities and utility owners located within the Project Study Limits. The East Bay Municipality Utility District (EBMUD), Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (CCCSD), Contra Costa Water District (CCWD), Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), AT&T, Comcast, Verizon, Sprint, Wave-Astound Broadband, and Kinder/Morgan provide utility services within the Community Impact Study Area.

**Table 2.1.7-1. Existing Utilities in the Project Study Limits**

Utility Description	Utility Owner
Overhead and underground electric and gas lines	PG&E
Telephone lines	Verizon, Sprint
Telecommunication services lines	Comcast
Fiber optic cables	Wave-Astound Broadband, AT&T
Water lines	EBMUD, CCWD
Sewer lines	CCCSD
10-inch, high-pressure pipeline	Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc./WRECO, 2022)

Notes: PG&E = Pacific Gas & Electric; EBMUD = East Bay Municipality Utility District; CCWD = Contra Costa Water District; CCCSD = Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

Overhead electric/utility lines owned by PG&E are located along the Treat Boulevard I-680 off-ramp and across I-680 near Castle Hill Road. PG&E-owned electric pull boxes and utility boxes are located within the Project Study Limits. Several high priority utilities, including PG&E natural gas pipelines and a Kinder Morgan petroleum pipeline, were identified within the Project Study Limits. High priority utilities are potentially hazardous to workers or the public if damaged (HDR Engineering, Inc./WRECO, 2022).

Table 2.1.7-2 provides the utility services that serve the cities and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County within the Community Impact Study Area by jurisdiction.



**Table 2.1.7-2. Utilities Services by Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction	Water Service Provider	Wastewater Service Provider	Solid Waste Service Provider	Gas & Electricity Provider	Telecommunications Provider
City of San Ramon	EBMUD	CCCSD	VWM Republic Services of Northern California	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
Town of Danville	EBMUD	CCCSD	CCCSPA	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
Unincorporated Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo)	EBMUD	CCCSD	CCCSPA	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
City of Walnut Creek	EBMUD	CCCSD	CCCSPA	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
City of Pleasant Hill	CCWD	CCCSD	Republic Services	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
City of Concord	CCWD	CCCSD	CDS	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T
City of Martinez	MWD and CCWD	CCCSD and MVSD	Martinez and Republic Services	PG&E	Verizon, Sprint, Comcast, Wave, and AT&T

Sources: (City of San Ramon, 2019), (Town of Danville, 2013), (Town of Danville, 2023a), (East Bay Municipal Utility District, 2023), (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, 2023), (City of Walnut Creek, 2019), (City of Pleasant Hill, 2023), (City of Concord, 2007), (City of Martinez, 2022), (HDR Engineering, Inc./WRECO, 2022)

Notes: EBMUD = East Bay Municipality Utility District; CCCSD = Central Contra Costa Sanitary District; VWM = Valley Waste Management; PG&E = Pacific Gas & Electric; CCCSPA = Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority; CCWD = Contra Costa Water District; CDS = Concord Disposal Service; MWD = Martinez Water Department; MVSD = Mt. View Sanitary District

## Emergency Services

### *Fire Protection*

Based on information from the California Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) viewer (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2022), the proposed Project Study Limits are not within a local responsibility area (LRA). Small portions of the Community Impact Study Area, south of the State Route (SR) 24 Interchange, are within an LRA and classified as a high FHSZ, as shown in Figure 2.1.7-1. This figure also provides the locations of fire protection emergency services within the Community Impact Study Area. Table 2.1.7-3 identifies the fire protection emergency services that





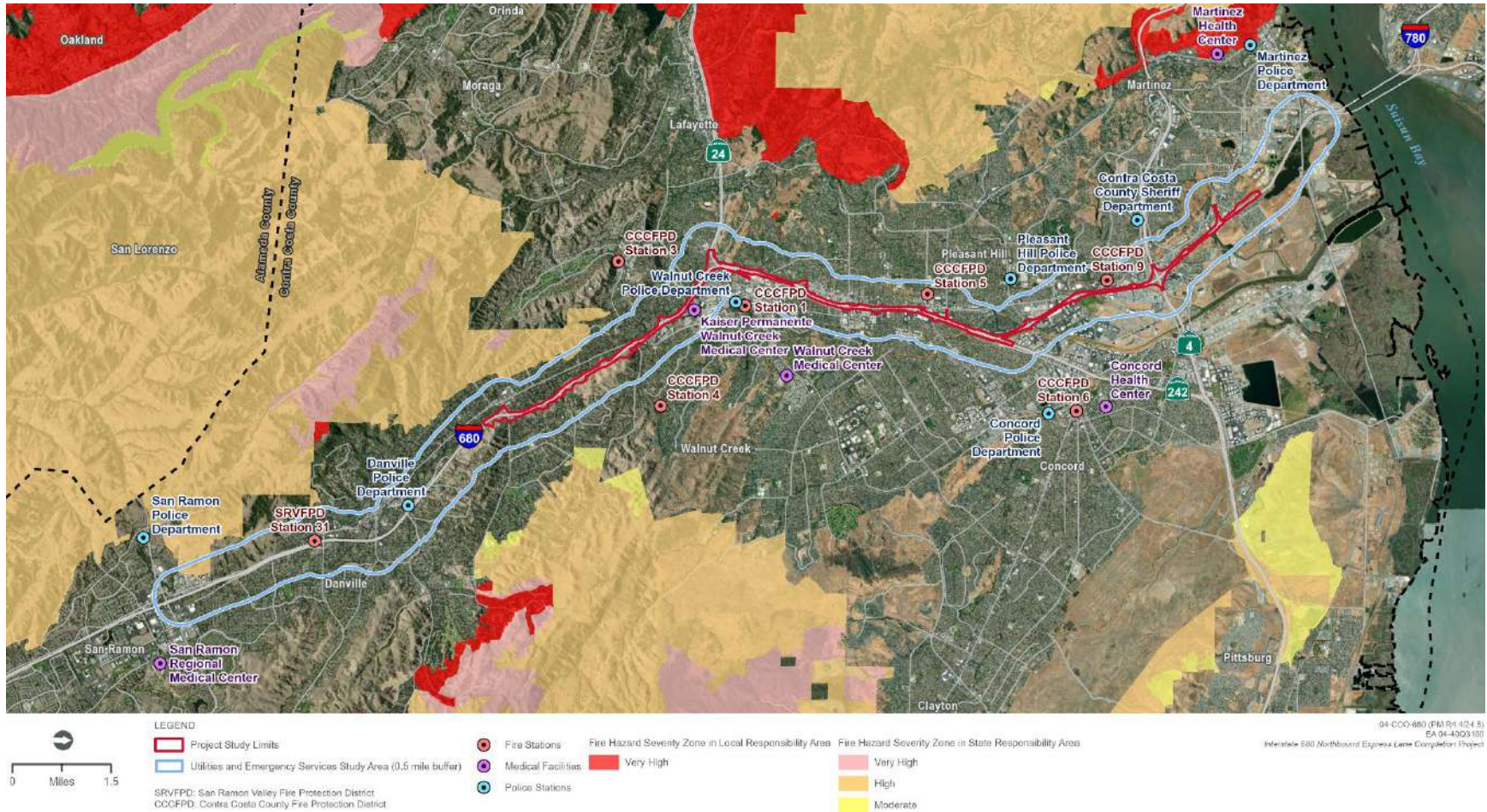
serve the cities and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County within the Project Study Limits.

**Table 2.1.7-3. Fire Protection Emergency Services by Jurisdiction**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Fire Protection Emergency Service Provider</b>
City of San Ramon	San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District
Town of Danville	San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District
Community of Alamo	San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District
City of Walnut Creek	Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
City of Pleasant Hill	Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
City of Concord	Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
City of Martinez	Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

Sources: (City of San Ramon, 2019), (San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, 2023), (Town of Danville, 2013), (City of Walnut Creek, 2019), (City of Pleasant Hill, 2003), (City of Concord, 2007), (City of Martinez, 2022), (Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, 2023)

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District provides fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to the cities of San Ramon and Danville and unincorporated Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo). Station 31, which is located at 800 San Ramon Valley Boulevard in the town of Danville, is within the Community Impact Study Area. The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District provides fire protection and first responder emergency medical services to the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez. Station 5 in the city of Pleasant Hill and Station 9 in the city of Martinez are located within the Community Impact Study Area.



**Figure 2.1.7-1. Fire Hazard Severity Zones and Emergency Services**

## Law Enforcement

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) has primary patrol jurisdiction over all California highways, roads, and streets outside city limits. As such, CHP has jurisdiction over the I-680 corridor for matters involving traffic violations and emergency services. There is a CHP station located at 5001 Blum Road, Martinez, CA, within the Community Impact Study Area.

Table 2.1.7-4 identifies the additional law enforcement emergency services that serve the cities and unincorporated areas within the Community Impact Study Area.

**Table 2.1.7-4. Law Enforcement Emergency Services by Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction	Law Enforcement Emergency Service Provider
I-680 Corridor	California Highway Patrol
City of San Ramon	San Ramon Police Department and Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department
Town of Danville	Danville Police Department
Unincorporated Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo)	Contra Costa County Sheriff
City of Walnut Creek	Walnut Creek Police Department
City of Pleasant Hill	Pleasant Hill Police Department
City of Concord	Concord Police Department
City of Martinez	Martinez Police Department

Sources: (City of San Ramon, 2023), (Town of Danville, 2023b), (Walnut Creek Police Department, 2023), (Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff, 2023), (City of Pleasant Hill, 2003), (City of Concord, 2023), (City of Martinez, 2023)

City of San Ramon: The San Ramon Police Department provides law enforcement services to the City of San Ramon and has 63 sworn police officers, 20 civilian staff members, and 40 volunteers (City of San Ramon, 2023). As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, a police station at 2401 Crow Canyon Road is located approximately 1 mile southwest of the southernmost portion of the Project Study Limits, outside the Community Impact Study Area. The Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff also provides police dispatch services for the City of San Ramon (City of San Ramon, 2019). As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the closest Sheriff Department Station is at 1980 Muir Road, which is approximately 0.9-mile west of the Project Study Limits and outside of the Community Impact Study Area.

Town of Danville: The Danville Police Department (DPD) provides law enforcement services in the town of Danville. DPD has 30 officers, 12 civilian support personnel, eight reserve officers, and 32 volunteers in policing (Town of Danville, 2023b). As



shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the DPD Station at 500 La Gonda Way is within the Community Impact Study Area.

Unincorporated Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo): Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff provides law enforcement services for all unincorporated areas in the County, including the Community of Alamo. Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff has over 1,100 sworn and professional employees and offers a full range of law enforcement services (Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff, 2023).

City of Walnut Creek: The Walnut Creek Police Department provides law enforcement services in the city of Walnut Creek. The Walnut Creek Police Department consists of an investigation bureau, operations division, patrol sectors, police reserve officers, and a K9 Unit (Walnut Creek Police Department, 2023). As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the Walnut Creek Police Department Station at 1666 North Main Street is within the Community Impact Area.

City of Pleasant Hill: The Pleasant Hill Police Department provides law enforcement services in the city of Pleasant Hill. As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the Pleasant Hill Police Department, which is located at 330 Civic Drive, is approximately 0.8 mile west of the Project Study Limits and outside the Community Impact Study Area.

City of Concord: The Concord Police Department provides law enforcement services in the city of Concord. As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the Concord Police Department Station at 1350 Galindo Street is approximately 1.5 miles east of the Project Study Limits and located outside the Community Impact Study Area.

City of Martinez: The Martinez Police Department provides law enforcement services in the city of Martinez. As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the Martinez Police Department Station at 525 Henrietta Street is approximately 2 miles west of the Project Study Limits and outside the Community Impact Study Area.

### *Medical Facilities*

There are no major medical facilities located within the proposed Project Study Limits. As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, one medical facility, the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center (1425 South Main Street), is within the Community Impact Study Area. It is approximately 400 feet from the Project Study Limits in the City of Walnut Creek. The next four closest major medical facilities are located approximately 1–2 miles from the Project Study Limits. These medical facilities are shown in Figure 2.1.7-1 and are listed as follows:

- San Ramon Regional Medical Center (6001 Norris Canyon Road in the City of San Ramon): approximately 1 mile southeast of the proposed Project Study Limits
- Walnut Creek Medical Center (1601 Ygnacio Valley Road in the City of Walnut Creek): approximately 1 mile east of the proposed Project Study Limits



- Concord Health Center (2540 East Street in the City of Concord): approximately 2 miles east of the proposed Project Study Limits
- Martinez Health Center (2500 Alhambra Avenue in the City of Martinez): approximately 2 miles west of the proposed Project Study Limits

### 2.1.7.2 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Community Impact Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on utilities or emergency services would occur. Traffic operations along northbound I-680 would continue to deteriorate as described in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*, which could result in increased delays in emergency response times.

#### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

##### *Temporary Impacts*

All Build Alternatives include ground disturbance activities during construction, such as demolition, excavation, and drilling, which could cause direct damage to existing utility infrastructure, including electrical wiring, sewer lines, and natural gas pipelines, and could lead indirectly to temporary service interruptions. The Build Alternatives would require relocation of some PG&E overhead electrical and underground gas and electrical lines, Sprint fiber optic conduit, and Comcast cable, as shown in Table 2.1.7-5. The relocations may result in short-term, temporary service interruptions. Final verifications of utilities would be performed during the Project’s design phase, and any needed relocations would be coordinated with the affected utility owner. No impacts on water service are anticipated.

**Table 2.1.7-5. Preliminary Utility Relocations**

Owner	Utility	Postmile	Relocation (Linear Feet)
PG&E	12kV Overhead Distribution	R15.3	400
Sprint	Fiber Optic Conduit	R20.4	250
PG&E	4-inch Gas Distribution	R20.4	250
PG&E	12kV 2- to 6-inch and 4-inch conduits – Electric Distribution	R20.4	250
Comcast	Cable TV	R20.4	250

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Notes: kV = kilovolts; PG&E = Pacific Gas & Electric

Following National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval, the Project Utility Coordinator would contact and inform utility owners of any conflict(s) and request conflict resolution plans. With the implementation of Measure **UES-1**, which would require continuous service to be maintained during the replacement or relocation of affected utilities, and Measure **UES-2**, which would ensure that the location of all underground utilities are identified prior to ground disturbing, no temporary substantial direct or indirect adverse impacts on utilities would occur under any of the Build Alternatives.

As shown in Figure 2.1.7-1, the Project Study Limits are near lands within an LRA and classified as high FHSZ. None of the Build Alternatives would directly expose people or buildings to any new fire hazard areas. In addition, during construction, Measure **UES-3** would be implemented, which would minimize the potential risk of fires and protect the public, construction workers, and the environment by creating defensible spaces around active construction sites.

Emergency services and facilities could be impacted indirectly by temporary disruptions on local circulation and connectivity during construction. However, as discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) would be prepared for the Project. The TMP would minimize potential traffic impacts as they relate to staged construction, detours, and other traffic handling concerns associated with construction of the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives.

Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measure, regarding TMP preparation, and the implementation of Measures **UES-1**, **UES 2**, and **UES-3**, no temporary substantial direct or indirect adverse impacts on utilities or emergency service response times would occur under all Build Alternatives.

### *Permanent Impacts*

No further ground disturbance is anticipated after completion of construction activities. Therefore, no permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts on utilities within the Community Impact Study Area would occur under the Build Alternatives. Traffic operations would result in a reduction in afternoon peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680. The proposed Project would directly reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the I-680 corridor, encourage the use of high-occupancy vehicles (HOV) and transit service, optimize the use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands, and offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option. Thus, overall traffic operations would improve, which could indirectly decrease emergency response times compared to the No-Build Alternative. In addition, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would all add a new CHP observation area at the SR-242 Interchange. Therefore, under the Build Alternatives, the proposed Project could result in permanent direct and indirect beneficial impacts on emergency service response times and demands.



### 2.1.7.3 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

- UES-1** During construction, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that utility services for any underground or aboveground utilities that will be disturbed and/or removed during construction of the proposed Project will be maintained to avoid interruptions in service. If interruptions in service are unavoidable, notice will be given, and proper arrangements will be made with the affected residents and businesses.
- UES-2** Prior to grading activities, Underground Service Alert (USA) will be notified at least 2 days prior to excavation, by calling 811.
- UES-3** To minimize risk of fires during construction activities, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the implementation of the following minimization measures:
- a. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain defensible spaces around active construction areas.
  - b. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain firefighting equipment (e.g., extinguishers, shovels, water tankers) in active construction areas.
  - c. Post emergency services phone numbers (i.e., fire, emergency medical, police) in visible locations in all active construction areas.

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## 2.1.8 Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

### 2.1.8.1 Regulatory Setting

The Department, as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), directs that full consideration should be given to the safe accommodation of pedestrians and bicyclists during the development of Federal-aid highway projects (see 23 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 652). It further directs that the special needs of the elderly and the disabled must be considered in all Federal-aid projects that include pedestrian facilities. When current or anticipated pedestrian and/or bicycle traffic presents a potential conflict with motor vehicle traffic, every effort must be made to minimize the detrimental effects on all highway users who share the facility.

In July 1999, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued an Accessibility Policy Statement pledging a fully accessible multimodal transportation system. Accessibility in federally assisted programs is governed by the USDOT regulations (49 CFR 27) implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 United States Code [USC] 794). The FHWA has enacted regulations for the implementation of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including a commitment to build transportation facilities that provide equal access for all persons. These regulations require application of the ADA requirements to Federal-aid projects, including Transportation Enhancement Activities.

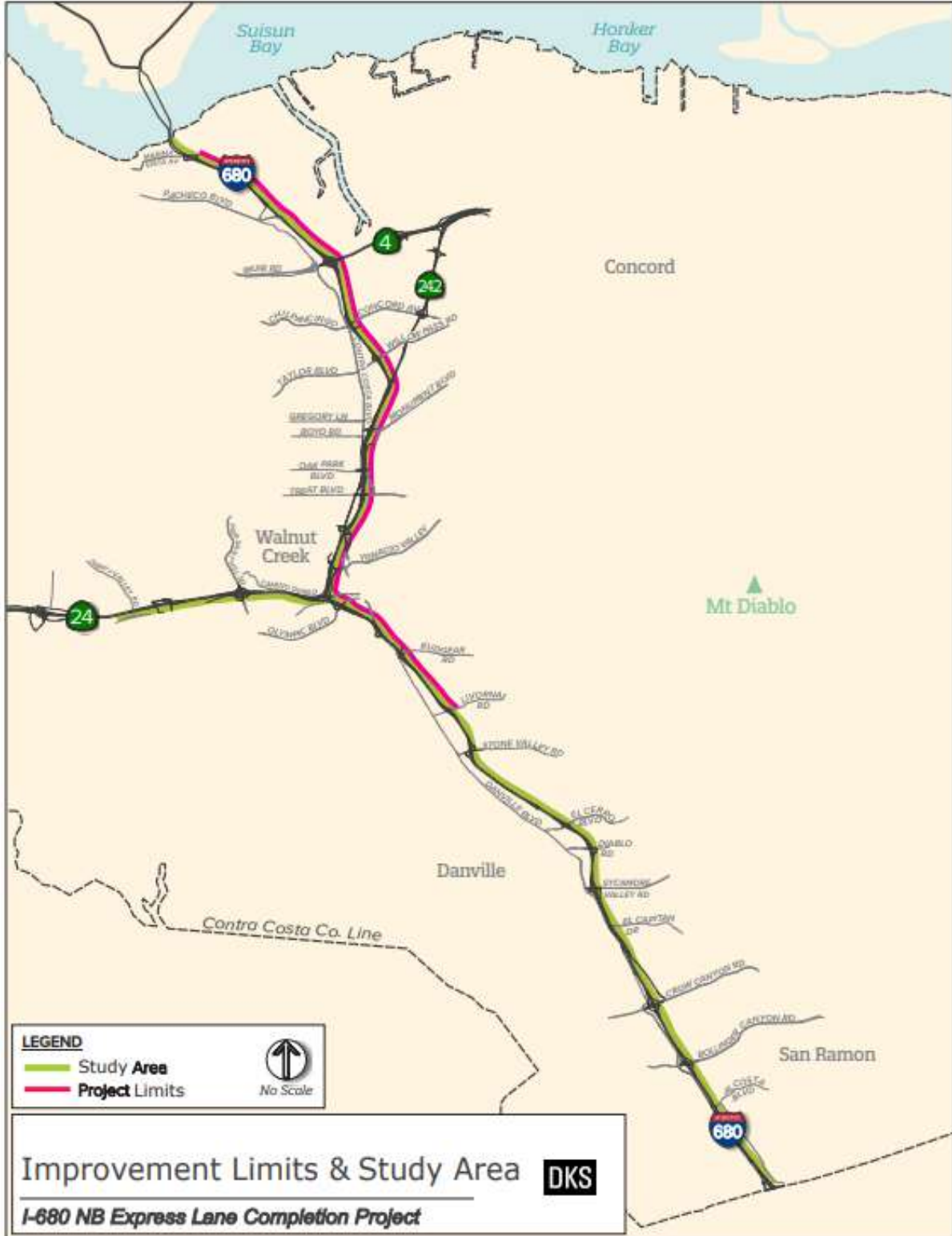
### 2.1.8.2 Affected Environment

This following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Traffic Operations Analysis Report* (DKS Associates 2023a), completed in February 2023; *Intersections Operations Analysis Memorandum* (DKS Associates 2023b), completed in June 2023; and *Community Impact Assessment* (HDR Engineering, Inc. 2023), completed in November 2023.

#### Roadway Network and Traffic Operations Study Area

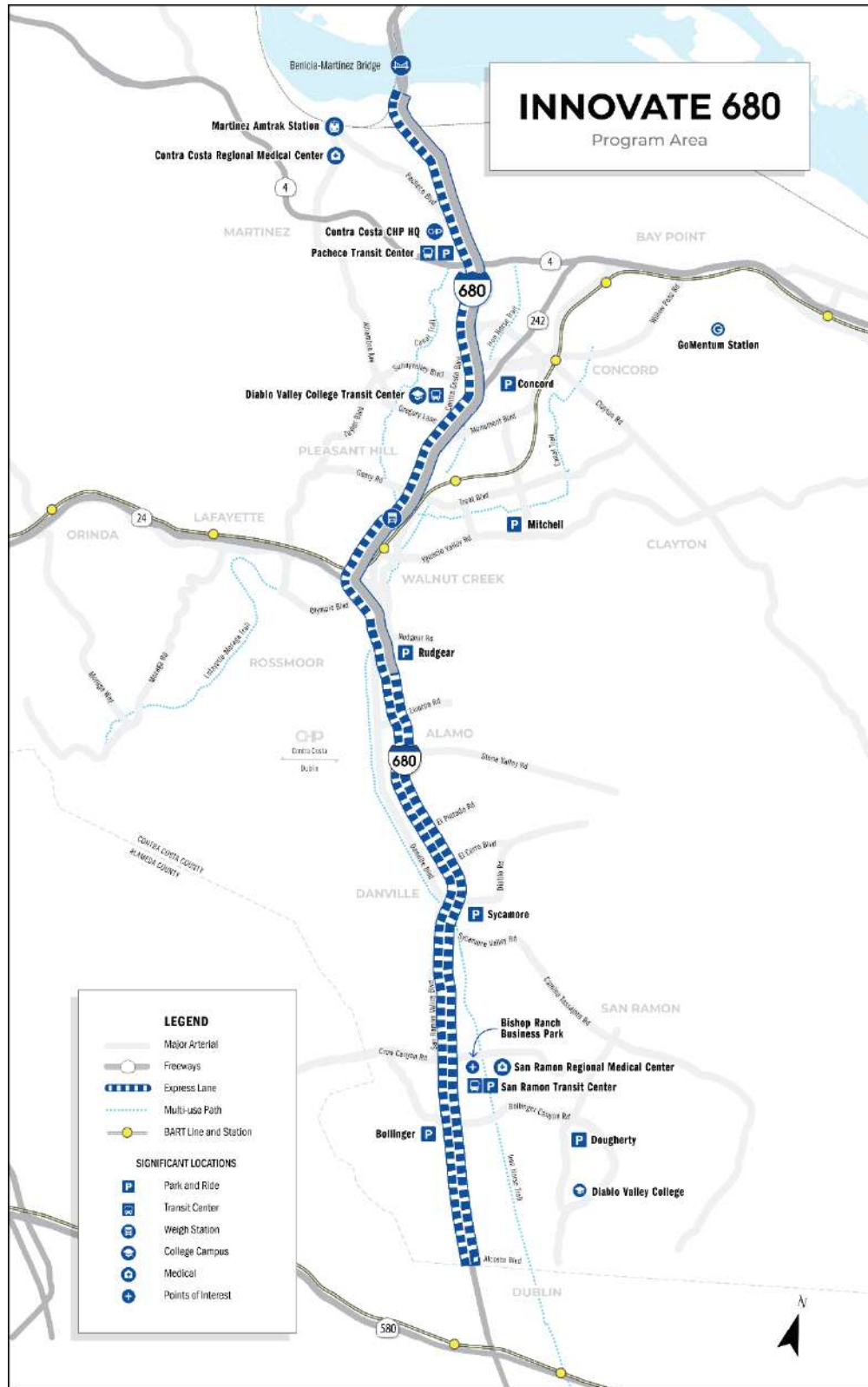
Interstate 680 (I-680) is a major north-south freeway connecting the Southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80), which crosses the Central Valley, including the Sacramento metropolitan area. I-680 passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano Counties.

Figure 2.1.8-1 depicts the Traffic Operations Study Area used for the *Traffic Operations Analysis* (DKS Associates 2023a). The Traffic Operations Study Area extends beyond the Project Study Limits in order to evaluate the Project's transportation and traffic impacts on a broader area. The Traffic Operations Study Area includes northbound I-680 from Alcosta Boulevard to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue and SR-24 from Upper Happy Valley Road to I-680. Figure 2.1.8-2 shows the INNOVATE 680 Program area, which identifies major arterials, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) tracks and stations, transit centers, truck scales, and other points of interest along I-680 within Contra Costa County.



Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

**Figure 2.1.8-1. Traffic Operations Study Area**



Source: (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates 2022)

**Figure 2.1.8-2. Existing Facilities in INNOVATE 680 Program Area**



For the purposes of the *Traffic Operations Analysis Report*, the improvement limits are from Livorna Road to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue. The improvement limits, which are different than the Project Study Limits discussed in Chapter 1, represent the area where a managed lane could be added or converted on northbound I-680 based on conceptual designs.<sup>1</sup> The following summarizes the northbound I-680 mainline and on-ramp lane geometries within the improvement limits:

- Between Livorna Road and SR-242 there are between three and six general-purpose lanes and no managed lanes (i.e., express lanes or high-occupancy vehicle [HOV] lanes).
- SR-242 to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue generally has three general-purpose lanes and one HOV lane.

South of Livorna Road, there are three general-purpose lanes and an existing express lane in the northbound direction between Alcosta Boulevard and Livorna Road.

Northbound I-680 is supplemented with auxiliary lanes between interchanges at the following locations:

- Willow Pass Road to Burnett Avenue
- Treat Boulevard to Monument Boulevard
- Lawrence Way to Treat Boulevard
- Diablo Road to El Cerro Boulevard
- Bollinger Canyon Road to Crow Canyon Road

There are also existing express lanes on southbound I-680 within the Traffic Operations Study Area.

## **Traffic Operations Analysis**

The traffic operations analysis methodology was developed in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The traffic study analyzed the following scenarios for the No-Build and Build scenarios (DKS Associates 2023a):

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<sup>1</sup> As discussed in Section 1.4.7, *Alternatives Considered but Eliminated*, the Project Study Limits were extended south of Livorna Road to accommodate a potential buffer (Design Option A), which was eliminated from consideration during the preparation of the *Traffic Operations Analysis Report*.

- Existing Year (2019) conditions,<sup>2</sup>
- Opening Year (2027), which represents the Project's anticipated Opening Year,
- Design Year (2047), 20 years after the Opening Year.

The analysis analyzed the 2-hour morning (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.) and 6-hour afternoon (2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) peak analysis periods. The morning and afternoon peak analysis periods were selected based on the level and duration of northbound I-680 congestion in the Traffic Operations Study Area. Traffic counts were performed along the I-680 corridor from November 12 to 14, 2019.

### ***Forecasting Methodology***

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) Travel Demand Model (Countywide Model) was used for traffic forecasting. The Countywide Model includes representation of HOV lanes but not express lanes. Therefore, the model was modified to better reflect express lane modeling for the purposes of this Project.

It was assumed that the express lane pricing for any period would be set so that the number of vehicles (HOVs plus toll vehicles) would not exceed 1,650 vehicles per hour per lane. The desired maximum volume for an express lane of 1,650 vehicles per hour was used because this is the maximum volume that would still allow uncongested traffic flow in an express lane. The travel model's HOV percentage estimates were checked with available vehicle occupancy data. Adjustments were further made to the model's vehicle trip tables so that the HOV percentages would be closer to observed vehicle occupancy surveys.

The Countywide Model's traffic validation was based on several criteria, including volume by screenline, volume by road type, root mean square error, and correlation coefficient. The validation focused on peak period traffic volumes and peak hour traffic volumes. The validation tests were based on FHWA example guidelines documented in the *Travel Model Validation and Reasonability Checking Manual*, Second Edition (2010).

The Countywide Model was updated in 2019 to include land use and demographic inputs consistent with the then-currently adopted Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities

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<sup>2</sup> Due to the novel COVID-19 emergency, 2019 traffic data was used to more accurately reflect and compare anticipated future traffic conditions for the Opening Year and Design Year instead of 2020 traffic data. The air quality and noise analyses, which are discussed in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, and Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*, respectively, used 2019 traffic data projected to 2020 as the existing conditions.

Strategy (RTP/SCS), *Plan Bay Area 2040*.<sup>3</sup> The Project's Design Year (2047) is beyond the 2040 Horizon Year for *Plan Bay Area 2040*. As such, the following method was used to develop the detailed Design Year (2047) land use inputs by traffic analysis zone, which resulted in a database of 2047 model inputs for all land use and demographic variables:

1. Extrapolate Countywide Model land use inputs to 2047.
2. Identify 2047 county population control totals using California Department of Finance forecasts, which were determined to be the best available source for projections beyond 2040.
3. Adjust the 2047 extrapolation to be consistent with the 2047 population control totals.

Road and transit network assumptions were based on the CCTA Transportation Expenditure Plan No-Build scenario, which was based on a detailed review of committed and funded projects prepared by CCTA in 2019. This assumed no additional funding from the proposed *Measure J Transportation Expenditure Plan*. As Measure J was not approved in the March 2020 election, the Transportation Expenditure Plan No-Build scenario was determined to provide the best estimate of realistic transportation improvements for future years.

The following planned transportation improvements were included in the Transportation Expenditure Plan No-Build scenario for Opening Year (2027):

- Southbound I-680 HOV lane North Main Street to Livorna Road
- Southbound I-680 Express Lane from Marina Vista to Livorna Road (Convert HOV lane)
- I-680/SR-4 Interchange improvements phases 1–3

The following planned improvement was also added to the travel model:

- Implementation of northbound I-680 express lane from SR-237 in Santa Clara County to SR-84 in Pleasanton, operational as of 2025

The following additional planned transportation improvements were included in the Transportation Expenditure Plan No-Build scenario for Design Year (2047):

- SR-242/Clayton Road on/off-ramps (by 2030)

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<sup>3</sup> Existing conditions were modeled prior to the release of *Plan Bay Area 2050* (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021).

- Ferry service from Antioch, Martinez, and Hercules to San Francisco
- I-680 express bus service and Park-and-Ride lots between Dublin BART station and Martinez (referred to in the travel model as route 680X), which was updated to include a connection to the Martinez Intermodal Station
- BART Transbay Corridor Core Capacity Program, which is assumed to decrease peak period headways from 15 minutes to 10 minutes (off-peak headways are assumed to remain at 15 minutes)
- BART extension to Santa Clara

The following additional planned improvement was added to the travel model:

- Implementation of northbound and southbound I-680 express lanes between SR-84 in Pleasanton and Alcosta Boulevard, operational as of 2030

The Countywide Model did not include ramp metering on the I-680 corridor. Consistent with Caltrans' plans to implement ramp metering on I-680, ramp metering was coded on northbound and southbound on-ramps in the corridor for all future No-Build and Build scenarios, including the Opening Year (2027) conditions. Assumptions regarding the number of lanes were based on information provided by Caltrans and the *I-680 Ramp Metering Project Initiation Document*.

For the purposes of travel demand modeling, select ramps were assumed to operate with all metered, general-purpose lanes rather than one or more general-purpose lane and one or more HOV lane. This assumption was necessary to prevent the travel demand model from imposing unrealistic constraints on on-ramp access and possibly prevent demand from entering the freeway. Adjustments were based on comparisons of maximum metered ramp capacities with both 2019 traffic counts and 2020 model-assigned ramp volumes.

An incremental adjustment based on traffic counts, followed by additional volume adjustments to ensure that there would be no illogical decreases in traffic volumes, were used to forecast the No-Build scenarios for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047). Once the No-Build forecasts were established, the traffic forecasts for each Build Alternative were calculated based on their differences from the No-Build Alternative.

### ***Operational Analysis Methodology***

The operational analysis for the Project was conducted using the VISSIM simulation modeling platform. The VISSIM models were developed for both the morning (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.) and afternoon (2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) peak analysis periods with a 1-hour network loading period. The number of lanes, vehicle restrictions, and the location of lane additions and drops were confirmed by field observations.

The base model developed for existing conditions was calibrated and validated by comparing model-produced results/outputs to independent data/targets to determine the acceptability of model performance. The VISSIM model was validated to existing conditions using the criteria suggested in *Traffic Analysis Toolbox Volume III: Guidelines for Applying Traffic Microsimulation Modeling Software*. The existing conditions traffic analysis model was validated to observed traffic counts, travel times, bottleneck locations, and queues. The calibrated and validated existing conditions models were modified to reflect the assumed corridor network changes and match the forecasted traffic demands for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047). The future year VISSIM models were used to evaluate the benefits and impacts of each Project alternative.

The *Traffic Operations Analysis Report* analyzed the following system-wide performance measures, called measures of effectiveness, to provide an understanding of overall traffic operations and help compare the No-Build and Build scenarios:

- Congestion and Queue Characteristics: Assessment of freeway and ramp congestion patterns, including the location of bottlenecks and the duration and severity of queues.
- Freeway Segment Speed: Both in the managed lane and general-purpose lanes. Reported for all freeway segments within the Traffic Operations Study Area (15-minute interval).
- Freeway Segment Travel Times: Both in the managed lane and general-purpose lanes. Reported for all freeway segments within the Traffic Operations Study Area (1-hour interval).
- Travel Time Savings (Managed Lane): Travel time savings for managed lane users versus general-purpose lane users.
- Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD): Total VHD, relative to travel at free-flow speed (65 miles per hour [mph]). Includes the entire VISSIM model network (freeway and ramps). Reported for both the Traffic Operations Study Area and the improvement limits.
- Maximum Individual Delay: Maximum vehicle delay representing the peak level of congestion during the study period for general-purpose and managed lanes.
- Vehicle Throughput: Total number of vehicles passing through (demand served) preselected points on the freeway and ramps; reported for the study period.
- Person Throughput: Total number of persons (all modes) passing through preselected points on the freeway and ramps; reported for the study period.
- Freeway Segment Level of Service (LOS): Based on traffic density (vehicles per mile per lane) along managed and general-purpose lanes. LOS represents the



perspective of drivers and is an indication of the comfort and convenience associated with driving.

There was an observed bottleneck that developed outside the Project Study Limits, north of El Pintado Road. This bottleneck is referred to as the El Pintado Road bottleneck. The measures of effectiveness ultimately included operational impacts from the El Pintado Road bottleneck, which reduces some benefits of Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Since the El Pintado Road bottleneck would occur in all Build Alternatives, delay metrics north of Livorna Road were also evaluated.

**Level of Service Methodology**

Freeway operating conditions within the Traffic Operations Study Area were evaluated using procedures and methodologies consistent with the *Highway Capacity Manual*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (Transportation Research Board 2016). There are four analysis types for a freeway: basic, weaving, merge (on-ramp), and diverge (off-ramp). The LOS analysis for basic freeway segments requires that the segment has uniform traffic and roadway characteristics (e.g., the same number of lanes, grade change of less than 2 percent, same speed limit). The density for a basic freeway segment is calculated across all lanes for the entire segment.

A freeway segment is considered a weave when an on-ramp is followed by an off-ramp less than 3,000 feet apart. The density for a weave segment is also calculated across all lanes. On-ramp and off-ramp density is only calculated for the shoulder and adjacent freeway lanes. The influence area of an on-ramp is 1,500 feet downstream of the gore point (i.e., the triangular area between the mainline and a ramp) and 1,500 feet upstream for an off-ramp.

Table 2.1.8-1 provides the thresholds for LOS from the *Highway Capacity Manual*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (Transportation Research Board 2016). LOS varies from LOS A (indicating free-flow traffic conditions with little or no delay) to LOS F (representing over-saturated conditions when traffic flows exceed capacity and a bottleneck develops resulting in stop-and-go conditions upstream/approaching the bottleneck). LOS E represents “at-capacity” operation. VISSIM models were used to determine density and then calculate LOS. Existing and forecasted LOS are provided in Appendix K, *Level of Service and Delay*.

**Table 2.1.8-1. Intersection Level of Service Thresholds**

Level of Service	Maximum Density (Passenger Cars Per Mile Per Lane)		
	Basic Freeway/ Highway Sections	Freeway Weaving Segments	Ramp Junctions
A	≤ 11	≤ 10	≤ 10
B	> 11–18	> 10–20	> 10–20





Level of Service	Maximum Density (Passenger Cars Per Mile Per Lane)		
	Basic Freeway/ Highway Sections	Freeway Weaving Segments	Ramp Junctions
C	> 18–26	> 20–28	> 20–28
D	> 26–35	> 28–35	> 28–35
E	> 35–45	> 35–43	> 35
F	Demand Exceeds Capacity	Demand Exceeds Capacity	Demand Exceeds Capacity

Source: (Transportation Research Board 2016)

### Vehicle Miles Traveled Methodology

Caltrans *Transportation Analysis Under CEQA (TAC)* and *Transportation Analysis Framework (TAF)*, both published in September 2020, provide vehicle miles traveled (VMT) analysis guidance (California Department of Transportation 2020a, 2020b). The guidance indicates that projects that would add capacity to the highway system must consider the effects of induced travel that could result from the travel time savings provided by the capacity increases. This section describes the adjustments to the travel demand model process that account for the induced demand.

The analysis applied a model benchmarking approach to provide VMT analysis for the Project. The benchmarking methodology included the following steps:

- Apply the National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST) Induced Travel Calculator (NCST Calculator) for a hypothetical general purpose lane addition in the same location as the Project and identify induced VMT.
- Add the same hypothetical general-purpose lane to the Countywide Model and identify the trips that would benefit from the lane addition.
- Apply factors within the travel model to increase the trips that would benefit from the lane addition at an order of magnitude equal to the VMT increase estimated by the NCST Calculator.
- Make the factors proportional to travel time savings (between the No-Build scenario and the express lane addition scenario) so that the trip and VMT increases can be scaled to alternatives that provide different amounts of travel time savings.
- Apply the travel model, with the induced VMT factor formulas, to the Project alternatives.

As described further in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Evaluation (Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*), VMT is the primary means for determining



transportation impacts under CEQA. Daily VMT are reported for the five-county Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties. For the purposes of determining CEQA impacts, VMT impacts were forecasted for the five county Metropolitan Statistical Area. For purposes of the traffic operation analysis in this section, VMT impacts on the corridor within the improvement limits were evaluated using the VISSIM Model. The corridor VMT impacts described in Section 2.1.8.3, *Environmental Consequences*, are a subset of the impacts on the larger regional Metropolitan Statistical Area described in the CEQA Evaluation.

### Managed Lane Volumes and Percentage

Two segments of northbound I-680 within the Traffic Operations Study Area already have managed lanes: An express lane from south of Alcosta Boulevard to south of Livorna Road and an HOV lane with a two-plus minimum occupancy requirement from north of the SR-242 Interchange to south of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue. Five mainline count locations were placed along these stretches of the corridor, and the volume by lane-type data was captured. This set of count data was then used to calculate the managed lane volume percentage, which illustrates the relative proportion of vehicles using the managed lanes over the vehicles using all mainline lanes, including the managed lane and general-purpose lanes. Table 2.1.8-2 presents a summary of the lane volumes for managed lanes.

**Table 2.1.8-2. Existing Managed Lanes Volumes and Percentages**

Count Location	Lane Config.	Morning Peak Period		Afternoon Peak Period					
		7-8 AM	8-9 AM	2-3 PM	3-4 PM	4-5 PM	5-6 PM	6-7 PM	7-8 PM
Between Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue and Arthur Road	1HOV; 3GP	789 (23%)	726 (22%)	1,305 (33%)	1,230 (27%)	1,595 (32%)	1,655 (33%)	1,293 (32%)	1,016 (33%)
Between SR-4 and Concord Avenue	1HOV; 3GP	158 (4%)	188 (5%)	736 (14%)	549 (10%)	842 (15%)	1,005 (18%)	602 (12%)	646 (15%)
North of El Pintado Road	1EL; 3GP	1,246 (18%)	1,440 (23%)	945 (17%)	1,315 (21%)	1,486 (26%)	1,366 (25%)	1,131 (22%)	462 (12%)
North of Crow Canyon Road	1EL; 4GP	844 (14%)	786 (14%)	733 (15%)	811 (14%)	892 (15%)	911 (15%)	553 (11%)	379 (9%)
North of Alcosta Boulevard	1EL; 4GP	833 (13%)	1,032 (16%)	1,173 (27%)	784 (15%)	1,128 (22%)	713 (12%)	455 (8%)	347 (8%)



Count Location	Lane Config.	Morning Peak Period		Afternoon Peak Period					
		7–8 AM	8–9 AM	2–3 PM	3–4 PM	4–5 PM	5–6 PM	6–7 PM	7–8 PM

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: Config. = configuration; EL = express lane; GP = general-purpose lane; HOV = high-occupancy vehicle; PM = postmile; SR = State Route

### Vehicle Occupancy Counts

During the data collection effort, 6 hours of vehicle occupancy counts were collected (3 hours during morning peak period and 3 hours during the afternoon peak period). This was done at a total of five locations along the study corridor. Vehicle occupancies are summarized in Table 2.1.8-3. The occupancies are split into two categories: single-occupancy vehicles (SOV) and two-plus occupancy vehicles (HOV2+).

**Table 2.1.8-3. Vehicle Occupancy Counts**

Location & Lane Type		Morning (7–10 AM) <sup>1</sup>			Afternoon (3–6 PM) <sup>2</sup>		
		Flow	SOV	HOV2+	Flow	SOV	HOV2+
South of Marina Vista Avenue	GP	9,895	65.3%	34.7%	14,476	63.3%	36.7%
South of SR-4	GP	11,529	63.0%	37.0%	14,735	64.4%	35.6%
	HOV <sup>1</sup>	593	44.2%	55.8%	2,383	46.4%	53.6%
Treat Boulevard	GP	19,217	74.6%	25.4%	23,503	76.4%	23.6%
Between Crow Canyon Road and Sycamore Valley Road	GP	16,315	92.1%	7.9%	17,827	92.2%	7.8%
	EL	1,897	69.8%	30.2%	2,228	59.8%	40.2%
Between Alcosta Boulevard and Crow Canyon Road	GP	18,286	91.2%	8.8%	16,402	89.2%	10.8%
	EL	1,979	73.9%	26.1%	2,302	72.2%	27.8%

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: EL = express lane; GP = general-purpose lane; HOV2+ = high-occupancy vehicle, two-plus; SOV = single-occupancy vehicle; SR = State Route

<sup>1</sup> Morning Peak Period: 29.2 percent of SOV had Clean Air Vehicle stickers and 15 percent of vehicles were violators.

<sup>2</sup> Afternoon Peak Period: 28.5 percent had Clean Air Vehicle stickers and 17.8 percent of vehicles were violators.

## Vehicle Classification

Vehicle classification was recorded at each of the mainline count locations along the corridor. The vehicles were separated into “Passenger Car” and “Heavy Vehicle” categories based on FHWA’s vehicle classification (i.e., vehicles in classes 1 through 3 were considered Passenger Cars; vehicles in classes 4 through 13 were considered Heavy Vehicles). Table 2.1.8-4 summarizes the vehicle classifications observed during the morning and afternoon peak periods.

**Table 2.1.8-4. Vehicle Classification**

Count Location	Morning Peak Period		Afternoon Peak Period	
	Passenger Car	Heavy Vehicle	Passenger Car	Heavy Vehicle
North of Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza	95%	5%	98%	2%
Between Arthur Road and Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	95%	5%	98%	2%
Between SR-4 and Concord Avenue	97%	3%	98%	2%
Between Willow Pass Road and SR-242	97%	3%	98%	2%
Between North Main Street and Monument Boulevard	97%	3%	98%	2%
Between Ygnacio Valley Road and Treat Boulevard	97%	3%	98%	2%
Between SR-24 and Ygnacio Valley Road	97%	3%	98%	2%
Between Rudgear Road and Olympic Boulevard	95%	5%	97%	3%
Between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road	95%	5%	97%	3%
Between El Pintado Road and Stone Valley Road	95%	5%	98%	2%
Between Crow Canyon Road and Sycamore Valley Road	94%	6%	98%	2%
Between Alcosta Boulevard and Bollinger Canyon Road	94%	6%	98%	2%
Between Amador Valley Boulevard and Alcosta Boulevard	94%	6%	98%	2%

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: SR = State Route



### Corridor Segment Travel Times

The floating car travel time survey (tachograph runs) method was used to collect freeway travel time data on managed lanes along the I-680 corridor. Travel time surveys were conducted in November 2019 from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Given the varying lane configurations along the corridor (i.e., the presence of a managed lane), the entire northbound I-680 was segregated into three segments, split at the breaking point of the managed lane, as follows:

- Southern Segment: Between Alcosta Boulevard and Livorna Road. This segment encompasses both general-purpose and express lanes.
- Middle Segment: Between Livorna Road and north of the SR-242 Interchange. This segment is composed of general-purpose lanes.
- Northern Segment: Between north of the SR-242 Interchange and Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue. This segment is composed of both general-purpose and HOV lanes.

Table 2.1.8-5 summarizes the average travel times on general-purpose lanes and managed lanes for northbound I-680 during both morning and afternoon survey periods, as well as the total corridor travel time when traveling on general-purpose and managed lanes.

**Table 2.1.8-5. Northbound I-680 Average Travel Times**

Segment	Lane Type	Segment length (mile)	Morning				Afternoon			
			6-7 AM	7-8 AM	8-9 AM	9-10 AM	3-4 PM	4-5 PM	5-6 PM	6-7 PM
Northern Segment	GP	11.5	05:08	05:10	05:16	05:20	05:12	05:37	07:35	05:44
	HOV		04:22	04:19	04:16	04:14	04:40	04:54	04:42	04:51
Middle Segment	GP	7.1	06:11	06:25	06:50	06:45	13:26	18:45	23:21	20:41
Southern Segment	GP	6.1	10:56	12:27	18:40	15:41	13:42	19:29	22:40	19:26
	EL		10:46	10:58	11:07	11:46	11:58	12:31	12:01	11:24
Total Corridor	GP	24.7	22:15	24:02	30:46	27:46	32:20	43:51	53:36	45:51
	ML		21:19	21:42	22:13	22:45	30:04	36:10	40:04	36:56



Segment	Lane Type	Segment length (mile)	Morning				Afternoon			
			6-7 AM	7-8 AM	8-9 AM	9-10 AM	3-4 PM	4-5 PM	5-6 PM	6-7 PM

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: EL = express lane; GP = general-purpose lane; HOV = high-occupancy vehicle lane; ML = managed lane

### Congestion Patterns and Bottlenecks

Recurrent traffic bottlenecks are sections along a freeway corridor where traffic demand exceeds the freeway’s capacity and, as a result, cause traffic queuing (i.e., congestion) and delays to motorists approaching the bottleneck sections.

The existing condition congestion patterns and bottleneck discussion are based on corridor information collected in 2019. The existing bottleneck locations were identified and verified using several sources. Caltrans PeMS and INRIX Roadway traffic speed data were used to identify bottleneck locations and the extent and duration of traffic queues approaching them. Field reviews and travel time runs were also conducted to further identify and confirm the bottleneck locations and associated queuing. No morning recurring peak period bottlenecks were observed. Four recurring bottlenecks were observed during the afternoon peak period, which are described in

Table 2.1.8-6.

**Table 2.1.8-6. Recurrent Bottlenecks Along the Northbound I-680 Corridor for Exiting Conditions (2019)**

Bottleneck Location	Possible Cause	Duration
<b>Afternoon Peak Period</b>		
El Pintado Road on-ramp to Stone Valley Road off-ramp	Due to high mainline demand and on-ramp volumes	This location develops as a controlling bottleneck at approximately 3:30 p.m. and is sustained until approximately 4:15 p.m. before becoming hidden in queues from downstream bottlenecks. This freeway section also develops as a controlling bottleneck later in the peak period, between approximately 6:30 and 6:45 p.m., when queues from the downstream bottlenecks recede to north of the Stone Valley Road Interchange. The queues during the time this section is a controlling bottleneck extending south approximately 4.5 miles to the Crow Canyon Road Interchange.





Bottleneck Location	Possible Cause	Duration
Lawrence Way on-ramp to Treat Boulevard off-ramp	Due to high mainline and ramp demand and reduced mainline capacity associated with the heavy weaving volumes between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp.	Traffic demand exceeds this bottleneck's capacity by 2:00 p.m., and upstream queues begin to develop. This bottleneck becomes hidden by 4:30 p.m. when queues from the downstream bottleneck north of the Oak Road on-ramp reach this segment. As queues recede to north of Treat Boulevard around 6:45 p.m, this freeway section again becomes a controlling bottleneck until approximately 7:30 p.m. Maximum queues during the period when this is a controlling bottleneck extend approximately 3.5 miles south to the Rudgear Road off-ramp.
Oak Road on-ramp to Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp	Due to a combination of high mainline volume and reduced mainline capacity due to the heavy weaving volumes between the Oak Road on-ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp.	This section develops briefly as a controlling bottleneck around 3:45 p.m. Maximum queues from this bottleneck extend to the upstream bottleneck between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp (approximately 1.5 miles) around 4:00 p.m. before receding.
SR-242 off-ramp	Congestion on northbound SR-242 extends onto northbound I-680 and reduces the capacity of this segment of northbound I-680 approaching the SR-242 off-ramp.	This bottleneck develops intermittently between 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. when queues from SR-242 extend onto northbound I-680 and reduce the freeway capacity. During this period, queues typically extend into the Oak Road on-ramp to Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp bottleneck, resulting in it becoming hidden for brief periods.

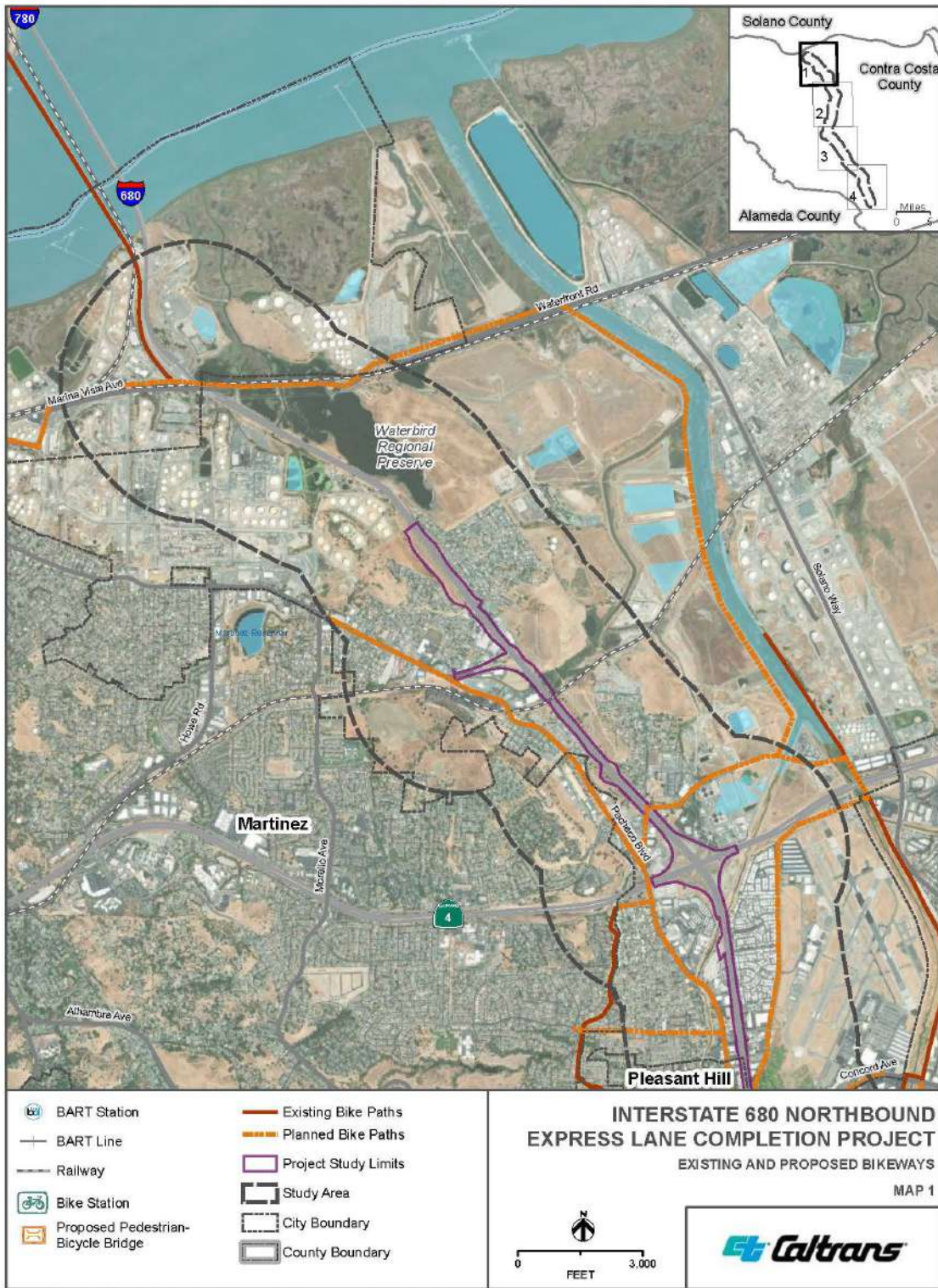
Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: I-680 = Interstate 680; SR = State Route

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

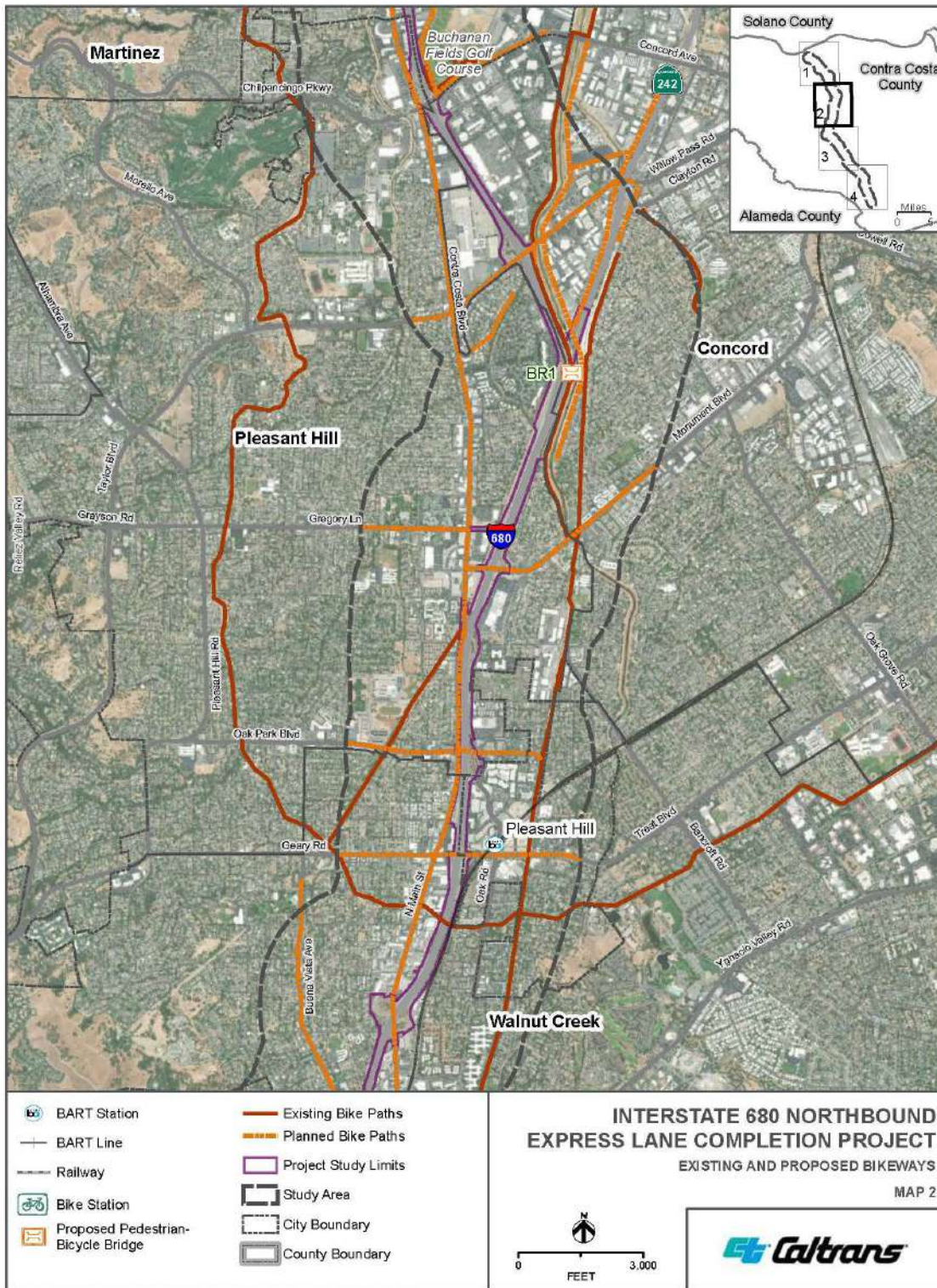
There are no designated bicycle or pedestrian facilities on northbound I-680 in the Project Study Limits. The pedestrian circulation system's primary components are sidewalks and crosswalks. Most of the developed properties adjacent to I-680 are improved with sidewalks.

Numerous bicycle facilities intersect or are adjacent to I-680. Figure 2.1.8-3 identifies the locations of existing and planned bikeways in the Community Impact Study Area, The Community Impact Study Area is described further in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*. As described further in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, the Iron Horse Regional Trail crosses under I-680 at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing and again at Laurel Drive. The Iron Horse Regional Trail is also parallel to northbound I-680 and crosses under SR-242 at the I-680/SR-242 Interchange. In addition, the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail crosses under I-680 at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing.



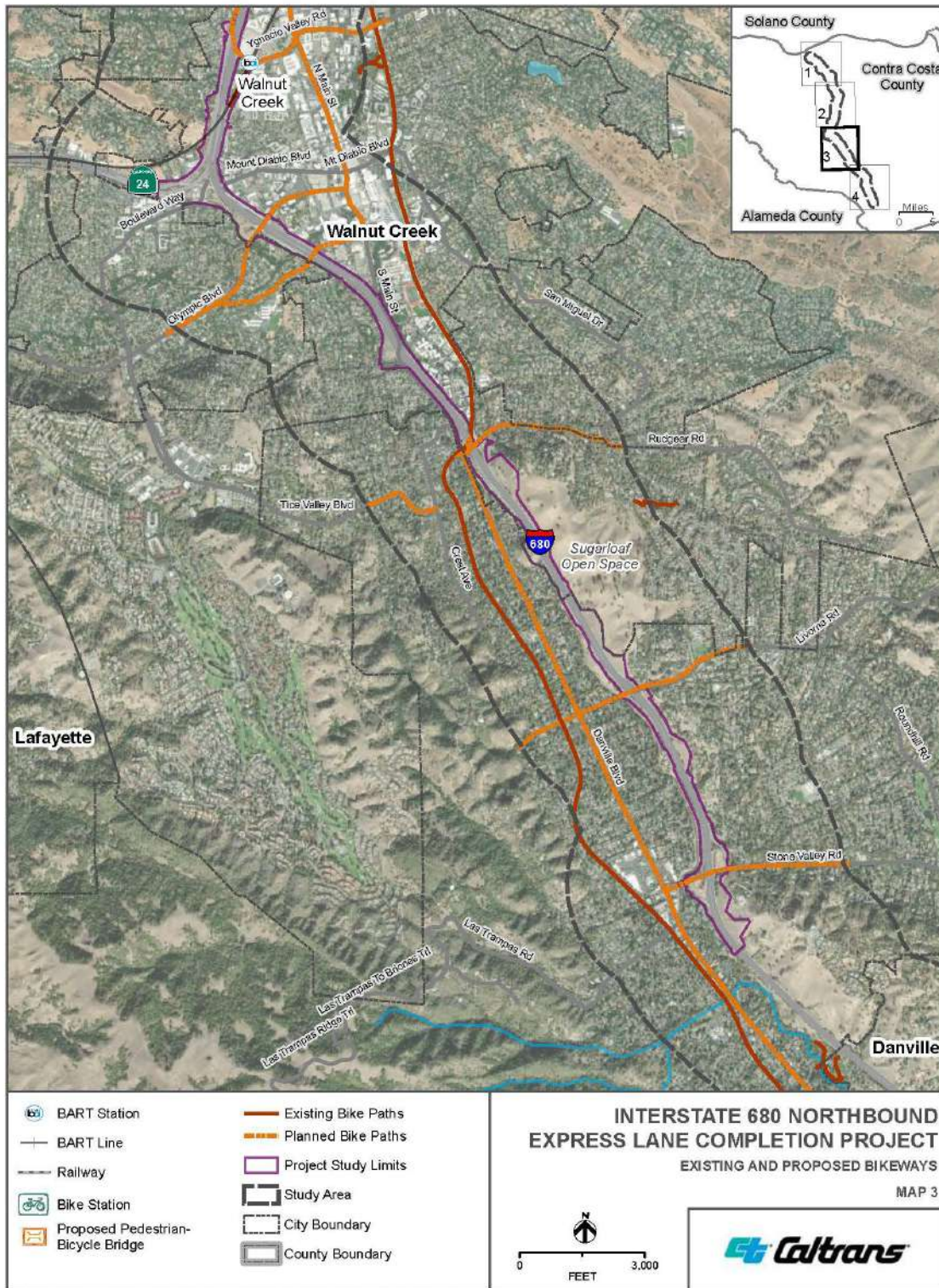
**Figure 2.1.8-3. Existing and Planned Bikeways within Community Impact Study Area (Map 1 of 4)**





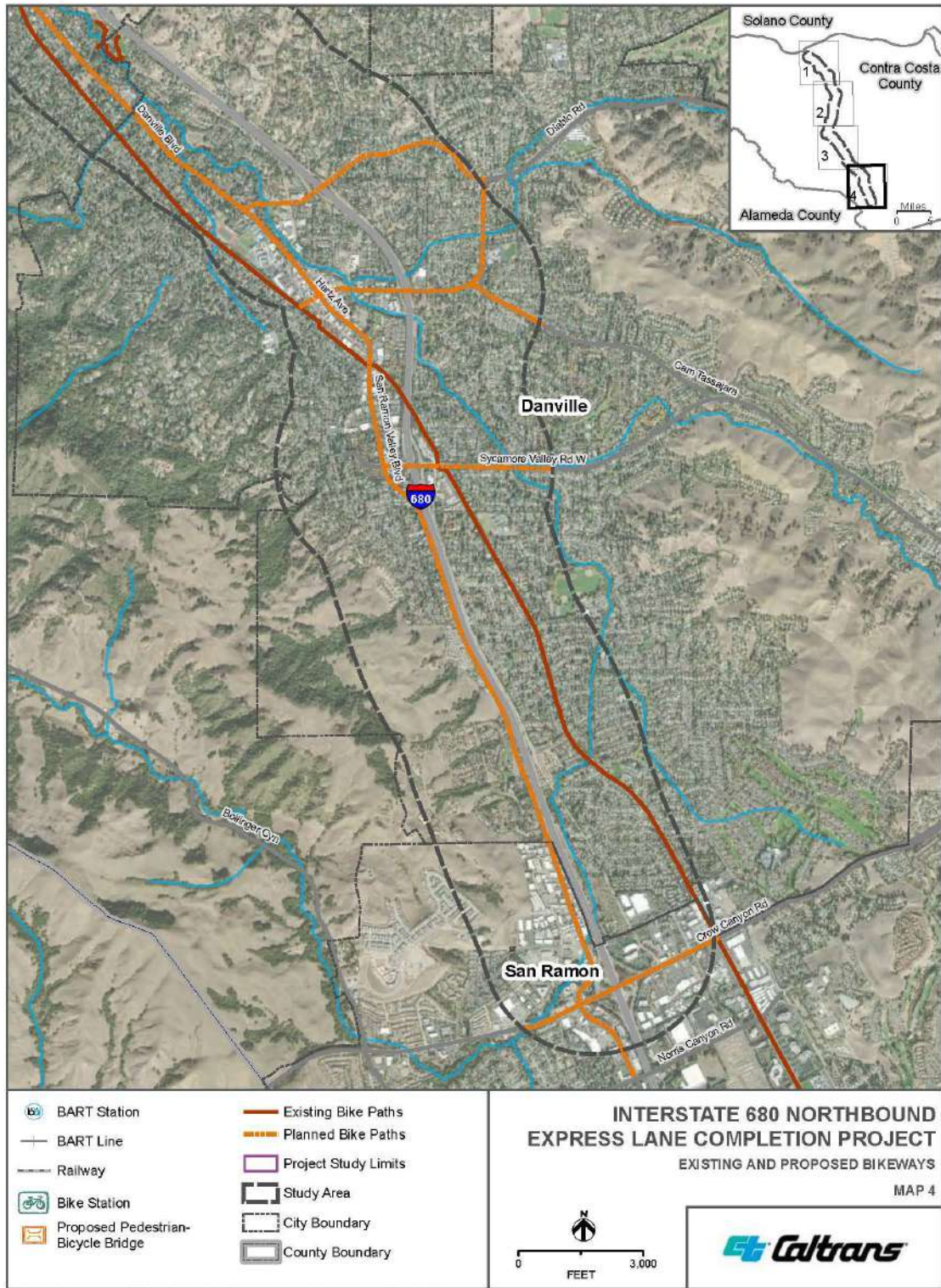
**Figure 2.1.8-3. Existing and Planned Bikeways within Community Impact Study Area (Map 2 of 4)**





**Figure 2.1.8-3. Existing and Planned Bikeways within Community Impact Study Area (Map 3 of 4)**





**Figure 2.1.8-3. Existing and Planned Bikeways within Community Impact Study Area (Map 4 of 4)**

## Parking

Much of the Community Impact Study Area is characterized by highway-adjacent urban residential neighborhoods and commercial and light industrial properties. There are multiple parking options consisting of on-street and off-street parking in residential areas and usually plentiful off-street surface parking at commercial lots.

Park-and-ride lots are used to encourage carpooling along I-680. According to MTC, the following five existing park-and-ride lots are located within the Community Impact Study Area (see Figure 2.1.8-4) with the number of parking spaces provided in parentheses (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2023):

- Martinez, Pacheco Boulevard and Blum Road (57)
- Concord, Willow Pass Road and Market Street (44)
- Pleasant Hill, Treat Boulevard and Oak Road (2,907)
- Walnut Creek, Rudgear Road and I-680 (63)
- Town of Danville, Danville Sycamore Valley Park and Ride (230)

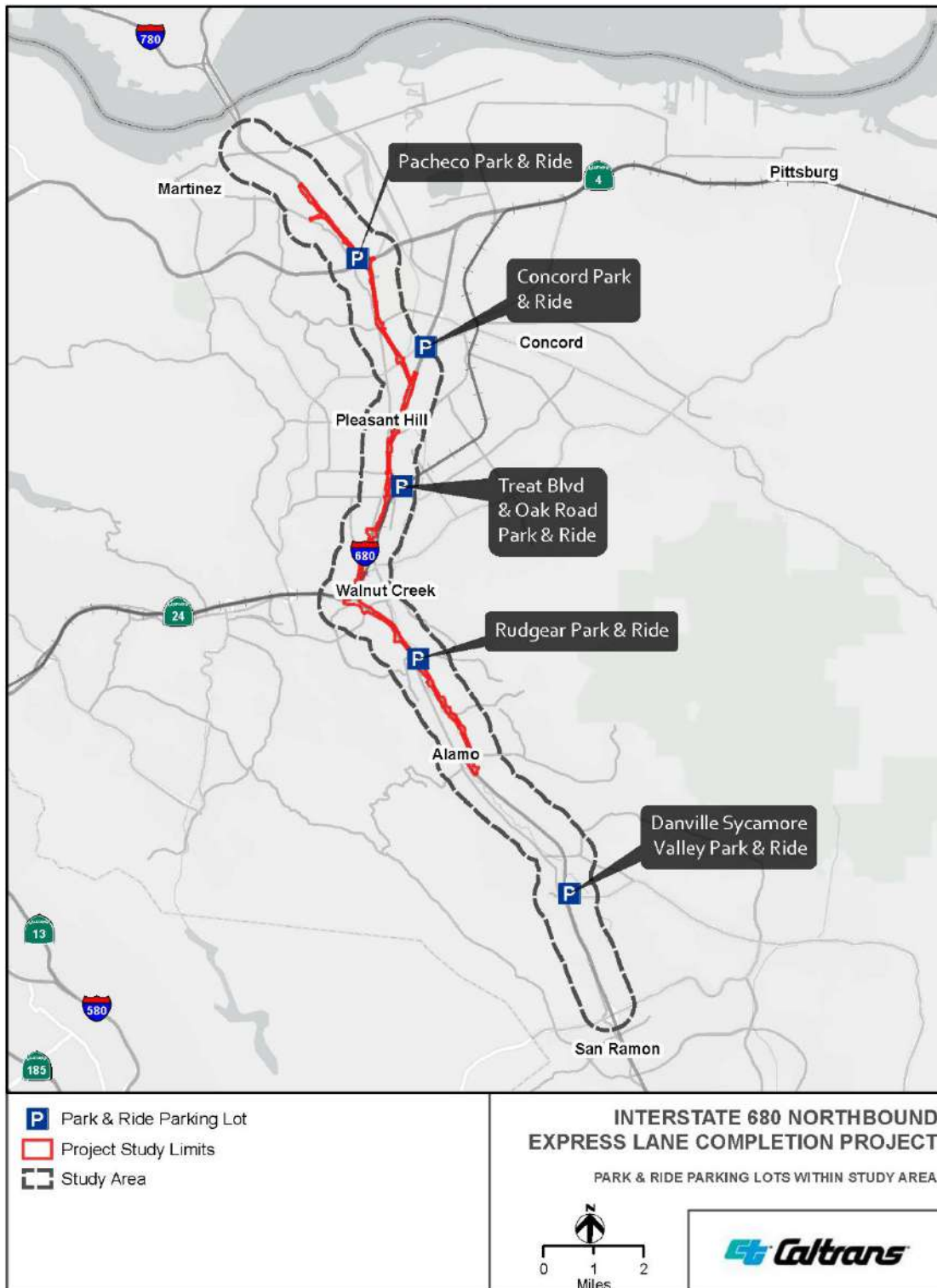
## Transit

Public transit routes and privately operated shuttles use portions of the I-680 corridor within the improvement limits. This includes the following five existing transit routes and one planned transit route (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates 2022):

- County Connection 92X – ACE Express
- County Connection 95X – San Ramon/BART Walnut Creek
- County Connection 96X – BART Walnut Creek/Bishop Ranch
- County Connection 98X – Martinez/BART Walnut Creek
- SolTrans Yellow Line – Vallejo/ BART Walnut Creek
- (Planned) County Connection 680X – Dublin/Martinez Amtrak

The North Concord/Martinez, Concord, Pleasant Hill/Contra Costa Center, and Walnut Creek stations are the closest BART stations to the Traffic Operations Study Area (Figure 2.1.8-2). BART runs parallel along northbound I-680 from south of the Treat Boulevard off-ramp to the SR-24 Interchange, where it crosses over northbound and southbound I-680. The Walnut Creek BART Station is adjacent to the Project Study Limits near the SR-24 Interchange.





**Figure 2.1.8-4. Park-and-Ride Parking Lots within Community Impact Study Area**

The Martinez Amtrak Station is an intermodal station located in the city of Martinez, west of the I-680/Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue crossing (Figure 2.1.8-2). Amtrak San Joaquin provides connection from Oakland to Bakersfield through the Amtrak Station. Capitol Corridors, which connect San Jose Diridon to Auburn Conheim, also operates through the Martinez Amtrak Station. The train station serves several bus services, including Amtrak Thruway, County Connection, and Capitol Corridors. Western Contra Costa Transit Authority's bus service, WestCAT 30Z, operates Monday through Friday connecting the Martinez Amtrak Station to the Hercules Transit Center. Meanwhile, Coast Starlight and California Zephyr also operate out of the Martinez Amtrak Station.

### **2.1.8.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### ***No-Build Alternative***

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Transportation Operations Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts to traffic and transportation would occur. As described below, the gap in the northbound managed lane would remain and, as traffic demand increases, traffic operations along northbound I-680 would further deteriorate, resulting in increased congestion, vehicle delay, and vehicle emissions due to slower operating speeds on I-680 by Design Year (2047).

Table 2.1.8-7 summarizes the forecasted increase in traffic volume (i.e., traffic growth) from Existing Year (2019) conditions to the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047) conditions for the No-Build Alternative. Traffic growth is expected to increase the congestion and delay associated with the existing corridor bottlenecks, with the highest levels of traffic demand and congestion in the northbound direction occurring during the evening peak period. Appendix K, *Level of Service and Delay*, presents the LOS and density by segment for the No-Build Alternative during morning and afternoon peak periods. The bottleneck sections and subsequent queuing are described further in Table 2.1.8-8 and Table 2.1.8-9 for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. Bottleneck sections operate at LOS E, with segments with subsequent queuing operating at LOS F (i.e., demand exceeds capacity). LOS along the corridor within the improvement limits are forecasted to deteriorate over time in both the morning and afternoon peak periods compared to existing conditions. VMT is also forecasted to increase along the corridor over time.



**Table 2.1.8-7. No-Build Alternative Traffic Forecasts for Northbound I-680**

Northbound I-680 Segment	EXISTING YEAR (2019)	OPENING YEAR (2027)		DESIGN YEAR (2047)	
	Traffic Count	Volume	Growth from 2019	Volume	Growth from 2019
<b>Morning Peak Period</b>					
Alameda County Line	21,400	24,200	13%	28,700	34%
North of Alcosta Boulevard	22,000	24,700	12%	29,000	32%
North of Crow Canyon	19,800	23,200	17%	25,300	28%
North of El Pintado Road	22,700	25,700	13%	28,400	25%
North of Livorna Road	24,600	27,500	12%	30,100	22%
South of off-ramp to SR-24	23,300	25,900	11%	27,600	18%
South of on-ramp from SR-24	14,900	17,300	16%	19,200	29%
South of on-ramp from Lawrence Way	24,100	27,200	13%	30,600	27%
South of Monument Boulevard	25,400	28,200	11%	31,300	23%
South of Willow Pass Road	15,600	18,400	18%	20,500	31%
South of SR-4	14,900	17,400	17%	19,800	33%
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	12,500	15,500	24%	17,700	42%
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	11,300	14,400	27%	16,700	48%
<b>Afternoon Peak Period</b>					
Alameda County Line	24,300	24,800	2%	29,700	22%
North of Alcosta Boulevard	22,000	22,500	2%	26,700	21%
North of Crow Canyon Road	23,300	24,900	7%	27,000	16%
North of El Pintado Road	22,700	24,400	7%	26,800	18%
North of Livorna Road	23,200	24,300	5%	26,000	12%



Northbound I-680 Segment	EXISTING YEAR (2019)	OPENING YEAR (2027)		DESIGN YEAR (2047)	
	Traffic Count	Volume	Growth from 2019	Volume	Growth from 2019
South of off-ramp to SR-24	17,200	18,100	5%	18,800	9%
South of on-ramp from SR-24	14,900	15,500	4%	17,000	14%
South of on-ramp from Lawrence Way	28,100	28,600	2%	29,200	4%
South of Monument Boulevard	35,800	36,900	3%	39,600	11%
South of Willow Pass Road	19,100	20,500	7%	23,100	21%
South of SR-4	22,200	24,200	9%	28,400	28%
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	18,700	20,600	10%	23,700	27%
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	19,500	21,800	12%	26,500	36%

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: SR = State Route

**Table 2.1.8-8. No-Build Alternative Key Bottlenecks Along Northbound I-680 for the Opening Year (2027)**

Bottleneck Location	Description
<b>Morning Peak Period</b>	
El Pintado Road on-ramp	This bottleneck forms at 7:30 a.m. and extends beyond the study period ending at 9:00 a.m. Queues from this bottleneck extend south as far as the Crow Canyon Road Interchange (approximately 4.6 miles) by 8:00 a.m. and are sustained through the end of the study period. This bottleneck is outside the improvement limits and is expected to develop and constrain traffic volumes reaching downstream freeway segments under all Build Alternatives. Therefore, the El Pintado bottleneck impacts system-wide performance measures substantially for all alternatives.
<b>Afternoon Peak Period</b>	



Bottleneck Location	Description
El Pintado Road on-ramp	This bottleneck forms at approximately 2:45 p.m. and is sustained until approximately 6:30 p.m. Queues from this bottleneck extend south as far as the Crow Canyon Road interchange (approximately 4.6 miles) between 4:15 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. before beginning to recede. This bottleneck is outside the improvement limits and is expected to occur and constrain traffic volumes reaching downstream freeway segments under all Build Alternatives. Therefore, this bottleneck has a substantial impact on all system-wide performance measures.
Lawrence Way on-ramp to Treat Boulevard off-ramp	This bottleneck develops due to high mainline and ramp volumes and a reduced mainline capacity associated with the weaving movements between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp. Vehicles entering from SR-24 and exiting at the Treat Boulevard off-ramp further exacerbate the issue by having to weave across multiple lanes. The bottleneck develops and controls operations beginning at approximately 2:45 p.m., when traffic demand has exceeded the capacity of the bottleneck section, and queues begin developing upstream of it. By 4:15 p.m., queues from the downstream bottleneck at Oak Road extend through this section, and it becomes hidden until approximately 6:30 p.m. As queues recede from the Oak Road bottleneck, this again becomes a controlling bottleneck by 6:45 p.m. before approaching queues dissipate around 7:45 p.m.
Oak Road on-ramp to Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp	The bottleneck forms due to a combination of high mainline volume and reduced mainline capacity due to weaving movement between the Oak Road on-ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp. The lane imbalance in this section, with vehicles merging into the right lane positioning to exit at SR-242, contributes to the bottleneck. The bottleneck develops around 2:45 p.m. and continues until around 7:15 p.m. Maximum queues spill back approximately 4.7 miles through upstream bottlenecks to the Rudgear Road off-ramp between 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
SR-242 off-ramp	Congestion on northbound SR-242 spills back onto northbound I-680 and reduces the capacity on the segment of northbound I-680 approaching the SR-242 off-ramp. The reduced capacity in this area results in a bottleneck developing around 4:00 p.m. with relatively short maximum queues extending about 1.3 miles to the area of the Monument Boulevard and Contra Costa Boulevard Interchanges. Congestion persists in this area until traffic demands have reduced enough for the queues to run-off around 6:30 p.m., with associated congestion extending through the other upstream bottlenecks briefly (15 minutes) at the height of the afternoon peak period. Approaching the SR-242 off-ramp, the congestion is contained mainly in the four outside lanes on northbound I-680, with the two inside lanes operating at near free-flow speeds.
SR-24	The queues from the Lawrence Way on-ramp/Treat Boulevard off-ramp and Oak Road bottlenecks extend onto eastbound SR-24 during a substantial portion of the peak period and result in congested conditions on the Interchange starting at 3:30 p.m. The queue extends past the model limits (Upper Happy Valley Road) by approximately 6:00 p.m. and dissipates around 7:30 PM.

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: SR = State Route



**Table 2.1.8-9. No-Build Alternative Key Bottlenecks Along Northbound I-680 for the Design Year (2047)**

Bottleneck Location	Description
<b>Morning Peak Period</b>	
Alcosta Boulevard on-ramp to Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp	Traffic growth between Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047) is expected to result in a new bottleneck developing north of the Alcosta Boulevard on-ramp at around 7:30 a.m. and extending through the analysis period. Queues from this bottleneck extend beyond the Traffic Operations Study Area by 8:00 a.m. This bottleneck is outside the improvement limits and is expected to constrain traffic volumes reaching downstream freeway segments under all Build Alternatives and, therefore, has a substantial impact on all system-wide performance measures.
El Pintado Road on-ramp	This bottleneck forms shortly after the start of the analysis period (7:00 a.m.) at around 7:15 a.m. and continues to develop beyond the end of the study period (9:00 a.m.). Queues from this bottleneck extend as far south as the Bollinger Canyon Interchange (approximately 6 miles) by 9:00 a.m. Similar to the Alcosta Boulevard bottleneck, this bottleneck is outside the improvement limits and is expected constrain traffic volumes reaching downstream freeway segments under all the Build Alternatives and, therefore, has a substantial impact on all system-wide performance measures.
Livorna Road on-ramp to the End of Northbound Express Lane	This minor bottleneck develops for a short duration between 8:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. due to high traffic demand, imbalanced lane utilization, and weaving maneuvers at the end of the express lane near the Livorna Road on-ramp. The short queues approaching this bottleneck are limited to the Livorna Road Interchange area.
<b>Afternoon Peak Period</b>	
El Pintado Road on-ramp	This bottleneck forms shortly after the start of the analysis period (2:00 p.m.) at around 2:15 p.m. and is sustained until approximately 7:00 p.m. Queues from this bottleneck extend beyond the Traffic Operations Study Area, south of the Alcosta Interchange (approximately 9 miles), between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. before beginning to recede. This bottleneck is outside the improvement limits and is expected constrain traffic volumes reaching downstream freeway segments under all the Build Alternatives and, therefore, has a substantial impact on all system-wide performance measures.





Bottleneck Location	Description
Lawrence Way on-ramp to Treat Boulevard off-ramp	<p>Similar to Opening Year (2027) conditions, this bottleneck develops due to high mainline and ramp volumes and a reduced mainline capacity associated with weaving movements between the Lawrence Way on-ramp and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp. Vehicles entering from SR-24 and exiting at the Treat Boulevard off-ramp further exacerbate the issue by having to weave across multiple lanes. The bottleneck develops and controls operations beginning around 2:30 p.m., when traffic demand has exceeded the capacity of the bottleneck section, and queues begin developing upstream. By approximately 4:15 p.m., queues from the downstream bottleneck north of Oak Road extend through this section, and it becomes hidden until about 6:45 p.m. when queues recede north toward the Oak Road bottleneck. This again becomes a controlling bottleneck by approximately 6:45 p.m. and is sustained beyond the analysis period (8:00 p.m.). When this bottleneck is controlling, the maximum queues associated with it extend as far south as the Stone Valley on-ramp between 3:30 p.m. and 3:45 p.m., a distance of approximately 5.5 miles.</p>
Oak Road on-ramp to Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp	<p>The bottleneck is formed due to a combination of high mainline volume and reduced mainline capacity due to weaving movements between Oak Road on-ramp and Contra Costa off-ramp. The lane imbalance in this section, with vehicles merging into the right lane positioning to exit at SR-242, contributes to the bottleneck. This freeway section develops as a controlling bottleneck around 2:30 p.m. and continues until around 7:15 p.m. Maximum queues approaching the bottleneck extend approximately 5.8 miles through the Lawrence Way on-ramp to Treat Boulevard off-ramp bottleneck to the Livorna Road on-ramp between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and again between 6:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.</p>
SR-242 off-ramp	<p>Congestion on northbound SR-242 spills back onto northbound I-680 and reduces the capacity of northbound I-680 approaching the SR-242 off-ramp. The reduced capacity in this area results in a bottleneck developing around 4:00 p.m. with relatively short maximum queues extending approximately 1.3 miles to the Monument Boulevard and Contra Costa Boulevard Interchanges. Congestion persists in this area until traffic demands have reduced enough for the queues to run-off around 6:30 p.m., with associated congestion extending through the other upstream bottlenecks intermittently for a 15- to 30-minute duration at the height of the afternoon peak period. Approaching the SR-242 off-ramp, the congestion is contained mainly in the four outside lanes on I-680, with the two inside lanes operating at near free-flow speeds.</p>



Bottleneck Location	Description
SR-24	The queues from the Lawrence Way on-ramp/Treat Boulevard off-ramp and Oak Road bottlenecks extend onto eastbound SR-24 during a substantial portion of the peak period and result in congested conditions on SR-24 starting at 3:30 PM. The queue extends past the model limits (Upper Happy Valley Road) by 6 PM and dissipates around 7:00 PM. Another bottleneck develops on SR-24, between the First Street on-ramp and Pleasant Hill Road off-ramp, at 2:45 PM and lasts until 3:30 PM, prior to queues from the Lawrence Way on-ramp/Treat Boulevard off-ramp extending through it. The bottleneck results from high on- and off-ramp volumes and reduced mainline capacity due to weaving movements between First Street on-ramp and SR-24 traffic exiting to Pleasant Hill Road and southbound I-680. As the queues from the upstream bottleneck spill back into this segment, the bottleneck is hidden until 7:00 PM. The bottleneck is controlling again by 7:15 PM and lasts beyond the analysis period. The queue from this bottleneck extends beyond the Traffic Operations Study Area.

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: SR = State Route

### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

#### *Temporary (Construction) Impacts*

Construction would involve converting or adding an express lane adjacent to the median on I-680 from Livorna Road to the Arthur Road on-Ramp. The additional lane would require reconstruction and paving along the median adjacent to the existing freeway lanes, as well as some widening of pavement on the inside or outside of the existing freeway to create the necessary pavement width to accommodate the proposed express lanes. Construction would also involve installation of signs, tolling equipment, utility connections, and other equipment and facilities along the freeway. These installations would require short-term, temporary, periodic lane and shoulder closures on I-680 within the Project Study Limits. When possible, work would be performed at night to avoid peak travel periods to minimize traffic disruption.

Temporary (overnight) lane and ramp closures on I-680 and local roads would be required for all Build Alternatives. Alternatives 1C and 3 would require full overnight closures of northbound I-680 for approximately 4 days, and Alternative 2 would require full overnight closures of northbound I-680 for approximately 2 days. Alternative 5 would not require full closures of northbound I-680. These overnight closures are anticipated to include closing northbound I-680 from the South Main Street off-ramp to westbound SR-24 and from Monument Boulevard to the Galindo Street on-ramp, as well as closing the eastbound SR-24 Interchange to southbound I-680.

Alternatives 1C and 3 are anticipated to require closing the southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp for approximately 11 months. Meanwhile, Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would close the northbound North Main Street off-ramp for approximately 1 month. As described in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, and Appendix A, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would temporarily close a segment of the Iron Horse Regional

Trail and Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would temporarily close a segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail during construction. As discussed in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, trail access would be maintained throughout construction.

Therefore, temporary impacts on circulation and access would result from construction activities, including mainline lane closures and ramp connector closures. To reduce disruptions and limit impacts on the community, Measure **TRAN-1** would be implemented, requiring that no two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction would be closed concurrently during construction. As described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) would be prepared during final design to further define freeway, lane, trail, and ramp closures. The TMP would develop detours and use public outreach to inform local agencies and the public of the times and locations when construction and closures would occur. Bicycling advocacy groups would be included in planning any necessary bike or pedestrian detours. Access to residences and businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Project would be maintained during construction. Traffic disruption during construction is therefore not anticipated to have substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on traffic and transportation.

### *Traffic Demand*

Alternative 2 would reduce the gap in managed lanes but would not provide a continuous managed lane on northbound I-680. Overall, traffic demand for Alternative 2 are forecasted to increase compared to the No-Build Alternative due to the increase in freeway capacity. Despite the proposed gap in managed lanes at the SR-24 Interchange, there is anticipated to be a slight increase in volume around the SR-24 Interchange. In addition, the vehicle throughput for Alternative 2 would be less than that of the No-Build Alternative due to the proposed braided ramps.

### Alternative 3

Alternative 3 combines the proposed improvements for Alternatives 1C and 2. As with Alternative 1C, Alternative 3 would close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 by adding a through lane along northbound I-680. Traffic demand for Alternative 3 are forecasted to increase compared to the No-Build Alternative due to the increase in freeway capacity. Although Alternative 3 would include braided ramps, the higher capacity from the added express lane south of SR-24 would result in higher vehicle throughput.

### Alternative 5

Alternative 5 would reduce the gap in managed lanes with lane conversions between Livorna Road and Arthur Road but would not provide a continuous managed lane along northbound I-680 or add a new through lane on I-680. Like Alternative 2, Alternative 5 would include a gap in managed lanes at the SR-24 Interchange. Based on a review of the forecasts for Alternative 5, it was noted that the CCTA Travel Demand Model does not recognize existing operational bottlenecks accurately enough to generate demand

forecasts for alternatives where the existing lane is converted to a managed lane with lower capacity. Therefore, a more conservative approach of using No-Build Alternative demand inputs for the conversion alternatives was adopted for Alternative 5. As depicted in Table 2.1.8-10 and Table 2.1.8-11, Alternative 5 traffic demand would be largely similar to or slightly higher than the No-Build Alternative. However, unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, there are multiple locations where traffic demand would be less than that of the No-Build Alternative.

Table 2.1.8-10 and Table 2.1.8-11 compare the forecasted traffic demand for Build Alternatives and the No-Build Build Alternative for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. As described below, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would increase traffic demand largely due to the increase in mainline capacity. Alternative 5 traffic demand would be similar to that of the No-Build Alternative. Larger demand at the Alameda and Solano County lines are attributed to the overall increase in capacity along the corridor compared to the No-Build Alternative.

### Alternative 1C

Alternative 1C would provide a continuous managed lane on northbound I-680 from the Alameda County line to north of Arthur Road. Traffic demand under Alternative 1C are forecasted to be higher than the No-Build Alternative along the corridor, with the largest percent increases between Livorna Road and Willow Pass Road, through the SR-24 Interchange, in the afternoon peak period. The higher traffic demand are attributed largely to the added express lane in the northbound direction. There would also be a slight increase in traffic demand due to the conversion of the HOV lane south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane.

### Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would reduce the gap in managed lanes but would not provide a continuous managed lane on northbound I-680. Overall, traffic demand for Alternative 2 are forecasted to increase compared to the No-Build Alternative due to the increase in freeway capacity. Despite the proposed gap in managed lanes at the SR-24 Interchange, there is anticipated to be a slight increase in volume around the SR-24 Interchange. In addition, the vehicle throughput for Alternative 2 would be less than that of the No-Build Alternative due to the proposed braided ramps.

### Alternative 3

Alternative 3 combines the proposed improvements for Alternatives 1C and 2. As with Alternative 1C, Alternative 3 would close the gap in managed lanes on northbound I-680 by adding a through lane along northbound I-680. Traffic demand for Alternative 3 are forecasted to increase compared to the No-Build Alternative due to the increase in freeway capacity. Although Alternative 3 would include braided ramps, the higher capacity from the added express lane south of SR-24 would result in higher vehicle throughput.



## Alternative 5

Alternative 5 would reduce the gap in managed lanes with lane conversions between Livorna Road and Arthur Road but would not provide a continuous managed lane along northbound I-680 or add a new through lane on I-680. Like Alternative 2, Alternative 5 would include a gap in managed lanes at the SR-24 Interchange. Based on a review of the forecasts for Alternative 5, it was noted that the CCTA Travel Demand Model does not recognize existing operational bottlenecks accurately enough to generate demand forecasts for alternatives where the existing lane is converted to a managed lane with lower capacity. Therefore, a more conservative approach of using No-Build Alternative demand inputs for the conversion alternatives was adopted for Alternative 5. As depicted in Table 2.1.8-10 and Table 2.1.8-11, Alternative 5 traffic demand would be largely similar to or slightly higher than the No-Build Alternative. However, unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, there are multiple locations where traffic demand would be less than that of the No-Build Alternative.

**Table 2.1.8-10. Forecasted Traffic Volumes Opening Year (2027)**

Northbound I-680 Segments	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
<b>Morning Peak Hours</b>					
Alameda County Line	24,200	24,500	24,400	24,500	24,400
North of Alcosta Boulevard	24,700	25,000	24,900	25,000	24,800
North of Crow Canyon Road	23,200	23,600	23,500	23,600	23,400
North of El Pintado Road	25,700	26,600	26,600	26,600	26,300
North of Livorna Road	27,500	29,300	29,400	30,500	28,200
South of off-ramp to SR-24	25,900	27,300	26,500	27,200	26,100
South of on-ramp from SR-24	17,300	19,100	17,700	18,300	17,700
South of off-ramp to Penniman Way/North Main Street	28,500	30,600	29,000	29,600	28,800
South of Monument Boulevard	28,200	29,900	29,200	30,200	28,500
South of Willow Pass Road	18,400	19,800	19,200	19,900	18,600
South of SR-4	17,400	18,100	18,300	18,300	17,800
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	15,500	15,900	15,900	15,900	15,600
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	14,400	14,700	14,700	14,800	14,600

Northbound I-680 Segments	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
<b>Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
Alameda County Line	24,800	25,200	25,100	25,200	24,900
North of Alcosta Boulevard	22,500	22,900	22,900	23,000	22,600
North of Crow Canyon Road	24,900	25,200	25,100	25,200	25,000
North of El Pintado Road	24,400	25,300	25,100	25,300	24,600
North of Livorna Road	24,300	26,200	25,900	26,100	24,200
South of off-ramp to SR-24	18,100	20,400	18,700	20,400	18,100
South of on-ramp from SR-24	15,500	18,300	16,700	18,800	15,800
South of off-ramp to Penniman Way/North Main Street	29,700	33,100	31,400	33,700	29,700
South of Monument Boulevard	37,000	40,800	40,500	40,700	36,100
South of Willow Pass Road	20,600	24,100	23,800	23,900	20,100
South of SR-4	24,300	26,300	26,100	26,100	24,500
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	20,700	21,400	21,300	21,400	20,300
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	21,800	22,400	22,300	22,300	21,800

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

**Table 2.1.8-11. Forecasted Traffic Volumes Design Year (2047)**

Northbound I-680 Segments	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
<b>Morning Peak Hours</b>					
Alameda County Line	28,700	29,300	29,200	29,300	28,900
North of Alcosta Boulevard	29,000	29,500	29,500	29,600	29,300
North of Crow Canyon Road	25,300	25,800	25,800	25,800	25,600
North of El Pintado Road	28,400	29,100	29,100	29,100	28,600
North of Livorna Road	30,100	32,000	31,900	32,100	30,200





Northbound I-680 Segments	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
South of off-ramp to SR-24	27,600	29,000	28,500	29,000	27,800
South of on-ramp from SR-24	19,200	20,800	19,200	20,800	18,900
South of off-ramp to Penniman Way/North Main Street	32,000	34,300	32,400	34,200	31,800
South of Monument Boulevard	31,300	33,000	33,400	33,400	31,700
South of Willow Pass Road	20,500	22,200	22,300	22,300	20,800
South of SR-4	19,800	21,200	21,200	21,300	20,500
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	17,700	18,500	18,500	18,500	17,800
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	16,700	17,300	17,300	17,400	16,900
<b>Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
Alameda County Line	29,700	30,000	29,900	30,000	29,700
North of Alcosta Boulevard	26,700	26,800	26,800	26,800	26,700
North of Crow Canyon Road	27,000	27,600	27,500	27,500	27,100
North of El Pintado	26,800	27,700	27,600	27,700	27,100
North of Livorna Road	26,000	28,800	28,600	28,900	25,700
South of off-ramp to SR-24	18,800	22,600	20,400	22,600	18,500
South of on-ramp from SR-24	17,000	20,600	19,500	20,800	16,900
South of off-ramp to Penniman Way/North Main Street	31,200	35,500	34,200	35,800	30,900
South of Monument Boulevard	39,600	43,500	43,300	43,600	38,000
South of Willow Pass Road	23,100	26,400	26,500	26,500	22,000
South of SR-4	28,400	29,300	29,300	29,300	28,100
South of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	23,700	24,000	23,900	24,000	23,200
North of Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue	26,500	26,900	26,800	26,900	26,200

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Note: SR = State Route

### *Corridor-Level Travel Time*

Table 2.1.8-12 provides the average and maximum corridor-level travel time for general-purpose and managed lane users during the morning and afternoon peak hours for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047). Travel time savings is defined as the difference in travel time between the proposed managed lane and general-purpose lanes. Free flow travel time for the corridor was defined as 12 minutes based on 65 mph.

As described below, all Build Alternatives would improve travel time substantially during the afternoon peak period compared to the No-Build Alternative. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would have similar corridor travel times as the No-Build Alternative for the morning peak period. Meanwhile, Alternative 5 would increase travel time for the morning peak period compared to the No-Build Alternative.

#### Alternative 1C

Under Alternative 1C, average and maximum travel time are forecasted to improve substantially along the corridor compared to the No-Build Alternative for the afternoon peak hours by the Design Year (2047). Alternative 1C would approach free flow travel time in the morning peak hours for all users and in the afternoon peak hours for managed lane users. Managed lane users would experience some travel time savings in the morning peak hours and larger travel time savings during the afternoon peak hours. Alternative 1C would also be expected to provide travel time benefits for transit services. However, not all transit services would be able to take full advantage of the proposed express lane. For example, transit services with connections to the Walnut Creek BART Station would need to exit the express lane in advance of the SR-24 Interchange.

#### Alternative 2

Unlike Alternatives 1C and 3, Alternative 2 would reduce but not eliminate the gap in managed lanes. Alternative 2 would result in corridor-level travel time savings similar to Alternative 1C. Average and maximum travel time would improve along the corridor compared to the No-Build Alternative for the Design Year (2047) afternoon peak hours. However, unlike Alternatives 1C and 3, Alternative 2 would not include an express lane through the SR-24 Interchange. Managed lane users would experience some travel time savings in both the morning and afternoon peak hours.

#### Alternative 3

Under Alternative 3, average and maximum travel time would improve substantially along the corridor compared to the No-Build Alternative for the Design Year (2047) afternoon peak hours. Travel time would improve slightly compared to the No-Build Alternative in the morning peak hours. As with Alternative 1C, not all transit services would be able to take full advantage of the proposed express lane, particularly those transit services with connections to the Walnut Creek BART Station.

## Alternative 5

Alternative 5 would add overall travel time on the corridor compared to the No-Build Alternative for general-purpose and managed lane users in the morning peak hours. Although Alternative 5 would improve travel time in the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build Alternative, Alternative 5 would not perform as well as Alternatives 1C, 2, or 3 for either managed lanes or general-purpose lanes.

**Table 2.1.8-12. Travel Time for Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047)**

Total Corridor	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
	Minutes				
<b>Opening Year (2027) Morning Peak Hours</b>					
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Average)	13.0	12.8	12.8	12.9	14.2
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Average)	13.0	12.6	12.4	12.7	13.2
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Average)	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.0
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Maximum)	13.1	12.9	12.9	12.9	15.1
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Maximum)	13.1	12.6	12.5	12.7	13.8
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Maximum)	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.3
<b>Opening Year (2027) Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Average)	19.0	15.5	14.4	16.4	17.9
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Average)	19.0	12.7	12.7	12.7	15.6
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Average)	0.0	2.8	1.8	3.7	2.4
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Maximum)	25.5	18.3	15.8	19.6	24.1
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Maximum)	25.5	12.9	12.9	12.9	20.0
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Maximum)	0.0	5.4	2.9	6.8	4.1
<b>Design Year (2047) Morning Peak Hours</b>					
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Average)	13.2	13.0	13.1	13.2	18.3
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Average)	13.2	12.7	12.5	12.9	16.2
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Average)	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3	2.1



Total Corridor	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
	Minutes				
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Maximum)	13.3	13.0	13.1	13.2	22.7
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Maximum)	13.2	12.7	10.8	12.9	19.3
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Maximum)	0.1	0.3	2.3	0.3	3.4
<b>Design Year (2047) Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Average)	22.3	16.5	16.4	19.1	19.1
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Average)	22.3	12.9	14.6	12.7	16.4
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Average)	0.0	3.6	2.0	6.4	2.6
I-680 General-Purpose User Total (Maximum)	27.7	18.7	17.8	23.0	22.4
I-680 Managed Lane User Total (Maximum)	27.7	13.0	14.3	12.3	16.3
Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (Maximum)	0.0	5.8	3.1	10.2	4.4

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: Free-flow travel time, based on 65 miles per hour, is approximately 12 minutes

### Level of Service

Appendix K, *Level of Service and Delay*, compares the LOS and density during peak periods by segment for the Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative for the Existing Year (2019), Opening Year (2027), and Design Year (2047) conditions. The highest levels of traffic demand and congestion on northbound I-680 occur during the afternoon peak period for all Build Alternatives. More information on each Build Alternative is provided below.

An additional technical study is underway that analyzes how each Build Alternative could cause potential delays and/or LOS impacts on local intersections along the corridor during the afternoon peak period for the Design Year (2047) (DKS Associates 2023b). Volume forecasts were developed at 16 local ramp intersections along the I-680 corridor. Results indicate that none of the Build Alternatives would worsen LOS at any local intersections compared to the No-Build Alternative. All 16 intersections would operate at LOS D or better under all Build Alternatives, except N. Main Street and Geary Road/Treat Boulevard and Northbound I-680 Ramp/Oakland Boulevard and Ygnacio Valley Road, which would both operate at LOS E under all Build Alternatives and No-Build Alternative.

### Alternative 1C

Overall, Alternative 1C would either improve LOS or be consistent with that of the No-Build Alternative. For example, LOS would improve from Stone Valley Road Diagonal off-ramp to between the Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp and SR-24 Eastbound on-ramp in the afternoon peak period for the Design Year (2047). However, Alternative 1C would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following locations during the Opening Year (2027):

- Crow Canyon Road Loop on-ramp to Crow Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp (morning)
- Weave between Stone Valley Road on-ramp and Livorna Road off-ramp (morning)
- From Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp and Crow Canyon Road off-ramp (afternoon)
- Between Crow Canyon Road off-ramp and Crown Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (afternoon)

In addition, Alternative 1C would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following location during the Design Year (2047):

- From Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp and Bollinger Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (morning).

According to the intersection analysis completed for the Project (DKS Associates 2023b), Alternative 1C would not worsen LOS at any of the 16 evaluated intersections. Alternative 1C would improve LOS compared to the No-Build conditions at the following intersections: I-680 Northbound Ramps and Livorna Road (LOS F to LOS C), North Main Street and Penniman Way (LOS B to LOS A), Oak Road and Treat Boulevard (LOS D to LOS C), and I-680 Northbound Ramps and Willow Pass Road (LOS D to LOS C). Intersection delay would increase at Lawrence Way and Penniman Way (10.2 to 11.2 minutes), I-680 Northbound Ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard (1.1 to 1.2 minutes), and Oak Road and Buskirk Avenue (37.9 to 42.5 minutes).

### Alternative 2

Similar to Alternative 1C, Alternative 2 would either improve LOS or be consistent with that of the No-Build Alternative. For example, LOS would improve from Stone Valley Road Diagonal off-ramp to the weave between Olympic Boulevard on-ramp and Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp in the afternoon peak period for the Design Year (2047). However, Alternative 2 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following locations during the Opening Year (2027):

- Crow Canyon Road Loop on-ramp to Crow Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp (morning)
- Weave between Stone Valley Road on-ramp and Livorna Road off-ramp (morning)
- From Alcosta Boulevard on-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp and Crow Canyon Road off-ramp (afternoon)
- Between Crow Canyon Road off-ramp and Crown Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (afternoon)

In addition, Alternative 2 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following location during the Design Year (2047):

- From between Alcosta Boulevard on-ramp and Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp and Bollinger Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (morning).

According to the intersection analysis completed for the Project (DKS Associates 2023b), Alternative 2 would not worsen LOS at any of the 16 evaluated intersections. Alternative 2 would improve LOS compared to the No-Build conditions at the following intersections: I-680 Northbound Ramps and Livorna Road (LOS F to LOS C), and North Main Street and Penniman Way (LOS B to LOS A). Intersection delay would increase at the following intersections: I-680 Northbound Ramps/S. Main Street and Creek Side Drive (13.5 to 14 minutes), I-680 Northbound Ramps and Olympic Boulevard (30.7 to 34.9 minutes), Lawrence Way and Penniman Way (10.2 to 11 minutes), Oak Road and Buskirk Avenue (37.9 to 39.8), and I-680 Ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard (1.1 to 1.2 minutes).

### Alternative 3

Similar to Alternatives 1C and 2, Alternative 3 would either improve LOS or be consistent with that of the No-Build Alternative. For example, LOS would improve from Stone Valley Road Diagonal off-ramp to between Olympic Boulevard/SR-24 Westbound off-ramp and Olympic Boulevard on-ramp in the afternoon peak period for the Design Year (2047). However, Alternative 3 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following locations during the Opening Year (2027):

- Crow Canyon Road Loop on-ramp to Crow Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp (morning)
- Weave between Stone Valley Road on-ramp and Livorna Road off-ramp (morning)



- From between Alcosta Boulevard on-ramp and Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road Diagonal on-ramp and Crow Canyon Road off-ramp (afternoon)
- Between Crow Canyon Road off-ramp and Crow Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (afternoon)

In addition, Alternative 3 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following location during the Design Year (2047):

- From Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp to between Bollinger Canyon Road off-ramp and Bollinger Canyon Road Loop on-ramp (morning).

According to the intersection analysis completed for the Project (DKS Associates 2023b), Alternative 3 would not worsen LOS at any of the 16 evaluated intersections. Alternative 3 would improve LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative at the following intersections: I-680 Northbound Ramps and Livorna Road (LOS F to LOS C), and North Main Street and Penniman Way (LOS B to LOS A), and I-680 Northbound Ramps and Treat Boulevard (LOS C to LOS B), Oak Road and Treat Boulevard (LOS D to LOS C), and I-680 Northbound Ramps and Willow Pass Road (LOS D to LOS C). Intersection delay would increase at the following intersections: Lawrence Way and Penniman Way (10.2 to 10.3 minutes), Oak Road and Buskirk Avenue (37.9 to 41.3 minutes), and I-680 Ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard (1.1 to 1.3 minutes).

### Alternative 5

Alternative 5 would improve LOS from Stone Valley Road Diagonal off-ramp to between Olympic Boulevard/SR-24 Westbound off-ramp and Olympic Boulevard on-ramp in the afternoon peak period for the Design Year (2047). Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would worsen LOS between Monument Boulevard off-ramp and the North Main Street off-ramp in the Opening Year (2027) morning peak period. Alternative 5 would also worsen LOS from the Monument Boulevard off-ramp to El Pintado Road in the Design Year (2047) morning peak period. However, Alternative 5 would, to a more limited extent than Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, improve LOS to better than the No-Build Alternative in locations freed from queue spillback due to the braided ramps.

Alternative 5 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative, resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following location during the Opening Year (2027):

- From the weave between Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp to the weave between Oak Road/Buskirk Avenue on-ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp (morning).

In addition, Alternative 5 would worsen LOS compared to the No-Build Alternative resulting in the demand to exceed capacity (i.e., LOS F) at the following locations during the Design Year (2047):

- Between El Pintado Road on-ramp and Stone Valley Road Diagonal off-ramp (morning)
- Between Stone Valley Road Loop off-ramp and Stone Valley Road Loop on-ramp (morning)
- Between Livorna Road on-ramp and Rudgear Road off-ramp (morning)
- From between Rudgear Road off-ramp and Danville Boulevard on-ramp to between North Main Street off-ramp and Lawrence Way on-ramp (morning)
- From between Treat Boulevard off-ramp and Truck Scales on-ramp to the weave between Oak Road/Buskirk Avenue on-ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp (morning)
- Weave between Monument Boulevard on-ramp and SR-242 off-ramp (morning)

According to the intersection analysis completed for the Project (DKS Associates 2023b), Alternative 5 would not worsen LOS at any of the 16 evaluated intersections. Alternative 5 would improve LOS compared to the No-Build conditions at the following intersection: Oak Road and Buskirk Avenue (LOS D to LOS C). Intersection delay would increase at the following intersections: I-680 Northbound Ramps and Rudgear Road (54.4 to 55 minutes), Lawrence Way and Penniman Ways (10.2 to 10.5 minutes), North Main Street and San Luis Road (15.5 to 15.7 minutes), I-680 Northbound Ramps and Treat Boulevard (23.8 to 24 minutes), I-680 Northbound Ramps and Willow Pass Road (36.6 to 39.4 minutes), Burnett Avenue and Diamond Boulevard (37.7 to 39.9 minutes).

### Measures of Effectiveness

Table 2.1.8-13 and Table 2.1.8-14 present the measures of effectiveness for the Build Alternatives compared to the No-Build Alternative and the other Build Alternatives for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. Overall, all Build Alternatives would improve operations for the afternoon peak period.

The proposed Project is being designed to retain existing pedestrian and bicycle circulation routes, and no arterial roadways would be closed permanently. As described in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would require permanently shifting the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. In accordance with Measures (**PR-3** and **PR-4**), CCTA would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify a location to shift the trail under the bridge during final design.

### Alternative 1C

Alternative 1C would substantially improve freeway segment speed, travel time (general-purpose and managed lanes), VHD, and throughput (vehicle and person) on northbound I-680 during the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build Alternative

(DKS Associates 2023a). In terms of vehicle throughput and delay, the additional lane results in increases in demand, longer average trip lengths, higher VMT, and a higher number of vehicles served compared to the No-Build Alternative. While Alternative 1C would not eliminate any bottlenecks, the added capacity would result in higher throughput for the bottleneck sections and reduced queueing and delay associated with the bottlenecks north of SR-24. The reduced queueing results in lower average delay per vehicle and VHD in the Traffic Operations Study Area during the afternoon peak period. While Alternative 1C would benefit the traffic operations along I-680, the queues approaching the bottlenecks north of SR-24 would extend onto eastbound SR-24, deteriorating operations on eastbound SR-24. However, the total VHD for I-680 and SR-24 would be substantially less than the No-Build Alternative during the morning and afternoon peak periods. Therefore, Alternative 1C would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative for both the morning and afternoon peak periods.

### Alternative 2

Alternative 2 would substantially improve freeway segment speed, travel time (general-purpose and managed lanes), VHD, vehicle throughput, and person throughput on northbound I-680 during the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build Alternative (DKS Associates 2023a). Table 2.1.8-13 and Table 2.1.8-14 summarize the measures of effectiveness for Alternative 2 compared to the No-Build Alternative and the other Build Alternatives for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. As with Alternative 1C, the additional lane results in increases in demand, longer average trip lengths, higher VMT, and a higher number of vehicles served compared to the No-Build Alternative. While Alternative 2 would not eliminate any bottlenecks completely, the added capacity would also result in higher throughput for the bottleneck sections and reduced queueing and delay associated with the bottlenecks north of SR-24. The reduced queueing also results in lower average delay per vehicle and VHD in the Traffic Operations Study Area during the afternoon peak period. Unlike Alternative 1C and 3, vehicles traveling on SR-24 would have access to an empty express lane where it begins, resulting in improved operations on eastbound SR-24.

Therefore, Alternative 2 would improve overall operations on I-680 compared to the No-Build Alternative for both the morning and afternoon peak periods. The results indicate that the combination of the extended but non-continuous express lane and the braided ramp improvements provide benefits on I-680 similar to Alternatives 1C and 3, while also improving operations on SR-24.

### Alternative 3

Alternative 3 would improve freeway segment speed and VHD and substantially improve travel time (general-purpose and managed lanes) and throughput (vehicle and person) on northbound I-680 during the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build Alternative. Table 2.1.8-13 and Table 2.1.8-14 summarize the measures of effectiveness for Alternative 3 compared to the No-Build Alternative and the other Build Alternatives for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. As with Alternatives 1C and 2, the additional lane results in increases in demand, longer

average trip lengths, higher VMT, and a higher number of vehicles served compared to the No-Build Alternative. While Alternative 3 would not eliminate any bottlenecks completely, the added capacity would result in higher throughput for the bottleneck sections and reduced queueing and delay associated with the bottlenecks north of SR-24. The reduced queueing results in lower average delay per vehicle and VHD in the Traffic Operations Study Area during the afternoon peak period. Although Alternative 3 would benefit the traffic operations along I-680, the queues approaching the bottlenecks north of SR-24 would extend onto eastbound SR-24, deteriorating the operations on eastbound SR-24. However, the total VHD for I-680 and SR-24 would be substantially less than the No-Build Alternative during the morning and afternoon peak periods. Therefore, Alternative 3 would improve overall traffic and transportation operations compared to the No-Build Alternative for both the morning and afternoon peak periods.

### Alternative 5

Alternative 5 would improve freeway segment speed and VHD and substantially improve travel time (general-purpose and managed lane) on northbound I-680 during the afternoon peak hours compared to the No-Build Alternative (DKS Associates 2023a). Since Alternative 5 reduces capacity, throughput (vehicle and person) is forecasted to deteriorate compared to the No-Build Alternative. Table 2.1.8-13 and Table 2.1.8-14 present the measures of effectiveness for Alternative 5 compared to the No-Build Alternative and the other Build Alternatives for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047), respectively. Alternative 5 shows improvements in maximum individual delay, average delay, and VHD metrics compared to the No-Build Alternative, due to reduced vehicle weaving and improved operations provided by the braided ramp at the North Main Street/Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard Interchanges. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not increase VMT.

Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, a new bottleneck between the Oak Road on-ramp and Contra Costa Boulevard off-ramp would develop under Alternative 5 during the morning peak period, which is due to reduced freeway capacity. Maximum queues would extend to the Truck Scale off-ramp (approximately 1.6 miles) by the Opening Year (2027) and through the Livorna Road and El Pintado Road bottlenecks, as far south as Bollinger Canyon Road (approximately 14.5 miles), by the Design Year (2047). In addition, Alternative 5 is the only alternative that results in managed lane slowdowns north of the El Pintado Road bottleneck in the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047). Congestion and slowing would occur approaching Contra Costa Boulevard due to friction between the managed lane and the congested general-purpose lanes. Alternative 5 would also result in a slowdown around the South Main Street off-ramp in addition to the areas of slowdown.

Ultimately, Alternative 5 would reduce mainline capacity compared to the No-Build Alternative (conversion to express lane), but the braided ramps and the conversion to express lane generally offset the capacity reduction and would result in improved overall mainline operations compared to the No-Build Alternative for the afternoon peak period. However, Alternative 5 would increase travel time and delay in the morning peak period.

**Table 2.1.8-13. Network Measures of Effectiveness for Opening Year (2027)**

Measures of Effectiveness	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
<b>Morning Peak Hours</b>					
VMT <sup>1</sup>	397,307	407,640	404,247	407,508	396,631
VHD <sup>2</sup>	2,108	2,277	2,335	2,301	2,435
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	137	147	152	150	160
Average delay (second/mile)	19	20	21	20	22
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	55,246	55,623	55,348	55,283	54,888
Vehicles unserved <sup>4</sup>	126	162	197	162	129
Average Trip Length (mile/vehicle)	7.19	7.33	7.30	7.37	7.23
I-680 Maximum Individual Delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	10.7	12.0	12.1	12.0	12.8
I-680 Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (minutes)	7.0	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.3
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits (Livorna Road to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	268	203	204	220	606
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	27	20	20	22	61
I-680 maximum individual delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	3.0
Vehicles served <sup>2</sup>	36,314	36,627	36,354	36,235	35,897
<i>SR-24 (Upper Happy Valley to I-680):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	93	42	44	43	44
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	23	10	11	11	11
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	14,250	14,471	14,467	14,467	14,409
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits and SR-24:</i>					
Total VHD	360	245	248	263	650
<b>Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
VMT <sup>1</sup>	1,113,689	1,172,083	1,161,273	1,172,521	1,111,507
VHD <sup>2</sup>	15,218	12,513	11,212	13,213	13,509
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	304	247	221	261	271
Average delay (second/mile)	49	38	35	41	44
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	180,312	182,070	182,313	181,941	179,387

Measures of Effectiveness	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
Vehicles unserved <sup>4</sup>	166	166	385	201	389
Average Trip Length (mile/vehicle)	6.18	6.44	6.37	6.44	6.20
I-680 Maximum Individual Delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	25.7	23.8	25.2	28.1	23.1
I-680 Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (minutes)	10.7	19.9	19.4	22.8	13.6
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits (Livorna Road to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	5,817	4,078	3,009	3,229	4,762
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	180	124	91	99	149
I-680 maximum individual delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	13.4	6.1	3.7	7.5	12.0
Vehicles served <sup>2</sup>	116,097	118,415	118,452	117,876	115,294
<i>SR-24 (Upper Happy Valley to I-680):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	2,524	1,170	293	371	1,848
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	167	77	19	24	123
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	54,290	55,032	55,118	55,619	54,123
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits and SR-24:</i>					
Total VHD	8,341	5,248	3,302	3,600	6,610

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: SR = State Route; VHD = vehicle hours delay; VMT = vehicle miles travelled

<sup>1</sup> VMT is for the VISSIM study area, I-680, Alcosta Boulevard to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue and SR-24, east of Upper Happy Valley Road.

<sup>2</sup> VHD is the delay calculated relative to the desired speed for each vehicle using the study corridor.

<sup>3</sup> Vehicles served along freeways and ramps during the study period.

<sup>4</sup> Vehicles unable to enter the model network at either freeway mainline or ramps during the study period.

<sup>5</sup> Maximum individual delay calculated based on a free flow speed of 65 mph.

**Table 2.1.8-14. Network Measures of Effectiveness for Design Year (2047)**

Measures of Effectiveness	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
<b>Morning Peak Hours</b>					
VMT <sup>1</sup>	425,286	437,299	433,312	437,210	412,326
VHD <sup>2</sup>	4,127	3,956	4,101	4,087	5,913
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	256	242	255	252	381





Measures of Effectiveness	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
Average delay (second/mile)	35	33	34	34	52
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	58,133	58,942	58,258	58,467	55,941
Vehicles unserved <sup>4</sup>	733	964	930	981	688
Average Trip Length (mile/vehicle)	7.32	7.42	7.44	7.48	7.37
I-680 Maximum Individual Delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	20.8	22.5	22.5	22.3	34.1
I-680 Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (minutes)	14.2	16.1	16.1	15.8	26.7
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits (Livorna Road to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	376	249	265	311	1,809
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	36	23	25	29	181
I-680 maximum individual delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.0	10.5
Vehicles served <sup>2</sup>	37,874	39,298	38,593	38,753	35,943
<i>SR-24 (Upper Happy Valley to I-680):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	545	234	290	303	321
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	131	53	67	70	75
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	14,934	15,743	15,638	15,608	15,472
<i>I-680 Project Limits and SR-24:</i>					
Total VHD	921	482	555	614	2,130
<b>Afternoon Peak Hours</b>					
VMT <sup>1</sup>	1,168,624	1,217,084	1,229,542	1,232,608	1,170,678
VHD <sup>2</sup>	27,101	25,390	22,607	27,046	23,778
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	499	468	414	503	439
Average delay (second/mile)	83	75	66	79	73
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	195,555	195,293	196,467	193,584	195,040
Vehicles unserved <sup>4</sup>	5,931	5,989	6,079	5,484	6,459
Average Trip Length (mile/vehicle)	5.98	6.23	6.26	6.37	6.00



Measures of Effectiveness	No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
I-680 Maximum Individual Delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	56.9	49.0	49.2	52.9	47.7
I-680 Managed Lane Travel Time Savings (minutes)	30.8	37.0	35.3	40.8	32.1
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits (Livorna Road to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	7,947	5,088	5,331	6,498	5,496
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	237	145	156	194	165
I-680 maximum individual delay (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	15.6	6.6	5.7	10.9	10.3
Vehicles served <sup>2</sup>	120,787	126,355	122,775	120,671	120,250
<i>SR-24 (Upper Happy Valley to I-680):</i>					
VHD <sup>2</sup>	2,543	3,733	567	3,843	2,891
Average delay (second/vehicle served)	164	244	36	252	188
Vehicles served <sup>3</sup>	55,727	55,126	57,129	54,989	55,413
<i>I-680 Improvement Limits and SR-24:</i>					
Total VHD	10,490	8,821	5,898	10,342	8,387

Source: (DKS Associates 2023a)

Notes: SR = State Route; VHD = vehicle hours delay; VMT = vehicle miles travelled.

<sup>1</sup> VMT is for the VISSIM study area, I-680, Alcosta to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue and SR-24, east of Upper Happy Valley Road.

<sup>5</sup> Maximum individual delay calculated based on a free flow speed of 65 mph.

#### 2.1.8.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

Measures **PR-1** through **PR-3** would be implemented to minimize or avoid impacts to recreational trails as further described in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*. In addition, the following avoidance and minimize measure would be implemented:

**TRAN-1** No two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction will be closed concurrently during construction.

The following mitigation measures are proposed for VMT impacts under CEQA, which are described further in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*:

**TRAN-MM-1 I-680 Express Bus Service.** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will work with County Connection and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority to implement a new I-680 express bus service and provide funding to

rebrand, refurbish, and upgrade six existing buses for interim service (before hydrogen fuel-cell buses are available) and acquire six hydrogen fuel-cell buses (and 1 spare) when they are available for purchase.

**TRAN-MM-2 Shared Mobility Hubs.** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of the following mobility hubs: Bollinger Canyon Road, Walnut Creek BART Station, and Martinez Amtrak Station. These hubs will be designed to support I-680 Express Bus Service as well as other fixed-route transit services. The hubs may include mobility hub improvements and Mobility-on-Demand (MoD)/Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) application and could potentially include additional mobility services, such as microtransit and/or increased eBike/eScooter operations.

**TRAN-MM-3 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program.** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of a countywide TDM Program for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. This program will consist of enhancing existing and creating new TDM incentives within Contra Costa County. The program will not supplant, supersede, or replace current CCTA TDM initiatives that are funded by Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) or Measure J. CCTA will operate the program through the County's existing TDM program (511 Contra Costa).

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## 2.1.9 Visual/Aesthetics

### 2.1.9.1 Regulatory Setting

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, establishes that the federal government use all practicable means to ensure all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically (emphasis added) and culturally pleasing surroundings (42 United States Code [USC] 4331[b][2]). To further emphasize this point, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in its implementation of NEPA (23 USC 109[h]), directs that final decisions on projects are to be made in the best overall public interest taking into account adverse environmental impacts, including among others, the destruction or disruption of aesthetic values.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes that it is the policy of the state to take all action necessary to provide the people of the state “with...enjoyment of aesthetic, natural, scenic and historic environmental qualities” (CA Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21001[b]).

California Streets and Highways Code Section 92.3 directs the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to use drought resistant landscaping and recycled water when feasible, and incorporate native wildflowers and native and climate-appropriate vegetation into the planting design when appropriate.

Interstate 680 (I-680) is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway from Mission Boulevard to the State Route (SR) 24 Interchanged in the city of Walnut Creek. SR-24 is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway from Caldecott Tunnel to the I-680 Interchange in the city of Walnut Creek. The following five elements are required for the official designation of Scenic Highways (California Department of Transportation, 2012):

- Regulation of land use and density of development,
- Detailed land and site planning,
- Control of outdoor advertising,
- Careful attention to and control of earthmoving and landscaping,
- The design and appearance of structures and equipment.

### 2.1.9.2 Affected Environment

The information presented in this section is from the *Visual Impact Assessment* (VIA) for the proposed Project (Haygood & Associates, 2022), which was approved in August 2022, a separate memorandum for Alternative 5 that was prepared in November 2022 (Haygood, 2022), and a second memorandum regarding reducing the length of the postmile (PM) limits and the Project Study Limits that was completed in November 2023 (Haygood, 2023). The terminology and methodology used within the VIA are based on

the *Visual Impact Assessment for Highway Projects* guidelines (Federal Highway Administration, 1981) as described below.

For purposes of this section, the Visual Resources Study Area encompasses the Project corridor. The Project corridor is defined as the area of land that is visible from, adjacent to, and outside the Project Study Limits and is determined by topography, vegetation, and viewing distance. As identified in the VIA, the Project corridor is based on the old Project Study Limits (PM R4.4 to PM 24.5; Figure 1-4). The Project Study Limits were reduced to PM R10.0 to PM 23.2 after completion of the VIA.

## **Methods for Data Collection and Analysis**

### ***Visual Resource***

Visual resources are defined and identified by visual character and visual quality.

Visual character includes attributes such as form, line, color, texture, dominance, and glare. Visual character is neither inherently “good” nor “bad.” Changes in visual character can be evaluated when it is compared to the viewer response to that change. Changes in visual character can be identified by how visually compatible a project would be with the existing condition by using visual character attributes as an indicator.

For this Project, the following attributes were considered:

- Form – visual mass or shape
- Line – edges or linear definition
- Color – reflective brightness (light, dark) and hue (red, green)
- Texture – surface coarseness
- Dominance – position, size, or contrast
- Scale – apparent size as it relates to the surroundings
- Diversity – variety of visual patterns
- Glare – reflective surfaces and brightness

Visual quality is evaluated by identifying the vividness, intactness, and unity present in the Project corridor. Public attitudes validate the assessed level of quality and predict how changes to the Project corridor can affect these attitudes. This process helps identify specific methods for addressing each visual impact that may occur as a result of the Project. Visual quality’s three attributes are assessed on a five-point scale—low, moderately low, moderate, moderately high, high. The three criteria for evaluating visual quality are defined as follows:



- *Vividness* is the extent to which the landscape is memorable and associated with distinctive, contrasting, and diverse visual elements; landscape is free from non-typical visual intrusions.
- *Intactness* is the integrity of visual features in the landscape and the extent to which the existing landscape is free from non-typical visual intrusions.
- *Unity* is the extent to which all visual elements combine to form a coherent, harmonious visual pattern.

### **Resource Change**

Resource change is assessed by evaluating the visual character and the visual quality of the visual resources that comprise the Project corridor before and after the construction of the proposed Project. Resource change is a major variable in the equation that determines visual impacts.

### **Viewer Response**

The VIA (Haygood & Associates, 2022) identified two viewer groups that could be impacted by the Project: highway neighbors and highway users. Each viewer group has its own particular level of viewer exposure and viewer sensitivity, resulting in distinct and predictable visual concerns for each group, which help to predict its response to visual changes.

Viewer exposure is a measure of the viewer's ability to see a particular object. High viewer exposure helps predict that viewers will have a response to a visual change. Viewer exposure has the following three attributes:

- *Location* relates to the position of the viewer in relationship to the object being viewed. The closer the viewer is to the object, the more exposure.
- *Quantity* refers to how many people see the object. The more people who can see an object or the greater frequency an object is seen, the more exposure the object has to viewers.
- *Duration* refers to how long a viewer is able to keep an object in view. The longer an object can be kept in view, the more exposure.

Viewer sensitivity is a measure of the viewer's recognition of a particular object. High viewer sensitivity helps predict that viewers will have a high concern for any visual change. Viewer sensitivity has the following three attributes:

- *Activity* relates to the preoccupation of viewers—are they preoccupied, thinking of something else, or are they truly engaged in observing their surroundings. The more they are actually observing their surroundings, the more sensitivity viewers will have to changes in visual resources.

- *Awareness* relates to the focus of view—the focus is wide and the view general or the focus is narrow and the view specific. The more specific the awareness, the more sensitive a viewer is to changes in visual resources.
- *Local values* and *attitudes* also affect viewer sensitivity. If the viewer group values aesthetics in general, or if a specific visual resource has been protected by local, State, or national designation, it is likely that viewers will be more sensitive to changes in visual resources.

Viewers are people whose views of the landscape may be altered by the proposed Project, either because the landscape itself has changed or their perception of the landscape has changed. There are two major types of viewer groups for highway projects: highway users and highway neighbors.

### *Highway Users*

No pedestrian or bicycle traffic is allowed on I-680, so highway users consist of motor vehicle drivers and passengers. Motorists' duration of exposure while on I-680 varies from moderate to high depending on travel speed and highway congestion. Daily commuters have moderate to high awareness and sensitivity to views from the road due to the amount of time spent on the highway each day. Those who experience congested traffic conditions would tend to focus views on the highway itself. Drivers traveling at normal highway speeds usually focus attention on long-range, non-peripheral views. Scenic vistas of mountains and ridges visible through the corridor to the south and north are the most available to motorists regardless of traffic congestion. Scenic vistas to the east and west are available to varying degrees depending on travel speed and congestion. Passengers are anticipated to have a higher level of awareness and sensitivity to a wide range of views. They would experience high levels of sensitivity to Project features added to the highway that would intrude upon their views of scenic resources. Existing and forecasted vehicle occupancies, vehicle classifications, and bottlenecks are provided in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*.

### *Highway Neighbors*

The following highway neighbors were identified within the Visual Resources Study Area:

- **Community Residents.** The Visual Resources Study Area overlaps the communities of San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Concord, Pacheco, and Martinez. There are single-family residential communities on local streets with long durations of exposure to views in San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Concord, and Martinez. Walnut Creek is composed of single- and multi-family residences on local streets adjacent to Project features where residents have long-duration exposure to views of Project features. Meanwhile, Pacheco is composed of mobile-home residences on local streets adjacent to Project features where residents have long-duration exposure to

- views of Project features. Because of long durations of exposure to views from their residential and neighborhood vantage points, residents are the viewer group considered to be the most concerned about the ways in which projects bring about changes within their viewshed. Among the scenic resources identified by the local communities within the Visual Resources Study Area are Mount Diablo, scenic ridges, sloping foothills, and woodlands.
- **Local Streets.** In the town of Danville and cities of San Ramon, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Concord, Pacheco, and Martinez, several hundred motorists, bicyclists, and persons using motorized scooters have short to moderate durations of exposure to views of the highway and Project features from vantage points on local streets. Pedestrians on local streets would have moderate to moderately low levels of sensitivity to Project features depending on the changes made to the character and quality of the viewshed.
  - **Recreation Areas.** As there are existing recreational facilities in the vicinity of the proposed Project and within the Visual Resources Study Area, bicyclists, pedestrians, and park users have moderate durations of exposure to views toward Project features. Their exposure levels would range from moderately low to moderately high depending on their distance from Project features; intervening elements, such as fences and vegetation; and their levels of interest. Project features would be visible from the Iron Horse Regional Trail, the Acalanes Ridge Open Space South Trail, and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail.
  - **Schools.** The level of visual exposure of persons attending school would be moderately low when gathering and playing in outdoor sitting and recreation areas and low while engaged in studies. The exposure to views would be limited. The VIA (Haygood & Associates, 2022) identified 16 schools within 0.25 mile of I-680. Only three of these schools would have views of the Project features—Danville Montessori School, Futures Academy, and John F. Kennedy University/National University. The other schools do not have views of I-680 due to intervening structures, topography, and/or trees that block views of the highway and proposed Project improvements.
  - **Churches.** Those who gather at spiritual places often visit outside at entrances and patios, and also view the environment through windows. The level of churchgoers' visual exposure may vary from low to moderate. The VIA (Haygood & Associates, 2022) identified 12 churches adjacent to I-680. Of these, only the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses would potentially have views of Project features, which are densely screened by intervening trees and highway soundwalls.
  - **Commercial Areas.** Within the Visual Resources Study Area, there are single-service commercial land uses, commercial complexes, and medical clinics within close range of the Project features. Some are engaged in high traffic-volume commerce. An estimated total of several hundred viewers a day visit

these sites and have short- to moderate-duration views of the Project features. Commercial employees and patrons would likely have moderate to low levels of exposure to the Project features.

- **Industrial/Public Agency Areas.** In addition to commercial land uses, there are also industrial and public agency land uses adjacent to I-680, particularly north of SR-4. Persons within these land uses are less sensitive to Project changes and features than commercial areas due to their focus on their tasks, low volumes of pedestrian traffic, moderately low to low levels of exposure duration and therefore sensitivity to the Project features. It is anticipated that their response to Project features would be low.

### ***Visual Impact***

Visual impacts are determined by assessing changes to the visual resources and predicting viewer response to those changes. These impacts can be beneficial or detrimental. Visual impact is typically given a rating from low to high.

### **Visual Environment**

#### ***Visual Setting***

The Visual Resource Study Area is located on I-680 between 1 mile south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza and the I-680 Northbound on-ramp at the Crow Canyon Road Interchange in San Ramon, Contra Costa County, California. The Project is located in the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area of northern California. The landscape is characterized by flat valley terrain between Crow Canyon Road in San Ramon and Diablo Road in Danville; hilly terrain between Diablo Road in Danville and Lilac Drive in Walnut Creek; and variably hilly and flat terrain between Lilac Drive in Walnut Creek and south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The valley is surrounded on all sides by mountains and ridges. To the east is Mount Diablo and foothills, the most scenic visual resource in the region. The Trampas Ridge is visible to the west, and the Keller Ridge is to the east beyond Mount Diablo. The Briones Hills are to the north and the Apperson and Wauhab Ridges are to the south. The upper regions of the hills and mountains remain natural in character due to their status as protected open space.

The land use within the corridor is primarily suburban. South of SR-4, individual land uses adjacent to the Project corridor include single- and multi- family residential, mobile home residential, commercial, schools, churches, airport, golf course recreational, parks, trails, and riparian corridors. North of SR-4, proceeding from south to north, individual land uses are county government, single-family residential, commercial, recreation trail, industrial, Waterbird Regional Preserve, and wetlands as I-680 approaches the Benicia-Martinez Bridge.

I-680 is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between SR-24 in Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in Fremont. Sections of I-680 are also Classified Landscaped

Freeway in Contra Costa County between the following PM, which assists in the regulation of outdoor advertising placement:

- PM R3.90 to 9.05
- PM R12.16 to 20.54
- PM 22.48 to 22.81
- PM 24.55 to 25.01
- PM R9.22 to R12.05
- PM 21.19 to 21.71
- PM 24.47 to 24.95

According to the VIA prepared for the Project, the Visual Resources Study Area or Project corridor is similar in character and visual resources; therefore, the Project corridor was reviewed as one visual assessment unit (VAU), which includes views of the proposed Project from the highway and local streets. This VAU is depicted in Figure 2.1.9-1 and is based on the old Project Study Limits (See Figure 1-4). Because it is not feasible to analyze all the views in which the proposed Project would be seen, it is necessary to select a number of key viewpoints (KV) within the VAU that would most clearly demonstrate the change in the Project's visual resources. KV also represent the viewer groups that have the highest potential to be affected by the Project, considering exposure and sensitivity.



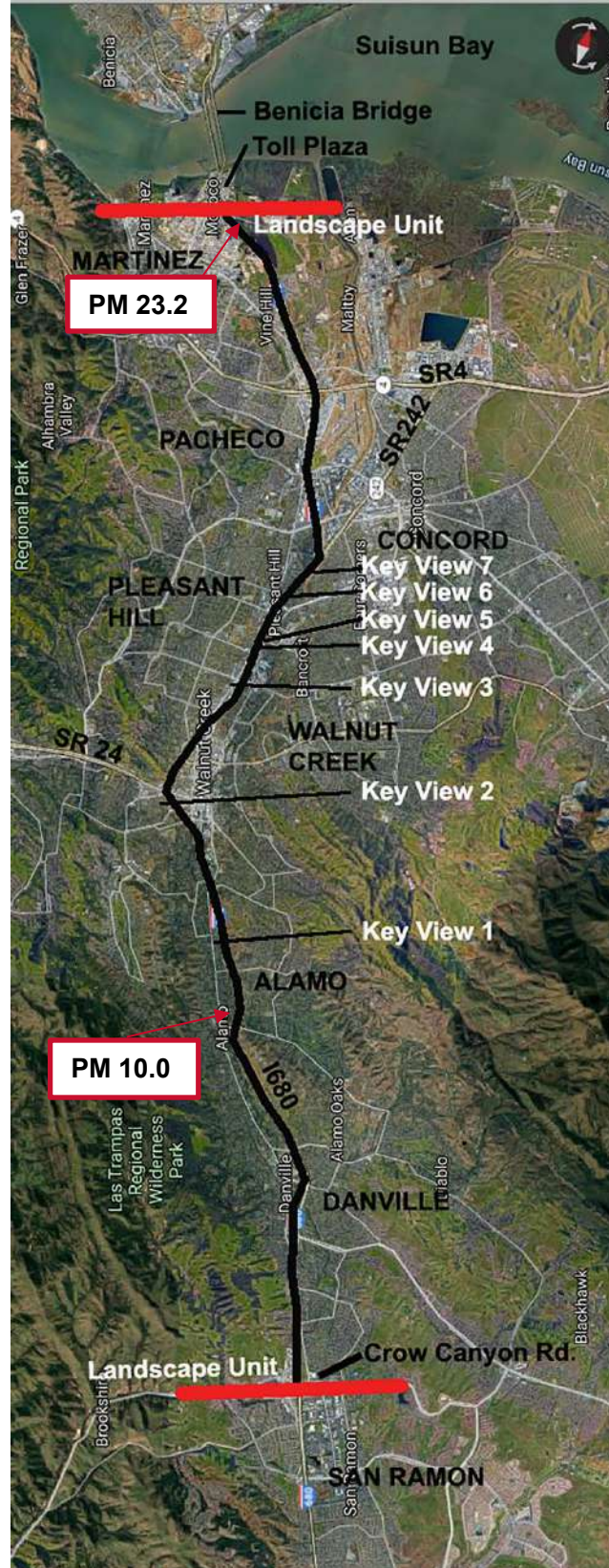


Figure 2.1.9-1. Visual Assessment Unit and Key Views



### *Visual Assessment Unit – I-680 from the Crow Canyon Road Northbound On-ramp to just south of the Benicia- Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (CC 680 PM R4.4 to 24.5)*

The I-680 corridor between Crow Canyon Road in San Ramon and just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza in Martinez is within a suburban environment. Land uses east of the highway include residential, commercial, Buchanan Field Airport, industrial, county government, parks, golf course recreational, trails, riparian corridors, and a nature preserve. Land uses west of the highway include residential, commercial, state government, industrial, parks, trails, and open space preserve. Interspersed within residential land uses adjacent to the corridor are schools and places of worship. Commercial land uses are adjacent to the I-680 interchanges at Crow Canyon Road, Sycamore Valley Road, Diablo Road, El Cerro Boulevard, Stone Valley Road, Olympic Boulevard, SR-24, Ygnacio Valley Road, North Main Street, Treat Boulevard, Contra Costa Boulevard, Monument Boulevard, Willow Pass Road, Concord Avenue, SR-4, Pacheco Boulevard, and Marina Vista Avenue. Heavy industrial, open space, and park/recreation land uses are between Pacheco Boulevard and the Benicia-Martinez Bridge.

#### Existing Visual Character

The existing character of the I-680 corridor between Crow Canyon Road to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza is a suburban environment within a linear valley surrounded by mountainous terrain.

Views beyond I-680 include scenic vistas of natural features, colors, and textures including Mount Diablo and foothills to the east, the Keller Ridge to the east of Mount Diablo, the Briones Hills to the northwest, the Las Trampas Ridge to the southwest, and distant Wauhab and Apperson Ridges to the south. Also included are views of the horizon, groves of mature trees, and the grassy foothills of Mount Diablo that extend to the west, through which the I-680 corridor passes.

The base of Mount Diablo is approximately 5 miles east of the I-680/Crow Canyon Road Interchange in San Ramon, and approximately 4 miles east of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange. The steep mountain slopes terminate in the north at Ygnacio Valley Road in Walnut Creek. The Keller Ridge east of Mount Diablo extends to the north, decreasing in height near Port Chicago. The base of the Keller Ridge is approximately 4.75 miles east of the I-680/SR-242 Interchange and approximately 3.20 miles east of the I-680/SR-4 Interchange. The I-680 alignment is within the foothills of Mount Diablo and in the lowlands and canyons between Mount Diablo and the Trampas Ridge to the west. North of Mount Diablo, I-680 is in the lowlands between the Keller Ridge to the east and the Briones Hills to the west. The topography of the landforms in the region and natural features on the slopes and ridges are among the characteristics that are the source of I-680 being an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between SR-24 and beyond the southern Project Study Limits to Santa Clara County.

Views of the distant scenic resources from I-680 include memorable views of landforms, grasslands, and oak woodlands. Between north of Sycamore Valley Road in Danville

and Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek, where I-680 is within the western foothills of Mount Diablo, the slopes block long range views of the mountain to the east, except through local street corridors. No intervening landforms block views of the Trampas Ridge to the west, except near the southern Project limit at Crow Canyon Road where foothills block distant views to the west. There are dense groves of trees Beyond the highway to the east and west in adjacent properties, particularly in residential land uses, but also in local streets and commercial areas. Views from the highway include diverse natural forms, textures, and colors in the dense groves of mature trees and screening vegetation.

The character of near- and medium-range views from I-680 change from views of a diverse natural environment to views of structures between Sunvalley Boulevard and SR-4. To the west of I-680 is a regional shopping center and commercial services. Views include single-story, long rectangular buildings that are simple in form, line, and texture, with similar light tan colors. Paved parking lots with vehicles are visible between large clusters of rectangular buildings. A row of trees on private property next to the Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) fence provides views of a natural environment. They do not screen views of the structures because the trees are widely spaced, and screening foliage has been removed from the lower regions of the trees' trunks. East of the highway, between Willow Pass Road and Concord Avenue, there are views of a regional shopping center with one- and two-story buildings. The character is similar to what is visible to the west, although more of the buildings are two-stories in height. Also, in this zone are views of four-story, rectangular office buildings. Although large in mass and simple in shape and line, the character of the structures is diverse. The diversity is visible in the architectural design that is a combination of light gray concrete geometric rectangles and squares that frame large and small windows of dark, blue-colored reflective glass. Large parking lots and vehicles are visible between buildings.

Northeast of the Concord Avenue Interchange is a recreational golf course adjacent to Buchanan Field Airport. Views are of a diverse natural environment with trees and grass. Structures are visible north of the golf course to just north of Center Drive. Buildings are simple, single-story warehouse-style rectangular buildings. North of SR-4, I-680 rises in elevation and goes through the lower slopes of the Briones Hills that are visible to the west. Medium to long range views from the highway are blocked by the grass covered hills. Diverse vegetation is visible east and west of the highway in the grass covered slopes and dark green trees and shrubs. Single-family residences are beyond both sides of the highway in the adjacent low-lying areas. Residences are also visible on the higher hill slopes. The character of the environment changes between just south of Service Road and the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. Structures are industrial, serving the petroleum and shipping industries. Large round storage tanks painted light tan, and tall, gray, deeply textured venting stacks are visible to the west and in the distance to the northeast. In near views to the east are wetlands fed by the waters of the Carquinez Strait. The wetlands are bordered by low-lying hills covered with grasses and with dark green trees growing on the crests of the hills. A waterbird sanctuary (Waterbird Regional Preserve) is within the wetlands. There is a contrast between the natural and industrial environments in this area south of the toll plaza. The

natural wetland characteristics include the smooth water surface reflecting the diverse colors of the sky and low hills with grasses and trees at the edges of the wetlands to the east and south. In contrast, there are the highly industrial land uses to the east and west with large round storage tanks, tall stacks, and horizontal and vertical steel pipes like a web of hardware and steel.

In addition to the character of views beyond the highway, there are highway-related structures within I-680. They include views of four to six travel lanes of northbound highway and shoulders and three to six travel lanes of southbound highway and shoulders separated by a concrete median barrier, all forming a linear plane of gray concrete at ground level in the center view. Barriers and metal-beam guard rails are at the highway's outside edges. At the I-680/SR-24 Interchange are flyovers, bridges, ramps, elevated BART tracks, concrete columns, and many retaining walls. Soundwalls exist between the highway and adjacent residential land uses, except at the new residential community between I-680 and Pacheco Boulevard in Martinez and a small section of mixed residential and commercial land uses in Pleasant Hill on the west side of the highway. There are approximately 6.11 miles of soundwalls in the northbound direction and 9.39 miles in the southbound direction.

Highway lights, overhead signs, sign bridges, and signs on posts are on the outer edges of the highway and on highway on-ramps and off-ramps. In the medians are existing Variable Toll Message Signs (VTMS), FasTrak Only signs, small "do not cross double line" signs, toll readers on gantries, and lights. The overhead signs add forms and texture to views of the horizon with their rectangular shapes, poles, steel truss gantries, and arched sign supports. In general, highway features above the ground plane are commonly visible.

At night, illuminated areas on the highway are visible by motorists travelling on the highway and local roads and by neighbors adjacent to the highway. Single- and multi-family residences located on the hillsides to the west and east of I-680 see light and glare in their views of the highway. For the majority of residents, views are screened by vegetation. Light sources in the highway are vehicle lights and luminaires at on-ramps and off-ramps, as noted above.

### Key Views

Seven key views within the VAU described above were identified in the VIA. The key view locations are described below and identified in Figure 2.1.9-1.

- View 1: Vantage point on Sunnybrook Road west of I-680 (PM R11.79; approximate sign location). The view looking east from local road serving a residential neighborhood illustrates the existing conditions and a potential new VTMS in the I-680 median, facing northbound lanes.
- View 2: Vantage point on Clover Lane, south of the SR-24/I-680 Interchange (PM14.14; approximately adjacent to vantage point). View looking north from local road serving a residential neighborhood illustrates the existing

conditions and proposed Southbound I-680 realignment, the Southbound I-680 to Olympic Boulevard Connector, and widening of the Eastbound SR-24/Southbound I-680 Connector.

- View 3: Vantage point on Parkside Drive west of I-680 (PM R15.16; approximate sign location). The view looking east from local road serving a residential neighborhood illustrates the existing conditions and the proposed addition of two VTMS in the I-680 median; one facing northbound lanes and one facing southbound lanes.
- View 4: Vantage point on Northbound I-680 (PM 15.96; approximate sign location). The view looking north from I-680 illustrates existing conditions and the proposed addition of one VTMS in the I-680 median facing northbound lanes. The view illustrates the proposed widening of I-680 to the east to accommodate a dedicated northbound off-ramp to the North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges, and the addition of a soundwall (Evaluated Barrier 2) at the east edge of the off-ramp.
- View 5: Vantage point on Jones Road east of I-680 (PM15.95; approximately adjacent to vantage point). View looking southwest from local road serving a residential neighborhood illustrates existing conditions and the potential addition of a soundwall between the existing BART tracks and I-680. The view is on a local street to the east of the soundwall described in View 4 (Evaluated Barrier 2).
- View 6: Vantage point on Sherman Drive east of I-680 (PM R18.19; approximately adjacent to vantage point). View looking north from a local road east of I-680 illustrates the proposed addition of a soundwall approximately 5 feet to the east of an existing soundwall that would be removed and replaced.
- View 7: Vantage point on Iron Horse Regional Trail east of I-680 (PM R18.63; approximately adjacent to vantage point). View looking south from a regional recreation trail illustrates the proposed widening of I-680 to the east and the addition of a soundwall approximately 10 feet closer to Iron Horse Regional Trail than the existing soundwall.

### **2.1.9.3 Environmental Consequences**

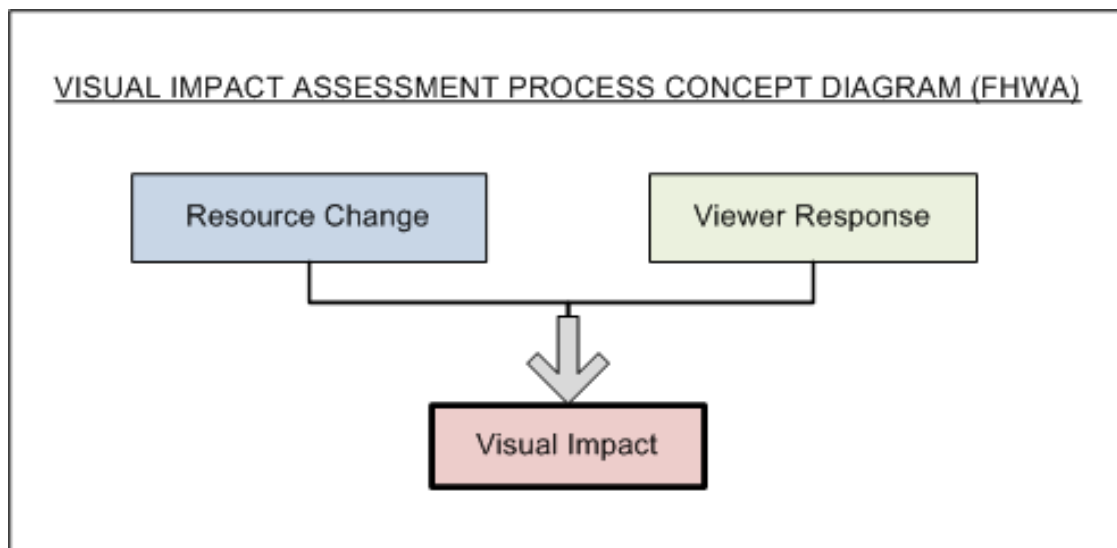
#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Visual Resources Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no visual or aesthetics impacts would occur.

## Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

As previously defined in Section 2.1.9.2, *Affected Environment*, visual impacts are determined by assessing changes to the visual resources and predicting viewer responses to those changes. This section compares the visual quality of the existing resources with the projected visual quality after the Project is constructed and evaluates predicted viewer response to the resource changes as a result of the Project. The resulting level of visual impact is determined by combining the severity of resource change with the degree to which people are likely to oppose the change. Visual impacts can be beneficial or detrimental.

Figure 2.1.9-2 shows a generalized graphic developed by FHWA of the VIA process. Seven key view locations have been identified to represent the visual and aesthetic character of the area within the Project Study Limits, as identified previously in Figure 2.1.9-1.



**Figure 2.1.9-2. Visual Impact Assessment Process**

### **KEY VIEW 1: View East of I-680, Sunnybrook Road, Alamo Vantage Point**

Key View 1 is a vantage point on Sunnybrook Road looking east toward I-680. The view, which looks east from a local road that serves a residential neighborhood, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the addition of one VTMS in the I-680 median facing northbound lanes.

Sunnybrook Road is a two-lane local road that connects with Danville Boulevard in Alamo and serves a densely populated, single-family residential community to the west of I-680. Danville Boulevard connects with Livorna Road approximately 0.39 mile to the south. The I-680/Livorna Road Interchange is 0.23 mile to the east of the intersection of Danville Boulevard and Livorna Road. The landscape is flat terrain in a narrow valley between the scenic Mount Diablo foothills to the east and the Trampas Ridge foothills to the west. SR-24 is to the north, and I-580 is to the south. From the vantage point the foothills to the east of I-680 are visible beyond the soundwall. San Ramon Creek is to the east of the residential property line fence at the base of the highway embankment. The highway soundwall, two retaining walls on a grassy highway embankment slope, and a yellow diamond-shaped lane-merge sign mounted on the soundwall are visible to the east of the residence. There are no overhead highway signs or lights in the existing view. At the end of the Sunnybrook Road cul-de-sac is a concrete barrier and a chain link fence. The paved road is visible in the foreground. A utility pole, guy wire, and overhead utility lines are visible to the left and behind the vantage point. Within individual properties there is dense vegetation consisting of trees and shrubs that screen views of I-680 with varying degrees of density and screening.

The view's memorability (vividness) is moderate. The level of intactness is moderately low. The soundwall, retaining walls, highway sign, concrete barrier, chain link fencing, utility pole and guy wire, and overhead utility lines encroach on views of the natural environment. The level of unity, the balance between elements in the natural environment and structures in the view, is moderate. The visual quality in the existing condition for Key View 1 is moderate.

The existing condition for Key View 1 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-3. The proposed view for Key View 1 under all Build Alternatives is shown in Figure 2.1.9-4.





**Figure 2.1.9-3. Key View 1 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**



**Figure 2.1.9-4. Key View 1 Proposed Condition – All Build Alternatives**

### *Resource Change*

The proposed Project, under all Build Alternatives, would add one northbound-facing VTMS and overhead light in the I-680 median at approximately PM R11.7. The total height of the VTMS sign structure plus light fixture would be approximately 44 feet above the highway pavement level. The approximately 13-foot-high by 29-foot-long sign plate would be mounted on a tubular gantry over the northbound travel lanes. The electronic message sign would display the toll pricing for the express lane system. The prices displayed would change depending on the level of congestion on the highway. The surface finish on the face of the sign would have reflective properties, enhanced by headlights of on-coming vehicles shining on the surface. The sign would be visible from single-family residences at the Sunnybrook Road cul-de-sac. The vividness or memorability of Key View 1 looking east toward I-680 and the foothills beyond would be diminished from the existing level of moderate to moderately low with the addition of the VTMS and overhead light. The structures added to the view and the light and glare would diminish the quality of the view. The intactness of the view would be diminished from the existing of moderately low to low with the addition of the light and glare in the view. The level of unity or balance between the natural environment and structures would remain moderate with the addition of the sign and light.

### *Viewer Response*

The memorability of the view would decrease from the existing moderate to moderately low under the Build Alternatives. As discussed above, the resource change for Key View 1 would be moderate. It is anticipated that the viewer response from neighbors within Key View 1 would be moderately high.

### ***KEY VIEW 2: View North of I-680, Clover Lane, Walnut Creek Vantage Point***

Key View 2 is at a vantage point on Clover Lane looking north toward the Southbound I-680 to Olympic Boulevard Connector Ramp. This view, which looks north from a local road that serves a residential neighborhood, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the proposed realignment of Southbound I-680, the Southbound I-680 to Olympic Boulevard Connector, and widening of the Eastbound SR-24/Southbound I-680 Connector.

A masonry soundwall on an earth embankment is on the south side of the Eastbound SR-24 to Southbound I-680 Connector Ramp. Clover Lane is a two-lane local road serving a densely populated, single-family residential community to the southwest of the interchange. Clover Lane intersects Nicholson Road to the north in the view. With the exception of the view of highway structures from the vantage point, a dense grove of redwood and pine trees to the southeast and southwest of the soundwall partially screen views of the highway. The south side of SR-24 in this location is a Classified Landscaped Freeway and is also within the segment of SR-24 that is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway. Within individual properties there is dense vegetation consisting of trees and shrubs that partially screen views of I-680 and SR-24. Utility poles and lines are on the west edge of Clover Lane. A chain link fence at the

north edge of Nicholson Road and roadway pavement are also structures visible in the view.

The view's memorability (vividness) is moderate. The level of intactness is moderately low. The level of unity, the balance between elements in the natural environment and structures in the view, is moderate. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderate. The existing condition for Key View 2 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-5. The proposed view for Key View 2 under Alternatives 1C and 3 are shown in Figure 2.1.9-6. Alternatives 2 and 5 would not include any visual improvements at this location.



**Figure 2.1.9-5. Key View 2 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**





**Figure 2.1.9-6. Key View 2 Proposed Condition - Alternatives 1C and 3**

### *Resource Change*

With Alternatives 1C and 3 the Eastbound SR-24 to Southbound I-680 Connector Ramp would be shifted approximately 40 feet to the south toward Clover Lane. The Southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp would also shift approximately 40 feet to the south and closer to residents. The existing soundwall would be removed. A new, up to 14-foot tall soundwall on top of a maximum 14-foot-tall retaining wall (24-RW2) would be added along the outside shoulder of the Eastbound 24/Southbound I-680 Connector Ramp and would be visible to single-family residents on Clover Lane and Nicholson Road. The combined total maximum height of the soundwall plus retaining wall would be approximately 26 to 28 feet. The existing trees would be removed. The vividness of the view would be diminished to moderately low, intactness would be low, and unity would be moderate. The overall quality of the view would be moderately low.

With Alternatives 2 and 5, the existing Eastbound SR-24/Southbound 680 Connector Ramp and the Southbound I-680 off-ramp to Olympic Boulevard would remain unchanged. The existing soundwall and trees would remain. No resource changes would occur under Alternatives 2 and 5 at Key View 2.

### *Viewer Response*

The overall viewer response with Alternatives 1C and 3 would be moderately high. Resource change would be moderate. No changes would occur under Alternatives 2

and 5; therefore, viewer response for these alternatives within this Key View location would be unchanged.

***KEY VIEW 3: View East of I-680, Parkside Drive, Walnut Creek Vantage Point***

Key View 3 is a vantage point on Parkside Drive west of I-680. The view, which looks east from a local road serving a residential neighborhood, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the proposed addition of two VTMS in the I-680 median; one facing northbound lanes and one facing southbound lanes.

Parkside Drive is a two-lane, local road that serves a densely populated single- and multi-family residential community west of I-680. Parkside Drive goes under I-680 and connects with North Main Street to the north and with Hillside Avenue to the south. The existing retaining wall and soundwall block views to scenic Mount Diablo and ridges to the east. Paved roadway is visible in the foreground. Utility poles and overhead utility lines are visible on both sides of the road. Within individual properties there is vegetation consisting of trees and shrubs that screen views of I-680, the soundwall, and the retaining wall with varying levels of density and screening.

Therefore, the view's memorability (vividness) is moderately low, and the level of intactness is low. The soundwall, retaining wall, utility poles, and overhead utility lines encroach on views of the natural environment. The level of unity, the balance between elements in the natural environment and structures in the view, is moderate. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderately low. The existing condition for Key View 3 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-7. The proposed view for Key View 3 under Alternatives 1C and 3 is shown in Figure 2.1.9-8. Alternatives 2 and 5 would not add a VTMS at this location.



**Figure 2.1.9-7. Key View 3 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**



**Figure 2.1.9-8. Key View 3 Proposed Condition – Alternatives 1C and 3**



## *Resource Change*

The Project, under Alternatives 1C and 3, would add one northbound-facing and one southbound-facing VTMS and overhead lights on separate arched posts in the I-680 median at approximately PM 15.16. The total height of the VTMS sign structures plus light fixtures would be approximately 44 feet above the highway pavement level. Each 13-foot-high by 29-foot-long sign plate would be mounted on a truss or separate round tube posts with arched mast arms over the northbound and southbound travel lanes (Figure 2.1.9-8).<sup>a</sup> The electronic message sign would display the toll pricing for the express lane system. The prices displayed would change depending on the level of congestion on the highway. The surface finish on the face of the sign would have reflective properties, enhanced by headlights of on-coming vehicles shining on the surface. The northbound-facing sign face would be visible from single- and multi-family residences at Parkside Drive.

Under Alternatives 2 and 5, there would be no VTMSs in the approximate location near Key View 3. Alternatives 2 and 5 would add a FasTrak Only sign and a Begin Express Lane Sign facing northbound lanes, mounted on a truss. At the east edge of the highway, the Project would add a Weigh Station Ahead Sign facing northbound lanes. The support structure would be an arched, truss or tube post and mast arm. No lighted, changeable toll messages or overhead lights above the sign, which would add light and glare to views of the horizon, are anticipated as a part of Alternatives 2 and 5 within this Key View.

Under the Build Alternatives, Key View 3's memorability (vividness) looking east toward I-680 would not be diminished from the existing level of moderately low with the addition of the signs and overhead lights. The intactness of the view is already low and would be diminished to a greater extent with the addition of the structures, light, and glare in the view. The level of unity or balance between the natural environment and structures would remain moderate with the addition of the signs and light.

## *Viewer Response*

With Alternatives 1C and 3, the overall viewer response would be moderately high, resource change would be moderate, and visual impacts would be moderately high. With Alternatives 2 and 5, the overall viewer response would be moderate, resource change would be moderately low, and visual impacts would be moderate.

## ***KEY VIEW 4: View North of I-680, I-680 Northbound Travel Lanes, Walnut Creek Vantage Point***

Key View 4 is a view of a vantage point on Northbound I-680. The view looking north from I-680 was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the addition of one

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<sup>a</sup> Although Figure 2.1.9-8 depicts the VTMS on a tube post, recent designs show that a truss would be required at this location because the width of the existing median could not accommodate a tubular post.

VTMS in the I-680 median facing northbound lanes. The view would also illustrate the widening of I-680 to the east to accommodate a dedicated northbound off-ramp to the North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges and the addition of a soundwall at the east edge of the off-ramp.

The view, looking north, includes five paved travel lanes and shoulders, vehicles, a concrete median barrier, highway light, a VTMS in the median facing southbound lanes, overhead mileage signs at the east and west edges of the highway, and a metal beam guard rail at the edge of the northbound shoulder. High-rise commercial buildings are visible in the distance to the north. Features visible in the natural environment include dense vegetation to the east, moderately dense vegetation to the west, and views of the horizon.

The view's memorability (vividness) is moderate. The level of intactness is low. Highway structures and views of vehicles encroach on views of the natural environment. There is a moderate level of unity balance between the natural and constructed environments. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderately low. The existing condition for Key View 4 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-9. The proposed view for Key View 4 under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 is shown in Figure 2.1.9-10.



**Figure 2.1.9-9. Key View 4 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**



**Figure 2.1.9-10. Key View 4 Proposed Condition – Alternatives 2, 3, and 5**

*Resource Change*

Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would remove the existing metal beam guardrail and vegetation east of the highway. A two-lane, plus shoulders, Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp would be added to the view between the North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges. A concrete barrier would be added between the off-ramp and I-680 northbound lanes. A maximum 14-foot-high soundwall would be added on a proposed retaining wall that would be approximately 1,775 feet long by 30 feet high (5 feet would be below grade). The soundwall would be visible at the edge of the highway from I-680 northbound lanes, however, the retaining wall would not be visible. The existing vegetation that would be removed is within a Classified Landscaped Freeway segment of highway. Another highway feature that would be included under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would be a VTMS and overhead light in the median facing northbound lanes next to the existing VTMS facing southbound lanes in the view. The existing overhead truck scales sign on the arched mast arm at the east edge of the highway would be relocated to a position further to the south and mounted on the concrete barrier at the west edge of the connector.

View 4's memorability (vividness) would be diminished from the existing level of moderate to a low level of quality with the removal of the existing dense vegetation at the east edge of the highway, addition of the two-lane Treat Boulevard Northbound off-ramp, the addition of a soundwall at the east edge of the off-ramp, and a concrete barrier between the I-680 northbound lanes and the proposed off-ramp. The addition of the VTMS in the median would not diminish the existing quality of the I-680 median's views since an existing VTMS is present in the same location. The existing low level of

intactness in the view would be diminished to a lower level of low with the addition of the off-ramp structures encroaching on views of the natural environment. The existing moderate level of unity in the balance between man-built structures and natural features would be reduced to a low level of quality with the addition of the off-ramp and its structures. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would remove the vegetation on the east side of the highway that contributes to the existing balance between natural and structural features in the view.

With Alternative 1C, the braided ramps between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges would not be constructed. Instead, the Lawrence Way to Northbound I-680 on-ramp would be widened approximately 12 feet to the east between I-680 PM 15.77 to PM 15.90. Beginning at PM 15.90, the east edge of the highway would taper back toward the west and conform to the existing east edge of the highway at approximately PM 16.35. A maximum 14-foot-high soundwall and a concrete barrier would be added to the east edge of the highway. With the widening, a retaining wall would be added that extends below grade under the soundwall and concrete barrier. Similar to Alternatives 2 and 3, existing trees and vegetation would be removed with Alternative 1C. For trees and vegetation that are disturbed by construction, highway planting would be added under a follow-on contract and in accordance with Caltrans' policy for highway planting. A VTMS would be added in the same location in the median as described above for Alternatives 2, 3, and 5. With Alternative 1C, vividness would be moderately low, intactness would be low, and unity would be moderate.

### *Viewer Response*

As the resource change for Key View 4 is anticipated to be high, it is anticipated that the overall viewer response under the Build Alternatives would be high.

### ***KEY VIEW 5: View West of I-680, Jones Road, Walnut Creek Vantage Point***

Key View 5 is a view of a vantage point on Jones Road east of I-680. This view, which looks southwest from a local road that serves a residential neighborhood, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the addition of a soundwall between the existing BART tracks and I-680. The view is on a local street to the east of the soundwall described in Key View 4.

Jonas Road is a two-lane local road that serves a densely populated single- and multi-family residential community east of I-680. Jones Road connects with Parkside Drive to the south, and with Treat Boulevard to the north. BART tracks, passenger train, and chain link fencing are visible to the west. Also visible are vehicular pavement, curb, sidewalk, and vehicles in Jones Road. Utility poles and lines are along the east edge of the road behind the sidewalk. Dense vegetation screens views to the west of I-680. The natural environment also includes dense groves of mature street trees and vegetation within individual properties.

The memorability (vividness) of the view is high. The level of intactness is moderate. There is a harmonious balance between structures and natural features; therefore, the

level of unity is high. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderately high. The existing condition for Key View 5 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-11. The proposed view for Key View 5 under the Build Alternatives is shown in Figure 2.1.9-12.



**Figure 2.1.9-11. Key View 5 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**





**Figure 2.1.9-12. Key View 5 Proposed Condition – Alternatives 2, 3, and 5**

### *Resource Change*

#### Alternative 1C

Alternative 1C would widen I-680 approximately 12 feet to the east in the location of the view, and a barrier with soundwall would be added along the east edge of the shoulder. For vegetation that is disturbed by the highway widening, highway planting would be added under a follow-on contract and in accordance with Caltrans' policy for highway planting. Vividness would be moderately high, intactness would be moderate, and unity would be high.

#### Alternatives 2, 3, and 5

Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would remove the existing screening vegetation between the BART tracks and the east edge of I-680. A maximum 14-foot-high soundwall (Evaluated Barrier 2) would be added on a proposed retaining wall (NMT RW 4) that would be approximately 1,775 feet long by 3 feet high. Approximately 5 feet of the retaining wall would be below grade, and the first 5 feet above grade would be hidden by the earth mound that supports the BART tracks. The existing planting between the chain link fence next to Jones Road and the BART tracks would remain and would provide partial screening of the proposed soundwall and retaining wall.

Key View 5's memorability (vividness) would be diminished from the existing high to moderately high under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 with the removal of the dense planting at the east edge of I-680 and the addition of the soundwall and retaining wall. The



moderate level of intactness in the existing view would remain moderate, although intactness would be diminished somewhat by the intrusion of the walls on the natural environment. However, the remaining planting between the BART tracks and Jones Road would partially screen the walls. The balance between the natural environment and structures would remain high due to the remaining screening vegetation at the west edge of Jones Road. Vines planted in front of the walls and shrubs between the BART tracks and Jones Road would be added under a follow-on contract and in accordance with Caltrans' policy for highway planting.

### *Viewer Response*

The overall viewer response for Alternative 1C would be moderately low. Resource change would be moderately low under Alternative 1C. The overall viewer response would be moderate for Alternatives 2, 3, and 5. Resource change would be moderate for Alternatives 2, 3, and 5.

### ***KEY VIEW 6: View North of I-680, Sherman Drive, Concord Vantage Point***

Key View 6 is a view of a vantage point on Sherman Drive east of I-680. This view, which looks north from a local road east of I-680, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the proposed addition of a proposed soundwall (SW No. 3) approximately 5 feet east of an existing soundwall (Existing Barrier E.3) that would be removed.

Sherman Drive is a two-lane local road that serves a densely populated single-family residential community east of I-680. Sherman Drive connects with Ramona Drive and Monument Boulevard to the south, and with Cleopatra Drive to the north behind the vantage point. Sherman Drive ends in a cul-de-sac at the north end of the view. An existing soundwall on a retaining wall is visible to the west. Also visible are vehicular pavement, rolled curb and gutter, and vehicles in Sherman Drive. Utility poles and lines are along the west edge of the road, with lines crossing to the single-family residences to the east. Street trees and shrubs next to the wall partially screen it. Dense groves of mature trees and vegetation are within individual properties.

The view's memorability (vividness) is moderate. The level of intactness is moderate. There is a harmonious balance between structures and natural features. The level of unity is moderately high. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderate. The existing condition for Key View 6 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-13. The proposed view for Key View 6 under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 (with planting) is shown in Figure 2.1.9-14. Alternative 5 would not include any highway widening or replacement of the existing soundwall at this location.



**Figure 2.1.9-13. Key View 6 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**



Source: Haygood & Associates 3-2022

**Figure 2.1.9-14. Key View 6 Proposed Condition – Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3  
with Planting**

### *Resource Change*

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would remove the existing soundwall and retaining wall between the intersection with Cleopatra Drive and the linear park to the north, ending at approximately PM R18.19. A new soundwall and retaining wall with the same concrete surface texture as the existing walls would be added approximately 5 feet east of the existing wall location in the view (Figure 2.1.9-14). The existing trees and shrubs between the wall and the road would be removed. Vines and trees between the wall and Sherman Drive would be added under a follow-on contract and in accordance with Caltrans' policy for highway planting. View 6's memorability (vividness) would be diminished somewhat until the highway planting is added. Overall, the level of vividness would remain moderate. Intactness and unity would remain moderate with the addition of the highway planting.

### *Viewer Response*

The overall viewer response would be moderate under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3.

### ***KEY VIEW 7: View South of Linear Open Space and I-680 Soundwall, Iron Horse Regional Trail, Concord Vantage Point***

Key View 7 is a view of a vantage point on the Iron Horse Regional Trail east of I-680. This view, which looks south from the regional recreation trail, was selected as a key view because it would illustrate the proposed widening of I-680 to the east and the proposed addition of a soundwall approximately 10 feet closer to the trail than the existing soundwall.

At this location, the Iron Horse Regional Trail is within an approximately 332-foot-wide linear open space and a riparian corridor for Walnut Creek. Mount Diablo is visible to the east, and foothills are visible to the east and south. Groves of trees, shrubs, and grassy slopes are visible within the linear trail. To the east of the trail is a single-family residential community. To the west is an existing soundwall, I-680, and the I-680/SR-242 Interchange. Mounted on the soundwall are highway lights, videocam and sign bridge post, and a mast arm. Chain link fences are present on both sides of the paved trail.

The view's memorability (vividness) is high. The soundwall, highway lights and poles, chain link fences, and trail pavement intrude on views of the natural environment, diminishing the level of intactness to moderate. There is a harmonious balance between structures and natural features. The level of unity is high. The overall level of quality in the existing condition is moderately high.

The existing condition for Key View 7 is illustrated in Figure 2.1.9-15. The proposed view for Key View 7 under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 is shown in Figure 2.1.9-16. Alternative 5 would not include any highway widening or replacement of the existing soundwall at this location.





**Figure 2.1.9-15. Key View 7 Photograph of Existing Conditions (July 6, 2021)**



**Figure 2.1.9-16. Key View 7 Proposed Condition – Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3<sup>b</sup>**

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<sup>b</sup> Although the simulation shows the vegetation (trees) to the right (west) of the trail being removed, these trees are outside Caltrans ROW and would remain.

### *Resource Change*

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would remove the existing soundwall and chain link fence to the west of the trail. A new soundwall on a concrete barrier with the same concrete surface texture as the existing wall would be added approximately 10 feet east of the existing wall location in the view. A chain link fence would be added in the same location as the existing fence. Existing vegetation within State ROW, adjacent to the soundwall would be removed. Trees and grass between the wall and the chain link fence would be added under a follow-on contract, in accordance with Caltrans' policy for highway planting.

Key View 7's memorability (vividness) in general would remain high because of the scenic views of Mount Diablo and foothills and views to the east of the riparian corridor. Intactness would be diminished to moderately low, and unity would be diminished to moderate with the addition of the proposed soundwall in a location closer to the trail.

### *Viewer Response*

The overall viewer response would be moderately high for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. No changes would occur under Alternative 5; therefore, viewer response within this Key View location would be unchanged.

### **Temporary Impacts**

Temporary visual impacts are anticipated during the 2-year construction period under all Build Alternatives. Temporary visual impacts would include the presence of construction equipment and materials, construction staging areas, temporary roadside barriers, and construction and detour signage within the area of the Project Study Limits, as well as construction activities, such as truck hauling, excavation activity, and the removal of existing mature plantings.

Project construction is anticipated to take up to 2 years to complete and would have a disturbed surface area (DSA) of up to 37.2 acres under Alternative 3. As described further in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, this DSA would include 3.49 acres of vegetated land. In addition, up to 309 trees would potentially need to be removed under Alternative 3. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5 would result in less DSA and less overall tree removal than Alternative 3. Vegetation removal and a landscape plan, outlined in Measures **VIS-1** and **VIS-2**, respectively, would avoid or minimize visual impacts as a result of vegetation removal during construction.

Visual quality within the highway corridor is expected to degrade due to vegetation removal for construction, storage of construction equipment, and construction activities. Viewers would see materials, equipment, workers, and construction operations, including trenching, excavations, dust, placement of temporary roadside barriers, construction signage, night lighting, contractor yards, temporary construction access roads, new pavement, and new structures being constructed. Construction impacts are unavoidable and temporary. Motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians would be exposed to construction activities while passing through the construction zone. Residents of

adjacent homes would be exposed to construction activities on a more continuous basis. **VIS-3** would be implemented, which would shield stored construction vehicles, equipment, and stockpiled materials using visual screens or topography, when feasible, to lessen the visual impact of construction on highway neighbors and users.

The Project Study limits receive light at night from traffic, street lighting, traffic signals, freeway on-ramps and off-ramps, and the surrounding commercial businesses. Measure **VIS-4** would be implemented, which would minimize potential impacts related to light and glare. With implementation of Measures **VIS-1** through **VIS-4**, temporary impacts would be minimized and the proposed Project, under all Build Alternatives, would not result in substantial temporary direct or indirect impacts on visual quality.

## Permanent Impacts

All Build Alternatives propose new ramps, express lane, soundwalls and retaining walls, lighting, overhead signage, and road widening. Overall, the Project, under all Build Alternatives, is moderately compatible with the character of the existing conditions. There are existing express lane signs, lights, express lane striping, toll gantries, utility cabinets and California Highway Patrol (CHP) pull-outs in I-680 within the Project Study Limits. Alternative 2 at the I-680/SR-24 Interchange would result in a moderately high level of compatibility with the existing character of the corridor with moderate to moderately low-level visual impacts. All Build Alternatives would result in a low level of compatibility with the existing character of the corridor between the North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges. In addition, Alternatives 1C and 3 would result in a low level of compatibility with the existing character of the corridor at the I 680/SR24 Interchange. Both areas would result in moderately high to high level visual impacts on motorists and highway neighbors in residential communities.

All Build Alternatives would require removal of highway planting. Remaining vegetation beyond the limits of removal would continue to screen the highway from neighboring vantage points and would continue to provide motorists with views of the natural environment. This condition would occur at the Sugar Loaf Open Space Preserve between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road. There are trees and grassy slopes beyond those that would be removed by the highway widening to the east in Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Vegetation would also be removed along the Northbound Rudgear Road on-ramp under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, but screening trees and shrubs would remain. The remaining vegetation would screen views of the highway from vantage points to the east of the ramp. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge.

I-680 is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between SR-24 in Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in Fremont. Under all Build Alternatives, the Project would not directly impact distant scenic resources, such as mountains and ridges, but would directly affect vegetation adjacent to the highway, including mature trees, shrubs and grassy slopes, permanently altering the view within the Officially Designated State Scenic Highway as well as within the Classified Landscaped Freeway sections of I-680.



The Project would affect views of scenic vistas. Motorists on I-680 would see Project signs overlapping views of Mount Diablo and foothills, and ridges to the south. Depending on travel speeds and the duration of exposure to the signs, overall viewer response would vary from moderate to moderately high. Visual impacts would be moderate to moderately high with regard to scenic vistas.

As previously discussed, the Project, under all Build Alternatives, would implement Measures **VIS-1** and **VIS-2** to minimize and avoid impacts to vegetation and landscaping within the Project Study Limits. Additionally, as described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, the Project would prepare and implement a highway planting plan that would require replacement planting along I-680 with a 3-year establishment period.

Mature trees at the edges of the highway are regarded highly by and necessary to highway neighbors who rely on trees to screen their views of the highway, soundwalls, and retaining walls. Some of the trees that would be removed by the Project, especially at Nicholson Road, Clover Lane, and Sherman Drive in Walnut Creek would impact neighbors. On Clover Lane, for example, which is adjacent to the southwest quadrant of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, Alternatives 1C and 3 would shift Southbound I-680, the Southbound I-680 to Olympic Boulevard off-ramp, and the Eastbound SR-24 to Southbound I-680 Ramp to the west requiring removal of screening trees. The remaining land between Nicholson Road and the proposed soundwall/retaining wall at the south edge of the SR-24 to I-680 Ramp would be restricted and not wide enough to restore screening trees in this area. Overall viewer response would be moderately high, resource change would be moderate, and visual impacts would be moderately high with views of the proposed highway structures and removal of screening trees.

Mature trees at the edges of the highway are also natural resources that are highly regarded by motorists. Trees and shrubs provide views of natural diversity in the environment in form, line, texture, and color as well as responding to seasonal changes and wind currents. There are proposed Project features that would result in permanent removal of trees. For example, this would occur along the Northbound Treat Boulevard off-ramp on I-680 between the North Main Street and Treat Boulevard Interchanges under Alternatives 2, 3 and 5. The condition is assessed in Key View 4 from the motorists' vantage point on Northbound I-680. The off-ramp would be added to the east of I-680 between the existing edge of the highway and the BART tracks. This segment of highway is densely planted with trees and shrubs. The vegetation would be removed and replaced by pavement and a soundwall along the east shoulder of the off-ramp. Similar to Alternatives 2 and 3, existing trees and vegetation would be removed and a soundwall added with Alternative 1C that would widen the highway to the east to accommodate the Lawrence Way on-ramp. Screening trees and vegetation would be removed and not replaced in restricted areas between the edges of the highway and proposed soundwalls and retaining walls. Grassy slopes at the edge of the highway would be replaced with retaining walls at cut slopes where highway widening is proposed. Tree replacement and vegetation replacement ratios would be required for specific species that are removed, as discussed in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*.

The Build Alternatives would result in the construction of sound walls and retaining walls up to 14 feet and 25 feet, respectively. Retaining walls exceeding the height of sound walls are expected to be placed at a lower elevation so the highway user would not view a wall over 14 feet tall. Under the Build Alternatives, Measure **VIS-5** would be implemented, which would require the consideration of aesthetic treatments to hardscapes that are consistent with aesthetic treatments present in the surrounding area.

The Project would add light and glare to the existing environment. Highway lights, illuminated signs, and signs with reflective surfaces would affect residents in neighborhoods adjacent to the highway with direct views of a sign's surface and lighted messages. Visual impacts from highway signs to those affected residents would be moderately high to high. The Project has been designed to avoid adding permanent lighting adjacent to the McNabney Marsh. Visual impacts from the light and glare of highway lights to residential neighbors would vary from moderate to low depending on the level of exposure to the lights, and the level to which views of distant scenic resources were diminished by the light and glare. As previously discussed, Measure **VIS-4** would be implemented, and a lighting plan to address light and glare impacts would be prepared.

Therefore, with the implementation of Measures **VIS-1** through **VIS-5**, and the Standardized Project Measures discussed above, no permanent indirect or direct adverse effects to visual quality and aesthetics would occur.

#### **2.1.9.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Caltrans and FHWA mandate that a qualitative/aesthetic approach should be taken to address visual quality loss in a project area. This approach fulfills the letter and the spirit of FHWA requirements because it addresses the actual cumulative loss of visual quality due to a project. This approach also results in avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures that can lessen or compensate for a loss in visual quality.

Tree replacement planting and revegetation measures described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, including **BIO-GEN-10** and **BIO-MM-1**, would be implemented. In addition, the following avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented with concurrence by the District Landscape Architect:

**VIS-1**      **Vegetation Removal.** During construction, the construction contractor will minimize the removal of groundcover, shrubs, and mature trees to the maximum extent possible, and utilize unvegetated areas for contractor staging/storage areas, when feasible. The construction contract will protect vegetation outside the clearing and grubbing limits from the contractor's operations, equipment, and materials storage. High visibility temporary fencing will be placed around vegetation to be protected before roadway work begins. Regular watering of vegetation should be provided to vegetation when construction interrupts normal automated irrigation.

All disturbed areas will receive hydroseeded treatment of erosion control grasses, and if appropriate, locally native grasses. Any roadside vegetation and irrigation systems that are damaged or removed during project construction will be replaced according to Caltrans' policy.

When trenching for utilities, the construction contractor will avoid trenching within drip lines of trees and screening shrubs. Directional drilling that would avoid damaging root systems of established plant material will be used, when reasonable, as opposed to open trenching to install new conduit in places where work within the drip line would be required. Trees and screening shrubs will be protected from damage during construction.

## VIS-2

**Landscape Plan.** During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans or designated contractors will prepare a highway landscape plan that will identify all opportunities to use areas within the state ROW for full landscaping consistent with the Caltrans Highway Design Manual. This will include planting for graded areas with plant species consistent with adjacent vegetation and enhancement of new Project structures such as ramps and tunnels to the extent feasible. This plan will incorporate all applicable procedures and requirement detailed in the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 900 – Landscape Architecture- Roadside (July 2020), consistent with the Classified Landscaped Freeway policies, and consistent with applicable city general plans or municipal codes, as applicable.

During the design phase, the Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect will verify that the design minimizes removal of existing mature trees. If removal of mature trees cannot be avoided, additional landscape improvements will be incorporated into the final design for these areas, where feasible.

Highway planting within Caltrans right-of-way will be provided where feasible to screen residential views of proposed express lane signs and lights and other highway activity and infrastructure. Caltrans safety-setback requirements will apply for all plantings within State right-of-way.

During the design phase, CCTA will consider topography, visual screening, and adjacent development in the placement of overhead signs, sign gantries, and sign lighting to minimize visual impacts to residents along the project corridor. Locations of project features may be adjusted where feasible given highway safety standards and other engineering and environmental considerations.

## VIS-3

**Construction Shields.** During construction, the construction contractor will place unsightly materials, equipment storage, and staging so that they are not visible within the foreground of the highway corridor to the maximum extent feasible. Where such siting is unavoidable, material and

equipment will be stored and visually screened to minimize visibility from the roadway and nearby sensitive off-road receptors.

**VIS-4**      **Lighting Plan.** During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will prepare a Lighting Plan and ensure that lighting fixtures be selected to minimize glare on adjacent properties and into the night sky. Lighting will be shielded with non-glare hoods and focused within the Project ROW. The Lighting Plan will be reviewed and approved by Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect prior to construction to ensure compliance with these criteria. Construction lighting will be limited to within the area of work and light trespass will be avoided through the use of directional lighting and shielding as needed.

**VIS-5**      **Aesthetic Treatments.** During the design phase, CCTA or designated contractors will work with Caltrans District 4 staff in order to verify that design elements are consistent with the vision for the Contra Costa County regarding aesthetic enhancements, scenic corridors, landscaping, and tree removal and plantings policies. During the design phase, the Project team will evaluate the aesthetic enhancements to be incorporated into the constructed elements to the extent feasible, such as design and color treatment for the new overhead sign structures, gantries, VTMSs and light standards shall be similar to the existing adjacent structures and poles, so to be visually compatible and consistent with the existing installations along the corridor. Additionally, where feasible, new concrete safety barriers and retaining walls should match the aesthetics (color, pattern and/or texture) of the existing barriers/walls along corridor for visual consistency. Treatments of color, pattern and/or texture are required in order to reduce visual impacts, glare, and the possible incidence of graffiti. If needed, maintenance agreements will be established during the design phase. Where feasible, vines could be planted along soundwalls to reduce visual impacts, potential for glare, and reduce the incidence of graffiti. Reference *Contra Costa I-680 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan* for aesthetic and landscape guidelines.

## 2.1.10 Cultural Resources

### 2.1.10.1 Regulatory Setting

The term “cultural resources,” as used in this document, refers to the “built environment” (e.g., structures, bridges, railroads, water conveyance systems, etc.), places of traditional or cultural importance, and archaeological sites (both prehistoric and historic), regardless of significance. Under federal and state laws, cultural resources that meet certain criteria of significance are referred to by various terms including “historic properties,” “historic sites,” “historical resources,” and “tribal cultural resources.” Laws and regulations dealing with cultural resources include:

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, sets forth national policy and procedures for historic properties, defined as districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects included in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) the opportunity to comment on those undertakings, following regulations issued by the ACHP (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800). On January 1, 2014, the *First Amended Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as it pertains to the Administration of the Federal Aid Highway Program in California* (PA) went into effect for Department projects, both state and local, with FHWA involvement. The PA implements the ACHP’s regulations, 36 CFR 800, streamlining the Section 106 process and delegating certain responsibilities to the Department. The FHWA’s responsibilities under the PA have been assigned to the Department as part of the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program (23 United States Code [USC] 327).

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the consideration of cultural resources that are historical resources and tribal cultural resources, as well as “unique” archaeological resources. California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1 established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and outlined the necessary criteria for a cultural resource to be considered eligible for listing in the CRHR and, therefore, a historical resource. Historical resources are defined in PRC Section 5020.1(j). In 2014, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 added the term “tribal cultural resources” to CEQA, and AB 52 is commonly referenced instead of CEQA when discussing the process to identify tribal cultural resources (as well as identifying measures to avoid, preserve, or mitigate effects to them). Defined in PRC Section 21074(a), a tribal cultural resource is a CRHR or local register eligible site, feature, place, cultural landscape, or object which has a cultural value to a California Native American tribe. Tribal cultural resources must also meet the definition of a historical resource. Unique archaeological resources are referenced in PRC Section 21083.2.



PRC Section 5024 requires state agencies to identify and protect state-owned historical resources that meet the NRHP listing criteria. It further requires the Department to inventory state-owned structures in its rights-of-way. Sections 5024(f) and 5024.5 require state agencies to provide notice to and consult with the SHPO before altering, transferring, relocating, or demolishing state-owned historical resources that are listed on or are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or are registered or eligible for registration as California Historical Landmarks. Procedures for compliance with PRC Section 5024 are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department and SHPO, effective January 1, 2015. For most Federal-aid projects on the State Highway System, compliance with the Section 106 PA will satisfy the requirements of PRC Section 5024.

### **2.1.10.2 Affected Environment**

The following discussion is derived from the *Historic Resources Evaluation Report*, (JRP Historical Consulting, 2023), which was completed for the proposed Project in April 2023, and the *Archaeological Survey Report and Extended Phase I Report*, (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023), which was completed for the proposed Project in August 2023.

#### **Area of Potential Effects**

The study area for cultural resources is the archaeological and architectural Area of Potential Effects (APE), which encompasses all areas within the physical footprint of the improvements proposed for the Build Alternatives as well as areas that may either be directly or indirectly affected by project construction activities. For this Project, the APE is 20.1 miles long and follows California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) right-of-way (ROW) through most of the Project area, extending from post mile (PM) R4.4 to PM 24.5 on Interstate 680 (I-680). The APE is based on the old Project Study Limits (Figure 1-4), which were reduced in October 2023. In the vicinity of the State Route (SR) 24 Interchange, the Project widens beyond State ROW in several areas to accommodate possible freeway widening elements. The vertical APE varies within the project APE, with excavation depths ranging from 1 foot for maintenance vehicle pullouts up to 75 feet for abutment and bent piles for bridge widenings.

#### **Records and Archival Review**

Far Western supported environmental studies previously for similar express lane projects that included the current Project corridor. The southern portion of the Project area was studied for the Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority's Interstate 680 Express Lane Phase I Project, as documented in Leach-Palm and Meyer (2014) and Meyer and Leach-Palm (2014). Whitaker and Kaijankoski conducted a study of the northern half of the Project corridor for the Interstate 680 Express Lanes Project (Southbound) in 2016 (Whitaker & Kaijankoski, 2016). Furthermore, DeBaker et al. (2015) conducted a study for the Backhaul Communications Network Project that included the entire Project footprint and Holson (2013) executed a study that extended 5.4 miles between Livorna and Geary Roads.



Building on previous studies, Far Western conducted an updated supplemental records search of materials on file with the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, encompassing a 0.75-mile radius of the initial APE—extending from I-680 just south of Marina Vista Avenue in Martinez to Livorna Road in Walnut Creek. The study was requested on August 5, 2020, and NWIC responded on October 2, 2020. A supplemental records search was requested on May 3, 2021, to accommodate further design changes and add an additional 5 miles of Project area on the southern extension. NWIC provided the results of this request on June 14, 2021.

Basemaps were examined for archaeological sites and surveys within the research area, and the California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976 and updates) and the Office of Historic Preservation's Historic Property Data File were reviewed. Historical U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangles were acquired online using USGS TopoView. General Land Office and Rancho plat maps were acquired from the Bureau of Land Management, Sacramento, and the following were examined:

- General Land Office plat maps (1865 and 1896)
- 1876 Thompson & West, Historical Atlas and Map of Santa Clara County
- 1881 plat of the Rancho Pastoria de las Borregas, finally confirmed to Marian Castro

The supplemental records search noted 106 previously recorded cultural resources within the 0.25-mile search area (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023). Of these, 89 are built environment (e.g., railroads, water conveyance, buildings) and 17 are archaeological sites. The archaeological sites consist of two historic-era resources, 14 prehistoric sites, and one unknown site (no data on file).

### **Native American Consultation**

A request for a search of the sacred lands file and a list of interested individuals was sent to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on August 3, 2020. NAHC responded on August 18, 2020, with negative results for sacred lands in the vicinity of the APE and provided a list of 12 interested individuals. The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), with the assistance of Far Western, contacted each of the representatives on the list. Letters were sent to individuals on August 31, 2020, with a second letter following on August 17, 2021. The latter detailed project changes and provided a new map set. A final email was sent to all interested party contacts on September 10, 2021, soliciting final comments on the Project prior to the completion of cultural studies. No responses were received regarding the initial notices.

In support of the Extended Phase I archaeological studies (described below), emails (with attached letters and maps) were sent to Native American tribes on April 12, 2023, and follow-up phone calls were conducted by the consultant archaeologist on May 12, 2023. CCTA conducted (in coordination with Caltrans) additional phone-calls and email correspondence later the same month. Representatives from the Amah Matsun Tribal

Band of Mission San Juan Bautista, The Confederated Villages of Lisjan, Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan, and The Ohlone Indian Tribe responded to the Extended Phase I notification. CCTA reached out to these representatives, extending an invitation to participate in lab work for the Extended Phase I. A representative from the Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan responded requesting further consultation on July 21, 2023. Consultation with Native American tribes is ongoing under both Section 106 and Assembly Bill 52, which is described further in the Section 3.2.18 of the CEQA Evaluation, *Tribal Cultural Resources*.

## Field Surveys

Nearly all of the APE has been surveyed previously for prior projects, including those conducted by Holson (2013), Leach-Palm and Meyer (2014), and DeBaker et al. (2015), as well as by Far Western as part of the I-680 Southbound Express Lanes Project (Whitaker & Kaijankoski, 2016). For the current undertaking, Far Western conducted multiple pedestrian archaeological surveys from the summer of 2020 to summer of 2021 (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023). This field effort focused solely on newly expanded areas of the Project that had not been surveyed previously. No surface archaeological materials were observed in the archaeological APE during the pedestrian survey. JRP performed field surveys of built-environment resources within the APE on March 25 and May 20, 2021 (JRP Historical Consulting, 2023).

Extensive studies have previously been conducted, as part of prior undertakings, within the current project APE to identify archaeological resources, including Extended Phase I studies by Meyer and Leach-Palm (2014) and Kaijankoski, Meyer, Scher, & Whitaker (2016). The majority of the current APE has been cleared for construction through previous efforts. An Extended Phase I Report (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023) was prepared for the proposed undertaking for proposed activities in proximity to the Rudgear Road Undercrossing.

## Summary of Findings

The records search identified 14 resources within the APE, including 3 prehistoric (archaeological) sites and 11 built environment resources. Two of the archaeological sites are located within the APE but are not within the ADI for the current project and one is either misplotted or has been destroyed within the APE due to past highway construction activities as discussed below. One additional resource, Peyton Marsh Drainage System (P-07-002685), was identified during the records search. After further consideration and analysis of design plans, it was determined that the resource would not intersect with the APE and, as such, was excluded from further evaluation. In addition to the built environment and pre-contact archaeological sites within the APE, 91 resources have been recorded within one-quarter mile of the APE. Of these, 14 are archaeological sites and 77 are built environment.

The following three additional resources were identified in the APE for inventory and formal evaluation: 511 Lawrence Way, 2389 North Main Street, and 1666 Terrace Road (JRP Historical Consulting, 2023). All three of these resources are in the city of Walnut Creek and were evaluated and determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR.

No comments on these determinations of eligibility were received from SHPO, and as such, concurrence is dated September 14, 2023, pursuant to Stipulation VIII.C.6.a of the Section 106 PA.

The Contra Costa Canal (P-07-002695) and the Mokelumne Aqueduct (P-07-002612) were previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. The SHPO concurred with those determinations. As a result, these two resources are also listed in the CRHR.

The Walnut Creek and Grayson Creek Levees (P-07-002731) were previously determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP, and the SHPO concurred with that determination. There are also 65 bridges in the APE that were previously determined ineligible for the NRHP, and their determinations remain valid. Caltrans is assuming an additional three resources in the APE are eligible for the NRHP with agreement from the Cultural Studies Office for the purposes of this Project, pursuant to Stipulation VIII.C.4 of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. The assumed eligible resources are the Southern Pacific Railroad Northern Contra Costa Route (P-07-000500), Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), and Contra Costa – Moraga Transmission Line (P-07-004688).

### **Potential for Presence of Buried Resources**

The proposed Project would require subsurface disturbance in the form of excavations for retaining walls, bridge abutments, foundation piles, HOV/express lane gantry foundations, best management practice areas, and utility pole relocation. Previous studies and project vicinity geomorphology were used to develop a model of weighted sensitivity to assess the APE's likelihood to contain buried archaeological deposits.

The model indicated that the majority of the APE has low or lowest potential for buried sites. However, the *Archaeological Survey Report* estimated that approximately 16.7 percent of the Project area does contain areas of high or very high sensitivity for buried archaeological resources. Because the APE contains areas sensitive for buried archaeological resources, a program of geoarchaeological testing was undertaken as part of 2015 field efforts. An Extended Phase I Report (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023) was prepared for the proposed undertaking for proposed activities in proximity to the Rudgear Road Undercrossing.

#### **2.1.10.3 Environmental Consequences**

There are historic sites within the Project vicinity protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. This project will result in a "use" of those facilities, as defined by Section 4(f). Additional details are provided in Appendix A, *Section 4(f)*.

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the APE. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on cultural resources would occur.

## Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

Within the APE, five cultural resources have been determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. **CUL-1** through **CUL-2** would be implemented to avoid impacts to archaeological resources. The five cultural resources within the APE are the Southern Pacific Railroad Northern Contra Costa Route (P-07-000500), Contra Costa Canal (P-07-002695), Mokelumne Aqueduct (P-07-002612), BART, and Contra Costa – Moraga Transmission Line (P-07-004688). All five resources are on or eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR.

*Southern Pacific Railroad Northern Contra Costa Route:* These railroad tracks cross through the APE adjacent to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue, near the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The Project does not include any construction activities or permanent improvements north of PM 23.1. Therefore, the Project would not impact this resource.

*Contra Costa Canal:* The canal crosses I-680 at PM 22.8, PM 21.9, and PM 16.1. At PM 22.8, the canal is an underground pipe that crosses I-680 near Arthur Road. The Project could include installing utilities over the underground pipe, which would be confirmed during final design. At PM 21.9, the canal is an open, concrete-lined channel flanked by a dirt/gravel road that crosses under I-680. All Build Alternatives include installing utilities that would span the canal at this location. Utilities would either be installed on concrete piers beside the canal walls, similar to existing conduit at this location, or installed between the fence line and I-680 guardrail. Regardless, the construction contractor would avoid altering the canal physically.

The canal crosses under the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge (No. 28 0135) at PM 16.1. Under the bridge, the canal features a control gate on the canal's north sidewall and a concrete check that crosses the width of the canal. East of the bridge, the canal passes under BART tracks and Jones Road in a concrete box culvert supported on the north by a concrete-bag retaining wall. The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is adjacent to the canal at this location. The canal's character-defining features within the APE include the concrete-lined open canal that follows the natural terrain to maintain a steady elevation. The control gate and check at PM 16.1 are also considered character-defining features, while the culvert that passes under BART was built after the period of significance and does not contribute to the historic property's significance. Alternative 1C would not widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge 33 feet to the east of the existing structure. The bents and columns would follow the alignment of their counterpart features on the existing structure. No temporary or permanent physical alterations would occur to the segment of the canal that crosses under the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge (No. 28 0135). Any temporary falsework that would be needed for bridge widening would span the historic boundary of the canal

completely. Netting and other protective measures would be used to prevent items and materials from falling into the canal.

*Mokelumne Aqueduct:* Three parallel pipelines cross beneath I-680 at the I-680/SR-242 Interchange. The Mokelumne aqueduct consists of three pipelines buried along the center of a 100-foot-wide corridor. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 propose adding pavement to the outside (east) shoulder of northbound I-680 where the freeway crosses over the Mokelumne Aqueduct. Proposed construction activities at this location would be no deeper than 4 feet and the pipelines are more than 15 feet below the freeway grade. All proposed construction activities and permanent improvements would occur well above this resource.

*BART:* The transit service is along northbound I-680 near Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive and then crosses I-680 north of SR-24 at the BART Central Contra Costa Line I-680 Overpass. All Build Alternatives were designed to avoid physical destruction of, or damage to, all or part of BART, including its abutment and retaining wall on the west end of the BART Central Contra Costa Line I-680 Overpass.

*Contra Costa – Moraga Transmission Line:* All Build Alternatives would add a northbound lane within the existing Caltrans ROW and install a gantry toll reader within the vicinity of the transmission line. The transmission line tower base is approximately 100 feet above the freeway and the towers appear to be at least 70 feet tall. As such, all proposed construction activities and permanent improvements would occur well below this resource.

The proposed Section 106 finding for the Project is a Finding of No Adverse Effect without Standard Conditions, pending review from the Caltrans Cultural Studies Office and concurrence from the SHPO, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(c) and Stipulation X.B.2 of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement.

#### **2.1.10.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

**CUL-1 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources.** If cultural materials are discovered during construction, all earth-moving activity within and around the immediate discovery area will be diverted until a qualified archaeologist can assess the nature and significance of the find.

**CUL-2 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains.** If human remains are discovered, California Health and Safety Code (H&SC) Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall stop in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County Coroner contacted. If the remains are thought by the coroner to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), who, pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98, will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At this time, the person who

discovered the remains will contact District Environmental Branch so that they may work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

Consultations with SHPO and Native American tribes are ongoing under Section 106 and AB 52. With implementation of the avoidance and minimization measures described above, mitigation measures would not be required to address the Project's potential cultural resources. Any additional measures that are developed as a result of Section 106 or AB 52 consultation will be included in the Final Environmental Document.



## 2.2 Physical Environment

### 2.2.1 Hydrology and Floodplain

#### 2.2.1.1 Regulatory Setting

Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management) directs all federal agencies to refrain from conducting, supporting, or allowing actions in floodplains unless it is the only practicable alternative. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements for compliance are outlined in 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 650 Subpart A.

To comply, the following must be analyzed:

- The practicability of alternatives to any longitudinal encroachments.
- Risks of the action.
- Impacts on natural and beneficial floodplain values.
- Support of incompatible floodplain development.
- Measures to minimize floodplain impacts and to preserve/restore any beneficial floodplain values affected by the project.

The base floodplain is defined as “the area subject to flooding by the flood or tide having a one percent chance of being exceeded in any given year.” An encroachment is defined as “an action within the limits of the base floodplain.”

#### 2.2.1.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is based on the *Location Hydraulic Study* (WRECO, 2022a), *Water Quality Assessment Report* (WRECO, 2022b), and *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2022) prepared for the proposed Project.

#### Hydrology

The Project is located within the Suisun Hydrologic Unit (207.0) and within the Pittsburg (207.31), Martinez (207.33), and Walnut Creek (207.32) Hydrologic Sub-Areas. The Project crosses eight waterbodies. A description of these waterbodies is provided in this section and shown in Figure 2.2.1-1. Each of these waterbodies eventually discharge to Suisun Bay, located approximately 2 miles north of the northern Project Study Limits.

- **San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road.** A tributary stream to San Ramon Creek, crosses Interstate 680 (I-680) approximately 0.02 mile north of Livorna Road. The stream originates near the southern end of Sugarloaf Hill, crosses I-680 through an 18-inch reinforced concrete pipe, and outfalls into San Ramon Creek west of I-680.

- **San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road.** San Ramon Creek crosses under I-680 through a channel just west of Rudgear Road and continues north on the eastern side of I-680. The San Ramon headwaters originate on the western side of Rocky Ridge via Bollinger Creek.
- **Tice Creek.** Tice Creek crosses I-680 approximately 0.06 mile north of the I-680/Lilac Drive Undercrossing. The Tice Creek headwaters are in Rossmoor. Tice Creek crosses I-680 in an underground culvert and resurfaces immediately into Las Trampas Creek.
- **Las Trampas Creek.** Las Trampas Creek crosses I-680 approximately 0.07 mile north of the I-680/Newell Road Undercrossing. The Las Trampas Creek headwaters are in Las Trampas Ridge near St. Mary's College in Moraga. Las Trampas Creek crosses I-680 in an unlined channel. The I-680 bridge spans over Las Trampas Creek.
- **Walnut Creek.** Walnut Creek does not cross I-680, but it does flow along the east side of I-680. It crosses under Sun Valley Boulevard and diverts east, away from I-680.
- **Grayson Creek.** Grayson Creek crosses I-680 approximately 0.27 mile south of the I-680/SR-4 Interchange. The Grayson Creek headwaters are in the Briones Hills near Briones Regional Park. Grayson Creek crosses I-680 in an unlined channel. The I-680 bridge spans over Grayson Creek.
- **Pacheco Creek.** Pacheco Creek, also known as the Vine Hill Creek area, crosses I-680 approximately 0.15 mile south of the I-680/Pacheco Boulevard Interchange. The Pacheco Creek headwaters are in Vine Hill. Pacheco Creek crosses I-680 in an underground culvert.



Figure 2.2.1-1. Water Crossings within Project Study Limits

## Floodplains

The Project Study Limits are located within Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel Numbers 06013C0088H, 06013C0089H, 06013C0289G, and 06013C0293G (effective March 21, 2017); and FIRM Panel Numbers 06013C0277F, 06013C0281F, 06013C0283F, 06013C291F, 06013C0287F, and 060130431F (effective June 16, 2009). The FEMA FIRM Panels show the Project Study Limits as being located within the following Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) (Figure 2.2.1-2):

- Zone A is for areas subject to inundation by the 100-year flood event, using approximate methodologies. Base flood elevations are not shown.
- Zone AE is for areas subject to inundation by the 100-year flood event, where detailed hydraulic analyses have been performed. Base flood elevations are shown.
- Zone X (shaded) is for areas within the 500-year floodplain, areas within the 100-year floodplain with depths less than 1 foot, areas within the 100-year floodplain with watersheds less than 1 mile, and areas protected from the 100-year flood event by a levee. Base flood elevations are not shown.
- Zone X (unshaded) is for areas outside the 100-year and 500-year floodplains.

As shown in Figure 2.2.1-2, the Project is located within or near 100-year floodplains, designated as Zone A or Zone AE, that are associated with the following waterbodies (WRECO, 2022a):

- **San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road.** The San Ramon Creek along I-680, north of Livorna Road, is a Zone AE floodplain and is also located within a regulatory floodway. According to CFR Title 44, Section 60.3(d)(3), a community shall “prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development, within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.” A bridge at Livorna Road over San Ramon Creek directly west of I-680 has a base flood elevation (BFE) of 229 feet. The BFE is determined by FEMA and is the expected water level rise during a flood with a 1 percent (1%) chance of occurring in in any given year. No BFE increase of any amount is allowed in the floodway.
- **San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road.** The San Ramon Creek crossing at Rudgear Road is located within floodplains designated as Zone AE to Zone A.





- **Tice Creek.** The Tice Creek crossing at Lilac Road is a Zone AE floodplain. The BFE is 157 feet at the upstream side of the crossing.
- **Las Trampas Creek.** Las Trampas Creek crossing is a Zone AE floodplain and floodway. The BFE upstream of the I-680 Trampas Creek crossing is 152 feet. There are no proposed impacts within this floodplain.
- **Walnut Creek.** Walnut Creek Zone A floodplain runs along the east side of I-680.
- **Grayson Creek.** I-680 crosses through a shaded Zone X south of Grayson Creek. I-680 crosses Zone AE at Center Avenue. I-680 crosses Zone AE south of the SR-4 Interchange at Grayson Creek. I-680 passes over a floodway area with BFEs between 18 and 19 feet.
- **Pacheco Creek (Vine Hill Creek).** I-680 crosses a Zone A floodplain at Pacheco Creek. Zone A floodplains do not have BFE.

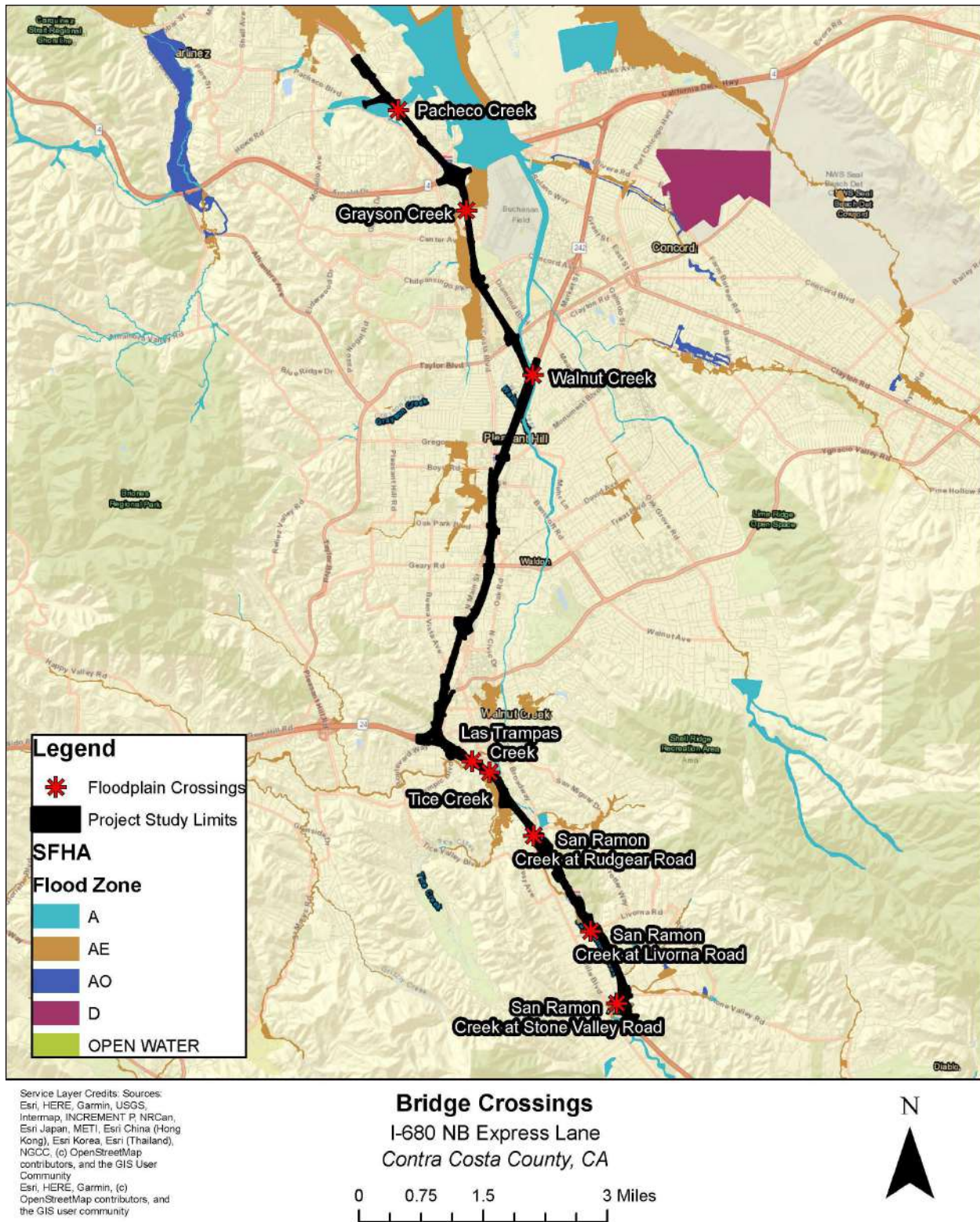


Figure 2.2.1-2. Floodplain Crossings within Project Study Limits



## Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Values

Natural and beneficial floodplain values associated with uses within the Project Study Limits include, but are not limited to, wildlife, plants, outdoor recreation, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge, which are further discussed below.

### **Wildlife**

As discussed in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, a biological study area (BSA) has been developed for the proposed Project. The BSA was established to evaluate the Project's effects on natural communities and other biological resources. Twenty-two special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur in the BSA. Further information on wildlife species can be found in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*; and Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*.

### **Plants**

Only one special-status plant species, Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *congdonii*), has the potential to occur in the BSA. Further information on plant species can be found in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; Section 2.3.3, *Plant Species*; and Section 2.3.6, *Invasive Species*.

### **Outdoor Recreation**

As discussed in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, multiple recreation trails are located within the Community Impact Study Area. The Iron Horse Regional Trail is located adjacent to Walnut Creek and San Ramon Creek where it is a lined channel within the Project Study Limits. The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is located adjacent to the Contra Costa Canal where it is a lined channel within the Project Study Limits. These trails within the Project Study Limits do not include aquatic habitat. Further information on outdoor recreational resources can be found in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*.

### **Water Quality Maintenance**

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Basin Plan (Basin Plan) has designated beneficial uses for San Ramon Creek, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, Peyton Slough, and Suisun Bay (listed in Table 2.2.1-1). No beneficial uses for Pacheco Creek are defined in the Basin Plan. A beneficial use is one of the various ways that water can be used for the benefit of people and/or wildlife. Examples of beneficial use include drinking, swimming, industrial water supply, and support of fresh aquatic habitats.

**Table 2.2.1-1. Beneficial Uses for Receiving Waters**

Water Body	Beneficial Uses												
	IND	COMM	PROC	COLD	EST	MIGR	RARE	SPWN	WARM	WILD	REC-1	REC-2	NAV
San Ramon Creek and unlisted tributaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	E	E	-
Tice Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	E	E	E	E	-
Las Trampas Creek	-	-	-	E	-	-	E	-	E	E	E	E	-
Walnut Creek	-	-	-	E	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	-
Grayson Creek	-	-	-	E	-	E	E	-	E	E	E	E	-
Peyton Slough	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	E	-
Suisun Bay	E	E	E	-	E	E	E	E	-	E	E	E	E

Source: (WRECO, 2022b)

Notes:

COLD = cold freshwater habitat; COMM = commercial and sports fishing; E = existing; EST = estuarine habitat; IND = industrial service supply; MIGR = fish migration; NAV = navigation; PROC = industrial process supply; RARE = preservation of rare and endangered species; REC-1 = water contact recreation; REC-2 = non-contact water recreation; SPWN = fish spawning; WARM = warm freshwater habitat; and WILD = wildlife habitat

San Ramon Creek, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Pacheco Creek, and Peyton Slough are not listed in the 2018 *California Integrated Report* (Clean Water Act Section 303[d] List/305[b] Report) as impaired, nor have total maximum daily loads (TMDL) been established. Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, and Suisun Bay are listed as impaired water bodies in the 2018 *California Integrated Report* (Clean Water Act Section 303[d] List/305[b] Report).

Further information on water quality maintenance can be found in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*.

### **Groundwater Recharge**

The Project Study Limits span the Ygnacio Valley groundwater basin and are near the San Ramon Valley groundwater basin. Table 2.2.1-2 lists the existing and potential beneficial uses designated by the Basin Plan for the Ygnacio Valley and San Ramon Valley groundwater basins.

The *Caltrans District 4 Stormwater Management Program Work Plan* (Caltrans 2021) identifies several drinking water reservoirs or recharge facility areas within Contra Costa



County; however, the Project is not anticipated to impact any of these reservoirs or recharge facilities.

Further information on groundwater can be found in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*.

**Table 2.2.1-2. Beneficial Uses for Groundwater Basins**

Groundwater Basin	Beneficial Uses			
	MUN	PROC	IND	AGR
Ygnacio Valley	P	P	P	P
San Ramon Valley	E	P	P	E

Source: (WRECO, 2022b)

Notes:

AGR = Agricultural water supply; E = Existing; IND = Industrial service water supply; MUN = Municipal and domestic water supply; P = Potential; and PROC = Industrial process water supply

### 2.2.1.3 Environmental Consequences

EO 11988 requires federal agencies to avoid, to the extent possible, the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.

As defined by FHWA Title 23, CFR, Part 650, Subpart A (23 CFR 650A), a significant encroachment is a highway encroachment or any action to promote base floodplain development that involves one or more of the following construction or flood-related impacts: (1) a significant potential for the interruption or termination of a transportation facility that is needed for emergency vehicles or that provides a community’s only evacuation route, (2) a significant risk, or (3) a significant adverse impact on the natural and beneficial floodplain values.

As mentioned previously, natural and beneficial floodplain values associated with the Project include, but are not limited to, wildlife, plants, outdoor recreation, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge. Temporary and/or permanent impacts on natural and beneficial floodplain values are discussed further in this section.

### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Project Study Limits. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on hydrology or floodplains would occur.

## Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

### Temporary Impacts

#### Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Values

##### Wildlife

The discussion below focuses on potential temporary impacts to special-status wildlife species that may have a potential to occur within creek channels that cross the Project Study Limits, specifically northwestern pond turtle and California red-legged frog. Further information on all other special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the BSA can be found in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*; and Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*.

##### Northwestern Pond Turtle

Northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) is a federally proposed threatened species and California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022b). Northwestern pond turtle is most likely to occur in the BSA in the vicinity of McNabney Marsh and Moorhen Marsh. In addition, there is a low potential for the species to occur in San Ramon Creek at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Alternative 5 would not include widening this bridge. At this location, San Ramon Creek is concrete-lined and the surrounding ground is hardscaped. These conditions do not provide suitable nesting habitat for the species in that area, but the species may use the creek for dispersal between areas of more suitable habitat. Falsework would be installed over San Ramon Creek to prevent debris and other contaminants from entering the creek during construction.

Direct impacts on northwestern pond turtle could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or trapped in open excavations or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, and **BIO-TURTLE-1**, as discussed in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, and Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*. With the implementation of these measures, no substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on northwestern pond turtle are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

##### California Red-Legged Frog

California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) is a federally threatened amphibian species and a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). According to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), there are 13 California red-legged frog occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. This includes a tributary to San Ramon Creek that is upstream of the BSA. Within the BSA, San Ramon

Creek is shallow and concrete-lined with only sparse vegetation and crosses under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. This segment of San Ramon Creek could be potential dispersal habitat for California red-legged frog but would not be suitable breeding habitat for the species. No CNDDDB occurrences have been documented in Las Trampas Creek or from the main body of Walnut Creek to Suisun Bay.

The land surrounding the BSA is almost entirely urban, consisting of residential and commercial development, along with numerous heavily traveled roads. This development, which contains structural barriers including, but not limited to, concrete road dividers, retaining walls, and residential fences, represents a major barrier to the dispersal of California red-legged frogs. Due to the absence of breeding habitat, limited aquatic dispersal habitat, and multiple passage barriers, there is a low likelihood that the California red-legged frog would be found within the BSA or affected by Project activities.

Direct impacts on California red-legged frog could occur as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or trapped in open excavations, or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable California red-legged frog habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, **BIO-FROG-1**, and **BIO-FROG-2**. Further discussion on these measures can be found in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, and Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*. With the implementation of these measures, no substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on California red-legged frog are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

## Plants

Grassland habitat, such as brome grassland, could support Congdon's tarplant. However, as discussed in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, there would be no temporary impact to any land cover type other than developed land. No substantial temporary adverse impacts on Congdon's tarplant or any other rare plants species are anticipated.

## Outdoor Recreation

A portion of the Iron Horse Trail is located adjacent to San Ramon Creek, a lined channel within the Project Study Limits. The proposed Project would result in permanent impacts on the Iron Horse Regional Trail under Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5. These alternatives include widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge over the Iron Horse Regional Trail, temporarily detouring the trail for up to 4 weeks and permanently shifting the trail under the bridge. Caltrans would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify temporary detours and the permanent trail relocation prior to construction.

The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is located adjacent to the Contra Costa Canal, a lined channel within the Project Study Limits. The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail would be impacted temporarily

during construction under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5. These alternatives include widening the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge, temporarily closing approximately 0.2 mile of the trail for 2 to 3 weeks. Caltrans would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify potential detours for this trail segment prior to construction.

The Iron Horse Regional Trail and the Contra Costa Canal Trail//Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail within the Project Study Limits do not include aquatic habitat. Implementing the Build Alternatives would not result in a barrier to fish passage, nor would the Project block or otherwise alter channel flow in any channel where fish may occur. No temporary direct or indirect impacts to aquatic habitat, channel flow, or fish passage are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

### Water Quality Maintenance

The Build Alternatives would involve cut-and-fill, grading, and excavation activities, which have the potential to increase erosion and result in temporary direct and indirect water quality impacts. Soil erosion, especially during heavy rainfall, can increase the suspended solids, dissolved solids, and organic pollutants in stormwater runoff generated within the Project Study Limits. Further, fueling or maintenance of construction vehicles could occur within the Project Study Limits during construction; thus, there would be a risk of accidental spills or releases of fuels, oils, or other potentially toxic materials. An accidental release of these materials could pose a threat to water quality if contaminants enter local receiving waters and storm drains.

However, all Build Alternatives would be compliant with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (Measure **WQ-1**), which would require the implementation of temporary Best Management Practices (BMP) to minimize temporary water quality impacts associated with Project construction. All Build Alternatives would also require the preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (Measure **WQ-2**), which would implement soil erosion and pollution prevention control measures and also minimize temporary impacts on water quality, as discussed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. With the implementation of Measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-2**, it is anticipated that no substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on water quality would occur under the Build Alternatives.

### Floodplain Encroachment

As shown in Figure 2.2.1-2, the Project is located within or near 100-year floodplains designated as Zone A or Zone AE. However, the proposed Project would not result in any floodplain encroachment, as discussed below.

- **San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road.** San Ramon Creek crosses Livorna Road on the west side of I-680. This location is within a 100-year floodplain designated as Zone AE and within a regulatory floodway with a 229-foot BFE. The Project proposes to place a treatment BMP near the floodway along San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (PM R11.33). The treatment BMP is expected to be designed above the 229-foot BFE and therefore would not encroach into



the floodplain or impact the water surface elevation. No work is proposed within the San Ramon Creek 100-year floodplain at Livorna Road.

- **San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road.** The San Ramon Creek crossing at Rudgear Road is located within floodplains designated as Zone AE to Zone A. San Ramon Creek crosses under I-680 through a channel just west of Rudgear Road where the floodplain transitions from Zone AE with a floodway to Zone A. The BFE west of the bridge is 184 feet. Alternatives 1C and 3 proposes added impervious area on either side of the Zone A floodplain downstream of the crossing. Alternatives 2 and 3 would have additional grading down the east slopes on either side of the Zone A floodplain but not within the floodplain. Alternative 5 is expected to have no grading at this location. In addition, a northbound bridge widening of 17 feet 8 inches is proposed at Rudgear Road. Four piers would be extended to accommodate the widening. The bridge widening piers and abutment are assumed to be outside of the concrete-lined channel and floodplain.
- **Tice Creek.** The Tice Creek crossing at Lilac Road is a Zone AE floodplain. The BFE at the upstream side of the crossing is 157 feet. Electrical work and a new sign are proposed on the I-680 roadway, which is assumed to be above the 157-foot BFE and outside of the Tice Creek 100-year floodplain. In addition, a guardrail is proposed along the west side of I-680 outside of the floodplain. No work is proposed within the Tice Creek 100-year floodplain.
- **Las Trampas Creek.** The Las Trampas Creek crossing is a Zone AE floodplain and a floodway. No work is proposed within the Las Trampas Creek 100-year floodplain.
- **Walnut Creek.** Walnut Creek Zone A floodplain runs along the east side of I-680. No work is proposed within the Walnut Creek 100-year floodplain.
- **Grayson Creek.** I-680 crosses through a shaded Zone X south of Grayson Creek at Center Avenue. The Zone AE floodplain crosses I-680 and enters the southbound lanes in the vicinity as well. I-680 crosses Zone AE south of the SR-4 Interchange at Grayson Creek. I-680 passes over a floodway area with BFEs between 18 and 19 feet. BMPs are proposed on the northwest side of I-680, outside of the Grayson Creek 100-year floodplain. No Build Alternatives propose construction within the 100-year floodplain.
- **Pacheco Creek.** I-680 crosses a Zone A floodplain at Pacheco Creek and Zone AE floodplain at the north end of the site in the vicinity of Peyton Slough. A treatment BMP and trash capture device are proposed north and outside of the Pacheco Creek 100-year floodplain. No Build Alternatives propose construction within the 100-year floodplain.

Although the proposed Project is located within 100-year floodplains associated with several waterbody crossings, no construction activity is anticipated to occur within the

floodplains or result in floodplain encroachment that would interfere with flows within the channels. Therefore, under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project is not anticipated to result in any temporary direct or indirect impacts on floodplains.

## ***Permanent Impacts***

### *Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Values*

#### Wildlife

The discussion below focuses on potential permanent impacts to special-status wildlife species that may have a potential to occur within creek channels that cross the Project Study Limits, specifically northwestern pond turtle and California red-legged frog. Further information on all other special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the BSA can be found in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*; and Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*.

#### Northwestern Pond Turtle

With the implementation of Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16** and **BIO-TURTLE-1**, no substantial permanent adverse impacts on northwestern pond turtles are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

#### California Red-Legged Frog

With the implementation of Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, **BIO-FROG-1**, and **BIO-FROG-2**, no substantial permanent adverse impacts on California red-legged frogs are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

#### Plants

The Project would result in the permanent loss of grassland habitat that could support listed plant species, such as Congdon's tarplant, as described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. Alternative 1C would permanently impact approximately 1.55 acres of brome grassland, Alternatives 2 and 3 would permanently impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland, and Alternative 5 would permanently impact approximately 0.37 acre of brome grassland. Based on the negative findings during the field surveys, negative findings during focused rare plant surveys conducted by Caltrans for previous projects that overlap the BSA, and the low quality of habitat within the Project's impact areas, the likelihood for Congdon's tarplant to be present in the BSA is considered moderate. Since the Project would impact suitable habitat for the species, Measure **BIO-PLANTS-1**, as discussed in Section 2.3.3, *Plant Species*, would be implemented, which would require a pre-construction survey by a qualified biologist. If Congdon's tarplant or other rare plant species is observed during this survey, it will be protected by creating a no-work buffer to avoid impacts from construction activities, staging, or access. With the implementation of Measure **BIO-PLANTS-1**, no substantial permanent adverse direct or indirect impacts on Congdon's tarplant or other rare plant species are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

## Water Quality Maintenance

The proposed Project would require minimal fill along the floodplains under all Build Alternatives. In addition, the proposed Project would result in a 12.84-acre increase of impervious surface area under Alternative 1C, 9.06-acre increase under Alternative 2, 16.27-acre increase under Alternative 3, and 2.93-acre increase under Alternative 5. The increase in impervious area could result in an increase of sediment-laden flow discharging directly into receiving waterbodies (WRECO, 2022b), which could contribute to a violation of water quality standards. However, all Build Alternatives would include the installation of permanent BMPs to avoid the potential for Project-related stormwater discharges to substantially alter drainage patterns, violate water quality standards, or substantially degrade water quality. The proposed permanent BMPs include design pollution prevention BMPs (Measure **WQ-3**), such as preservation of existing vegetation, and treatment BMPs (Measure **WQ-4**), such as infiltration devices, which would reduce the amount of pollutants entering directly into surface waters. The final location of permanent BMPs would be determined during the final design phase and in compliance with permit requirements from regulatory agencies. Therefore, following implementation of these stormwater BMPs, no substantial permanent adverse direct or indirect impacts on water quality would occur under all Build Alternatives, as discussed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*.

## Floodplain Encroachment

The proposed Project is located within 100-year floodplains associated with several waterbody crossings; however, no Project-related activity or improvement is anticipated to occur within the floodplains. The Project would generally maintain the existing roadway profile.

A treatment BMP is proposed to be implemented in proximity to the floodway along San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (PM R11.33), but the treatment BMP is expected to be designed above the 229-foot BFE and, therefore, would not encroach into the floodplain or impact the water surface elevation. No work is proposed within the San Ramon Creek 100-year floodplain at Livorna Road. Further analysis would be conducted during final design to confirm the treatment BMP would have no impacts to the BFE or floodplain (Measure **HYD-1**).

According to the *Location Hydraulic Study* (WRECO, 2022a), the proposed Project, under all Build Alternatives, can be classified as low risk to existing floodplains. The Project would not result in longitudinal floodplain encroachment and does not support incompatible floodplain development. The potential risk to life and property remains unchanged as a result of the Project. There is no increase in the BFE, and the Project does not alter the existing flooding source. The proposed Project does not adversely impact the floodplains, and flood conveyance would be maintained. Additionally, the proposed Project would not result in any permanent impacts on the natural and beneficial floodplain values or termination of emergency services or emergency routes. Contra Costa Transportation Authority would coordinate with local, State, and federal water resources and floodplain management agencies, including Contra Costa County

Flood Control and Water Conservation District (CCCFC & WCD), as necessary, for all portions of the Project.

#### **2.2.1.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Measures **WQ-1** through **WQ-4** in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*, would require the preparation of an SWPPP and compliance with applicable NPDES permits. Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16** in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; Measure **BIO-PLANTS-1** in Section 2.3.3, *Plant Species*; and Measures **BIO-TURTLE-1**, and **BIO-FROG-1** through **BIO-FROG-2** in Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*, would minimize or avoid impacts on biological resources. In addition, the following minimization and avoidance measure would be implemented:

**HYD-1** During final design, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs) in close proximity to the floodway along San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (PM R11.33) will be analyzed to confirm the BMPs will have no impact on the base flood elevation or floodplain. The analysis will be coordinated with floodplain management agencies, including Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (CCCFC & WCD) during the design phase.

## 2.2.2 Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff

### 2.2.2.1 Regulatory Setting

#### Federal Requirements: Clean Water Act

In 1972, Congress amended the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, making the addition of pollutants to the waters of the United States (U.S.) from any point source<sup>1</sup> unlawful unless the discharge is in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. This act and its amendments are known today as the Clean Water Act (CWA). Congress has amended the act several times. In the 1987 amendments, Congress directed dischargers of storm water from municipal and industrial/construction point sources to comply with the NPDES permit scheme. The following are important CWA sections:

- Sections 303 and 304 require states to issue water quality standards, criteria, and guidelines.
- Section 401 requires an applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge to waters of the U.S. to obtain certification from the state that the discharge will comply with other provisions of the act. This is most frequently required in tandem with a Section 404 permit request (see below).
- Section 402 establishes the NPDES, a permitting system for the discharges (except for dredge or fill material) of any pollutant into waters of the U.S. Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) administer this permitting program in California. Section 402(p) requires permits for discharges of storm water from industrial/construction and municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).
- Section 404 establishes a permit program for the discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the U.S. This permit program is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The goal of the CWA is “to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.”

The USACE issues two types of 404 permits: General and Individual. There are two types of General permits: Regional and Nationwide. Regional permits are issued for a general category of activities when they are similar in nature and cause minimal environmental effect. Nationwide permits are issued to allow a variety of minor project activities with no more than minimal effects.

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<sup>1</sup> A point source is any discrete conveyance such as a pipe or a man-made ditch.

Ordinarily, projects that do not meet the criteria for a Regional or Nationwide Permit may be permitted under one of the USACE's Individual permits. There are two types of Individual permits: Standard permits and Letters of Permission. For Individual permits, the USACE decision to approve is based on compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Section 404 (b)(1) Guidelines (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 230), and whether the permit approval is in the public interest. The Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) were developed by the U.S. EPA in conjunction with the USACE, and allow the discharge of dredged or fill material into the aquatic system (waters of the U.S.) only if there is no practicable alternative which would have less adverse effects. The Guidelines state that the USACE may not issue a permit if there is a least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA) to the proposed discharge that would have lesser effects on waters of the U.S. and not have any other significant adverse environmental consequences. According to the Guidelines, documentation is needed that a sequence of avoidance, minimization, and compensation measures has been followed, in that order. The Guidelines also restrict permitting activities that violate water quality or toxic effluent<sup>2</sup> standards, jeopardize the continued existence of listed species, violate marine sanctuary protections, or cause "significant degradation" to waters of the U.S. In addition, every permit from the USACE, even if not subject to the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines, must meet general requirements. See 33 CFR 320.4. A discussion of the LEDPA determination, if any, for the document is included in Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*.

### **State Requirements: Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act**

California's Porter-Cologne Act, enacted in 1969, provides the legal basis for water quality regulation within California. This act requires a "Report of Waste Discharge" for any discharge of waste (liquid, solid, or gaseous) to land or surface waters that may impair beneficial uses for surface and/or groundwater of the state. It predates the CWA and regulates discharges to waters of the state. Waters of the state include more than just waters of the U.S., like groundwater and surface waters not considered waters of the U.S. Additionally, it prohibits discharges of "waste" as defined, and this definition is broader than the CWA definition of "pollutant." Discharges under the Porter-Cologne Act are permitted by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and may be required even when the discharge is already permitted or exempt under the CWA.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and RWQCBs are responsible for establishing the water quality standards (objectives and beneficial uses) required by the CWA and regulating discharges to ensure compliance with the water quality standards. Details about water quality standards in a project area are included in the applicable RWQCB Basin Plan. In California, RWQCBs designate beneficial uses for all water body segments in their jurisdictions and then set criteria necessary to protect those uses. As a result, the water quality standards developed for particular water segments are based on the designated use and vary depending on that use. In addition, the SWRCB identifies waters failing to meet standards for specific pollutants. These waters

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<sup>2</sup> The U.S. EPA defines "effluent" as "wastewater, treated or untreated, that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall."



are then state-listed in accordance with CWA Section 303(d). If a state determines that waters are impaired for one or more constituents and the standards cannot be met through point source or non-point source controls (NPDES permits or WDRs), the CWA requires the establishment of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). TMDLs specify allowable pollutant loads from all sources (point, non-point, and natural) for a given watershed. The SWRCB implemented the requirements of CWA Section 303(d) through Attachment IV of the California Department of transportation (Caltrans) Statewide MS4, as it includes specific TMDLs for which Caltrans is the named stakeholder.

### **State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards**

The SWRCB administers water rights, sets water pollution control policy, and issues water board orders on matters of statewide application, and oversees water quality functions throughout the state by approving Basin Plans, TMDLs, and NPDES permits. RWCQBs are responsible for protecting beneficial uses of water resources within their regional jurisdiction using planning, permitting, and enforcement authorities to meet this responsibility.

### ***National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program***

#### ***Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)***

Section 402(p) of the CWA requires the issuance of NPDES permits for five categories of storm water discharges, including Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). An MS4 is defined as “any conveyance or system of conveyances (roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, human-made channels, and storm drains) owned or operated by a state, city, town, county, or other public body having jurisdiction over storm water, that is designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water.” The SWRCB has identified Caltrans as an owner/operator of an MS4 under federal regulations. Caltrans’ MS4 permit covers all Caltrans rights-of-way, properties, facilities, and activities in the state. The SWRCB or the RWQCB issues NPDES permits for five years, and permit requirements remain active until a new permit has been adopted.

Caltrans’ MS4 Permit, Order No. 2012-0011-DWQ (adopted on September 19, 2012 and effective on July 1, 2013), as amended by Order No. 2014-0006-EXEC (effective January 17, 2014), Order No. 2014-0077-DWQ (effective May 20, 2014) and Order No. 2015-0036-EXEC (conformed and effective April 7, 2015) has three basic requirements:

- Caltrans must comply with the requirements of the Construction General Permit (see below);
- Caltrans must implement a year-round program in all parts of the State to effectively control storm water and non-storm water discharges; and
- Caltrans storm water discharges must meet water quality standards through implementation of permanent and temporary (construction) Best Management

Practices (BMPs), to the maximum extent practicable, and other measures as the SWRCB determines to be necessary to meet the water quality standards.

To comply with the permit, Caltrans developed the Statewide Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) to address storm water pollution controls related to highway planning, design, construction, and maintenance activities throughout California. The SWMP assigns responsibilities within Caltrans for implementing storm water management procedures and practices as well as training, public education and participation, monitoring and research, program evaluation, and reporting activities. The SWMP describes the minimum procedures and practices Caltrans uses to reduce pollutants in storm water and non-storm water discharges. It outlines procedures and responsibilities for protecting water quality, including the selection and implementation of BMPs. The proposed project will be programmed to follow the guidelines and procedures outlined in the latest SWMP to address storm water runoff.

### *Construction General Permit*

Construction General Permit, Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ (adopted on September 2, 2009 and effective on July 1, 2010), as amended by Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ (effective February 14, 2011) and Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ (effective on July 17, 2012). The permit regulates storm water discharges from construction sites that result in a Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) of one acre or greater, and/or are smaller sites that are part of a larger common plan of development. By law, all storm water discharges associated with construction activity where clearing, grading, and excavation result in soil disturbance of at least one acre must comply with the provisions of the General Construction Permit. Construction activity that results in soil disturbances of less than one acre is subject to this Construction General Permit if there is potential for significant water quality impairment resulting from the activity as determined by the RWQCB. Operators of regulated construction sites are required to develop Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs); to implement sediment, erosion, and pollution prevention control measures; and to obtain coverage under the Construction General Permit.

The Construction General Permit separates projects into Risk Levels 1, 2, or 3. Risk levels are determined during the planning and design phases, and are based on potential erosion and transport to receiving waters. Requirements apply according to the Risk Level determined. For example, a Risk Level 3 (highest risk) project would require compulsory storm water runoff pH and turbidity monitoring, and before construction and after construction aquatic biological assessments during specified seasonal windows. For all projects subject to the permit, applicants are required to develop and implement an effective SWPPP. In accordance with Caltrans' SWMP and Standard Specifications, a Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) is necessary for projects with DSA less than one acre.

### *Section 401 Permitting*

Under Section 401 of the CWA, any project requiring a federal license or permit that may result in a discharge to a water of the U.S. must obtain a 401 Certification, which certifies that the proposed Project will be in compliance with state water quality

standards. The most common federal permits triggering 401 Certification are CWA Section 404 permits issued by the USACE. The 401 permit certifications are obtained from the appropriate RWQCB, dependent on the Project location, and are required before the USACE issues a 404 permit.

In some cases, the RWQCB may have specific concerns with discharges associated with a project. As a result, the RWQCB may issue a set of requirements known as WDRs under the State Water Code (Porter-Cologne Act) that define activities, such as the inclusion of specific features, effluent limitations, monitoring, and plan submittals that are to be implemented for protecting or benefiting water quality. WDRs can be issued to address both permanent and temporary discharges of a project.

## **Regional and Local Requirements**

### ***Basin Plan for the San Francisco Bay Region***

Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act requires each RWQCB to formulate and adopt water quality control plans, or basin plans, for all areas within the region. Water quality within the Project Study Limits is regulated by the San Francisco Bay RWQCB through the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin* (Basin Plan) (San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2019).

The Basin Plan lists the beneficial surface water and groundwater uses in the region. Beneficial uses are the basis for establishing objectives to maintain and enhance water quality. These uses include domestic, municipal, agricultural, and industrial supply; power generation; navigation; preservation or enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves; recreation; and aesthetic enjoyment. The beneficial uses of surface waters and groundwaters in the basin are designated in the water quality control plans.

The Basin Plan also includes water quality objectives, which are the limits or levels of water quality constituents or characteristics, that are established for the reasonable protection of beneficial water uses or the prevention of nuisance within a specific area.

#### **2.2.2.2 Affected Environment**

This following discussion is based on the *Water Quality Assessment Report* (WRECO, 2022a) and the *Stormwater Data Report* (WRECO, 2022b) for the proposed Project.

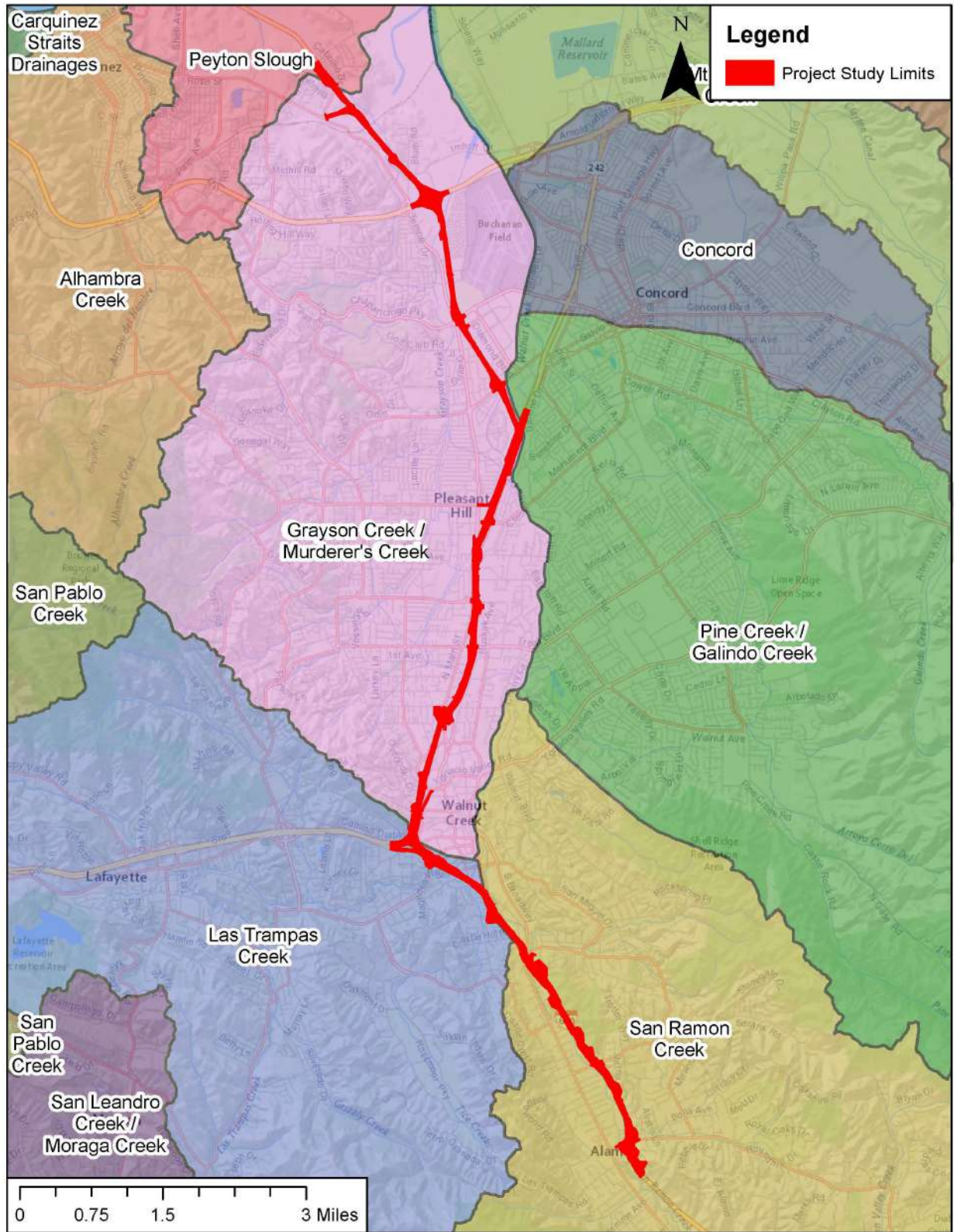
### **Regional and Local Hydrology**

As discussed in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*, the proposed Project crosses the following waterbodies: San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road, San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, and Pacheco Creek. Stormwater runoff within the Project Study Limits eventually discharges to Suisun Bay, located approximately 2 miles north of the Project Study Limits.

The proposed Project is also located within four watershed management areas: the San Ramon Creek Watershed, the Las Trampas Creek Watershed, the Grayson Creek/Murderer's Creek Watershed, and the Peyton Slough Watershed, as shown in Figure 2.2.2-1 and described below.

- **San Ramon Creek Watershed.** The San Ramon Creek Watershed encompasses approximately 54 square miles in the town of Danville, city of San Ramon, city of Walnut Creek, and unincorporated Contra Costa County. San Ramon Creek flows generally north to its confluence with Las Trampas Creek, where it becomes Walnut Creek. A large majority of San Ramon Creek's mainstem banks are constructed earthen channels, while its tributaries are mostly natural.
- **Las Trampas Creek Watershed.** The Las Trampas Creek Watershed encompasses parts of the cities of Lafayette, Moraga, and Walnut Creek and part of unincorporated Contra Costa County. Impervious surfaces in the Las Trampas Creek Watershed are estimated to cover approximately 25 percent of the land area. Las Trampas Creek is formed by several small, intermittent tributaries near Las Trampas Peak and flows north and east to its confluence with San Ramon Creek.
- **Grayson Creek/Murderer's Creek Watershed.** The Grayson Creek/Murderer's Creek Watershed encompass portions of the cities of Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek, Martinez, and Lafayette and part of unincorporated Contra Costa County. Much of Grayson Creek is confined within a concrete or earthen channel. Impervious surfaces in Grayson Creek/Murderer's Creek Watersheds are estimated to make up approximately 45 percent of the land area.
- **Peyton Slough Watershed.** The Peyton Slough Watershed encompasses 6.5 square miles of the city of Martinez and unincorporated Contra Costa County. Over a third of the Peyton Slough's length is an underground culvert through residential and industrial areas. Over half of the watershed is urbanized, including the entire upper watershed.





**Figure 2.2.2-1. Watershed Map**

The Contra Costa Canal, which is owned by the Contra Costa Water District, crosses through the Project Study Limits. The Contra Costa Canal flows from the City of Oakley to the Martinez Reservoir, located in the City of Martinez.

The Mokelumne Aqueduct crosses under I-680 at approximately PM 17.39 and runs parallel on the west side for approximately 1.5 miles before separating at the junction toward SR-242. The Mokelumne Aqueduct crosses I-680 in a closed conduit and is maintained by the East Bay Municipal Utility District.

Neither the Contra Costa Canal nor the Mokelumne Aqueduct would directly or indirectly receive runoff from the Project.

### **Surface Waters**

The *Basin Plan* identifies beneficial uses and water quality objectives for surface waterbodies within the San Francisco Region (San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2019). The water quality objectives designate allowable limits of water quality constituents or characteristics that allow for the reasonable protection of surface water's beneficial uses. The beneficial uses for the San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road, San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, Pacheco Creek, and Peyton Slough consist of IND, COMM, PROC, COLD, EST, MIGR, RARE, SPWN, WARM, WILD, REC-1, REC-2, and/or NAV. Additional information on these beneficial uses is discussed in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*.

### **List of Impaired Waters**

As a part of the CWA, the U.S. EPA created a 303(d) Program that assists states, territories, and authorized tribes in (1) submitting lists of impaired and threatened waters and (2) developing TMDLs based on the severity of the pollution and sensitivity of the waters. Waterbody impairments may be caused by water column exceedances, excessive sediment levels of pollutants, or bioaccumulation of pollutants. San Ramon Creek, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Pacheco Creek, and Peyton Slough are not listed on the *2022-2023 California Integrated Report* (Clean Water Act Section 303[d] List/305[b] Report) as impaired, nor have TMDLs been established. Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, and Suisun Bay are listed as impaired waterbodies. Table 2.2.2-1 shows the list of pollutants associated with these impaired waterbodies, the source of the pollutant (if known), and when TMDLs were established for the pollutants.





**Table 2.2.2-1. 303(d) Listed Pollutants**

Water Body	Pollutant	Pollutant Source	Estimated TMDL Completion Date
Walnut Creek	Diazinon	Source Unknown	U.S. EPA Approved May 16, 2017
Grayson Creek	Trash	Source Unknown	Attainment Date January 1, 2029
Suisun Bay	Furan Compounds	Source Unknown	2019
	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) (dioxin-like)	Agriculture	U.S. EPA Approved March 29, 2010
	Chlordane	Source Unknown	2029
	Dieldrin	Source Unknown	2013
	Invasive Species	Source Unknown	2019
	Dioxin compounds (including 2,3,7,8-TCDD)	Source Unknown	2019
	DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltri chloroethane)	Source Unknown	2013
	Mercury	Source Unknown	U.S. EPA Approved February 12, 2008
	PCBs	Source Unknown	U.S. EPA Approved March 29, 2010
Selenium	Source Unknown	U.S. EPA Approved August 23, 2016	

Source: (WRECO, 2022a)

Notes:

TCDD = tetrachlorodibenzodioxin; TMDL = Total Maximum Daily Load; U.S. EPA = United States Environmental Protection Agency

### Groundwater

The proposed Project is located within the Ygnacio Valley groundwater basin and near the San Ramon Valley groundwater basin, as shown in Figure 2.2.2-2.

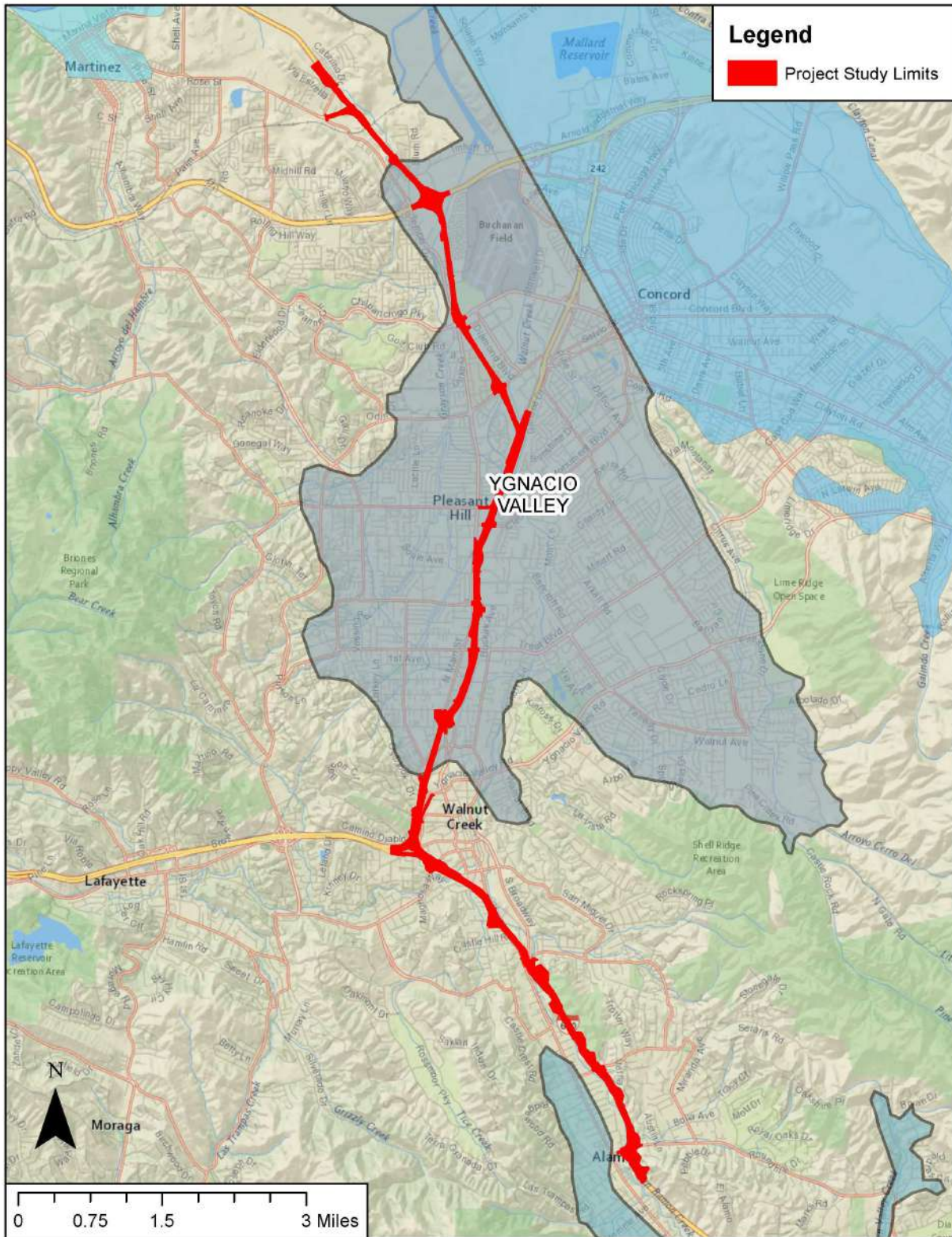
The Ygnacio Valley groundwater basin encompasses approximately 25 square miles of northern Contra Costa County and is bounded by Suisun Bay on the north, I-680 and Taylor Road on the west, the Concord Fault on the east, and the city of Walnut Creek on the south.

The San Ramon Valley groundwater basin covers approximately 11 square miles of southern Contra Costa County and is bounded by Stone Valley to the north, the Las

Trampas Ridge to the west, the Mount Diablo foothills to the east, and the Livermore Valley to the south.

The *Basin Plan* has the following designated beneficial uses for the Ygnacio Valley and the San Ramon Valley groundwater basins: MUN, PROC, IND, and AGR (San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2019). Additional information on these beneficial uses for groundwater resources is provided in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*.

Depth to groundwater is anticipated to be approximately 26 feet below the existing surface; however, it is expected that groundwater levels will vary with time due to seasonal groundwater fluctuation, surface and subsurface flows, ground surface run-off, change in the water levels of nearby creeks, and other environmental factors. In addition, there are several drinking water reservoirs or recharge facility areas within Contra Costa County, per the *Caltrans District 4 Stormwater Management Program Work Plan* (California Department of Transportation, 2021).



**Figure 2.2.2-2. Groundwater Basins**

### **2.2.2.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Project Study Limits. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts to water quality would occur.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

##### ***Construction Impacts on Water Quality***

Temporary construction impacts to water quality have the potential to occur during demolition and roadway construction activities related to the Project. The total Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) for the Project is 30.83 acres under Alternative 1C, 24.41 acres under Alternative 2, 37.24 acres under Alternative 3, and 10.65 acres under Alternative 5. Temporary water quality impacts could result from sediment discharge from DSAs and construction activities, such as demolition, grading, cut-and-fill, and excavation activities. Construction activities would result in exposed soil, increasing the potential for soil erosion and impacts on water quality. Soil erosion could also occur at an accelerated rate during a storm event. Construction equipment and employee vehicles could also inadvertently track sediment from the Project site onto adjacent roadways, which could potentially be conveyed to stormwater drainage systems. Other pollutants that could impact water quality during construction activities include sediment, metals, trash, concrete waste (dry and wet), sanitary waste, and chemicals, including gasoline, oils, grease, solvents, lubricants, and other petroleum products.

Avoidance and minimization measures, such as implementation of erosion and sediment control BMPs during construction, would prevent sediment and suspended solids from entering surface waters or minimize the amount of sediment and suspended solids. In addition, implementation of non-stormwater management and material management BMPs during construction would prevent chemical pollutants, such as concrete waste, from entering surface waters or minimize the amount of chemical pollutants. These BMPs would involve keeping a clean, orderly construction site. Non-stormwater management BMPs are source-control BMPs that prevent pollution by limiting or reducing potential pollutants at their source or eliminating off-site discharges. Non-stormwater management BMPs also include procedures and practices that have been designed to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants from vehicle and equipment cleaning, fueling, and maintenance operations to stormwater drainage systems or watercourses. Further, waste management BMPs consist of implementing procedural and structural BMPs for handling, storing, and disposing wastes generated by a construction project to prevent the release of waste materials into stormwater runoff or discharges. These BMPs are intended to prevent the release of pollutants during stormwater and non-stormwater discharges.

The Construction General Permit separates projects into Risk Levels 1, 2, or 3. The Risk Level for this Project under all Build Alternatives was determined to be Risk Level 3. Therefore, in addition to implementation of standard BMPs, Risk Level 3



projects are also required to comply with Numeric Action Level effluent limits for pH and turbidity and monitoring of receiving waters for pH and turbidity.

The Project would implement Measure **WQ-1**, which requires compliance with the requirements as stated in the Caltrans NPDES Statewide Storm Water Permit, and Measure **WQ-2**, which would include preparation of a SWPPP and implementation of erosion and sediment control BMPs, Numeric Action Level effluent limits, and receiving water monitoring triggers for pH and turbidity that would be detailed in the SWPPP during construction. With the implementation of Measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-2**, the potential for construction-related surface water pollution would be reduced and water quality in San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road, San Ramon Creek at Rudgear Road, Tice Creek, Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, Pacheco Creek, Peyton Slough, and Suisun Bay would not be compromised by erosion, sedimentation, or chemical pollutants during construction.

### *Dewatering*

Although the Project proposes bridge widening over Contra Costa Canal and San Ramon Creek, there is no proposed work within the concrete-lined channels. All work, including the construction of the proposed bridge columns, would be performed adjacent to the concrete-lined channels. The proposed Project is not anticipated to impact reservoirs or recharge facilities. Additionally, the proposed Project anticipates using the wet method for any pile driving construction activities, which would not require dewatering. Therefore, dewatering and temporary creek diversions would not be needed.

### *Wetlands and Other Waters*

It is anticipated that up to approximately 0.26 acre of wetlands/waters could be impacted by the Project, which would be verified during final design. Information on impacts to jurisdictional resources and required regulatory permits from USACE (Section 404), the San Francisco Bay RWQCB (Section 401), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement), is discussed in Section 1.5, *Permits and Approvals Needed*, and Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*.

Based on the above discussion regarding construction impacts on water quality, dewatering, and wetlands and other waters, no substantial temporary adverse direct or indirect impacts on water quality are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives with the implementation of Measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-2**.

### ***Permanent Impacts on Water Quality***

The proposed Project would result in a permanent increase in impervious surface area of 12.84 acres under Alternative 1C, 9.06 acres under Alternative 2, 16.27 acres under Alternative 3, and 2.93 acres under Alternative 5. The additional impervious surface area would increase the runoff from I-680 within the Project Study Limits. This increase in impervious area would increase peak flows and runoff volumes, increasing the

potential for erosion, sediment, and pollution in surface waters. Pollutants in runoff from the new impervious surface (NIS) areas include sediment, oils and grease, and metals, similar to the contaminants within the Project Study Limits from the existing I-680 configuration. Substantial amounts of additional pollutants in stormwater runoff could contribute to a violation of water quality standards. However, the Project would include upgrading existing drainage facilities and incorporating on-site treatment areas to manage the increase in runoff. In addition, the Project would implement Measure **WQ-3**, which would require the inclusion of design pollution prevention BMPs to avoid or minimize potential impacts on water quality by preventing downstream erosion and permanently stabilizing DSAs. Examples of these design pollution prevention BMPs would include preserving existing vegetation, slope/surface protection systems, permanent erosion control measures, and concentrated flow conveyance systems, which are described below.

The post-construction treatment goal for the Project is to fully treat 24.73 acres of NIS. Potential BMP areas are identified in Appendix I.1, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*. Due to direction from Caltrans to avoid sensitive habitat in the northern portion of the Project Study Limits, the current design BMPs collectively have a total treatment area of 21.73 acres. Therefore, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5 would include post construction treatment areas that fully account for all NIS. Meanwhile, Alternative 3 would result in a total stormwater treatment deficit of 3.71 acres. Should Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, and the final design continue to show a post-construction treatment deficit, Caltrans and/or Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) would identify potential opportunities to partner with local communities within the watershed to achieve off-site alternative compliance stormwater treatment credit.

### *Design Pollution Prevention Best Management Practices*

#### Preservation of Existing Vegetation

Existing, mature vegetation and landscaping within the Project Study Limits would be protected in place, where possible. Areas of clearing and grubbing would be limited to those areas impacted by new construction. Existing vegetation to be preserved, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive areas would be preserved during construction using temporary, high-visibility fencing. Environmentally sensitive area (ESA) fencing locations would be identified during the design phase.

#### Slope/Surface Protection Systems

The Project would be constructed to minimize erosion by disturbing slopes only when necessary, minimizing cut-and-fill areas to reduce slope lengths, providing cut-and-fill slopes flat enough to allow revegetation to limit erosion rates, and providing concentrated flow conveyance systems consisting of storm drains, ditches, and gutters. The grading design and details would be developed during the design phase.

Replacement landscaping and vegetation for slope stabilization would be placed wherever existing landscaping is disturbed. Vegetation would be accompanied by mulch and fiber rolls, where necessary.



## Permanent Erosion Control Measures

Permanent erosion control measures would be implemented on all areas disturbed by construction. These measures may consist of hydroseeding, hydromulch, fiber rolls, and netting. The need for hard surface erosion control measures would be determined during the design phase and would likely include rock slope protection energy dissipation devices at culvert outlets and possible ditch lining if concentrated flow velocities result in slope erosion.

## Concentrated Flow Conveyance System

Runoff from the proposed improvements would be routed through on-site drainage systems consisting of culverts, ditches, and stormwater treatment measures. A total of 39 drainage culverts would be replaced and one potential drainage culvert could be rehabilitated. Concentrated flow conveyance systems would be implemented to prevent channelizing, gullying, and scouring of the surrounding slopes. Flared-end sections with rock slope protection would be placed at culvert outfalls to avoid or minimize slope or ditch erosion. Ditches or treatment measures would be placed to convey roadway runoff to existing crossings or creeks. These drainage ditches or treatment measures would be applied with hydroseed materials to promote vegetation establishment. The specific type and details of the proposed drainage facilities and erosion control measures would be identified during the design phase.

The proposed Project would result in 19.39 acres of NIS under Alternative 1C, 11.33 acres of NIS under Alternative 2, 23.05 acres of NIS under Alternative 3, and 5.83 acres of NIS under Alternative 5. Treatment BMPs within Caltrans right-of-way would be required since the proposed Project would add 1 or more acre of NIS under all Build Alternatives. Treatment BMPs are permanent measures to improve stormwater quality after construction is completed. Treatment BMPs (Measure **WQ-4**) considered for the Project include infiltration devices, biofiltration devices, detention devices, media filters, and Gross Solids Removal Devices (trash capture devices), which are discussed below.

### *Treatment Best Management Practices*

#### Infiltration Devices

Infiltration devices allow for pollutant removal or reduction by infiltrating stormwater directly into the soil. Most soils within the Project Study Limits are in Hydrologic Soil Groups (HSG) C and D, specifically Clear Lake clay (classified as HSG C) and Tierra loam (classified as HSG D), which have slow to very slow infiltration rates and high runoff potential. Approaches designed to infiltrate stormwater into the surface may include amending existing soils or using engineered soil media to increase the infiltration potential of the proposed treatment BMPs. The use and design of infiltration devices would be investigated during the design phase.

#### Biofiltration Devices

Biofiltration devices, such as biofiltration swales, are feasible for this Project because site conditions allow for vegetation establishment. Biofiltration swales would be

designed for bioretention. Retention can be achieved through the use of an engineered soil mix and an underdrain system. Bioretention devices would also promote vegetation growth, which contributes to water evapotranspiration. The use of bioretention devices allows for pollutant removal or reduction while reducing stormwater runoff flow rates and velocities. The use and design of bioretention devices would be investigated during the design phase.

### Detention Devices

Detention basins allow for treatment by temporarily detaining runoff during storms. Detention devices are feasible for the Project, but detention devices may not meet the top priorities outlined by the Caltrans NPDES permit for providing stormwater treatment, as they do not promote infiltration or noticeable evapotranspiration. However, detention devices could possibly be used for harvesting and re-use purposes. The design feasibility of detention devices would be further investigated during the design phase.

### Media Filters

Media filters allow for the removal or reduction of total suspended solid pollutants (sediments and metals), dissolved metals, litter, and potentially some nutrients from runoff by sedimentation and filtering. Austin sand filters are feasible for the Project and could be placed in ramp loop areas where there is adequate space to place a device. However, Austin sand filters may not meet the top priorities outlined by the Caltrans NPDES permit for providing stormwater treatment, as they do not promote infiltration or evapotranspiration. The design feasibility of Austin sand filters would be further investigated during the design phase.

### Gross Solids Removal Devices

The Project would be required to implement trash-control measures per *San Francisco Bay RWQCB (Region 2) Cease and Desist Order on the Prohibition of Trash*. The San Francisco Bay RWQCB also states that Caltrans District 4 projects must implement trash control measures for all hotspot locations with waterbodies that discharge to the San Francisco Bay. Per the Caltrans District 4 Regional Board 2 Trash Generation Map website, the Project is designated as having moderate trash generation areas; therefore, the Project is required to implement trash capture devices along the moderate portions along I-680 (Caltrans, 2021). In addition, Gross solids removal devices (GSRD) should be considered for discharges to Grayson Creek because the creek is listed on the 303(d) list as being impaired for trash and because the Project is subject to Provision E.6, Region Specific Requirements, of the Caltrans NPDES Permit. The use of trash capture devices allows for trash removal or reduction to comply with the trash TMDL for Grayson Creek. The design feasibility of other approved trash capture devices, including trash nets placed at culvert outfalls or within other treatment BMPs, will be evaluated further during the design phase.

With the implementation of design pollution prevention BMPs and treatment control BMPs, specified in Measures **WQ-3** and **WQ-4**, no substantial adverse permanent direct or indirect impacts on water quality are anticipated to occur under the Build Alternatives.

#### 2.2.2.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

- WQ-1** During construction, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the Project complies with the provisions of the Caltrans NPDES Statewide Storm Water Permit and the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges of Stormwater Runoff Associated with Construction Activities in effect at the time of construction.
- WQ-2** Prior to construction, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and implemented to address all construction-related activities, equipment, and materials that have the potential to impact water quality. The SWPPP will identify the sources of pollutants that may affect the quality of stormwater and include the construction site best management practices (BMPs) to control pollutants such as sediment control, drainage inlet protection, construction materials management, and non-stormwater BMPs. Additional BMP reference material is contained within the Project Planning and Design Guide (California Department of Transportation, 2019) and Construction Manual (California Department of Transportation). These include, but are not limited to, temporary sediment control, temporary soil stabilization, scheduling, waste management, materials handling, and other non-stormwater BMPs.
- WQ-3** During the Plans, Specification, and Estimates (design) phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved design pollution prevention BMPs for the Project will be further investigated. Design pollution prevention BMPs may include preservation of existing vegetation, slope/surface protection systems, and permanent erosion control measures (e.g., hydroseeding, hydromulch, fiber rolls, and netting).
- WQ-4** During the design phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved treatment BMPs will be further investigated and be consistent with the requirements of the NPDES Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the State of California, Department of Transportation in effect at the time of design. Treatment BMPs may include infiltration devices, biofiltration devices, detention devices, media filters, and gross solids removal devices (GSRD) (e.g., trash capture devices).



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## 2.2.3 Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography

### 2.2.3.1 Regulatory Setting

For geologic and topographic features, the key federal law is the Historic Sites Act of 1935, which establishes a national registry of natural landmarks and protects “outstanding examples of major geological features.” Topographic and geologic features are also protected under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This section also discusses geology, soils, and seismic concerns as they relate to public safety and project design. Earthquakes are prime considerations in the design and retrofit of structures. Structures are designed using Caltrans’ Seismic Design Criteria (SDC). The SDC provides the minimum seismic requirements for highway bridges designed in California. A bridge’s category and classification will determine its seismic performance level and which methods are used for estimating the seismic demands and structural capabilities. For more information, please see Caltrans’ Division of Engineering Services, Office of Earthquake Engineering, Seismic Design Criteria.

### 2.2.3.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is based on the *Preliminary Geotechnical Design Report* (PGDR) (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022) that was prepared for the proposed Project. The Geological Resource Study Area (RSA) is based on the old Project Study Limits (post mile [PM] R4.4/24.5; Figure 1-4).

#### Geology

The Geological RSA is located in the geologically complex and seismically active Coast Ranges Geomorphic Province and consist primarily of artificial fill, stream deposits, alluvial fan deposits, alluvials, sandstone, siltstone, and shale.

The main geologic structures in relation to the Geological RSA are the Concord and Northern Calaveras faults. Bedrock in the northern area of the RSA, north of the Interstate 680 (I-680)/State Route (SR) 4 Interchange, generally dips moderately to the southwest. Bedrock south of the Ygnacio Valley Road Undercrossing to the southern end of the RSA generally dips moderately to steeply to the east and northeast.

#### Topography and Surface Conditions

The Geological RSA’s topography varies from undulating within the San Ramon Valley in the southern half to relatively flat in the northern half. The main drainages located in the RSA are the San Ramon Creek in the southern section and Las Trampas Creek in the central section, both of which merge to form Walnut Creek in the northern section.

According to the PGDR, urbanization and development of transport infrastructure began in earnest during the 1950s, prior to which the majority of the Geological RSA was used

for agriculture. The City of Walnut Creek existed prior to the construction of I-680 and SR-24.

## **Soil Conditions**

### ***Topsoils***

The Geological RSA was evaluated based on data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Soil Survey Geographic Database for Contra Costa County, California (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022). Topsoils within the Geological RSA are comprised of variable amounts of cut and fill, clay, silty clay, clay loam, silty clay loam, and loam. These soils' potentials to corrode steel and concrete range from low to high, and their shrink-swell potentials range from low to very high.

### ***Subsurface Conditions***

Geotechnical test borings were conducted throughout the Geological RSA in preparation of the PGDR. The test borings revealed that subsurface soils within the RSA consisted primarily of variable amounts of soft to very stiff clay, lean clay, fat clay, clayey silt, clayey sand, sand, silt, silty sand, and gravel.

### ***Expansive Soils***

Expansive soil potential is the ability of some soils with high clay content to change volume with moisture content. Expansive soil potential poses a less significant hazard where soil moisture is relatively constant (either always wet or always dry). Expansive soil potential poses a significant hazard to sites that undergo seasonal variation in soil moisture content, such as on hillsides or flatlands with a seasonally fluctuating water table. Expansive soil potential maps show low to very high expansive potential along the Geological RSA.

## **Groundwater**

As discussed in the PGDR, groundwater conditions within Geological RSA were assessed via geotechnical test borings drilled throughout the RSA. Groundwater throughout the RSA was encountered at ground surface elevations ranging from approximately 0.2 feet below sea level to 348 feet above sea level and averaging approximately 140 feet above sea level. Groundwater may vary due to seasonal groundwater fluctuation, sea level in the San Francisco Bay, subsurface flows or seepages, ground surface run-off, and other factors that may not have been present at the time of the PGDR's preparation.



## Geologic Hazards

### *Seismic Hazards*

The Geological RSA are located in one of the most seismically active areas in North America and are influenced mostly by the San Andreas fault system, which spans the Coast Ranges from the Pacific Ocean to the San Joaquin Valley. Figure 2.2.3-1 shows active faults in relation to the RSA.

#### *Seismic Ground Shaking and Ground Surface Fault Ruptures*

The closest active faults (less than 15,000 years) to the Geological RSA are the Concord and the Northern Calaveras faults, which are part of the San Andreas fault system. The Concord fault is a major right lateral strike-slip fault of the San Andreas fault system. The Northern Calaveras is part of the Calaveras fault zone, which is a major right lateral strike-slip fault of the San Andreas fault system and generally trends along the east side of the East Bay Hills.

Many earthquakes have resulted in significant shaking in the vicinity of Geological RSA, such as in San Francisco (magnitude 8.3, 1906) and in Loma Prieta (magnitude 7.1, 1989). As discussed below, primary seismic hazards include ground shaking and surface fault rupture. Secondary seismic effects resulting from soil responses to ground shaking include liquefaction. These hazards may cause deformation of man-made structures.

Earthquake-induced ground-shaking is a seismic hazard that can result in liquefaction, lurching, lateral spreading of soils, landslide of soil and rock, and the dynamic oscillation of man-made structures. Differential settlements can occur at the ground surface due to subsurface liquefaction and densification caused by strong ground-shaking.

As discussed in the PGDR (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022), the Project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The closest earthquake fault zone to the Geological RSA is the Northern Calaveras, located approximately 500 feet southwest of the RSA's very southern end. The Northern Calaveras fault strikes roughly parallel to the southern end of the Geological RSA, with the closest section approximately 140 feet southwest of the RSA.

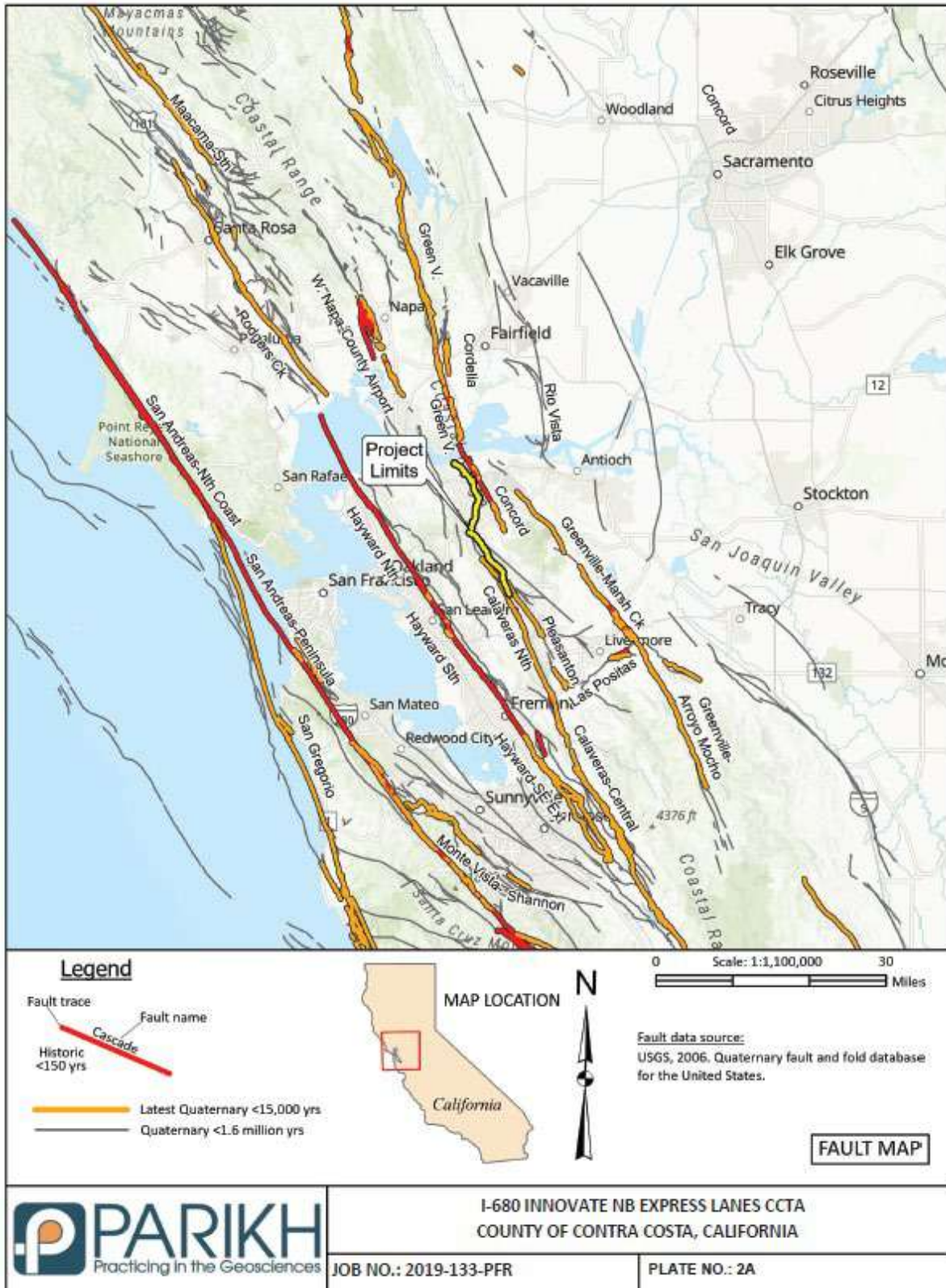


Figure 2.2.3-1. Fault Map with Geological Resource Study Area (Old Project Study Limits)

### *Liquefaction and Lateral Spreading*

Liquefaction is a phenomenon in which saturated, cohesionless soils are subject to a temporary but essentially total loss of shear strength under the reversing, cyclic shear stresses associated with earthquake shaking. Submerged cohesionless sands and silts of low relative density are the type of soils that usually are susceptible to liquefaction. Clays are generally not susceptible to liquefaction.

As discussed in the PGDR (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022), Liquefaction Susceptibility Maps indicate that the Geological RSA has low to moderate liquefaction potential. Liquefaction analyses based on available boring data indicate that liquefaction potential exists at some locations within the Geological RSA. There is the potential for permanent ground deformation of the approach embankments (i.e., lateral spreading) due to the presence of potentially liquefiable soils and soft Young Bay Mud, which is located at the northern end of the Geological RSA. In addition, the northbound Rudgear Road off-ramp, southbound Livorna Road off-ramp and on-ramp, and southbound Stone Valley Road off-ramp and on-ramp are located on very high liquefiable soil associated with San Ramon Creek.

### *Landslides*

The most significant slopes and hillsides in and adjacent to the Geological RSA are cut slopes, each of which do not appear to show evidence of geologic hazards, such as landslide or slope failure, rockfall, or debris flow. However, a natural hillside to the west of the Geological RSA, between approximately 680 feet north of the northbound I-680 on-ramp from Diablo Road and 0.7 mile north of the northbound I-680 on-ramp from Crow Canyon Road, was identified in the Walnut Creek Special Studies Zone map as being an area of massive landslides, the toe of which appears to intersect with the base of the San Ramon Valley and I-680 (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022). Diablo Road and Crow Canyon Road are outside the current Project Study Limits.

### *Tsunamis and Seiches*

A tsunami, or seismically generated sea wave, is generally created by a large, distant earthquake occurring near a deep ocean trough. A seiche is an earthquake-induced wave in a confined body of water, such as a lake or reservoir. According to the Department of Conservation's Contra Costa County Tsunami Hazard Areas Map (Department of Conservation, 2022), the Geological RSA is not located within any tsunami hazard areas. The northern-most point of the RSA is located approximately 560 feet from the nearest tsunami hazard area near the Carquinez Strait. In addition, there are no confined large bodies of water within the vicinity of the Geological RSA, such as a lake or reservoir. The Suisun Bay is located approximately 0.75 mile north of the RSA.

### 2.2.3.3 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on geology or soils would occur.

#### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

##### *Temporary Impacts*

Temporary direct impacts on geology and soils under the Build Alternatives are related to construction-related ground disturbance activities in work areas, heavy equipment traffic areas, and material laydown areas. Temporary direct impacts on geology and soils would include soil compaction and increased potential for soil erosion due to soil exposure, when compared with existing conditions. Additionally, soil erosion could occur at an accelerated rate during a storm event. However, standard practices for erosion control and construction discharges would be part of the proposed Project for all Build Alternatives during construction, as described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and detailed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. Since the Project would incorporate the Standardized Project Measures described above under all Build Alternatives, no substantial temporary direct impacts related to geology and soils would occur as a result of the proposed Project.

Construction activities associated with the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives could be affected indirectly by ground motion, liquefaction and lateral spreading, and potential ground deformation if an earthquake event were to occur during construction. However, the proposed Project would require implementation of Measure **HAZ-6**, described in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*, which would ensure the development of a Health and Safety Plan that would prescribe safe construction practices, emergency response procedures, and safety training requirements to protect workers and the public during construction and minimize construction-related seismic hazards. Therefore, no substantial temporary indirect impacts related to geology and soils would occur under the Build Alternatives.

##### *Permanent Impacts*

##### *Seismic Ground Shaking and Ground Surface Fault Ruptures*

The Geological RSA is located within a seismically active region subject to future seismic ground shaking from earthquakes occurring along local or regional faults. As stated previously, the closest active faults (less than 15,000 years) to the Geological RSA are the Concord and the Northern Calaveras faults, which are part of the San Andreas fault system. Many earthquakes have resulted in significant shaking in the vicinity of the RSA, such as in San Francisco (magnitude 8.3, 1906) and in Loma Prieta (magnitude 7.1, 1989). Although seismic ground shaking can be expected near the RSA



from nearby earthquake sources, the PGDR determined that surface fault rupture would not contribute to the seismic hazards within the Geological RSA (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022).

Standard practices relating to Geotechnical Design Standards would be part of the proposed Project for all Build Alternatives, as described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would implement Measure **GEO-1**, which requires the preparation of a geotechnical report that would include geotechnical exploratory boring activities to confirm soil types and geologic conditions to address any potential impacts related to soils, liquefaction, and seismic activity during final design. Measure **GEO-1** would include recommendations in line with the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards, identified above. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the recommendations of the Geotechnical Design Report; in accordance with all applicable federal, State, and local seismic codes; and in accordance with Caltrans' seismic design criteria for structures. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, as well as compliance with seismic codes and design criteria for structures, no substantial permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts related to seismic ground shaking or ground surface fault ruptures are anticipated under any of the Build Alternatives.

#### *Liquefaction and Lateral Spreading*

As previously discussed, the Geological RSA has low to moderate liquefaction potential. Liquefaction analyses based on available boring data indicate that liquefaction potential exists at some locations within the RSA. Further, lateral spreading may be a design issue due to the presence of potentially liquefiable soils.

With the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, the potential for liquefaction effects on the structures constructed under all Build Alternatives would be further investigated during final design. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the geotechnical report's recommendations, thereby minimizing impacts related to liquefaction and lateral spreading. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, as well as compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local seismic codes and design criteria for structures, no substantial permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts related to liquefaction and lateral spreading are anticipated under any of the Build Alternatives.

### *Landslides*

The most significant slopes and hillsides within and adjacent to the Geological RSA are cut slopes, each of which do not appear to show evidence of geologic hazards, such as landslide or slope failure, rockfall, or debris flow. In accordance with Measure **GEO-1**, the potential for landslides and slope stability of the proposed Project's structures and embankments would be further investigated during final design. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the geotechnical report's recommendations, thereby minimizing potential impacts related to landslides. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, no substantial permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts related to landslides are anticipated under any of the Build Alternatives.

### *Compressible/Collapsible Soils*

Strong ground motion during an earthquake would reduce the pore space between soil particles, and unsaturated granular soils tend to compress during dynamic shaking. Based on a review of available geotechnical data, subsurface soils within the Geological RSA consist primarily of variable amounts of soft to very stiff clay, lean clay, fat clay, clayey silt, clayey sand, sand, silt, silty sand, and gravel. These materials may be compressible and could undergo consolidation, which could damage proposed Project improvements under all Build Alternatives, including concrete structures and pavement. However, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, the potential for subsurface soils to compress, collapse, or settle would be further investigated. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the geotechnical report's recommendations, thereby minimizing potential impacts related to compressible or collapsible soils. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, no substantial permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts related to compressible or collapsible soils are anticipated under and of the Build Alternatives.

### *Expansive Soils*

Expansive soils generally result from specific clay minerals that have the capacity to shrink or swell in response to changes in moisture content. Sandy soils are generally not expansive. Expansive soils are characterized by their ability to undergo substantial volume change (shrink or swell) because of variations in moisture content. Changes in soil moisture content can result from rainfall, irrigation, pipeline leakage, surface drainage, perched groundwater, drought, or other factors. The change in volume of expansive soil may cause excessive cracking and heaving of structures with shallow foundations, concrete slabs, or pavements supported on these materials. The topsoils in the Geological RSA are comprised of variable amounts of cut and fill, clay, silty clay, clay loam, silty clay loam, and loam. These soils' shrink-swell potentials range from low to very high. However, under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would



incorporate the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and implement Measure **GEO-1** during final design to further evaluate the potential for expansive soils. The proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the geotechnical report's recommendations, thereby minimizing potential impacts related to expansive soils. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, no substantial permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts related to expansive soils are anticipated under any of the Build Alternatives.

### *Corrosive Soils*

Topsoils within the Geological RSA are comprised of variable amounts of cut and fill, clay, silty clay, clay loam, silty clay loam, and loam. The potential for soil to corrode steel and concrete ranges from low to high. Corrosive soil could cause premature deterioration of buried conduits, foundations, and other buried concrete or metal improvements. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would incorporate the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and implement Measure **GEO-1**, which requires that a Geotechnical Design Report be prepared during the design phase to evaluate the potential for soil corrosion effects on structures within the Project Study Limits. Thus, the proposed Project would be designed and constructed based on the geotechnical report's recommendations, thereby minimizing potential impacts related to corrosive soils. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measures related to Geotechnical Design Standards and the implementation of Measure **GEO-1**, no substantial Paleontological Mitigation Plan are anticipated under any of the Build Alternatives.

### *Tsunamis and Seiches*

As discussed previously, the Geological RSA is not located within a tsunami hazard area. The northern-most point of the RSA was located approximately 560 feet to the nearest tsunami hazard area near the Carquinez Strait. The northern Project Study Limits are approximately 1.3 miles further south. In addition, there are no confined large bodies of water within the Geological RSA, such as a lake or reservoir. Therefore, no permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts from tsunamis or seiches are anticipated to occur under any of the Build Alternatives.

#### **2.2.3.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Standard practices for erosion control and construction discharges would be implemented during construction as described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. Measure **HAZ-6**, in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*, requires the preparation of a Health and Safety Plan. In addition, the following avoidance and minimization measure would be implemented:

**GEO-1** Prior to completion of final design, CCTA or designated contractor will ensure that a professional geologist or professional engineer prepare a design-level geotechnical report. Recommendations from the final design-

level geotechnical report will be incorporated into the final Project plans and specifications during the final design phase to ensure the geotechnical stability of the Project. This report will document soil-related constraints and hazards, such as slope instability, settlement liquefaction, or related secondary seismic impacts, which may be present. The report will also include:

- Evaluation of expansive and potentially corrosive soils and recommendations regarding construction procedures and/or design criteria to reduce the effect of these soils on Project development,
- Identification of potential liquefiable areas within the Project Study Limits and recommendations for mitigation measures,
- Demonstration that the design of all proposed retaining walls is geotechnically suitable for soils within the Project Study Limits, and
- Geotechnical recommendations for the specific foundation design and earthwork construction considered for this Project.

## 2.2.4 Paleontology

### 2.2.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Paleontology is a natural science focused on the study of ancient animal and plant life as it is preserved in the geologic record as fossils.

A number of federal statutes specifically address paleontological resources, their treatment, and funding for mitigation as a part of federally authorized projects.

16 United States Code (USC) 461-467 established the National Natural Landmarks (NNL) program. Under this program property owners agree to protect biological and geological resources such as paleontological features. Federal agencies and their agents must consider the existence and location of designated NNLs, and of areas found to meet the criteria for national significance, in assessing the effects of their activities on the environment under NEPA.

23 USC 1.9(a) requires that the use of Federal-aid funds must be in conformity with all federal and state laws.

23 USC 305 authorizes the appropriation and use of federal highway funds for paleontological salvage as necessary by the highway department of any state, in compliance with 16 USC 431-433 above and state law.

Under California law, paleontological resources are protected by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### 2.2.4.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived from the *Paleontological Evaluation Report* (Paleo Solutions, Inc., 2021) prepared for the Project. The study area for paleontological resources is the Geological Resource Study Area (RSA), which is described in Section 2.2.3, *Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography*.

The Geological RSA is situated within the Coast Range Geomorphic Province at the northern end of the southern Coast Range (Wallace, 1990; Oakeshott, 1966). A geomorphic province is a region of unique topography and geology that is readily distinguished from other regions based on its landforms and tectonic history.

As shown in Figure 2.2.4-1, the Geological RSA is underlain by Holocene-age alluvial pebble gravel, sand and clay of valley areas (Qa), Holocene-age bay mud (Qbm), Pleistocene-age dissected alluvial gravel and sands (Qoa), Pliocene- to late Miocene-age Orinda Formation (Tor), late Miocene-age Briones Sandstone (Tbr), late to middle Miocene-age Monterey Formation, sandstone (Tms), late to middle Miocene-age Monterey Formation, sandy clay shale/siltstone (Tmc), middle to early Eocene-age Meganos Formation (Tmg), and early Eocene- to Paleocene-age Martinez Formation marine clay shale to claystone (Tmz).

Additionally, recent artificial fill deposits (af), Miocene- to potentially Oligocene-age San Ramon Formation (Tsr), late Eocene-age Kreyenhagen Formation, Markley Sandstone member (TKm) and Nortonville Shale Member (TKn), middle Eocene-age Domengine Sandstone (Tds), early Eocene- to Paleocene-age Martinez Formation, marine sandstone (Tmzs), and late Cretaceous-age Panoche Formation (Kp, Kps) are mapped within the 0.25-mile buffer of the Geological RSA.

## Field Survey

Paleontological literature reviews and online paleontological database searches of the University of California Museum of Paleontology's (UCMP) locality records were conducted. In addition, a field survey was conducted on October 7, 2020, reviewing the site geology along and around the Geological RSA while examining sediment exposures for the presence of paleontological resources. A single, possible shell or bone fragment was found in the Orinda Formation (Tor) along with indeterminate imprint in Briones Sandstone (Tbr). The observed fossils were in poor condition and lacked diagnostic characteristics. Therefore, they were non-significant discoveries; however, they demonstrate the paleontological potential of the Orinda Formation (Tor) and Briones Sandstone (Tbr) within the Geological RSA. No paleontological resources were collected during the survey.



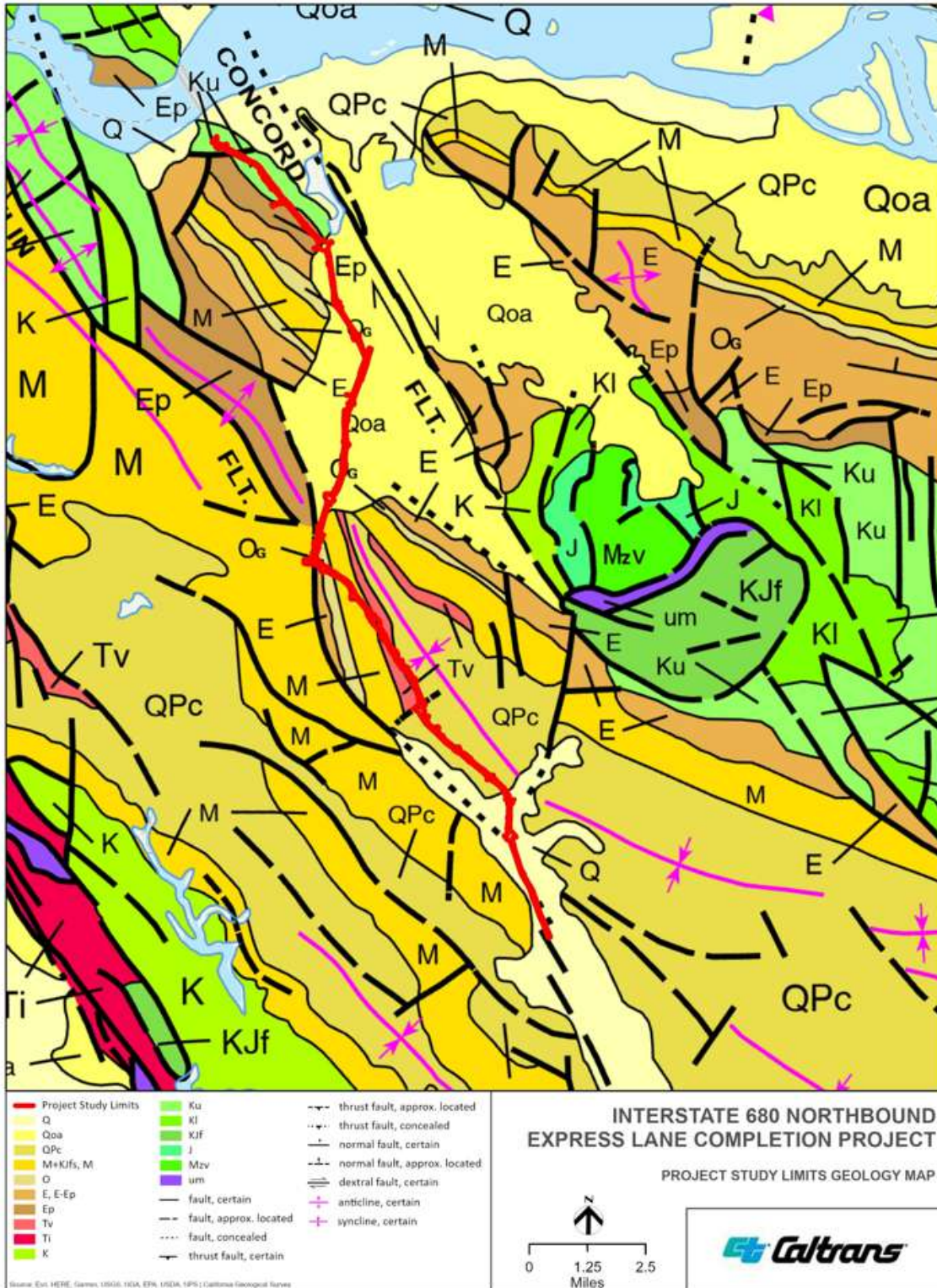


Figure 2.2.4-1. Geology Map

## Definition and Significance of Paleontological Resources

Fossils vary widely in their relative abundance and distribution and not all are regarded as significant. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) defines scientifically significant paleontological resources as:

“Sites or geologic deposits containing individual fossils or assemblages of fossils that are unique or unusual, diagnostically or stratigraphically important, and add to the existing body of knowledge in specific areas, stratigraphically, taxonomically, or regionally... Particularly important are fossils found in situ (undisturbed) in primary context (e.g., fossils that have not been subjected to disturbance subsequent to their burial and fossilization). As such, they aid in stratigraphic correlation, particularly those offering data for the interpretation of tectonic events, geomorphological evolution, paleoclimatology, the relationships between aquatic and terrestrial species, and evolution in general. Discovery of in situ fossil bearing deposits is rare for many species, especially vertebrates. Terrestrial vertebrate fossils are often assigned greater significance than other fossils because they are rarer than other types of fossils. This is primarily due to the fact that the best conditions for fossil preservation include little or no disturbance after death and quick burial in oxygen depleted, fine-grained, sediments. While these conditions often exist in marine settings, they are relatively rare in terrestrial settings (e.g., as a result of pyroclastic flows and flashflood events). This has ramifications on the amount of scientific study needed to adequately characterize an individual species and therefore affects how relative sensitivities are assigned to formations and rock units” (California Department of Transportation, 2014).

Vertebrate fossils, whether preserved remains or track ways, are classified as significant by most state and federal agencies and professional groups and are specifically protected under the California Public Resources Code. In some cases, fossils of plants or invertebrate animals are also considered significant and can provide important information about ancient local environments. Assessment of significance is also subject to the CEQA criterion that the resource constitutes a “unique paleontological resource or site.”

The full significance of fossil specimens or fossil assemblages cannot be accurately predicted before they are collected, and in many cases, before they are prepared in the laboratory and compared with previously collected fossils. The pre-construction assessment of significance associated with an area or formation must be made based on previous finds, characteristics of the sediments, and other methods that can be used to determine paleoenvironmental and taphonomic conditions.

## Determining Paleontological Sensitivity

Caltrans’ paleontological sensitivity scale comprises the following three rankings: High Potential, Low Potential, and No Potential (California Department of Transportation,



2014). The scale generally correlates with the likelihood for a geologic unit to contain significant vertebrate, invertebrate, or plant fossils.

- **High Potential** – Rock units that, based on previous studies, contain or are likely to contain significant vertebrate, significant invertebrate, or significant plant fossils. These units include, but are not limited to, sedimentary formations that contain significant, nonrenewable paleontological resources anywhere within their geographical extent, and sedimentary rock units temporally or lithologically suitable for the preservation of fossils. These units may also include some volcanic and low-grade metamorphic rock units. Fossiliferous deposits with very limited geographic extent or an uncommon origin (e.g., tar pits and caves) are given special consideration and ranked as highly sensitive. High sensitivity includes the potential for containing: (1) abundant vertebrate fossils; (2) a few significant fossils (large or small vertebrate, invertebrate, or plant fossils) that may provide new and significant taxonomic, phylogenetic, ecologic, and/or stratigraphic data; (3) areas that may contain datable organic remains older than Recent, including *Neotoma* (sp.) middens; or (4) areas that may contain unique new vertebrate deposits, traces, and/or trackways. Areas with a high potential for containing significant paleontological resources require monitoring and mitigation.
- **Low Potential** – This category includes sedimentary rock units that: (1) are potentially fossiliferous but have not yielded significant fossils in the past; (2) have not yet yielded fossils but possess a potential for containing fossil remains; or (3) contain common and/or widespread invertebrate fossils if the taxonomy, phylogeny, and ecology of the species contained in the rock are well understood. Sedimentary rocks expected to contain vertebrate fossils are not placed in this category because vertebrates are generally rare and found in more localized stratum. Rock units designated as low potential generally do not require monitoring and mitigation. However, as excavation for construction gets underway, it is possible that new and unanticipated paleontological resources might be encountered. If this occurs, a Construction Change Order must be prepared to have a qualified principal paleontologist evaluate the resource. If the resource is determined to be significant, monitoring and mitigation are required.
- **No Potential** – Rock units of intrusive igneous origin, most extrusive igneous rocks, and moderately to highly metamorphosed rocks are classified as having no potential for containing significant paleontological resources. For projects encountering only these types of rock units, paleontological resources can generally be eliminated as a concern when the Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report (PEAR) is prepared, and no further action would be taken (California Department of Transportation, 2014).

Significant vertebrate, invertebrate, and/or plant fossils have been recorded previously from the Pleistocene-age dissected alluvial gravel and sands (Qoa), Pliocene- to late Miocene-age Orinda Formation (Tor), late Miocene-age Briones Sandstone (Tbr), late to

middle Miocene-age Monterey Formation (Tms, Tmc), Miocene- to potentially Oligocene-age San Ramon Formation (Tsr), late Eocene-age Kreyenhagen Formation (TKm, TKn), middle to early Eocene-age Meganos Formation (Tmg), early Eocene- to Paleocene-age Martinez Formation (Tmz, Tmzs), middle Eocene-age Domingine Sandstone (Tds), and late Cretaceous-age Panoche Formation (Kp, Kps). Therefore, based on Caltrans' guidelines, these geologic units have a high potential for producing significant paleontological resources (California Department of Transportation, 2014).

Fossils are generally not found in Holocene-age deposits, such as alluvial gravel, sand and clay of valley area (Qa), and bay mud (Qbm), due to their young age. In addition, any fossils discovered in artificial fill (af) have been removed from their original deposition locations and, therefore, lack critical stratigraphic contextual data. Therefore, using Caltrans' sensitivity system, the Holocene-age deposits (Qa, Qbm) and artificial fill (af) have low paleontological potential at the surface. However, these deposits may underlie older, more sensitive geologic units.

### 2.2.4.3 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on paleontological resources would occur.

#### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

Construction activities associated with Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 have the potential to encounter native sediments with high paleontological potential, both at the surface and in the subsurface beneath low sensitivity Holocene-age deposits (Qa, Qbm) and artificial fill (af). Excavations that encounter native Pleistocene-age dissected alluvial gravel and sands (Qoa), Pliocene- to late Miocene-age Orinda Formation (Tor), late Miocene-age Briones Sandstone (Tbr), late to middle Miocene-age Monterey Formation (Tms, Tmc), Miocene- to potentially Oligocene-age San Ramon Formation (Tsr), late Eocene-age Kreyenhagen Formation (TKm, TKn), middle to early Eocene-age Meganos Formation (Tmg), early Eocene- to Paleocene-age Martinez Formation (Tmz, Tmzs), middle Eocene-age Domingine Sandstone (Tds), and late Cretaceous-age Panoche Formation (Kp, Kps) have the potential to result in direct adverse effects on paleontological resources. Specifically, excavations related to installation of guardrails, electrical conduits, luminaire foundations, reader gantry foundations, overhead sign structure foundations, retaining walls, best management practices trash capture devices, and pavement have the potential to impact paleontologically sensitive sediments if excavations exceed the depths of artificial fill and/or Holocene-age deposits (Qa, Qbm).

Due to the potential for impacts to scientifically significant paleontological resources in the Geological RSA, a *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* would be prepared and included in the construction contract in accordance with Caltrans Standard Special Provision

(SSP) 14-7.04 and Measure **PAL-1**. The *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* would be prepared and implemented by or under the direct supervision of a qualified principal paleontologist. The plan would identify locations for mitigation based on the final design and further geotechnical data, which are prepared during the design phase. At this time, only spot-checking and/or monitoring of excavations that exceed depths of artificial fill and/or Holocene-age deposits (Qa) at select locations is recommended. In the event of an unanticipated paleontological resource discovery during Project related activities, all work within 60 feet of the discovery would be halted until it can be evaluated by a qualified paleontologist in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specification 14-7.03, as described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*.

#### **2.2.4.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

**PAL-1 Paleontological Mitigation Plan.** Prepare a *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* once Project design is nearly complete. The final plan will be implemented during construction. Include a specification in the construction contract stating that paleontological monitoring will occur in accordance with the *Paleontological Mitigation Plan*. Prepare a final report documenting the implementation of the approved *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* (i.e., Paleontological Mitigation Report). It is anticipated that the *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* would include the following measures:

- A project-specific *Paleontological Mitigation Plan* will be prepared by a qualified principal paleontologist (MS or PhD in paleontology) once adequate project design information regarding subsurface disturbance location, depth, and lateral extent is available.
- The qualified principal paleontologist will be present at pre-construction meetings to confer with contractors who will be performing ground-disturbing activities.
- Paleontological monitors, under the direction of the qualified principal paleontologist, will be on site to inspect cuts for fossils at all times during original ground disturbance involving sensitive geologic formations.
- When fossils are discovered, the paleontologist (or paleontological monitor) will recover them. Construction work in these areas may be halted or diverted by the Resident Engineer to allow the prompt recovery of fossils.
- Fossils collected during the monitoring and salvage portion of the mitigation program will be prepared to the point of identification, sorted, and cataloged.

- Prepared fossils, along with copies of all pertinent field notes, photos, and maps, will be deposited in a scientific institution with paleontological collections.
- A *Paleontological Mitigation Report* will be completed that outlines the results of the mitigation program.
- Where feasible, selected road cuts or large finished slopes in areas with critically interesting paleontological features may be left exposed to serve as important educational and scientific features. This may be possible if no substantial adverse visual or safety impacts result.



## 2.2.5 Hazardous Waste/Materials

### 2.2.5.1 Regulatory Setting

Hazardous materials, including hazardous substances and wastes, are regulated by many state and federal laws. Statutes govern the generation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials, substances, and waste, and also the investigation and mitigation of waste releases, air and water quality, human health, and land use.

The primary federal laws regulating hazardous wastes/materials are the [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act \(CERCLA\) of 1980](#), and the [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 \(RCRA\)](#). The purpose of CERCLA, often referred to as “Superfund,” is to identify and cleanup abandoned contaminated sites so that public health and welfare are not compromised. The RCRA provides for “cradle to grave” regulation of hazardous waste generated by operating entities. Other federal laws include:

- Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) of 1992
- Clean Water Act
- Clean Air Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)
- Atomic Energy Act
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

In addition to the acts listed above, Executive Order (EO) 12088, *Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards*, mandates that necessary actions be taken to prevent and control environmental pollution when federal activities or federal facilities are involved.

California regulates hazardous materials, waste, and substances under the authority of the [CA Health and Safety Code](#) and is also authorized by the federal government to implement RCRA in the state. California law also addresses specific handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning of hazardous waste. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act also restricts disposal of wastes and requires cleanup of wastes that are below hazardous waste concentrations but could impact ground and surface water quality. California regulations that address waste management and prevention and cleanup of contamination include

Title 22 Division 4.5 Environmental Health Standards for the Management of Hazardous Waste, Title 23 Waters, and Title 27 Environmental Protection.

Worker and public health and safety are key issues when addressing hazardous materials that may affect human health and the environment. Proper management and disposal of hazardous material is vital if it is found, disturbed, or generated during project construction.

### 2.2.5.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is based on the *Phase I Initial Site Assessment* (ISA) (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022) that was prepared for the proposed Project. The Phase I ISA was prepared in general accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International, Inc., *Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process E1527-13* (ASTM Standard) and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) ISA procedures. The study area for hazardous waste and materials is the Geological Resource Study Area (RSA), which is described in Section 2.2.3, *Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography*.

The Phase I ISA was conducted to identify potential and known contaminant sources or recognized environmental conditions (REC), historical RECs (HREC), and controlled RECs (CREC) within the Geological RSA.

The following tasks were conducted as part of the Phase I ISA:

- **Environmental Database Review:** An environmental database search was conducted using Environmental Data Resources (EDR) to gather government database records dated February 23, 2021. The search consisted of reviewing existing federal, State, local, tribal, and EDR proprietary environmental databases, per the ASTM Standard. The environmental database search radius consisted of the Geological RSA and properties up to approximately 1 mile from the Geological RSA.
- **Historical Land Use Records Review:** Historical aerial photographs, topographic maps, and Sanborn fire insurance maps were reviewed.
- **Agency Records Review:** Caltrans historical record maps and work orders were reviewed to search for evidence of RECs. The record maps provide information on the location of historical underground storage tanks (USTs) and buildings. The maps were reviewed using the Caltrans D4 Maps on Demand website. The work orders provide information on hazardous spills and incidents and were obtained via a Caltrans Public Records Request. In addition, the National Pipeline Mapping System Public Viewer was reviewed, which provides information on hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.





- Site Reconnaissance:** Site reconnaissance of the Geological RSA and adjacent roads was conducted on April 7 and May 7, 2021, to obtain information that may indicate the presence of potential RECs or adverse environmental conditions. Visual inspection was conducted from public right-of-way and from areas on properties that were publicly accessible. No interior building inspections were conducted.

The Phase I ISA was prepared in general accordance with ASTM Standards and Caltrans ISA procedures. The Phase I ISA does not meet “innocent landowner” provisions under CERCLA, which establishes a defense for the purchase of real property.

### Sites of Concern

Based on the due diligence efforts completed as part of the Phase I ISA, three properties were identified to have RECs. Of the three properties, one is located within the Project Study Limits and two are located adjacent to the Project Study Limits. Table 2.2.5-1 lists each REC site and includes a description of the potential contamination issues that may have an impact on the proposed Project. The locations of the three REC sites are shown in Figure 2.2.5-1.

**Table 2.2.5-1. Properties with Recognized Environmental Condition**

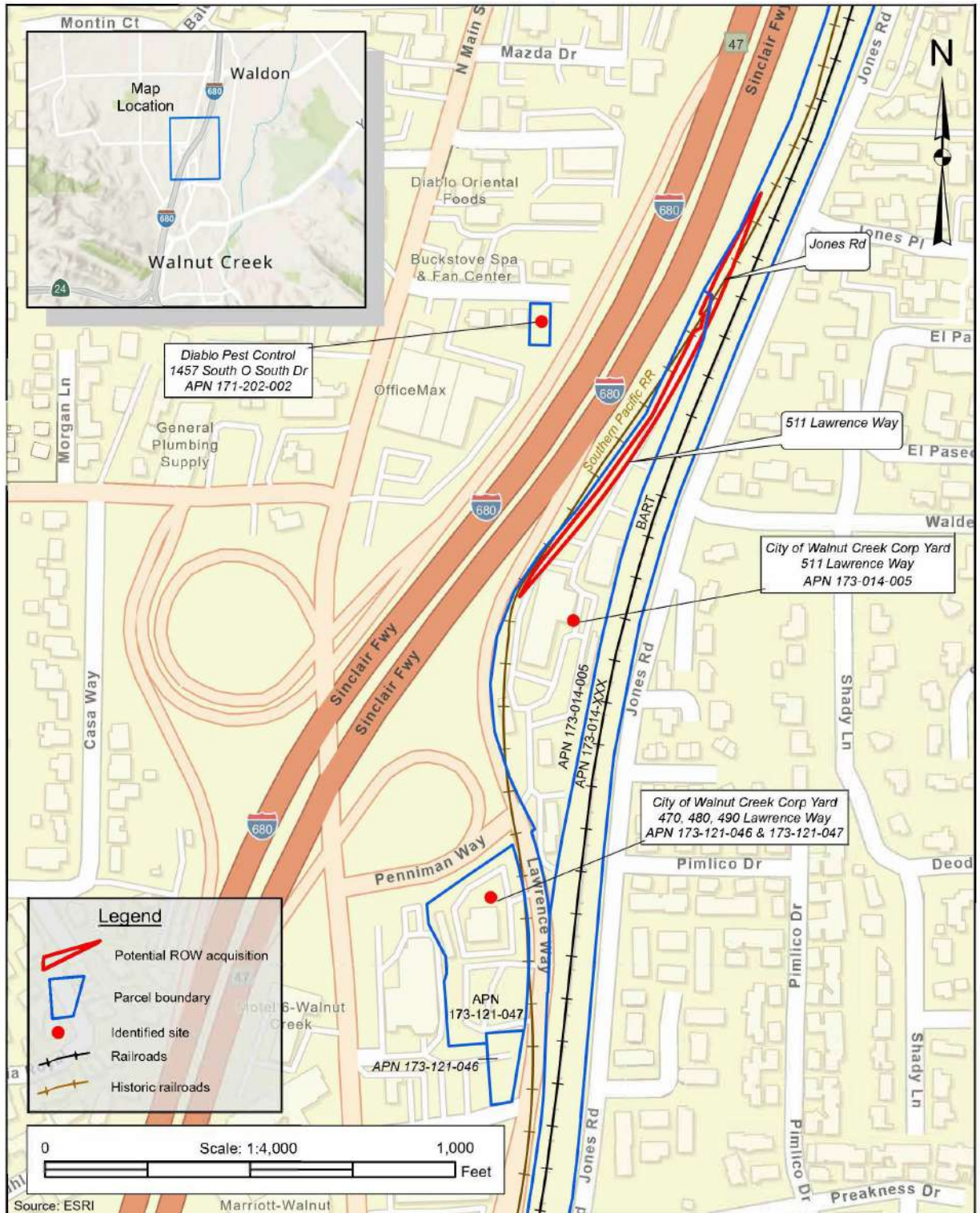
Facility	Right-of-Way Acquisition	Possible Contamination
City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard 511 Lawrence Way Walnut Creek, CA APN 173-014-005	Proposed partial acquisition	This property is currently operated by the City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard. The property was used historically for agricultural purposes and may also have been occupied by Sacramento Northern Railway. The environmental database search identified the site as a LUST cleanup site, with the case being listed as case closed on April 14, 1995. Past Phase I and Phase II ESAs have been conducted on the property. The Phase I ESA concluded that pesticide and/or herbicide residues from past agricultural use may be present in onsite shallow soil. However, the potential for such residues to be present at concentrations that would pose regulatory or human health risk concerns is low. The Phase II ESA concluded that the site had been impacted by hydrocarbons and VOCs in the soil, groundwater, and soil vapor from existing USTs, from the fuel dispenser area, and from a former waste oil UST. In addition, the Phase II ESA concluded that potential off-site migration of contamination from the former Siemens property, located at 480 Lawrence Way, may have resulted in potential groundwater and subsurface vapor impacts at the property. There is also a potential for off-site contamination migration from Diablo Pest Control, located at 1457 South O South Drive, to affect the property based its down-gradient location from Diablo Pest Control. Contamination at this property represents



Facility	Right-of-Way Acquisition	Possible Contamination
		a REC. Existing site contamination from the City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard property, and potential off-site migration of contamination from nearby properties at 480 Lawrence Way and Diablo Pest Control, have the potential to adversely impact the Project.
City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard 470, 480, and 490 Lawrence Way Walnut Creek, CA APN 173-121-046 & 173-121-047	Non-acquisition	This property is located approximately 600 feet south of the Project's right-of-way acquisition area. This property was used historically for chemical manufacturing, recycling, and industrial waste treatment, and it also contained USTs. The environmental database search identified the site as a voluntary cleanup site. Confirmed contaminants of concern in groundwater at the property include benzene, petroleum hydrocarbons, and vinyl chloride. Remediation activities under consideration by DTSC include hot spot excavation and the introduction of a vapor barrier for the property. Contamination at this property represents a REC. There is a potential for off-site contamination migration from this property to adversely impact the Project.
Diablo Pest Control 1457 South O South Drive Walnut Creek, CA APN 171-202-002	Non-acquisition	This property is located approximately 300 feet west of the Project's right-of-way acquisition area. This property was formerly operated by Diablo Pest Control and was used to store pesticides, insecticides, and rodenticides. The environmental database search identified the site as a voluntary cleanup site. Potential and confirmed contaminants of concern at this property included arsenic, chlordane, and dieldrin. In 2012, DTSC certified that all remedial actions for known contamination at this property had been completed and no further action was recommended. Contamination at this property represents a HREC. There is a potential for off-site contamination migration from this property to adversely impact the Project.

Source: (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022)

Notes: APN = Assessor Parcel Number; DTSC = Department of Toxic Substances Control; HREC = historical recognized environmental condition; LUST = leaking underground storage tank; Phase I ESA = Phase I Environmental Site Assessment; Phase II ESA = Phase II Environmental Site Assessment; REC = recognized environmental condition; UST = underground storage tank; VOC = volatile organic compound



**Figure 2.2.5-1. Potential Hazardous Waste/Materials Site**

## **Other Conditions of Concern**

### ***Aerially Deposited Lead***

Aerially deposited lead (ADL) is a byproduct of internal combustion engines burning lead containing fuels. Although the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) began requiring unleaded gasoline in 1973, and leaded gasoline was phased out entirely by 1996 for automobiles, ADL is often found in undisturbed soil adjacent to historically trafficked highways and roads.

ADL concentration and distribution in soil depends on many variables, including traffic volumes and the roadway's age. Elevated lead concentrations can generally be found within approximately 6 feet of the edge of pavement and within the top 6 inches of soil. However, elevated lead concentrations can be present as deep as 2 to 3 feet below ground surface.

I-680 is a major traffic thoroughfare in Contra Costa County with construction beginning in the late 1950s. U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps and historical aerial photographs show that roads within the Project Study Limits have supported vehicular traffic from the early 1900s. Due to vehicular activity, soils in the Project Study Limits are likely contaminated with ADL from cars burning leaded gasoline. Lead levels in surface soils along highways can reach concentrations in excess of the hazardous waste threshold, requiring either disposal at a Class I landfill or on-site stabilization.

### ***Asbestos-Containing Material***

Asbestos is a generic, commercial description for a group of naturally occurring mineral substances used in buildings and manufacturing because of their fire resistance. Asbestos is most hazardous when it is easily crumbled or reduced by hand ("friable"). Prior to 1978, asbestos was used commonly in building materials. Asbestos is still used in building materials today, though its use is uncommon due to the associated hazards. Asbestos-containing materials (ACM) include fireproofing, acoustic ceiling material, transite pipe, roofing materials, thermal insulation, support piers, expansion joint material in bridges, asphalt, concrete, and other building materials. ACM will typically not release asbestos fibers unless they are disturbed or damaged. There is a potential for ACM to be present in structures, including buildings and bridges, located within the Project Study Limits. In addition, there is a potential for ACM to be present along railroad tracks and railyards.

### ***Lead-Based Paint***

Regulations have restricted the use of lead in paints and primers and limited the use of paints in areas where consumers would have direct access to painted surfaces in non-industrial facilities. It is presumed that structures constructed prior to 1978 have lead-based paint (LBP). In addition, yellow paints made prior to 1995 may exceed hazardous waste criteria under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and





require disposal in a Class I disposal facility. There is a potential for structures, including buildings and bridges, located within the Project Study Limits to contain LBP.

### ***Agricultural Land Uses***

A large portion of the Project Study Limits was used for agriculture since at least the early 1900s, prior to industrialization and urbanization. Soils within the Project Study Limits may be contaminated with hazardous levels of pesticides and herbicides and with petroleum derived from equipment repair and maintenance, fuel storage, re-fueling, and cleaning activities.

### ***Railroads***

The historical Sacramento Northern Railroad and the San Ramon Branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad either crossed or ran alongside parts of the Project Study Limits. The Sacramento Northern Railroad ran along Olympic Boulevard and passed under I-680 at the Olympic Boulevard Undercrossing.

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad passed over the Project Study Limits at the East Martinez Underpass. Another historical railroad may also have crossed the Project Study Limits approximately 400 feet south of the East Martinez Underpass and ran on the same alignment as the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

The Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Antioch-San Francisco International Airport line also crosses over the Project Study Limits and the Walnut Creek Overcrossing.

As discussed above, several portions of the Project Study Limits have been used historically, and are being used currently, for railroads. Therefore, there is the potential for soil and groundwater within the Project Study Limits to be impacted by several common railroad-related contaminants. Soil and/or groundwater contamination associated with railroads often includes polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides. The main source of PAHs in railroad areas derives from machine grease, fuel oils, transformer oils, creosote, and pentachlorophenol preserved railroad ties. Heavy metal contamination in soils in and around railroad areas is derived from construction materials, fuel combustion, cargo leakage, and the wearing of pantographs and associated electrical equipment. Herbicide and pesticide contamination in railroad areas arises from application to control weeds and pests for maintenance purposes.

### ***Petroleum and Gas Transmission Pipelines***

Existing pipeline safety regulations minimize the potential risks associated with future releases. However, these regulations do not remove the risk of undocumented petroleum releases that may have occurred in the past. Contaminants of concern from petroleum pipelines include gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.

The precise locations of pipelines would be determined during final design. According to the National Pipeline Management System Public Viewer (U.S. Department of Transportation, 2023), hazardous liquid and/or gas pipelines pass through or are adjacent to the Project Study Limits at multiple locations along I-680, including near Waterbird Regional Preserve, Pacheco Boulevard, State Route (SR) 4, Contra Costa Boulevard Ramp, Olympic Boulevard, and Rudgear Road.

### ***Asphalt-Concrete and Portland Cement***

Asphalt-concrete and Portland cement grindings have a relatively high pH and may contain metals and petroleum hydrocarbons that can impact stormwater runoff and threaten surface water quality.

### ***Naturally Occurring Asbestos in Bedrock***

Geologic mapping from USGS does not show any areas of rock likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos within the Project Study Limits (Van Gosen & Clickenbeard, 2011). There is ultramafic rock in outcrops and former asbestos prospects west of the Project Study Limits in the vicinity of Mount Diablo. Undocumented fill material in the Project corridor could potentially contain naturally occurring asbestos imported from other areas.

### ***Treated-Wood Waste***

The preservatives used to treat the wood can include one or more of the following constituents: arsenic, chromium, copper, pentachlorophenol, or creosote. When the treated wood has reached the end of its service life, it is regarded as treated-wood waste.

## **2.2.5.3 Environmental Consequences**

### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Project Study Limits. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on hazardous waste or materials would occur. Routine maintenance activities would be required to follow applicable federal and state regulations with respect to the use, storage, handling, transport, and disposal of potentially hazardous materials or waste.

### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

#### ***Temporary Impacts***

Project construction and maintenance activities are expected to involve the temporary use, storage, handling, transport, and disposal of typical construction hazardous materials (e.g., fuels, paints, asphalt, and lubricants). These materials could pose a threat to human health or the environment if not managed properly.



Federal and state agencies regulate the use, storage, handling, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials. All hazardous materials would be properly used, stored, handled, transported, and disposed of in compliance with all applicable regulations and requirements, which may include the RCRA, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Environmental Health Standards for the Management of Hazardous Waste, and USDOT hazardous materials regulations. Workers who handle hazardous materials must also follow OSHA and California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) health and safety requirements. In addition, hazardous materials and waste must be transported in accordance with RCRA and USDOT regulations and disposed of at a facility that is permitted to accept the waste. Adherence to applicable federal and State regulations during project construction and maintenance is mandatory. These regulations reduce the risk of exposure to hazardous materials and accidental hazardous materials releases during construction and maintenance activities. Therefore, construction and maintenance activities are not expected to create a hazard to construction workers, the public, or the environment.

As described in more detail below, hazardous wastes and materials may be encountered during Project construction. Caltrans Standard Specifications and Standard Special Provisions, as well as Measures **HAZ-1** through **HAZ-6**, would be implemented, which would avoid or minimize adverse effects with known or suspected hazardous materials and wastes during construction.

### *Sites of Concern*

The Phase I ISA identified three properties located either adjacent to or within the Project Study Limits, which are described above (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022). Potential contamination associated with these properties are due to existing and past land uses and operation activities, which may have resulted in a release or spill. Table 2.2.5-1 lists each site with the potential to impact the Project for all Build Alternatives and includes a description of the contamination issues (Figure 2.2.5-1 depicts site locations).

Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require a temporary construction easement and partial right-of-way acquisition of the City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard (511 Lawrence Way, Walnut Creek, CA, APN 173-014-005). Contaminated soil and/or groundwater may be encountered during construction activities. Implementation of Measure **HAZ-1** would require that a Preliminary Site Investigation (PSI) be conducted for this property to further assess it for contamination issues. With the implementation of Measure **HAZ-1**, as identified in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

### *Aerially Deposited Lead*

ADL from the historical use of leaded gasoline, exists along roadways throughout California. There is the likely presence of soils with elevated concentrations of lead as a result of ADL on the state highway system right-of-way within the limits of the project

alternatives. Soil determined to contain ADL contamination exceeding California hazardous waste thresholds would be managed in accordance with the July 1, 2016, ADL Agreement between Caltrans and the California DTSC (Department of Toxic Substance Control 2016). This ADL Agreement allows such soils to be reused safely within the Project Study Limits, as long as all requirements of the ADL Agreement are met. Otherwise, ADL-contaminated soil would require either disposal at either a Class I landfill or on-site stabilization.

The proposed Project may encounter ADL contaminated soils during construction under all Build Alternatives. As identified in Measure **HAZ-2**, unpaved soils adjacent to the existing roadway should be tested for ADL according to Caltrans ADL testing guidelines. If ADL concentrations are detected in existing soils, such soils would be handled in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specification, Section 14-11.08, Regulated Material Containing Aerially Deposited Lead (2022), and under the July 1, 2016, ADL Agreement between Caltrans and California DTSC. With the implementation of Measure **HAZ-2**, as identified in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

#### *Asbestos-Containing Material and Lead-Based Paint*

Structures, including buildings and bridges, within the Project Study Limits may potentially contain ACM and LBP. The proposed Project would require bridge widening and reconstruction work under all Build Alternatives. These structures may have materials that contain ACM and LBP. As identified in Measure **HAZ-3**, prior to any disturbance or demolition activities associated with the structures, the presence or absence of ACM and LBP in the structure would need to be confirmed.

The modification or removal of ACM in bridges would be conducted in accordance with the U.S. EPA's National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (40 CFR Part 61), Bay Area Air Quality Management District regulations, and Caltrans Standard Specifications Section 14-11.16, Asbestos-Containing Construction Materials in Bridges (2022). The modification or removal of LBP in bridges would be conducted in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications Section 14-11.13, Disturbance of Existing Paint Systems on Bridges. With the implementation of Measure **HAZ-3**, as identified in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

#### *Agricultural Land Uses*

Soils within the Project Study Limits that have not been previously disturbed may contain residual pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum from historical agricultural uses and associated activities. Therefore, there is a potential for the proposed Project to encounter soil contamination from historical agricultural uses during construction under all Build Alternatives. Undisturbed soil on historic agricultural land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum, as identified in Measure **HAZ-4**. With the implementation of Measure **HAZ-4**, as identified



in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

### *Railroad Land Uses*

Historical and existing railroad land uses within the Project Study Limits may have resulted in soil and groundwater contamination from common railroad-related contaminants, including PAHs, asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides. There is a potential for the proposed Project to encounter soil and/or groundwater contamination from historical and existing railroad land uses during construction under all Build Alternatives. Historical and existing railroad land uses within the Project Study Limits that may be disturbed by the proposed Project would be sampled for common railroad-related contaminants, as identified in Measure **HAZ-5**. With the implementation of Measure **HAZ-5**, as identified in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

### *Unknown Hazards*

Because of existing and past land uses and the operational activities of facilities within and adjacent to the Project Study Limits, there is a potential for the proposed Project to encounter unknown hazards during construction under all Build Alternatives, such as soil and groundwater contamination and buried drums and underground tanks containing hazardous waste/materials. A Health and Safety Plan would be prepared prior to construction to protect worker health and safety and the environment, as identified in Measure **HAZ-6**. This plan will contain specific procedures for encountering expected and unexpected contaminants. It will prescribe safe work practices, contaminant monitoring, personal protective equipment, emergency response procedures, and safety training requirements. With the inclusion of Measure **HAZ-6**, as identified in Section 2.2.5.4, *Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures*, impacts would not be substantial.

### ***Permanent Impacts***

Routine maintenance activities would be required to follow applicable federal and State regulations with respect to the use, storage, handling, transport, and disposal of potentially hazardous materials.

## **2.2.5.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

**HAZ-1 Preliminary Site Investigation.** During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that a Preliminary Site Investigation (PSI) is conducted at City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard, 511 Lawrence Way, Walnut Creek, CA (Assessor Parcel Number 173-014-005) in the area that would be disturbed by the Project should Alternatives 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative. The PSI would assess for the presence of site contamination, including hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds in soil and groundwater.

- HAZ-2**      **Aerially Deposited Lead.** Soils located within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) have the potential to contain aerially deposited lead (ADL). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that soil sampling and analysis for ADL be conducted on Caltrans ROW (within the Project disturbance limits) that have not been previously characterized, to determine the proper handling and disposal requirements. Soil determined to contain lead concentrations exceeding stipulated thresholds must be managed in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.08 Regulated Material Containing Aerially Deposited Lead (2022) and under the July 1, 2016, ADL Agreement between Caltrans and the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This ADL Agreement allows such soils to be safely reused within the Project Study Limits, as long as all requirements of the ADL Agreement are met.
- HAZ-3**      **Asbestos-Containing Material and Lead-Based Paint.** Structures, including buildings and bridges, may contain asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that structures be sampled for ACM and LBP prior to any demolition or disturbance activities. Soils surrounding the structures that will be disturbed should also be sampled for ACM and LBP. In addition, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that the survey be conducted in conformance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1403, and in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.13, Disturbance of Existing Paint Systems on Bridges, and Section 14-11.16, Asbestos-Containing Construction Materials in Bridges (2022).
- HAZ-4**      **Agricultural Land Uses.** Soils within the Project Study Limits that have not been previously disturbed may contain residual pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum from historical agricultural uses. During the design phase, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that undisturbed soil on historic agricultural land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum.
- HAZ-5**      **Railroad Land Uses.** Soil and groundwater within the Project Study Limits may be contaminated with common railroad-related contaminants, including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides, from existing and historical railroad uses. During the design phase, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that soil and groundwater on historical and existing railroad land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project

will be sampled for common railroad-related contaminants should Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative.

**HAZ-6 Construction Health and Safety Plan.** Prior to construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the development of a Health and Safety Plan to guide all construction activities should Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative. A Certified Industrial Hygienist will review this plan, based on evaluations of proposed construction activities, the potential hazards identified in Project's *Phase I Initial Site Assessment* (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2022), and any future assessment prepared for the Project. This plan will contain specific procedures for encountering expected and unexpected contaminants. It will prescribe safe work practices, contaminant monitoring, personal protective equipment, emergency response procedures, and safety training requirements to protect construction workers and third parties. The plan will meet the requirements of 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910 and 1926, and all other applicable federal, State, and local regulations and requirements. The designated contractor will be responsible for preparing the Health and Safety Plan before the start of construction.

It is understood that if a PSI identifies site contamination, avoidance, minimization, and/or abatement measures would be determined at that time and property owners would be legally responsible for the cleanup of contamination on their private properties. If these PSIs determine that contamination is present that cannot be abated, measures to avoid the acquisition or temporary or permanent easement of the property may be implemented to avoid encountering the area of contamination during construction or maintenance activities. If acquisition limits cannot be adjusted, minimization measures may include indemnification, reduction in price, or acquisition as highway easement instead of in fee.

Acquisition of contaminated property must comply with applicable Caltrans directives, including the Caltrans Project Delivery Directive PD 02. If contamination is present when property is to be transferred to Caltrans, the impact of this contamination must be evaluated, and the transfer may be contingent upon acceptance of liability by the Caltrans Chief Engineer.

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## 2.2.6 Air Quality

### 2.2.6.1 Regulatory Setting

The Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA), as amended, is the primary federal law that governs air quality while the California Clean Air Act (CCAA) is its companion state law. These laws, and related regulations by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB), set standards for the concentration of pollutants in the air. At the federal level, these standards are called National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). NAAQS and state ambient air quality standards have been established for six criteria pollutants that have been linked to potential health concerns: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), particulate matter — which is broken down for regulatory purposes into particles of 10 micrometers or smaller (PM<sub>10</sub>) and particles of 2.5 micrometers and smaller (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), Lead (Pb), and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). In addition, state standards exist for visibility reducing particles, sulfates, hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), and vinyl chloride. The NAAQS and state standards are set at levels that protect public health with a margin of safety, and are subject to periodic review and revision. Both state and federal regulatory schemes also cover toxic air contaminants (air toxics); some criteria pollutants are also air toxics or may include certain air toxics in their general definition.

Federal air quality standards and regulations provide the basic scheme for project-level air quality analysis under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In addition to this environmental analysis, a parallel “Conformity” requirement under the FCAA also applies.

#### Conformity

The conformity requirement is based on FCAA Section 176(c), which prohibits the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and other federal agencies from funding, authorizing, or approving plans, programs, or projects that do not conform to State Implementation Plan (SIP) for attaining the NAAQS. “Transportation Conformity” applies to highway and transit projects and takes place on two levels: the regional (or planning and programming) level and the project level. The proposed project must conform at both levels to be approved.

Conformity requirements apply only in nonattainment and “maintenance” (former nonattainment) areas for the NAAQS, and only for the specific NAAQS that are or were violated. U.S. EPA regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 93 govern the conformity process. Conformity requirements do not apply in unclassifiable/attainment areas for NAAQS and do not apply at all for state standards regardless of the status of the area.

Regional conformity is concerned with how well the regional transportation system supports plans for attaining the NAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), and in some areas (although not

in California), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). California has nonattainment or maintenance areas for all of these transportation-related “criteria pollutants” except SO<sub>2</sub>, and also has a nonattainment area for lead (Pb); however, lead is not currently required by the FCAA to be covered in transportation conformity analysis. Regional conformity is based on emission analysis of Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs) and Federal Transportation Improvement Programs (FTIPs) that include all transportation projects planned for a region over a period of at least 20 years (for the RTP) and 4 years (for the FTIP). RTP and FTIP conformity uses travel demand and emission models to determine whether or not the implementation of those projects would conform to emission budgets or other tests at various analysis years showing that requirements of the FCAA and the SIP are met. If the conformity analysis is successful, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) make the determinations that the RTP and FTIP are in conformity with the SIP for achieving the goals of the FCAA. Otherwise, the projects in the RTP and/or FTIP must be modified until conformity is attained. If the design concept and scope and the “open-to-traffic” schedule of a proposed transportation project are the same as described in the RTP and FTIP, then the proposed project meets regional conformity requirements for purposes of project-level analysis.

Project-level conformity is achieved by demonstrating that the project comes from a conforming RTP and TIP; the project has a design concept and scope<sup>1</sup> that has not changed significantly from those in the RTP and TIP; project analyses have used the latest planning assumptions and EPA-approved emissions models; and in particulate matter areas, the project complies with any control measures in the SIP. Furthermore, additional analyses (known as hot-spot analyses) may be required for projects located in CO and particulate matter nonattainment or maintenance areas to examine localized air quality impacts.

### **2.2.6.2 Affected Environment**

The following discussion is from the proposed Project’s *Air Quality Report* (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023), which was approved in January 2024. Contra Costa County is within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) regulates air quality in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin.

#### **Climate, Meteorology, and Topography**

Meteorology (weather) and terrain can influence air quality. Certain weather parameters are highly correlated to air quality, including temperature, the amount of sunlight, and the type of winds at the surface and above the surface. Winds can transport ozone and ozone precursors (i.e., reactive organic gases [ROG]) from one region to another,

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<sup>1</sup> "Design concept" means the type of facility that is proposed, such as a freeway or arterial highway. "Design scope" refers to those aspects of the project that would clearly affect capacity and thus any regional emissions analysis, such as the number of lanes and the length of the project.



contributing to air quality problems downwind of source regions. Furthermore, mountains can act as a barrier that prevents ozone from dispersing.

The National Weather Service’s Buchanan Field climatological station, in Concord, California, is the most representative of meteorological conditions near the Project. This station is located adjacent to I-680 in Contra Costa County. The San Francisco Bay and coastal mountains have a substantial influence on the Project area’s climate. The Project area’s climate is generally Mediterranean in character, with cool winters (average 24-hour temperature of 50 Fahrenheit [°F] in January) and warm, dry summers (average 24-hour temperature of 64°F in July) (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023). The prevailing winds in the Project area flow mainly from the south-southwest from off the San Francisco Bay (Iowa State University 2022). The annual average rainfall is 16.2 inches at Buchanan Field, mainly falling during the winter months (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023).

### Criteria Pollutants and Attainment Status

The FCAA requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set NAAQS for the following criteria air pollutants: O<sub>3</sub>, CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, Pb, SO<sub>2</sub>. It also permits states to adopt additional or more protective air quality standards if needed. California has set standards for certain pollutants. Table 2.2.6-1 and Table 2.2.6-2 document the current air quality standards and summarize the sources and health effects of the criteria pollutants and pollutants regulated in the state of California.

**Table 2.2.6-1. State and Federal Criteria Air Pollutant Standards and Status**

Pollutant	Averaging Time	State Standard <sup>i</sup>	Federal Standard <sup>ii</sup>	State Project Attainment Status	Federal Project Area Attainment Status
O <sub>3</sub> <sup>iii</sup>	1 hour	0.09 ppm <sup>iv</sup>	N/A	Nonattainment	N/A
O <sub>3</sub>	8 hours	0.070 ppm	0.070 ppm (4th highest in 3 years)	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
CO <sup>v</sup>	1 hour	20 ppm	35 ppm	Attainment	Attainment
CO	8 hours	9.0 ppm	9 ppm	Attainment	Attainment
CO	8 hours (Lake Tahoe)	6 ppm	N/A	N/A	N/A
PM <sub>10</sub> <sup>vi</sup>	24 hours	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <sup>vii</sup>	150 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (expected number of days above standard < or equal to 1)	Nonattainment	Unclassified
PM <sub>10</sub>	Annual	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N/A	Nonattainment	N/A
PM <sub>2.5</sub> <sup>vii</sup>	24 hours	N/A	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N/A	Nonattainment

Pollutant	Averaging Time	State Standard <sup>i</sup>	Federal Standard <sup>ii</sup>	State Project Attainment Status	Federal Project Area Attainment Status
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual	12 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	12.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Nonattainment	Unclassified/Attainment
NO <sub>2</sub>	1 hour	0.18 ppm	0.100 ppm <sup>ix</sup>	Attainment	-
NO <sub>2</sub>	Annual	0.030 ppm	0.053 ppm	-	Attainment
SO <sub>2</sub> <sup>x</sup>	1 hour	0.25 ppm	0.075 ppm (99 <sup>th</sup> percentile over 3 years)	Attainment	-
SO <sub>2</sub>	3 hours	N/A	0.5 ppm <sup>xi</sup>	N/A	-
SO <sub>2</sub>	24 hours	0.04 ppm	0.14 ppm (for certain areas)	Attainment	-
SO <sub>2</sub>	Annual	N/A	0.030 ppm (for certain areas)	N/A	-
Pb <sup>xii</sup>	Monthly	1.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N/A	-	N/A
Pb	Calendar Quarter	N/A	1.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (for certain areas)	N/A	Attainment
Pb	Rolling 3-month average	N/A	0.15 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <sup>xiii</sup>	N/A	Attainment
Sulfates	24 hours	25 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	N/A	Attainment	N/A
H <sub>2</sub> S	1 hour	0.03 ppm	N/A	Unclassified	N/A
Visibility Reducing Particles (VRP) <sup>xiv</sup>	8 hours	Visibility of 10 miles or more (Tahoe: 30 miles) at relative humidity less than 70%	N/A	Unclassified	N/A
Vinyl Chloride <sup>xv</sup>	24 hours	0.01 ppm	N/A	No Information Available	N/A

Source: (Bay Area Air Quality Management District 2017)

Adapted from the [California ARB Air Quality Standards chart](#)

Notes: O<sub>3</sub> = ozone; CO = carbon monoxide; N/A = not applicable; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; ppm = parts per million; NO<sub>2</sub> = nitrogen dioxide; SO<sub>2</sub> = sulfur dioxide; Pb = lead; H<sub>2</sub>S = hydrogen sulfide; µg/m<sup>3</sup> = micrograms per cubic meter  
Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change: Greenhouse gases do not have concentration standards for that purpose. Conformity requirements do not apply to greenhouse gases.

<sup>i</sup> California standards for ozone, carbon monoxide (except eight-hour Lake Tahoe), sulfur dioxide (1 and 24 hour), nitrogen dioxide, and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and visibility reducing



Pollutant	Averaging Time	State Standard <sup>i</sup>	Federal Standard <sup>ii</sup>	State Project Attainment Status	Federal Project Area Attainment Status
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particles), are values that are not to be exceeded. All others are not to be equaled or exceeded. California ambient air quality standards are listed in the Table of Standards in Section 70200 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

<sup>ii</sup> Federal standards (other than ozone, particulate matter, and those based on annual arithmetic mean) are not to be exceeded more than once a year. The ozone standard is attained when the fourth highest 8-hour concentration measured at each site in a year, averaged over 3 years, is equal to or less than the standard. For PM<sub>10</sub>, the 24-hour standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with a 24-hour average concentration above 150 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is equal to or less than one. For PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the 24-hour standard is attained when 98 percent of the daily concentrations, averaged over 3 years, are equal to or less than the standard. Contact the U.S. EPA for further clarification and current national policies.

<sup>iii</sup> On October 1, 2015, the national 8-hour ozone primary and secondary standards were lowered from 0.075 to 0.070 ppm. Transportation conformity applies in newly designated nonattainment areas for the 2015 national eight-hour ozone primary and secondary standards on and after August 4th, 2019 (see [Transportation Conformity Guidance for 2015 Ozone NAAQS Nonattainment Areas](#)).

<sup>iv</sup> ppm = parts per million

<sup>v</sup> Transportation conformity requirements for CO no longer apply after June 1, 2018, for the following California Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Areas (see [U.S. EPA CO Maintenance Letter](#)).

<sup>vi</sup> On December 14, 2012, the national annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> primary standard was lowered from 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The existing national 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards (primary and secondary) were retained at 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, as was the annual secondary standard of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The existing 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> standards (primary and secondary) of 150 µg/m<sup>3</sup> also were retained. The form of the annual primary and secondary standards is the annual mean, averaged over 3 years.

<sup>vii</sup> µg/m<sup>3</sup> = micrograms per cubic meter

<sup>viii</sup> The 65 µg/m<sup>3</sup> PM<sub>2.5</sub> (24-hr) NAAQS was not revoked when the 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> NAAQS was promulgated in 2006. The 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard was not revoked when the 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> standard was promulgated in 2012. Therefore, for areas designated nonattainment or nonattainment/maintenance for the 1997 and or 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS, conformity requirements still apply until the NAAQS are fully revoked.

<sup>ix</sup> Final 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS published in the Federal Register on 2/9/2010, effective 3/9/2010. Initial area designation for California (2012) was attainment/unclassifiable throughout. Project-level hot spot analysis requirements do not currently exist. Near-road monitoring starting in 2013 may cause re-designation to nonattainment in some areas after 2016.

<sup>x</sup> On June 2, 2010, a new 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard was established and the existing 24-hour and annual primary standards were revoked. To attain the 1-hour national standard, the 3-year average of the annual 99th percentile of the 1-hour daily maximum concentrations at each site must not exceed 75 ppb. The 1971 SO<sub>2</sub> national standards (24-hour and annual) remain in effect until 1 year after an area is designated for the 2010 standard, except that in areas designated nonattainment for the 1971 standards, the 1971 standards remain in effect until implementation plans to attain or maintain the 2010 standards are approved.

<sup>xi</sup> Secondary standard, the levels of air quality necessary to protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant rather than health. Conformity and environmental analysis address both primary and secondary NAAQS.

<sup>xii</sup> CARB has identified vinyl chloride and the particulate matter fraction of diesel exhaust as toxic air contaminants. Diesel exhaust particulate matter is part of PM<sub>10</sub> and, in larger proportion, PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Both CARB and U.S. EPA have identified lead and various organic compounds that are precursors to ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> as toxic air contaminants. There are no exposure criteria for adverse health effect due to toxic air contaminants, and control requirements may apply at ambient concentrations below any criteria levels specified above for these pollutants or the general categories of pollutants to which they belong.



Pollutant	Averaging Time	State Standard <sup>i</sup>	Federal Standard <sup>ii</sup>	State Project Attainment Status	Federal Project Area Attainment Status
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<sup>xiii</sup> Lead NAAQS are not considered in Transportation Conformity analysis.

<sup>xiv</sup> In 1989, CARB converted both the general statewide 10-mile visibility standard and the Lake Tahoe 30-mile visibility standard to instrumental equivalents, which are "extinction of 0.23 per kilometer" and "extinction of 0.07 per kilometer" for the statewide and Lake Tahoe Air Basin standards, respectively.

**Table 2.2.6-2. Air Pollutant Effects and Sources**

Pollutant	Principal Health and Atmospheric Effects	Typical Sources
Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )	High concentrations irritate lungs. Long-term exposure may cause lung tissue damage and cancer. Long-term exposure damages plant materials and reduces crop productivity. Precursor organic compounds include many known toxic air contaminants. Biogenic VOC may also contribute.	Low-altitude ozone is almost entirely formed from ROG/volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the presence of sunlight and heat. Common precursor emitters include motor vehicles and other internal combustion engines, solvent evaporation, boilers, furnaces, and industrial processes.
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	CO interferes with the transfer of oxygen to the blood and deprives sensitive tissues of oxygen. CO is also a minor precursor for photochemical ozone. Colorless, odorless.	Combustion sources, especially gasoline-powered engines and motor vehicles. CO is the traditional signature pollutant for on-road mobile sources at the local and neighborhood scale.
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Irritates eyes and respiratory tract. Decreases lung capacity. Associated with increased cancer and mortality. Contributes to haze and reduced visibility. Includes some toxic air contaminants. Many toxic and other aerosol and solid compounds are part of PM <sub>10</sub> .	Dust- and fume-producing industrial and agricultural operations; combustion smoke and vehicle exhaust; atmospheric chemical reactions; construction and other dust-producing activities; unpaved road dust and re-entrained paved road dust; natural sources.
Fine Particulate Matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Increases respiratory disease, lung damage, cancer, and premature death. Reduces visibility and produces surface soiling. Most diesel exhaust particulate matter—a toxic air contaminant—is in the PM <sub>2.5</sub> size range. Many toxic and other aerosol and solid compounds are part of PM <sub>2.5</sub> .	Combustion including motor vehicles, other mobile sources, and industrial activities; residential and agricultural burning; also formed through atmospheric chemical and photochemical reactions involving other pollutants including NOx, sulfur oxides (SOx), ammonia, and ROG.
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Irritating to eyes and respiratory tract. Colors atmosphere reddish-brown. Contributes to acid rain and nitrate contamination of stormwater. Part of the "NOx" group of ozone precursors.	Motor vehicles and other mobile or portable engines, especially diesel; refineries; industrial operations.





Pollutant	Principal Health and Atmospheric Effects	Typical Sources
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Irritates respiratory tract; injures lung tissue. Can yellow plant leaves. Destructive to marble, iron, steel. Contributes to acid rain. Limits visibility.	Fuel combustion (especially coal and high-sulfur oil), chemical plants, sulfur recovery plants, metal processing; some natural sources like active volcanoes. Limited contribution possible from heavy-duty diesel vehicles if ultra-low sulfur fuel not used.
Lead (Pb)	Disturbs gastrointestinal system. Causes anemia, kidney disease, and neuromuscular and neurological dysfunction. Also a toxic air contaminant and water pollutant.	Lead-based industrial processes like battery production and smelters. Lead paint, leaded gasoline. Aerially deposited lead from older gasoline use may exist in soils along major roads.
Sulfates	Premature mortality and respiratory effects. Contributes to acid rain. Some toxic air contaminants attach to sulfate aerosol particles.	Industrial processes, refineries and oil fields, mines, natural sources like volcanic areas, salt-covered dry lakes, and large sulfide rock areas.
Hydrogen Sulfide (H <sub>2</sub> S)	Colorless, flammable, poisonous. Respiratory irritant. Neurological damage and premature death. Headache, nausea. Strong odor.	Industrial processes such as: refineries and oil fields, asphalt plants, livestock operations, sewage treatment plants, and mines. Some natural sources like volcanic areas and hot springs.
Visibility Reducing Particles (VRP)	Reduces visibility. Produces haze. NOTE: not directly related to the Regional Haze program under the Federal Clean Air Act, which is oriented primarily toward visibility issues in National Parks and other "Class I" areas. However, some issues and measurement methods are similar.	See particulate matter above. May be related more to aerosols than to solid particles.
Vinyl Chloride	Neurological effects, liver damage, cancer. Also considered a toxic air contaminant.	Industrial processes

Source: (California Department of Transportation 2020)

Notes: O<sub>3</sub> = ozone; CO = carbon monoxide; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; NO<sub>x</sub> = nitrogen oxide; NO<sub>2</sub> = nitrogen dioxide; ROG = reactive organic gases; SO<sub>x</sub> = sulfur oxide; SO<sub>2</sub> = sulfur dioxide; Pb = lead; VOC = volatile organic compound

Table 2.2.6-3 lists the State and federal attainment status for all regulated pollutants. Under current designations of the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin, the Project Study Limits are in nonattainment with California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for O<sub>3</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The Air Basin is also in nonattainment with NAAQS for O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Unclassifiable/ Attainment for PM<sub>10</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>.



**Table 2.2.6-3. Attainment Plan Status**

Pollutant	State Attainment Status	Federal Attainment Status	Attainment Plan
O <sub>3</sub>	Nonattainment	Nonattainment (Marginal)	Revised <i>San Francisco Bay Area Ozone Attainment Plan</i> for the 1-Hour National Ozone Standard (2001)
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Nonattainment	Unclassified/Attainment	--
Fine Particulate Matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Nonattainment	Nonattainment (Moderate)	<i>Bay Area Winter Emissions Inventory for Primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> &amp; PM Precursors: Year 2010</i> (2012)
CO	Attainment	Attainment	2004 Revision to the <i>California State Implementation Plan for Carbon Monoxide</i> (2004)
NO <sub>2</sub>	Attainment	Unclassified/Attainment	--
SO <sub>2</sub>	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment	--
Pb	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment	--
Visibility-Reducing Particles	Unclassified	N/A	--
Sulfates	Attainment	N/A	--
Hydrogen Sulfide	Unclassified	N/A	--
Vinyl Chloride	No Information Available	N/A	--

Source: (California Air Resources Board 2022b)

Notes: O<sub>3</sub> = ozone; CO = carbon monoxide; N/A = not applicable; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; NO<sub>2</sub> = nitrogen dioxide; SO<sub>2</sub> = sulfur dioxide; Pb = lead

The closest operating air quality monitoring sites to the Project that BAAQMD uses for compliance purposes are the Martinez-Jones Street site, located approximately 1.5-miles southwest of I-680 at 521 Jones Street in Martinez, and the Concord-Treat Boulevard site, located approximately 1.9-miles east of I-680 at 2956 Treat Boulevard in Concord. The Martinez-Jones Street site monitors ambient SO<sub>2</sub> and toxic organic compounds (TOC), while the Concord-Treat Boulevard site monitors ambient



concentrations of criteria air pollutants including CO, NOX, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, as well as SO<sub>2</sub> and TOCs. Table 2.2.6-4 provides air quality concentrations from 2017 through 2021 at these stations. Table 2.2.6-5 lists the status of SIPs relevant to the Project Study Limits.

**Table 2.2.6-4. Air Quality Concentrations for 2017–2021**

Pollutant		Standard	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b><i>O<sub>3</sub> Measured at Concord-Treat Boulevard Site</i></b>							
Max 1-hr concentration			0.082 ppm	0.077 ppm	0.092 ppm	0.108 ppm	0.096 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	0.09 ppm		0	0	0	2	1
Max 8-hr concentration			0.070 ppm	0.061 ppm	0.074 ppm	0.083 ppm	0.078 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	0.070 ppm		0	0	2	3	1
	NAAQS 0.070 ppm		0	0	2	3	1
<b><i>CO Measured at Concord-Treat Boulevard Site</i></b>							
Max 1-hr concentration			1.7 ppm	1.9 ppm	3.3 ppm	2.9 ppm	0.9 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	20 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
	NAAQS 35 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
Max 8-hr concentration			1.3 ppm	1.6 ppm	0.8 ppm	1.4 ppm	0.8 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	9.0 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
	NAAQS 9 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>PM<sub>10</sub> Measured at Concord-Treat Boulevard Site</i></b>							
Max 24-hr concentration			41.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	105.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	36 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	167 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	26.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		0	0	11.5	*	0
	NAAQS 150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		0	0	0	11.5	0
Max annual concentration			13.3 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	16.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	*	12.1
Standard exceeded: CAAQS	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		No	No	No	N/A	No
<b><i>PM<sub>2.5</sub> Measured at Concord-Treat Boulevard Site</i></b>							
Max 24-hr concentration			89.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	180.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	28.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	119.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	43.7 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
No. days exceeded: NAAQS	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		6.0	14.2	0	16.2	2
Max annual concentration			12.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	13.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	6.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	8.1 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Standard exceeded: CAAQS	12 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		No	Yes	No	No	No
	NAAQS 12.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>		No	Yes	No	No	No
<b><i>NO<sub>2</sub> Measured at Concord-Treat Boulevard Site</i></b>							
Max 1-hr concentration			0.041 ppm	0.038 ppm	0.041 ppm	0.034 ppm	0.029 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	0.18 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
	NAAQS 0.10 ppm		0	0	0	0	0
Max annual concentration			0.007 ppm	0.006 ppm	0.006 ppm	0.006 ppm	0.005 ppm
No. days exceeded: CAAQS	0.030 ppm		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	NAAQS 0.053 ppm		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



Source: (California Air Resources Board 2023), (Bay Area Air Quality Management District 2023)  
 Notes: CAAQS = California Ambient Air Quality Standards; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards; O<sub>3</sub> = ozone; CO = carbon monoxide; hr = hour; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; ppm = parts per million; NO<sub>2</sub> = nitrogen dioxide; N/A = Not available; µg/m<sup>3</sup> = microgram per cubic meter  
 \* There was insufficient data available to determine the value.

**Table 2.2.6-5. Status of State Implementation Plans Relevant to the Project Area**

Name/Description	Status
O <sub>3</sub>	Revised San Francisco Bay Area Ozone Attainment Plan for the One-Hour National Ozone Standard (2001)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	No SIP required. Bay Area Winter Emissions Inventory for Primary PM <sub>2.5</sub> & PM Precursors: Year 2010 (2012)
CO	No conformity requirements. 2004 Revision to the California State Implementation Plan for Carbon Monoxide (2004)

Source: (California Air Resources Board 2022a)  
 Notes: O<sub>3</sub> = ozone; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; CO = carbon monoxide

### Mobile Source Air Toxics

Controlling air toxic emissions became a national priority with the passage of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, whereby Congress mandated that the U.S. EPA regulate 188 air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants. The U.S. EPA has assessed this expansive list in its rule on the Control of Hazardous Air Pollutants from Mobile Sources (72 Federal Register 8430 [February 26, 2007]), and identified a group of 93 compounds emitted from mobile sources that are part of U.S. EPA’s Integrated Risk Information System (<https://www.epa.gov/iris>). In addition, the U.S. EPA identified nine compounds with significant contributions from mobile sources that are among the national and regional-scale cancer risk drivers or contributors and non-hazard contributors from the 2011 National Air Toxics Assessment (<https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>). These are 1,3-butadiene, acetaldehyde, acrolein, benzene, diesel particulate matter (diesel PM), ethylbenzene, formaldehyde, naphthalene, and polycyclic organic matter. While FHWA considers these the priority mobile source air toxics (MSAT), the list is subject to change and may be adjusted in consideration of future U.S. EPA rules. The 2007 U.S. EPA rule requires controls that will dramatically decrease MSAT emissions through cleaner fuels and cleaner engines. The Project is located near sources that emit priority MSATs, including non-mobile sources. The primary sources are traffic and stationary sources.

#### Traffic

Vehicles that travel to, from, and on I-680, and on the surrounding local roadways and arterials are the largest sources of MSATs affecting sensitive receptors (e.g. schools, child-care centers, hospitals, and parks) in the Project area. Vehicle traffic in the area is generated by the businesses, shopping centers, parking lots and garages, fuel stations,



maintenance facilities, restaurants, and residential areas adjacent to I-680 in the cities/towns of Concord, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, and Alamo. Additionally, vehicles traveling through the area on State Route (SR) 4, SR 242, and SR 24 generate MSATs affecting sensitive receptors.<sup>2</sup>

### **Permitted Stationary Sources**

There are approximately 31 permitted stationary sources of air pollution within 500 feet of the Project Study Limits. The majority of those closest to the Project Study Limits include gas stations, back-up diesel generators, auto body shops, and light industrial facilities. The I-680 corridor between SR 4 and the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza is quite industrialized. The largest stationary source is the Shell Martinez Refinery, which is adjacent to I-680 in northern Contra Costa County. However, none of these large industrial facilities are within 500 feet of the northbound lanes of I-680, nor are they located close to residential areas or other sensitive receptors.

### **Railroads**

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad crosses under I-680 at Marina Vista Avenue in northern Contra Costa County, just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. Railroad traffic includes both freight and passenger diesel locomotives.

### **MSAT Monitoring**

Ambient MSAT data are available from CARB's website (California Air Resources Board 2023). The closest CARB monitoring station reporting recent data is located in Concord, California (2975 Treat Boulevard).

## **2.2.6.3 Environmental Consequences**

### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on air quality would occur. In general, the improvements included in the No-Build Alternative are the projects that are included in MTC's *Plan Bay Area 2050* RTP. The gap in the northbound managed lane would remain and as traffic demand increases, traffic operations along northbound I-680 would further deteriorate, potentially resulting in increased congestion, vehicle delay, vehicle operating costs, and potentially vehicle emissions due to slower operating speeds on northbound I-680. As depicted in Table 2.2.6-6 and Table 2.2.6-7, particulate matter is anticipated to increase due to forecasted increases in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) compared to existing

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<sup>2</sup> CARB's *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook* identifies the following land uses as particularly sensitive to MSATs: residential areas, schools, hospitals and other health care facilities, day care and other childcare facilities, and parks and playgrounds. (California Air Resources Board 2005)



conditions; however, CO, ROG, NO<sub>x</sub>, and MSAT emissions are anticipated to be less than existing conditions.

### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

#### Regional Conformity

The proposed Project is listed in the *Plan Bay Area 2050* financially constrained RTP as Project 21-T12-116 (Express Lanes – Regional) (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021), which was found to conform by MTC on October 21, 2021. FHWA and FTA made a regional conformity determination finding on December 3, 2021. The Project is also included MTC’s financially constrained 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis as project TIP ID CC-170017 (I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion). MTC forwarded the 2023 TIP to Caltrans to be included in the 2023 Federal-Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) by reference. The State approved the 2023 FSTIP on November 16, 2022. FHWA and FTA approved the 2023 FSTIP on December 16, 2022 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2022). The latest amendment to the TIP was submitted on June 28, 2023, and approved by FHWA on July 21, 2023.

**Table 2.2.6-6. Estimate of Operational Criteria Air Pollutant Emissions**

Scenario/ Analysis Year		CO (lbs/day)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (lbs/day)	PM <sub>10</sub> (lbs/day)	ROG (lbs/day)	NO <sub>x</sub> (lbs/day) <sup>i</sup>
Existing Year (2020)		246,706	4,614	20,091	15,484	66,342
Opening Year (2027)	No-Build	161,632	4,307	20,305	11,356	31,013
	Alternative 1C	161,704	4,309	20,315	11,364	31,037
	Alternative 2	161,649	4,308	20,312	11,354	31,037
	Alternative 3	161,663	4,309	20,314	11,351	31,020
	Alternative 5	161,619	4,246	19,914	11,452	30,005
Design Year (2047)	No-Build	125,329	4,610	22,920	8,580	18,759
	Alternative 1C	125,397	4,614	22,941	8,573	18,759
	Alternative 2	125,347	4,613	22,937	8,568	18,748
	Alternative 3	125,337	4,613	22,937	8,567	18,749
	Alternative 5	125,172	4,530	22,454	8,646	17,601
RTP Horizon Year (2050)	No-Build	126,798	4,679	23,292	8,607	18,870
	Alternative 1C	126,877	4,684	23,314	8,601	18,872
	Alternative 2	126,836	4,683	23,310	8,602	18,862
	Alternative 3	126,807	4,682	23,310	8,594	18,858





Scenario/ Analysis Year	CO (lbs/day)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (lbs/day)	PM <sub>10</sub> (lbs/day)	ROG (lbs/day)	NO <sub>x</sub> (lbs/day) <sup>i</sup>
Alternative 5	126,600	4,622	22,941	8,673	17,930

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023)

Notes: CO = carbon monoxide; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; ROG = reactive organic gas; NO<sub>x</sub> = nitrogen oxides; RTP = Regional Transportation Plan

<sup>i</sup> Surrogate for nitrous dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

**Table 2.2.6-7. Summary of Comparative Mobile Source Air Toxics Emissions**

Analysis Scenario/ Analysis Year	1,3-butadiene (lbs/day)	Acetaldehyde (lbs/day)	Acrolein (lbs/day)	Benzene (lbs/day)	Diesel PM (lbs/day)	Ethylbenzene (lbs/day)	Formaldehyde (lbs/day)	Naphthalene (lbs/day)	POM (lbs/day)	
Existing Year (2020)	27.53	119.09	2.38	429.94	622.60	171.46	274.26	26.52	7.16	
Opening Year (2027)	No-Build Alternative	15.00	71.83	1.34	276.86	214.06	123.16	162.95	13.70	4.19
	Alternative 1C	15.02	71.89	1.34	277.09	214.37	123.25	163.08	13.71	4.19
	Alternative 2	15.02	71.87	1.34	276.92	214.54	123.16	163.04	13.71	4.19
	Alternative 3	15.01	71.84	1.34	276.80	214.33	123.11	162.97	13.70	4.19
	Alternative 5	15.11	77.16	1.34	279.30	214.78	123.84	173.52	13.81	4.37
Design Year (2047)	No-Build Alternative	8.56	33.59	0.85	184.45	119.23	90.04	78.34	7.21	1.98
	Alternative 1C	8.55	33.59	0.85	184.34	119.40	89.97	78.33	7.21	1.98
	Alternative 2	8.55	33.57	0.85	184.24	119.43	89.92	78.29	7.21	1.98
	Alternative 3	8.55	33.57	0.85	184.24	119.61	89.91	78.29	7.21	1.98
	Alternative 5	8.64	35.66	0.85	185.77	116.15	90.62	82.48	7.24	2.02
RTP No-Build Alternative	8.48	32.58	0.86	185.02	115.73	90.40	76.30	7.32	1.89	



Analysis Scenario/ Analysis Year	1,3-butadiene (lbs/day)	Acetaldehyde (lbs/day)	Acrolein (lbs/day)	Benzene (lbs/day)	Diesel PM (lbs/day)	Ethylbenzene (lbs/day)	Formaldehyde (lbs/day)	Naphthalene (lbs/day)	POM (lbs/day)
Alternative 1C	8.48	32.58	0.86	184.93	115.89	90.34	76.30	7.32	1.89
Alternative 2	8.48	32.57	0.86	184.92	115.87	90.34	76.27	7.32	1.89
Alternative 3	8.48	32.56	0.86	184.79	116.12	90.27	76.25	7.31	1.89
Alternative 5	8.53	34.53	0.86	186.35	113.82	90.91	80.10	7.33	1.94

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023)

Notes: lbs/day = pounds per day; MSAT = Mobile Source Air Toxics; POM = polycyclic organic matter; RTP = Regional Transportation Plan

The design concept and scope of Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 are consistent with the project description in *Plan Bay Area 2050*, the 2023 TIP, and the open to traffic assumptions of MTC’s regional emissions analysis. Alternative 5 is not currently consistent with the project description in the 2023 TIP and may not be consistent with MTC’s regional emissions analysis. Should Alternative 5 be selected as the preferred alternative, Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA; Project Sponsor) would work with MTC to update *Plan Bay Area 2050* and the TIP to include Alternative 5 prior to preparing the final environmental document. Therefore, implementation of any of the Build Alternatives would not be anticipated to interfere with the timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures identified in the applicable SIP.

### **Project-Level Conformity**

Project-level conformity requires project sponsors to demonstrate that their transportation project would not cause or contribute to any new localized CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> violations; increase the frequency or severity of any existing CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> violations; or delay timely attainment of any NAAQS or any required interim emission reductions or other SIP milestones. This is demonstrated through a hot-spot analysis where No-Build and Build emissions are modeled, both with and without any mitigation measures committed to in the RTP.

The Project is in an attainment area for CO and a nonattainment area for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Thus, a project-level conformity analysis applies to the Project for PM<sub>2.5</sub> under 40 CFR 93.109. However, hot-spot analysis for PM<sub>2.5</sub> is only required for projects found to meet the definition of a project of air quality concern (POAQC) by the MPO’s Air Quality Conformity Task Force.

The Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Task Force found that Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would not be a POAQC on April 1, 2022, and Alternative 5 was not a POAQC on February 24, 2023. CCTA also discussed the change in the Project limits with the Task Force, who confirmed the Project was not a POAQC on December 19, 2023. Therefore, a PM<sub>2.5</sub> hot-spot analysis is not required. The Task Force's determinations are provided in Appendix F, Comments and Coordination. 40 CFR 93.123(c)(5) states the following:

“CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> hot-spot analyses are not required to consider construction-related activities which cause temporary increases in emissions. Each site which is affected by construction-related activities shall be considered separately, using established ‘Guideline’ methods. Temporary increases are defined as those which occur only during the construction phase and last five years or less at any individual site.”

Project sponsors are required to undergo a proactive public involvement process, which provides opportunity for public review as outlined by 40 CFR 93.105(e). For projects that are not a POAQC, a comment period is only required for project level conformity determinations if such a comment period would have been required under NEPA. As described in Chapter 4, Comments and Coordination, public comments are requested regarding the Task Force's determination. Following the close of the public review and comment period for the Draft EIR/EA, all comments received on the air quality conformity determination would be submitted to FHWA. FHWA makes the final determination on project-level conformity. However, long-term (operational) emissions and short-term (construction) emissions were estimated for purposes of NEPA and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### ***Additional Environmental Analysis***

#### ***Criteria Pollutants***

Project operations would generate criteria air pollutant and ozone precursor emissions that could potentially affect regional air quality. Operational emissions consider long-term changes in emissions due to the Project (excluding the construction phase). According to BAAQMD, the primary criteria air pollutant emissions of concern during Project operation would be ozone precursors (ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>), PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> from on-road vehicle exhaust. Criteria air pollutant emissions from Project operations were estimated for Existing Year (2020), Opening Year (2027), Design Year (2047), and RTP Horizon Year (2050).

Table 2.2.6-6 provides the estimated operational emissions for the Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative. Overall, emissions of ROG, CO, and NO<sub>x</sub> would decrease in the future by between 27 percent and 72 percent as older vehicles are replaced by newer vehicles with more stringent emissions and fuel economy standards. PM<sub>10</sub> emissions trend directly with VMT, because of brake wear, tire wear, and road dust emissions. Thus, PM<sub>10</sub> emissions are forecast to increase in the future as a function of VMT. Similarly, PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions increase in 2050 when compared to baseline conditions (as increases in VMT overcome the reduction in DPM emissions) but would

see a 7 percent decrease in 2027 as a result of more strict diesel vehicle emissions standards being phased in by 2023 (PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions in 2047 are similar to baseline conditions). NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be comparable to that of the No-Build Alternative (i.e., less than a 1 percent difference) for the design year (2047) and RTP horizon year (2050). Alternative 5 would have much lower NO<sub>x</sub> emissions than the No-Build Alternative in the design year (2047) and RTP horizon year (2050) (approximately 5 to 6 percent lower). Meanwhile, ROG emissions for all Build Alternatives would be comparable to that of the No-Build Alternative (i.e., 1 percent or less difference) in the design year (2047) and horizon year (2050). Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would all slightly reduce ROG. However, Alternative 5 would increase ROG by approximately one percent in all the analysis years. CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be slightly higher than the No-Build Alternative (i.e., less than a 1 percent increase) for the design year (2047) and RTP horizon year (2050). Meanwhile, Build Alternative 5 would have lower PM and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (1.4 percent lower PM<sub>2.5</sub>, 1.9 percent PM<sub>10</sub>, and 3 percent lower NO<sub>x</sub>), higher ROG emissions (1 percent higher), and approximately the same (i.e., 0.1 percent or less difference) CO emissions in 2027. These trends continue to 2047 and 2050 (1.7 to 1.2 percent lower PM<sub>2.5</sub>, 2 percent to 1.5 percent lower PM<sub>10</sub>, 5 to 6 percent lower NO<sub>x</sub>, and 1 percent higher ROG) except for CO which reduces slightly (i.e., less than a 1 percent decrease).

Variances in NO<sub>x</sub> are due primarily to changes in speeds within the region resulting from each alternative. Changes in ROG emissions are associated primarily with VMT increases being overcome by changes to the vehicle fleet (i.e., fleet modernization) and travel speeds. Changes in regional travel speeds also influence ROG emissions, as Alternatives 2 and 3 have lower emissions in opening year (2027) than Alternative 1C. Increases in CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are due to the slight (less than 0.1 percent) increase in VMT associated with Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Alternative 5 would not increase VMT (estimated to be less than 0.001 percent increase when compared to the No-Build Alternative) and would increase vehicle speeds (i.e. less congestion). None of the Build Alternatives would change the percentage of truck traffic in the region. As a result, no minimization measures are recommended for operation of the proposed Project.

### *Mobile Source Air Toxics*

FHWA released updated guidance in October 2016 for determining when and how to address MSAT impacts in the NEPA process for transportation projects (Federal Highway Administration 2016). FHWA identified the following three levels of analysis:

- Category 1: No analysis for exempt projects or projects with no potential for meaningful MSAT effects,
- Category 2: Qualitative analysis for projects with low potential MSAT effects,
- Category 3: Quantitative analysis to differentiate alternatives for projects with higher potential MSAT effects.



Projects with no impacts generally include those that; (a) qualify as a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117, (b) qualify as exempt under the FCAA conformity rule under 40 CFR 93.126, and (c) are not exempt, but have no meaningful impacts on traffic volumes or vehicle mix.

Projects that have low potential MSAT effects are those that serve to improve highway, transit, or freight operations or movement without adding substantial new capacity, or do not create a facility that is likely to substantially increase emissions. Most projects fall into this category.

Projects with higher potential MSAT effects include the following:

- Create or significantly alter a major intermodal freight facility that has the potential to concentrate high levels of diesel PM in a single location;
- Create new or add significant capacity to urban highways such as interstates, urban arterials, or urban collector-distributor routes where the AADT is projected to be in the range of 140,000 to 150,000, or greater, by the design year;
- Are proposed to be in proximity to populated areas or, in rural areas, in proximity to concentrations of vulnerable populations (i.e., schools, nursing homes, hospitals).

This assessment considers the expected effect of the Project on traffic volumes, vehicle mix, or traffic routing and the associated changes in MSAT for the Project alternatives (i.e., No-Build and Build Alternatives) based on VMT, vehicle mix, and speed. Since the emission effects of this type of project typically are low, no appreciable difference in overall MSAT emissions between the Build Alternatives within the same analysis years are expected.

The Project would not have a meaningful impact on traffic volumes or vehicle mix nor move major roadways closer to sensitive receptors. Therefore, it is being considered as a “Category 1” project.

The amount of MSAT emitted is expected to be proportional to VMT, assuming other variables such as speeds and fleet mix are similar. Table 2.2.6-7 provides the MSAT emissions estimated for the Build Alternatives compared to the No-Build Alternative. CT-EMFAC2021 was used to estimate the emissions of nine MSAT pollutants: acetaldehyde, benzene, ethylbenzene, 1,3-butadiene, formaldehyde, acrolein, naphthalene, diesel PM, and polycyclic organic matter (POM). VMT were estimated for the opening year (2027), design year (2047), and RTP horizon year (2050) and applied to the CT-EMFAC2021 emission factors.

When compared to the No-Build Alternative, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in MSAT emissions that are comparable to the No-Build Alternative (i.e., less than 1 percent difference). Compared to the No-Build Alternative, Build Alternative 5 would

slightly increase MSAT emissions (approximately 2 percent increase on average) in all future years, with the exception of diesel particulate matter, which would decrease by approximately 2 percent on average. This is a result of the impacts associated with VMT increases being overcome by changes to the vehicle fleet (i.e., fleet modernization) and reduced congestion (i.e., increased travel speeds).

Regardless of the alternative chosen, emissions would be lower farther in the future because of U.S. EPA's national control programs that are projected to reduce annual MSAT emissions by 76 percent between 2020 and 2060. Local conditions may differ from these national projections in terms of fleet mix and turnover, VMT growth rates, and local control measures. However, the magnitude of the U.S. EPA-projected reductions is so great (even after accounting for VMT associated with planned growth) that MSAT emissions in the region would be 46 to 70 percent lower in the future for the No-Build and Build Alternatives.

Incomplete or Unavailable Information: It should also be noted that current scientific techniques, tools, and data are not sufficient to accurately estimate human health impacts from transportation projects in a way that would be useful to decision-makers. According to 40 C.F.R. 1502.22, when an agency is evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse effects on the human environment in an environmental impact statement and there is incomplete or unavailable information, the agency shall always make clear that such information is lacking. A discussion of incomplete or unavailable information is available in 40 CFR 1502.22 and provided below:

#### *Sec. 1502.22 Incomplete or Unavailable Information*

When an agency is evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse effects on the human environment in an environmental impact statement and there is incomplete or unavailable information, the agency shall always make clear that such information is lacking.

- (a) If the incomplete information relevant to reasonably foreseeable significant adverse impacts is essential to a reasoned choice among alternatives and the overall costs of obtaining it are not exorbitant, the agency shall include the information in the environmental impact statement.
- (b) If the information relevant to reasonably foreseeable significant adverse impacts cannot be obtained because the overall costs of obtaining it are exorbitant or the means to obtain it are not known, the agency shall include within the environmental impact statement:
  1. a statement that such information is incomplete or unavailable;
  2. a statement of the relevance of the incomplete or unavailable information to evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse impacts on the human environment;



3. a summary of existing credible scientific evidence which is relevant to evaluating the reasonably foreseeable significant adverse impacts on the human environment; and
  4. the agency's evaluation of such impacts based upon theoretical approaches or research methods generally accepted in the scientific community. For the purposes of this section, "reasonably foreseeable" includes impacts that have catastrophic consequences, even if their probability of occurrence is low, provided that the analysis of the impacts is supported by credible scientific evidence, is not based on pure conjecture, and is within the rule of reason.
- (c) The amended regulation will be applicable to all environmental impact statements for which a Notice to Intent (40 CFR 1508.22) is published in the Federal Register on or after May 27, 1986. For environmental impact statements in progress, agencies may choose to comply with the requirements of either the original or amended regulation.

#### Incomplete or Unavailable Information for Project Specific MSAT Health Impacts Analysis

In FHWA's view, information is incomplete or unavailable to credibly predict the project-specific health impacts due to changes in mobile source air toxic (MSAT) emissions associated with a proposed set of highway alternatives. The outcome of such an assessment, adverse or not, would be influenced more by the uncertainty introduced into the process through assumption and speculation rather than any genuine insight into the actual health impacts directly attributable to MSAT exposure associated with a proposed action.

The [U.S. EPA] is responsible for protecting the public health and welfare from welfare from any known or anticipated effect of an air pollutant. They are the lead authority for administering the Clean Air Act and its amendments and have specific statutory obligations with respect to hazardous air pollutants and MSAT. The [U.S. EPA] is in the continual process of assessing human health effects, exposures, and risks posed by air pollutants. They maintain the Integrated Risk Information System, which is "a compilation of electronic reports on specific substances found in the environment and their potential to cause human health effects" (EPA, <https://www.epa.gov/iris/>). Each report contains assessments of non- cancerous and cancerous effects for individual compounds and quantitative estimates of risk levels from lifetime oral and inhalation exposures with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude.

Other organizations are also active in the research and analyses of the human health effects of MSAT, including the Health Effects Institute (HEI). A number of HEI studies are summarized in Appendix D of FHWA's Updated Interim Guidance on Mobile Source Air Toxic Analysis in NEPA Documents. Among the adverse health effects linked to MSAT compounds at high exposures are cancer in humans in occupational settings;

cancer in animals; and irritation to the respiratory tract, including the exacerbation of asthma. Less obvious is the adverse human health effects of MSAT compounds at current environmental concentrations (HEI Special Report 16, <https://www.healtheffects.org/publication/mobile-source-air-toxics-critical-reviewliterature-exposure-and-health-effects>) or in the future as vehicle emissions substantially decrease.

The methodologies for forecasting health impacts include emissions modeling; dispersion modeling; exposure modeling; and then final determination of health impacts – each step in the process building on the model predictions obtained in the previous step. All are encumbered by technical shortcomings or uncertain science that prevents a more complete differentiation of the MSAT health impacts among a set of project alternatives. These difficulties are magnified for lifetime (i.e., 70 year) assessments, particularly because unsupportable assumptions would have to be made regarding changes in travel patterns and vehicle technology (which affects emissions rates) over that time frame, since such information is unavailable.

It is particularly difficult to reliably forecast 70-year lifetime MSAT concentrations and exposure near roadways; to determine the portion of time that people are actually exposed at a specific location; and to establish the extent attributable to a proposed action, especially given that some of the information needed is unavailable.

There are considerable uncertainties associated with the existing estimates of toxicity of the various MSAT, because of factors such as low-dose extrapolation and translation of occupational exposure data to the general population, a concern expressed by HEI (Special Report 16, <https://www.healtheffects.org/publication/mobile-source-air-toxicscritical-review-literature-exposure-and-health-effects>). As a result, there is no national consensus on air dose-response values assumed to protect the public health and welfare for MSAT compounds, and in particular for diesel [particulate matter]. The [U.S. EPA] states that with respect to diesel engine exhaust, “[t]he absence of adequate data to develop a sufficiently confident dose-response relationship from the epidemiologic studies has prevented the estimation of inhalation carcinogenic risk (<https://www.epa.gov/iris>).”

There is also the lack of a national consensus on an acceptable level of risk. The current context is the process used by the [U.S. EPA] as provided by the Clean Air Act to determine whether more stringent controls are required in order to provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health or to prevent an adverse environmental effect for industrial sources subject to the maximum achievable control technology standards, such as benzene emissions from refineries. The decision framework is a two-step process. The first step requires [U.S. EPA] to determine an “acceptable” level of risk due to emissions from a source, which is generally no greater than approximately 100 in a million. Additional factors are considered in the second step, the goal of which is to maximize the number of people with risks less than 1 in a million due to emissions from a source. The results of this statutory two-step process do not guarantee that cancer risks from exposure to air toxics are less than 1 in a million; in some cases, the residual risk determination could result in maximum individual cancer risks that are as high as



approximately 100 in a million. In a June 2008 decision, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit upheld [U.S. EPA]'s approach to addressing risk in its two-step decision framework. Information is incomplete or unavailable to establish that even the largest of highway projects would result in levels of risk greater than deemed acceptable

([https://www.cadc.uscourts.gov/internet/opinions.nsf/284E23FFE079CD59852578000050C9DA/\\$file/07-1053-1120274.pdf](https://www.cadc.uscourts.gov/internet/opinions.nsf/284E23FFE079CD59852578000050C9DA/$file/07-1053-1120274.pdf).)

Because of the limitations in the methodologies for forecasting health impacts described, any predicted difference in health impacts between alternatives is likely to be much smaller than the uncertainties associated with predicting the impacts. Consequently, the results of such assessments would not be useful to decision makers, who would need to weigh this information against project benefits, such as reducing traffic congestion, collision rates, and fatalities plus improved access for emergency response, that are better suited for quantitative analysis.

### ***Short-Term (Construction) Impacts***

#### *Construction Emissions for Project-Level Conformity*

Proposed construction activities would generate emissions of criteria air pollutants and precursors that could potentially affect regional air quality. Project construction is anticipated to commence in January 2026 and would take approximately 24 months. Construction activities will not last for more than 5 years at one general location, so construction-related emissions do not need to be included in regional and project-level conformity analysis (40 CFR 93.123[c][5]).

#### *Construction Criteria Air Pollutant Emissions*

Under all Build Alternatives, temporary direct impacts on air quality would occur as a result of the release of particulate emissions (airborne dust) generated by excavation, grading, and hauling, during construction activities. Additionally, CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, VOCs, and directly emitted particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) emissions, as well as toxic air contaminants, such as diesel exhaust particulate matter, would result from the operation of construction equipment. Further, ozone is a regional pollutant that is derived from NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs in the presence of sunlight and heat.

Site preparation and roadway construction typically involves clearing, cut-and-fill activities, grading, removing and/or improving existing roadways, building bridges, and paving roadway surfaces. Direct construction-related impacts on air quality from most highway projects would be greatest during the site preparation phase because most engine emissions are associated with the excavation, handling, and transport of soils to and from the site. These activities could temporarily generate enough PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and small amounts of CO, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and VOCs to be of concern. Sources of fugitive dust would include disturbed soils at the construction site and trucks carrying uncovered loads of soils. Unless properly controlled, vehicles leaving the site could deposit mud on local streets, which could be an added source of airborne dust after it dries. PM<sub>10</sub>



emissions would vary from day to day, depending on the nature and magnitude of construction activity and local weather conditions. PM<sub>10</sub> emissions would depend on soil moisture, silt content of soil, wind speed, and the amount of equipment operating. Larger dust particles would settle near the source, while fine particles would be dispersed over greater distances from the construction site.

Construction emissions were quantified using the Caltrans Construction Emissions Tool (Cal-CET) (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023). The 24-month construction period was divided into two concurrent construction stages (structures and roadway) and nine “default” phases for each stage: Land Clearing/ Grubbing, Roadway Excavation & Removal, Structural Excavation & Removal, Base/Subbase/Imported Borrow, Structure Concrete, Paving, Drainage/Environmental/Landscaping, Traffic Signalization Signage, and Other Operations. Average daily emissions were based on 528 working days.

Table 2.2.6-8 provides the estimated uncontrolled criteria air pollutant emissions from Project construction. BAAQMD’s current CEQA Guidelines recommend thresholds of significance for project-level criteria air pollutant emissions to assist lead agencies in CEQA determinations. BAAQMD’s recommended thresholds include levels at which construction emissions of O<sub>3</sub> precursors (ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>), PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> could cause significant air quality impacts. Since Caltrans has not established significance thresholds for criteria air pollutant emissions for CEQA purposes, BAAQMD’s recommended thresholds are included in Table 2.2.6-8 for comparison only.

**Table 2.2.6-8. Uncontrolled Criteria Air Pollutant Construction Emissions for the Build Alternatives**

	ROG <sup>i</sup> (lbs/day)	CO (lbs/day)	NO <sub>x</sub> (lbs/day)	Exhaust PM <sub>10</sub> (lbs/day)	Exhaust PM <sub>2.5</sub> (lbs/day)	Fugitive Dust PM <sub>10</sub> (lbs/day)	Fugitive Dust PM <sub>2.5</sub> (lbs/day)
Construction Emissions	24.2	118.6	152.6	18.2	11.4	N/A	N/A
BAAQMD CEQA Thresholds	54	N/A	54	82	54	BMP	BMP

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. 2023)

Notes: lbs = pounds; ROG = reactive organic gas; CO = carbon monoxide; NO<sub>x</sub> = nitrogen oxides; PM<sub>10</sub> = particles of 10 micrometers or smaller; PM<sub>2.5</sub> = particles of 2.5 micrometers or smaller; BAAQMD = Bay Area Air Quality Management District; CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act; BMP = Best Management Practice

<sup>i</sup> ROG is reactive organic gases, which is a subset of total organic gases.

The estimates provided in Table 2.2.6-8 represent the Cal-CET2021 defaults for off-road engine emissions standards and default equipment quantities. Construction emissions estimates are considered a worst-case scenario; actual construction emissions are anticipated to be considerably less than those depicted in Table 2.2.6-8. As shown in Table 2.2.6-8, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are estimated to be in excess of BAAQMD

significance thresholds. However, Measure **AQ-5** would be implemented, which includes a requirement to use a fleet of vehicles with EPA certified Tier 4 engines. It is estimated that Measure **AQ-5** would reduce the Project's NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by approximately 67 percent.

Short-term air quality impacts would not be substantial and are expected to be localized around construction activities. Further, U.S. EPA and CARB have adopted rules and emission standards that would reduce diesel particulate matter emissions from on-road and off-road engines for construction equipment. These regulations will continue to be phased in through 2023 and should be fully in place before Project construction begins. Additionally, the construction contractor must comply with Caltrans' Standard Specifications as specified in Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-4** as well as the BMPs for construction-related emissions in MTC's RTP, as specified in Measures **AQ-5** and **AQ-6**. Implementation of these measures would further reduce emissions from exhaust and dust and are consistent with BAAQMD basic controls for construction sites. Where BMPs conflict, the contractor would be required to adhere to the stricter restrictions. Please note that although these measures are anticipated to reduce construction-related emissions, the reductions cannot be quantified at this time.

### *Asbestos*

Asbestos is a known human carcinogen that can be found in manufactured items (e.g., structural asbestos found in ceilings) or found naturally (e.g., naturally occurring asbestos). Based on the information provided by CARB (California Air Resources Board 2020), this Project is not located in a naturally occurring asbestos area and further analysis is not needed.

Alternatives 1C and 3 would require demolition of the southbound Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp Bridge and roadway widening would require the partial demolition of existing overhangs and railings. These existing structures may have materials that contain asbestos. Prior to demolition activities, the presence or absence of asbestos in the bridge, overhangs, and railings would be confirmed in accordance with Measure **HAZ-3**, as described in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*. Furthermore, demolition and removal of the possible asbestos containing materials (ACM) would be performed in accordance with local, State, and federal requirements, including BAAQMD rules. As specified in Measure **AQ-7**, all Build Alternatives would be required to comply with BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2, ensuring that ACM are disposed of appropriately and safely.

### *Lead*

Lead is normally not an air quality issue for transportation projects unless the project involves disturbance of soils containing high levels of aerially deposited lead (ADL) or painting or modification of structures with lead-based coatings. As detailed in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*, the Project has the potential to disturb soil contaminated with ADL. Prior to Project construction, investigations would be conducted for lead to determine whether ADL has affected soils that would be excavated as part of



the Project in accordance with Measure **HAZ-2**. This applies to locations where such testing has not already been completed.

In addition, there is a potential for the presence of lead-based paint on structures. Testing for the presence of lead-based paint would occur as necessary and/or applicable in accordance with Measure **HAZ-3**. If this substance is present, applicable regulations pertaining to its removal and disposal will be followed.

#### **2.2.6.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Measures **HAZ-2** and **HAZ-3** in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*, require site investigation for ADL and lead-based paint. In addition, the following avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented:

- AQ-1 Equipment Maintenance.** During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 7-1.02C, which requires that the construction contractor keep engines properly tuned and limit idling.
- AQ-2 Stormwater Best Management Practices.** During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 13 – Water Pollution Control, which requires a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and use of best management practices (BMP) that manage fugitive dust and material track-out from construction sites. Many of the SWPPP requirements and BMPs are the same BAAQMD's basic controls for construction sites (see AQ-5 and AQ-6).
- AQ-3 Compliance with Air Quality Regulations and Ordinances.** During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 14-9 – Air Quality, which specifically requires compliance by the construction contractor with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including air pollution control district and air quality management district regulations and local ordinances.
- AQ-4 Dust Control.** During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 18 – Dust Palliatives, which includes requirements for the use of dust suppressants or controls that the construction contractor must follow.
- AQ-5 Construction Best Practices for Exhaust.** During construction, the Project's or designated contractor will ensure that exhaust control BMPs for construction related emissions are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction



BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the *Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050* (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021):

- Equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards, and it shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.
- Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications.
- Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites; or propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.

#### **AQ-6**

**Construction Best Practices for Dust:** During construction, CCTA's designated contractor will ensure that dust control BMPs for construction related emissions during ground disturbance are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the *Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050* (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021):

- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
- On-site dirt piles or other stockpiled particulate matter shall be covered, wind breaks installed, and water and/or soil stabilizers employed to reduce wind-blown dust emissions. The use of approved nontoxic soil stabilizers shall be incorporated according to manufacturers' specifications to all inactive construction areas.
- All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per

day. Dry power sweeping should only be performed in conjunction with thorough watering of the subject roads.

- All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads and surfaces shall be limited to 15 mph.
- All roadway, driveway, and sidewalk paving shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be paved as soon as possible after grading.
- All construction sites shall provide a posted sign visible to the public with the telephone number and person to contact at the lead agency regarding dust complaints. The recommended response time for corrective action shall be within 48 hours. BAAQMD's Complaint Line (1-800-334-6367) shall also be included on posted signs to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.
- All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 mph.
- Wind breaks (e.g., trees, fences) shall be installed on the windward side(s) of actively disturbed areas of construction. Wind breaks should have at maximum 50 percent air porosity.
- Vegetative ground cover (e.g., fast-germinating native grass seed) shall be planted in disturbed areas as soon as possible and watered appropriately until vegetation is established.
- The simultaneous occurrence of excavation, grading, and ground-disturbing construction activities on the same area at any one time shall be limited. Activities shall be phased to reduce the amount of disturbed surfaces at any one time.
- All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off before leaving the site.
- Site access to a distance of 100 feet from the paved road shall be treated with a 6-to 12-inch compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.

#### **AQ-7**

Prior to demolition activities, the presence or absence of asbestos in the structures would be confirmed. If asbestos-containing materials are identified, the Project must also comply with BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing), which requires all asbestos-containing material found in the Project footprint be removed prior to demolition or renovation activity. There are specific requirements for surveying, notification, removal, and disposal of asbestos



containing materials required by BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing). BAAQMD Regulation should be consulted for specific requirements that pertain to the materials encountered.

#### **2.2.6.5 Climate Change**

Neither the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) nor the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has issued explicit guidance or methods to conduct project-level greenhouse gas analysis. FHWA emphasizes concepts of resilience and sustainability in highway planning, project development, design, operations, and maintenance. Because there have been requirements set forth in California legislation and executive orders on climate change, the issue is addressed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) chapter of this document. The CEQA analysis may be used to inform the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) determination for the project.



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## 2.2.7 Noise and Vibration

### 2.2.7.1 Regulatory Setting

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provide the broad basis for analyzing and abating highway traffic noise effects. The intent of these laws is to promote the general welfare and to foster a healthy environment. The requirements for noise analysis and consideration of noise abatement and/or mitigation, however, differ between NEPA and CEQA.

#### California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA requires a strictly baseline versus build analysis to assess whether a proposed project will have a noise impact. If a proposed project is determined to have a significant noise impact under CEQA, then CEQA dictates that mitigation measures must be incorporated into the project unless those measures are not feasible. The rest of this section will focus on the NEPA/Title 23 Part 772 of the Code of Federal Regulations (23 CFR 772) noise analysis; please see Chapter 3 of this document for further information on noise analysis under CEQA.

#### National Environmental Policy Act and 23 CFR 772

For highway transportation projects with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) involvement (and California Department of Transportation [Caltrans], as assigned), the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1970 and its implementing regulations (23 CFR 772) govern the analysis and abatement of traffic noise impacts. The regulations require that potential noise impacts in areas of frequent human use be identified during the planning and design of a highway project. The regulations include noise abatement criteria (NAC) that are used to determine when a noise impact would occur. The NAC differ depending on the type of land use under analysis. For example, the NAC for residences (67 A-weighted decibels [dBA]) is lower than the NAC for commercial areas (72 dBA). The following table lists the noise abatement criteria for use in the NEPA/23 CFR 772 analysis.

**Table 2.2.7-1. Noise Abatement Criteria**

Category Activity	NAC, Hourly A- Weighted Noise Level, $L_{eq}(h)$	Description of Activity Category
A	57 (Exterior)	Lands on which serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance and serve an important public need and where the preservation of those qualities is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose.
B <sup>1</sup>	67 (Exterior)	Residential.
C <sup>1</sup>	67 (Exterior)	Active sport areas, amphitheaters, auditoriums, campgrounds, cemeteries, day care centers, hospitals, libraries, medical facilities, parks, picnic areas, places of worship, playgrounds, public meeting rooms, public or nonprofit institutional structures, radio studios, recording studios, recreation areas, Section 4(f) sites, schools, television studios, trails, and trail crossings.
D	52 (Interior)	Auditoriums, day care centers, hospitals, libraries, medical facilities, places of worship, public meeting rooms, public or nonprofit institutional structures, radio studios, recording studios, schools, and television studios.
E	72 (Exterior)	Hotels, motels, offices, restaurants/bars, and other developed lands, properties, or activities not included in A–D or F.
F	No NAC— reporting only	Agriculture, airports, bus yards, emergency services, industrial, logging, maintenance facilities, manufacturing, mining, rail yards, retail facilities, shipyards, utilities (water resources, water treatment, electrical, etc.), and warehousing.
G	No NAC— reporting only	Undeveloped lands that are not permitted.

Notes:  $L_{eq}(h)$  = hourly equivalent noise level; NAC = noise abatement criteria

<sup>1</sup> Includes undeveloped lands permitted for this activity category.

Figure 2.2.7-1 lists the noise levels of common activities to enable readers to compare the actual and predicted highway noise levels discussed in this section with common activities.



Common Outdoor Activities	Noise Level (dBA)	Common Indoor Activities
Jet Fly-over at 300m (1000 ft)	110	Rock Band
Gas Lawn Mower at 1 m (3 ft)	100	
Diesel Truck at 15 m (50 ft), at 80 km (50 mph)	90	Food Blender at 1 m (3 ft)
Noisy Urban Area, Daytime	80	Garbage Disposal at 1 m (3 ft)
Gas Lawn Mower, 30 m (100 ft)	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 3 m (10 ft)
Commercial Area		Normal Speech at 1 m (3 ft)
Heavy Traffic at 90 m (300 ft)	60	Large Business Office
Quiet Urban Daytime	50	Dishwasher Next Room
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	Theater, Large Conference Room (Background)
Quiet Suburban Nighttime		Library
Quiet Rural Nighttime	30	Bedroom at Night, Concert Hall (Background)
	20	Broadcast/Recording Studio
	10	
Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing	0	Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing

**Figure 2.2.7-1. Noise Levels of Common Activities**

According to Caltrans' *Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol for New Highway Construction and Reconstruction Projects*, May 2011, a noise impact occurs when the predicted future noise level with the project substantially exceeds the existing noise level (defined as a 12 dBA or more) or when the future noise level with the project approaches or exceeds the NAC (California Department of Transportation, 2011). A noise level is considered to approach the NAC if it is within 1 dBA of the NAC.

If it is determined that the project will have noise impacts, then potential abatement measures must be considered. Noise abatement measures that are determined to be reasonable and feasible at the time of final design are incorporated into the project plans and specifications. This document discusses noise abatement measures that would likely be incorporated in the Project.

Caltrans' *Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol* sets forth the criteria for determining when an abatement measure is reasonable and feasible (California Department of Transportation, 2020b). Feasibility of noise abatement is basically an engineering concern. Noise abatement must be predicted to reduce noise by at least 5 dB at an impacted receptor to be considered feasible from an acoustical perspective. It must also be possible to design and construct the noise abatement measure for it to be considered feasible. Factors that affect the design and constructability of noise abatement include, but are not limited to, safety, barrier height, topography, drainage, access requirements for driveways, presence of local cross streets, underground utilities, other noise sources in the area, and maintenance of the abatement measure. The overall reasonableness of noise abatement is determined by the following three factors: (1) the noise reduction design goal of 7 dB at one or more impacted receptors; (2) the cost of noise abatement; and (3) the viewpoints of benefited receptors (including property owners and residents of the benefited receptors).

### **Local Noise Requirements**

Section 46000 of the California Health and Safety Code entitles all Californians to a peaceful and quiet environment. Typically, work within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) is not subject to local noise ordinances; however, Caltrans does work with the construction contractor to meet local requirements where feasible.

#### ***City of Martinez***

Chapter 8.34 of the *City of Martinez Municipal Code* includes noise standards and regulations for activities within the city. According to Section 8.34.030, noise is considered a public nuisance if it exceeds standards found in Section 8.32.020 or includes the use of specific equipment, including heavy equipment, prior to 7:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise authorized.

#### ***City of Pleasant Hill***

Chapter 9.15 of the *City of Pleasant Hill Municipal Code* provides prohibitions for noise within the city. This includes prohibiting construction in residential areas prior to 7:30 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and prior to 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. on weekends.

#### ***City of Concord***

The *City of Concord Municipal Code* restricts construction work hours from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends (City of Concord Police Department, 2019).

#### ***City of Walnut Creek***

According to the *City of Walnut Creek General Plan* (City of Walnut Creek, 2006), Interstate 680 (I-680) is the loudest noise source within the city. Title 4, Chapter 6 of the

*Walnut Creek Municipal Code*, Nuisance, contains noise standards that address excessive, unreasonable, and prolonged noise. Section 4-6.204 prohibits any person from making loud, excessive, or unreasonable noise or sound within the city. This includes noise generated from the excavation of any street or highways that require grading permits. In addition, construction work hours are restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays that are not holidays, unless otherwise stated in a grading permit (Section 4-6.203).

### **Contra Costa County**

Contra Costa County does not have a noise ordinance for unincorporated areas. Title 17 of the Contra Costa County Building Regulations Section 716-8.1004 limits certain grading activities to weekdays between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. for operations under a permit that are within 500 feet of residential or commercial occupancies. Exceptions may be allowed through conditions of approval. In addition, Section 7.16-8.1006 requires that operations be controlled to prevent nuisances, including noise nuisances.

Chapter 11 of the *Contra Costa County General Plan* recommends that circulation routes be located to minimize impacts on noise-sensitive land uses (Contra Costa County Department of Conservation, 2010). According to the General Plan, the standard outdoor noise level in residential areas has a day-night average sound level of 60 dB, which may or may not be achievable depending on economic and aesthetic constraints.

### **Construction Vibration**

Caltrans provides guidance to evaluate the effect of construction vibration on structures and for potential human annoyance (California Department of Transportation, 2020c), which is summarized in Table 2.2.7-2. Vibration levels are expressed as inches per second of peak particle velocity (PPV).

Caltrans identifies a vibration limit of 0.5 inch per second PPV as the threshold at which there is a potential risk of damage to new residential and modern commercial/industrial structures, 0.3 inch per second PPV for older residential structures, and a conservative limit of 0.25 inch per second PPV for historic and some old buildings. Impacts on historic properties are discussed in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*.

**Table 2.2.7-2. Reaction of People and Damage to Buildings from Continuous or Frequent Intermittent Vibration Levels**

Velocity Level, PPV (in/sec)	Human Reaction	Effect on Buildings
0.01	Barely perceptible	No effect
0.04	Distinctly perceptible	Vibration unlikely to cause damage of any type to any structure
0.08	Distinctly perceptible to strongly perceptible	Recommended upper level of the vibration to which ruins and ancient monuments should be subjected
0.1	Strongly perceptible	Threshold at which there is a risk of damage to fragile buildings with no risk of damage to most buildings
0.25	Strongly perceptible to severe	Threshold at which there is a risk of damage to historic and some old buildings
0.3	Strongly perceptible to severe	Threshold at which there is a risk of damage to older residential structures
0.5	Severe – Vibrations considered unpleasant	Threshold at which there is a risk of damage to new residential and modern commercial/industrial structures

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Note: PPV= peak particle velocity; in/sec = inches per second

### 2.2.7.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Noise Study Report* (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024) completed in January 2024; the *Initial Evaluation of Acoustic Reflections from Proposed Jones Road Soundwall* Memorandum (Illingworth & Rodkin, 2021); and the *Draft Noise Abatement Decision Report* (NADR), completed in January 2024 (California Department of Transportation, 2023). The Draft NADR provides a preliminary noise abatement decision prior to public circulation of the draft environmental document.

## Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area

The Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area encompasses all developed and undeveloped land uses surrounding the Project Study Limits (PSL), with a focus on noise-sensitive land uses. The PSL is defined in Section 1.2, *Project Location and Setting*, and shown in Figure 1-2 (Project Study Limits). In general, noise-sensitive land uses include areas where serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance, residential land uses, and other community uses such as hospitals, schools, cemeteries, and parks.

The existing noise environment throughout the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area varies by location, depending on site characteristics such as proximity of receptors to I-680, other major roadways, or other sources of noise in the area; the relative base elevations of roadways and receptors; and the presence of any intervening structures or barriers.

Land uses in the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area were identified in the following categories:

- Activity Category B – Residential
- Activity Category C – Active Sports Areas, Parks, Campgrounds, Trails, Recreation Areas, Schools, Places of Worship, and Cemeteries
- Activity Category D (Interior) – Schools, Medical Facilities, Places of Worship
- Activity Category E – Restaurants, Hotels, and Other Developed Land
- Activity Category F – Utilities and Other Developed Land
- Activity Category G – Undeveloped

Activity Categories B, C, D, and E land uses are considered noise-sensitive. Activity Categories F and G land uses are not considered noise-sensitive. Although all developed land uses are evaluated, noise abatement is only considered for areas of frequent human use that would benefit from a lowered noise level.

## Field Noise Study

A field noise study was conducted in accordance with the recommended procedures in Caltrans' *Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol* (California Department of Transportation, 2020b). A field investigation to identify land uses that could be subject to traffic and construction noise impacts from the proposed Project was conducted from Monday, April 12, 2021, to Monday, April 19, 2021.

Long-term noise measurements were made at seven locations over approximately 24- to 120-hour periods from the morning on Monday, April 12, 2021, to the morning on Monday, April 19, 2021. Long-term measurements were taken at heights of approximately 10 to 12 feet above ground level. Care was taken to select sites that were affected primarily by traffic noise and to avoid those sites where extraneous noise sources, such as barking dogs or mechanical equipment, could contaminate the noise data. Existing loudest-hour noise levels ( $L_{eq[h]}$ ) ranged at the long-term locations from 60 dBA at two residences within Walnut Creek (68 Kuhl Court and 1660 Lilac Drive) to 80 dBA past the end of 88 Rutherford Lane along northbound I-680 in Martinez, CA.

Short-term noise measurements were made at 63 locations in concurrent time intervals with the data collected at the long-term measurement sites. This method facilitated a direct comparison between both short-term and long-term noise measurements and allowed for the identification of the loudest-hour noise levels at land uses where long-term noise measurements were not made, but where both short-term and long-term measurements are exposed to the same primary noise source. Although 113 short-term measurement locations were initially identified, 12 locations were removed because they were not accessible. In addition, the number of short-term noise measurement locations were further reduced when the PSL were reduced from post mile (PM) 4.4/24.5 to PM R10.0/23.2 in October 2023.

Two or more consecutive 10-minute measurements were made at each noise measurement site. Dominant noise sources were identified and logged. At all locations, noise levels were measured 5 feet above the ground surface and at least 10 feet from structures or barriers. Noise measurement data collected at these locations were used to validate the traffic noise model. Short-term noise measurements varied from 48 dBA in the morning at a private residence between Livorna Road and Stone Valley Road (1394 Casa Vallecita, Alamo) to 73 dBA in the morning at a private residence between Pacheco Boulevard and State Route (SR) 4 (88 Rutherford Lane, Martinez).

Appendix J.1 provides a summary of noise measurements at all short- and long-term monitoring sites. Figures showing the locations of all receptor and potential noise barrier locations are provided in Appendix J.2.

### **Traffic Noise Modeling**

Following established methods for a traffic noise study, the short-term and long-term measurements, together with the measured traffic conditions, vehicle mix, and site-specific topographical information, were used to determine future noise levels in the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area. Arterial roadways were modeled at the posted speed limits for the roadway. Traffic mix information included in the provided traffic volumes along with Caltrans reported mix data was used for both existing and future I-680 scenarios.

Traffic noise levels were predicted using FHWA's Traffic Noise Model, Version 2.5. Due to the model's reliability constraints and inability to accurately calculate noise levels at great distances from the roadway, Caltrans limits noise assessments to approximately



500 feet off the roadway source. Once the model was validated, the loudest-hour traffic noise levels were calculated. The loudest hour is generally characterized by free-flowing traffic at the roadway design speed (i.e., Level of Service [LOS] C/D or better). The highest average traffic volumes on I-680 are predicted to occur during the p.m. peak hour; therefore, p.m. peak hour traffic volumes were used in the model. Based on the available traffic mix information, the average traffic mix for the I-680 mainline north of Alcosta Boulevard is between 93.6 and 97.4 percent autos, between 1.7 and 4.3 percent medium trucks, and between 1.0 and 2.5 percent heavy trucks.

### **Future Undeveloped Land Use**

Caltrans' Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol requires the discussion of future land uses in the vicinity of the Project (California Department of Transportation, 2020b). Most of the land in the vicinity of the PSL is developed. Planned and approved projects were reviewed to identify undeveloped lands for which development is planned, designed, and programmed so that those proposed developments may be considered approved (or a part of the existing conditions) in the Noise Study Report (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024). According to the Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol, future development would be considered planned, designed, and programmed once it receives final development approval. The review focused on projects within approximately 500 feet of the Project limits, where traffic noise levels from the improved Project roadways could dominate the noise environment. Projects located beyond this distance were excluded from further analysis.

The following future land uses were considered in the noise modeling:

- Bayview Estates Development, which is planned to be along northbound I-680 in the Vine Hill/Pacheco Boulevard area in unincorporated Contra Costa County (Receptors R433 – R436)
- Cambria Hotel and Suites Development in the city of Pleasant Hill (Receptor R437)
- The Oak Road Townhouse Condominium Project at 2740 Jones Road in unincorporated Contra Costa County (Receptors ST-39 and R438–R442)
- The Walnut Creek Hilton Garden Inn Project (Receptor R481 [pool area]); the project has been approved and is currently under construction.
- The Walnut Creek Transit Village Phase 2 Redesign Project (Receptors R483 and R484).

### **Human Response to Changes in Noise Levels**

Under controlled conditions in an acoustical laboratory, the trained, healthy human ear can discern 1 dB changes in sound levels when exposed to steady, single-frequency

(“pure-tone”) signals in the mid-frequency (1,000 to 8,000 hertz) range. In typical noisy environments, changes in noise of 1 to 2 dB are generally not perceptible. However, it is widely accepted that people are able to begin to detect sound level increases of 3 dB in typical noisy environments. Further, a 5 dB increase is generally perceived as a distinctly noticeable increase, and a 10 dB increase is generally perceived as a doubling of loudness. Therefore, a doubling of sound energy (e.g., doubling the volume of traffic on a highway) that would result in a 3 dB increase in sound would generally be perceived as barely detectable. (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Decibels are logarithmic units, and therefore a doubling of sound energy results in a 3 dB increase in sound. However, given a sound level change measured with precise instrumentation, the subjective human perception of a doubling of loudness will usually be different than what is measured. (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

### **2.2.7.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts from noise or vibration would occur. The No-Build Alternative would also not result in any physical or operational changes; therefore, no noise abatement would be implemented. As depicted in Appendix J.3, *Existing and Predicted Future Noise Levels*, increases in traffic are predicted to increase noise levels slightly over existing conditions by the Project’s Design Year (2047).

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

##### ***Temporary (Construction) Noise Impacts***

Noise from construction activities may intermittently dominate the noise environment in the immediate area of construction activities during the Project’s construction phases. Noise generated by Project-related construction activities would be a function of the noise levels generated by individual pieces of construction equipment, the type and amount of equipment operating at any given time, the timing and duration of construction activities, the proximity of nearby sensitive land uses, and the presence or lack of shielding at these sensitive land uses. Construction noise levels would vary on a day-to-day basis during each phase of construction, depending on the specific task being completed.

Project construction is anticipated to include the following phases: grubbing/land clearing (including mobilization), grading/excavation, drainage/utilities/sub-grade, and paving. The Build Alternatives would require the construction of retaining walls, sound walls, and the following structures:

- Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge Widening (Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3)



- Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp Separation Removal (Alternatives 1C and 3)
- Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp Bridge New Construction (Alternatives 1C and 3)
- Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing Bridge New Construction (Alternatives 1C and 3)
- Ygnacio Valley Road Off-ramp Bridge Column Modification (Alternatives 1C and 3)
- Treat Boulevard Overpass Bridge New Construction (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5)
- Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge Widening (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5)

Pile driving could be used as a construction method for the foundations of new bridge structures or widened crossings. Construction noise would result primarily from the operation of heavy construction equipment and arrival and departure of heavy-duty trucks.

Table 2.2.7-3 presents noise levels calculated for each major Project construction phase at a distance of 50 feet using FHWA’s Roadway Construction Noise Model. This construction noise model includes representative sound levels for the most common types of construction equipment and the approximate usage factors of such equipment, which were developed based on an extensive database of information gathered during the construction of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project in Boston, Massachusetts. In some instances, maximum instantaneous noise levels are calculated to be slightly lower than hourly average noise levels. This occurs because the model reports the maximum instantaneous noise level generated by the loudest single piece of construction equipment, while reporting the hourly average noise levels results from the additive effect of multiple pieces of construction equipment operating simultaneously. Noise generated by construction equipment drops off at a rate of 6 dB per doubling of distance.

**Table 2.2.7-3. Noise Level by Construction Phase at 50 Feet**

Construction Phase	Maximum Instantaneous Noise Level (L <sub>max</sub> , dBA)	Hourly Average Noise Level (L <sub>eq[h]</sub> , dBA)
Grubbing/Land Clearing	84	83
Grading/Excavation	85	91
Drainage/Utilities/Sub-Grade	85, 96 <sup>a</sup>	90, 101 <sup>a</sup>
Paving	84	85

Construction Phase	Maximum Instantaneous Noise Level ( $L_{max}$ , dBA)	Hourly Average Noise Level ( $L_{eq[h]}$ , dBA)
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Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: dBA = A-weighted decibels,  $L_{max}$  = maximum sound level,  $L_{eq[h]}$  = one-hour equivalent sound level

<sup>a</sup> Noise Levels include Impact Pile Driving. Impact pile driving would occur at Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp, Rudgear Road Undercrossing, and Retaining Wall RSM-RW2.

Although the overall construction schedule may extend to approximately 2 years under all Build Alternatives, roadway construction activities typically occur for relatively short periods in any specific location as construction proceeds along the Project’s alignment. Construction noise would be of concern mostly in areas where heavy construction would be concentrated for extended periods, in areas adjacent to noise-sensitive receptors, where noise levels from individual pieces of equipment are substantially higher than ambient conditions, or when construction activities would occur during noise-sensitive early morning, evening, or nighttime hours.

As indicated in Table 2.2.7-3, most construction phases would generate hourly average noise levels ranging from 83 to 91 dBA  $L_{eq[h]}$  at 50 feet, which would exceed ambient daytime noise levels at adjacent land uses by 15 to 20 dBA  $L_{eq[h]}$ . Average noise levels with impact pile driving would be up to 101 dBA  $L_{eq[h]}$  at 50 feet. Receptors shielded by noise barriers would be exposed to a similar increase in noise, albeit at lower overall noise levels because the shielding provided by the existing noise barriers would attenuate construction noise at a similar rate to traffic noise. Maximum instantaneous noise levels would range from 84 to 85 dBA  $L_{max}$  at 50 feet without impact driving and up to 96 dBA  $L_{max}$  at 50 feet with impact pile driving. With the exception of impact pile driving, and possible nighttime construction involving heavy equipment, construction noise levels would not be expected to exceed the quantitative noise limits established by Caltrans.

Under Section 216 of the *Streets and Highways Code (Noise in Classrooms)*, noise levels are required to not exceed 52 dBA  $L_{eq[h]}$  in classrooms, libraries, multipurpose rooms, and spaces used for pupil personnel services of a public or private elementary or secondary school. Under the worst-case conditions, construction noise could exceed 52 dBA  $L_{eq[h]}$  for a few days or weeks throughout the 2-year construction period at the following schools: St. Mary School (ST-55), Futures Academy (R161), Las Lomas High School (R220), and Dorris-Eaton School (R267). See Appendix J.2, *Receptors and Noise Barrier Locations*, for the locations of these receptors.

Caltrans Standard Specifications require that construction noise not exceed a maximum sound level of 86 dBA at 50 feet from job site activities between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. In accordance with Measure **NOI-1**, the construction contractor would be required to comply with Standard Special Provision (SSP) Section 14-8.02, which would further reduce the potential for noise impacts resulting from Project construction. SSP 14-8.02 requires that the construction contractor not exceed 52 dBA (interior) and the development of a noise control plan (NCP) as well as noise monitoring during construction. The NCP submitted by the contractor should include noise control



measures to maintain noise levels and corrective actions if noise levels are exceeded during construction. As such, Measure **NOI-1** would avoid and minimize impacts to noise-sensitive receptors.

**Temporary (Construction) Vibration Impacts**

Construction activities with the greatest potential to generate perceptible vibration levels would include the removal of pavement and soil, dropping heavy objects, and moving heavy tracked equipment. Table 2.2.7-4 presents typical vibration levels that could be expected from representative construction equipment at a reference distance of 25 feet and calculated vibration levels at distances representative of the setbacks from the Project to the nearest structures. Vibration levels are highest close to the source, and then attenuate with increasing distance, depending on soil conditions.

**Table 2.2.7-4. Vibration Source Levels for Construction Equipment**

Equipment		PPV at 25 ft. (in/sec)	Representative of Setbacks of Nearest Structures (in/sec PPV) <sup>1</sup>	
			50 feet	100 feet
Pile Driver (Impact)	upper range	1.158	0.540	0.252
	typical	0.644	0.300	0.140
Pile Driver (Sonic)	upper range	0.734	0.342	0.160
	typical	0.17	0.079	0.037
Clam shovel drop		0.202	0.094	0.044
Hydromill (slurry wall)	in soil	0.022	0.004	0.002
	in rock	0.047	0.008	0.004
Vibratory Roller		0.210	0.098	0.046
Hoe Ram		0.089	0.042	0.019
Large bulldozer		0.089	0.042	0.019
Caisson drilling		0.089	0.042	0.019
Loaded trucks		0.076	0.035	0.017
Jackhammer		0.035	0.016	0.008
Small bulldozer		0.003	0.001	0.001

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: in/sec = inches per second, ppv = peak particle velocity

<sup>1</sup> These levels calculated assuming normal propagation conditions, using a standard equation of  $PPV_{eqmt} = PPV_{ref} * (25/D)$ .



Caltrans recommends a vibration limit of 0.5 inch per second PPV for new residential and modern commercial/industrial structures, 0.3 inch per second PPV for older residential structures, and 0.25 inch per second PPV for historic and some old buildings. Distances to vibration limit exceedances for various structure types are shown in Table 2.2.7-5.

**Table 2.2.7-5. Distance to Exceedance of Vibration Limit by Structure Type**

Structure Type	Threshold	Distance to Exceedance of Threshold, feet <sup>1</sup>	
		Impact Pile Driving	Heavy Construction
Historic Buildings	0.25 in/sec PPV	100 feet	22 feet
Older Residences	0.3 in/sec PPV	85 feet	18 feet
New Residential and Commercial/ Industrial Buildings	0.5 in/sec PPV	55 feet	12 feet

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: in/sec = inches per second, ppv = peak particle velocity

<sup>1</sup> These levels calculated assuming normal propagation conditions, using a standard equation of  $PPV_{eqmt} = PPV_{ref} * (25/D)$ .

Impact pile driving located within 100 feet of historic buildings and heavy construction located within 22 feet of historic buildings and would have the potential to exceed the 0.25 in/sec PPV threshold. Based on a review of the Contra Costa County, Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Danville, and San Ramon historic resource inventories/mapping, there are no historic buildings located within 100 feet of the Project limits that would be susceptible to vibration. The normal forces that the Contra Costa Canal, Mokelumne Aqueduct, and BART are subject to on a daily basis would be well above any vibration expected from the proposed Project. Therefore, vibration levels due to project construction activities would not exceed the 0.25 in/sec PPV threshold at sensitive historic buildings in the vicinity of the project alignment. Impacts on historic structures are further addressed in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*.

Impact pile driving within 85 feet of older residential structures or within 55 feet of new residential and modern commercial/industrial structures and heavy construction located within 18 feet of older residential structures or within 12 feet of new residential and modern commercial/industrial structures would have the potential to exceed the 0.3 and 0.5 inch per second PPV thresholds, respectively.

Impact pile driving may be required at the following three locations along the Project corridor: the Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5); retaining wall RSM-RW2, located north of Rudgear Road (Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3); and the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Widening (Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3).

Walnut Creek Parks Division industrial buildings in Walnut Creek at 511 Lawrence Way would be located approximately 42 to 52 feet south of foundation piles required for the



Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing. Vibration levels of 0.5 inch per second PPV could potentially be exceeded by the upper range of pile driving when located within 55 feet of adjacent industrial structures in the vicinity of the Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing. Heavy construction may also occur within 18 feet of sensitive structures in this area. Measure **VIB-1**, which requires cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) piles to be used near vibration-sensitive structures, among other things, would be implemented to minimize the potential for vibration impacts resulting from Project construction.

Residential apartment buildings in Walnut Creek at 125 Near Court, 1309 Creekside Drive, 1335 Creekside Drive, and 1355 Creekside Drive would be located approximately 11 to 48 feet east of piles required for retaining wall RSM-RW2. Vibration levels of 0.5 inch per second PPV could potentially be exceeded by the upper range of pile driving when located within 55 feet of adjacent residential structures in the vicinity of proposed retaining wall RSM-RW2. Heavy construction may also occur within 18 feet of sensitive structures in this area. Measure **VIB-1** would be implemented to minimize the potential for vibration impacts resulting from Project construction.

There are no residences, commercial buildings, or industrial buildings within 230 feet of the piles that would be driven as part of the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge Widening proposed under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Neither impact pile driving nor heavy construction would produce vibration levels exceeding the vibration thresholds at the nearest buildings to that undercrossing. Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge.

### ***Long-Term (Operational) Noise Impacts***

The comparison between the Build and the No-Build conditions in the Project's Design Year (2047) indicates the Project's direct long-term effects. The Project's Design Year is defined as 20 years after the Project's anticipated Opening Year (2027).

This Project has been determined to be a Type I project, per 23 CFR 772. For the purposes of 23 CFR 772, a noise impact occurs when either (1) there is a substantial noise increase between Design Year build conditions and existing conditions, or (2) the Design Year build traffic noise level approaches or exceeds the FHWA NAC.

Section 3 of the Caltrans *Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol* defines a noise increase as "substantial" when the predicted noise levels with Project implementation would exceed existing noise level conditions by 12 dBA or more (California Department of Transportation, 2020b).

FHWA's NAC for a receptor is based on its land use activity category and is provided in Table 1 to 23 CFR 772 (see Table 2.2.7-1). The Protocol defines "approach" as being within 1 dBA of the NAC. For example, if the NAC is 67 dBA, a predicted noise level of 66 dBA is considered to "approach" the NAC.

As described in Section 2.2.7.2, *Affected Environment*, noise levels were modeled for the Project's Design Year at 63 short-term noise monitoring locations (referred to as Receptors ST-2 through ST-78).<sup>1</sup> An additional 295 modeled receiver locations within the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area were also modeled.<sup>2</sup> Figures showing the short-term noise measurement and modeled receiver locations are provided in Appendix J.1, *Summary of Noise Measurements*.

Table J-3 through Table J-6 in Appendix J.3, *Existing and Predicted Future Noise Levels*, provide the predicted noise levels for each noise measure location and modeled receiver under Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5, respectively. Noise levels are estimated to increase by 0 to 2 dBA over existing conditions in the Design Year (2047) without the Project. Alternative 1C is anticipated to increase Design Year (2047) noise levels by -2 to 11 dBA over existing conditions. Alternatives 2 and 3 are anticipated to increase Design Year noise levels by -2 to 9 dBA over existing conditions. Meanwhile, Alternative 5 is anticipated to increase Design Year noise levels by -2 to 3 dBA over existing conditions. Therefore, noise levels under all Build Alternatives would not exceed existing noise levels substantially (defined as 12 dBA or more) (California Department of Transportation, 2011).

Noise abatement is being considered in accordance with 23 CFR 772. Under Alternative 1C, projected highway noise levels for the Design Year are expected to approach or exceed the NAC at 47 Category B receptors and 7 Category C receptors. Under Alternative 2, projected highway noise levels for the Design Year are expected to approach or exceed the NAC at 50 Category B receptors and 7 Category C receptors. Under Alternative 3, projected highway noise levels for the Design Year are expected to approach or exceed the NAC at 53 Category B receptors and 6 Category C receptors. Under Alternative 5, projected highway noise levels for the Design Year are expected to approach or exceed the NAC at 38 Category B receptors and 6 Category C receptors. Traffic noise levels are not predicted to approach or exceed the NAC at any Category D receptors (inside the structure) or Category E receptors under any Build Alternative. Noise abatement is further discussed below in Section 2.2.7.4, *Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Evaluation*.

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<sup>1</sup> One hundred thirteen short-term noise measurements, ST-1 through ST-113 were identified along the initial Project corridor. Short-term measurement locations ST-8, ST-10, ST-15, ST-16, ST-25, ST-40, ST-47, and ST-68 were removed because they were not accessible. Short-term measurement locations ST-1 and ST-73 through ST-113 were removed when the PSL were reduced in October 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Receptors R1 through R480 were identified. Receptor R488 was skipped and Receptors R1-R2, R257, R266- R431, R443-R446, R447, and R466-R475 were removed when the PSL were reduced in October 2023.

#### 2.2.7.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Abatement Measures

##### Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Evaluation

Noise abatement is considered where noise impacts are predicted in areas of frequent human use that would benefit from a lowered noise level. Noise abatement must be predicted to provide at least a 5 dB reduction at an impacted receptor to be considered acoustically feasible by Caltrans (i.e., the barrier would provide a noticeable noise reduction). In addition, the noise barrier must provide at least 7 dB of noise reduction at one or more benefited receptors (California Department of Transportation, 2020b). Noise abatement measures that provide noise reduction of more than 5 dB are encouraged, as long as they meet the reasonableness guidelines. Cost considerations for determining noise abatement reasonableness are based on an allowance per benefited receptor. For each acoustically feasible noise barrier, reasonable monetary allowances were calculated by multiplying the number of benefited receptors by \$146,000, which is Caltrans' base cost allowance for 2023 reasonable/feasible analysis.

According to 23 CFR 772(13)(c) and 772(15)(c), federal funding may be used for the following abatement measures:

- Noise barriers construction, including acquisition of property rights, either within or outside State ROW.
- Traffic management measures, including, but not limited to traffic control devices and signing for prohibition of certain vehicle types, time-use restrictions for certain vehicle types, modified speed limits, and exclusive lane designations.
- Alteration of horizontal and vertical alignments.
- Acquisition of real property or interests therein (predominantly unimproved property) to serve as a buffer zone to preempt development that would be adversely impacted by traffic noise.
- Noise insulation of Activity Category D land use facilities. Post-installation maintenance and operational costs for noise insulation are not eligible for federal-aid funding.

Noise barriers are the only form of noise abatement considered for exterior land uses in the Noise and Vibration Resource Study Area. Caltrans typically limits noise barrier heights to between 6 and 16 feet due to seismic considerations (California Department of Transportation, 2020a). Noise barriers should not exceed 14 feet in height (measured from the pavement surface at the face of the safety-shape barrier) when located 15 feet or less from the edge of the traveled way. Noise barriers should not exceed 16 feet in height above the ground line when located more than 15 feet from the traveled way.

Receiver and noise barrier locations are shown in Appendix J.2, *Receptors and Noise Barrier Locations*. More information regarding existing and evaluated barriers is provided below in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Analyses* section. The Preliminary Noise Abatement Decisions section provides Caltrans' recommended abatement for each Build Alternative based on the Project's Draft NADR findings (California Department of Transportation, 2023).

The views and opinions of the residents living adjacent to the proposed improvements and affected by the traffic noise would be considered in reaching a decision on noise abatement measures. Caltrans' policy is to not provide noise barriers if 50 percent or more of those affected residents do not want them. The opinions of these residents would be obtained through public and community meetings or other means, as appropriate, prior to final Project design.

The noise barrier designs presented in this environmental document are preliminary and have been conducted at a level appropriate for environmental review but not for final Project design. Preliminary information on the physical location, length, and height of noise barriers is provided below. If pertinent parameters change substantially during the final Project design, preliminary noise barrier designs may be modified or eliminated from the final Project. A final decision on the construction of noise barriers will be made upon completion of the Project design.

### ***Preliminary Noise Abatement Analyses***

#### ***At Arthur Road Along Southbound I-680 (Evaluated Barrier 1)***

Outdoor areas of the residences west of Arthur Road, represented by Receptors ST-6, ST-7, R14, and R15, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor R15 under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 1 was modeled along I-680 southbound travel lanes to extend approximately 630 feet.

Table 2.2.7-6 through Table 2.2.7-8 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 1 at various design heights for each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 1 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptor R15, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 1 under any of the Build Alternatives.



**Table 2.2.7-6. Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Horizon Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-6	6	64	63	1	62	2	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4
ST-7	7	57	57	0	56	1	56	1	56	1	56	1	56	1
R14	4	57	55	2	55	2	54	3	53	4	53	4	53	4
R15	4	66	64	2	64	2	63	3	62	4	62	4	62	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-7. Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternatives 2 and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternatives 2 and 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Horizon Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-6	6	64	63	1	62	2	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4
ST-7	7	57	57	0	56	1	56	1	56	1	56	1	56	1
R14	4	57	54	3	54	3	53	4	52	5	52	5	52	5
R15	4	66	64	2	64	2	63	3	62	4	62	4	62	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss, H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-8. Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 1 Alternative 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Horizon Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-6	6	64	63	1	62	2	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4
ST-7	7	56	56	0	55	1	55	1	55	1	55	1	55	1
R14	4	57	54	3	54	3	53	4	52	5	52	5	52	5
R15	4	66	64	2	64	2	63	3	62	4	62	4	62	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

***At Arthur Road Along Northbound I-680 (Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2)***

The outdoor areas of Marlin’s RV Park were identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Receptors ST-9 and R36 were identified for noise abatement under Alternatives 1C and 2. Receptors ST-9, R16, R17, and R36 were identified for noise abatement under Alternatives 3 and 5. Receptors in the area are shielded from I-680 by an existing 11-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2) located along the I-680 northbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-9 and Table 2.2.7-10, Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 were calculated to provide 5 dB of noise reduction at ST-9, therefore meeting the noise reduction standard for feasibility. The barriers were calculated to provide noise reduction at other receptors in the area meeting the noise reduction design goal. Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 meet the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, these barriers are not studied further. Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal at the existing height of 11 feet.





**Table 2.2.7-9. Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Horizon Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=11 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-9	1	73	68	5
R16	1	67	60	7
R17	1	64	61	3
R36	1	71	67	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-10. Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers A.1 and A.2 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=11 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-9	1	73	68	5
R16	1	67	60	7
R17	1	64	61	3
R36	1	71	66	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*Northwest of I-680 and SR-4 Interchange Along Northbound I-680 (Existing Barrier B)*

The private outdoor areas of residences west of Blum Road, represented by Receptors R28–R31 and R35, were identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives at Receptor R28. Receptors in the area are shielded from I-680 by an existing, 12-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier B), which is located along the I-680 northbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-11 and Table 2.2.7-12, existing Barrier B was calculated to provide 7 db of noise reduction under Alternative 1C and 8 dB of noise reduction under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 at Receptor R31, therefore meeting the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, this barrier is not studied further in this assessment. Existing Barrier B would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal at its existing height of 12 feet.

**Table 2.2.7-11. Existing Barrier B Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier B Alternative 1C				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R28	4	77	73	4
R29	6	65	65	0
R30	6	60	60	0
R31	1	68	61	7
R35	1	67	66	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-12. Existing Barrier B Alternatives 2, 3, and 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier B Alternatives 2, 3, and 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R28	4	77	72	5
R29	6	65	64	1
R30	6	60	59	1
R31	1	69	61	8
R35	1	67	63	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*At Concord Avenue/Chilpancingo Parkway (Evaluated Barrier 18)*

Buchanan Fields Golf Course, represented by Receptor ST-20, has been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 18 was modeled along the Concord Avenue I-680 Northbound On-ramp, extending approximately 1,500 feet.

Table 2.2.7-13 and Table 2.2.7-14 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 18 at various design heights under each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 18 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a height of 14 feet but would not meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted Receptor ST-20, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 18.



**Table 2.2.7-13. Evaluated Barrier 18 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 18 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-20	1	70	69	1	69	1	68	2	66	4	65	5	64	6

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-14. Evaluated Barrier 18 Alternatives 2, 3, and 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 18 Alternatives 2, 3, and 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-20	1	71	70	1	70	1	69	2	67	4	66	5	65	6

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

***Between SR-242 and Monument Boulevard Along Southbound I-680 (Existing Barrier D)***

The private outdoor areas of residences east of Contra Costa Boulevard were identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Receptors R78, R79, R80, and R81 were identified for noise abatement under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Receptors R76 through R89 were identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Alternative 5 Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC at Receptors R78, R79, and R80. A trail, represented by Receptor ST-28, has been identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC under all Build



Alternatives. Receptors in the area are shielded from I-680 by an existing 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier D) located along I-680 southbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-15 and Table 2.2.7-16, existing Barrier D was calculated to provide at least 5 dB of noise reduction, therefore meeting the noise reduction standard for feasibility. The barrier was calculated to provide 7 dB of noise reduction at ST-28, therefore meeting the noise reduction design goal. Existing Barrier D meets the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, this barrier was not studied further. Existing Barrier D would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal at its existing 14-foot height.

**Table 2.2.7-15. Existing Barrier D Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier D Alternative 1C, 2, and 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-24	1	68	67	1
ST-28	1	75	68	7
R76	4	64	62	2
R77	4	71	65	6
R78	13	72	67	5
R79	8	73	67	6
R80	3	72	67	5
R81	2	68	66	2
R82	8	65	62	3
R83	6	60	59	1
R84	4	62	60	2
R85	4	62	60	2
R86	6	60	58	2
R87	5	60	59	1
R88	4	63	60	3



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier D Alternative 1C, 2, and 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R89	3	58	57	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-16. Existing Barrier D Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier D Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-24	1	67	66	1
ST-28	1	75	68	7
R76	4	65	62	3
R77	4	71	65	6
R78	13	72	66	6
R79	8	73	67	6
R80	3	71	66	5
R81	2	67	65	2
R82	8	64	61	3
R83	6	60	58	2
R84	4	62	60	2
R85	4	62	59	3
R86	6	59	58	1
R87	5	60	58	2





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier D Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq(h)}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R88	4	63	60	3
R89	3	58	56	2

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

***Between SR-242 and Monument Boulevard Along Northbound I-680 (Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3):***

The private outdoor areas of residences south of SR-242, represented by Receptors ST-26, ST-27, ST-29, R70 through R75, and R90 through R103, are currently shielded from I-680 by an existing 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier E.1), a 15-foot-high berm (Existing Barrier E.2), and 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier E.3). Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would remove and replace a portion of Existing Barrier E.1 with Barrier SW No. 4, the berm (Existing Barrier E.2) would be cut into and retaining wall M242-RW1 would be added, and a portion of Existing Barrier E.3 would be removed and replaced with Barrier SW No. 3.

Table 2.2.7-17 through Table 2.2.7-19 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Existing Barrier E.1, retaining wall M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, and Barrier SW No. 3 under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Existing Barrier E.1, Barrier SW No. 4, retaining wall M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, and Barrier SW No. 3 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 8 feet and would meet the 7 dB design goal at a height of 14 feet. Therefore, the barrier system consisting of Existing Barrier E.1, Barrier SW No. 4, retaining wall M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, and Barrier SW No. 3 was carried forward into the Draft NADR and is further described below in the *Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Decision* section. The reasonable allowance calculated for a 14-foot barrier or greater was \$749,000.



**Table 2.2.7-17. Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-26	9	62	61	1	61	1	60	2	60	2	60	2	59	3
ST-27	10	59	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0
ST-29	0	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R70	1	69	68	1	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2
R71	6	58	56	2	55	3	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4
R72	5	53	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52	1	51	2
R73	7	53	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52	1
R74	5	53	53	0	53	0	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1
R75	6	52	51	1	50	2	50	2	50	2	50	2	50	2
R90	7	66	62	4	61	5	60	6	60	6	59	7	59	7
R91	16	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R92	10	67	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0
R93	10	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R94	11	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R95	5	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R96	3	68	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0
R97	3	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R98	10	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R99	8	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R100	10	59	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0
R101	9	58	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1
R102	5	59	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	56	3



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R103	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-18. Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-26	9	62	61	60	1	60	1	59	2	59	2	59	2	59
ST-27	10	59	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57
ST-29	0	64	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64
R70	1	69	68	67	1	66	2	66	2	66	2	66	2	66
R71	6	58	57	55	2	54	3	54	3	53	4	53	4	53
R72	5	53	53	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52	1	51
R73	7	53	53	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52
R74	5	53	52	52	0	52	0	52	0	52	0	51	1	51
R75	6	52	52	51	1	50	2	50	2	50	2	50	2	50
R90	7	66	66	62	4	61	5	60	6	60	6	59	7	59
R91	16	66	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66
R92	10	67	67	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67
R93	10	66	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66
R94	11	66	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R95	5	64	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64
R96	3	68	68	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68
R97	3	64	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64
R98	10	64	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64
R99	8	64	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64
R100	10	59	59	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59
R101	9	58	58	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57
R102	5	59	59	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	56
R103	4	62	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-19. Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-26	9	61	60	1	60	1	59	2	59	2	59	2	59	2
ST-27	10	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0
ST-29	0	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R70	1	67	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2
R71	6	56	55	1	54	2	53	3	53	3	52	4	52	4



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Alternative 3

Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R72	5	53	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52	1	51	2
R73	7	53	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1	52	1	52	1
R74	5	52	52	0	52	0	52	0	52	0	51	1	51	1
R75	6	52	51	1	50	2	50	2	50	2	50	2	50	2
R90	7	66	62	4	61	5	60	6	60	6	59	7	59	7
R91	16	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R92	10	67	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0	67	0
R93	10	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R94	11	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
R95	5	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R96	3	68	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0
R97	3	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R98	10	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0
R99	8	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	649	0	64	0	64	0
R100	10	59	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0	59	0
R101	9	58	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1	57	1
R102	5	59	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	56	3
R103	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not require the replacement of Barriers E.1, E.2, or E.3. The private outdoor areas of residences south of SR-242, represented by Receptors ST-26, ST-27, ST-29, R70 through R75, and R90 through



R103, have been identified for noise abatement because Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would exceed the NAC at Receptors R90, R92, and R96 under Alternative 5. Receptors R90, R92, and R96 are currently shielded from I-680 by an existing, 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier E.1), a 15-foot-high berm (Existing Barrier E.2) and an existing 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier E.3).

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-20, existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3 were calculated to provide 5 dB of noise reduction at R72, R94, R102, and R103, therefore meeting the noise reduction standard for feasibility. The barrier was calculated to provide 7 dB of noise reduction at ST-29 and R71, 9dB of noise reduction at R93, 11 dB of noise reduction at R90, and 14 dB of noise reduction at R70, therefore meeting the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, this barrier is not studied further in this assessment. Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3 would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal at its existing height of 14 to 15 feet.

**Table 2.2.7-20. Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, an E.3 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-26	9	61	57	4
ST-27	10	57	55	2
ST-29	0	70	63	7
R70	1	76	62	14
R71	6	57	50	7
R72	5	54	49	5
R73	7	54	50	4
R74	5	52	50	2
R75	6	52	48	4
R90	7	77	66	11
R91	16	69	65	4
R92	10	69	66	3
R93	10	74	65	9
R94	11	70	65	5





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers E.1, E.2, and E.3  
Alternative 5

Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R95	5	66	63	3
R96	3	70	68	2
R97	3	64	63	1
R98	10	65	64	1
R99	8	66	63	3
R100	10	61	58	3
R101	9	60	58	2
R102	5	63	58	5
R103	4	67	62	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*At Sunnyvale Avenue (Evaluated Barrier 19)*

The private, second floor outdoor areas of residences along the N Main Street I-680 Southbound Off-ramp, represented by Receptor R129, have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 19 was modeled along the N Main Street I-680 Southbound Off-ramp, extending approximately 400 feet.

Table 2.2.7-21 shows the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 19 at various design heights under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 19 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptor R129, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 19.



**Table 2.2.7-21. Evaluated Barrier 19 Alternative 1C, 2, 3, and 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 19 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R129	2	74	74	0	73	1	72	2	71	3	70	4	70	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*Between Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive (Evaluated Barrier 2)*

Outdoor areas of the residences east of Jones Road were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Different soundwalls were evaluated for each Build Alternative due to the proposed braided ramps at this location under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5.

Receptors ST-41, ST-44, R458, R459, and R479 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 1C. Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) was modeled along I-680 northbound ROW, extending approximately 1,730 feet under Alternative 1C. Table 2.2.7-22 shows the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) at various design heights under Alternative 1C. Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 12 feet but would not meet the 7 dB design goal, even at a height of 16 feet.



**Table 2.2.7-22. Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-41	2	68	65	3	64	4	64	4	63	5	63	5	63	5
ST-42	2	56	54	2	53	3	52	4	51	5	51	5	51	5
ST-43	3	54	53	1	52	2	52	2	51	3	51	3	51	3
ST-44	1	69	69	0	69	0	69	0	68	1	68	1	67	2
R13 1	2	62	62	0	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1
R13 2	1	64	61	3	60	4	60	4	59	5	58	6	58	6
R13 3	4	53	51	2	51	2	50	3	50	3	50	3	49	4
R13 4	2	59	56	3	56	3	55	4	55	4	55	4	54	5
R45 4	1	64	62	2	62	2	61	3	61	3	61	3	61	3
R45 5	1	58	56	2	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4	53	5
R45 6	2	65	63	2	62	3	61	4	60	5	60	5	60	5
R45 7	2	57	55	2	55	2	54	3	53	4	53	4	53	4
R45 8	2	66	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4	62	4	62	4
R45 9	4	71	69	2	68	3	67	4	66	5	66	5	66	5
R46 0	1	64	62	2	61	3	60	4	59	5	59	5	59	5



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 1C															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
R476	4	65	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	
R477	4	64	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	63	2	63	2	
R478	8	64	63	2	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3	62	3	
R479	12	67	66	2	65	3	65	3	65	3	65	3	65	3	
R480	2	63	61	2	60	3	59	4	58	5	57	6	57	6	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

Outdoor areas of the residences east of Jones Road, represented by Receptors ST-41, ST-44, R458, R459, and R479 have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 2. Evaluated Barrier 2 was modeled along the proposed Treat Boulevard braided ramp, extending approximately 2,300 feet. As indicated in Table 2.2.7-23, Evaluated Barrier 2 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptors, even at a height of 16 feet.

**Table 2.2.7-23. Evaluated Barrier 2 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 2															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
ST-41	2	69	68	1	67	2	66	3	66	3	66	3	65	4	
ST-42	2	57	54	3	53	4	53	4	52	5	52	5	51	6	
ST-43	3	54	52	2	52	2	51	3	50	4	50	4	50	4	



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-44	1	69	69	0	69	0	69	0	69	0	69	0	68	1
R131	2	62	61	1	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2
R132	1	65	62	3	61	4	61	4	60	5	59	6	59	6
R133	1	53	51	2	50	3	50	3	50	3	49	4	49	4
R134	4	58	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4	53	5	53	5
R451	2	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	64	1	64	1
R452	1	64	64	0	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1
R453	1	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R454	2	64	61	3	60	4	60	4	60	4	60	4	59	5
R455	2	59	56	3	55	4	55	4	54	5	54	5	54	5
R456	2	65	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3	62	3
R457	4	57	56	1	56	1	55	2	55	2	54	3	54	3
R458	1	66	65	1	64	2	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4
R459	2	69	68	1	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2
R460	2	65	63	2	62	3	62	3	61	4	60	5	59	6
R476	4	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	63	2
R477	4	64	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4	59	5	59	5
R478	8	64	62	2	61	3	60	4	60	4	60	4	59	5
R479	12	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2
R480	2	63	61	2	60	3	60	3	59	4	58	5	58	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

Outdoor areas of the residences east of Jones Road, represented by Receptors ST-41 through ST-44, R131 through R134, R451 through R460, and R476 through R480, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels under Alternative 3 would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptors



ST-41, ST-44, R458, R459, and R479. Evaluated Barrier 2 was modeled along the proposed Treat Boulevard braided ramp, extending approximately 2,300 feet. As indicated in Table 2.2.7-24, Evaluated Barrier 2 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptors, even at a height of 16 feet.

**Table 2.2.7-24. Evaluated Barrier 2 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-41	2	69	68	1	67	2	66	3	66	3	66	3	65	4
ST-42	2	57	54	3	53	4	53	4	52	5	52	5	51	6
ST-43	3	54	52	2	52	2	51	3	50	4	50	4	50	4
ST-44	1	69	69	0	69	0	69	0	69	0	69	0	68	1
R131	2	62	61	1	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2
R132	1	65	62	3	61	4	61	4	60	5	59	6	59	6
R133	1	53	51	2	50	3	50	3	50	3	49	4	49	4
R134	4	58	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4	53	5	53	5
R451	2	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	64	1	64	1
R452	1	64	64	0	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1
R453	1	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R454	2	64	61	3	60	4	60	4	60	4	60	4	59	5
R455	2	59	56	3	55	4	55	4	54	5	54	5	54	5
R456	2	65	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3	62	3
R457	4	57	56	1	56	1	55	2	55	2	54	3	54	3
R458	1	66	65	1	64	2	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4
R459	2	69	68	1	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2	67	2
R460	2	65	63	2	62	3	62	3	61	4	60	5	59	6
R476	4	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	63	2
R477	4	64	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4	59	5	59	5
R478	8	64	62	2	61	3	60	4	60	4	60	4	59	5





Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R479	12	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2
R480	2	63	61	2	60	3	60	3	59	4	58	5	58	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

Outdoor areas of the residences east of Jones Road, represented by Receptors ST-41 through ST-44, R131 through R134, R451 through R460, and R476 through R480 have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptors ST-41, ST-44, R458, R459, and R480 under Alternative 5. Evaluated Barrier 2 was modeled along the proposed Treat Boulevard braided ramp, extending approximately 2,300 feet. As indicated in Table 2.2.7-25, Evaluated Barrier 2 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptors, even at a height of 16 feet.

**Table 2.2.7-25. Evaluated Barrier 2 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-41	2	68	67	1	66	2	65	3	65	3	65	3	64	4
ST-42	2	56	53	3	52	4	52	4	51	5	51	5	50	6
ST-43	3	53	51	2	51	2	50	3	49	4	49	4	49	4
ST-44	1	68	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	68	0	67	1
R131	2	62	61	1	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2	60	2
R132	1	64	61	3	60	4	60	4	59	5	58	6	58	6
R133	1	53	51	2	50	3	50	3	50	3	49	4	49	4



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5) Alternative 5															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
R134	4	58	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4	53	5	53	5	
R451	2	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	64	1	64	1	
R452	1	64	64	0	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	
R453	1	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	
R454	2	63	60	3	59	4	59	4	59	4	59	4	58	5	
R455	2	58	56	2	55	3	55	3	54	4	54	4	54	4	
R456	2	64	63	1	62	2	62	2	61	3	61	3	61	3	
R457	4	56	55	1	55	1	54	2	54	2	53	3	53	3	
R458	1	66	65	1	64	2	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4	
R459	2	68	67	1	66	2	66	2	66	2	66	2	66	2	
R460	2	64	62	2	61	3	61	3	60	4	59	5	58	6	
R476	4	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	63	2	
R477	4	64	61	3	61	3	60	4	60	4	59	5	59	5	
R478	8	64	62	2	61	3	60	4	60	4	60	4	59	5	
R479	12	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2	
R480	2	63	61	2	60	3	60	3	59	4	58	5	58	5	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

As part of the I-680 Southbound HOV Gap Closure Project (SCH# 2013102020), Evaluated Barrier 2 (NMT-RW4 and MNT-RW5), which was referred to as S826 in that project, was studied and found to be feasible and reasonable. Caltrans and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) agreed that this barrier’s construction would be postponed until this Project, provided that a majority of the benefitted receptors are in favor of construction. Although Evaluated Barrier 2 was found to not meet the minimum design goal, it was carried forward into the Draft NADR due to the prior commitment and is further described below in the *Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Decision* section.

The potential for Evaluated Barrier 2 to reflect BART train noise was evaluated along both sides of the BART tracks (Illingworth & Rodkin, 2021). Barrier 2, Option 1 was evaluated along the I-680 edge of pavement between the highway and BART. Barrier 2, Option 2 was evaluated along Jones Road, east of both I-680 and BART. I-680 is

elevated above BART by 5 to 10 feet throughout most of this segment and above the residences on Jones Road by approximately 20 feet. The results of this analysis showed that Option 1 would be more effective at reducing I-680 traffic noise at the Jones Road residences than Option 2. Option 2 would reflect BART noise back toward I-680 and not toward Jones Road. Although Option 1 would reflect BART noise toward Jones Road receptors, the “worst-case” noise increases would be less than 1 dBA  $L_{eq}$ , which is not considered perceptible.

#### *South of N. Main Street Overpass (Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, and F.3)*

Outdoor areas of the residences west of I-680 between San Luis Road and Mt. Diablo Boulevard were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC. Receptors ST-50, ST-53, R144, R145, R165, R168, and R169 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 1C. Receptors ST-50, R144, R145, R165, R168, and R169 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 2. Receptors ST-50, ST-53, R144, R145, R165, R167, R168, and R169 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 3. Receptors ST-46, ST-48 through ST-50, ST-52, ST-53, and R135 through R169 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptors ST-50, ST-53, R144, R165, R168, and R169 under Alternative 5. Receptors in the area are shielded from I-680 by an existing 14-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3) located along the I-680 southbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-26 through Table 2.2.7-29, existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 meet the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal under all Build Alternatives. Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal as currently constructed. Based on these results, these barriers are not studied further in this assessment

**Table 2.2.7-26. Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 1C				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-46	1	78	64	14
ST-48	1	67	65	2
ST-49	1	67	63	4
ST-50	1	77	68	9
ST-52	1	68	61	7
ST-53	1	77	76	1
R135	7	74	60	14
R136	10	57	55	2
R137	1	64	57	7
R138	10	51	50	1
R139	4	73	63	10
R140	1	58	56	2
R141	8	76	65	11
R144	1	79	69	10
R145	1	75	66	9
R146	5	57	54	3
R147	4	65	62	3
R148	1	64	60	4
R149	3	66	63	3
R150	5	66	63	3
R151	4	67	65	2
R152	5	68	65	3



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 1C				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R155	6	63	62	1
R156	6	68	65	3
R157	7	62	62	0
R158	7	62	62	0
R159	5	61	59	2
R160	6	72	60	12
R164	6	59	56	3
R165	8	70	67	3
R166	5	61	58	3
R167	5	66	65	1
R168	8	71	71	0
R169	1	71	69	2

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-27. Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-46	1	77	63	14
ST-48	1	67	64	3
ST-49	1	67	63	4
ST-50	1	77	68	9
ST-52	1	68	61	7
ST-53	1	77	76	1
R135	7	73	59	14
R136	10	57	55	2
R137	1	63	56	7
R138	10	51	50	1
R139	4	73	63	10
R140	1	58	56	2
R141	8	76	65	11
R144	1	79	69	10
R145	1	75	66	9
R146	5	57	53	4
R147	4	65	61	4
R148	1	64	60	4
R149	3	64	62	2
R150	5	65	62	3
R151	4	66	64	2
R152	5	68	65	3
R155	6	63	62	1
R156	6	68	65	3
R157	7	62	62	0





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq(h)}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R158	7	62	62	0
R159	5	61	59	2
R160	6	72	61	11
R164	6	59	56	3
R165	8	70	67	3
R166	5	61	58	3
R167	5	66	65	1
R168	8	71	71	0
R169	1	71	71	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-28. Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq(h)}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-46	1	78	63	15
ST-48	1	67	65	2
ST-49	1	67	63	4



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-50	1	77	68	9
ST-52	1	68	62	6
ST-53	1	77	76	1
R135	7	73	59	14
R136	10	57	55	2
R137	1	63	56	7
R138	10	51	50	1
R139	4	73	63	10
R140	1	58	56	2
R141	8	76	65	11
R144	1	79	69	10
R145	1	75	66	9
R146	5	57	53	4
R147	4	65	62	3
R148	1	64	60	4
R149	3	66	63	3
R150	5	66	63	3
R151	4	67	64	3
R152	5	68	65	3
R155	6	63	62	1
R156	6	68	65	3
R157	7	62	62	0
R158	7	62	62	0
R159	5	61	59	2
R160	6	72	60	12
R164	6	59	57	2



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R165	8	70	69	1
R166	5	61	59	2
R167	5	66	66	0
R168	8	71	71	0
R169	1	71	70	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-29. Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-46	1	77	63	14
ST-48	1	66	64	2
ST-49	1	67	63	4
ST-50	1	77	67	10
ST-52	1	67	60	7



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-53	1	77	76	1
R135	7	73	59	14
R136	10	57	55	2
R137	1	63	56	7
R138	10	51	50	1
R139	4	73	64	9
R140	1	58	56	2
R141	8	76	65	11
R144	1	79	69	10
R145	1	75	65	10
R146	5	57	53	4
R147	4	65	61	4
R148	1	63	59	4
R149	3	66	62	4
R150	5	66	62	4
R151	4	67	63	4
R152	5	68	64	4
R155	6	63	60	3
R156	6	68	64	4
R157	7	62	61	1
R158	7	62	61	1
R159	5	61	59	2
R160	6	72	61	11



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers F.1, F.2, and F.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=14 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R164	6	59	56	3
R165	8	70	67	3
R166	5	61	58	3
R167	5	66	65	1
R168	8	71	71	0
R169	1	71	71	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

### *South of Parkside Drive (Evaluated Barrier 3)*

Outdoor areas of the residences east of I-680, represented by Receptor R154, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5. Evaluated Barrier 3 was modeled along the I-680 northbound travel lanes, extending approximately 530 feet.

Table 2.2.7-30 shows the Design Year (2047) Alternative 1C, 2, and 5 Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 3 at various design heights. Evaluated Barrier 3 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptor R154, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 3.



**Table 2.2.7-30. Evaluated Barrier 3 Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 3 Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R154	3	66	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	65	1	65	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*South of Oakvale Road Overpass (Evaluated Barrier 4)*

Outdoor areas of the residences east of I-680, represented by Receptors ST-54, R171, and R174, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 4 was modeled along the I-680 northbound travel lanes, extending approximately 410 feet.

Table 2.2.7-31 through Table 2.2.7-34 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 4 at various design heights for each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 4 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 12 feet but would not meet the 7 dB design goal, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 4.

**Table 2.2.7-31. Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-54	2	68	65	3	64	4	63	5	63	5	63	5	62	6
R170	1	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R171	1	66	64	2	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1





Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R172	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
R174	1	73	71	2	71	2	70	3	69	4	68	5	68	5
R176	1	62	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1
R177	4	56	56	0	56	0	56	0	55	1	55	1	55	1
R178	4	58	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	57	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-32. Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-54	2	66	63	3	62	4	62	4	61	5	61	5	61	5
R170	1	64	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1
R171	1	66	64	2	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R172	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
R174	1	73	71	2	71	2	70	3	69	4	68	5	68	5
R176	1	60	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0
R177	4	55	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R178	4	58	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-33. Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-54	2	68	65	3	64	4	64	4	63	5	63	5	62	6
R170	1	65	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R171	1	66	64	2	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R172	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
R174	1	74	72	2	72	2	71	3	70	4	69	5	69	5
R176	1	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
R177	4	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0
R178	4	58	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0	58	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-34. Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 4 Alternative 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-54	2	66	63	3	62	4	62	4	61	5	61	5	61	5
R170	1	64	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1	63	1
R171	1	66	64	2	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1	64	1
R172	4	62	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
R174	1	73	71	2	71	2	70	3	69	4	68	5	68	5
R176	1	60	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0
R177	4	55	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0
R178	4	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

### At State Route 24

The outdoor areas of the residences south of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, along the eastbound SR-24 On-ramp to southbound I-680, represented by Receptors ST-57, R183, R184, R186, R461, R463, R464, and R465, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternatives 1C and 3. Receptors in this area are shielded from I-680 by an existing, 10-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier G.1) located along the SR-24 eastbound ramp onto southbound I-680 and two 12-foot-high noise barriers (Existing Barriers G.2 and G.3) located along the I-680 southbound Olympic Boulevard Off-ramp.

As part of Alternatives 1C and 3, a portion of Barrier G.1 would be removed and replaced with Barrier 24-RW2, and Barrier G.2 would be removed and replaced by Barrier 24-RW4. Two additional barriers were modeled (Barrier SW No. 1 and Evaluated Barrier 5). Barrier 5 was modeled along the proposed, realigned I-680 southbound travel lanes, extending approximately 910 feet. Barrier 24-RW2 was modeled along the proposed realigned eastbound SR-24 ramp onto southbound I-680, extending approximately 860 feet. Barrier SW No. 1 was modeled along the realigned southbound I-680 lanes, extending approximately 740 feet. Barrier 24-RW4 was



modeled along the realigned southbound I-680 off-ramp to Olympic Boulevard, extending approximately 500 feet.

Table 2.2.7-35 and Table 2.2.7-36 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Barriers 5, SW No. 1, 24-RW2, and 24-RW4 at various design heights under Alternatives 1C and 3, respectively. Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 8 feet but would not meet the 7 dB design goal. Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 12 feet and meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, these barriers were carried forward into the Draft NADR under Alternatives 1C and 3 and are further described below in the *Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Decision* section. The reasonable allowance calculated for a barrier height of 16 feet is \$535,000.

**Table 2.2.7-35. Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-57	2	66	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	64	2	64	2
R183	2	73	71	2	70	3	69	4	68	5	68	5	67	6
R184	4	68	68	0	68	0	68	0	67	1	66	2	66	2
R185	3	64	64	0	64	0	64	0	64	0	63	1	63	1
R186	2	67	67	0	67	0	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2
R461	3	70	69	1	69	1	68	2	67	3	65	5	63	7
R462	2	64	64	0	64	0	63	1	63	1	62	2	61	3
R463	2	69	69	0	68	1	68	1	67	2	66	3	65	4
R464	5	68	67	1	67	1	67	1	66	2	65	3	64	4
R465	2	71	71	0	70	1	70	1	70	1	69	2	69	2

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-36. Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Barriers 5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, and 24-RW4 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-57	2	66	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	64	2	64	2
R183	2	71	69	2	68	3	67	4	66	5	66	5	65	6
R184	4	69	69	0	69	0	69	0	68	1	67	2	67	2
R185	3	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	64	1
R186	2	68	67	1	67	1	66	2	66	2	65	3	65	3
R461	3	71	70	1	70	1	69	2	68	3	66	5	64	7
R462	2	65	65	0	65	0	64	1	64	1	63	2	62	3
R463	2	69	69	0	68	1	68	1	67	2	66	3	65	4
R464	5	68	67	1	67	1	67	1	66	2	65	3	64	4
R465	2	71	71	0	70	1	70	1	70	1	69	2	69	2

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

Unlike Alternatives 1C and 3, Alternatives 2 and 5 would not realign the I-680/SR-24 Interchange. Receptors R184, R461, R463, R464, and R465 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 2. Receptors R184, R461, R463, and R464, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 5.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-37 and Table 2.2.7-38, existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 were calculated to provide 7 dB of noise reduction at R183 under Alternatives 2 and 5. Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 meet the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, these barriers are not studied further in this assessment under Alternatives 2 or 5.

**Table 2.2.7-37. Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=10 to 12 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-57	2	66	63	3
R183	2	72	65	7
R184	4	68	67	1
R185	3	64	62	2
R186	2	69	65	4
R461	3	69	67	2
R462	2	63	61	2
R463	2	70	68	2
R464	5	68	68	0
R465	2	68	66	2

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-38. Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=10 to 12 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-57	2	66	63	3
R183	2	72	65	7





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barriers G.1, G.2, and G.3 Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=10 to 12 feet	
			$L_{eq[h]}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R184	4	68	67	1
R185	3	64	62	2
R186	2	69	65	4
R461	3	69	67	2
R462	2	63	61	2
R463	2	70	68	2
R464	5	68	68	0
R465	2	68	65	3

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

### South of Olympic Boulevard (Evaluated Barrier 6)

Outdoor areas of the residences south of Olympic Boulevard east of I-680, represented by Receptors R197, R198, and R200, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 6 was modeled along the I-680 northbound SR-24 westbound ramp, extending approximately 1,300 feet.

Table 2.2.7-39 through Table 2.2.7-42 show the Design Year 2047 Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 6 at various design heights for each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 6 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 6 feet and would meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at a minimum height of 10 feet. As such, it is further described below in the *Preliminary Traffic Noise Abatement Decision* section. The reasonable allowance calculated for a barrier height of 10 feet is \$1,712,000 and for a barrier height of 12 feet or greater is \$2,140,000.



**Table 2.2.7-39. Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-56	4	65	63	2	62	3	61	4	60	5	60	5	59	6
R196	1	54	54	0	54	0	53	1	53	1	52	2	52	2
R197	3	72	68	4	67	5	65	7	65	7	64	8	63	9
R198	3	74	68	5	67	6	65	8	64	9	64	9	63	10
R199	1	55	55	0	54	1	54	1	54	1	53	2	53	2
R200	10	72	68	3	66	5	66	5	65	6	65	6	64	7

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-40. Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-56	4	65	63	2	62	3	61	4	60	5	60	5	59	6
R196	1	54	54	0	54	0	53	1	53	1	52	2	52	2
R197	3	72	68	4	67	5	65	7	65	7	64	8	63	9
R198	3	74	68	6	67	7	65	9	64	10	64	10	63	11
R199	1	55	55	0	54	1	54	1	54	1	53	2	53	2
R200	10	72	68	4	66	6	66	6	65	7	65	7	64	8

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-41. Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 3															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
ST-56	4	64	62	2	61	3	60	4	59	5	59	5	58	6	
R196	1	53	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1	51	2	51	2	
R197	3	71	67	4	66	5	64	7	64	7	63	8	62	9	
R198	3	74	69	5	68	6	66	8	65	9	65	9	64	10	
R199	1	55	55	0	54	1	54	1	54	1	53	2	53	2	
R200	10	71	68	3	66	5	66	5	65	6	65	6	64	7	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-42. Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 6 Alternative 5															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
ST-56	4	63	61	2	60	3	59	4	58	5	58	5	57	6	
R196	1	53	53	0	53	0	52	1	52	1	51	2	51	2	
R197	3	70	66	4	65	5	63	7	63	7	62	8	61	9	
R198	3	73	68	5	67	6	65	8	64	9	64	9	63	10	
R199	1	55	55	0	54	1	54	1	54	1	53	2	53	2	
R200	10	71	68	3	66	5	66	5	65	6	65	6	64	7	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



***Between Olympic Boulevard and I-680 Southbound S. Main Street Off-ramp (Existing Barrier H):***

Outdoor areas of the residences south of I-680 between Olympic Boulevard and the S. Main Street Off-ramp were identified for noise abatement. Receptors R187 and R188 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternative 1C. Receptors ST-58 through ST-59, R187 through R195, and R202 through R209 have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor R187 under Alternative 2. Receptors ST-58, ST-59, and R187 through R209, have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at R187 under Alternative 3. Receptors ST-58, ST-59, R187 through R195, and R202 through R209, have been identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor R187 under Alternative 5. Receptors R187 and R188 are shielded from I-680 by an existing, 12-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier H) located along the I-680 southbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-43 through Table 2.2.7-46, Existing Barrier H would feasibly abate traffic noise and meet the 7 dB design goal at its existing height of 12 feet. Based on these results, this barrier is not studied further in this assessment.

**Table 2.2.7-43. Existing Barrier H Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 1C				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq(h)}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-58	1	63	62	1
ST-59	1	69	59	10
R187	3	72	72	0
R188	4	67	66	1
R189	6	64	63	1
R190	4	60	59	1
R191	3	67	59	8
R192	1	71	60	11
R193	4	67	62	5
R194	4	69	62	7



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 1C				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R195	3	71	61	10
R202	1	71	64	7
R203	4	67	64	3
R204	6	67	64	3
R205	5	69	60	9
R206	1	70	64	6
R207	5	67	62	5
R208	4	65	61	4
R209	6	66	62	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-44. Existing Barrier H Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-58	1	62	61	1
ST-59	1	69	59	10
R187	3	72	71	1
R188	4	66	64	2
R189	6	64	62	2
R190	4	59	58	1



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R191	3	68	59	9
R192	1	72	60	12
R193	4	68	61	7
R194	4	69	61	8
R195	3	71	61	10
R202	1	70	63	7
R203	4	68	62	6
R204	6	68	63	5
R205	5	69	61	8
R206	1	70	63	7
R207	5	67	62	5
R208	4	65	61	4
R209	6	65	60	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-45. Existing Barrier H Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-58	1	62	61	1
ST-59	1	69	59	10
R187	3	72	71	1





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R188	4	66	64	2
R189	6	64	62	2
R190	4	59	58	1
R191	3	68	59	9
R192	1	72	60	12
R193	4	68	61	7
R194	4	69	61	8
R195	3	71	61	10
R202	1	70	63	7
R203	4	68	62	6
R204	6	68	63	5
R205	5	69	61	8
R206	1	70	63	7
R207	5	67	62	5
R208	4	65	61	4
R209	6	65	60	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-46. Existing Barrier H Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier H Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq(h)}$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-58	1	62	62	0
ST-59	1	69	59	10
R187	3	73	72	1
R188	4	65	64	1
R189	6	63	62	1
R190	4	59	58	1
R191	3	70	59	11
R192	1	72	60	12
R193	4	67	61	6
R194	4	69	61	8
R195	3	71	61	10
R202	1	70	63	7
R203	4	67	62	5
R204	6	67	63	4
R205	5	68	60	8
R206	1	70	63	7
R207	5	67	62	5
R208	4	65	61	4
R209	6	65	60	5

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



***Between Lilac Drive and I-680 Southbound S. Main Street Off-ramp (Evaluated Barrier 7)***

The outdoor areas of Las Lomas High School were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC. Receptors R220, R221, and R222 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor R221 under Alternatives 1C and 3. Receptors ST-62, R221, and R222 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternatives 2 and 5.

Evaluated Barrier 7 was modeled along the I-680 northbound travel lanes, extending approximately 790 feet. Table 2.2.7-47 through Table 2.2.7-50 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 7 at various design heights for each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 7 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a height of 14 feet but would not meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 7.

**Table 2.2.7-47. Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-62	0	68	67	1	67	1	66	2	66	2	66	2	66	2
R220	1	66	64	2	64	2	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4
R221	1	68	65	3	65	3	64	4	64	4	63	5	63	5
R222	1	69	67	2	67	2	66	3	66	3	65	4	65	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-48. Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 2														
Receptor ID	I.D.	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-62	0	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2
R220	1	65	63	2	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3	61	4
R221	1	66	63	3	63	3	62	4	62	4	61	5	61	5
R222	1	68	66	2	66	2	65	3	65	3	64	4	64	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-49. Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 3														
Receptor ID	I.D.	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-62	0	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	65	2	65	2
R220	1	66	64	2	64	2	64	2	63	3	63	3	62	4
R221	1	68	65	3	65	3	64	4	64	4	63	5	63	5
R222	1	69	67	2	67	2	66	3	66	3	65	4	65	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.



**Table 2.2.7-50. Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 7 Alternative 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-62	0	66	65	1	65	1	64	2	64	2	64	2	64	2
R220	1	64	62	2	62	2	62	2	61	3	61	3	60	4
R221	1	66	63	3	63	3	62	4	62	4	61	5	61	5
R222	1	68	66	2	66	2	65	3	65	3	64	4	64	4

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

***Between I-680 Southbound S. Main Street Off-ramp and North of Rudgear Road (Existing Barrier I)***

Outdoor areas of the residences south of I-680 between Olympic Boulevard and the S. Main Street Off-ramp, represented by Receptors ST-60, R211, R215, and R216, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all Build Alternatives. Receptors in the area are shielded from I-680 by an existing, 12-foot-high noise barrier (Existing Barrier I) located along I-680 southbound travel lanes.

As summarized in Table 2.2.7-51 through Table 2.2.7-53, Existing Barrier I meets the noise reduction standard for feasibility and the noise reduction design goal. Based on these results, this barrier is not studied further in this assessment.

**Table 2.2.7-51. Existing Barrier I Alternative 1C and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier I Alternatives 1C and 3				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq}[n]$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-60	1	74	70	4
R209	6	67	62	5
R210	6	67	62	5
R211	4	72	67	5
R212	6	69	63	6
R213	6	71	65	6
R214	7	60	58	2
R215	6	79	71	8
R216	3	77	71	6
R217	5	68	63	5
R218	3	66	65	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-52. Existing Barrier I Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier I Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			$L_{eq}[n]$	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-60	1	74	69	5
R209	6	64	60	4





Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier I Alternative 2				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R210	6	66	61	5
R211	4	71	66	5
R212	6	68	62	6
R213	6	68	63	5
R214	7	60	57	3
R215	6	78	70	8
R216	3	75	70	5
R217	5	67	62	5
R218	3	66	65	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-53. Existing Barrier I Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier I Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq(h)</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-60	1	74	69	5
R209	6	64	60	4
R210	6	65	60	5
R211	4	71	66	5
R212	6	67	61	6
R213	6	68	63	5



Barrier I.D.: Existing Barrier I Alternative 5				
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Existing Wall H=12 feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R214	7	58	56	2
R215	6	78	70	8
R216	3	75	70	5
R217	5	66	61	5
R218	3	65	64	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*North of Rudgear Road (Barrier RSM-RW2):*

Outdoor areas of the residences north of Rudgear Road, represented by Receptors ST-63, R224, R225, R226, and R227, are shielded from I-680 by an existing, 12-foot-high noise barrier located along I-680 northbound travel lanes. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would remove and replace a portion of the exiting noise barrier with Barrier RSM-RW2.

Table 2.2.7-54 and Table 2.2.7-55 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Barrier RSM-RW2 at various design heights under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Barrier RSM-RW2 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Barrier RSM-RW2.

**Table 2.2.7-54. Barrier RSM-RW2 Alternative 1C**

Barrier I.D.: Barrier RSM-RW2 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-63	49	71	71	0	70	1	70	1	69	2	68	3	67	4



Barrier I.D.: Barrier RSM-RW2 Alternative 1C

Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R224	1	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	63	2
R225	32	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	63	2	63	2
R226	1	74	74	0	74	0	74	0	74	0	74	0	74	0
R227	10	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-55. Barrier RSM-RW2 Alternatives 2 and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Barrier RSM-RW2 Alternative 3

Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-63	49	71	71	0	70	1	70	1	69	2	68	3	67	4
R224	1	64	62	2	62	2	62	2	62	2	61	3	60	4
R225	32	65	65	0	65	0	65	0	64	1	63	2	63	2
R226	1	73	73	0	73	0	73	0	73	0	73	0	73	0
R227	10	57	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	57	0

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*At Rudgear Road Along Southbound I-680 (Evaluated Barrier 8)*

Iron Horse Regional Trail (ST-61) and nearby residences were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC. Receptors ST-61 and R230 were identified for noise



abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under Alternatives 1C and 2. Receptors ST-61, R218, R219, and R230 were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptors ST-61 and R230 under Alternatives 3 and 5

Evaluated Barrier 8 was modeled along the I-680 southbound travel lanes, extending approximately 1,085 feet. Table 2.2.7-56 through Table 2.2.7-58 show the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 8 at various design heights for each Build Alternative. Evaluated Barrier 8 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted receptor ST-61, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 8.

**Table 2.2.7-56. Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternatives 1C and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternatives 1C and 3														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-61	0	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	64	3	63	4
R218	3	65	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3
R219	2	65	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	61	4
R230	1	67	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-57. Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternative 2**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-61	0	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	64	3	63	4



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternative 1C														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R218	3	65	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	62	3
R219	2	65	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	61	4
R230	1	67	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**Table 2.2.7-58. Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternative 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 8 Alternative 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq[h]</sub>	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
ST-61	0	67	66	1	66	1	65	2	65	2	64	3	63	4
R218	3	64	63	1	63	1	62	2	62	2	61	3	61	3
R219	2	65	64	1	64	1	63	2	63	2	62	3	61	4
R230	1	67	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1	66	1

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**At Rudgear Road Along Northbound I-680 (Evaluated Barrier 9)**

Outdoor areas of the residences east of S. Broadway, north of Rudgear Road, represented by Receptors R228 and R229, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor R228 under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Evaluated Barrier 9 was modeled along the I-680 northbound travel lanes, extending approximately 575 feet.



Table 2.2.7-59 shows the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 9 at various design heights under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Evaluated Barrier 9 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted Receptors R228 or R229, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 9.

**Table 2.2.7-59. Evaluated Barrier 9 Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 9 Alternatives 1C and 3															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
R228	4	66	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	65	1	
R229	3	62	61	1	61	1	61	1	61	1	60	2	60	2	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

**North of Stone Valley Road (Evaluated Barrier 10)**

Outdoor areas of the residences east of northbound I-680, represented by Receptors ST-70, ST-72, R262, and R263, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC at Receptor ST-70 under all Build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 10 was modeled along northbound I-680 ROW, extending approximately 800 feet.

Table 2.2.7-60 shows the Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 10 at various design heights. Evaluated Barrier 10 would feasibly abate traffic noise at a minimum height of 10 feet and would meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at a minimum height of 14 feet. Therefore, Barrier 10 was carried forward into the Draft NADR and is further described below in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Decision* section. The reasonable allowance calculated for a barrier height of 14 feet or greater was \$146,000.





**Table 2.2.7-60. Evaluated Barrier 10 Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 10 Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
ST-70	1	70	67	3	66	4	65	5	64	6	63	7	63	7	
ST-72	2	55	55	0	54	1	54	1	54	1	54	1	54	1	
R262	2	48	48	0	48	0	48	0	48	0	48	0	48	0	
R263	1	56	56	0	56	0	55	1	55	1	55	1	55	1	

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

*South of Stone Valley Road (Evaluated Barrier 11)*

Outdoor areas of the residences east of northbound I-680, represented by Receptors ST-77 and R272, were identified for noise abatement because modeled Design Year (2047) Build condition noise levels would approach or exceed the NAC under all build Alternatives. Evaluated Barrier 11 was modeled along I-680 northbound ROW, extending approximately 1,095 feet.

Table 2.2.7-61 shows the 2047 Alternative 1C Build noise levels and insertion loss for Evaluated Barrier 11 at various design heights. Evaluated Barrier 11 would not feasibly abate traffic noise or meet the 7 dB noise reduction goal at impacted Receptors ST-77 or R272, even at a height of 16 feet. Therefore, reasonable allowances were not calculated for Evaluated Barrier 11.

**Table 2.2.7-61. Evaluated Barrier 11 Alternative 1C, 2, 3, 5**

Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 11 Alternative 1C, 2, 3, and 5															
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet		
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	
ST-77	1	69	69	0	69	0	68	1	68	1	68	1	67	2	



Barrier I.D.: Evaluated Barrier 11 Alternative 1C, 2, 3, and 5														
Receptor ID	Units Represented	Design Year (2047) Noise Level w/o Wall	With Wall H=6 feet		With Wall H=8 feet		With Wall H=10 feet		With Wall H=12 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=14 <sup>2</sup> feet		With Wall H=16 <sup>2</sup> feet	
			L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> [h]	I.L. <sup>1</sup>
R272	1	70	70	0	70	0	68	2	68	2	68	2	67	3

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> I.L. = Insertion Loss; H = Height; w/o = Without; I.D. = Identification

<sup>2</sup> Barrier breaks line-of-sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

### Preliminary Reasonableness Analyses Summary

#### Build Alternative 1C

Fourteen potential noise barriers were evaluated preliminarily for feasibility and acoustical reasonableness under Alternative 1C. Of the barriers evaluated, only Existing Barrier E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/Barrier E.3/SW No.3; Evaluated Barrier 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4; Evaluated Barrier 6; and Evaluated Barrier 10 achieved Caltrans’ design goal (i.e., minimum 7 dB reduction for at least one receptor). Table 2.2.7-62 provides a summary of the reasonable monetary allowances for each of these barriers. Cost-effectiveness, which was assessed and documented in the Draft NADR, is further described below in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Decision* section.

**Table 2.2.7-62. Summary of Acoustically Feasible Noise Barriers and Reasonable Monetary Allowances under Alternative 1C**

Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location <sup>a</sup>	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (L <sub>eq</sub> [h])	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Along NB I-680 from Monument Boulevard to SR-242 Interchange	66	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000



Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location <sup>a</sup>	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (L <sub>eq[h]</sub> )	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	I-680/SR-24 Interchange along SB I-680, EB SR-24, and Off-ramp	70–73	16 <sup>b</sup>	6–7	5	\$730,000
Evaluated Barrier 2 <sup>d</sup>	Between Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive	56–71	12	5	14	\$2,044,000
			14	6	14	\$2,044,000
			16	6	17	\$2,482,000
Evaluated Barrier 6	I-680 Northbound SR-24 WB Ramp	65–72	10	6–9	16	\$2,336,000
			12 <sup>b</sup>	5–10	20	\$2,920,000
			14 <sup>b</sup>	5–10	20	\$2,920,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	6–11	20	\$2,920,000
Evaluated Barrier 10	North of Stone Valley Road along NB I-680	70	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: NB = northbound, RW = retaining wall, SB = southbound, SR = State Route, SW = soundwall, WB = westbound

<sup>a</sup> Barrier lengths are based on linear approximations used for purposes of noise modeling in TNM 2.5. Actual lengths may differ slightly due to barrier curvature, etc.

<sup>b</sup> Barrier breaks line of sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

<sup>c</sup> Insertion loss is the reduction in noise due to the noise barrier.

<sup>d</sup> Barrier 2 was not included in Noise Study Report Table ES-1.

<sup>e</sup> Based on base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.

### Build Alternative 2

Thirteen potential noise barriers were evaluated preliminarily for feasibility and acoustical reasonableness under Alternative 2. Of the barriers evaluated, only Existing Barrier E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/Barrier E.3/SW No.3; Evaluated Barrier 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4; Evaluated Barrier 6; and Evaluated Barrier 10 achieved Caltrans’ design goal (i.e., minimum 7 dB reduction for at least one receptor). Table 2.2.7-63 provides a

summary of the reasonable monetary allowances for each of these barriers. Cost-effectiveness, which was assessed and documented in the Draft NADR, is further described in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Decision* section.

**Table 2.2.7-63. Summary of Acoustically Feasible Noise Barriers and Reasonable Monetary Allowances under Alternative 2**

Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location <sup>a</sup>	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (L <sub>eq[h]</sub> )	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Along NB I-680 from Monument Boulevard to SR-242 Interchange	66	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000
Evaluated Barrier 2 <sup>d</sup>	Between Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive	57–65	12	5	5	\$730,000
			14	6	17	\$2,482,000
			16	6	27	\$3,942,000
Evaluated Barrier 6	I-680 northbound SR-24 westbound ramp	65–72	8	6-7	16	\$2,336,000
			10	6-9	16	\$2,336,000
			12 <sup>b</sup>	5–10	20	\$2,920,000
			14 <sup>b</sup>	5–10	20	\$2,920,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	6–11	20	\$2,920,000
Evaluated Barrier 10	North of Stone Valley Road along NB I-680	70	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: NB = northbound, RW = retaining wall, SB = southbound, SR = State Route, SW = soundwall, WB = westbound

<sup>a</sup> Barrier lengths are based on linear approximations used for purposes of noise modeling in TNM 2.5. Actual lengths may differ slightly due to barrier curvature, etc.

<sup>b</sup> Barrier breaks line of sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

<sup>c</sup> Insertion loss is the reduction in noise due to the noise barrier.

<sup>d</sup> Barrier 2 was not included in Noise Study Report Table ES-1.

<sup>e</sup> Based on base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.



### Build Alternative 3

Thirteen potential noise barriers were evaluated preliminarily for feasibility and acoustical reasonableness under Alternative 3. Of the barriers evaluated, only Existing Barrier E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/Barrier E.3/SW No.3; Evaluated Barrier 5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4; Evaluated Barrier 6; and Evaluated Barrier 10 achieved Caltrans' design goal (i.e., minimum 7 dB reduction for at least one receptor). Table 2.2.7-64 provides a summary of the reasonable monetary allowances for each of these barriers. Cost-effectiveness, which was assessed and documented in the Draft NADR, is further described below in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Decision* section.

**Table 2.2.7-64. Summary of Acoustically Feasible Noise Barriers and Reasonable Monetary Allowances under Alternative 3**

Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location a	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (Leq[h])	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
Existing Barrier E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Along NB I-680 from Monument Boulevard to SR-242 Interchange	66	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	7	\$1,022,000
Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	I-680/SR-24 Interchange along SB I-680, EB SR-24, and off-ramp	71	16 <sup>b</sup>	6-7	5	\$730,000
Evaluated Barrier 2 <sup>d</sup>	Between Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive	57–65	12	5	5	\$730,000
			14	6	17	\$2,482,000
			16	6	27	\$3,942,000
Evaluated Barrier 6	I-680 northbound SR-24 westbound ramp	64–74	10	5–8	16	\$2,336,000
			12 <sup>b</sup>	5–9	20	\$2,920,000
			14 <sup>b</sup>	5–9	20	\$2,920,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	6–10	20	\$2,920,000
Evaluated Barrier 10	North of Stone Valley Road along NB I-680	70	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000



Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location a	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (Leq[h])	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
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Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: NB = northbound, RW = retaining wall, SB = southbound, SR = State Route, SW = soundwall, WB = westbound

<sup>a</sup> Barrier lengths are based on linear approximations used for purposes of noise modeling in TNM 2.5. Actual lengths may differ slightly due to barrier curvature, etc.

<sup>b</sup> Barrier breaks line of sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

<sup>c</sup> Insertion loss is the reduction in noise due to the noise barrier.

<sup>d</sup> Barrier 2 was not included in Noise Study Report Table ES-1.

<sup>e</sup> Based on base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.

### Build Alternative 5

Ten potential were evaluated preliminarily for feasibility and acoustical reasonableness under Alternative 5. Of the barriers evaluated, only Evaluated Barrier 6 and Evaluated Barrier 10 achieved Caltrans’ design goal (i.e., minimum 7 dB reduction for at least one receptor). Table 2.2.7-65 provides a summary of the reasonable monetary allowances for each of these barriers. Cost-effectiveness, which was assessed and documented in the Draft NADR, is further described in the *Preliminary Noise Abatement Decision* section.

**Table 2.2.7-65. Summary of Acoustically Feasible Noise Barriers and Reasonable Monetary Allowances under Alternative 5**

Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location a	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (Leq[h])	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
Evaluated Barrier 2 <sup>d</sup>	Between Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive	57–65	12	5	5	\$730,000
			14	6	17	\$2,482,000
			16	6	27	\$3,942,000
Evaluated Barrier 6	I-680 northbound SR-24 westbound ramp	63–73	10	5–8	16	\$2,336,000
			12 <sup>b</sup>	5–9	20	\$2,920,000
			14 <sup>b</sup>	5–9	20	\$2,920,000





Barrier ID	Approximate Stationing/ Location <sup>a</sup>	Noise Level w/o Barrier at Benefited Receptors (L <sub>eq</sub> [h])	Barrier Height (feet)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Number of Benefited Receptors	Total Reasonable Monetary Allowance
			16 <sup>b</sup>	6–10	20	\$2,920,000
Evaluated Barrier 10	North of Stone Valley Road along NB I-680	70	14 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000
			16 <sup>b</sup>	7	1	\$146,000

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2024)

Notes: NB = northbound, RW = retaining wall, SB = southbound, SR = State Route, SW = soundwall, WB = westbound

<sup>a</sup> Barrier lengths are based on linear approximations used for purposes of noise modeling in TNM 2.5. Actual lengths may differ slightly due to barrier curvature, etc.

<sup>b</sup> Barrier breaks line of sight between 11.5-foot-high truck stack and 5-foot-high receptor.

<sup>c</sup> Insertion loss is the reduction in noise due to the noise barrier.

<sup>d</sup> Barrier 2 was not included in Noise Study Report Table ES-1.

<sup>e</sup> Based on base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.

### Preliminary Noise Abatement Decisions

As described above, four barriers/systems were identified as acoustically feasible under Alternatives 1C and 3, three barriers/systems were identified as acoustically feasible under Alternative 2, and two barriers were identified as acoustically feasible under Alternative 5. Although not acoustically feasible, Barrier 2 was also considered for reasonableness under all Build Alternatives because of prior commitments to evaluate a barrier at this location. Table 2.2.7-66 to Table 2.2.7-69 summarizes acoustical feasibility, number of residences benefited, total reasonableness allowance, engineer’s cost estimate for the abatement, and comparison of cost versus allowance for these barriers/systems. The evaluated noise barrier locations are provided in Appendix J.2.

Based on the studies completed to date, Caltrans intends to incorporate noise abatement in the form of barriers at the following locations:

- Noise Barrier System (E.1/SW No. 4/M242-RW1/E.3/SW No. 3), with respective length of 1,399 feet and an average height of 14 feet for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Calculations based on preliminary design data show that the barrier(s) will reduce noise levels by 5 to 7 dB for 7 residences at a cost of \$963,374, which is less than Caltrans’ cost allowance of \$1,022,000. This system would also replace existing soundwalls in-kind. A barrier height of 16 feet could be considered reasonable because construction cost or \$1,103,306 is within 10 percent of Caltrans’ cost

allowance; but is not recommended because it would benefit the same number of receivers as a 14-foot sound barrier system.

- Noise Barrier System (5/24-RW2/SW No.1/24-RW4), with respective length of 3,040 feet and average height of 16 feet under Alternatives 1C and 3. Calculations based on preliminary design data show that the barrier(s) will reduce noise levels by 5 to 7 dB for 5 residences at a cost of \$3,933,743. Although this system would meet the design goal of 7 dB, it would exceed Caltrans' cost allowance of \$730,000. This system is recommended because Alternatives 1C and 3 would remove existing soundwalls at this location, and this system would replace existing soundwalls in-kind.
- Evaluated Barrier 2, with respective lengths of 1,711 feet under Alternative 1C and 2,344 feet under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5, and an average height of approximately 16 feet. Evaluated Barrier 2 is found to be reasonable to construct based on the cost perspective for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. However, Caltrans is recommending the barrier for construction for all Build Alternatives due to the prior commitment to construct the barrier in the *I-680 Southbound HOV Gap Closure Project* (SCH# 2013102020), provided that a majority of the benefited receptors are in favor of the barrier's construction.

Although Evaluated Barriers 6 and 10 would either be acoustical feasibility (5 dB noise reduction) or meet the design goal (7 dB noise reduction), these barriers would exceed Caltrans' cost allowance and are not recommended for construction. These measures may change based on input received from the public. If conditions have changed substantially during final design, noise abatement may not be constructed. The final decision on noise abatement will be made upon completion of the Project design.



**Table 2.2.7-66. Summary of Abatement Key Information (Alternative 1C)**

Barrier ID <sup>1</sup>	Type and No. of Benefited Land Uses	Barrier Height/ Total Length	Acoustically Feasible?	Maximum Insertion Loss (dB)	Number of Benefited Residences	Design Goal Achieved?	Total Reasonable Allowance <sup>2</sup>	Estimated Construction Cost	Cost Less than Allowance?
E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, E.3, SW No. 3	7 SFR	14	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$963,374	YES
		16	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$1,103,306	NO <sup>3</sup>
5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, 24-RW4	5 SFR	16	YES	7	5	YES	\$730,000	\$3,933,743	NO
2	14–17 SFR/MFR	12	YES	5	14	NO	\$2,044,000	\$1,026,423	YES
		14	YES	6	14	NO	\$2,044,000	\$1,197,494	YES
		16	YES	6	17	NO	\$2,482,000	\$1,368,564	YES
6	16–20 MFR	10	YES	8	16	YES	\$2,336,000	\$4,055,438	NO
		12	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,197,706	NO
		14	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,339,974	NO
		16	YES	10	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,482,242	NO
10	1 SFR	14	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$575,703	NO
		16	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$657,946	NO

Source: (California Department of Transportation, 2023)

Notes: E.# = Existing Barrier, SW = Soundwall, RW = Retaining Wall, SFR = Single-Family Residence, MFR = Multi-Family Residence

1. All barriers are Evaluated Barriers unless otherwise noted as existing.

2. Based on the base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.

3. Could be considered reasonable because within 10%.



**Table 2.2.7-67. Summary of Abatement Key Information (Alternative 2)**

Barrier ID <sup>1</sup>	Type and No. of Benefited Land Uses	Barrier Height / Total Length	Acoustically Feasible?	Maximum Insertion Loss (dB)	Number of Benefited Residences	Design Goal Achieved?	Total Reasonable Allowance <sup>2</sup>	Estimated Construction Cost	Cost Less than Allowance?
E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, E.3, SW No. 3	7 SFR	14	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$963,374	YES
		16	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$1,103,306	NO <sup>3</sup>
2	5-27 SFR/MFR	12	YES	5	5	NO	\$730,000	\$3,323,900	NO
		14	YES	6	17	NO	\$2,482,000	\$3,558,300	NO
		16	YES	6	27	NO	\$3,942,000	\$3,792,700	YES
6	16-20 MFR	10	YES	9	16	YES	\$2,336,000	\$4,055,438	NO
		12	YES	10	20	YES	\$2,336,000	\$4,197,706	NO
		14	YES	10	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,339,974	NO
		16	YES	11	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,482,242	NO
10	1 SFR	14	YES	7	1	YES	\$2,920,000	\$575,703	NO
		16	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$657,946	NO

Source: (California Department of Transportation, 2023)

Notes: E.# = Existing Barrier, SW = Soundwall, RW = Retaining Wall, SFR = Single-Family Residence, MFR = Multi-Family Residence

1. All barriers are Evaluated Barriers unless otherwise noted as existing.

2. Based on the base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.

3. Could be considered reasonable because within 10%.



**Table 2.2.7-68. Summary of Abatement Key Information (Alternative 3)**

Barrier ID <sup>1</sup>	Type and No. of Benefited Land Uses	Barrier Height/ Total Length	Acoustically Feasible?	Maximum Insertion Loss (dB)	Number of Benefited Residences	Design Goal Achieved?	Total Reasonable Allowance <sup>2</sup>	Estimated Construction Cost	Cost Less than Allowance?
E.1, SW No. 4, M242-RW1, E.3, SW No. 3	7 SFR	14	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$963,374	YES
		16	YES	7	7	YES	\$1,022,000	\$1,103,306	NO <sup>3</sup>
5, 24-RW2, SW No.1, 24-RW4	5 SFR	16	YES	7	5	YES	\$730,000	\$3,933,743	NO
2	5–27 SFR/MFR	12	YES	5	5	NO	\$730,000	\$3,323,900	NO
		14	YES	6	17	NO	\$2,482,000	\$3,558,300	NO
		16	YES	6	27	NO	\$3,942,000	\$3,792,700	YES
6	16–20 MFR	10	YES	8	16	YES	\$2,336,000	\$4,055,438	NO
		12	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,197,706	NO
		14	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,339,974	NO
		16	YES	10	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,482,242	NO
10	1 SFR	14	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$575,703	NO
		16	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$657,946	NO

Source: (California Department of Transportation, 2023)

Notes: E.# = Existing Barrier, SW = Soundwall, RW = Retaining Wall, SFR = Single-Family Residence, MFR = Multi-Family Residence

1. All barriers are Evaluated Barriers unless otherwise noted as existing.
2. Based on the base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.
3. Could be considered reasonable because within 10%.



**Table 2.2.7-69. Summary of Abatement Key Information (Alternative 5)**

Barrier ID <sup>1</sup>	Type and No. of Benefited Land Uses	Barrier Height/ Total Length	Acoustically Feasible?	Maximum Insertion Loss (dB)	Number of Benefited Residences	Design Goal Achieved?	Total Reasonable Allowance <sup>2</sup>	Estimated Construction Cost	Cost Less than Allowance?
2	5–27 SFR/MFR	12	YES	5	5	NO	\$730,000	\$3,323,900	NO
		14	YES	6	17	NO	\$2,482,000	\$3,558,300	NO
		16	YES	6	27	NO	\$3,942,000	\$3,792,700	YES
6	16–20 MFR	10	YES	8	16	YES	\$2,336,000	\$4,055,438	NO
		12	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,197,706	NO
		14	YES	9	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,339,974	NO
		16	YES	10	20	YES	\$2,920,000	\$4,482,242	NO
10	1 SFR	14	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$575,703	NO
		16	YES	7	1	YES	\$146,000	\$657,946	NO

Source: (California Department of Transportation, 2023)

Notes: E.# = Existing Barrier, SW = Soundwall, RW = Retaining Wall, SFR = Single-Family Residence, MFR = Multi-Family Residence

1. All barriers are Evaluated Barriers unless otherwise noted as existing.

2. Based on the base reasonable allowance of \$146,000 per benefited receptor.



## Construction Measures

**NOI-1** During construction, CCTA, or their designated contractor, will make sure the following measures would be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary noise impacts.

- All construction equipment shall conform to SSP14-8.02, *Noise Control*, which requires noise not to exceed 52 dBA, preparation of a Noise Control Plan (NCP) and noise monitoring and letters would be sent to sensitive receptors as part of the NCP.
- When feasible, noise-generating construction activities shall be restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, with no construction occurring on weekends or holidays. If work is necessary outside of these hours, Caltrans would require the contractor to implement a construction noise monitoring program and provide additional noise controls where practical and feasible.
- Pile driving activities would be limited to daytime hours only.
- All internal combustion engine driven equipment would be equipped with manufacturer recommended intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.
- Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines would be strictly prohibited.
- Noise-generating equipment would be located as far as practical from sensitive receptors when sensitive receptors adjoin or are near the construction Project area.
- "Quiet" air compressors and other "quiet" equipment would be used where such technology exists.

**VIB-1** During construction, CCTA, or their designated contractor, would make sure that the following measures would be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary vibration impacts.

- Prohibit impact or vibratory pile driving methods when within the exceedance distances from vibration-sensitive structures, as listed in Table 2.2.7-4. Cast-in-Drilled Hole (CIDH) Piles are an alternative solution that causes lower vibration levels. CIDH Piles should be used where geological conditions permit their use.
  - CIDH piles would exceed the 0.25 inch per second PPV threshold for historic structures at 10 feet, the 0.3 inch per second PPV

threshold for older structures at 9 feet, and the 0.5 inch per second PPV threshold for newer construction structures at 6 feet.

- Avoid the use of vibratory rollers within 25 feet of sensitive structures. Static mode compaction would be used when construction activities are less than 25 feet from sensitive structures.
- Avoid dropping heavy objects or equipment within 25 feet of sensitive structures.
- Place operating equipment on the construction site as far as possible from vibration-sensitive receptors.
- Designate a person responsible for registering and investigating claims of excessive vibration. The contact information of such person would be clearly posted on the construction site.



## **2.2.8 Energy**

### **2.2.8.1 Regulatory Setting**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] Part 4332) requires the identification of all potentially significant impacts to the environment, including energy impacts.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15126.2(b) and Appendix F, Energy Conservation, require an analysis of a project's energy use to determine if the project may result in significant environmental effects due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary use of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources.

#### **Federal Plans, Policies, and Regulations**

##### ***Energy Policy Act of 1992***

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 aims to reduce U.S. dependence on petroleum and improve air quality by addressing all aspects of energy supply and demand, including alternative fuels, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

##### ***Energy Policy Act of 2005***

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 calls for the development of grant programs, demonstration and testing initiatives, and tax incentives that promote alternative fuels and advanced vehicle production and use. It also amends existing regulations, including fuel economy testing procedures and the Energy Policy Act of 1992 requirements for federal, State, and alternative fuel provider fleets.

##### ***Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007***

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 aims to improve vehicle fuel economy and reduce U.S. dependence on petroleum. The Act also includes provisions to increase the supply of renewable alternative fuel sources by setting a mandatory Renewable Fuel Standard, which required transportation fuel sold in the U.S. to contain a minimum of 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels annually by 2022. The Act set the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standard at 35 miles per gallon for passenger cars and light trucks by the year 2020. The law is projected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 9 percent by 2030.

#### **State Plans, Policies, and Regulations**

##### ***California Senate Bill 100 “The 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018”***

California Senate Bill 100 established a landmark policy requiring that renewable energy and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of electric retail sales to end-use

customers by 2045. This bill targets 60 percent renewable energy by 2030 and commits to a 100 percent zero-carbon energy supply by 2045.

### ***Executive Order N-79-20 “Zero-Emission by 2035”***

Executive Order N-79-20 would end sales of internal combustion passenger vehicles by 2035, which would establish a target for the transportation sector that would help put the state on a path to carbon neutrality by 2045. The Executive Order provides time for automakers to scale up and market new zero-emissions vehicles, as well as further impetus for the providers of charging and refueling infrastructure, electric utilities, and others to plan for and support the increasing consumer demand for these vehicles.

## **Regional Plans, Policies, and Regulations**

### ***Contra Costa County***

#### ***Plan Bay Area 2050***

*Plan Bay Area 2050* was adopted on October 21, 2021, by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to outline the future of housing, the economy, transportation, and the environment for the nine counties in the San Francisco Bay Area through the year 2050 (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022). This regional plan does not fund specific infrastructure projects but does suggest the potential for future investments in infrastructure to improve the transportation system and protect communities from sea level rise caused by climate change. The plan also encourages partnerships among local, State, and federal governments to fulfill the 80 actions outlined in the regional plan.

#### ***Contra Costa County Renewable Resource Potential Study***

Contra Costa County’s *Renewable Resource Potential Study* was released on December 13, 2018, by the County’s Department of Conservation and Development. The study identifies opportunities that Contra Costa County can use to expand its leadership in local clean energy production and to bring clean energy’s benefits to County constituents broadly (Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development, 2018). Its primary purposes are to quantify the magnitude of available renewable energy resources, identify where resources could be located within the County, explore typical cost levels associated with each resource type and subtype, identify constraints and tradeoffs associated with developing resources in each location, and evaluate existing options for updating policy and zoning to facilitate development of renewable resources in the County while remaining mindful of long-term planning considerations and potential tradeoffs.

#### ***2015 Climate Action Plan***

The *2015 Climate Action Plan (CAP)* identifies how Contra Costa County would achieve the Assembly Bill (AB) 32 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target of 15 percent below baseline levels by the year 2020, in addition to supporting other public health, energy efficiency, water conservation, and air quality goals identified in the County's *General Plan* and other policy documents (Contra Costa County, 2015).

## Local Plans, Policies, and Regulations

### *City of Walnut Creek*

#### *City of Walnut Creek General Plan*

The *City of Walnut Creek General Plan* serves as the City's "constitution" for conservation, land use, and community development, providing the legal foundation for all zoning and subdivision ordinances, decisions, and projects—all of which must be consistent with the *General Plan*. The City of Walnut Creek's *General Plan* includes the following goals related to energy and transportation:

- **Goal 1:** Minimize future congestion increases on regional transportation facilities.
  - Policy 1.1: In cooperation with State and regional agencies and other jurisdictions, develop and implement regional solutions to local traffic problems created by growth outside the city.
- **Goal 8:** Serve as a model for other cities by providing a comprehensive Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program that strives to decrease automobile use and reduce peak-period traffic congestion.
- **Goal 28:** Promote energy conservation.

### *City of Pleasant Hill*

#### *City of Pleasant Hill General Plan*

The *City of Pleasant Hill General Plan* addresses key planning issues raised by citizens. In the City of Pleasant Hill's *General Plan*, the following goals relate to energy and transportation:

- **Circulation Goal 1:** Establish and maintain a safe and efficient circulation system that emphasizes the use of existing arterial and collector roadways, paths, and bike lanes.
- **Circulation Goal 2:** Decrease traffic delays associated with specific streets and uses.

## **City of Concord**

### *City of Concord General Plan*

The *City of Concord General Plan* establishes a vision and priorities for the City of Concord through 2030. The City of Concord's *General Plan* illustrates a long-range vision that reflects the community's aspirations and outlines steps to achieve this vision. In the City of Concord's *General Plan*, the following goals and policies relate to energy and transportation:

- **Goal GM-4:** Reduce the number and length of commute trips made by single-occupant vehicles.
- **Goal GM-4.1.1:** Promote reduced commute trips and lengths.
- **Goal T-1:** Provide a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system.
  - Policy T-1.1.2: Maintain and upgrade transportation systems to provide smooth traffic flow, minimize vehicle emissions, and save energy.

## **City of Martinez**

### *City of Martinez General Plan*

The *City of Martinez General Plan* is intended to provide policy guidance for future decision-making in the following topic areas: land use, open space and conservation, historic and cultural resources, parks and community facilities, circulation, public safety, noise and air quality, environmental justice and disadvantaged communities, and growth management. In the City of Martinez's *General Plan*, the following goals and policies relate to energy and transportation:

- **Goal OSC-G-6:** Reduce energy, water, and resource consumption.
- **Goal OSC-G-7:** Reduce energy use to limit air pollution and the likelihood of power outages.
- **Goal C-G-2:** Maintain and/or improve mobility in the city by considering alternative circulation system improvements.
  - Policy C-P-2.3: Ensure compatibility and complementary relationships between the circulation system and existing and planned land uses, promoting environmental objectives, such as safe and uncongested neighborhoods, energy conservation, reduction of air and noise pollution, and access to bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities.





- **Goal C-G-14:** Continue to seek economical and dependable ways to serve the community, improve energy efficiency, and reduce energy demand wherever possible.

### *City of Martinez Climate Action Plan*

The City of Martinez's CAP was established in June 2009, and it presents goals, principles, and strategies for reducing the city's GHG emissions, conserving energy and natural resources, and preparing the community for the expected effects of climate change. The City of Martinez's *General Plan* mentions Interstate 680 (I-680) as a major regional roadway that is used heavily for work travel.

### **2.2.8.2 Affected Environment**

The following discussion is based on the proposed Project's *Energy Analysis Report* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in December 2023. The Energy Resource Study Area is the same as the Project Study Limits, as shown in Figure 1-2 in Chapter 1.0, Proposed Project.

#### **Statewide Energy Consumption**

The U.S. Energy Information Administration ranks California 48th in total energy consumption per capita. California's energy consumption by end-use sector for 2020 listed the transportation sector as having a statewide consumption of 34 percent. The transportation sector consumed more energy than any other sector, which includes industrial (24.6 percent), residential (21.8 percent), and commercial (19.6 percent). This is due primarily to the large travel distances between major cities. Additionally, California has the most registered motor vehicles and the most vehicle miles traveled of any state. According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), California leads the U.S. in the number of motor vehicles.

California's transportation sector energy consumption for 2020 listed motor gasoline as having the highest percentage of total energy consumption (67.3 percent). In comparison to the other fuel types, distillate fuel oil had the second largest percentage of total energy consumption (21.9 percent). When compared to all energy sectors, motor gasoline represented 20.0 percent of the total statewide energy consumption. Distillate fuel oil, which includes diesel fuel for trucks and railroad locomotives, represented 7.3 percent of the total statewide energy consumption.

#### **Countywide Energy Consumption**

According to Contra Costa County's CAP, on-road transportation represented 47 percent of the total GHG emissions in 2013 (Contra Costa County, 2015). Similar to Statewide energy consumption, the transportation sector is the dominant contributor to energy consumption in the county.

## **Transportation Energy**

Transportation energy is generally described in terms of direct and indirect energy, which are defined as follows:

### ***Direct Energy***

In the context of transportation, direct energy involves all energy consumed by vehicle propulsion (e.g., automobiles, trains, airplanes). This energy consumption is a function of traffic characteristics, such as vehicle miles traveled (VMT), speed, vehicle mix, and thermal value of fuel being used. Direct energy also includes the one-time energy expenditure involved in project construction. Therefore, analysis of direct energy use includes the following factors:

- **Direct Energy (Mobile Sources):** The energy consumed by vehicle propulsion within the facility during project operation.
- **Direct Energy (Construction):** The energy consumed by construction vehicles and equipment during project construction.

### ***Indirect Energy***

Indirect energy includes maintenance activities that would result in permanent indirect energy consumption by equipment required to operate and maintain the roadway. Indirect energy use may include peripheral energy effects. This includes the use of energy sources that are not used by the transportation system itself, but rather energy used as a result of changes in land use, population density, or transportation patterns that are induced by a project, which would affect the energy demand, supply, and distribution within the surrounding area.

## **Existing Roadway and Traffic Conditions**

I-680 traverses north and south through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano Counties and serves as a major north-south freeway connecting the southern San Francisco Bay area with I-80, which crosses the Central Valley, including the Sacramento metropolitan area. The Project is located primarily within the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez and the unincorporated community of Alamo within Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo). I-680 is a divided freeway separated by a concrete median barrier.

Currently, a northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane exists north of State Route (SR) 242, and a northbound HOV/express lane exists south of Livorna Road, creating a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system. HOV lanes initiate at PM R21.3 in Alameda County and continue into Contra Costa County as an HOV/high-occupancy toll (HOT) lane from Marina Vista Avenue in Martinez to Treat Boulevard in Walnut Creek and from Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek to Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon.

## Electricity and Natural Gas

As discussed in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) provides electrical and natural gas services within the Energy Resource Study Area. In 2021, PG&E's Power Content Label reported that its electricity supply was derived from 48 percent renewable, 39 percent nuclear, 9 percent natural gas, and 4 percent large hydro energy sources (Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 2022).

### 2.2.8.3 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on energy would occur. Existing gaps in the corridor would remain, and as future traffic demand increases, traffic conditions would further deteriorate and increase congestion, vehicle delay, and cause further expenditure of energy caused by traffic stall.

#### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

##### *Consistency with Plans, Policies, and Regulations*

Reduced peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680 would occur under all Build Alternatives, which would reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor. The Build Alternatives would also encourage use of HOV lanes and transit services by optimizing the use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor, which would better meet current traffic demands and support future demand. All Build Alternatives would address existing transportation problems, such as congestion, lack of system continuity, and existing operational deficiencies, as well as reduce energy consumption within the proposed Project area, in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local plans, policies, and regulations listed in Section 2.2.8.1, *Regulatory Setting*.

##### *Short-Term (Construction) Impacts*

Under all Build Alternatives, construction would involve temporary direct fuel usage associated with construction and equipment. Direct energy consumption was calculated for all Build Alternatives by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Construction Emissions Tool 2021 version (Cal-CET2021) as part of the Project's *Air Quality Report* (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). As shown in Table 2.2.8-1, the estimated total diesel consumption is approximately 692,443 gallons for a construction duration of 24 months, and the total gasoline consumption under the Build Alternatives is approximately 211,011 gallons. The total electricity consumption is 58,376 kWh. This fuel consumption was also evaluated with Tier 4 controls on diesel equipment as required by Measure **AQ-5**. The Tier 4 controls would not change the consumption of

gasoline or electricity but would slightly increase total diesel consumption to 692,602 gallons.

Construction would occur in the I-680 corridor under all Build Alternatives, but with slight variations in the number of lanes based on the Build Alternative. Therefore, all Build Alternatives would involve similar construction activities with small differences in construction energy consumption. Although the Build Alternatives would have different construction phases and energy use would depend on the construction equipment being used per activity, the average annual energy consumption during Project construction under the Build Alternatives would be approximately the same over the two-year construction span.

As discussed in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, Caltrans Standard Specification Section 14-9 would be implemented requiring that the construction contractor comply with all applicable air quality regulations, which would include limiting idling time during construction. Energy consumption during construction would be minimized with the implementation of Measures **E-1** through **E-3**. A Transportation Management Plan (TMP) would also be implemented, which would reduce overall energy consumption by limiting traffic congestion and reducing the length of detours, as well as avoidance and minimization measures to minimize energy impacts during construction activities related to idling time for construction equipment and disposal of construction waste at local disposal sites. Further, the energy consumed during Project construction would be temporary and would not result in any permanent increase in statewide energy consumption. Project construction is anticipated to span 2 years, which would result in small increments of annual energy consumption per year. Therefore, no substantial temporary direct adverse impacts on energy resources are anticipated under the Build Alternatives.

Temporary indirect energy impacts would result from temporary disruptions to local circulation and connectivity during construction under all Build Alternatives. However, as discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, a TMP would be prepared in accordance with Caltrans' requirements and guidelines to minimize construction-related delays and inconvenience for travelers in the Project Study Limits. The TMP would minimize potential traffic impacts as they relate to staged construction, detours, and other traffic handling concerns associated with construction of the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives. Therefore, with the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measure regarding TMP preparation, no substantial temporary indirect adverse impacts on energy resources are anticipated under the Build Alternatives.



**Table 2.2.8-1. Direct Energy Consumption During Project Construction - Uncontrolled**

Construction Source	CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (metric tons)	Gasoline Consumption (gallons)	Gasoline Consumption (billion Btu)	Electricity Consumption (kWh)	Electricity Consumption (billion Btu)	Diesel Consumption (gallons)	Diesel Consumption (billion Btu)
<b>Roadway</b>							
On-Road	2,740	118,892	14	37,450	0.13	139,863	19
Off-Road	2,897	0	0	0	0	268,781	37
Fugitive Dust	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Painting and Asphalt Application	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Bridge</b>							
On-Road	2,008	92,119	11	20,925	0.07	98,138	13
Off-Road	1,995	0	0	0	0	185,661	26
Fugitive Dust	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Painting and Asphalt Application	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,640</b>	<b>211,011</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>58,376</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>692,443</b>	<b>95</b>

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023); (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

## ***Permanent (Operational) Impacts***

### ***Direct Energy Use (Mobile Sources)***

The CT-EMFAC2021 results, as contained in the *Air Quality Report*, provided total fuel consumption for each Build Alternative. These values were used to estimate the annual gasoline, natural gas, diesel, and electricity consumption for each Build Alternative, as shown in Table 2.2.8-2.

Traffic congestion along the northbound I-680 corridor would be reduced under all Build Alternatives. As shown in Table 2.2.8-2, all Build Alternatives would result in less direct energy consumption than existing conditions. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in slightly more direct energy consumption than the No-Build Alternative (.03 percent to .07 percent). Alternative 5 would result in slightly less energy consumption than the No-Build Alternative (-.79 percent to -1.13 percent). Congestion alleviation would allow vehicles to travel at normal speeds, improving vehicle fuel economies and traffic operations and resulting in decreased direct energy consumption. In addition, the Energy Resource Study Area is already urbanized and located along an existing transportation corridor. Under all Build Alternatives, the proposed Project would not be expected to induce substantial changes in land use, population density, or transportation patterns that would increase energy demand, supply, or distribution. Therefore, no permanent direct adverse impacts on energy resources are anticipated under the Build Alternatives.





**Table 2.2.8-2. Estimated Annual Fuel Consumption**

Gasoline Consumption (billion gallons)	Gasoline Consumption (billion Btu)	Diesel and Natural Gas Consumption (billion gallons)	Diesel and Natural Gas Consumption (billion Btu)	Electricity Consumption (billion Btu)	Total Fuel Consumption (billion Btu)	Percent Change from Existing Year (2020)	Percent Change from Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Percent Change from Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Percent Change from Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative
<b>Existing Year 2020</b>									
1.291	155,180.241	0.299	41,091.370	867.624	197,139.234	—	—	—	—
<b>Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative</b>									
1.163	139,846.772	0.260	35,703.001	2,825.247	178,375.020	-9.52%	—	—	—
<b>Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative</b>									
1.046	125,686.101	0.203	27,843.878	8,626.898	162,156.876	-17.75%	—	—	—
<b>Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative</b>									
1.058	127,237.626	0.203	27,820.928	8,963.120	164,021.673	-16.80%	—	—	—
<b>Opening Year (2027) Alternative 1C</b>									
1.164	139,971.660	0.260	35,728.123	2,826.872	178,526.654	-9.44%	0.09%	10.10%	8.84%
<b>Design Year (2047) Alternative 1C</b>									
1.046	125,760.601	0.203	27,862.683	8,631.467	162,254.751	-17.70%	-9.04%	0.06%	-1.08%
<b>Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 1C</b>									
1.059	127,319.153	0.203	27,841.352	8,967.968	164,128.473	-16.74%	-7.99%	1.22%	0.07%
<b>Opening Year (2027) Alternative 2</b>									
1.164	139,983.836	0.260	35,727.997	2,826.451	178,538.285	-9.44%	0.09%	10.10%	8.85%
<b>Design Year (2047) Alternative 2</b>									
1.046	125,726.647	0.203	27,855.627	8,628.344	162,210.618	-17.72%	-9.06%	0.03%	-1.10%



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Gasoline Consumption (billion gallons)	Gasoline Consumption (billion Btu)	Diesel and Natural Gas Consumption (billion gallons)	Diesel and Natural Gas Consumption (billion Btu)	Electricity Consumption (billion Btu)	Total Fuel Consumption (billion Btu)	Percent Change from Existing Year (2020)	Percent Change from Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Percent Change from Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Percent Change from Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative
<b>Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 2</b>									
1.059	127,281.484	0.203	27,833.454	8,964.982	164,079.921	-16.77%	-8.01%	1.19%	0.04%
<b>Opening Year (2027) Alternative 3</b>									
1.164	139,950.070	0.260	35,721.376	2,826.550	178,497.995	-9.46%	0.07%	10.08%	8.83%
<b>Design Year (2047) Alternative 3</b>									
1.046	125,776.673	0.203	27,860.708	8,631.117	162,268.498	-17.69%	-9.03%	0.07%	-1.07%
<b>Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 3</b>									
1.059	127,327.154	0.203	27,838.073	8,967.220	164,132.447	-16.74%	-7.98%	1.22%	0.07%
<b>Opening Year (2027) Alternative 5</b>									
1.169	140,500.231	0.241	33,040.238	2,816.503	176,356.972	-10.54%	-1.13%	8.76%	7.52%
<b>Design Year (2047) Alternative 5</b>									
1.049	126,104.147	0.188	25,804.980	8,544.620	160,453.747	-18.61%	-10.05%	-1.05%	-2.18%
<b>Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 5</b>									
1.061	127,548.239	0.191	26,246.004	8,933.145	162,727.388	-17.46%	-8.77%	0.35%	-0.79%

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Notes: Btu=British Thermal Unit

### *Indirect Energy Use*

Indirect energy includes maintenance activities that would result in long-term indirect energy consumption by equipment required to operate and maintain the roadway. As shown in Table 2.2.8-3, all Build Alternatives would result in an increase in indirect energy use of less than 1.0 percent in the Energy Resource Study Area compared to the No-Build Alternative in the same year (e.g., Opening Year [2027] No-Build to Opening Year [2027] Alternative 1C). There is about a 0.1 percent difference between the growth shown from Opening Year (2027) No-Build to Design Year (2047) No-Build and the Build Alternatives (11.9 to 12 percent). There is a similar difference between the growth shown from Opening Year (2027) No-Build to Horizon Year (No-Build) and Build Alternatives (13.7 to 13.8 percent). Therefore, all Build Alternatives would result in negligible changes in indirect energy use compared to the No-Build Alternative, and none of the Build Alternatives would contribute substantially to indirect energy use within the Energy Resource Study Area.

Further, all Build Alternatives would address existing transportation problems, such as congestion, lack of system continuity, and existing operational deficiencies; thus, reducing energy consumption within the proposed Project area and complying with all applicable federal, State, and local plans, policies, and regulations listed in Section 2.2.8.1, *Regulatory Setting*. Therefore, none of the Build Alternatives are anticipated to result in permanent indirect adverse impacts on energy.



**Table 2.2.8-3. Indirect Energy Use in Energy Resource Study Area**

Alternative	Indirect Energy for Facility Maintenance (billion Btu)	Indirect Energy for Vehicle Maintenance (billion Btu)	Total Indirect Energy Use (billion Btu)	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative
Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	21.73	76,595.63	76,617.36	—	—	—	—	—	—
Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	21.73	85,712.05	85,733.78	9116.42	11.90%	—	—	—	—
Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative	21.73	87,079.51	87,101.25	10,483.89	13.68%	1,367.46	1.60%	—	—
Opening Year (2027) Alternative 1C	22.88	76,642.44	76,665.31	47.95	0.06%	—	—	—	—
Design Year (2047) Alternative 1C	22.88	85,788.10	85,810.97	9193.61	12.00%	77.19	0.09%	—	—
Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 1C	22.88	87,159.95	87,182.82	10,565.46	13.79%	1,449.04	1.69%	81.58	0.09%



Alternative	Indirect Energy for Facility Maintenance (billion Btu)	Indirect Energy for Vehicle Maintenance (billion Btu)	Total Indirect Energy Use (billion Btu)	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative
Opening Year (2027) Alternative 2	22.59	76,638.07	76,660.66	43.30	0.06%	—	—	—	—
Design Year (2047) Alternative 2	22.59	85,774.90	85,797.49	9180.13	11.98%	63.71	0.07%	—	—
Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 2	22.59	87,145.42	87,168.02	10,550.66	13.77%	1,434.23	1.67%	66.77	0.08%
Opening Year (2027) Alternative 3	22.85	76,644.55	76,667.40	50.04	0.07%	—	—	—	—
Design Year (2047) Alternative 3	22.85	85,788.74	85,811.59	9194.23	12.00%	77.81	0.09%	—	—
Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 3	22.85	87,160.37	87,183.22	10,565.86	13.79%	1,449.43	1.69%	81.97	0.09%
Opening Year (2027) Alternative 5	21.73	76,595.63	76,617.36	0.00	0.00%	—	—	—	—
Design Year (2047) Alternative 5	21.73	85,722.08	85,743.82	9126.46	11.91%	10.03	0.01%	—	—



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Alternative	Indirect Energy for Facility Maintenance (billion Btu)	Indirect Energy for Vehicle Maintenance (billion Btu)	Total Indirect Energy Use (billion Btu)	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Opening Year (2027) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Design Year (2047) No-Build Alternative	Numeric Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative	Percent Difference Between Alternatives and Horizon Year (2050) No-Build Alternative
Horizon Year (2050) Alternative 5	21.73	87,091.05	87,112.78	10,495.42	13.70%	1,379.00	1.61%	11.54	0.01%

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)  
 Notes: Btu=British Thermal Unit



## **Total Energy Impacts**

The proposed Project under all Build Alternatives would reduce traffic congestion along I-680 and yield energy savings compared to the No-Build Alternative. With the implementation of Measures **E-1** through **E-3**, and the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measure regarding TMP preparation, temporary direct and indirect energy impacts associated with construction would be minimized. Therefore, the Build Alternatives would reduce overall impacts on energy resources. In addition, it is anticipated that the energy expenditure required to construct the Build Alternatives would be partially offset by their long-term operational reductions in energy consumption. Therefore, when balancing energy used during construction and operation against energy saved by relieving congestion and other transportation deficiencies, the Build Alternatives would not result in permanent direct or indirect adverse impacts on total energy.

### **2.2.8.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

**E-1 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Efforts.** During construction, CCTA will ensure that the following site-specific measure will be implemented where necessary and feasible to avoid or minimize impacts related to construction greenhouse gas emissions:

- A program that incentivizes construction workers to carpool and/or use public transit or electric vehicles to commute to and from the project site will be implemented.

**E-2 Construction Equipment Operation.** Prior to construction, CCTA will ensure that a list of all off-road equipment greater than 25 horsepower (hp) that would be operated for more than 20 hours over the entire duration of project construction, including equipment from subcontractors, be submitted to the relevant air district (e.g., Bay Area Air Quality Management District) for review and certification. The list shall include all information necessary to ensure the equipment meets the following requirement:

- Construction equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards and shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.
- Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling

restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.

- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications.
- Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites. Propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.

### E-3

**Emergency Services Management.** Prior to and during construction, CCTA will ensure that the designated contractor will communicate with emergency service providers through the public information program to avoid emergency service delays, by ensuring all providers are aware of lane closures well in advance of implementation. Proactive public information systems, such as changeable message signs, will notify travelers of pending construction activities and new operational activities.

## 2.3 Biological Environment

### 2.3.1 Natural Communities

This section of the document discusses natural communities of concern. The focus of this section is on biological communities, not individual plant or animal species. Natural communities are considered to be of special concern based on (1) federal, state, or local laws regulating their development; (2) limited distributions; and/or (3) the habitat requirements of special-status plants or animals occurring in those habitats. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) maintains a list of natural communities that are provided sensitivity rankings of S1 through S5 and considers those with ranks of S1 through S3.

This section also includes information on wildlife corridors and habitat fragmentation. Wildlife corridors are areas of habitat used by wildlife for seasonal or daily migration. Habitat fragmentation involves the potential for dividing sensitive habitat and thereby lessening its biological value. Habitat areas that have been designated as critical habitat under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) are discussed in Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*.

Finally, this section includes information on local and state ordinances that the Project must follow with regard to impacts on trees. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) follows *Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands*. Passed in September 1989, this resolution requests State agencies to preserve and protect native oak woodlands and to provide for replacement plantings whenever blue, Engelmann, valley, or coast live oak trees are removed from native woodlands. For the purposes of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17, "oak woodlands" means a 5-acre circular area containing five or more oak trees per acre.

Contra Costa County has a tree ordinance protecting certain trees that are adjacent to or part of a riparian, foothill woodland, or oak savanna area, or part of a stand of four or more trees within the unincorporated areas of the county (See Section 816-6.6004 within Title 8 of the *Contra Costa County Zoning Code*). A permit may be required for any trees removed, pruned, or planted within Contra Costa County right-of-way (ROW) or in unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County. No specific replacement ratio is provided in either the Walnut Creek or Contra Costa County tree ordinances.

The City of Walnut Creek requires a tree removal permit to remove any tree (dead or alive) within the city limits that is greater than 9 inches in diameter when measured 4.5 feet above the ground (See Section 3-8.03 of the *Walnut Creek Municipal Code*).

#### 2.3.1.1 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived largely from the proposed Project's *Natural Environment Study*, (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023. Field surveys for a habitat assessment were performed on February 14 and 27 and August 12, 2020. Field aquatic resource delineations were conducted on August 12,



2020, and June 10, 2021. Tree inventories were conducted on July 29 and August 13, 2021.

The Biological Study Area (BSA) was established to evaluate the Project’s effects on natural communities and other biological resources. The BSA is composed of the Project footprint (i.e., the maximum extent of direct temporary and permanent impacts) plus an additional, typically, 50-foot buffer. The BSA also includes areas that could be used for staging, access, tree planting, and mitigation. The BSA totals approximately 908 acres, 777 acres of which are developed areas; paved surfaces of the freeway, on- and off-ramps, and adjacent streets. Since the establishment of the BSA, the Project’s design has been refined through coordination among Caltrans, project biologists, and engineers to reduce impacts to the maximum extent. This includes reducing the Project Study Limits from post miles (PM) R4.4/24.5 to PM 10.0/23.2.

The majority of the land cover in the BSA is developed (approximately 86 percent) because the BSA is comprised mostly of State ROW or surface streets. The next largest land cover type is brome grasslands (approximately 71 acres; 8 percent of the BSA). The other vegetation communities and land cover types that were identified in the BSA include: arroyo willow thicket, California sagebrush scrub, cattail marsh, common reed marsh, coast live oak woodland, forested lined channel, concrete lined channel, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, open water, pickleweed mat, saltgrass flat, semi-natural ornamental, unlined modified channel, and valley oak woodland, which are described in more detail below (See Table 2.3.1-1). Approximately 7.28 acres of the BSA were not accessible. All wetland habitats and valley oak woodland identified in the BSA would be considered Natural Communities of Special Concern. Valley oak woodland is the one natural community in the BSA that CDFW considered sensitive on its list of California Sensitive Natural Communities, with a sensitivity ranking of S3.

The northern portion of the BSA is adjacent to Waterbird Regional Preserve – McNabney Marsh, which is part of a 200-acre wetland complex connected by Peyton Slough, which drains into Suisun Bay. The marsh is dominated by tule (*Schoenoplectus acutus*), narrow-leaved cattail (*Typha angustifolia*), and other more halophytic species (i.e., species that grow well in salty soil). Marsh habitat and other potential waters of the U.S. and/or State occur within the BSA and are considered sensitive by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). It is important to note that all marsh habitat mapped in the BSA is situated north of the furthest proposed Project impact area (i.e., PM 23.2). The Project Study Limits were reduced to avoid impacting this marsh habitat.

**Table 2.3.1-1. Acreage of Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types Mapped in the BSA**

Vegetation Community / Land Cover Type	Acres
<b>Natural Land Cover Types</b>	
Arroyo Willow Thicket	0.21



<b>Vegetation Community / Land Cover Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Brome Grassland	71.08
California Sagebrush Scrub	0.41
California Sagebrush Scrub – disturbed	0.28
Cattail Marsh	2.04
Coast Live Oak Woodland	2.05
Common Reed Marsh	0.76
Mixed Invasive Field	8.62
Mixed Invasive Field – Cattail	3.67
Non-native Woodland	6.86
Open Water	2.90
Pickleweed Mat – degraded	0.13
Saltgrass Flat	0.14
Semi-natural Ornamental	18.12
Valley Oak Woodland	3.30
<b>Artificial Land Cover Types</b>	
Developed	777.04
Forested Lined Channel	1.47
Concrete Lined Channel	1.55
Unlined Modified Channel	0.15
Not Accessible	7.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>908.06</b>

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Approximately 0.26 acre of other aquatic resources that may fall within USACE, RWQCB, and/or CDFW jurisdiction are situated within or adjacent to proposed impact areas. Most of these aquatic resources were mapped as potential non-jurisdictional features in the aquatic resources delineation report (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2022). However, the aquatic resources delineation has not yet been verified by USACE. Additionally, if any areas outside of the BSA are added during final design, those areas would need to be surveyed in order to determine if any additional features would be

impacted. Wetlands and other waters are discussed in Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*.

## Description of Upland Vegetation Communities

### ***Brome Grassland***

The brome grassland vegetation community occurs across much of the BSA and is dominated by non-native annual grass species. Dominant plant species observed in this habitat include slender oat (*Avena barbata*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), foxtail brome (*B. madritensis*), rattail sixweeks grass (*Festuca myuros*), and Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*). Other herbaceous plant species that are known to occur in this community include American vetch (*Vicia americana*), geranium (*Geranium* spp.), and bristly ox tongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*).

Many common wildlife species use brome grassland for breeding, foraging, and shelter. Common reptiles that occur in brome grassland include western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), and western rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus*). Common birds known to nest in brome grassland include western kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), Savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*), and western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*). Brome grassland also provides important foraging habitat for many raptors, including barn owl (*Tyto alba*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), and red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Mammals typically found in this habitat include black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), western harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*), California vole (*Microtus californicus*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*).

### ***California Sagebrush Scrub***

The California sagebrush scrub vegetation community in the BSA is restricted to a small area on a hillside just east of I-680 and just south of Rudgear Road (between PM R12.4 and PM R12.6) in the vicinity of Sugarloaf Open Space. Dominant plant species observed in this habitat include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*), and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), with California sagebrush having the highest cover. The herb layer is comprised of brome grassland habitat. Approximately half the area is bare or disturbed due to erosion.

Many common wildlife species use California sagebrush scrub for breeding, foraging, and shelter. Common reptiles that occur in California sagebrush scrub include western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*), western skink (*Plestiodon skiltonianus*), and western yellow-bellied racer (*Coluber constrictor mormon*). Amphibians, such as Pacific chorus frog (*Pseudacris sierra*) and western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*), will sometimes use this community outside of the breeding season. Common birds known to nest in California sagebrush scrub include California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*), and rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*).



Mammals typically found in this habitat include bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), and brush rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmani*).

### **Coast Live Oak Woodland**

The coast live oak woodland vegetation community in the BSA is restricted to the hillsides just south of Rudgear Road (between PM R11.7 and PM R12.7). The tree layer is dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), with a few valley oaks (*Q. lobata*) present also. The shrub layer is absent while the herb layer is dominated by non-native annual grass species found in the brome grassland habitat.

Many common wildlife species use coast live oak woodland for breeding, foraging, and shelter, and many of the same species also use the valley oak woodland community in much the same way. Common reptiles that occur in both coast live and valley oak woodland communities include western fence lizard, southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*), tiger whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), gophersnake (*Pituophis catenifer*), and common sharp-tailed snake (*Contia tenuis*). Salamanders, including arboreal salamander (*Aneides lugubris*), California slender salamander (*Batrachoseps attenuatus*), and yellow-eyed ensatina (*Ensatina eschscholtzii xanthoptica*), occur in the moist soil under rocks, logs, and leaf litter. Common birds known to nest in coast live and valley oak woodland include California quail (*Calipepla californica*), Nuttall's woodpecker (*Dryobates nuttallii*), oak titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*), and western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*), as well as raptors such as Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), and western screech owl (*Megascops kennicottii*). Mammals found in this habitat typically include mule deer, western gray squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*), and dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*). Multiple species of bats, including big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), and California myotis (*Myotis californicus*), use coast live oak woodland as foraging and roosting habitat.

### **Developed**

This land cover type occurs throughout the BSA and consists of all areas of urban development. Although mostly a built environment, a large variety of ornamental plantings occurs around residential and commercial buildings, infrastructure, roadway margins, and embankments. Small, wooded areas or fields of non-native species that are surrounded by development are also included in this land cover type.

Developed lands are generally not of high value for wildlife. Birds and mammals that occur in these areas typically include introduced species adapted to human habitation, such as rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), house mouse (*Mus musculus*), and Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*). Some native species have adapted to living in developed areas. California slender salamanders, western toads, and Pacific chorus frogs can occur in irrigated lawns and backyard artificial water features. Birds, such as Brewer's blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), house finches (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and American crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), nest on buildings or other urban structures, such as

traffic lights or transmission towers. Cliff swallows (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonata*), white-throated swifts (*Aeronautes saxatalis*), and some bat species use freeway underpasses, bridges, culverts, and buildings as nest and roost sites.

### **Mixed Invasive Field**

Mixed invasive field is a community type characterized by heavy disturbance and a sparse cover of non-native or weed species including some grasses, but not at a density to be considered a grassland. Some native species can be mixed in with this habitat, but they do not comprise more than 5 percent of the total cover. Non-native plant species identified in this habitat during the field surveys include short-podded mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), bristly ox-tongue, geranium, foxtail brome, cultivated radish (*Raphanus sativus*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), chickweed (*Stellaria media*), spring vetch (*Vicia sativa*), American vetch, and red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*). This habitat occurs throughout the BSA. In areas along Walnut Creek, this habitat includes some isolated patches of cattail (*Typha* spp.), but its overall cover is less than 5 percent and is not of sufficient density to be classified as its own habitat.

Although comprised mostly of non-native weed species, mixed invasive fields, particularly at edges of natural communities, can provide foraging habitat for many wildlife species, such as western fence lizard, American crow, lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), and California ground squirrel.

### **Non-Native Woodland**

This habitat consists of ornamental plantings of non-native trees in areas that are not surrounded by development. Plant species in this habitat include, but are not limited to, red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), blue gum (*E. globulus*), Japanese privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*), camphortree (*Cinnamomum camphora*), and Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*). Shrub and herb layers are generally poorly developed in this habitat. Understory is usually limited to non-native grasses and other weedy species. This habitat occurs throughout the BSA but especially along the margins of the highways and other developed land.

Although comprised of mostly non-native plant species, non-native woodland can provide foraging habitat for many native wildlife species, such as western fence lizard, Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), hooded oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*), and western gray squirrel. Raptor species, such as red-tailed hawk and great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), will often nest or roost in large, non-native trees, such as blue gum or Australian pine (*Casuarina equisetifolia*).

### **Semi-Natural Ornamental**

Semi-natural ornamental is a community type characterized by various assemblages of native and non-native ornamental plantings and isolated clusters of remnant native species that are not of sufficient density to constitute a natural habitat. Plant species in this habitat can include, but are not limited to, common manzanita (*Arctostaphylos*

*manzanita*), strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*), Japanese privet, carrotwood (*Cupanopsis anacardioides*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), red gum, toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), camphortree, and Aleppo pine. This habitat occurs throughout the BSA, but especially along the margins of the highways and other developed land. A variety of understory types are present, often including non-native grasses and other weedy species. Despite being comprised of mostly non-native plant species, semi-natural ornamental communities can provide foraging habitat for many native wildlife species.

### **Valley Oak Woodland**

Valley oak woodland is the one natural community in the BSA that CDFW considers sensitive on its list of California Sensitive Natural Communities, with a sensitivity ranking of S3. The valley oak woodland vegetation community in the BSA is restricted to the hillsides just east of I-680 between Stone Valley Road and La Gonda Way (between PM R11.7 and PM R12.7). Valley oak woodland habitat has a very open canopy and an understory comprised of mostly non-native annual grasses, such as brome and slender oats. Many of the common wildlife species that use coast live oak woodland for breeding, foraging, and shelter also use the valley oak woodland community in much the same way.

### **Description of Aquatic Vegetation Communities**

#### **Arroyo Willow Thicket**

This habitat is dominated in the tree layer by arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) and has an understory of various non-native grasses and herb species. This habitat is sparse in the BSA and isolated on slopes adjacent to the highway. These areas do not have the density or acreage required to be considered suitable for special-status species that typically use this habitat, such as willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) and yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*). This habitat occurs near McNabney Marsh (between PM 23.7 and PM 23.8) and near Sugarloaf Open Space (between PM R12.2 and PM R12.3).

#### **Cattail Marsh**

This habitat is dominated by cattails in the herb layer, which typically grow so densely that other plant species do not occur. Some patches of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) or salt grass (*Distichlis spicata*) may occur on the margins of this habitat, but these species typically comprise less than 5 percent of the habitat. This habitat occurs in the northern portions of the BSA near Pacheco Creek and McNabney Marsh (from PM 22.2 north to the northern extent of the BSA).

Cattail marshes are among the most productive wildlife habitats in California. Many common species rely on cattail marshes for their entire life cycle. They provide food, cover, and water for a wide variety of bird species, such as great egret (*Ardea alba*), marsh wren (*Cistothorus palustris*), and red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), as well as mammals, such as North American river otter (*Lontra canadensis*), and

amphibians and reptiles, such as Pacific chorus frog and northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), which is a federally proposed threatened species and California Species of Special Concern.

### **Common Reed Marsh**

This habitat is dominated by common reed in the shrub layer, which typically grows so densely that other plant species do not occur. Some cattail patches may occur on the margins of this habitat, but typically comprise less than 5 percent of the habitat. This habitat occurs at the northern end of the BSA in and near McNabney Marsh (from PM 23.8 north to the northern extent of the BSA). Many of the same wildlife species that occur in cattail marsh also use common reed marsh.

Due to the muted tidal influence in McNabney Marsh, the common reed marsh habitat between PM 23.8 and PM 24.4 in the BSA provides marginal habitat for special-status species that require tidal marsh habitat with a pickleweed component, such as California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*), California Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*), and salt-marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*).

### **Forested Lined Channel**

Forested lined channel is dominated by a random mixture of species in the tree layer. These can include, but are not limited to, red gum, blue gum, coast live oak, Aleppo pine, and Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*). The shrub layer is typically absent, but the occasional Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), or cape leadwort (*Plumbago auriculata*) can occur. All of these species are inter-mixed and do not dominate any particular area. This habitat occurs at two locations in the BSA—along Las Trampas Creek (between PM 13.7 and PM 13.8), and along Green Valley Creek (between PM R7.6 and PM R7.7).

### **Concrete Lined Channel**

Concrete lined channel conveys water during storm flows and is generally unvegetated, although occasional patches of invasive herbaceous species were observed. This habitat occurs in the BSA along San Ramon Creek (between PM R12.6 and PM R12.7, PM R11.3 and PM R11.4, PM R10.3 and PM R10.4, and PM R7.4 and PM R7.5) and the Contra Costa Canal (at PM 16.1).

### **Open Water**

Open water is generally an unvegetated area consisting solely of water. However, some small, isolated patches of common reed or cattail can occur in these areas, but not at sufficient size to be classified as their own habitat. Open water in the BSA occurs in McNabney Marsh as well as the main bodies of Walnut Creek and Grayson Creek.



**Pickleweed Mat – Degraded**

This habitat is comprised of Pacific pickleweed in the herb layer with occasional occurrences of alkali weed (*Cressa truxillensis*). Sometimes saltgrass also occurs in this habitat, particularly along its margin. This habitat is considered to be in degraded form when more than 25 percent of the cover is a mixture of non-native herbaceous species. A small patch of this habitat in its degraded form occurs along Pacheco Creek (between PM 22.2 and PM 22.3).

**Saltgrass Flat**

This community is dominated by saltgrass in the herb layer with some occasional occurrence of alkali weed or Pacific pickleweed, particularly on the margins. Only a very small sliver of this habitat occurs in the BSA at the northwestern corner of McNabney Marsh near Waterfront Road.

**Unlined Modified Channel**

Unlined modified channel consists of an artificially created, soft-bottom channel composed of unconsolidated natural material that conveys water during storm flows and has no tree or shrub layer. The herb layer consists of a mixture of non-native herbaceous species. San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (between PM R11.3 and PM R11.4) is the only location where this habitat occurs within the BSA.

**Trees**

A tree inventory of the BSA was conducted by a consultant arborist on July 29 and August 13, 2021 (HDR Engineering Inc., 2021). The tree inventory assessed and inventoried all accessible trees in the survey area; documented species, size, and general condition of each tree; assigned unique tree ID numbers; and mapped individual tree locations using a sub-meter accuracy antenna. All trees with a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 4 inches or greater were included in the tree survey. This included both single-stem trees and multi-stem trees with a combined dbh of 4 inches. If a tree was multi-trunked, all trunks with a dbh over 1 inch were measured and recorded. Plants with a growth habit more similar to a shrub than a tree were not mapped as part of this effort. Table 2.3.1-2 provides the results of the tree inventory. The tree inventory identified 257 native trees and 305 non-native trees within the BSA.

**Table 2.3.1-2. Tree Inventory Results**

Species	Common Name	DBH Range <sup>i</sup> (inches)	Count
<b>NATIVES</b>			
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	western redbud	10–16	8
<i>Juglans hindsii</i>	Northern California black walnut	10–43	3

Species	Common Name	DBH Range <sup>i</sup> (inches)	Count
<i>Notholithocarpus sp.</i>	tanoak	11	2
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey pine	14–44	24
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	coast live oak	4–45	65
<i>Quercus chrysolepis</i>	canyon live oak	10–29	15
<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	California black oak	7–15	18
<i>Quercus lobata</i>	valley oak	6–56	69
<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>	interior live oak	5	1
<i>Salix sp.</i>	willow sp.	5–72	5
<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	coast redwood	5–30	47
<b>Total Count Natives</b>			257
<b>NON-NATIVES</b>			
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Australian blackwood	6–44	23
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry tree	4–30	20
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Mediterranean hackberry	18–28	3
<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	eucalyptus sp.	10–66	47
<i>Ficus sp.</i>	fig sp.	6	1
<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>	ash sp.	13	1
<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Chinese flame tree	10–27	3
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	crape myrtle	4–12	23
<i>Ligustrum sp.</i>	privet sp.	8–29	10
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	sweetgum	4–21	31
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	10–38	3
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary Island date palm	45	1
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache	5–38	23
<i>Pittosporum sp.</i>	mock orange	7–48	6
<i>Prunus sp.</i>	cherry sp.	12	1





Species	Common Name	DBH Range <sup>i</sup> (inches)	Count
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery pear	4.5–8.5	12
<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian pepper tree	10–70	17
<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Chinese tallow	6–20	13
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm	20–37	3
Unknown ornamental	unknown ornamental	4–41	62
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Mexican fan palm	20	2
<b>Total Count Non-natives</b>			<b>305</b>
<b>Total Count All Trees</b>			<b>562</b>

Source: (HDR Engineering Inc., 2021)

<sup>i</sup> Diameter at breast height (dbh) ranges include sum of multi-stemmed trees

## Habitat Connectivity

The San Francisco Bay Area is an important ecological area for the western United States. It is a major stopover point for migrating birds, as well as a migratory route for anadromous fish entering the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta watershed. Much of the wild, open land within the San Francisco Bay Area has been completely developed or highly disturbed within the last 100 years, making any wild or open land that exists ecologically important to the area. Many rare and endangered species live in small, isolated remnant populations that have been reduced substantially as a result of habitat alteration.

Migration corridors are limited within the BSA due to the high traffic volumes, highway design with sound walls, concrete barriers, retaining walls, and channelized concrete lined creeks. Creek corridors that have not been channelized or culverted below I-680 in the BSA and have an adjacent continuous riparian canopy have some potential to function as terrestrial migration corridors. These creek corridors are associated with Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, Pacheco Creek, and Peyton Slough. Due to existing downstream passage barriers, anadromous fish are unable to access the BSA.

### 2.3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on vegetation, migratory corridors, or fish passage would occur.



## Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3

### Vegetation Communities

Table 2.3.1-3 summarizes the estimated acreage of each land cover type or vegetation community that occurs in the BSA (not including developed areas) and could be directly impacted due to proposed Project construction in the construction footprint for each Build Alternative. Land cover types identified in the BSA that would not be directly impacted by any of the Build Alternatives, because they do not overlap the Project construction footprint, include California sagebrush scrub, cattail marsh, common reed marsh, forested lined channel, mixed invasive field, open water, pickleweed mat, saltgrass flat, unlined modified channel, and valley oak woodland. Under the proposed Project’s current design, temporary impacts associated with each of the Build Alternatives would be restricted to developed areas. Therefore, temporary impacts to other land cover types and vegetation communities are not discussed.

With regard to impacts on land cover types, the primary difference between the Build Alternatives is the impact on brome grassland, concrete lined channel, and semi-natural ornamental land cover, as described below—none of which are considered sensitive habitats. Impacts to arroyo willow thicket, coast live oak woodland, and non-native woodland would be the same for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Notably, Alternative 5 would have no impacts on these habitats, and less impact on brome grassland than the other three alternatives. **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16** are general measures that would be implemented during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to biological resources. In addition, Mitigation Measure **MM-BIO-1** requires the preparation of a Tree Protection Plan and the replacement of, or compensatory mitigation for, any oak tree that would be impacted at a ratio to be determined in consultation with the regulatory agencies during the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates phase.

**Table 2.3.1-3. Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative**

Land Cover Type	Existing Acreage in the BSA				Permanent Impacts (Acre)			
	1C	2	3	5	1C	2	3	5
Arroyo Willow Thicket	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01	0.00
Brome Grassland	71.08	71.08	71.08	71.08	1.55	1.73	1.73	0.37
Coast Live Oak Woodland	2.05	2.05	2.05	2.05	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00
Concrete Lined Channel	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.05
Non-Native Woodland	6.86	6.86	6.86	6.86	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.00
Semi-Natural Ornamental	18.12	18.12	18.12	18.12	1.02	0.06	1.02	0.06



Land Cover Type	Existing Acreage in the BSA				Permanent Impacts (Acre)			
	1C	2	3	5	1C	2	3	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.87</b>	<b>99.87</b>	<b>99.87</b>	<b>99.87</b>	<b>3.26</b>	<b>2.53</b>	<b>3.49</b>	<b>0.48</b>

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

### *Concrete Lined Channel*

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include bridge widening over San Ramon Creek between PM R12.6 and PM R12.8, which overlaps 0.02 acre of concrete lined channel. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 include construction of a new bridge structure over the Contra Costa Canal at PM 16.1, which overlaps 0.05 acre of concrete lined channel. However, construction impacts at both locations are only proposed to occur within the road prism on the elevated roadway spanning San Ramon Creek and the Contra Costa Canal. Therefore, none of the Build Alternatives would disturb the concrete lined channel below these structures.

### *Semi-Natural Ornamental*

All Build Alternatives would include 0.06 acre of impacts to semi-natural ornamental landcover for the construction of a trash capture device near Livorna Road between PM R11.3 and PM R11.4. Alternatives 1C and 3 would also include the realignment of southbound I-680 and the Southbound I-680/Westbound SR-24 Connector at PM 14.3 and PM 14.6, which would result in an additional 0.96 acre of impacts on semi-natural ornamental landcover.

### **Trees**

All trees mapped as part of the tree inventory have the potential to be impacted by the Project due to their proximity to impact areas. Trees rooted in or within 5 feet of the impact areas have a higher potential for damage during construction activities. Any ground disturbance or paving within a tree’s critical root zone would be considered a permanent impact to the tree. Minor tree trimming and equipment staging within the critical root zone could result in temporary impacts to trees.

The exact number of trees impacted would depend on the final design as well as the field conditions at the time of construction, such as the geology of the area where cut slopes are excavated, condition of trees, location of supporting roots, and other considerations. Some areas would not be replanted, specifically in areas where there is proposed pavement or structural widening or new structures.

Table 2.3.1-4 provides a summary of potentially impacted trees by alternative (HDR Engineering Inc., 2021). The footprint of Alternative 5 had the least number of total trees mapped and the least number of native trees identified, while the footprint of Alternative 1C had the lowest number of non-native trees identified. The footprint of Alternative 3



had the greatest number of trees mapped because it represents the combined footprints of Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. It should be noted that the tree counts included in the table below do not include inaccessible areas. Those areas would contribute to the overall count; however, inventorying those trees was not possible at the time of survey. Additional surveys and tree counts would be conducted during final design.

**Table 2.3.1-4. Potentially Impacted Trees by Alternative**

Alternative	Natives	Non-natives	Total
1C	114	117	231
2	107	161	268
3	140	169	309
5	65	127	192

Source: (HDR Engineering Inc., 2021)

All Build Alternatives include construction activities outside Caltrans' existing ROW in Walnut Creek. The City of Walnut Creek requires obtaining a tree removal permit for removing any tree (dead or alive) within the city limits that is greater than 9 inches in diameter when measured 4.5 feet above the ground (See Chapter of the *Walnut Creek Municipal Code*). Contra Costa County has a tree ordinance protecting certain trees adjacent to or part of a riparian, foothill woodland, or oak savanna area, or part of a stand of four or more trees within the unincorporated areas of the county (See Section 816-6.6004 within Title 8 of the *Contra Costa County Zoning Code*). A permit may be required for any trees removed, pruned, or planted within Contra Costa County ROW or in unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County. No specific replacement ratio is provided in either the Walnut Creek or Contra Costa County tree ordinances.

Caltrans follows Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands. Passed in September 1989, this resolution requests State agencies to preserve and protect native oak woodlands and to provide for replacement plantings whenever blue, Engelmann, valley, or coast live oak are removed from native woodlands. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact 0.15 acre of coast live oak woodland habitat in the vicinity of Rudgear Road. For the purposes of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17, "oak woodlands" means a 5-acre circular area containing five or more oak trees per acre. Although oak trees may be removed as a result of proposed Project activities, none of the oak trees that may be impacted are part of an oak woodland stand as defined in the resolution.

Tree removal would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. Construction activities for all Build Alternatives are anticipated to avoid the dripline as well as direct removal of trees. In most portions of the BSA, impacts on trees would be primarily associated with trenching for electrical/communication conduits. However, trenches would be narrow, and their location would be adjusted slightly to avoid trees and their driplines whenever possible. The precise number of trees that would need to be removed as a result of construction activities would be determined during final design.

Table 2.3.1-4 represents an approximation of the maximum number of trees that have the potential to be impacted during Project construction for each Build Alternative. The trees were mapped in or within 5 feet of the Project footprint. Measure **BIO-GEN-19** would be implemented requiring that construction activities avoid the dripline of, as well as the direct removal of, trees and shrubs to the greatest extent practicable. Mitigation Measure **BIO-MM-1** would be implemented, requiring the compensatory mitigation or replacement of oak trees within the Project Study Limits pending consultation with CDFW.

### ***Migratory Corridors and Habitat Fragmentation***

None of the Build Alternatives are anticipated to interfere substantially with wildlife movement between the west and east sides of I-680 or result in habitat fragmentation. The proposed Project would not result in a substantial increase in impermeable surfaces or permanently remove vegetation adjacent to Las Trampas Creek, Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek, Pacheco Creek, or Peyton Slough. Larger culverts that could be used by wildlife to cross under I-680 would not be permanently disturbed.

As shown in Table 2.3.1-1, there would be no temporary impact to any land cover type, other than developed land. Construction activities have the potential to increase nighttime light and glare sources compared to current levels. Areas in the BSA that would be most sensitive to increased lighting and glare over natural conditions would be the marsh habitats and creek corridors, which provide a natural pathway for wildlife. Nighttime illumination is known to adversely affect some species of wildlife in natural areas. It can disturb breeding and foraging behavior and potentially alter breeding cycles of birds, mammals, and nocturnal invertebrates. In addition, light could deter some animal species, especially larger mammals, from using rivers, creeks, and washes as a movement corridor. If uncontrolled, such lighting, where proximal to these movement corridors, could adversely impact the composition and behavior of the wildlife that occur in these areas. This impact is considered potentially substantial. In addition, the noise and vibrations from heavy equipment operation in active construction areas have the potential to affect the movement of wildlife species substantially.

Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16** would be implemented to avoid or minimize potential construction impacts on wildlife. All Build Alternatives would include a conversion of the existing HOV lane north of SR-242 to an express lane. The northern most extent of impacts associated with all Build Alternatives is PM 23.2, south of McNabney Marsh.

It is expected that diurnal wildlife activities would be temporarily impacted and wildlife from areas immediately surrounding construction would be temporarily displaced. However, because these impacts would be temporary, construction would proceed along the corridor in phases, and specific nighttime work measures would be implemented, impacts to diurnal wildlife activities are expected to be less than substantial. With the implementation of the measures discussed above, the level of impacts to nocturnal wildlife activities due to lighting, glare, construction noise, and equipment vibrations would be minimized.

## **Fish Passage**

Implementing the Build Alternatives would not result in a barrier to fish passage, nor would the Project block or otherwise alter channel flow in any channel where fish may occur.

### **Build Alternatives 5**

Alternative 5 differs greatly from Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. Alternative 5 would convert existing lanes to an express lane, which would impact fewer acres outside of existing paved areas. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not impact the arroyo willow thicket, coast live oak woodland, or non-native woodland land cover types (see Table 2.3.1-3). Alternative 5 would also result in over 1 acre less impact to brome grassland compared to Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3. As with the other Build Alternatives, construction impacts are only proposed to occur within the road prism on the elevated roadway spanning San Ramon Creek and the Contra Costa Canal. Alternative 5 would not disturb the concrete-lined channel below these structures and would not result in a barrier to fish passage. Alternative 5 would also impact fewer total trees and native trees than the other Build Alternatives (see Table 2.3.1-4). As with Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16** would be implemented during construction. Although Alternative 5 would not impact oak woodland, it could impact oak trees. Mitigation Measure **BIO-MM-1** would be implemented requiring the compensatory mitigation or replacement of oak trees within the Project Study Limits pending consultation with CDFW.

#### **2.3.1.3 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures specific to erosion control and stormwater runoff are discussed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. Measures specific to wetlands and other waters of the U.S., including creek corridors and marsh habitat, are discussed in Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*. Measures specific to adverse effects to special status plant and animal species associated with the natural communities of the BSA are discussed in Sections 2.3.3, *Plant Species*; 2.3.4, *Animal Species*; and 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*.

The following general avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented for all Build Alternatives during construction:

**BIO-GEN-1**      **Qualified Biologist.** A qualified biologist will be present during all construction activities in or adjacent to California red-legged frog (CRLF – *Rana draytonii*) and/or Alameda whipsnake (AWS – *Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*) habitat. Through communication with the resident engineer (RE), the biologist will have authority to stop work that may result in take of CRLF or AWS. The biologist will notify Caltrans immediately by telephone and electronic mail if the



biologist exercises this authority. The biologist would be present during work at the following locations:

- Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2).
- Rudgear Road to Livorna Road — between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3).

#### **BIO-GEN-2**

**Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT).** All construction personnel will attend a mandatory WEAT delivered by a biologist prior to entering the job site. New personnel will attend a training session before they are allowed to enter the job site. All personnel will sign a form stating that they completed training and understand all applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance. The contractor will provide translated training material. Caltrans will keep the forms on file and make them available to regulatory agencies upon request. At a minimum, the training will include:

- a description of special-status species that could occur onsite and their habitats, and other sensitive resources.
- a review of applicable conservation measures and how to avoid impacts by implementing them
- a discussion of applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance.

#### **BIO-GEN-3**

**Stop Work Authority.** The biologist will have the authority to stop work if they determine any permit and authorization requirements are not being fully implemented or unpermitted impacts to sensitive natural resources may occur.

#### **BIO-GEN-4**

**Pre-Construction Surveys for Nesting Birds.** To avoid take of migratory birds during the nesting season (February 1 to September 30), to the extent feasible, vegetation and tree removal will only occur between October 1 and January 31. The biologist will conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys no more than 72 hours prior to the start of construction. If an active nest is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate exclusion buffer around the nest. The buffer will depend on species, an individual's response to disturbance, or the line-of-sight from the construction area to the nest. Equipment and personnel will not enter the buffer until the nest is inactive or juvenile birds are no longer dependent on adults. To prevent occupation or

reoccupation, the biologist will remove partially constructed or inactive nests. If a nesting special-status bird species is discovered, Caltrans will coordinate with regulatory agencies for assistance.

## BIO-GEN-5

### **Best Management Practices (Water Pollution Control).**

Standard Caltrans BMPs, such as dust control, spill prevention and control, stockpile management, and other waste management practices as outlined in Section 13-1.01 of the Caltrans Standard Specifications shall be implemented. See also Measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-2**, discussed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*.

The Project will comply with the Construction General Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board and with Provisions of the Caltrans Statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The contractor will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Spill Prevention Plan for approval prior to the start of construction. Personnel will adhere to the instructions, protocols, and specifications, outlined in the most current Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual and Caltrans Standard Specifications. At a minimum, protective measures will include:

- Preventing pollutants generated by vehicle and equipment maintenance or cleaning from entering storm drains or aquatic resources
- Servicing or storing vehicles and equipment no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources unless the features are protected by impermeable barriers
- Maintaining vehicles and equipment to prevent fluid leaks
- Storing hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, solvents, etc., in sealed containers at a designated location no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources
- Collecting and disposing of concrete waste and contaminated water from curing in appropriate washouts located no less than 50 feet from storm drains and aquatic resources
- Using water trucks to control dust
- Capturing or controlling sediment with erosion control devices such as silt fence, fiber rolls, and appropriate erosion control netting, and covering temporary stockpiles.

The SWPPP would reference the Caltrans Construction Site BMPs Manual. This manual is comprehensive and includes many other protective measures and guidance to prevent and minimize

pollutant discharges. See also Measure **WQ-2**, discussed in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*.

- BIO-GEN-6**     **Delineation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA).** ESA will be delineated using high-visibility fencing or alternative delineators. The fencing or delineators will be installed prior to the start of construction and regularly maintained and remain in place until construction is completed. Construction personnel or equipment will not access ESAs unless authorized by the biologist.
- BIO-GEN-7**     **Prohibition of Mono-Filament Netting.** To prevent animals from being entangled, trapped or injured, monofilament fiber will not be used in erosion control devices or animal exclusion devices.
- BIO-GEN-8**     **Covering of Excavations and Trenches.** To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife during construction excavated holes or trenches more than 1-foot-deep with walls steeper than 30 degrees would be covered by plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day. Alternatively, one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks would be installed. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they would be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.
- BIO-GEN-9**     **Tree and Shrub Avoidance.** Tree and shrub removal will be avoided unless necessary to complete construction. Construction activities would avoid the dripline of, as well as the direct removal of, trees and shrubs to the greatest extent practicable. The following conservation measures will be implemented:
- Each tree or group of trees to be retained will be enclosed by a buffer demarcated with ESA fencing at least one foot from the edge of the dripline(s) of the tree(s) prior to the beginning of construction. Fencing shall remain in place during all construction activities in the vicinity of the trees.
  - The amount of water provided to the tree(s) should not differ from that which was supplied prior to the beginning of construction activities.
  - The parking of vehicles or construction equipment, or storage of materials within the dripline of the tree(s), should not occur at any time.
  - Signs, ropes, cables or other items will not be attached to unremoved trees.
  - The following measures will be implemented if any disturbance is necessary within a tree's dripline:

- If grades must be altered more than plus or minus six inches, an appropriate aeration will be installed, and positive drainage will be maintained.
- If trenching is unavoidable, the number of trenches will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. Trees will be trimmed to remove branches proportional to the number of roots lost.
- Limit the amount of excavation and compaction within the root protection zone (equals the dripline radius) to the greatest extent possible.
- No materials should be placed or stored within the root protection zone at any time through the duration of the Project. Spoils shall not be placed within the tree protection zone either temporarily or permanently.
- If trees must be removed:
  - a certified arborist will mark trees necessary for removal before removal begins.
  - tree pruning or removal would be performed by a certified arborist according to ANSI A300 pruning standards. Trees that need to be removed or pruned should be identified in the preconstruction walk through.

**BIO-GEN-10**

**Invasive Species Control.** After construction is complete, the contractor will restore disturbed topographical contours to preconstruction conditions. The contractor would contain and remove noxious weeds and associated plant material, and obtain all permits, licenses, and certifications for proper disposal. The contractor would replant disturbed areas with fast-growing native grasses or a native erosion control seed mixture. Where seeding is not practical, the contractor would cover temporarily disturbed areas with black plastic solarization material. The contractor would maintain the material throughout the duration of construction and removed the material at the end of construction.

**BIO-GEN-11**

**Revegetation Following Construction.** All areas that are temporarily affected during construction shall be revegetated with an assemblage of native grass, shrub, and trees as appropriate. Invasive, exotic plants would be controlled within the proposed Project area to the maximum extent practicable, pursuant to Executive Order 13112.

**BIO-GEN-12**

**Fugitive Dust.** Dust control measures would consist of regular truck watering of construction access areas and disturbed soil areas with the use of organic soil stabilizers to minimize airborne dust and soil particles generated from graded areas. Regular truck

watering would be a requirement of the construction contract. In addition, for disturbed soil areas, an organic tackifier to control dust emissions blowing off of the ROW or out of the construction area during construction would be included in the contract special provisions. Watering guidelines would be established to avoid any excessive run-off that may flow into contiguous areas. Any material stockpiles would be watered, sprayed with tackifier, or covered, to minimize dust production and wind erosion.

**BIO-GEN-13**

**Lighting.** To the extent practicable, nighttime construction shall be minimized. Approximately 63 days of nightwork are anticipated. Artificial lighting of the proposed Project area during nighttime hours would be minimized to the maximum extent practicable and would be directed away from sensitive resources. Artificial lighting would be directed away from vegetated areas and only directed at areas where active construction is occurring. If lighting cannot be directed away from vegetated areas, shielding will be implemented to avoid spillover.

Permanent light fixtures would have shielding, light-emitting diodes configured at the minimum necessary number of bulbs, as well as optimal mounting height, mast-arm length, and angle to restrict light to the roadways (projected light spread from proposed new permanent lighting fixtures is shown on the figure set in **Appendix A**).

**BIO-GEN-14**

**Noise (Construction).** Construction-generated noise associated with the proposed Project will not surpass baseline ambient noise levels as described in the Noise Study Report for the proposed Project (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023).

**BIO-GEN-15**

**Trash.** All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps would be disposed of in closed containers and removed regularly from the work area.

**BIO-GEN-16**

**Vehicle Use.** All personnel working on the proposed Project would be required to comply with guidance governing vehicle use, speed limits on unpaved roads, fire prevention, and other hazards.

The following mitigation measure (MM) would be implemented for all Build Alternatives:

**BIO-MM-1**

**Oak Woodlands.** In accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands, native oak woodlands will be avoided to the maximum extent feasible. Any oak trees that are impacted would be mitigated through replacement or compensatory mitigation at a ratio to be determined in consultation with CDFW and based on the size of the tree removed, with large-diameter trees requiring greater replacement numbers than small trees. A Tree Protection Plan will be prepared and implemented to minimize damage to native trees during construction. Precise tree planting

locations will be determined during the final design phase and will occur within the Caltrans ROW. Replanted areas will be monitored for success for up to 3 to 10 years and subject to success criteria. The performance criterion for replacement tree plantings is 70 percent survival of all plantings at the end of the monitoring period.





## 2.3.2 Wetlands and Other Waters

### 2.3.2.1 Regulatory Setting

Wetlands and other waters are protected under a number of laws and regulations. At the federal level, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, more commonly referred to as the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 United States Code [USC] 1344), is the primary law regulating wetlands and surface waters. One purpose of the CWA is to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Waters of the U.S. include navigable waters, interstate waters, territorial seas, and other waters that may be used in interstate or foreign commerce. The lateral limits of jurisdiction over non-tidal water bodies extend to the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), in the absence of adjacent wetlands. When adjacent wetlands are present, CWA jurisdiction extends beyond the OHWM to the limits of the adjacent wetlands. To classify wetlands for the purposes of the CWA, a three-parameter approach is used that includes the presence of hydrophytic (water-loving) vegetation, wetland hydrology, and hydric soils (soils formed during saturation/inundation). All three parameters must be present, under normal circumstances, for an area to be designated as a jurisdictional wetland under the CWA.

Section 404 of the CWA establishes a regulatory program which provides that discharge of dredged or fill material cannot be permitted if a practicable alternative exists that is less damaging to the aquatic environment or if the nation's waters would be significantly degraded. The Section 404 permit program is run by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) with oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

The USACE issues two types of 404 permits: General and Individual. There are two types of General permits: Regional and Nationwide. Regional permits are issued for a general category of activities when they are similar in nature and cause minimal environmental effect. Nationwide permits are issued to allow a variety of minor project activities with no more than minimal effects.

Ordinarily, projects that do not meet the criteria for a Regional or Nationwide Permit may be permitted under one of USACE's Individual permits. There are two types of Individual permits: Standard permits and Letters of Permission. For Individual permits, the USACE decision to approve is based on compliance with U.S. EPA's Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 230), and whether permit approval is in the public interest. The Section 404 (b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) were developed by the U.S. EPA in conjunction with the USACE, and allow the discharge of dredged or fill material into the aquatic system (waters of the U.S.) only if there is no practicable alternative which would have less adverse effects. The Guidelines state that the USACE may not issue a permit if there is a "least environmentally damaging practicable alternative" (LEDPA) to the proposed discharge that would have lesser effects on waters of the U.S., and not have any other significant adverse environmental consequences.

The Executive Order for the Protection of Wetlands (EO 11990) also regulates the activities of federal agencies with regard to wetlands. Essentially, EO 11990 states that a federal agency, such as FHWA and/or the Department, as assigned, cannot undertake or provide assistance for new construction located in wetlands unless the head of the agency finds: (1) that there is no practicable alternative to the construction and (2) the proposed project includes all practicable measures to minimize harm. A Wetlands Only Practicable Alternative Finding must be made.

At the state level, wetlands and waters are regulated primarily by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). In certain circumstances, the Coastal Commission (or Bay Conservation and Development Commission or the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency) may also be involved. Sections 1600-1607 of the California Fish and Game Code require any agency that proposes a project that will substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of or substantially change the bed or bank of a river, stream, or lake to notify CDFW before beginning construction. If CDFW determines that the project may substantially and adversely affect fish or wildlife resources, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement will be required. CDFW jurisdictional limits are usually defined by the tops of the stream or lake banks, or the outer edge of riparian vegetation, whichever is wider. Wetlands under jurisdiction of the USACE may or may not be included in the area covered by a Streambed Alteration Agreement obtained from the CDFW.

The RWQCBs were established under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act to oversee water quality. Discharges under the Porter-Cologne Act are permitted by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) and may be required even when the discharge is already permitted or exempt under the CWA. In compliance with Section 401 of the CWA, the RWQCBs also issue water quality certifications for activities which may result in a discharge to waters of the U.S. This is most frequently required in tandem with a Section 404 permit request. Please see Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*, for more details.

### **2.3.2.2 Affected Environment**

The following discussion is from the proposed Project's *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023, and *Aquatic Resources Delineation Report* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2022). Field aquatic resource delineations were conducted on August 12, 2020, and June 10, 2021. A preliminary jurisdictional delineation was submitted to USACE for concurrence on October 12, 2023, and resubmitted on February 15, 2024.

An aquatic resources delineation has been prepared for all potential wetlands and waters of the U.S. and/or State occurring within the Biological Study Area (BSA), which is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. All areas within the BSA were assessed to the degree necessary to determine the presence or absence of jurisdictional aquatic resources, per the guidelines established by USACE. Much of the delineation effort involved a reverification of previously delineated aquatic resources



associated with various other projects overlapping the BSA. Table 2.3.2-1 provides a summary of Section 404 jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional areas within the BSA.

**Table 2.3.2-1. Summary of Delineated Jurisdictional Resources**

Feature Class	Acreage Jurisdictional	Acreage Non-Jurisdictional
Canal	-	0.12
Ditch	0.02	1.30
Fresh Emergent Wetland	9.50	0.16
Muted Tidal Marsh	0.98	-
Open Water	0.78	-
Perennial Channel	3.74	-
Seep	-	0.07
<b>Total Acreage</b>	<b>15.03</b>	<b>1.64</b>

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

Note: Due to rounding, total acreage of non-jurisdictional resources differs slightly from sum of parts.

Aquatic resources mapped during aquatic resources delineations were sorted into feature classes, in accordance with the USACE manual. The USACE manual's classification system for aquatic features differs from descriptions given for the aquatic vegetation communities in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. The feature classes identified during the delineations are canal, ditch, fresh emergent wetland, muted tidal marsh, open water, perennial channel, and seep.

During the delineations, approximately 15.03 acres of potentially jurisdictional aquatic resources were mapped. In addition, approximately 1.64 acres of non-jurisdictional features were also mapped, including approximately 1.42 acres of canal and ditch and approximately 0.23 acre of non-jurisdictional, isolated wetland features.

Many of the BSA's jurisdictional features were associated with the northern portion of the BSA in the vicinity of McNabney Marsh. This includes a single ditch that is a tributary to the marsh (totals 0.02 acre), freshwater emergent wetlands (9.5 acres), muted tidal marsh (0.95 acre), and open water (0.78 acre).

All streams intersecting the survey area are perennial. Las Trampas, Tice, and San Ramon Creeks originate in the Oakland Hills and Berkeley Hills. San Ramon Creek is also fed by tributaries originating on the western slopes of Mount Diablo, including Green Valley Creek. Tice Creek is a tributary of San Ramon Creek, immediately

upstream of the confluence of San Ramon and Las Trampas Creeks. Walnut Creek is created by the confluence of Las Trampas and San Ramon Creeks and flows into the Carquinez Strait, which is the nearest Traditional Navigable Water. All of the channels are cement lined or highly channelized due to the surrounding urban landscape. The survey area contains approximately 3.74 acres of perennial channel.

All wetland and water features identified may also be regulated by the RWQCB as waters of the State through Section 401 of the CWA and/or the State Porter-Cologne Act. All drainages (i.e., forested channels) and drainage features with bed and bank topography may be regulated by Sections 1600 through 1616 of the California Fish and Game Code. The margins of the canal and channels are devoid of continuous canopy or dripline and are mostly hardscaped with discontinuous non-native or landscape trees. The BSA is outside the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

This aquatic resources delineation is preliminary and subject to verification by USACE. The project team is requesting a preliminary jurisdictional determination from USACE as certain features do not appear to meet the definition of waters of the U.S. Additional information regarding consultation and coordination with USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB is provided in Chapter 4, *Comments and Coordination*.

### **2.3.2.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on wetlands or other waters would occur.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

Approximately 0.26 acre of aquatic resources, which may fall within USACE, RWQCB, and/or CDFW jurisdiction, are situated within or immediately adjacent to proposed permanent and temporary impact areas. No permanent or temporary impact areas overlap the mapped potential wetlands or waters in the vicinity of McNabney Marsh (north of PM 23.1).

The Project's impact areas overlap waterways at two locations - Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing (PM 16.1) and Rudgear Road Undercrossing (i.e., San Ramon Creek [between PM R12.6 and PM R12.7]). For all Build Alternatives, construction impacts would occur primarily on the elevated roadway spanning the waterways at these bridges. None of the Build Alternatives include ground or vegetation disturbance below the OHWM or within CDFW jurisdiction at these locations. Falsework would be installed during construction that would span the waterways and protect debris and contaminants from falling into these waters.

Pavement widening and utility installation overlaps potential wetlands or water at several additional locations within the BSA. For example, all Build Alternatives would install utilities over the Contra Costa Canal between PM 21.8 and PM 21.9. However, conduit would either span the canal next to existing conduit, or be placed on the highway shoulder, which would avoid impacting this water.

The *Aquatic Resources Delineation Report* also included a mapped wetland or water that crosses I-680 and the Iron Horse Regional Trail (near PM 18.4), which connects to Walnut Creek. All Build Alternatives would include highway widening, soundwall construction, and installation of luminaires, variable toll message signs (VTMS), and other utilities at this location. All Build Alternatives would avoid impacts to this culvert.

The Build Alternatives would have the same permanent BMP areas. BMPs will be determined during final design. Potential BMP locations are described in Section 1.4.1.4, *Permanent Stormwater Treatment*, and shown in Appendix I. Where BMP areas overlap or would be adjacent to potential wetlands or waters, these wetlands or waters would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable.

It is anticipated that up to approximately 0.26 acre of wetlands and waters could be impacted by the Project, which would be verified during final design. Caltrans is requesting a preliminary jurisdictional determination from USACE as certain features do not appear to meet the definition of waters of the U.S. The final environmental document will contain relevant project coordination with USACE.

No net loss of aquatic resources would be achieved through impact avoidance, minimization, and/or compensatory mitigation. Measure **BIO-MM-2** would be implemented for all Build Alternatives, which would require mitigation for permanent impacts on aquatic resources at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio. Mitigation can be achieved through onsite restoration, in-lieu fee payment, or purchase of mitigation credits at a mitigation bank approved by USACE or RWQCB.

#### **2.3.2.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

##### **BIO-MM-2**

Where impact areas overlap or would be adjacent to potential wetlands/waters, these wetlands/waters would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. The location of permanent BMPs will be refined during final design and wetlands and other waters would be avoided where feasible. Mitigation for any permanent impacts on aquatic resources shall be provided at a minimum of 1:1 ratio, which would be determined in consultation with the permitting agencies during final design. Mitigation can be achieved through onsite restoration, in-lieu fee payment, or purchase of mitigation credits at a mitigation bank approved by USACE or RWQCB. Mitigation as required in regulatory permits issued through USACE and/or the RWQCB may be applied.

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## 2.3.3 Plant Species

### 2.3.3.1 Regulatory Setting

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) have regulatory responsibility for the protection of special-status plant species. “Special-status” species are selected for protection because they are rare and/or subject to population and habitat declines. Special-status is a general term for species that are provided varying levels of regulatory protection. The highest level of protection is given to threatened and endangered species; these are species that are formally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) and/or the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Please see the Threatened and Endangered Species, Section 2.3.5 in this document, for detailed information about these species.

This section of the document discusses all other special-status plant species, including CDFW species of special concern, USFWS candidate species, and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) rare and endangered plants.

The regulatory requirements for FESA can be found at 16 United States Code (USC) Section 1531, et seq. See also 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 402. The regulatory requirements for CESA can be found at California Fish and Game Code, Section 2050, et seq. Department projects are also subject to the Native Plant Protection Act, found at California Fish and Game Code, Section 1900-1913, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), found at California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000-21177.

### 2.3.3.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived from the proposed Project’s *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023. The Biological Study Area (BSA) is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*.

All areas within the BSA were evaluated for suitable habitat to support special-status plant species. The identification of special-status plant species with potential to occur in the region began with a search of the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Database, the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), and the CNPS Inventory of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants for the following 7.5-minute quadrangles: Benicia, Vine Hill, Honker Bay, Briones Valley, Walnut Creek, Clayton, Oakland East, Las Trampas Ridge, Diablo, Hayward, and Dublin. These are the quadrangles in which the BSA is situated and that are reached by a 5-mile radius from the BSA. The potential for special-status plants to occur in the BSA was assessed during the February 2020 through August 2021 field surveys. All areas within the BSA were evaluated for suitable habitat to support special-status plants. This review also included the results of field surveys conducted along the BSA for previous projects. The database searches and initial habitat mapping identified 16 special-status plant species with potential to occur within the BSA (See Table 2.3.3-1).

**Table 2.3.3-1. Special-Status Plant Species with Potential to Occur Within the Biological Study Area**

Special-Status Plant Species
Johnny-nip ( <i>Castilleja ambigua</i> var. <i>ambigua</i> )
Congdon's tarplant ( <i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>congdonii</i> )
Bolander's water-hemlock ( <i>Cicuta maculata</i> var. <i>bolanderi</i> )
Small spikerush ( <i>Eleocharis parvula</i> )
Mount Diablo buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum truncatum</i> )
Jepson's woolly sunflower ( <i>Eriophyllum jepsonii</i> )
Diablo helianthella ( <i>Helianthella castanea</i> )
Delta tule pea ( <i>Lathyrus jepsonii</i> var. <i>jepsonii</i> )
Mason's lilaeopsis ( <i>Lilaeopsis masonii</i> )
Delta mudwort ( <i>Limosella australis</i> )
Hall's bush-mallow ( <i>Malacothamnus hallii</i> )
Marin knotweed ( <i>Polygonum marinense</i> )
Chaparral ragwort ( <i>Senecio aphanactis</i> )
Long-styled sand-spurrey ( <i>Spergularia macrotheca</i> var. <i>longistyla</i> )
Suisun marsh aster ( <i>Symphyotrichum lentum</i> )
Saline clover ( <i>Trifolium hydrophilum</i> )

Many special-status plant species were eliminated from further consideration due to lack of suitable habitat in the BSA including, but not limited to, woodlands with serpentine soils and alkali soils, vernal pools, and montane coniferous forest to support individuals and/or populations. Of the 16 special-status plant species with potential to occur in the BSA, 15 were determined to not warrant further analysis because they occur in habitats that would not be impacted by the proposed Project. Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *congdonii*) is the one special-status plant species with suitable habitat in the BSA that the Project may impact.

### 2.3.3.3 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on special-status plant species would occur. Routine maintenance activities along I-680 would be subject to additional environmental review and required to comply with the USFWS and CDFW requirements regarding protected plant species, should those species be identified within areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by such activities.

#### Build Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5

The Project would result in the permanent loss of grassland habitat that could support listed plant species, as described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. As described therein, Alternative 1C would permanently impact approximately 1.55 acres of brome grassland, Alternatives 2 and 3 would permanently impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland, and Alternative 5 would only impact approximately 0.37 acre of brome grassland. Based on the negative findings during the field surveys, negative findings during focused rare plant surveys conducted by Caltrans for previous projects that overlap the BSA, and the low quality of habitat within the Project's impact areas, the likelihood for Congdon's tarplant to be present in the BSA is considered moderate. Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, which are described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, would minimize or avoid impacts on special-status plant species, including the Congdon's tarplant. In addition, since the Project would impact suitable habitat for the Congdon's tarplant, Measure **BIO-PLANTS-1** would be implemented, which would require a pre-construction survey by a qualified biologist. If Congdon's tarplant or other rare plant is discovered during this survey, the Project biologist would establish a no-work buffer around the discovery for construction activities. Therefore, none of the Build Alternatives would adversely impact special-status plant species.

### 2.3.3.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

In addition to the general measures provided in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities* (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**), the following species-specific avoidance and minimization measure would be implemented:

**BIO-PLANTS-1 Protocol-Level Botanical Surveys.** Protocol-level botanical surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist in appropriate habitat for Congdon's tarplant (brome grassland) during the appropriate blooming period for the species (May through October). Surveys will be conducted during the two seasons prior to initial ground disturbance. If Congdon's tarplant, or any other rare plants are detected during these surveys, they will be mapped and flagged or fenced off for avoidance. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.

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## 2.3.4 Animal Species

### 2.3.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Many state and federal laws regulate impacts to wildlife. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are responsible for implementing these laws. This section discusses potential impacts and permit requirements associated with animals not listed or proposed for listing under the federal or state Endangered Species Act. Species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered are discussed in the Threatened and Endangered Species, Section 2.3.5, below. All other special-status animal species are discussed here, including CDFW fully protected species and species of special concern, and USFWS or NOAA Fisheries candidate species.

Federal laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

State laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:

- California Environmental Quality Act
- Sections 1600–1603 of the California Fish and Game Code
- Sections 3503 and 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code
- Sections 4700, 5050, and 5515 of the California Fish and Game Code
- Special Animals List

### 2.3.4.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived from the proposed Project's *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023. The Biological Study Area (BSA) is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*.

Database searches identified 58 special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur in the BSA. Of these, 22 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur in habitats in the BSA that may be impacted by the Project.

The following federally and/or State-listed wildlife species have the potential to occur in the BSA:

- Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*)

- California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*)
- California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*)
- California Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*)
- Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*)
- Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)
- Northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*)
- Salt marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*)
- Western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*)

These species are discussed further in Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*. The remaining special-status wildlife species with potential to occur in the BSA are discussed below.

### **American Badger**

American badger (*Taxidea taxus*) is a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). American badgers occur in open habitats, such as grassland, oak savanna, and coastal scrub, with multiple burrows for shelter and rearing young. Habitat in the BSA was assessed as part of the general wildlife/habitat study. Suitable habitat for American badger is present within the BSA but is extremely limited. Scrub and oak woodland habitat with friable soils and abundant prey resources that occur outside and adjacent to the BSA may provide good habitat for the species. There are no California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) occurrences of the species within 5 miles of the BSA. It is not likely that the species would occur in the BSA; however, it is known to occur in Contra Costa County. In addition, grassland habitat with connectivity to California sagebrush scrub and oak woodland is present in the BSA, specifically adjacent to Sugarloaf Open Space (between Livorna and Rudgear Roads from PM R11.3 to PM R12.6).

### **Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband**

Bridges' coast range shoulderband (*Helminthoglypta nickliniana bridgesi*) is listed on the CDFW Special Animals list but is not a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). The Bridges' subspecies of coast range shoulderband is endemic to Alameda and Contra Costa Counties where it inhabits open hillsides, particularly those with open woodlands near creeks, and tends to form colonies under tall grasses and weeds.

Habitat in the BSA was assessed as part of the general wildlife/habitat study. There is one CNDDDB occurrence of the snail within 1 mile of the BSA. The single known



occurrence is from 2004 and was of a single observed individual. According to satellite imagery, this site has since been graded for a residential development. The brome grassland, coast live oak, valley oak woodland, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, or semi-natural ornamental areas could provide suitable habitat for this species in the BSA.

### **Coast Horned Lizard**

Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) is a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). Coast horned lizards occupy sage scrub, dunes, alluvial scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak, riparian, coniferous forest, and saltbush scrub vegetation communities. They require loose, fine soil for burrowing, open areas for basking, and dense foliage for cover. Coast horned lizards are most abundant in the southern California coastal mountains and Sierra Nevada foothills, though they do range along the Coast Range mountains as far north as the Mount Diablo foothills in Contra Costa County.

No coast horned lizards were observed during field surveys. There are no CNDDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA. However, the species is known to occur in the Mount Diablo foothills. California sagebrush scrub and coast live oak woodland in the BSA provide marginally suitable habitat for the species. There is potential connectivity between California sagebrush scrub and coast live oak woodland habitat in the BSA between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road (i.e., between PM R11.3 and PM R12.6).

### **Grassland Nesting Birds**

Three special-status bird species that inhabit grasslands have the potential to occur in the BSA: grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) and loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) are both considered California Species of Special Concern, while California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) is a state watch list species (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). All three species were once quite common and widespread throughout much of California, especially the grasslands of the Central Valley, but with much of the landscape converted to agriculture and development, the species no longer occupy much of their former range. In the Coast Range mountains, these species often occupy grassy hillsides with dense, thatch ground cover comprised of a mix of grasses and forbs and scattered shrubs.

No grasshopper sparrows, loggerhead shrikes, or California horned larks were observed in the BSA during field surveys; however, some suitable habitat for these species is present within the BSA, though it is extremely limited within the proposed Project impact areas. There was one CNDDDB occurrence each of grasshopper sparrow, loggerhead shrike, and California horned lark within 5 miles of the BSA. Grassy hillside habitats, especially those in the Sugarloaf Open Space area (between PM R11.4 and PM R12.6), may provide suitable habitat for the species in the BSA.

## Nesting Raptors

Nesting raptors are protected under Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which states, “It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.” Several raptors, including Cooper’s hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), and American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), have the potential to occur in the BSA.

Cooper’s hawk is listed on the CDFW Special Animal List and on CDFW’s Watch List (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). Cooper’s hawk is a fairly common and widespread woodland raptor nesting nearly throughout the state, except in the most treeless parts of the Central Valley floor and low deserts. They prefer dense stands of live oaks, riparian zones, and woodland edges where they use cover and make quick bursting flights to ambush their mostly avian prey. One immature Cooper’s hawk was observed in the BSA during field surveys.

White-tailed kite is a CDFW fully protected raptor species in California (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). Species in California with full protection designation have the strongest and most restrictive regulatory protection from take or possession. White-tailed kites nest in oak savanna, oak, and willow riparian vegetation communities, and other open areas with scattered trees near their foraging habitat of open grasslands, meadows, and farmland. They are often seen hover foraging over roadsides or grassy highway medians in pursuit of their prey—mainly small mammals such as voles, mice, and pocket gophers, though birds, reptiles, and insects are sometimes taken. White-tailed kites have the potential to occur in brome grassland, coast live and valley oak woodland, and non-native woodland in the BSA. The nesting period for raptors, including white-tailed kite, occurs generally between February 1 and August 31. Tall, landscaped trees (e.g., gum, oak, pine) within and adjacent to the BSA provide suitable nesting habitat for white-tailed kites. There are no CNDDDB occurrences of white-tailed kite within 5 miles of the BSA. However, the BSA is within the species’ known range and contains suitable habitat for the species.

American peregrine falcon is a CDFW fully protected raptor species in California (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022b). Peregrine falcons were delisted from the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) in 1999. Peregrine falcons are often observed making high-speed pursuits of avian prey through canyons or over wetlands, lakes, rivers, or other aquatic habitats. They nest mainly on cliff ledges, though they will often use high, human-made structures, such as bridges, skyscrapers, or electrical towers. Peregrine falcons have the potential to occur foraging in almost any habitat in the BSA. There is only one CNDDDB occurrence of peregrine falcon within 5 miles of the BSA. However, the BSA is within the species’ known range and contains suitable habitat for the species.

## Obscure Bumble Bee

Obscure bumble bee (*Bombus caliginosus*) is listed on the CDFW Special Animals list but is not a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). It is primarily a Pacific Coast species, ranging from southern British Columbia to southern California, with a few scattered occurrences along the eastern edge of the Central Valley. They are a medium to long-tongued species, whose food plants include those in the genera *Ceanothus*, *Cirsium*, *Clarkia*, *Keckiella*, *Lathyrus*, *Lotus*, *Lupinus*, *Rhododendron*, *Rubus*, *Trifolium*, and *Vaccinium*. Obscure bumble bees require open grassland or shrubland habitats with abundant flowering plants. They nest primarily underground in small mammal burrows, but sometimes nest above ground in abandoned bird nests. The brome grassland, mixed invasive field, and California sagebrush scrub areas could provide suitable habitat for obscure bumble bees in the BSA.

## Roosting Bats

Bats are widespread within California and are found in a variety of habitats. They are nocturnal, aerial predators of insects and other arthropods and often forage over open water, marshes, and other moist, open areas where flying insects tend to congregate. Different bat species will roost in a variety of places, including crevices, caves, mines, buildings, bridges, trees, and snags. Some species are nearly or entirely solitary, while others gather in roosting colonies numbering in the thousands or even millions. During the breeding season (April through September), crevice and cavity roosting species typically gather in groups of mothers and young (maternity colonies) that may number in the thousands or even tens of thousands of individuals.

Bats will also use separate night roosts as temporary resting locations while out on their nightly foraging trips. Night roosts serve the important purpose of giving bats time to digest between foraging sessions, thus reducing the load they must carry in flight. These roosts also appear to have a social function, as males who do not roost with females during the day may be found mixed with females at night roosts (Erickson, et al., 2002). Night roosts require less precise temperature conditions than day roosts and may be located in more open areas, such as overhangs on buildings and open areas on the undersides of bridges.

The following five special-status bat species have the potential to occur foraging, roosting, and/or breeding within the BSA:

- Hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), Global Rank 3, State Rank 4
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), a California Species of Special Concern
- Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), a California Species of Special Concern

- Western red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*), a California Species of Special Concern
- Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*), a federal sensitive species

No focused bat surveys were conducted during the field survey effort for the proposed Project. However, potential roosting trees and structures (e.g., buildings and bridge crossings) were observed within the BSA. During general habitat surveys and in collaboration with other overlapping projects that conducted bat surveys within the alignment, most of the bridges and overpasses in the BSA were found to not provide suitable crevices to support roosting habitat for bats, because they are contiguous slab structures devoid of hinges or joints into which crevice-roosting bats will often find their way. Tree-roosting bat species could use hollows or cavities in large trees, though no such cavities were observed during the surveys conducted for this proposed Project. Nevertheless, all built structures and trees near impact areas should be examined carefully prior to construction for signs of potential bat occupancy.

### **San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat**

San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*) is a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). They are found throughout the San Francisco Bay area in chaparral or wooded areas with evergreen, live oaks, and other thick-leaved trees and shrubs. Woodrats (or packrats as they are often called) build large houses out of sticks. Houses are typically placed on the ground against or straddling a log or exposed roots of a standing tree and are often located in dense brush. Nests are also placed in the crotches and cavities of trees and in hollow logs. Sometimes arboreal nests are constructed, but this behavior seems to be more common in habitat with evergreen and live oak trees.

Habitat in the BSA was assessed as part of the general wildlife/habitat study. Suitable foraging and potential breeding habitat for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat is present within the BSA but is extremely limited within the proposed Project impact areas. Scrub and oak woodland habitat that occur outside and adjacent to the BSA may provide good habitat for the species. There is only one CNDDDB occurrence of the species within 5 miles of the BSA. The species has not been observed in the I-680 alignment surveys conducted for parallel projects.

### **Western Burrowing Owl**

Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) is a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022a). Western burrowing owls prefer open, flat, or sloped grasslands and require burrows for nesting and wintering habitat but they will also nest in artificial structures, such as open pipes, concrete rubble piles, and small, dry culverts. They inhabit burrows that are at least 4 inches in diameter and at least 5 feet deep. Burrowing owls forage in grasslands, the margins of agricultural fields, and urban areas with short vegetation or bare soil.



Brome grassland habitat within the BSA may provide suitable habitat for the species. However, Project biologists did not identify any potential burrows suitable for burrowing owls in the grassland during field studies. There is one CNDDDB occurrence of this species within a 2-mile radius of the BSA. Focused burrowing owl surveys following CDFW species protocol were conducted for past, unrelated projects that overlap the BSA. Based on the fragmented nature of suitable habitat within the BSA, the low density of appropriately sized burrows, and the absence of detections during focused surveys for past, unrelated projects, it is unlikely burrowing owls would occur in the BSA. However, burrowing owls could occupy areas of the BSA containing suitable habitat in the future.

### **2.3.4.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on animal species would occur. Routine maintenance activities would be subject to additional environmental review and required to comply with USFWS and CDFW requirements regarding protected wildlife species, should those species be identified within areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by such activities along I-680.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

##### ***American Badger***

Build Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, and Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*). Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Direct impacts on American badgers could occur within the proposed Project construction areas if an occupied burrow were to be dug up during ground disturbance, an occupied burrow were crushed by construction equipment, construction generated noise were to disturb or disrupt individuals, fugitive dust were to leave the proposed Project construction areas and affect an active burrow, or artificial light from the proposed Project (either from nighttime construction or newly installed permanent lighting) were to disrupt individuals. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-BADGER-1**, which would require burrow mapping and avoidance if discovered. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on the American badger would be minimized or avoided.

##### ***Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband***

Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, and a combined total of 1.53 acres of non-native



woodland and semi-natural ornamental habitats (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*), which are potentially suitable habitat for Bridge's coast range shoulderband. Direct impacts on Bridges' coast range shoulderband could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or if fugitive dust from construction activities were to encroach on suitable habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-SNAIL-1**, which would require pre-construction surveys. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on the Bridge's coast range shoulderband would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Coast Horned Lizard***

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*) that is potentially suitable habitat for coast horned lizard. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Direct impacts on coast horned lizard could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or trapped in open excavations, or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-LIZARD-1**, which would require pre-construction surveys. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on the coast horned lizard would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Nesting Raptors and other Nesting Birds***

Project-related activities have the potential to impact nesting raptors and their habitat permanently. Construction activities, such as vegetation clearing and removal and other project-related ground disturbances or equipment operation, could affect nesting in vegetation in or adjacent to work areas. Tree removal could result in a direct loss of active nest sites if nests are present. Project construction activities, particularly noise and vibration, could also result in temporary disturbances to active nests or individuals foraging in areas near the BSA that could cause individuals to avoid using adjacent areas or cause nests to be abandoned.

All Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. Pre-construction surveys would also be conducted for Cooper's hawk, white-tailed kite, and peregrine falcon in accordance with Measures **BIO-HAWK-1**, **BIO-KITE-1**, and **BIO-FALCON-1**.

To further confirm Project-related construction activities do not result in an MBTA violation and Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the Fish and Game Code, Measure



**BIO-GEN-4** would be implemented, requiring work activities, including tree removal, tree trimming, operation of heavy machinery, pile driving, jackhammering, blasting, and elevated work, to be completed outside nesting bird season (February 1 through August 31), if possible. If work cannot be completed outside this time, a qualified biologist would conduct pre-construction nesting surveys. If an active nest or dead or injured bird is discovered, all work would stop within 100 feet of the discovery, according to Caltrans *Standard Specifications*, and a biologist would assess the discovery. The biologist would then establish an appropriately sized buffer around the discovery, which would be no less than 50 feet for most bird nests; 75 feet for grasshopper sparrow, loggerhead shrike, or California horned lark nests; 300 feet for a Cooper's hawk or white-tailed kite nest; and 500 feet for a peregrine falcon nest. The buffer would remain in place until the nest is no longer active or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on nesting birds would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Obscure Bumble Bee***

Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would permanently impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, which is potentially suitable habitat for obscure bumble bee (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*). Potential direct impacts on this bumble bee species, should it be present, include removal of nests or foraging plants, loss of nest habitat, or direct mortality during ground disturbance. Indirect impacts could include changes in foraging behavior, nest abandonment or reduced nest success as a result of increased noise or artificial light, or fugitive dust encroaching on suitable habitat beyond proposed Project construction areas resulting in detrimental impacts on nectar sources. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as **BIO-BEE-1**, which would require a pre-construction bumble bee nest survey. This measure also applies to the candidate listed Crotch and western bumble bees (see Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*). Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on bumble bee species as a result of the disturbance associated with the proposed Project would be unlikely.

### ***Roosting Bats***

Most of the bridges and overpasses in the BSA do not provide suitable crevices to support roosting habitat for bats. There is potential that special-status bats could occupy suitable habitat in trees that could be removed during construction. Direct impacts on roosting bats from tree removal or through disruption of roosting sites from construction noise or lighting could occur. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measures **BIO-BAT-1** and **BIO-BAT-2**, which would require pre-construction surveys and avoidance of roosts, if found. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on roosting bats would be minimized or avoided.

### ***San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat***

Most of the Project's impact areas constitute developed or ruderal habitats consisting of paved roadways and shoulders, gravel shoulders, bare ground, and ruderal vegetation, which do not provide suitable habitat for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*), which is potentially suitable habitat for the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Direct impacts could occur if a woodrat nest were to be present in trees or brush that were removed during clearing and grubbing or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable woodrat habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measures **BIO-WOODRAT-1** and **BIO-WOODRAT-2**, which would require pre-construction surveys and nest relocations if a woodrat nest is discovered, respectively. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Western Burrowing Owl***

Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would permanently impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland (see Table 2.3.1-3, *Estimated Areas of Impacts on Land Cover Types – By Alternative*) that is potentially suitable habitat for western burrowing owl. Direct impacts on burrowing owls could occur within the proposed Project construction areas if an occupied burrow were to be dug up during ground disturbance or crushed by construction equipment or from construction generated noise disturbing or disrupting nesting individuals, fugitive dust leaving the proposed Project construction areas and affecting an active nest, or artificial light from the proposed Project (either from nighttime construction or newly installed permanent lighting) disrupting nesting or roosting individuals. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-OWL-1**, which would require protocol surveys be performed prior to construction. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on western burrowing owl would be minimized or avoided.

#### **2.3.4.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

In addition to the general measures provided in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, the following species-specific avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented:

**BIO-BADGER-1**     **American Badger Pre-Construction Burrow Mapping and Avoidance.** While carrying out protocol burrowing owl surveys (**BIO-OWL-1**), mapping of all mammal burrows will be conducted

within suitable habitat up to 500 meters of proposed Project impact areas. During these surveys, any American badger burrows in the survey area will be mapped. Any American badger burrows identified during these surveys will be avoided by a minimum of 200 feet (occupied by adult badgers), and 500 feet if it is found to be a natal burrow (badger young present). Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if American badger dens are discovered.

**BIO-BAT-1**

**Bats Pre-construction Surveys.** A CDFW-approved bat biologist will conduct preconstruction bat surveys no more than 3 days prior to the start of construction. If an active maternity roost is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate buffer around the roosts. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if roosting bats or evidence of roosting are observed.

**BIO-BAT-2**

**Bat Roost Avoidance.** If bats are detected roosting within a bridge structure within 250 feet of disturbance, lighting will be directed away from the roosts, and combustion equipment and vehicles will not be parked or operated under the bridge or structure. If a roost is discovered in a structure or tree that is to be removed, then an appropriate exclusion method will be implemented in coordination with a qualified bat biologist.

**BIO-BEE-1**

**Bumble Bee Pre-Construction Nest Survey.** A biologist will conduct a pre-construction bumble bee nest survey prior to any ground disturbance associated with the proposed Project in brome grassland, semi-natural ornamental, or non-native woodland habitat. If a bumble bee nest is discovered in or within 50 feet of any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey, then the nest will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.

**BIO-FALCON-1**

**Peregrine Falcon Pre-Construction Survey.** If an active peregrine falcon nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 500 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.

**BIO-KITE-1**

**White-tailed Kite Pre-Construction Surveys.** If an active white-tailed kite nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.

- BIO-HAWK-1** **Cooper's Hawk Nest Buffer.** If an active Cooper's hawk nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. If necessary, Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if a Cooper's hawk nest is discovered.
- BIO-LIZARD-1** **Coast Horned Lizard Pre-Construction Surveys.** A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure coast horned lizards are absent in proposed Project impact areas between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road (PM R11.3 and PM R12.6).
- BIO-OWL-1** **CDFW Protocol Surveys.** A qualified biologist will conduct burrowing owl surveys in brome grassland habitat in and within 500 meters (1,640 feet) of the BSA following CDFW's protocols (CDFW 2012) in the year prior to ground disturbance. Surveys will be repeated if construction is delayed or suspended for more than 30 days. If an occupied burrow or structure is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer around it following CDFW's 2012 guidelines.
- BIO-SNAIL-1** **Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband Pre-Construction Surveys.** A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for shoulderband snails prior to any ground disturbance in brome grassland, coast live oak woodland, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, or semi-natural ornamental habitats. If a shoulderband snail colony is discovered in any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey during the pre-construction survey, then it will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.
- BIO-WOODRAT-1** **San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Pre-Construction Survey.** Prior to clearing of any vegetation in the proposed Project impact areas or within 50 feet of ground disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a survey for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests. If San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests are located, an exclusion buffer of at least 50 feet from these nests will be established to avoid disturbing the nests.
- BIO-WOODRAT-2** **San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Nest Translocation.** Nest relocation will only occur if necessary and performed by a permitted biologist. Caltrans will contact CDFW if it is necessary to relocate a nest.

## 2.3.5 Threatened and Endangered Species

### 2.3.5.1 Regulatory Setting

The primary federal law protecting threatened and endangered species is the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA): 16 United States Code (USC) Section 1531, et seq. See also 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 402. This act and later amendments provide for the conservation of endangered and threatened species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Under Section 7 of this act, federal agencies, such as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (and the Department, as assigned), are required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) to ensure that they are not undertaking, funding, permitting, or authorizing actions likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Critical habitat is defined as geographic locations critical to the existence of a threatened or endangered species. The outcome of consultation under Section 7 may include a Biological Opinion with an Incidental Take Statement or a Letter of Concurrence. Section 3 of FESA defines take as "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or any attempt at such conduct."

California has enacted a similar law at the state level, the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), California Fish and Game Code Section 2050, et seq. CESA emphasizes early consultation to avoid potential impacts to rare, endangered, and threatened species and to develop appropriate planning to offset project-caused losses of listed species populations and their essential habitats. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is the agency responsible for implementing CESA. Section 2080 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits "take" of any species determined to be an endangered species or a threatened species. Take is defined in Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." CESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful development projects; for these actions an incidental take permit is issued by CDFW. For species listed under both FESA and CESA requiring a Biological Opinion under Section 7 of FESA, the CDFW may also authorize impacts to CESA species by issuing a Consistency Determination under Section 2080.1 of the California Fish and Game Code.

Another federal law, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, was established to conserve and manage fishery resources found off the coast, as well as anadromous species and Continental Shelf fishery resources of the United States, by exercising (A) sovereign rights for the purposes of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing all fish within the exclusive economic zone established by Presidential Proclamation 5030, dated March 10, 1983, and (B) exclusive fishery management authority beyond the exclusive economic zone over such anadromous species, Continental Shelf fishery resources, and fishery resources in special areas.



### 2.3.5.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived from the proposed Project's *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023. The Biological Study Area (BSA) is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*.

The identification of threatened or endangered animal species with the potential to occur in the region was based on a search of the USFWS Species List Databases and the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for the 11 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles surrounding the BSA, as well as field reconnaissance surveys, habitat assessments, and the aquatic resource delineation survey completed for the Project. An official list of federally listed (or candidate) species potentially occurring in the proposed Project vicinity was requested from the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system in March 2020, and an updated official list was requested in March 2024.

As previously discussed in Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*, the following eight species listed as threatened or endangered under FESA or CESA, or that are currently candidates for listing as threatened or endangered, have the potential to occur within the BSA: Crotch bumble bee, western bumble bee, monarch butterfly, California red-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, salt-marsh harvest mouse, and northwestern pond turtle.

#### Crotch Bumble Bee and Western Bumble Bee

Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) and western bumble bee (*B. occidentalis*) have the potential to occur in the BSA based on the presence of suitable habitat and historical occurrences in the BSA. Crotch and western bumble bee were advanced as candidates for listing as endangered by the California Fish and Game Commission in 2019. The listing process was then paused while legal proceedings took place to establish whether insects could in fact be listed under CESA. In September 2022, the California Supreme Court upheld the 2019 decision to advance the bumble bees as candidates for listing, reinitiating the candidate period for them.

Crotch bumble bees are nearly endemic to California and once occupied grassland and shrubland habitat across California's Central Valley, the coast ranges, and the southern California mountains. Since the late 20th Century, the species has experienced severe declines and a retraction of its range and is now thought to be extirpated from the Central Valley. Western bumble bees were once common and widespread throughout the western U.S., but they too have experienced a dramatic decline and are no longer present in much of their former range. While there are several CNDDDB occurrences of western bumble bee and one occurrence of Crotch bumble bee within 5 miles of the BSA, none of these occurrences are more recent than the 1970s.

Bumble bees are important pollinators and require open grassland or shrubland habitats with abundant flowering plants. They nest primarily underground, requiring abandoned small mammal burrows as nest sites, though western bumble bees have also been



observed using above-ground sites, such as brush piles, logs, or stacked railroad ties (Williams, 2014). Nesting season for both species is from February through October. The Crotch bumble bee is a short-tongued species and is therefore reliant on open flowers with short corollas, such as those in the genera *Asclepias*, *Chaenactis*, *Lupinus*, *Medicago*, *Phacelia*, and *Salvia*. Western bumble bees are more general about the types of flowers they visit and can often be found in more developed areas with abundant flowering plants, such as parks and gardens.

Crotch bumble bee and western bumble bee have the potential to occur in the BSA based on presence of suitable habitat and historical occurrences in the BSA. Suitable habitat for these species within the BSA includes areas mapped as brome grassland, mixed invasive field, live oak woodland, and semi-natural ornamental. Focused surveys for bumble bees have not been conducted to date for the Project.

### **Monarch Butterfly**

The monarch butterfly is a widespread but rapidly declining North American butterfly species with a population that overwinters on the Pacific coast from just north of the San Francisco Bay Area south to Baja California (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020a). Monarchs were advanced as a candidate for federal listing by USFWS in 2020. Listing was found to be warranted but precluded by higher priority listing actions at that time. In July 2022, the International Union of Conservation of Nature placed monarchs on their Red List as endangered, and the species continues to be reviewed as a candidate for FESA listing by USFWS.

Monarchs are a prolifically migratory butterfly species, breeding across much of North America and journeying south to wintering grounds on the California coast and as far south as southern Mexico. They are important pollinators to a diversity of blooming nectar resources on their breeding grounds and across their migration routes. Their host plant is milkweed (*Asclepias* sp.), which they depend on for oviposition and subsequent larval feeding (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020a).

Migratory monarchs in western North America overwinter primarily in groves of large trees along the coast of California and Baja California. The location and structure of these groves provide the specific microclimate needed for survival in their overwintering areas. These groves are most commonly composed of blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*), and Monterey cypress (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) roost trees. These groves provide indirect sunlight, sources of moisture for hydration, defense against freezing temperatures, and protection against strong winds (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020a).

There are no known monarch overwintering areas in the BSA, with the nearest occurrence in CNDDDB being approximately 7 miles to the northwest between the Carquinez Bridge and Mare Island where the more frequent coastal fog provides more suitable conditions for overwintering. However, monarchs are known to occur in the BSA during breeding and migration periods, and while no milkweed was observed

during the field surveys, there was at least one recent observation of milkweed near the BSA at Sugarloaf Open Space (Xerces, 2023).

### California Red-Legged Frog

California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*) are a federally threatened amphibian species and a California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). Critical habitat for California red-legged frogs was designated by USFWS in April 2006 and revised in March 2010 (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010b). The closest designated critical habitat for this species is 9 miles from the BSA, and the closest proposed critical habitat units are approximately 2 miles from the BSA.

California red-legged frog habitat consists of the following:

- *Aquatic Breeding Habitat.* This habitat includes natural or artificial, ephemeral or permanent standing bodies of fresh water, slow-moving streams, or pools within streams that can sustain all the species' aquatic life stages. These areas must hold water for at least 20 weeks during the year, which is the minimum amount of time needed for breeding and tadpole development and metamorphosis (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010b). It is also critical that aquatic breeding habitat for the species be free of predatory bullfrogs, or at least provide sufficient vegetative cover as protection from predation. Ephemeral aquatic features often prove to be better breeding habitat for California red-legged frogs because the drying period helps to prevent establishment of bullfrog populations.
- *Non-Breeding Aquatic Habitat.* This habitat includes springs, seeps, moist cracks within dried ponds, and vegetated areas growing within the floodplains of rivers and streams. These areas do not hold enough water for California red-legged frog breeding but provide cover and space needed for foraging and dispersal to other breeding habitats. They are particularly important during drought periods (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010b).
- *Upland Habitat.* This habitat consists of areas where California red-legged frogs can seek shelter, such as under boulders, rocks, animal burrows, fallen logs, and agricultural debris, such as watering troughs and haystacks. Upland habitats are also important because they buffer aquatic habitats from degradation and provide space for foraging, sheltering, and avoiding predation (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010b).
- *Dispersal Habitat.* This habitat includes migration corridors that allow the frogs to disperse overland to and from breeding sites, sometimes as far as 1.5 miles apart. Dispersal habitat can take many forms. A riparian woodland corridor between aquatic breeding habitat and upland refugia provides a more obvious dispersal opportunity; however, in some areas California red-legged

frogs may make use of pastures, concrete-lined channels, or other less natural habitats for dispersal.

According to CNDDDB, there are 13 occurrences of California red-legged frogs within 5 miles of the BSA. This includes a tributary to San Ramon Creek that is upstream of the BSA. Within the BSA, San Ramon Creek is shallow and concrete-lined with only sparse vegetation and crosses under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. This segment of San Ramon Creek could be potential dispersal habitat for California red-legged frogs but would not be suitable breeding habitat for the species. No CNDDDB occurrences have been documented in Las Trampas Creek or from the main body of Walnut Creek to Suisun Bay.

The land surrounding the BSA is almost entirely urban, consisting of residential and commercial development. The Contra Costa Canal and other creeks that cross I-680 could serve as potential dispersal habitat for California-red legged frogs. These creeks could provide artificial shelters for the species in the form of culverts, pipe outlets, and debris. However, the lack of suitable habitat within the BSA, the amount of urban development and human activity surrounding the BSA, and the distance and isolation of the BSA from areas of suitable habitat where California red-legged frogs are known to occur make it highly unlikely that this species would occur within the BSA.

### **Alameda Whipsnake**

The Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*) is a federally and state listed threatened species (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). USFWS published a final rule on October 2, 2006, designating critical habitat for the species (71 Federal Register 58175). The nearest critical habitat unit for this species is approximately 0.5 mile west of I-680 near Livorna Road.

Alameda whipsnakes are typically found in chaparral—northern coastal sage scrub and coastal sage. Recent telemetry data indicate that, although Alameda whipsnake home ranges are centered on shrub communities, they commonly venture up to 500 feet, and sometimes as far as 4 miles, into adjacent habitats, including grassland, oak savanna, and occasionally oak-bay woodland (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020b). Rock outcrops provide important retreat opportunities for Alameda whipsnake.

Adult Alameda whipsnakes appear to have a bimodal seasonal activity pattern with a large peak during the spring mating season and a smaller peak during late summer and early fall. Although short, above-ground movements may occur during the winter, Alameda whipsnake individuals generally retreat in November into a hibernaculum (shelter used during the snake's dormancy period) and emerge in March (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2006). Courtship and mating occur from late March through mid-June. Grassland habitats are used by males most extensively during the mating season in spring. Females use grassland areas most extensively after mating, possibly in their search for suitable egg-laying sites. The only reported evidence of Alameda whipsnake egg-laying is within a grassland community adjacent to a chaparral community. This egg-laying occurred within a few feet of scrub on un-grazed grassland

interspersed with lots of scattered shrubs (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2006).

Alameda whipsnakes currently inhabit the inner coast range, mostly in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, with additional occurrences in San Joaquin and Santa Clara Counties, and core areas most commonly occur on east, south, southeast, and southwest facing slopes. However, recent information indicates that Alameda whipsnakes do make use of north facing slopes in more open stands of scrub habitat. The current distribution of the subspecies has been reduced to five separate population areas with little or no interchange due to habitat loss, alteration, and fragmentation. Three of these five areas are in Contra Costa County, with the other two in Alameda County. The BSA is situated between the Tilden-Briones and Oakland-Las Trampas population areas to the west, and the Mount Diablo-Black Hills population area to the east (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2006).

No focused surveys were conducted for Alameda whipsnake; however, habitat in the BSA was assessed as part of the general wildlife/habitat study. Potentially suitable foraging and breeding habitat for Alameda whipsnake is present but extremely limited within the BSA. Scrub and oak woodland habitat with rock outcrops and abundant prey resources (specifically western fence lizards) occur adjacent to the BSA and may provide suitable habitat for the species.

There are 24 CNDDDB occurrences of Alameda whipsnake within 4 miles of the BSA. Several of these occurrences are within or just north of the designated critical habitat, which encompasses Las Trampas Ridge. Urban development borders the highway in this area, which further separates the BSA from more open, natural areas where Alameda whipsnake are most likely to occur.

### **Northwestern Pond Turtle**

Northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) is a proposed federally threatened species and California Species of Special Concern (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). Northwestern pond turtles occur in a variety of aquatic habitats, such as ponds, marshes, rivers, streams, and ephemeral pools. They require deep, slack, or slow-moving water habitat for feeding, suitable unshaded dry habitat for basking and hauling out, and upland nesting areas.

No northwestern pond turtles were observed during field surveys. No focused surveys were conducted for this species. Northwestern pond turtles are known to be present immediately adjacent to the BSA in both McNabney Marsh and Moorhen Marsh. There are also CNDDDB occurrences of the species from Pacheco Creek and Grayson Creek. The Mt. View Sanitary District maintains Moorhen Marsh, west of the southbound I-680 shoulder between PM 23.7 and PM 23.9. The 20-acre marsh is a constructed feature that receives treated wastewater and provides suitable habitat for northwestern pond turtles. In 2014, Mt. View Sanitary District estimated 80–100 northwestern pond turtles inhabited the 20-acre marsh (California Department of Transportation, 2014). Portions of this marsh are within 100 feet of the BSA. A chain-link fence along Moorhen Marsh

provides a movement barrier for northwestern pond turtle, inhibiting their access to the BSA, though hatchlings for a time are small enough to potentially fit through the fence.

### California Black Rail

The California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*) is not federally listed but is listed as threatened under CESA and is a State fully protected species (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). The bulk of the population is restricted to the northern reaches of San Francisco Estuary's (San Pablo Bay) tidal marshlands (California Wildlife Habitat Relationships, 1999). California black rails are associated with high overall vegetation cover, high cover of small tidal channels, and low cover of saltgrass, tule (*Schoenoplectus acutus*), and California bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*). The species is more likely to be present in larger marshes with higher proportions of adjacent natural upland or agriculture and is less likely in more isolated marshes. California black rails require access to vegetated upper marsh as refuge from predation during high tides, particularly where the marsh vegetation is low. They commonly nest in pickleweed and alkali bulrush.

No focused surveys were conducted for California black rail. Suitable habitat for this species occurs within Waterbird Regional Preserve – McNabney Marsh (saltgrass flat, cattail, and common reed marsh). Portions of the Waterbird Regional Preserve are adjacent to the northern portion of the BSA. There are four CNDDDB occurrences of California black rail within a 2-mile radius of the BSA.

### California Ridgway's Rail

The California Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*) is a federally and state listed endangered species (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022). This species was known formerly as California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*). It was reclassified recently and is no longer considered conspecific with clapper rail, which is found on the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. USFWS has not yet adopted this reclassification; therefore, it is still identified as California clapper rail under FESA.

Throughout their distribution, California Ridgway's rails occur within salt and brackish marshes. In south and central San Francisco Bay and along the perimeter of San Pablo Bay, these rails typically inhabit salt marshes dominated by pickleweed and Pacific cordgrass. Pacific cordgrass dominates the middle marsh zone throughout the south and central Bay.

In the north Bay (Petaluma Marsh, Napa-Sonoma Marshes, Suisun Marsh), California Ridgway's rails also live in tidal brackish marshes, which vary significantly in vegetation structure and composition. Use of brackish marshes by California Ridgway's rails is restricted largely to major sloughs and rivers of San Pablo Bay and Suisun Marsh and along Coyote Creek in south San Francisco Bay. California Ridgway's rails have rarely been recorded in non-tidal marsh areas.



California Ridgway's rails are almost entirely restricted to the marshes of the San Francisco Estuary, where the only known Bay Area breeding populations occur. In south San Francisco Bay, populations occur in all of the larger tidal marshes. In San Pablo Bay and Suisun Bay, its distribution is patchy and discontinuous, occurring along major sloughs and rivers of San Pablo Bay and along major tidal sloughs of Suisun Marsh (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2015).

Breeding California Ridgway's rails require tidal marshes with a well-developed tidal channel system with full tidal influence, cordgrass, and a vegetated upper marsh/upland ecotone. The minimum marsh size likely to be used by California Ridgway's rail is estimated at approximately 2.5 acres. The maximum dispersal distance recorded in radio telemetry studies is approximately 1.9 miles.

Marginal California Ridgway's rail habitat occurs within the BSA at the northern end of McNabney Marsh (saltgrass flats). In April 2013, a California Ridgway's rail vocalization was detected at McNabney Marsh (California Department of Transportation, 2014). Follow-up surveys conducted from February through April 2014 did not detect California Ridgway's rail in the McNabney Marsh. There are no CNDDDB occurrences, nor any records of California Ridgway's rail archived in citizen science databases, such as eBird or iNaturalist, at McNabney Marsh. California Ridgway's rail is not listed on the McNabney Marsh Bird Checklist (Mt View Sanitation District, 2015). All other documented records of California Ridgway's rail from within 5 miles of the BSA, besides the 2013 detection, have been from north of the tide gates along the San Pablo Bay shoreline where the natural tidal channels and greater amount of cordgrass make the habitat much more suitable for the species than the habitat in McNabney Marsh.

### **Salt-Marsh Harvest Mouse**

The salt-marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*) is a federally and state listed endangered species and State fully protected species (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022).

This small rodent is endemic to the San Francisco Bay. The mouse is a cover-dependent species that resides mainly in large pickleweed stands within a marsh complex. However, they also depend on adjacent higher ground, usually made up of peripheral halophytes, to escape the high tide. They are largely nocturnal and are active year-round, with a breeding season of March through November. Their diet consists largely of salt grass and pickleweed, as well as occasional insects and seeds (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010c).

This species is threatened due to habitat destruction and disturbance from development and the intrusion of fresh water into salt marshes within San Francisco Bay as a result of anthropogenic alteration of hydrology through landscape conversion. Further, in many marsh habitats there are no longer any higher grounds to escape to during occurrences of high tide. In many cases what little high ground is left provides little to no cover for the animals, so they become easy prey to feral house cats and non-native red foxes (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010c).





There are four CNDDDB occurrences of this species within a 2-mile radius of the BSA. No protocol level surveys were conducted for the salt-marsh harvest mouse. Suitable habitat for this species occurs in the BSA within McNabney Marsh. However, the associated marsh habitat does not occur within any of the proposed construction areas.

### **2.3.5.3 Environmental Consequences**

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impact on threatened or endangered species would occur. Routine maintenance activities would be subject to additional environmental review and required to comply with USFWS and CDFW requirements regarding protected wildlife species, should those species be identified within areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by such activities along I-680.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

##### ***Crotch Bumble Bee and Western Bumble Bee***

All Build Alternatives are expected to have a maximum of 1.73 acres of permanent impacts on brome grassland, 0.16 acre of impacts on coast live oak woodland, and a combined total of 1.59 acres of impacts to non-native woodland and semi-natural ornamental habitats, which are potentially suitable habitat for Crotch and western bumble bees. It should be noted that Alternative 5 would have no impacts on coast live oak woodland or non-native woodland habitats. Potential direct impacts on these bumble bee species, should they be present, include removal of nests or foraging plants, loss of nest habitat, or direct mortality during ground disturbance. Indirect impacts could include changes in foraging behavior, nest abandonment or reduced nest success as a result of increased noise or artificial light, or fugitive dust encroaching on suitable habitat beyond proposed Project construction areas resulting in detrimental impacts on nectar sources. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-BEE-1**, which would require pre-construction surveys be performed, and any bumble bee nests found to be mapped, flagged, and avoided. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts to Crotch and western bumble bees would be minimized or avoided.

##### ***Monarch Butterfly***

While there is potential for monarch to occur in the BSA, especially passing through during migration, it is not likely for the species to overwinter in non-native woodland or semi-natural ornamental areas in the BSA because the BSA is situated several miles inland from the species' known overwintering range. Furthermore, no milkweed was observed in the BSA during field surveys, which monarchs depend on to complete their life cycle. It is likely that the species only transits through the BSA and does not breed

or winter there. As a result, it is considered very unlikely that the proposed Project would have any impacts on this species. All Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. Species-specific measures are not proposed.

### ***California Red-Legged Frog***

The land surrounding the BSA is almost entirely urban, consisting of residential and commercial development, along with several heavily traveled roads. This development, which contains structural barriers including, but not limited to, concrete road dividers, retaining walls, and residential fences presents major barriers to the dispersal of California red-legged frogs. Due to the absence of breeding habitat and limited aquatic dispersal habitat within the BSA, in conjunction with multiple passage barriers, there is a low likelihood that California red-legged frogs would be found within the BSA or affected by Project activities.

Direct impacts to California red-legged frog could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or trapped in open excavations, or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable California red-legged frog habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measures **BIO-FROG-1** and **BIO-FROG-2**, which would require pre-construction surveys be performed and stop work upon discovery. Therefore, impacts to California red-legged frog would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Alameda Whipsnake***

Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would permanently impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, and all Build Alternatives, except Alternative 5, would impact up to 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, which is potentially suitable dispersal habitat for Alameda whipsnake. Direct impacts would be confined to the proposed Project construction areas. Direct effects on Alameda whipsnake could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment, trapped in open excavations, or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable Alameda whipsnake habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measures **BIO-SNAKE-1** and **BIO-SNAKE-2**, which would require pre-construction surveys and stop work upon discovery. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts to the Alameda whipsnake would be minimized or avoided.

### ***Northwestern Pond Turtle***

Northwestern pond turtles are most likely to occur in the BSA in the vicinity of McNabney Marsh and Moorhen Marsh, from PM 23.5 north to the Benicia-Martinez

Bridge Toll Plaza. The furthest north that construction activities associated with the proposed Project would occur is between PM 23.2, which is south of McNabney Marsh. Electrical conduit for permanent lighting would be installed along the shoulder of northbound I-680 between Arthur Road and PM 23.1, and advance signage would be installed within Caltrans ROW up to PM 23.2.

There is a low potential for the species to occur in San Ramon Creek at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Alternative 5 would not include widening this bridge. At this location, San Ramon Creek is concrete-lined, and the surrounding ground is hardscaped. These conditions do not provide suitable nesting habitat for the species in that area, but the species may use the creek for dispersal between areas of more suitable habitat. Falsework would be installed over San Ramon Creek preventing debris and other contaminants from entering the creek during construction.

Direct impacts on northwestern pond turtle could occur within the proposed Project construction areas as a result of being crushed by construction equipment or trapped in open excavations or if fugitive dust from construction activities or artificial lighting from the proposed Project were to encroach on suitable habitat outside the construction areas. However, all Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, as well as Measure **BIO-TURTLE-1**, which would require pre-construction surveys be performed. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts on northwestern pond turtle would be minimized or avoided.

### ***California Black Rail, California Ridgway's Rail, and Salt-Marsh Harvest Mouse***

Suitable California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, and salt-marsh harvest mouse habitat occurs within the BSA at McNabney Marsh. However, no construction activities associated with the proposed Project would occur north of PM 23.2, which is south of the marsh habitat and separated from it by a housing development. The proposed Project was redesigned to avoid impacting marsh habitat at McNabney Marsh. The proposed Project would install luminaires and Variable Toll Message Signs (VTMS) in the highway median up to PM 23.1 and would install electrical conduit underground via trenching from Arthur Road. Light spread from the new luminaires would not reach the marsh habitat, and noise associated with any of these construction activities would not be anticipated to impact California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, or salt-marsh harvest mouse.

All Build Alternatives would implement the standard and general measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**) described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*. Due to the distance between marsh habitat and the Project's impact areas, species-specific measures are not proposed for the California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, or salt-marsh harvest mouse.

## Federal Endangered Species Act Consultation

Caltrans is currently consulting with USFWS under FESA Section 7. As described in more detail above, Caltrans has preliminarily determined that the proposed Project “may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect” the following species: California red-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, and northwestern pond turtle. Although the northwestern pond turtle is currently proposed federally threatened, Caltrans is treating it as federally threatened species for the purposes of this project. Caltrans has determined that the proposed Project would have “no effect” on any other federally listed species or designated critical habitat. Caltrans is currently preparing a Biological Assessment for the proposed Project. Caltrans anticipates that a Biological Opinion will not be required, and USFWS will prepare a Letter of Concurrence for the proposed Project prior to completion of the Final Environmental Document.

## California Endangered Species Act Consultation

Caltrans determines this proposed Project will not result in take of AWS as defined in Sections 2081(b) and (c) of CESA. Take of other state listed species is not anticipated.

### 2.3.5.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

In addition to the general biological resources measures provided in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities* (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**), and **BIO-BEE-1** in Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*, the following species-specific avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented:

- BIO-FROG-1**      **Pre-construction Surveys.** A USFWS-approved biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure California red-legged frogs are absent within the proposed work areas listed below:
- Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the NB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2)
  - Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the SB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3)
- BIO-FROG-2**      **California Red-Legged Frog Stop Work/Agency Coordination.** If a California red-legged frog were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.
- BIO-SNAKE-1**      **Alameda Whipsnake Pre-Construction Surveys.** A biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for Alameda whipsnake prior to

any ground disturbance between Rudgear Road to Livorna Road (PM R12.7 and PM R11.3).

**BIO-SNAKE-2**      **Alameda Whipsnake Stop Work/Agency Coordination.** If an Alameda whipsnake were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.

**BIO-TURTLE-1**      **Northwestern Pond Turtle Pre-Construction Surveys.** A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey to ensure northwestern pond turtles are absent from the proposed impact area prior to any ground disturbance at the following locations:

- Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 to PM R18.2)
- Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 to PM R11.3)

If a northwestern pond turtle is observed in any proposed impact area, ground disturbance would not commence until the turtle leaves the proposed impact area on its own or is relocated by a qualified biologist.

No species-specific measures are required for the monarch, California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, or salt-marsh harvest mouse.

Caltrans is informally consulting with USFWS under FESA Section 7 for the California red-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, and northwestern pond turtle. Any additional measures that are developed as a result of this consultation will be included in the Final Environmental Document.



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## 2.3.6 Invasive Species

### 2.3.6.1 Regulatory Setting

On February 3, 1999, President William J. Clinton signed Executive Order (EO) 13112 requiring federal agencies to combat the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States. The order defines invasive species as “any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.” Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidance issued August 10, 1999, directs the use of the State’s invasive species list, maintained by the California Invasive Species Council, to define the invasive species that must be considered as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for a proposed project.

### 2.3.6.2 Affected Environment

The following discussion is derived from the proposed Project’s *Natural Environment Study* (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023), which was completed in April 2023. The biological study area (BSA) is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*.

Several invasive plant species were documented during habitat assessment surveys in the BSA on February 14, 2020, February 17, 2021, and August 12, 2021. Table 2.3.6-1 includes a list of California Invasive Plant Council (Cal IPC) rated invasive plant species that were observed during surveys. Cal IPC’s invasive species categorization is based on the ecological impacts of plant species. The categorization of High, Moderate, or Limited reflects the negative ecological impact of the species in California, not accounting for economic impacts or difficulty in management. Cal IPC (2022) provides the following definition for these categories:

- High – These species have severe ecological impacts on physical processes, plant and animal communities, and vegetation structure. Their reproductive biology and other attributes are conducive to moderate to high rates of dispersal and establishment. Most are widely distributed ecologically.
- Moderate – These species have substantial and apparent—but generally not severe—ecological impacts on physical processes, plant and animal communities, and vegetation structure. Their reproductive biology and other attributes are conducive to moderate to high rates of dispersal, though establishment is generally dependent upon ecological disturbance. Ecological amplitude and distribution may range from limited to widespread.
- Limited – These species are invasive, but their ecological impacts are minor on a statewide level or there was not enough information to justify a higher score. Their reproductive biology and other attributes result in low to moderate rates of invasiveness. Ecological amplitude and distribution are generally limited, but these species may be persistent and problematic locally.

Species assigned to any of these three categories (High, Moderate, or Limited) are considered invasive species. Two additional categories are Alert and Watch. Alert species are those that are categorized as High or Moderate but have limited dispersal in California. Watch species are those that pose a high risk of becoming invasive in the future.

**Table 2.3.6-1. Cal IPC Rated Invasive Plants Observed in the BSA**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cal IPC Rating
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of heaven	Moderate
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed	High
<i>Avena barbata</i>	Slender wild oats	Moderate
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Common wild oats	Moderate
<i>Brassica rapa</i>	Field mustard	Limited
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Ripgut brome	Moderate
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Soft chess brome	Limited
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> spp. <i>rubens</i>	Red brome	High
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow starthistle	High
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Poison hemlock	Moderate
<i>Cynara scolymus</i>	Artichoke thistle	Moderate
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom	High
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Wild teasel	Moderate
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Red-stemmed filaree	Limited
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Red gum	Limited
<i>Festuca perenne</i>	Italian rye-grass	Moderate
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Edible fig	Moderate
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	High
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cutleaf geranium	Limited
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English ivy	High
<i>Hordeum marinum</i> spp. <i>gussoneanum</i>	Mediterranean barley	Moderate
<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i>	Hyssop loosestrife	Limited



Scientific Name	Common Name	Cal IPC Rating
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	Pennyroyal	Moderate
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	Moderate
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	Date palm	Limited
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly ox-tongue	Limited
<i>Pipthatherum milaceum</i>	Smilo grass	Limited
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	English plantain	Limited
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	fruiting tree sp.	Limited
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Himalayan blackberry	High
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curly dock	Limited
<i>Schinus mole</i>	Peruvian pepper tree	Limited
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle	Limited
<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	Hedgeparsley	Moderate
<i>Trifolium</i> sp.	Clover	Moderate
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater (big) periwinkle	Moderate

Source: (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

### 2.3.6.3 Environmental Consequences

#### **No-Build Alternative**

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of I-680 in the BSA. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no impacts on invasive species would occur. Ongoing maintenance activities are required to comply with the requirements of EO 13112.

#### **Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)**

In compliance with EO 13112 and guidance from FHWA, the landscaping and erosion control included in the Project would not use species listed as invasive. None of the species on the California list of invasive species is used by Caltrans for erosion control or landscaping along I-680. All equipment and materials would be inspected for the presence of invasive species and cleaned, if necessary. Extra precautions will be taken in particularly sensitive areas if invasive species are found in or next to the construction areas. These include the inspection and cleaning of construction equipment and eradication strategies to be implemented should an invasion occur.

#### **2.3.6.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

The general biological resources measures (**BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**), described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, would be sufficient to avoid the introduction of invasive species. No additional avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures are required.

## 2.4 Cumulative Impacts

### 2.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Cumulative impacts are those that result from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, combined with the potential impacts of the proposed project. A cumulative effect assessment looks at the collective impacts posed by individual land use plans and projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively substantial impacts taking place over a period of time.

Cumulative impacts to resources in the project area may result from residential, commercial, industrial, and highway development, as well as from agricultural development and the conversion to more intensive agricultural cultivation. These land use activities can degrade habitat and species diversity through consequences such as displacement and fragmentation of habitats and populations, alteration of hydrology, contamination, erosion, sedimentation, disruption of migration corridors, changes in water quality, and introduction or promotion of predators. They can also contribute to potential community impacts identified for the project, such as changes in community character, traffic patterns, housing availability, and employment.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15130 describes when a cumulative impact analysis is necessary and what elements are necessary for an adequate discussion of cumulative impacts. The definition of cumulative impacts under CEQA can be found in Section 15355 of the CEQA Guidelines. A definition of cumulative impacts under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) can be found in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1508.1.

### 2.4.2 Cumulative Impacts Analysis

#### 2.4.2.1 Methodology

The cumulative impacts analysis determines whether the Build Alternatives, in combination with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in a cumulative effect, and if so, whether the Build Alternatives' contribution to the cumulative impact would be considerable. Present and reasonably foreseeable future projects include land use developments, infrastructure, and other transportation improvements that are planned and funded and would be near the proposed Build Alternatives' improvements.

A proposed project would not contribute to a cumulative impact of a resource if that project does not result in any direct or indirect impact on a resource (California Department of Transportation, 2005). Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations require cumulative impact analyses to focus on actions "that are likely or probable, rather than those that are merely possible" (Federal Highway Administration, 2003).

A cumulative impacts analysis is required for resources with significant impacts under CEQA (see Chapter 3, California Environmental Quality Act Evaluation). In addition, a cumulative analysis is required for resources with a less than significant impact if the resource is in poor health, declining health, or at risk (California Department of Transportation, 2005).

The approach for analyzing cumulative impacts followed the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) 8-step process, as described in *Guidance for Preparers of Cumulative Impact Analysis Approach and Guidance*, which is as follows:

- 1) Identify resources to consider in the cumulative impacts analysis.
- 2) Define the Resource Study Area (RSA), or geographic boundary, for each cumulative impact analysis.
- 3) Describe the current health of each resource.
- 4) Identify any direct and/or indirect impacts the Build Alternative may contribute to a cumulative impact on the identified resources.
- 5) Identify a set of active projects to include in the cumulative impacts analysis.
- 6) Assess cumulative impacts.
- 7) Report the results of the cumulative impacts analysis.
- 8) Assess the need for additional avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures to address any cumulative impacts (California Department of Transportation, 2005).

For Caltrans projects, each resource has a separate Resource Study Areas rather than a single study area for all resources combined. The RSA boundaries for cumulative impacts analysis are also often broader than the boundaries used for analyzing the project's direct impacts.

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of Interstate 680 (I-680) in the Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, and no cumulative environmental effects in combination with other projects would occur. Therefore, the No-Build Alternative is not discussed further in this section.

#### **2.4.2.2 Cumulative Projects**

The following tables list transportation corridor projects near the Project Study Limits, as well as projects specific to Caltrans District 4. They also include projects in cities near the Project Study Limits. These projects are in various stages of development.





**Table 2.4.2-1. Proposed Planned Projects (CEQANet)**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
Oakland Alameda Access Project	Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC) and Caltrans propose roadway improvements to increase mobility for travelers between Interstate 880 (I-880), the Posey and Webster Tubes, and the cities of Oakland and Alameda. Freeway-bound congestion would be reduced on local roadways. Existing interstate ramps would be reconstructed, local streets in downtown Oakland would be reconfigured, and bicycle and pedestrian connectivity would be improved within and between both cities.	Alameda	Caltrans District 4
Oak Park Properties Specific Plan	The Oak Park Properties Specific Plan contemplates two development projects (the Civic Project and the Residential Project) within the Specific Plan area (plan area) boundaries. The Civic Project includes construction of library facilities, a park, vehicular parking, roadway improvements, the creation of a new floodplain system with water detention basins, upgrading three existing outfalls to Grayson Creek, and the creation of a new pedestrian trail immediately west of the Grayson Creek Corridor. The Residential Project includes demolition of the vacant administrative offices, the County library building; the paved parking lot, trees, and landscaping for development of 34 single family dwelling units, 7 accessory dwelling units, and a new pocket park.	Contra Costa	City of Pleasant Hill



**Table 2.4.2-2. Proposed Planned Projects (Caltrans District 4 Specific Projects)**

Project Name	Project Description	County	Sponsor
SR-4 Capital Preventative Maintenance Project	Caltrans proposes to resurface existing pavement, upgrade metal beam guard rails, improve drainage, and replace/upgrade curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The purpose is to preserve and extend the service life of pavement structures, improve motorist safety, and meet ADA standards. This project is needed because the existing roadway exhibits pavement distress and will lead to further deterioration that will require major rehabilitation if left uncorrected. The existing guard rails and curb ramps do not meet current design standards.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
I-680 Roadway Repair	Roadway repairs will occur at six locations along I-680 from PM 22.19 to 24.25.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
RESTORE PAVEMENT – 4W900-0422000209	Restore uneven pavement, cold planning, and hot mix asphalt (HMA) repaving at PM 8.6 on Route 680 in the town of Danville, Contra Costa County.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
Bridge Preservation Project – 3W750/0422000032	Work will include placing polyester concrete deck overlay, treating bridge deck with methacrylate, applying polyurethane under slabs to remove offset, repairing spalls, repairing asphalt concrete (AC) approaches, replacing joint seals, and upgrading drainage systems.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
Bridge Preservation Project – 3W530/042100038	Work will include overlaying polyester on bridge decks and removing and replacing rail work at six bridges (Bridge Nos. 28-0221, 28-0222, 28-0199, 28-0200, 28-0166, and 28-0162). All removed delineation will be replaced.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
Bridge Preservation 3Q520/0419000220	Cleaning and placing methacrylate on the deck of bridge 28-0274 on I-580. Paint bridge ID at both approaches/abutments. Methacrylate will also be placed on the deck of Bridge 28-0128R on I-680.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
PAVEMENT SETTLEMENT 3W480/0421000373	Repair pavement settlement at Bollinger Canyon Road overpass toward southbound I-680, PM 2.89 in San Ramon, Contra Costa County.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4



Project Name	Project Description	County	Sponsor
Interstate 680 Roadway Rehabilitation Project	Caltrans proposes to rehabilitate the mainline roadway and ramp pavement on I-680 from the Koopman Road Undercrossing in the town of Sunol to the Alcosta Boulevard Overcrossing in the city of Dublin. The project also proposes to repair or replace drainage systems, replace or upgrade guardrails, replace and upgrade the concrete median barrier in Segments 4-6, replace all signs, and implement ADA curb ramp requirements. The roadway will be rehabilitated within the same alignment, and all work will be done within the State right-of-way. There will be no increase in lane capacity, and no temporary or permanent acquisition of new right-of-way.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
I-680 Ramp Metering (04-1Q720K)	Caltrans SHOPP project to install ramp metering along I-680.	Contra Costa	Caltrans District 4
Northbound SR-242 Rehabilitation Project Concord (04-26980)	Caltrans Bay Area will replace 3,500 linear feet of concrete paving in both lanes #2 and #3 of northbound State Route (SR-242) in Concord.	Contra Costa County	Caltrans District 4

**Table 2.4.2-3. Plan Bay Area 2050 Proposed Projects**

Project Name	Project ID (RTP ID)	County	Sponsor
Corridor and Interchange Improvements SR-4 Contra Costa County	21-T06-031	Contra Costa	CCTA
Corridor and Interchange Improvements SR-24 Contra Costa County	21-T06-033	Contra Costa	CCTA

Source: (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2013)  
 Notes: CCTA = Contra Costa Transportation Authority; RTP = Regional Transportation Plan



**Table 2.4.2-4. Other Proposed Projects**

Project Name	Project Description	County	Sponsor
West County High Capacity Transit Study: Express Bus Implementation Phase 1	The Transit Study evaluated public transportation options and identified funding opportunities to expand high-capacity transit service and access for residents in West County. It also examined how to encourage transit use and improve service in underserved communities. Freeway-flyer express service on I-80 operating from the Hercules Transit Center south to Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland.	Contra Costa	WCCTAC
15-Minute BART Feeder Network	Make County Connection services a viable alternative to driving a car. The system needs to consider increasing frequency during the peak commute periods.	Contra Costa	CCCTA
Downtown Concord Circulator	Implementation of a downtown circulator/trolley service that is similar to the Downtown Walnut Creek Trolley.	Contra Costa	CCCTA
I-680 Corridor Service Improvements	Enhanced transit service within the I-680 corridor, which includes new park and ride facilities constructed near I-680, more direct and local bus services between park and ride facilities and BART stations, the addition of auxiliary lanes on I-680 to allow buses to operate along the shoulders and bypass peak period congestion, and increased school bus service.	Contra Costa	CCCTA
Express Bus/Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) – Phase 2	Deployment of Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority’s (LAVTA) Route 10 Rapid Bus Program; phase 2 includes upgrades to and expansion of the initial Rapid Project.	Alameda	City of Dublin
I-680 Express Bus Service	Provide connections to other transit services; potential for electric buses or hydrogen fuel cell buses to be implemented in the future.	Alameda and Contra Costa	CCTA and LAVTA
Lamorinda Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Program	Sidewalk gap closures, bicycle connection to transit locations.	Contra Costa	SWAT



Project Name	Project Description	County	Sponsor
Martinez Intermodal Station – Crockett Bay Trail Gap Closure Project	This project will construct a Class 1, shared-used path from Berrellesa Street along the railroad track to the Nejedly Staging Area at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.	Contra Costa	East Bay Regional Park District
Iron Horse/BART Connector South	Trail to transit connection.	Contra Costa	Walnut Creek
Iron Horse Trail to Walnut Creek BART North	Trail to transit connection.	Contra Costa	Walnut Creek
Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges (04-2W520)	Convert the Antioch Bridge, Benicia-Martinez Bridge, and Carquinez Bridge toll plazas to open road tolling.	Contra Costa	BATA
Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering (CARM) Project (04-0Q960)	CARM project will implement an adaptive ramp metering system on northbound I-680 between Alcosta Boulevard and Olympic Boulevard initially, and a future phase will expand that to both directions of I-680 in Contra Costa.	Contra Costa	CCTA
I-680/SR-4 Interchange Improvement Project (04-22914)	The I-680/SR-4 Interchange Improvement Project will widen approximately four miles of SR-4 in both directions between Morello Avenue in Martinez and State Route 242 by adding an additional lane in the EB and WB directions to improve on-ramp and off-ramp merging.	Contra Costa	CCTA
I-680 Express Lanes Project, Sunol to Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon (04-0Q3000)	The I-680 Express Lanes from SR-84 to Alcosta Boulevard Project will close the gap between existing and in-progress high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane projects directly to the north and south. The project extends for approximately 9 miles on northbound and southbound I-680 through Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon. Phase 1 started construction in 2023. Phase 2 would focus on northbound.	Alameda and Contra Costa County	Alameda CTC



Project Name	Project Description	County	Sponsor
Alameda I-680 Roadway Rehabilitation Project (04-0J620)	Caltrans and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) will begin construction on several projects on I-680 in Alameda County in the cities of Fremont and Pleasanton and town of Sunol	Alameda	Alameda CTC
Bayview Residential Project	This project proposes 144 single-family homes and associated internal roadways on an approximately 78-acre project site in the Vine Hill/Pacheco Boulevard area	Contra Costa	Developer
Oak Road Townhouse Condominiums	This 5.94-acre project site consists of eight parcels and is located at 2740 Jones Road.	Contra Costa	Developer
Tassajara Parks Housing Development.	This project would consist of the construction of 125 single-family homes with substantial park, recreation, and open space components in the Tassajara Valley area of unincorporated Contra Costa County	Contra Costa	Developer

Notes: BART = Bay Area Rapid Transit; BATA = Bay Area Toll Authority; CCTA = Contra Costa Transportation Authority; LAVTA = Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority; WCTAC = West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee; SWAT = Southwest Area Transportation Committee

### 2.4.2.3 Resource Topics with No Contribution to Cumulative Impacts

The resources considered in the cumulative impacts analysis follow Caltrans' 8-step process for identifying and assessing cumulative impacts (California Department of Transportation, 2005). For resource areas that would have no adverse impacts from the proposed Project, incremental impacts would not be cumulatively considerable. Therefore, cumulative impacts are not anticipated for the following topic areas:

- Existing and Future Land Use (Section 2.1.1)
- Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs (Section 2.1.2)
- Parks and Recreational Facilities (Section 2.1.3)
- Growth (Section 2.1.4)
- Community Character and Cohesion (Section 2.1.5)



- Environmental Justice (Section 2.1.6)
- Utilities/Emergency Services (Section 2.1.7)
- Cultural Resources (Section 2.1.10)
- Hydrology and Floodplain (Section 2.2.1)
- Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff (Section 2.2.2)
- Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography (Section 2.2.3)
- Paleontology (Section 2.2.4)
- Hazardous Waste/Materials (Section 2.2.5)
- Noise and Vibration (Section 2.2.7)
- Energy (Section 2.2.8)

#### **2.4.2.4 Resources Considered for Cumulative Impact Analysis**

##### **Visual/Aesthetics**

The I-680 corridor is an officially designated state scenic highway between SR-24 in the city of Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in the city of Fremont. Additionally, there are sections of the I-680 corridor that are classified as landscaped freeway for Contra Costa County. The project area is also surrounded by numerous mountain features, which include Mount Diablo. Multiple signs currently overlap views of scenic resources along I-680, including Mount Diablo and foothills. In addition, I-680 was, and continues to be in many sections, a tree-lined highway. The mature trees, originally planted in response to citizen demands for highway screening, are being removed as the highway continues to be widened. With the addition of travel lanes, the remaining space between the shoulder edge and right-of-way line is often too narrow to accommodate replacement tree planting.

Several of the projects listed in Section 2.4.2.2, *Cumulative Projects*, are anticipated to introduce additional pavement, lighting, signage, traffic signals, ramp metering systems, soundwalls, retaining walls, bridge widening, and interchange ramps, as well as remove trees and vegetation along I-680 (Haygood & Associates, 2022). This includes:

- Alameda I-680 Roadway Rehabilitation Project (04-0J620)
- CCTA Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering Project (04-0Q960)
- Civil Infrastructure for Open Road Tolling (ORT) Conversion (04-2W520)

- I-680 Express Lanes Project, Sunol to Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon (04-0Q3000; 4 miles south of the Project)
- I-680 Ramp Metering (04-1Q720K)
- Northbound SR-242 Rehabilitation Project Concord (04-26980)
- I-680/SR-4 Interchange Improvement Project (04-22914)

None of the Build Alternatives would directly impact the scenic resources mentioned above. However, all Build Alternatives would introduce new visual elements on I-680, including high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane signs, trestle gantries, and lights; additional pavement along the median and outside edges for the new HOV/express lanes; new retaining walls and (potentially) sound walls; bridge widening at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3); reconstruction of the Olympic Boulevard off-ramp (Alternatives 1C and 3); new Eastbound SR-24 Connector Undercrossing (Alternatives 1C and 3); new Mount Diablo Boulevard Undercrossing (Alternatives 1C and 3); new Lawrence Way Northbound On-ramp Undercrossing (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5); widening of the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5); and column modification on the Ygnacio Valley Road off-ramp (Alternatives 1C and 3).

Caltrans and FHWA mandate that a qualitative/aesthetic approach should be taken to address visual quality loss in a project area. This approach fulfills the letter and the spirit of FHWA requirements because it addresses and minimizes the actual cumulative loss of visual quality due to a project. In addition, measures would be implemented that would further minimize or avoid adverse impacts to visual/aesthetic resources, as described in Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*. Therefore, the Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable adverse effect to visual/aesthetic resources, because it would blend in with elements already existing along the I-680 corridor and would be consistent with existing roadway features. Additionally, Project construction activities would be temporary, and the implementation of project measures would further reduce any adverse effect on the Project area's scenic views.

## **Air Quality**

An analysis of the regional emissions resulting from the Build Alternatives was conducted using CTEMFAC2017 (Version 1.0.2), regional traffic projections, and network speeds provided via the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) travel demand model to compute an emission "burden" (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). The analysis, presented in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, includes the Project's cumulative and indirect travel demand impacts and shows that Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would have comparable vehicle miles traveled (VMT)—less than 0.1 percent difference—to the No-Build Alternative and lower emissions than the existing conditions. Build Alternative 5 would have almost the same VMT (i.e., less than 0.01 percent difference) and lower emissions than existing conditions.

The carbon monoxide (CO) qualitative assessment and mobile source air toxics (MSAT) quantitative assessment can be considered indirect effect analyses because they look at air quality impacts (attributable to the Project) that could occur at a time in the future. Those assessments indicate that the potential for indirect effects associated with the Project would not be considerable. They demonstrate that in the future: (1) air quality impacts from CO would not cause or contribute to violations of the CO National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and (2) MSAT emissions from Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be similar (i.e., less than 0.1 percent difference) to the No-Build Alternative and lower than existing conditions. Alternative 5 is similar to the No-Build Alternative also but would slightly increase MSAT emissions (by approximately 1 percent, on average).

Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and secondary particulate matter are regional, cumulative issues because they are formed by photochemical and chemical reactions over time in the atmosphere, unlike primary sources of particulate matter that emit pollutants directly into the airshed. The Final EIR for *Plan Bay Area 2050* (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021) and the *Bay Area 2017 Clean Air Plan* (Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 2017) address the regional and cumulative impacts from growth and transportation in the airshed, which include impacts from regional pollutants from existing transportation infrastructure. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 are included in both the *Plan Bay Area 2050* and *2023 Transportation Improvement Plan* (TIP) and were included in their regional emissions analyses. Should Alternative 5 be selected as the preferred alternative, CCTA (Project Sponsor) would work with MTC to update Plan Bay Area 2050 and the TIP to include Alternative 5 prior to preparing the final environmental document. The regional emissions analyses are based on a calibrated and validated regional travel demand model that estimated the cumulative and indirect impacts to the region. Likewise, this analysis used the CCTA travel demand model to estimate the cumulative and indirect impacts associated with the No-Build and Build Alternatives. In addition, project construction would be temporary, and the implementation of project measures would further reduce any adverse effect on the Project area's air quality. Construction emissions are expected to be offset by emissions reductions during project operation. Therefore, the Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable adverse effect on air quality.

## Biological Resources

Potential cumulative impacts associated with the proposed Project have been evaluated with other nearby, past, present, and proposed transportation and non-transportation projects in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023). Projects and actions in the vicinity of the proposed Project may collectively produce impacts that require consideration as a whole.

There are several highway projects planned in the I-680 corridor, which include:

- **I-680/SR-4 Interchange Improvement Project.** This project proposes to construct improvements at the I-680/SR-4 interchange. Informal consultation was completed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding

potential impacts on the California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*). USFWS concurrence was received with the conclusion that the project would not likely adversely affect the frog (Caltrans 2008).

- **SR-4 Operational Improvements (I-680 to Bailey Road).** The SR-4 Operational Improvements Project includes a continuation of an HOV lane on eastbound SR-4 from the Northbound I-680 on-ramp to the start of the existing HOV lane just east of SR-242, as well as the addition of several sections of mixed flow lanes on eastbound and westbound SR-4, between SR-242 and Bailey Road.
- **Iron Horse Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing Project.** The City of San Ramon, in cooperation with CCTA and Caltrans, proposes to construct a pedestrian and cyclist overcrossing along the existing Iron Horse Trail alignment at Bollinger Canyon Road. The project will improve safety and air quality by reducing at-grade crossing conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists and improve motor vehicle traffic by reducing idling at the intersection. The overcrossing would consist of a cable-stayed main span with a central support and remove the left turn lane on the side of Bollinger Canyon Road where the trail crossing would be. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is in place for this project, which states that the project will have no effect on special-status species (LSA 2017).

Several land development projects are also planned in proximity to the BSA, including:

- **Bayview Residential Project.** This project proposes 144 single-family homes and associated internal roadways on an approximately 78-acre project site in the Vine Hill/Pacheco Boulevard area. The project also proposes four open space parcels, one of which is proposed as a park. The project site contains potential aquatic habitat for California red-legged frog. Measures are proposed to reduce potential impacts on California red-legged frog to a less-than-significant level.
- **Oak Road Townhouse Condominiums.** This 5.94-acre project site consists of eight parcels and is located at 2740 Jones Road, southeast of the I-680 and Treat Boulevard Intersection, within unincorporated Contra Costa County and adjacent to the city of Walnut Creek. This project will have no effect on California red-legged frog.
- **Tassajara Parks Housing Development.** This project would consist of the construction of 125 single-family homes with substantial park, recreation, and open space components in the Tassajara Valley area of unincorporated Contra Costa County. This project area is within designated critical habitat for California red-legged frog and Alameda whipsnake. There is no aquatic breeding habitat for California red-legged frog in the proposed project area, but there is potential upland migration/dispersal and over-summering habitat for California red-legged frog. The applicant will enter Section 7 consultation

with USFWS and is proposing to mitigate for project-related impacts on this habitat at a 3:1 ratio.

All of the projects above went through, or are required to undergo, an environmental review to identify and account for or mitigate potential adverse effects. Those projects will preserve on-site upland habitat and restore affected on-site aquatic habitat. In the case of the Tassajara Parks Housing Development project, the applicant is proposing to mitigate off-site for project-related impacts on California red-legged frog habitat at a 3:1 ratio. Minimization and mitigation measures required for those projects and measures required for this proposed Project would ensure no cumulative impacts occur on biological resources. Therefore, the Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable adverse effect on biological resources.

## Transportation

As described in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*, all Build Alternatives would result in operational improvements on northbound I-680. The travel demand models used to analyze the Project's effectiveness estimated the cumulative and indirect impacts on the corridor. Implementation of the proposed Project, together with the other transportation projects associated with INNOVATE 680, would accommodate future traffic demand during peak periods, resulting in the reduction of traffic congestion conditions at various segments and interchanges. Transportation projects associated with INNOVATE 680 include part-time transit lanes, mobility as a service, automated driving systems, and advanced technologies and would provide alternative transportation modes, therefore resulting in additional beneficial congestion impacts. For all Build Alternatives, the impacts to circulation and access systems are beneficial on a cumulative basis under NEPA. (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023)

However, for transportation impacts under CEQA, Caltrans' guidance defines a cumulative impact as a "project's potential, when combined with other projects in an area or region, to significantly increase VMT" (California Department of Transportation, 2020). As described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, of the CEQA Evaluation, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in a significant cumulative impact on transportation, because when combined with other past, current, and probable future projects in the region, each of these alternatives would increase VMT within the metropolitan statistical area. Alternative 5 would not induce capacity and was screened from VMT analysis. Although mitigation measures would be implemented to reduce VMT, the impact would remain significant and unavoidable for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 because funding these mitigation measures is uncertain for the full lifecycle of the proposed Project. Therefore, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in a cumulatively considerable impact on transportation under CEQA, which is discussed further in Chapter 3.



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# 3 California Environmental Quality Act Evaluation

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## 3.1 Determining Significance under CEQA

The proposed Project is a joint project by the California Department of Transportation (Department) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and is subject to state and federal environmental review requirements. Project documentation, therefore, has been prepared in compliance with both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). FHWA's responsibility for environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 United States Code Section 327 (23 USC 327) and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans. The Department is the lead agency under CEQA and NEPA.

One of the primary differences between NEPA and CEQA is the way significance is determined. Under NEPA, significance is used to determine whether an EIS, or a lower level of documentation, will be required. NEPA requires that an EIS be prepared when the proposed federal action (project) *as a whole* has the potential to “significantly affect the quality of the human environment.” The determination of significance is based on context and intensity. Some impacts determined to be significant under CEQA may not be of sufficient magnitude to be determined significant under NEPA. Under NEPA, once a decision is made regarding the need for an EIS, it is the magnitude of the impact that is evaluated and no judgment of its individual significance is deemed important for the text. NEPA does not require that a determination of significant impacts be stated in the environmental documents.

CEQA, on the other hand, does require the Department to identify each “significant effect on the environment” resulting from the project and ways to mitigate each significant effect. If the project may have a significant effect on any environmental resource, then an EIR must be prepared. Each and every significant effect on the environment must be disclosed in the EIR and mitigated if feasible. In addition, the CEQA Guidelines list a number of “mandatory findings of significance,” which also require the preparation of an EIR. There are no types of actions under NEPA that parallel the findings of mandatory significance of CEQA. This chapter discusses the effects of this project and CEQA significance.

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## 3.2 CEQA Environmental Checklist

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social, and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed project. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with the projects will indicate that there are no impacts to a particular resource. A NO IMPACT answer in the last column reflects this determination. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), not National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), impacts. The questions in this form are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

Project features, which can include both design elements of the project, and standardized measures that are applied to all or most Caltrans projects such as Best Management Practices (BMP) and measures included in the Standard Plans and Specifications or as Standard Special Provisions, are considered to be an integral part of the project and have been considered prior to any significance determinations documented below; see Chapters 1 and 2 for a detailed discussion of these features. The annotations to this checklist are summaries of information contained in Chapter 2 in order to provide the reader with the rationale for significance determinations; for a more detailed discussion of the nature and extent of impacts, please see Chapter 2. This checklist incorporates by reference the information contained in Chapters 1 and 2.

### 3.2.1 Aesthetics

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.1.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Aesthetics

##### a-c) Less Than Significant Impact

As discussed in Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*, Interstate (I-680) is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway between State Route (SR) 24 in Walnut Creek and Mission Boulevard in Fremont. Sections of I-680 are also Classified Landscaped Freeway in Contra Costa County. The Project Study Limits are in a valley surrounded on all sides by mountains and ridges, including Mount Diablo, Trampas Ridge, Keller Ridge, Briones Hills, and Apperson and Wauhab Ridges. Mount Diablo and its foothills are considered the most scenic visual resource in the region. Scenic vistas of mountains and ridges to the south and north are the most available to motorists, regardless of traffic congestion. Scenic vistas to the east and west are available to varying degrees depending on speed travel and congestion. Viewer sensitivity is considered high.

Proposed toll gantries, overhead express lane signs, lights in the medians, retaining walls, soundwalls, and vegetation removal would affect views of scenic vistas. Other Project features, such as equipment cabinets, BMP areas, maintenance vehicle pullouts, California Highway Patrol (CHP) enforcement areas, and concrete barriers within State right-of-way (ROW), would not impact views of scenic vistas significantly.

Proposed project improvements are depicted in the visual simulations for Key View 1 through Key View 7 in Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*. The Project would not affect distant scenic resources, such as mountains and ridges, or damage any rock outcroppings or historic buildings. Screening trees and vegetation would be removed and not replaced in restricted areas between the edges of the highway and proposed soundwalls and retaining walls. Grassy slopes at the edge of the highway would be replaced with retaining walls at cut slopes where highway widening is proposed.

Motorists on I-680 would see project signs overlapping views of Mount Diablo and the foothills and ridges to the south. The new high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane signs that the project would add to I-680 in the Project Study Limits are standard throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, with overhead roadway signs currently installed within the Project Study Limits on southbound I-680. Intrusion on views would be short in duration for motorists passing each sign, and the signs would not completely obstruct views of the surrounding and distant hills and landforms. For motorists, the repeated visual intrusion caused by the proposed HOV/express lane signs may affect but would not substantially damage views of distant scenic resources.

In addition to the standard measures for highway planting and aesthetics described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, and the replacement planting and revegetation requirements described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, Measures **VIS-1** through **VIS-5** would be implemented to avoid or minimize impacts on visual resources. **VIS-1** and **VIS-2** would minimize vegetation removal and disturbance. As described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, concrete surface textures proposed for retaining walls and soundwalls would be designed to match existing walls and be consistent with the *I-680-24 Interchange Architectural Visual Design Guidelines*. Measure **VIS-5** would further require that new overhead sign structures, gantries, variable toll message signs (VTMS), and lights be similar to the existing design and color treatments on structures and poles. Measure **VIS-4** would also require the implementation of aesthetic treatments on walls and barriers. As such, the Project would not have a substantially adverse effect on a scenic vista. The Project also would not diminish the views that make the highway eligible for scenic status or substantially damage scenic resources on the State scenic highway. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### **d) Less Than Significant Impact**

All Build Alternatives would add light and glare to the existing environment. Highway lights, illuminated signs, and signs with reflective surfaces would affect residents in neighborhoods adjacent to the highway with direct views of a sign's surface and lighted messages. As described in Section 2.1.9, *Visual/Aesthetics*, visual impacts to those affected residents would be moderately high to high. However, I-680 is an existing highway corridor with lighting and signage. Measure **VIS-4** would require that the construction contractor limit all construction lighting to within the work area and avoid light trespass through the use of directional lighting and shielding as needed. Safety lighting would be shielded to avoid light spillover and glare in locations where residential areas or other sensitive resources are adjacent to I-680. The Project has also been



designed to avoid permanent lighting adjacent to the McNabney Marsh near Martinez. Measure **BIO-GEN-13** would require that all permanent lighting be designed to limit light pollution, which would include shielding and restricting added light to the roadways. In addition, the brightness of changeable messages on VTMS signs can be adjusted based on ambient light levels to avoid excessive light and glare. The Project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### 3.2.2 Agriculture and Forest Resources

In determining whether impacts on agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts on forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>





Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.2.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Agriculture and Forest Resources

#### a–e) No Impact

According to the California Department of Conservation’s California Important Farmland Finder (California Department of Conservation, 2022), none of the lands within the Project Study Limits are designated as important farmland (i.e., prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance), forest land, or timberland. The lands within and immediately adjacent to the Project Study Limits consist primarily of Urban and Built-up Land. The California Department of Conservation does identify unique farmland south of the Project Study Limits, directly west of the Fostoria Way and Camino Ramon Intersection in the town of Danville (California Department of Conservation, 2022). In addition, the Sugarloaf Open Space Recreation Area, which is approximately 2 miles south of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange, and several unincorporated parcels adjacent to I-680, north of SR-4, are designated as grazing land (California Department of Conservation, 2022). However, most of the proposed Project improvements would be within State ROW. Most of the ROW that would be acquired for the Project would be in the vicinity of the I-680/SR-24 Interchange. Further, no parcels within the Project Study Limits are known to be under a Williamson Act contract (Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development, 2016). The proposed Project would not directly or indirectly convert farmlands, forestlands, or timberlands to nonagricultural, non-forest or non-timberland uses. There would be no impact.

### 3.2.3 Air Quality

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.3.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Air Quality

#### a) No Impact

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would add freeway capacity to northbound I-680, while Alternative 5 would reduce northbound I-680's capacity. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) approved the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for *Plan Bay Area 2050* and the 2023 TIP on September 28, 2022. The proposed Project is included as project TIP ID CC-170017 (I-680 NB Express Lane Completion) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) ID 21-T12-116. MTC forwarded the 2023 TIP to Caltrans to be included in the 2023 Federal-Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) by reference. The State approved the 2023 FSTIP on November 16, 2022. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the 2023 FSTIP on December 16, 2022 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2022). The latest amendment was submitted on June 28, 2023, and approved by FHWA on July 21, 2023.

The design concept and scope of Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 are consistent with the project description in *Plan Bay Area 2050*, the 2023 TIP, and the open to traffic assumptions of MTC's regional emissions analysis. Alternative 5 was included in the latest amendment to the 2023 TIP, so all alternatives are now consistent with MTC's regional emission analysis. Implementation of the proposed Project would not interfere with timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures identified in the applicable state implementation plan (SIP), which is the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) *2017 Clean Air Plan* (Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 2017). There would be no impact.

## **b) Less Than Significant Impact**

As described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, the Project Study Limits are located in an area that is in nonattainment with California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>). The Air Basin is also in nonattainment with National Ambient Air Quality Standards for O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Unclassifiable/Attainment for PM<sub>10</sub>, carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). During construction, the proposed Project would generate air pollutant emissions from the use of construction equipment and vehicles powered by gas and diesel, as well as dust from earthmoving activities, such as trenching and grading. Table 2.2.6-6 in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, shows the total estimated construction-related criteria air pollutants for the Build Alternatives. There would be temporary increases in criteria pollutants during construction, but the impact would be reduced due to the limited, short-term duration of construction (2 years) and the implementation of Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-6**, as described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*.

During operations, each Build Alternative would result in similar criteria air pollutant emissions compared to the No-Build Alternative due to slight changes in vehicle-miles traveled (VMT), as depicted in Table 2.2.6-7 in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*. Criteria air pollutant emissions from Project operations were estimated comparing the existing baseline conditions (2020), the proposed Project's Opening Year (2027), Design Year (2047), and RTP Horizon year (2050) for all Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative. All Build Alternatives would have substantially lower operational emissions for O<sub>3</sub> precursors (reactive organic gas [ROG] and NO<sub>x</sub>) and CO in the Opening, Design, and Horizon years when compared to existing baseline conditions as older vehicles are replaced by newer vehicles with more stringent emissions and fuel economy standards. However, all Build Alternatives would result in slightly higher particulate matter emissions (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) compared to baseline emissions due to VMT increases in the Design Year and Horizon year.

MTC's Air Quality Conformity Task Force determined through interagency consultation that Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would not be a project of air quality concern, as described in 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1)(i) on April 1, 2022. Alternative 5 was subsequently added to the proposed Project. The Task Force determined that Alternative 5 would not be a project of air quality concern in February 2023. Therefore, the proposed Project is not subject to PM<sub>2.5</sub> project level conformity requirements, emissions analysis, or hot-spot analysis. The Task Force's concurrences are provided in Appendix F, *Consultation and Coordination*.

For these reasons, the proposed Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### **c) Less Than Significant Impact**

Sensitive receptors are children, the elderly, people with asthma, and others who are at a heightened risk of negative health outcomes due to exposure to air pollution. Sensitive receptors are typically associated with schools, residential dwellings, daycare centers, hospitals, and senior-care facilities.

The Project Study Limits traverse several small cities and towns located within the East Bay area, including San Ramon, Danville, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Martinez and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County (Community of Alamo). As a result, most of the land adjacent to northbound I-680 provides space for commercial/retail, residential, and light industrial uses. I-680 is adjacent to heavy industrial land uses near the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The zone of greatest concern near roadways is within 500 feet (150 meters) (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). Due to the corridor's length (i.e., approximately 20 miles), there are a large number of sensitive receptors within 500 feet of the Project Study Limits, which includes schools, daycares, hospital, senior/assisted living facilities, parks, and residential areas.

During construction, short-term air quality degradation may occur due to the release of particulate emissions (airborne dust) generated by excavation, grading, hauling, and other construction-related activities. Emissions from construction equipment are also expected and would include CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, volatile organic compounds (VOC), directly emitted particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), and toxic air contaminants, such as diesel exhaust particulate matter. Construction activities in the area may temporarily increase traffic congestion and slow the speed of traffic, resulting in a temporary increase in on-road emissions. These emissions would be limited to the immediate area impacted by construction-related traffic. Most of the construction emissions would be short-term in duration and would be spread out across the length of the I-680 corridor. In addition, Caltrans Standard Specifications and Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-7** would be implemented as described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*. Section 14-9-02, specifically requires that the construction contractor comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including air pollution control district and air quality management district regulations and local ordinances.

As described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, operational emissions in the Design Year (2047) and Horizon year (2050) would be lower for O<sub>3</sub> precursors and CO and higher for particulate matter emissions due to increases in VMT compared to baseline conditions. Mobile source air toxics (MSAT) emissions would be lower than baseline conditions in the Opening, Design, and Horizon Years for all alternatives because of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) national control programs that are projected to reduce annual MSAT emissions by over 76 percent between 2020 and 2060. Local conditions may differ from these national projections in terms of fleet mix and turnover, VMT growth rates, and local control measures. However, the magnitude of the U.S. EPA-projected reductions is so great (even after accounting for VMT associated with planned growth) that MSAT emissions in the region would be 46 to 70 percent lower in the future for both the No-Build and Build Alternatives. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.



**d) No Impact**

The proposed Project would not introduce odors that are not already associated with existing traffic. There would be no impact.

**3.2.4 Biological Resources**

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.4.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Biological Resources

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

All Build Alternatives have the potential to affect special-status plant and animal species, including California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) listed species and their habitats. The species, impact, and avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures are summarized below and described in further detail in Section 2.3, *Biological Environment*.

#### Special Status Plant Species

The Project may impact suitable habitat for the Congdon's tarplant. As described in Section 2.3.3, *Plant Species*, the Project would not impact any other sensitive plant species or habitat. Congdon's tarplant was not observed during field surveys.

All Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*; Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, which are described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; and Measure **BIO-PLANTS-1**, which is described in Section 2.3.3, *Plant Species*. **BIO-PLANTS-1** requires surveying and avoiding Congdon's tarplant and other rare plants if discovered prior to construction. Given the moderate potential for special-status plant species to occur in the biological study area (BSA), the impact on special-status plant species would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### Special-Status Animal Species

As described in Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*, the obscure bumble bee, Bridges' coast range shoulderband, coast horned lizard, nesting raptors and other birds, western burrowing owl, special-status bat species, San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, and American badger have the potential to occur within the BSA.

All Build Alternatives would remove suitable habitat for special-status animal species. However, most of the BSA is developed and the majority of construction activities would occur within State ROW. Construction activities also have the potential to directly and indirectly impact special-status animal species (e.g., noise, fugitive dust, and lighting). All Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*; Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, which are described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; and the measures described below, which can be found in Section 2.3.4, *Animal Species*. The Project would not result in a substantial adverse effect on any special-status species or their habitat. The impact on special-status animal species would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

- *Obscure Bumble Bee*: Obscure bumble bee has the potential to occur in the BSA. Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would permanently impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, which is potentially suitable habitat for obscure bumble bee.



Measure **BIO-BEE-1** would be implemented requiring a preconstruction bumble bee nest survey to confirm that the species is not in construction areas prior to construction.

- *Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband*: All Build Alternatives would impact up to approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland and a combined total of 1.53 acres of non-native woodland and semi-natural ornamental habitats, and Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact up to approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, which are potentially suitable habitats for the species. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Measure **BIO-SNAIL-1** would be implemented requiring preconstruction surveys to confirm that the species is not in construction areas.
- *Coast Horned Lizard*: Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, which is potentially suitable habitat for coast horned lizard. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Measure **BIO-LIZARD-1** would be implemented requiring preconstruction surveys to confirm that the species is not in construction areas.
- *Nesting Raptors and other Nesting Birds*: Several raptors, including Cooper's hawk, white-tailed kite, and American peregrine falcon may nest in the BSA, and other special-status birds have the potential to nest or forage in the BSA. Caltrans Standard Specifications require the avoidance of dead or injured migratory birds and their nests. Measure **BIO-GEN-4** would be implemented, requiring nesting bird surveys to be completed prior to construction activities taking place during the nesting bird season (February 1 through August 31). In addition, Measures **BIO-HAWK-1**, **BIO-KITE-1**, and **BIO-FALCON-1** would be implemented to provide appropriate protection for any special-status bird species' nests discovered.
- *Western Burrowing Owl*: All Build Alternatives would permanently impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland, which is potentially suitable habitat for the species. Measure **BIO-OWL-1** would be implemented requiring protocol surveys to confirm that the species is not in construction areas. Burrow mapping and avoidance of the species would also occur if discovered.
- *Special-Status Bat Species*: The following five special-status bat species have the potential to occur (to forage, roost, or breed) within the BSA: pallid bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, Yuma myotis, Western red bat, and hoary bat. The proposed Project could impact roosting bats during tree removal. Construction noise or lighting could also disrupt roosting sites. Measures **BIO-BAT-1** and **BIO-BAT-2**, which would require preconstruction surveys and avoidance of roosts, if found.
- *San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat*: Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, which is potentially suitable habitat for the species. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland.

Measures **BIO-WOODRAT-1** and **BIO-WOODRAT-2** would require preconstruction surveys and nest relocations if the woodrat is discovered, respectively.

- *American badger*: All Build Alternatives would impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland and Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland, which are potentially suitable habitats for the species. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Measure **BIO-BADGER-1** would be implemented and require preconstruction surveys and burrow mapping to confirm that the species is not in construction areas.

### Threatened and Endangered Species

As discussed in Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*, the following FESA- and/or CESA-listed wildlife species have the potential to occur in the BSA: Crotch bumble bee, western bumble bee, monarch butterfly, California red-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, and salt-marsh harvest mouse. The Project Study Limits do not overlap any designated critical habitat.

Construction activities have the potential to directly and indirectly impact listed species (e.g., noise, fugitive dust, and lighting). However, most of the BSA is developed and the majority of construction activities would occur within State ROW. All Build Alternatives would implement the standard measures described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*; Measures **BIO-GEN-1** through **BIO-GEN-16**, which are described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*; and the measures described below, which can be found in Section 2.3.5, *Threatened and Endangered Species*. The Project would not result in a substantial adverse effect on any listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat. The impact on threatened and endangered species would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

- *Crotch Bumble Bee and Western Bumble Bee*: Brome grassland, non-native woodland, semi-natural ornamental habitats, and coast live oak woodland are potentially suitable habitat for Crotch and western bumble bees. All Build Alternatives are expected to impact up to 1.73 acres of brome grassland and a combined total of 1.53 acres of non-native woodland and semi-natural ornamental habitats. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 are expected to impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland or non-native woodland habitats. Measure **BIO-BEE-1** would be implemented requiring pre-construction surveys to be performed, and any bumble bee nests found to be mapped, flagged, and avoided.
- *Monarch Butterfly*: While there is potential for monarch to occur in the BSA, especially passing through during migration, it is not likely for the species to overwinter in non-native woodland or semi-natural ornamental areas in the BSA because the BSA is situated several miles inland from the species' known overwintering range. Furthermore, no milkweed was observed in the BSA during

field surveys, which monarchs depend on to complete their life cycle. It is likely that the species only transits through the BSA and does not breed or winter in the BSA. No species-specific measures are proposed.

- *California Red-Legged Frog*: The Contra Costa Canal and other creeks that cross I-680 could serve as potential dispersal habitat for California-red legged frogs. Measures **BIO-FROG-1** and **BIO-FROG-2** would be implemented requiring pre-construction surveys and work to stop upon discovery of the species.
- *Alameda Whipsnake*: Brome grassland and coast live oak woodland are potentially suitable habitat for Alameda whipsnake. All Build Alternatives are expected to impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 are expected to impact approximately 0.16-acre of coast live oak woodland. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Measures **BIO-SNAKE-1** and **BIO-SNAKE-2** would be implemented, which would require pre-construction surveys and work to stop upon discovery of the species.
- *Northwestern Pond Turtle*: All Build Alternatives would avoid habitat associated with McNabney Marsh. There is a low potential for the species to occur in San Ramon Creek at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. At this location, San Ramon Creek is concrete-lined, and the surrounding ground is hardscaped. These conditions do not provide suitable nesting habitat for the species, but the species may use the creek for dispersal between areas of more suitable habitat. Falsework would be installed over San Ramon Creek preventing debris and other contaminants from entering the creek during construction. Measure **BIO-TURTLE-1** would be implemented requiring preconstruction surveys to confirm that the species is not in construction areas.
- *California Black Rail, California Ridgway's Rail, and Salt-Marsh Harvest Mouse*: Suitable California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, and salt-marsh harvest mouse habitat occurs within the BSA at McNabney Marsh. However, no construction activities associated with the proposed Project are to occur north of postmile (PM) 23.1, which is situated approximately 1,000 feet south from the marsh habitat and separated from it by a housing development. The proposed Project would install luminaires in the highway median at this location. Light spread from the new luminaires would not reach the marsh habitat, and none of the noise associated with any of the construction activities at this location would exceed that of the baseline noise environment. Due to the distance between marsh habitat and the Project's impact areas, species-specific measures are not proposed for the California black rail, California Ridgway's rail, or salt-marsh harvest mouse.

### **b) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated**

As discussed in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, all Build Alternatives would have a similar impact on aquatic habitats and other sensitive natural communities. All Build Alternatives would impact approximately 1.73 acres of brome grassland and a combined total of 1.53 acres of non-native woodland and semi-natural ornamental habitats. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would impact approximately 0.16 acre of coast live oak woodland. Alternative 5 would not impact coast live oak woodland. Construction activities for bridge widening would occur within the road prism on the elevated roadway spanning San Ramon Creek and the Contra Costa Canal. None of the Build Alternatives would disturb the concrete lined channels below these structures. The impact to wetlands, including riparian habitat, is included in response (c).

The Project would impact between 192 and 309 trees, of which 65 to 140 are native species. Alternative 5's footprint overlaps the least number of total trees and the least number of native trees, while Alternative 1C overlaps the lowest number of non-native trees. Alternative 2's footprint overlaps a greater number of total trees than Alternative 1C. However, seven fewer of those trees are native species compared to those mapped in Alternative 1C. Alternative 3's footprint overlaps the greatest number of trees because it represents the combined footprints of both Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. In accordance with Mitigation Measure **BIO-MM-1**, which is described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands, native oak woodlands would be avoided to the maximum extent feasible. Oak trees that are impacted would be mitigated through replacement or compensatory mitigation. Replacement ratios would be determined in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and based on the size of the tree removed, with large-diameter trees requiring greater replacement numbers than small trees. With implementation of Mitigation Measure **BIO-MM-1**, the Project would not result in a substantial adverse effect on any sensitive natural community. The impact would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

### **c) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated**

As discussed in Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*, the proposed Project could impact up to approximately 0.26-acre of aquatic resources, which may fall within United State Army Corps of Engineering (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board, and/or CDFW jurisdiction. The project team is requesting an approved jurisdictional determination from USACE as certain features do not appear to meet the definition of waters of the United States. Any loss of federally protected wetlands would be considered a potentially significant impact. Mitigation Measure **BIO-MM-2**, which is described in Section 2.3.2, *Wetlands and Other Waters*, would be implemented requiring the compensatory mitigation of wetlands and other waters at a ratio that would be determined in consultation with the permitting agencies during final design. It is assumed that the ratio would be a minimum of 1:1 at this time. The impact would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.



**d) Less Than Significant Impact**

The Project would widen an existing highway. The Project is not anticipated to negatively impact wildlife movement between the west and east sides of I-680. None of the Build Alternatives would result in a substantial increase in impermeable surfaces or a substantial decrease in the vegetated ROW adjacent to the roadway. Temporarily impacted vegetation communities would be restored following construction activities. Due to physical barriers, none of the creeks within the BSA are currently used for fish passage or migration. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

**e) Less Than Significant Impact**

Certain trees are protected under the Walnut Creek Municipal Code and the Contra Costa County Tree Protection and Preservation Ordinance. As described in Section 2.3.1, *Natural Communities*, Caltrans is not subject to local tree ordinances for work done within State ROW. Tree permits may be required from the City of Walnut Creek or Contra Costa County for work outside State ROW. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

**f) No Impact**

The Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan. There would be no impact.

**3.2.5 Cultural Resources**

<b>Would the project:</b>	<b>Significant and Unavoidable Impact</b>	<b>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</b>	<b>Less Than Significant Impact</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.5.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Cultural Resources

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

As detailed in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, the APE for the Project overlaps five built historic resources (built environment) that are on or eligible for listing on the National Register and California Register. Archaeological resources are discussed in response (b). As described below, the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

- *Southern Pacific Railroad Northern Contra Costa Route*: These railroad tracks cross through the APE adjacent to Waterfront Road/Marina Vista Avenue, near the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The Project does not include any construction activities or permanent improvements north of postmile 23.1, which is over a mile from this resource.
- *Contra Costa Canal*: The canal crosses I-680 at the following three locations:
  - At postmile 22.8, the canal is an underground pipe that crosses I-680 near Arthur Road. The Project could include the installation of utilities over the underground pipe, which would be confirmed during final design. This segment of the canal was built after the canal's period of significance.
  - At postmile 21.9, the canal is an open, concrete-lined channel that is flanked by a dirt/gravel road that crosses under I-680. All Build Alternatives include installing utilities that would span the canal at this location. Utilities that cross the Contra Costa Canal at postmile 21.9 will either be installed on concrete piers beside the canal walls, similar to existing conduit at this location, or installed between the fence line and I-680 guardrail.
  - At postmile 16.1, the canal crosses under the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge (No. 28 0135). Under the bridge, the canal features a control gate on the north sidewall and a concrete check that crosses the width of the canal. East of the bridge, the canal passes under BART tracks and Jones Road in a concrete box culvert supported on the north by a concrete-bag retaining wall. The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is adjacent to the canal at this location. The canal's character-defining features within the APE include the concrete-lined open canal that follows the natural terrain to maintain a steady elevation. The control gate and check at PM 16.1 are considered character-defining features of the canal, while the culvert that passes under BART was built after the period of significance and does not contribute to the significance of the historic property.



Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge 33 feet to the east of the existing structure. The bents and columns would follow the alignment of their counterpart features on the existing structure. No temporary or permanent physical alterations would occur to the segment of the canal that crosses under the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge (No. 28 0135). Any temporary falsework that would be needed for bridge widening would completely span the historic boundary of the canal. Netting and other protective measures would be used to prevent items and materials from falling into the canal.

- *Mokelumne Aqueduct*: Three parallel pipelines cross beneath I-680 at the SR-242 Interchange. The aqueduct consists of three pipelines that are buried underground along the center of a 100-foot-wide corridor. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 propose adding pavement to the outside (east) shoulder of northbound I-680 where the freeway crosses over the Mokelumne Aqueduct. Proposed construction activities at this location would be no deeper than 4 feet and the pipelines are more than 15 feet below the freeway grade.
- *BART*: The transit service is along northbound I-680 near Treat Boulevard and Parkside Drive and then crosses I-680 north of SR-24 at the BART Central Contra Costa Line Interstate 680 Overpass. All Build Alternatives were designed to avoid physical destruction of or damage to all or part of BART, including its abutment and retaining wall on the west end of the BART Central Contra Costa Line Interstate 680 Overpass.
- *Contra Costa – Moraga Transmission Line*: All Build Alternatives would add a northbound lane within the existing Caltrans ROW and install a gantry toll reader within the vicinity of the transmission line. The transmission line tower base is approximately 100 feet above the freeway and the towers appear to be at least 70 feet tall. As such, all proposed construction activities and permanent improvements would be well below this resource.

#### **b) Less than Significant Impact**

Based on the preliminary design, project components have been located to avoid known areas of potentially significant archaeological resources. It is Caltrans' policy to avoid cultural resources whenever possible. As discussed in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, in addition to the standardize project measures described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, Measures **CUL-1** through **CUL-2** would be implemented in the event archaeological resources are discovered. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### **c) No Impact**

There are no formal cemeteries or known burial sites in the Project area. Project construction is not expected to disturb any human remains. In accordance with **CUL-2**, as described in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, the construction contractor would



be required to comply with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Caltrans Standard Specification 14-2, which require all work to stop within 60 feet of discovery of cultural resources, including human remains. If human remains are discovered, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall stop in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains. The Caltrans Branch Chief of Archaeology shall be notified, and then the County Coroner contacted. If the remains are thought by the coroner to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), who, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98, will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At this time, the person who discovered the remains will contact the Branch Chief of Cultural Resources so that they may work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable. There would be no impact.

### 3.2.6 Energy

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.6.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Energy

##### a) Less Than Significant Impact

The proposed Project is a transportation improvement project that would improve operations along northbound I-680. As discussed in Section 2.2.8, *Energy*, the proposed Project’s potential demand for energy that would exceed the current supply or cause a substantial increase in the rate of energy use was evaluated. Project construction and maintenance activities would result in a temporary commitment of energy, as would be necessary for any infrastructure improvement project. Construction vehicles and equipment operating on site, as well as trucks delivering equipment and supplies, would consume energy in the form of gas and diesel. With the implementation of Measures **E-1** through **E-3**, and the incorporation of the Standardized Project Measure regarding TMP preparation, temporary energy impacts associated with construction would be minimized to the maximum extent feasible. All Build Alternatives



would result in a negligible change in energy use during construction. The Project was designed to reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680, which could reduce energy consumption. The Project would not result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during construction or operation. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

**b) No Impact**

Reduced peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680 would occur under all Build Alternatives, which would reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for corridor travelers. The Build Alternatives would also encourage use of HOV and transit services by optimizing the use of the existing managed lane capacity in the I-680 corridor, which would better meet current traffic demands and support future demand. All Build Alternatives would address existing transportation problems, such as congestion, lack of system continuity, and existing operational deficiencies, as well as reduce energy consumption within the proposed Project area, in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local plans, policies, and regulations listed in Section 2.1.2, *Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs*, and Section 2.2.8, *Energy*. The proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct State, regional, or local plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency. There would be no impact.

**3.2.7 Geology and Soils**

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.7.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Geology and Soils

#### a–e) No Impact

As described in Section 2.2.3, *Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography*, Caltrans' design and construction guidelines incorporate engineering standards that address seismic risks. Project elements would be designed and constructed to meet seismic design requirements for ground shaking and ground motions, as determined for the project vicinity and site conditions. Caltrans also requires additional geotechnical subsurface and design investigations to be performed during the final project design and engineering phase, in accordance with Measure **GEO-1**. These standards and requirements would avoid the potential for an adverse impact on geological resources. In addition, the Project would not include the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater. There would be no impact.

#### f) Less Than Significant Impact

As described in Section 2.2.4, *Paleontology*, Project activities would encounter geologic units that are known to have high paleontological sensitivity. Caltrans Standard Specifications 14-7.03 would be implemented to provide for stopping work, securing the area, and performing further investigation if paleontological resources are encountered during project construction. Due to the potential for scientifically significant paleontological resources to be discovered in the Project area, Measure **PAL-1** would



be implemented to avoid potential impacts to sensitive paleontological resources if discovered. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### 3.2.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.8.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Greenhouse Gas Emissions

##### a) Less than Significant Impact

##### *Short-Term (Construction) Impacts*

The Project would result in short-term greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with construction activities, which would consist primarily of emissions from equipment exhaust and worker and vendor trips. Construction-related emissions for the proposed Project, under All Build Alternatives, are presented by construction stage in Table 3.2.8-1. The carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) is represented in metric tons to express the impact of various GHGs in one singular number.

**Table 3.2.8-1. Estimated CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions for Project Construction**

	CO <sub>2</sub> e
Average Workday Emissions (lbs/day) Based on 528 Workdays	4,820 MT/Year
Roadway Construction (tons)	5,637 MT
Structures Construction (tons)	4,003 MT
Total Construction (tons)	9,640 MT

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

Notes: CO<sub>2</sub>e = carbon dioxide equivalent, lbs/day = pounds per day, MT = metric ton

Construction activities are estimated to result in average daily emissions of approximately 4,820 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year based on a total of 528 workdays. As described in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-7** would be implemented, which would further control construction emissions. Caltrans Standard Specification Section 14-9 specifically requires that the construction contractor comply

with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including air pollution control district and air quality management district regulations and local ordinances. Construction activities would not generate greenhouse gas emissions that may have a significant impact on the environment. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### ***Long-Term (Operational) Impacts***

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would enhance the capacity of northbound I-680, while Alternative 5 would reduce northbound I-680's capacity. As described in Section 3.4, *Climate Change*, operational GHG emissions for the No-Build and Build Alternatives were computed using CT-EMFAC2021 for the baseline year (2020), Opening Year (2027), Design Year (2047), and the RTP's horizon year (2050) (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). Table 3.2.8-1 through Table 3.2.8-3 provide the estimated GHG emissions for the baseline year, Opening Year, Design Year, and Horizon year. For CEQA purposes, the difference in GHG emissions between the baseline year and the Design Year must be compared. Projected GHG emissions for the Opening Year and Horizon year are included for additional comparison.

CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for the No-Build Alternative and Build Alternative and each analysis year were calculated by multiplying the total emissions (grams/day) of CO<sub>2</sub>, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) by their greenhouse warming potentials (GWP) then summing the emissions and changing the units into annual metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

The changes in GHG and VMT vary by alternative and analysis year when compared to the baseline year (2020). Overall, all Build Alternatives would result in a decrease of GHG emissions compared to the 2020 baseline due to improvements in vehicle technology and fuel reformulation. Although GHG emissions for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would be slightly higher compared to the No-Build Alternative in Design Year (2047), this is largely the result of a slight increase in VMT. Alternative 5 performs the best overall as it would decrease GHG emissions. Alternative 5 has an order of magnitude less VMT increase and still is able to reduce congestion (i.e., improve travel speeds), resulting in a decrease in estimated GHG emissions. However, Alternative 3 has the lowest GHG emissions increase in the Opening Year (2027), while Alternative 2 has the smallest GHG emissions increase in the Design Year (2047) and RTP Horizon Year (2050). As described further in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, measures would be implemented that would offset the proposed Project's VMT impact. The Project's long-term operational impact, under all Build Alternatives, would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.





**Table 3.2.8-2. Modeled CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions for the Proposed Project’s Opening Year (2027)**

	2020 Baseline	Opening Year (2027)				
		No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	40,441	36,079	36,110	36,112	36,103	35,647
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	14,761,127	13,168,965	13,180,049	13,180,715	13,177,600	13,011,002
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	N/A	N/A	+30	+32	+24	-433
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)		N/A	+11,084	+11,749	+8,634	-157,964
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	N/A	-4,362	-4,332	-4,330	-4,338	-4,795
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)		-1,592,162	-1,581,079	-1,580,413	-1,583,528	-1,750,126
Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled	96,695,358	102,859,588	102,922,450	102,916,580	102,925,286	102,859,588
Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled <sup>1</sup>	33,553,289,170	35,692,277,106	35,714,090,255	35,712,053,293	35,715,074,196	35,692,277,106

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

Notes: GHG = greenhouse gas emissions, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/day = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per day, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per year, N/A = not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Annual vehicle miles traveled (VMT) values derived from Daily VMT values multiplied by 347, per CARB methodology.



**Table 3.2.8-3. Modeled CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions for the Proposed Project’s Design Year (2047)**

	2020 Baseline	Design Year (2047)				
		No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	40,441	31,475	31,493	31,483	31,495	31,119
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	14,761,127	11,488,202	11,494,827	11,491,448	11,495,633	11,358,537
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	N/A	N/A	+18	+9	+20	-355
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	N/A	N/A	+6,625	+3,247	+7,431	-129,665
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	N/A	-8,967	-8,949	-8,958	-8,947	-9,322
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	N/A	-3,272,926	-3,266,301	-3,269,679	-3,265,495	-3,402,591
Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled	96,695,358	115,101,953	115,204,075	115,186,351	115,204,937	115,115,425
Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled <sup>1</sup>	33,553,289,170	39,940,377,641	39,975,814,099	39,969,663,653	39,976,113,312	39,945,052,618

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

Notes: GHG = greenhouse gas emissions, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/day = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per day, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per year, N/A = not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Annual vehicle miles traveled (VMT) values derived from Daily VMT values multiplied by 347, per CARB methodology.



**Table 3.2.8-4. Modeled CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions for the Regional Transportation Plan’s Horizon Year (2050)**

	2020 Baseline	RTP Horizon Year (2050)				
		No-Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /day)	40,441	31,793	31,813	31,803	31,813	31,516
GHG Emissions (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /year)	14,761,127	11,604,337	11,611,607	11,607,992	11,611,690	11,503,360
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /day)	N/A	N/A	+20	+10	+20	-277
Difference Between Build and No-Build (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /year)		N/A	+7,270	+3,655	+7,353	-100,977
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /day)	N/A	-8,649	-8,629	-8,639	-8,629	-8,925
Change Between Alternative and Existing (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e /year)		-3,156,790	-3,149,520	-3,153,135	-3,149,437	-3,257,767
Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled	96,695,358	116,938,308	117,046,885	117,026,816	117,046,885	116,953,801
Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled <sup>1</sup>	33,553,289,170	40,577,592,721	40,615,072,676	40,608,305,207	40,615,269,179	40,582,968,945

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

Notes: GHG = greenhouse gas emissions, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/day = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per day, MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year = metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent per year, N/A = not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Annual vehicle miles traveled (VMT) values derived from Daily VMT values multiplied by 347, per CARB methodology.



**b) Less Than Significant Impact**

The BAAQMD’s Clean Air Plan, *Spare the Air, Cool the Climate* (2017), addresses GHGs in the proposed Project region. In addition, Contra Costa County has adopted a *Climate Action Plan*, which includes a qualified GHG reduction strategy (Contra Costa County, 2015a). The County’s *Climate Action Plan* describes how the County will achieve Assembly Bill (AB) 32 GHG emissions reduction target of 15 percent below baseline levels by the year 2020 and lays the groundwork for long-term GHG control through 2035. The County is currently preparing an update to its *Climate Action Plan*.

The proposed Project would comply with all applicable local, State, and federal regulations, ordinances, and statutes regarding GHG emissions. The proposed Project would construct express lanes that would serve transit and encourage HOV and clean air vehicle (CAV) use. Therefore, the proposed Project would be consistent with Contra Costa County’s *Climate Action Plan* as well as local climate action plans (e.g., cities of Walnut Creek, Martinez, Pleasanton, Dublin, and San Ramon) that encourage or prioritize transit ridership and alternatives to solo driving. All relevant regional plans pertaining to GHG emissions are described in Table 3.4.2-1 of Section 3.4, *Climate Change*.

The proposed Project would be consistent with Senate Bill (SB) 375 as it is included in the current RTP, *Plan Bay Area 2050* (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). Because GHG emissions for each Build Alternative would be lower for the Design Year (2047) compared to existing conditions (2020; see Table 3.2.8-2), the proposed Project would align with policies to keep the state on a trajectory for progress toward the Executive Order S-3-05 2050 emission reduction target and the more aggressive goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 set by AB 1279. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in slightly higher GHG emissions compared to the No-Build Alternative for the Design Year, which is due to increases in daily VMT, while Build Alternative 5 would decrease GHG emissions. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

As described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, a strategy would be implemented to offset the proposed Project’s induced VMT that would encourage transit ridership within the County should either Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the preferred alternative.

**3.2.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.9.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Hazards and Hazardous Materials

#### a, b, d) Less Than Significant Impact

As noted in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*, project construction and maintenance activities are expected to involve the routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials (e.g., fuels, paints, and lubricants) that could pose a significant threat to human health or the environment if not properly managed. Adherence to applicable federal, State, and local regulations and requirements during project construction and maintenance reduces the risk of exposure to hazardous materials and accidental hazardous materials releases. Compliance with applicable regulations is mandatory; therefore, proposed construction and maintenance activities are not

expected to create a hazard to construction workers, the public, or the environment through the routine transport, use, disposal, or accidental release of hazardous materials.

The *Initial Site Assessment* for the Project revealed extensive historic agricultural, industrial, and urban development within the Project Study Limits (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2021). Soils within the Project Study Limits possibly contain hazardous levels of various chemicals, including aurally deposited lead (ADL), pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum products and their derivatives. In addition, several historical and currently active railroads were located on or adjacent to the Project Study Limits and potential ROW acquisitions. There is also the potential for soil and groundwater contamination associated with railroad use, which includes polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides. Due to the age of buildings and structures within the Project Study Limits, there is also the potential for asbestos containing material (ACM) and lead based paint (LBP) within the Project Study Limits. The *Initial Site Assessment* identified the 511 Lawrence Way and Jones Road sites as containing recognized environmental conditions that could potentially impact the Project (Parikh Consultants, Inc., 2021).

Should either Alternative 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the preferred alternative, additional site investigations would be conducted of 511 Lawrence Way and Jones Road sites prior to ROW acquisition as described in Measure **HAZ-1**. In addition, measures would be implemented that require investigations for aurally deposited lead (**HAZ-2**), asbestos containing material and lead-based paint (**HAZ-3**), contaminants from agricultural land uses (**HAZ-4**), and contaminants from railroad land uses (**HAZ-5**), as described in Section 2.2.5, *Hazardous Waste/Materials*. Special soil, groundwater, and construction materials management and disposal procedures for hazardous materials, as well as construction worker health and safety measures may need to be implemented depending on the results of these investigations. Site-specific control measures would then be incorporated into the final project design, as is standard practice for Caltrans projects.

Therefore, Project construction is not expected to create a hazard to construction workers, the public, or the environment. Further, compliance with existing regulations is expected to limit the risk of a reasonably foreseeable upset or accident and minimize the impact to the public and environment should an accident occur during construction or maintenance activities. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### **c) Less Than Significant Impact**

Although there are schools within 0.25 mile of the Project Study Limits, no construction activities would occur on or immediately adjacent to any school. In addition, compliance with Caltrans' standards and applicable federal, State, and local regulations is expected to reduce the risk of exposure to hazardous materials near schools. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.



### **e) Less Than Significant Impact**

Buchanan Field Airport is a public airport located adjacent to northbound I-680, northeast of the Concord Avenue Intersection. The Project Study Limits overlap the airport influence area identified in the *Contra Costa Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* (Contra Costa County Airport Land Use Commission, 2000). A Master Plan was completed for the airfield in 1990, and a Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 150 Noise Exposure and Land Use Compatibility Study was completed in 1989. A Master Plan Update was completed in 2008 (Barnard Dunkelberg Company, 2008).

All Build Alternatives would convert the existing HOV lane on northbound I-680 to a managed lane at this location. Adherence to applicable federal, State, and local regulations during project construction and maintenance would reduce the risk of exposure to hazardous materials. In addition, Measure **HAZ-6**, requires the preparation of a Health and Safety Plan for construction workers. The Project, under all Build Alternatives, is not expected to result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### **f) Less Than Significant Impact**

The Project is located within Contra Costa County and overlaps several cities and communities. The purpose of the Project includes reducing peak period congestion and delay on northbound I-680. The purpose of the Project is to optimize freeway systems management and traffic operations. The added infrastructure, such as traffic monitoring, could be leveraged by first responders in coordination with Caltrans during an evacuation to assist with the flow of emergency traffic and communications. The Project would require local road closures, ramp closures, and full or partial lane and shoulder closures along I-680 during Project construction. As described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, a TMP would be prepared during the design phase of the Project to address the potential for traffic disruptions, which could interfere with emergency response and evacuation. The TMP would include outreach to inform local jurisdictions, agencies, and the public of the times and locations of upcoming construction, construction signs in and approaching the project area, and incident management for traffic control in the vicinity of construction activities. Access would be maintained for emergency response vehicles. The Build Alternative would not impair implementation of an emergency response or emergency evacuation plan. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### **g) Less Than Significant Impact**

The Build Alternatives would not change the I-680 alignment or any adjacent land uses. Section 3.2.20, *Wildfire*, and Section 3.3, *Wildfire*, describe fire hazard conditions in the Project area and the reasons why the Build Alternatives are not anticipated to exacerbate wildfire risks. Project construction and operation would not expose people or structures to significant risks involving wildland fires. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### 3.2.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.10.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Hydrology and Water Quality

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

As described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*, Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5 would result in an estimated disturbed surface area (DSA) of 30.83 acres, 24.41 acres, 37.24 acres, and 10.65 acres, respectively. Temporary impacts on water quality may result from disturbance related to construction activities. Although temporary impacts from soil disturbance and the operation of construction equipment have the potential to negatively impact water quality, construction site BMPs for erosion, sediment control, and material management would be implemented during construction, as specified in the required stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), and Measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-2**, which are described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. Measures **WQ-3** and **WQ-4** would be implemented, requiring that during final design, pollution prevention BMPs and treatment BMPs consistent with NPDES Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the State of California, Department of Transportation, Order No. 2012-0011-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000003, be investigated. Impacts would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### b) Less Than Significant Impact

The Project Study Limits overlap the Ygnacio Valley and is near the San Ramon Valley groundwater basins (California Department of Water Resources 2022). The Ygnacio Valley and San Ramon groundwater basin encompass approximately 25 square miles and 11 square miles, respectively. The additional impervious area that would result from each Build Alternative is minimal in comparison with the total area of the local aquifers and groundwater basins. Groundwater depth is variable and has been encountered at 26 feet below the existing surface. Construction activities include excavation depths ranging from 1 foot for maintenance vehicle pullouts to up to 75 feet for abutment and bent piles for bridge widening. Therefore, the Project has the potential to encounter groundwater. However, pilings would be installed using the wet method, and dewatering would not be required. Impacts would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### c) Less Than Significant Impact

The Project, under all Build Alternatives, would not substantially alter the course of any stream or river. All Build Alternatives would increase the amount of impervious surface compared to existing conditions. Alternative 1C is estimated to result in approximately 20.28 acres of new impervious surface, which includes 9.46 acres of net new impervious surface and 10.82 acres of replaced impervious surface. Alternative 2 is estimated to result in approximately 15.70 acres of new impervious surface, which includes 7.69 acres of net new impervious and 8.01 acres of replaced impervious surface. Alternative 3 is estimated to result in approximately 24.73 acres of new impervious surface, which includes 11.69 acres of net new impervious surface and 13.04 acres of replaced impervious surface. Alternative 5 is estimated to result in approximately 5.83 acres of new impervious surface, which includes 2.93 acres of net new impervious surface and 2.90 acres of replaced impervious surface.

The post-construction treatment goal for the Project is to fully treat 24.73 acres of new impervious surface. Potential BMP areas are identified in Appendix I.1, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*. Due to direction from Caltrans to avoid sensitive habitat in the northern portion of the Project Study Limits, the current design BMPs collectively have a total treatment area of 21.73 acres. Therefore, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 5 would include post construction treatment areas that fully account for all new impervious surfaces. Meanwhile, Alternative 3 would result in a total stormwater treatment deficit of 3.71 acres. Should Alternative 3 be selected as the preferred alternative, and the final design continue to show a post-construction treatment deficit, Caltrans or CCTA would identify potential opportunities to partner with local communities within the watershed to achieve off-site alternative compliance stormwater treatment credit.

Implementation of standard Caltrans practices for erosion control and Measures **WQ-1** through **WQ-4**, which are described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*, would avoid or minimize the Project's potential to result in substantial erosion or siltation, increase runoff volumes in a way that would result in flooding, exceed drainage system capacity or provide substantial polluted runoff, or impede or redirect flood flows. According to the Project's *Location Hydraulic Survey*, the amount of new impervious surface area being added is insignificant relative to the area of the watershed along San Ramon (WRECO, 2022). Construction activities and operation of the roadway improvements would be regulated under the applicable Caltrans' National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP), which regulate storm water discharge from activities on roadways. These are standard practices for Caltrans projects and not mitigation. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### **d) Less Than Significant Impact**

As described in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*, the Project Study Limits overlap or are immediately adjacent to FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Areas. According to the California Department of Conservation, the Project Study Limits are outside a Tsunami Hazard Area (California Department of Conservation, 2021).

All Build Alternatives would result in no to negligible increases to the base flood plains. The performance standard for BMP treatments would be to reduce post-construction flows to pre-construction flow volumes and velocities to the maximum extent practicable. The treatment BMPs would be further developed in accordance with the requirements of Caltrans' MS4 permit during final design. BMP areas would be designed above the base flood elevation at San Ramon Creek near Livorna Road and would have a negligible impact on the Peyton Slough floodplain (less than 1 foot). The piers and abutment associated with the proposed widening of the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge (Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3) would be located outside of the concrete-lined channel and floodplains. There are no designated Special Flood Hazard Areas in the vicinity of the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5). Therefore, the Project would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

**e) Less Than Significant Impact**

The project is required to adhere to the requirements of the Clean Water Act, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Caltrans MS4 Permit, and the other laws and regulations described in Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff*. As a result, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

**3.2.11 Land Use and Planning**

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**3.2.11.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Land Use and Planning**

**a) No Impact**

The Project, under all Build Alternatives, would be constructed in or along Caltrans ROW. Implementation of the Build Alternatives would result in several new structures associated with new bridge overcrossings, noise barriers, retaining walls, drainage systems, electronic toll collection equipment, and overhead sign structures, none of which would divide or introduce a new physical barrier to the communities and neighborhoods in the Study Area. These communities and neighborhoods in the Community Impact Study Area are already divided by a multi-lane highway. Therefore, the addition of structures described above would not further divide any communities or neighborhoods. Vehicular, pedestrian, and bicyclist circulation to/from local streets and private properties in the vicinity of the Project Study Limits would be maintained at all times during construction. As described in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, a TMP would be prepared that would identify strategies to reduce impacts to transportation access during construction. Thus, substantial disruptions to local circulation on a temporary basis are not anticipated. The Project would not physically divide an established community. There would be no impact.

**b) No Impact**

As described in Section 2.1.2, *Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs*, the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives would be consistent with all

applicable land use plan, policies, and regulations. The proposed Project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted to avoid or mitigate an environmental effect. There would be no impact.

### 3.2.12 Mineral Resources

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.12.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Mineral Resources

##### a, b) No Impact

The Project Study Limits do not overlap areas classified as mineral resource zones (Kohler-Antablin, 1996). The proposed Project would not require the acquisition of lands classified as mineral resource zones. The *Contra Costa County General Plan* (Contra Costa County, 2005) identifies that there is a significant diabase deposit near Mt. Zion, located approximately 5.3 miles east of the Project Study Limits, near the City of Concord. Diabase is an intrusive igneous rock that is used extensively for road base and as rip-rap to prevent streambank erosion. The types of materials used for proposed Project construction under all Build Alternatives would be determined during final design. The proposed Project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or locally important mineral resource recovery site. There would be no impact.





### 3.2.13 Noise

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.13.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Noise

##### a, b) Less Than Significant Impact

A comparison to the baseline noise level and the build noise level is required to determine whether a noise impact is significant under CEQA. The CEQA noise analysis is completely independent of the NEPA/23 CFR 772 analysis discussed in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*, which is centered on noise abatement criteria (NAC). Under CEQA, the assessment entails looking at the setting of the noise impact and then how large or perceptible any noise increase would be in the given area. Key considerations include the uniqueness of the setting, the sensitivity of the noise receptors, the magnitude of the noise increase, the number of residences affected, and the absolute noise level.

##### **Construction Impacts**

As described in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*, noise levels during construction of the Build Alternatives may intermittently dominate the noise environment in the immediate area of construction. Although the overall construction schedule for the Project may extend over approximately 2 years, roadway construction activities typically occur for relatively short periods of time in any specific location as construction proceeds along the Project’s alignment. Most construction phases would generate average noise levels ranging from 83 to 91 A-weighted decibels (dBA) at 50 feet. Average noise levels with impact pile driving would be up to 101 dBA at 50 feet.

Maximum instantaneous noise levels would range from 84 to 85 dBA at 50 feet without impact driving and up to 96 dBA at 50 feet with impact pile driving. As specified in Measure **NOI-1**, project construction would require compliance with the Caltrans Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-8.02 and would limit pile driving to daytime hours, where feasible.

It is possible that certain construction activities could cause intermittent localized concern from vibration in the resource study area. Processes such as pile driving, demolition, pavement breaking, earth moving with bulldozers, and the use of vibratory compaction rollers may cause construction-related vibration impacts, including human annoyance or, in some cases, building damage. It may be necessary to use this type of equipment in close proximity to existing structures and buildings. Vibration levels could potentially exceed 0.5 inch per second PPV within 55 feet of industrial buildings at 511 Lawrence Way, as well as residential apartment buildings at 125 Near Court, 1309 Creekside Drive, 1335 Creekside Drive, and 1355 Creekside Drive. Measure **VIB-1** would be implemented, which includes procedures to be followed that would minimize potential impacts from construction vibration. A combination of techniques for equipment vibration control, as well as administrative measures, when properly implemented, can be selected to provide the most effective means to minimize the effects of construction activity. The construction impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### ***Operational Impacts***

Caltrans typically uses a 12 dB threshold to identify areas where there would be a substantial increase in noise. There could be settings where an increase less than 12 dB would approach significance (such as a quiet rural environment) or where a 12 dB increase would not necessarily be deemed significant (noisy urban environment). In addition, if the absolute future noise level is less than 67 dBA, that may be a factor in determining whether a noise impact is less than significant.

Appendix J.3, *Existing and Predicted Future Noise Levels*, provides the existing and predicted future noise levels for each Build Alternative. All Build Alternatives are anticipated to increase Design Year (2047) noise levels by 0 to 2 dBA over the No-Build Alternative. Noise level increases of 1 to 2 dB are generally not perceptible and increases of 3 dB are barely detectable. Of the 373 receiver locations modeled along the corridor, Alternative 1C is projected to result in perceptible noise increases (i.e., greater than or equal to 3 dBA) at 23 receivers, Alternative 2 is projected to result in perceptible noise increases at 12 receivers, Alternative 3 is projected to result in perceptible noise increases at 20 receivers, and Alternative 5 is projected to result in perceptible noise increases at 3 receivers compared to existing (2020) conditions. The increase in noise is primarily due to the projected increase in VMT overtime. The difference between the Build Alternatives (2047) and existing conditions would be similar to that of the No-Build Alternative. Alternative 1C would increase noise levels by -2 to 10 dBA, Alternatives 2 and 3 would increase noise levels by -2 to 9 dBA, and Alternative 5 would increase noise levels by -2 to 3 dBA, compared to existing conditions. As such, none of the Build Alternatives would result in a substantial increase



in noise compared to existing conditions. Alternative 1C would result in an increase in noise that would approach substantial at one residential receiver (1376 Creekside Drive-Pool Area [R226]). No lands on which serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance were identified. Therefore, the operational noise impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required. However, under NEPA/23 CFR 772, noise abatement would still be considered at locations where operational noise is projected to approach or exceed the noise abatement criteria (NAC) described in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*. The operational impact would be less than significant. No mitigation is proposed.

**c) Less Than Significant Impact**

The Project Study Limits are not in the vicinity of any private airstrip. Buchanan Field Airport is a public airport that is located adjacent to northbound I-680, northeast of the Concord Avenue Intersection. The airport influence area extends 14,000 feet from runway 1L, which overlaps the Project Study Limits (Contra Costa County Airport Land Use Commission, 2000). The composite noise contours for the airfield range from 55 community noise equivalent level decibels (dB CNEL) north and south of Concord Avenue (Safety Zone 4) to greater than 65 dB CNEL at the Concord Avenue Intersection (Safety Zones 2 and 3). These safety zones limit land use development within the airport influence area. Construction workers could temporarily be exposed to aircraft noise while performing construction activities in the vicinity of Concord Avenue. Construction contractors would be required to comply with all existing Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal-OSHA) requirements regarding occupational noise exposure. The Project would not expose people using the freeway or residing or working in the Project area to excessive airport-related noise levels. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

**3.2.14 Population and Housing**

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### 3.2.14.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Population and Housing

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

None of the Build Alternatives propose to build new homes or businesses. Although small strips of ROW would be required, none of the Build Alternatives would change the zoning or land use designation of any parcel. The primary purpose of the Project is to reduce travel time and delay, encourage use of HOV and transit services, and offer non-carpool drivers a reliable travel time option. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would increase highway capacity. Although Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 propose constructing braided ramps at Treat Boulevard, these braided ramps would replace an existing auxiliary lane and would not increase the number of ramps along the freeway. By improving access and highway capacity, the Build Alternatives could indirectly result in the development and intensification of land uses in cities surrounding the project limits. However, the surrounding areas are largely built out, and the majority of future development would generally involve redevelopment of existing areas or infill development of vacant lots within urbanized areas. As described further in Section 2.1.4, *Growth*, none of the Build Alternatives would induce growth. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### b) No Impact

Based on preliminary design, implementation of the Build Alternative would require acquisition of portions (or slivers) of 10 parcels within the Project Study Limits (see Section 2.1.5, *Community Character and Cohesion*). The land required for the Build Alternative consists primarily of slivers of property frontage and landscaped areas around on-ramps and off-ramps near the SR-24 interchange. None of the Build Alternatives are anticipated to result in the permanent or temporary relocation or displacement of any person or housing. There would be no impact.

### 3.2.15 Public Services

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				



Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.15.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Public Services

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

The Project would not involve construction of new housing or other land uses that could increase the local population and demand for governmental facilities and services, such as fire protection, police protection, schools, or parks. Project construction has the potential to increase traffic delays on I-680 that could affect response times of emergency response vehicles. However, a TMP would be implemented to minimize construction-related delays and ensure accessibility throughout the corridor for emergency service providers. These emergency service routes would be maintained during construction or alternate routes provided. Once construction is complete, traffic circulation would soon return to normal. The Project’s intent is to reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the I-680 corridor, encourage the use of HOV and transit service, optimize the use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands, and offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option. Overall, the improvement to traffic operations and congestion could decrease fire and police protection response times. As described in Section 2.1.4, *Growth*, the Project is not growth inducing. The Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities. Impacts would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

### 3.2.16 Recreation

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.16.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Recreation

#### a) No Impact

The project would accommodate planned growth but would not increase the use of existing parks or other recreational facilities such that physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Access to recreational facilities would be maintained. There would be no impact.

#### b) Less Than Significant Impact

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include temporarily closing a segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail to widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge during construction. In addition, Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 include temporarily closing a segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail to widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. As described in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*, CCTA and Caltrans would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify temporary detours for these recreation trails prior to construction in accordance with **PR-1**. It is anticipated that detours would be located on existing paths and/or roadways and would not result in adverse physical effects on the environment. Access to recreational facilities would be maintained.

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would require shifting a segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail beneath the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge to avoid a proposed bridge column. The relocation of this segment of the trail would be developed during final design in coordination with the East Bay Regional Park District, should Alternatives 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative in accordance with Measure **PR-3**. The new alignment is not anticipated to result in an adverse physical effect on the environment. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.





### 3.2.17 Transportation

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.17.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Transportation

##### a) Less Than Significant Impact

The Build Alternatives would be generally consistent with applicable programs, plans, ordinances, and policies regarding the circulation system, which are described in Sections 2.1.2, *Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs*. In addition, CCTA is the congestion management agency for Contra Costa County and is responsible for preparing a Congestion Management Program (CMP) for the County. The latest Congestion Management Program is focused primarily on updating the Capital Improvement Program, monitoring the performance of the CMP network, and addressing the implementation of SB 743 in Contra Costa. The plan proposes to close gaps in the HOV lane system on I-680 through the SR-24 Interchange (northbound and southbound) and includes conversions of HOV lanes to tolled express lanes on I-680. In addition, CCTA's *Measure J Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan* includes extending existing bus/carpool lanes on northbound I-680 from North Main Street to north of SR-242 (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2011). The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

##### b) Significant and Unavoidable

##### **Build Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3**

Daily VMT are reported for the five-county Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties. The estimated daily VMT under the Existing Conditions (2020 base year) is approximately 96,695,358

(Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates, 2022). Daily VMT would increase to 115,101,953 by the Design Year (2047) for the No-Build Alternative (Kittelson & Associates, 2023).

The Contra Costa Countywide travel model (Countywide Model), which is maintained by CCTA, was selected as the tool for the Project travel forecasts (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates, 2022). As discussed in Section 2.1.8, *Traffic and Transportation/ Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities*, a model benchmarking approach was applied to provide VMT analysis for the Project. Revisions were made to the Countywide Model to ensure that the most important travel behavior changes would be represented, which included express lane modeling, HOV modeling, and induced demand adjustments. The Countywide Model was validated for use in this study by comparing model output to traffic counts collected primarily in November 2019. These counts represent more typical traffic conditions prior to the reduced travel associated with COVID-19. The Project's *Travel Forecast Report* (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates, 2022), completed in February 2022, includes additional detailed information regarding the method and modeling that was used to forecast VMT. Kittelson & Associates provided updated forecasted VMT for the No-Build condition and each Build Alternative in September 2023 (Kittelson & Associates, 2023).

Normally, future conditions with a project are compared to a baseline of existing conditions for CEQA. However, alternatives to an existing conditions baseline may be appropriate in certain circumstances. Comparing a project's VMT to existing conditions would combine the project's VMT effects with other effects on VMT that occur over time, such as increases in population or economic activity, in effect misleading the public and decision-makers by obscuring the impacts of the project itself. In accordance with Caltrans' *Transportation Analysis under CEQA*, future build alternatives were compared to the future No-Build Alternative (i.e., the conditions expected to exist in the future absent the project) to determine the amount of VMT attributable to the project. (California Department of Transportation, 2020)

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would add capacity to northbound I-680 and induce VMT compared to existing conditions and the No-Build Alternative. Table 3.2.17-1 compares the forecasted change in VMT for each Build Alternative to the No-Build for the Opening Year (2027) and Design Year (2047). Compared to the No-Build, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in an increase of 102,122 daily VMT; 84,398 daily VMT; and 102,985 daily VMT, respectively, for the Design Year. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research guidelines excludes trucks from VMT calculations for CEQA impacts. Removing trucks, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in an increase of 99,389, 82,353, and 99,986 respectively, for the Design Year compared to the No-Build. Therefore, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would all result in a potentially significant impact on transportation under CEQA.



**Table 3.2.17-1. Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) for Alternatives**

Alt.	Opening Year (2027)		Design Year (2047) With Trucks			Design Year (2047) Without Trucks	
	Daily VMT	Difference from No-Build	Daily VMT	Difference from No-Build	Daily Truck VMT	Daily VMT	Difference from No-Build
No-Build	102,853,478	-	115,101,953	-	3,697,410	111,404,543	-
Alt 1C	102,922,450	+68,973	115,204,075	+102,122	3,700,143	111,503,933	+99,389
Alt 2	102,916,580	+63,102	115,186,351	+84,398	3,699,455	111,486,896	+82,353
Alt 3	102,925,286	+71,808	115,204,937	+102,985	3,700,408	111,504,529	+99,986

Source: (Kittelson & Associates, 2023)

Notes: Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) for five county Metropolitan Statistical Area – Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo counties. Alternative 5 is screened from VMT Analysis.

Should either Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, **TRAN-MM-1**, **TRAN-MM-2**, and **TRAN-MM-3** would be in place to offset the Project’s forecasted induced VMT through the Design Year (i.e., 20 years from the Opening Year).

**TRAN-MM-1** ***I-680 Express Bus Service.*** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will work with County Connection and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority to implement a new I-680 express bus service and provide funding to rebrand, refurbish, and upgrade six existing buses for interim service (before hydrogen fuel-cell buses are available) and acquire six hydrogen fuel-cell buses (and 1 spare) when they are available for purchase.

**TRAN-MM-2** ***Shared Mobility Hubs.*** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of the following mobility hubs: Bollinger Canyon Road, Walnut Creek BART Station, and Martinez Amtrak Station. These hubs will be designed to support I-680 Express Bus Service as well as other fixed-route transit services. The hubs may include mobility hub improvements and Mobility-on-Demand (MoD)/Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) application and could potentially include additional mobility services, such as microtransit and/or increased eBike/eScooter operations.

**TRAN-MM-3 *Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program.*** Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of a countywide TDM Program for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. This program will consist of enhancing existing and creating new TDM incentives within Contra Costa County. The program will not supplant, supersede, or replace current CCTA TDM initiatives that are funded by Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) or Measure J. CCTA will operate the program through the County's existing TDM program (511 Contra Costa).

As described further in Chapter 6, *Comments and Coordination*, the proposed Project is part of a suite of six separate projects known as the INNOVATE 680 Program. As described in CCTA's Congestion Management Program, INNOVATE 680 includes the following transit improvements: "Project components include Express Bus Service, ITS, Bus on Shoulder, and Park & Ride Lots" (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2019).

The I-680 express bus service (**TRAN-MM-1**) would operate along I-680 between the Martinez Amtrak Station and Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station and include intermediate stops at the Walnut Creek BART Station and Bollinger Canyon Road, with service to the ACE Pleasanton Station during peak periods. The express bus, operated with zero-emission hydrogen fleet when available, would fill an existing service gap identified in the 2018 California State Rail Plan (California Department of Transportation, 2018).

The Project Sponsor, CCTA, is currently developing the I-680 express bus program in partnership with Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (dba County Connection) and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, and Central Contra Costa Transit Authority, 2022). The I-680 express bus is still in the conceptual design phase and would be seeking separate environmental approval(s) if necessary. The I-680 express bus is estimated to result in a daily VMT reduction of approximately 36,800 VMT (Kittelson & Associates, 2022).

Shared mobility hubs (**TRAN-MM-2**) would be implemented at the following locations: Bollinger Canyon Road, Walnut Creek BART Station, and Martinez Amtrak Station. Shared mobility hubs are places of connectivity where different travel options—biking, transit, carpooling, van pooling, ride-sourcing, and micro transit—come together. These hubs would complement the express bus, transit bus on shoulder, and connections to other modes, such as microtransit, carpooling, vanpooling, ride-sharing (i.e., Uber, Lyft), bicycle and scooter-share, and pedestrian facilities.

The shared mobility hubs are still in the conceptual design phase and would be seeking separate environmental approval(s). CCTA would pursue funds, and BAIFA would provide funding from corridor remaining revenue subject to availability and eligibility.

In order to calculate the potential VMT reduction, the I-680 express bus was modelled alone and with the three shared mobility hubs (Kittelson & Associates, 2022). VMT forecasting for the shared mobility hubs also assumes that the hubs would include either a 1- or 2-mile-radius of non-automobile access connection improvements. As shown in Table 3.2.17-2, shared mobility hubs are estimated to result in a daily VMT reduction of between approximately 6,600 and 15,400 VMT (Kittelson & Associates, 2022). Combining **TRAN-MM-1** and **TRAN-MM-2** would result in a daily VMT reduction of between approximately 43,400 and 52,500 VMT.

**Table 3.2.17-2. Potential Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction for Shared Mobility Hubs**

Radius	Assumptions	Daily VMT Reduction
1 mile	Primarily walk or non-motorized access; represents safety and access improvements at a mobility hub and Mobility on Demand and Mobility as a Service (MoD/MaaS) applications, without the provision of additional services such as microtransit.	6,600
2 miles	Improvements at the mobility hub and improved local mobility access by modes such as expanded electric bikes or scooters and/or microtransit connected to MoD/MaaS applications.	15,400

Source: (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates, 2022)

Notes: Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) for five county Metropolitan Statistical Area – Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo counties.

CCTA was awarded partial Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant funding for the I-680 Express Bus Program in July 2022, which includes partial funding for the I-680 express bus and the shared mobility hubs (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, and Central Contra Costa Transit Authority, 2022). The TIRCP application specifically stated that the shared mobility hubs and the I-680 express bus would be used to help mitigate the proposed Project.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to the above transit improvements, CCTA would expand Contra Costa County’s existing countywide TDM program, which is operated by 511 Contra Costa (511CC) (**TRAN-MM-3**). This measure incentivizes trip reductions and the use of transit within Contra Costa County.

Sponsorship and administration of 511CC is currently provided by CCTA and its subregional transportation planning committees (SWAT, TRANSPAC, TRANSPLAN, and WCCTAC). Existing trip reduction programs within 511CC include the following:

- Ride 4 Free Transit – Free transit passes

<sup>1</sup> The TIRCP Application also says that the INNOVATE 680 Part-Time Transit Lane/Transit Bus on Shoulder Project will help mitigate VMT increases from the express lane component of INNOVATE 680 (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, and Central Contra Costa Transit Authority, 2022). Part-time transit lane/transit bus on shoulder is not proposed as mitigation because it is currently designated as a pilot project.

- Drive Less / Leave Car at Home – Monetary incentive to replace drive alone commute trips with alternate modes
- BOGO – Discounted transit passes
- School Pool/Pass2Class – Free bus passes to school
- E-bike Rebate – Rebates for e-bike purchases

Funding for 511CC is currently provided by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD's) Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) and by Measure J, which is the County's local half-cent sales tax.

BAAQMD requires that regular reports be prepared that estimate the GHG and criteria pollutant emission reductions for TFCA-funded programs. Vehicle miles reduced from the programs is one of the required reporting metrics, based on reporting from program participants. From these reports, it was estimated that the existing average weekday VMT reduction for all TFCA-funded, ongoing programs within 511CC is approximately 313,956 VMT (Kittelson & Associates, 2022). The majority of the VMT benefits are accounted for by the commute programs due to their longer average distances.

The TDM program that CCTA is proposing to mitigate the Project's VMT impacts would fund and deliver new trip reduction incentives and/or augment existing incentive programs through 511CC through the Project's Design Year. Additional VMT reductions related to expansion of these TDM programs are assumed to be proportional to increases in number of persons participating in the incentive programs. For example, a 15 percent increase in program funding and participation would be expected to decrease daily VMT by 47,093 ( $313,956 * 15$  percent). (Kittelson & Associates, 2022)

Existing 511CC programs that could potentially be enhanced by project mitigation funding include School Pass/Pass2Class, Ride 4 Free Transit, BOGO, and Drive Less. The following types of trip reduction programs would also be routinely considered:

- Free or Discounted Transit Passes
- Monetary Incentives to Drive Less
- School Transit Passes
- Micromobility Incentive

CCTA would prepare an implementation plan for the TDM program during final design. A version of the implementation plan would be made available upon request when finalized and may be posted on the INNOVATE 680 website (<https://ccta.net/projects/innovate-680/>) and/or 511CC website (<https://511contracosta.org>). The implementation plan for the TDM program would include details on specific trip reduction incentives and programs to offset the Preferred



Alternative's induced VMT when combined with the other proposed mitigation measures as currently forecasted. That is, the TDM program would aim to result in an average daily VMT reduction of 47,189 daily VMT for Alternative 1C; 30,153 daily VMT for Alternative 2; or 47,786 daily VMT for Alternative 3 by the Design Year.<sup>2</sup>

Combining **TRAN-MM-1**, **TRAN-MM-2**, and **TRAN-MM-3** is estimated to offset the Project's induced VMT. However, it is currently uncertain whether measures **TRAN-MM-1**, **TRAN-MM-2**, and **TRAN-MM-3** would be fully funded and implemented prior to the Project's Opening Year (2027). In addition, it is uncertain whether these programs would extend beyond the Project's Design Year (2047). Therefore, the impact on transportation would be significant and unavoidable for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3.

### **Build Alternative 5**

Alternative 5 would convert existing general-purpose lanes and an HOV lane on northbound I-680 to an express lane. Alternative 5 would not add any through lanes. The proposed braided ramps would improve mobility and safety and would not increase through capacity of I-680 or any local road. Alternative 5 would not result in an increase in regional VMT. According to Caltrans' *Transportation Analysis under CEQA*, projects that do not increase capacity are not likely to lead to a measurable and substantial increase in VMT and can be screened from having to prepare VMT analysis (California Department of Transportation, 2020). This includes the following project type: "Conversion of existing general-purpose lanes (including ramps) to managed lanes or transit lanes, or changing lane management in a manner that would not substantially increase vehicle travel." The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required for Alternative 5.

#### **c) No Impact**

None of the Build Alternatives would increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or result in incompatible uses. There would be no impact.

#### **d) Less Than Significant Impact**

All Build Alternatives would retain and/or add CHP pullout areas along northbound I-680. The final locations of pullout areas would be confirmed during final design in coordination with CHP.

Temporary freeway, lane, and ramp closures on I-680 and temporary closures of local streets could be required during construction, which could temporarily affect emergency access. Anticipated closures are summarized for each Build Alternative in Section 1.4.2, *Unique Features of the Build Alternatives under Project Construction*.

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<sup>2</sup> This estimate assumes access improvements of up to two miles would be implemented for the shared mobility hubs. Should only one-mile radius access improvements be implemented, the TDM program would be required to achieve the following: 55,989 daily VMT reduction for Alternative 1C; 38,953 daily VMT reduction for Alternative 2; and 56,586 daily VMT reduction for Alternative 3 by the Design Year.

The following two long-term ramp closures would be required:

- Alternatives 1C and 3: The southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp is anticipated to be closed for up to 11 months.
- Alternatives 2, 3, and 5: The northbound North Main Street off-ramp is anticipated to be closed for up to 1 month.

A Ramp Closure Study was prepared for these long-term ramp closures as part of the Community Impact Assessment (HDR Engineering, Inc., 2023). Travel time estimates were calculated and potential detours were identified. Emergency response travel time was considered, particularly for emergency access to the Kaiser Permanent Walnut Creek Medical Center by Newell Avenue and South Main Street in Walnut Creek.

Caltrans Deputy Directive (DD) 60-R2, defines a Significant Traffic Impact as a delay of 30 minutes or more. The proposed project would result in a maximum detour delay of 7.6 minutes due to the temporary closure of the southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp and 5.8 minutes due to the temporary closure of the North Main Street off-ramp. In addition, the analysis showed that it was slightly faster (0.7 minutes) for vehicles to take the proposed detour to access the Kaiser Permanent Walnut Creek Medical Center rather than the southbound Olympic Boulevard off-ramp.

During final design, a more rigorous analysis will be conducted of long-term ramp closures and a TMP would be developed for the project to minimize construction-related delays. The TMP would include notification to emergency service providers and the public of lane and ramp closures and detours; coordination with CHP and local law enforcement on contingency plans; and use of portable Changeable Message Signs, CHP's Construction Zone Enhanced Enforcement Program, and Freeway Service Patrol where possible to minimize delays. Law enforcement, fire, and/or emergency service access would be maintained during Project construction and operation. The Project is not expected to result in inadequate emergency access. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.



### 3.2.18 Tribal Cultural Resources

<p>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:</p>	<p>Significant and Unavoidable Impact</p>	<p>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</p>	<p>Less Than Significant Impact</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

#### 3.2.18.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Tribal Cultural Resources

##### a, b) No Impact

A request for a search of the sacred lands file and a list of interested individuals was sent to the California NAHC on August 3, 2020. The NAHC responded on August 18, 2020, with negative results for sacred lands in the vicinity of the APE and provided a list of 12 interested individuals. The Project Sponsor (CCTA) conducted consultation with each of the representatives on the NAHC list. Letters were sent to individuals on August 31, 2020, with a second letter following on August 17, 2021. The latter detailed changes to the proposed Project and provided a new map set. A final email was sent to all interested party contacts on September 10, 2021, soliciting final comments on the proposed Project prior to the completion of cultural studies. No responses were received at that time.

In support of the Extended Phase I Report for the proposed Project, emails (with attached letters and maps) were issued by Far Western to all parties on April 12, 2023. Follow-up phone calls were conducted by Far Western on May 12, 2023, and additional phone-calls and email correspondence were initiated by CCTA (in coordination with Caltrans) later the same month. Representatives from the Amah Matsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista, The Confederated Villages of Lisjan, Indian Canyon Mutsun

Band of Costanoan, and The Ohlone Indian Tribe requested a follow-up or further consultation. All further correspondence was conducted by either CCTA or Caltrans, and documentation is on file with the agencies. Coordination with the Native American tribes would continue throughout the duration of the proposed Project.

No tribal cultural resources have been identified within the APE. As discussed in Section 1.4.1.6, *Standardized Project Measures*, Caltrans' Standard Specifications require construction contractors to stop all work within 60 feet of an unanticipated discovery of a cultural resource or human remains and not resume work until authorized. Measure **CUL-1**, in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, would be implemented to ensure that all earth-moving activity within and around an immediate cultural materials discovery area would be diverted until a qualified archaeologist can assess the nature and significance of the find. In addition, Measure **CUL-2**, in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, would be implemented if suspected Native American human remains are discovered during construction. There would be no impact.

### 3.2.19 Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater, or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.19.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Utilities and Service Systems

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

The proposed Project is a transportation improvement project. The proposed Project would not construct any new residential or non-residential structures that could induce population or employment growth and increase the demand or exceed the current capacity of existing utility systems.

Utilities would generally be protected in place or relocated on site. Numerous underground utilities are located within the Project limits. Most of these are at overpasses or underpasses and do not require relocation based on the preliminary widening design. There are overhead power and transmission lines that cross over the freeway that may be of concern during the use of tall construction equipment, such as cranes, but may not warrant relocation. The proposed Project improvements would result in the relocation of some major electrical and water utilities. The Project would require the relocation of the following utilities:

- Gas: Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
- Electric: PG&E
- Water: East Bay Municipality Utility District (EBMUD)
- Fiber Optic: Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA), AT&T
- Cable TV: AT&T, Verizon
- Storm Drain and Sewer: Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (CCCSD)

CCTA would work with service providers and identify locations and needs for relocation permits. No interruption to utility services on a temporary basis would occur during or after construction of the proposed Project with the implementation of Measure **UES-1**, in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, which would require continuous service to be maintained during the replacement or relocation of affected utilities within the proposed Project Study Limits. Further, implementation of Measure **UES-2**, in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, would ensure that the location of all underground utilities be identified prior to ground disturbing activities so that these utilities would not be affected during construction. The Impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

#### b) No Impact

The Project would not induce new development or uses that would require water supplies. There would be no impact.



**c) No Impact**

The Project would not increase the demand for wastewater treatment or affect the capacity of wastewater treatment facilities. There would be no impact.

**d) No Impact**

The Project would generate solid waste during construction and maintenance. The Acme Landfill, which is located at 950 Waterbird Way in the City of Martinez, approximately 0.5 mile east of the Project Study Limits, is the closest landfill to the proposed Project. According to CalRecycle's Solid Waste Information System database (CalRecycle, 2022), the Acme Landfill permits a maximum capacity of 6,195,000 cubic yards of green material and construction/demolition waste. Waste from the Project would include concrete, asphalt, soil, and other similar materials. The amount of construction waste material anticipated to be disposed of in the Acme Landfill is not expected to exceed the landfill's permitted capacity. In addition, The Project is not anticipated to generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goal. There would be no impact.

**e) No Impact**

Construction waste generated under all Build Alternatives would be disposed of in accordance with federal, State, and local regulations related to recycling, which would minimize the amount of waste material entering local landfills. There would be no impact.

**3.2.20 Wildfire**

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>





If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.20.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Wildfire

As depicted in Figure 2.1.7-1, in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, the Project Study Limits are not within a very high, high, or moderate fire hazard severity zone (Cal FIRE, 2023). There are fire hazard severity zones in the surrounding hills, particularly within and adjacent to the Acalanes Ridge Open Space, Briones Regional Park, Mount Diablo State Park, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness. The nearest very high hazard severity zone is in a Local Responsibility Area that overlaps the Acalanes Ridge Open Space in Walnut Creek, approximately 0.7 mile west of the Project Study Limits.

#### a) Less Than Significant Impact

Contra Costa County has developed an Emergency Operations Plan that provides the basis for a coordinated response before, during, and after an emergency affecting Contra Costa County (Contra Costa County, 2015b). This plan applies to all unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County as well as incorporated areas that require a coordinated response to an emergency. Incorporated areas within Contra Costa County include the City of Martinez (the county seat) and an additional 18 communities within Contra Costa County.

The proposed Project under all Build Alternatives aims to improve system continuity, traffic congestion, and express lane network operations along northbound I-680. The proposed Project does not propose changes in the use of the current roadway and would not require or cause changes in the use of adjacent properties. However, during construction, the proposed Project would require shoulder, ramp, local road, freeway, and lane closures, which would result in temporary disruptions to local circulation and connectivity that could impact emergency access. A TMP would be prepared that would minimize potential traffic impacts as they relate to staged construction, detours, and other traffic handling concerns associated with construction of the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives. Therefore, the Project would not impair implementation of

an emergency response or emergency evacuation plan. The impact would be less than significant. Mitigation is not proposed.

### **b) No Impact**

The Contra Costa Emergency Operations Plan (Contra Costa County, 2015b) states that wildfire hazards exist in many areas of the county. Fire season generally lasts several months and varies year to year (Contra Costa County, 2015b). The Project would not change fire risk conditions along the I-680 corridor. During construction, measures for minimizing fire risks would be incorporated, such as clearing vegetation and trees from the work area or prohibiting the use of highly flammable chemicals in accordance with Measure **UES-3**, as described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*. All Project construction would follow state and federal fire regulations. Therefore, the Project is not expected to exacerbate wildfire risks or expose project personnel to pollutants from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. There would be no impact.

### **c) No Impact**

The Project includes widening northbound I-680 and would require relocation of some underground and aboveground utilities as described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*. All project construction would follow State and federal fire regulations during these relocations. Project features for minimizing fire risks would be incorporated, such as clearing vegetation from the work area, prohibiting the use of highly flammable chemicals, following locally changing meteorological conditions, and maintaining awareness of the possibility of increased fire danger during the time work is in progress. Therefore, the Project is not expected to exacerbate wildfire risks or expose project personnel to pollutants from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. There would be no impact.

### **d) Less Than Significant Impact**

As discussed in Section 2.2.1, *Hydrology and Floodplain*, and Section 2.2.2, *Water Quality*, the proposed Project under all Build Alternatives would propose new roadway hardscape area, which would result in a permanent increase in impervious surfaces and a permanent increase in runoff and pollutant loading. This increase in impervious area would increase the potential for erosion, sediment, and pollution in surface waters. However, the proposed Project, under all Build Alternatives, would include upgrading existing drainage facilities and incorporating on-site treatment areas to manage the increase in runoff. Standard practices for erosion control and construction discharges, including the development and implementation of an SWPPP and erosion control BMPs, would be implemented during construction. Further, as discussed in Section 2.2.3, *Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography*, Measure **GEO-1** would be implemented, which requires the preparation of a geotechnical report that would include geotechnical exploratory boring activities to confirm soil types and geologic conditions to address any potential impacts related to soils, liquefaction, and seismic activity during final design. The Project would not expose people or structures to significant risks related to



downslope, flooding, or landslides as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes are not anticipated. The impact is less than significant. Mitigation is not proposed.

### 3.2.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.2.21.1 CEQA Significance Determinations for Mandatory Findings of Significance

##### a) Less than Significant Impact

The potential environmental impacts associated with Project construction and operation, under all Build Alternatives, and the measures proposed to avoid or minimize those impacts, are summarized in the checklist discussions above. Measures have been proposed to reduce impacts to resources, such as special-status wildlife species and their habitats. With implementation of the proposed measures, the Project would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or

restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The impact would be less than significant. No additional mitigation measures are required.

### **b) Significant and Unavoidable**

The Project, under all Build Alternatives, has been evaluated for cumulative impacts as described in Section 2.4, *Cumulative Impacts*. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would not result in incremental effects to any resource that would be cumulatively considerable except for potentially VMT. As described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would all induce VMT. Although measures have been proposed that would fully mitigate VMT for 20 years, Caltrans has determined that these impacts would be significant and unavoidable. The incremental effects of Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects would be cumulatively considerable. For Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, the impact would be significant and unavoidable, even with proposed mitigation.

As described in Section 2.4, *Cumulative Impacts*, Alternative 5 would not result in incremental effects to any resource that would be cumulatively considerable. Unlike Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3, Alternative 5 would not induce VMT. For Alternative 5, the impact would be less than significant.

### **c) Less than Significant Impact**

While human beings could be affected by a variety of the impacts described above, the Project would not have substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The proposed Project would include construction impacts that could affect human beings (e.g., construction noise and traffic delays), but these impacts would be short-term and not substantially adverse. With implementation of the proposed measures, the Project would not have substantially adverse effects on human beings. The impact would be less than significant. No additional mitigation measures are proposed.

## 3.3 Wildfire

### 3.3.1 Regulatory Setting

Senate Bill 1241 required the Office of Planning and Research, the Natural Resources Agency, and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop amendments to the “CEQA Checklist” for the inclusion of questions related to fire hazard impacts for projects located on lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. The 2018 updates to the CEQA Guidelines expanded this to include projects “near” these very high fire hazard severity zones.

### 3.3.2 Affected Environment

As described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, the Project Study Limits are not within a very high, high, or moderate fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ) (Cal Fire, 2007). See Figure 2.1.7-1, *Fire Hazard Severity Zones and Emergency Services*. However, there are FHSZs in the surrounding hills, particularly within and adjacent to the Acalanes Ridge Open Space, Briones Regional Park, Mount Diablo State Park, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness.

Contra Costa County has developed an Emergency Operations Plan that provides the basis for a coordinated response before, during, and after an emergency affecting Contra Costa County (Contra Costa County, 2015). This plan applies to all unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County as well as incorporated areas that require a coordinated response to an emergency. Incorporated areas within Contra Costa County include the City of Martinez (the county seat) and 18 additional communities within Contra Costa County.

### 3.3.3 Environmental Consequences

#### No-Build Alternative

The No-Build Alternative would maintain the current configurations of Interstate 680 (I-680) in the Community Impact Study Area. Under the No-Build Alternative, the proposed Project would not be constructed, no impacts on emergency response or evacuation would occur, and the fire hazard risk in the Project area would not change.

#### Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5)

None of the Build Alternatives would impair implementation of an emergency response or emergency evacuation plan. Most of the work would occur in State right-of-way. All of the Build Alternatives would reduce travel time, which could support a decrease in emergency response time. In addition, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would add capacity to northbound I-680, facilitating emergency response and evacuation. The proposed added infrastructure, such as changeable message signs and traffic monitoring, could be leveraged by first responders in coordination with Caltrans during an evacuation to

assist with the flow of emergency traffic. Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would also improve I-680 as a firebreak by increasing the overall freeway width and removing roadside vegetation. In addition, all of the Build Alternatives would construct and maintain biofiltration strips and swales along the I-680 corridor.

During Project construction, the Transportation Management Plan would minimize construction-related delays and include coordination with California Highway Patrol and local law enforcement agencies. In addition, Measure **UES-3** (See Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*) would be implemented, which would reduce fire risks during construction activities. All Build Alternatives propose to install new lighting, conduits, and associated utility cabinets. Electrical equipment would be sited, installed, grounded, and protected by circuit breakers in compliance with Caltrans Standard Plans, local utility requirements, and applicable national fire protection standards. Cabinets would be rated to protect electrical equipment from damage and placed on raised concrete pads in unpaved areas in accordance with applicable standards. Therefore, installation and maintenance of associated infrastructure is not anticipated to increase the risk of wildland fires.

### **3.3.4 Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Measure **UES-3**, as described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*, would be implemented. No additional avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation would be required.



## 3.4 Climate Change

Climate change refers to long-term changes in temperature, precipitation, wind patterns, and other elements of the Earth's climate system. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, established by the United Nations and World Meteorological Organization in 1988, is devoted to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and climate change research and policy. Climate change in the past has generally occurred gradually over millennia, or more suddenly in response to cataclysmic natural disruptions. The research of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other scientists over recent decades, however, has unequivocally attributed an accelerated rate of climatological changes over the past 150 years to GHG emissions generated from the production and use of fossil fuels.

Human activities generate GHGs consisting primarily of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), tetrafluoromethane, hexafluoroethane, sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), and various hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). CO<sub>2</sub> is the most abundant GHG; while it is a naturally occurring and necessary component of Earth's atmosphere, fossil-fuel combustion is the main source of additional, human-generated CO<sub>2</sub> that is the main driver of climate change. In the U.S. and in California, transportation is the largest source of GHG emissions, mostly CO<sub>2</sub>.

The impacts of climate change are already being observed in the form of sea level rise, drought, more intense heat, extended and severe fire seasons, and historic flooding from changing storm patterns. Both mitigation and adaptation strategies are necessary to address these impacts. The most important mitigation strategy is to reduce GHG emissions. In the context of climate change (as distinct from CEQA and NEPA), "mitigation" involves actions to reduce GHG emissions or to enhance the "sinks" that store them (such as forests and soils) to lessen adverse impacts. "Adaptation" is planning for and responding to impacts to reduce vulnerability to harm, such as by adjusting transportation design standards to withstand more intense storms, heat, and higher sea levels. This analysis will include a discussion of both in the context of this transportation project.

### 3.4.1 Regulatory Setting

This section outlines federal and state efforts to comprehensively reduce GHG emissions from transportation sources.

#### 3.4.1.1 Federal

To date, no national standards have been established for nationwide mobile-source GHG reduction targets, nor have any regulations or legislation been enacted specifically to address climate change and GHG emissions reduction at the project level.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] Part 4332) requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making a decision on the action or project. In January 2023, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued updated and expanded interim

National Environmental Policy Act Guidance on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change (88 Fed. Reg. 1196) (CEQ NEPA GHG Guidance), in accordance with EO 14057, *Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability*, 86 FR 70935 (Dec. 13, 2021) and EO 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*. The CEQ guidance does not establish numeric thresholds of significance, but emphasizes quantifying reasonably foreseeable lifetime direct and indirect emissions whenever possible. This guidance also emphasizes resilience and environmental justice in project-level climate change and GHG analyses.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the threats that extreme weather, sea level change, and other changes in environmental conditions pose to valuable transportation infrastructure and those who depend on it. FHWA therefore supports a sustainability approach that assesses vulnerability to climate risks and incorporates resilience into planning, asset management, project development and design, and operations and maintenance practices (Federal Highway Administration, 2022). This approach encourages planning for sustainable highways by addressing climate risks while balancing environmental, economic, and social values— “the triple bottom line of sustainability” (Federal Highway Administration, n.d.). Program and project elements that foster sustainability and resilience also support economic vitality and global efficiency, increase safety and mobility, enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve the quality of life. Early efforts by the federal government to improve fuel economy and energy efficiency to address climate change and its associated effects include the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 USC Section 6201); and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standards. The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) sets and enforces the CAFE standards for on-road motor vehicles sold in the United States. The Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) calculates average fuel economy levels for manufacturers, and also sets related GHG emissions standards for vehicles under the Clean Air Act. Raising CAFE standards leads automakers to create a more fuel-efficient fleet, which improves our nation’s energy security, saves consumers money at the pump, and reduces GHG emissions (U.S. Department of Transportation, 2014). These standards are periodically updated and published through the federal rulemaking process.

#### **3.4.1.2 State**

California has been innovative and proactive in addressing GHG emissions and climate change by passing multiple Senate and ABs and executive orders (EO).

In 2005, EO S-3-05 initially set a goal to reduce California’s GHG emissions to 80 percent below year 1990 levels by 2050, with interim reduction targets. Later EOs and Assembly and Senate bill refined interim targets and codified the emissions reduction goals and strategies. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) was directed to create a climate change scoping plan and implement rules to achieve “real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gases.” Ongoing GHG emissions reduction was also mandated in Health and Safety Code (H&SC) Section 38551(b). In 2022, the California Climate Crisis Act was passed, establishing state policy to reduce statewide

human-caused GHG emissions by 85 percent below 1990 levels, achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2045, and achieve and maintain negative emissions thereafter. Beyond GHG reduction, the State maintains a climate adaptation strategy to address the full range of climate change stressors, and passed legislation requiring state agencies to consider protection and management of natural and working lands as an important strategy in meeting the state's GHG reduction goals.

### 3.4.2 Environmental Setting

The Project Study Limits extend approximately 20 miles along I-680 within central Contra Costa County. The Project Study Limits traverse through several cities and towns within Contra Costa County, including Concord, Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek and the community of Alamo. As a result, most of the land adjacent to northbound I-680 provides space for commercial/retail, residential, and light industrial uses. However, near the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, I-680 is adjacent to heavy industrial land uses.

Northbound I-680 is used heavily during peak hours. As described in Chapter 1, there is considerably more congestion during the p.m. peak period than during the a.m. peak period; however, there are still traffic delays and queues in the a.m. peak period. The morning congestion is comparatively moderate and only lasts for approximately an hour (8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.). In the afternoon, traffic congestion appears to set in around 2:00 p.m. and lasts until around 7:00 p.m. There is also substantially more congestion (traffic delays) in the general-purpose lanes than in the express lanes in the southern segment of the corridor. Likewise, the HOV lane in the northern segment is less congested (i.e., has higher traffic speeds) than the adjacent general-purpose lanes.

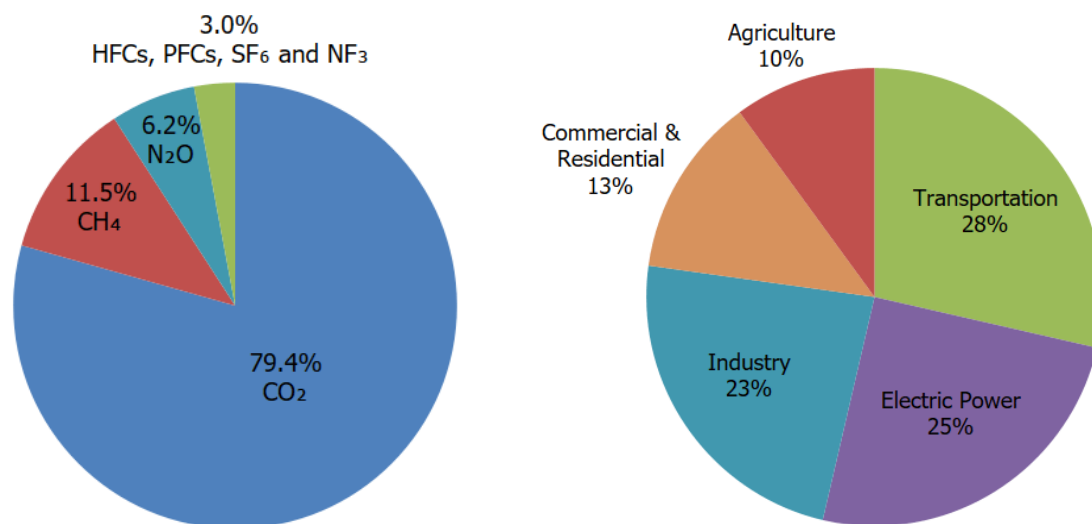
*Plan Bay Area 2050*, which is the regional transportation plan (RTP)/sustainable communities strategy (SCS) of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), guides transportation development for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021). The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) *2017 Clean Air Plan* addresses GHGs in the Project region (Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 2017).

#### 3.4.1.1 GHG Inventories

A GHG emissions inventory estimates the amount of GHGs discharged into the atmosphere by specific sources over a period of time. Tracking annual GHG emissions allows countries, states, and smaller jurisdictions to understand how emissions are changing and what actions may be needed to attain emission reduction goals. U.S. EPA is responsible for documenting GHG emissions nationwide, and the CARB does so for the state, as required by H&SC Section 39607.4. Cities and other local jurisdictions may also conduct local GHG inventories to inform their GHG reduction or climate action plans.

## National GHG Inventory

The annual GHG inventory submitted by the U.S. EPA to the United Nations provides a comprehensive accounting of all human-produced sources of GHGs in the United States. Total GHG emissions from all sectors in 2021 were 5,586.0 million metric tons (MMT), factoring in deductions for carbon sequestration in the land sector. (Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry provide a carbon sink equivalent to 12% of total U.S. emissions in 2021 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2023a)) While total GHG emissions in 2021 were 17% below 2005 levels, they increased by 6% over 2020 levels. Of these, 79.4% were CO<sub>2</sub>, 11.5% were CH<sub>4</sub>, and 6.2% were N<sub>2</sub>O; the balance consisted of fluorinated gases. From 1990 to 2021, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions decreased by only 2% (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2023a). The transportation sector's share of total GHG emissions increased to 28% in 2021 and remains the largest contributing sector (Figure 3.4-1). Transportation fossil fuel combustion accounted for 92% of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2021. This is an increase of 7% over 2020, largely due to the rebound in economic activity following the COVID-19 pandemic (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2023a) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2023b).

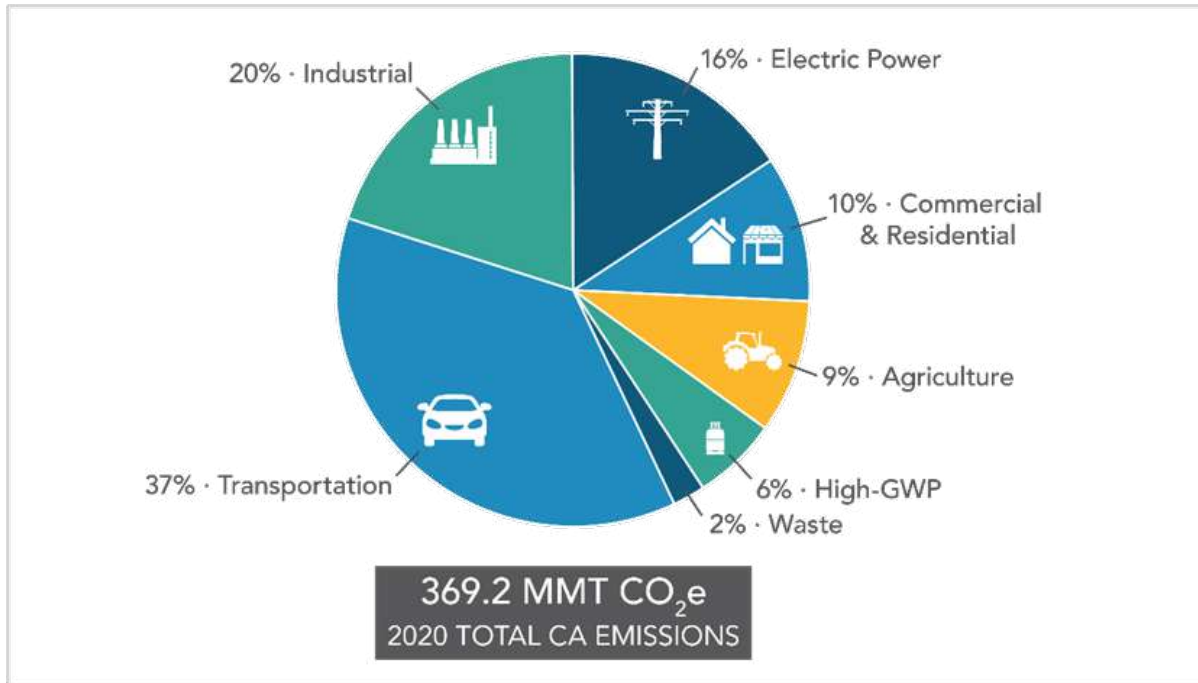


Source: U.S. EPA 2022b

**Figure 3.4-1. United States 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

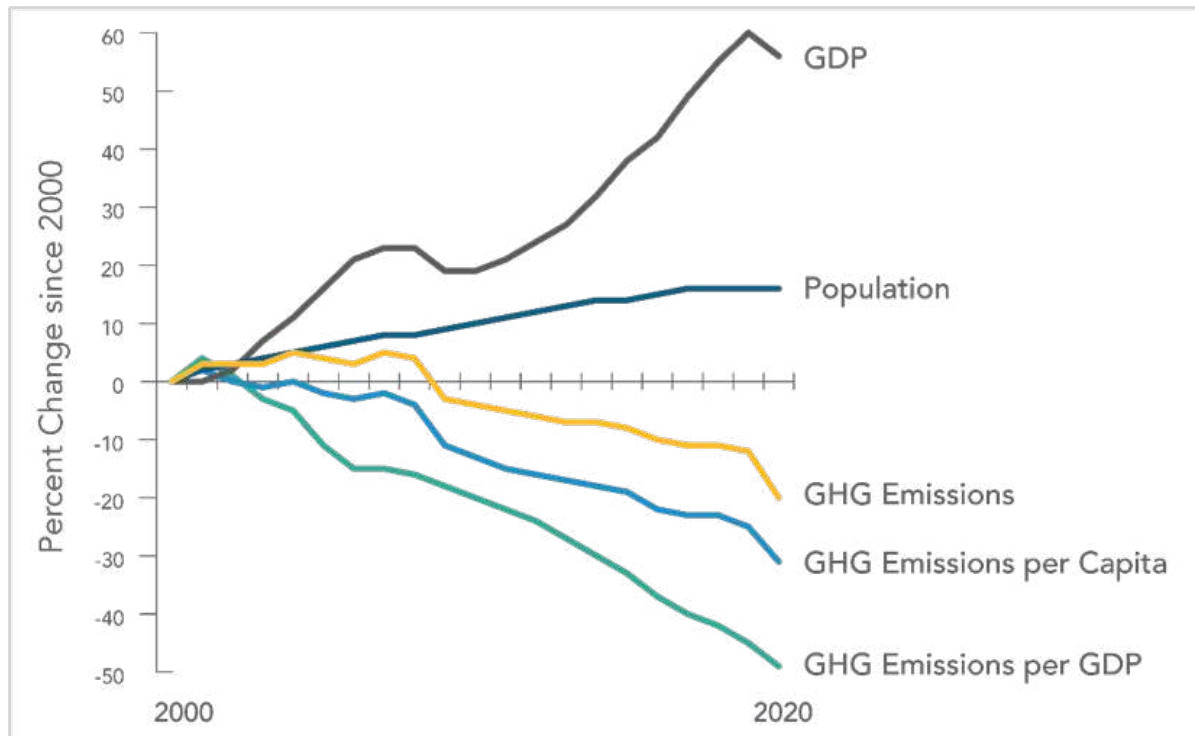
## State GHG Inventory

CARB collects GHG emissions data for transportation, electricity, commercial/residential, industrial, agricultural, and waste management sectors each year. It then summarizes and highlights major annual changes and trends to demonstrate the state's progress in meeting its GHG reduction goals. Overall statewide GHG emissions declined from 2000 to 2020 despite growth in population and state economic output (Figure 3.4-2) (California Air Resources Board, 2022a)



Source: (California Air Resources Board, 2022a)

**Figure 3.4-2. California 2020 Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector**



Source: (California Air Resources Board, 2022a)

**Figure 3.4-3. Change in California GDP, Population, and GHG Emissions since 2000**

AB 32 required CARB to develop a Scoping Plan that describes the approach California will take to achieve the goal of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and to update it every 5 years. The AB 32 Scoping Plan and the subsequent updates contain the main strategies California will use to reduce GHG emissions. CARB adopted the first scoping plan in 2008. The second updated plan, California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, adopted on December 14, 2017, reflects the 2030 target established in EO B-30-15 and SB 32. The *2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality*, adopted September 2022, assesses progress toward the statutory 2030 reduction goal and defines a path to reduce human-caused emissions to 85 percent below 1990 levels and achieve carbon neutrality no later than 2045, in accordance with AB 1279 (California Air Resources Board, 2022b).

### 3.4.2.1 Regional Plans

As required by *The Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008*, CARB sets regional GHG reduction targets for California's 18 metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to achieve through planning future projects that will cumulatively achieve those goals, and reporting how they will be met in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). Targets are set at a percent reduction of passenger vehicle GHG emissions per person from 2005 levels. The Project is included in *Plan Bay Area 2050*, the RTP/SCS for the nine-county San





Francisco Bay Area region. The regional reduction target for MTC/ABAG is 19 percent by 2035 (California Air Resources Board, 2022c).

Table 3.4.2-1 provides a summary of GHG reduction policies or strategies from the RTP/SCS and other regional and local climate action plans in the Project area.

**Table 3.4.2-1. Regional and Local Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plans**

Title	GHG Reduction Policies or Strategies
<p><i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i>, adopted in October 2021 (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2021)</p>	<p><i>Plan Bay Area 2050</i> would meet the state mandate of a 19 percent reduction in per capita emissions by 2035.</p> <p>The RTP/SCS includes the following transportation strategies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T1. Restore, operate, and maintain the existing system.</li> <li>• T2. Support community-led transportation enhancements in Equity Priority Communities.</li> <li>• T3. Enable a seamless mobility experience.</li> <li>• T4. Reform regional transit fare policy.</li> <li>• T5. Implement per-mile tolling on congested freeways with transit alternatives.</li> <li>• T6. Improve interchanges and address highway bottlenecks.</li> <li>• T7. Advance other regional programs and local priorities.</li> <li>• T8. Build a Complete Streets network.</li> <li>• T9. Advance regional Vision Zero policy through street design and reduced speeds.</li> <li>• T10. Enhance local transit frequency, capacity, and reliability.</li> <li>• T11. Expand and modernize the regional rail network.</li> <li>• T12. Build integrated regional express lanes and an express bus network.</li> </ul>
<p>Bay Area Air Quality Management District's <i>Spare the Air, Cool the Climate (Clean Air Plan)</i>, adopted in April 2017 (Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 2017)</p>	<p>The BAAQMD's <i>Clean Air Plan</i> defines a multi-pollutant control strategy to reduce emissions, including GHG. The control strategy encompasses 85 individual control measures that describes specific actions to reduce air and climate pollutant emissions. Consistent with the GHG reduction targets adopted by the state of California, the plan would reduce Bay Area GHG emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.</p>
<p><i>Contra Costa County Municipal Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in December 2008 (Contra Costa County, 2008)</p>	<p>The 2008 <i>Climate Action Plan</i> presents a GHG reduction target of 50 percent below baseline levels by 2030 for County municipal operations that would keep the County on track toward the long-term target of 80 percent by 2050. Contra Costa County has already implemented many measures that have reduced its municipal GHG emissions. The Plan suggests potential GHG reduction measures to further reduce GHG emissions.</p>
<p><i>Contra Costa County Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in December 2015 (Contra Costa County, 2015)</p>	<p>The 2015 <i>Climate Action Plan</i> presents a 2020 GHG reduction target consistent with AB 32 and the AB 32 Scoping Plan, which is to reduce community-wide emissions 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. The Plan provides a set of GHG reduction measures to achieve the 2020 reduction target.</p>

Title	GHG Reduction Policies or Strategies
<p><i>City of Martinez 2035 General Plan</i>, adopted in November 2022 (City of Martinez, 2022)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Martinez 2035 General Plan</i> includes the following measures that would help reduce GHG emissions to exceed or meet the requirements of AB 32 and SB 375:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure NA-I-9.1a: Review and adjust City policies to be consistent with the Climate Action Plan (CAP).</li> <li>• Measure NA-I-9.1b: Update the CAP to address the following: (a) quantify base year GHG emissions levels in Martinez; (b) establish GHG reduction targets that meet the targets established by SB 32; (c) adopt policies and programs to achieve the GHG targets; and (d) establish an implementation and monitoring program to track effectiveness.</li> <li>• Measure NA-I-9.1c: Continue to work with local agencies to reduce emissions.</li> <li>• Measure NA-9.1d: Review state goals for GHG reductions and provide a report to City Council every 5 years or as deemed necessary.</li> <li>• Measure NA-9.1e: Continue to monitor federal, State, and local activities related to climate change activities.</li> <li>• Measure NA-9.1f: To the extent practical, require new development projects to comply with the GHG reduction strategies and programs of the City's <i>Climate Action Plan</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Martinez Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in June 2009 (City of Martinez, 2009)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Martinez Climate Action Plan</i> includes the following transportation-related strategies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program T1: Safe Route to Schools</li> <li>• Program T2: Zone and Code for Neighborhoods Serving Commercial Areas</li> <li>• Program T3: Community-Based Carpool and Ride Share Program</li> <li>• Program T4: Pursue Alternative Mass Transit Options</li> <li>• Program T5: Implement the Downtown Martinez Community-Based Transportation Plan</li> <li>• Program T6: Improve Vehicle Fuel Efficiency through Community Education</li> <li>• Program T7: Find Funding to Replace City Vehicles with Low-Emissions Alternatives</li> <li>• Program T8: Replace City Tools and Equipment with More Energy-Efficient Alternatives</li> <li>• Program T9: Upgrade Signal Timers</li> <li>• Program T10: Designated Motorcycle and Scooter Parking Downtown</li> <li>• Program T11: Develop Alternative and Flexible-Fuel Vehicle Power/Fuel Sources</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Concord 2030 General Plan</i>, adopted in October 2007 (City of Concord, 2007)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Concord General Plan</i> includes the following policies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy S-1.4.1: Prepare and implement climate action plans for the Concord Reuse Project site and for the city as a whole</li> </ul>



Title	GHG Reduction Policies or Strategies
	<p>to reduce GHG emissions associated with future development and existing urban activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy T-1.1.2: Maintain and upgrade transportation systems to provide smooth traffic flow, minimize vehicle emissions, and save energy.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Concord Citywide Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in July 2013 (City of Concord, 2013)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Concord Citywide Climate Action Plan</i> established a 2005 baseline of 928,497 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) and includes 26 transportation systems and land use strategies to meet the City’s 2020, 2030, and 2035 GHG reduction targets. These strategies are centered on the following concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating complete streets that serve all people traveling in Concord</li> <li>• Priority for active modes and public transit in funding and use of streets</li> <li>• Support for carsharing (an alternative to owning a car)</li> <li>• Roadway safety enhancements through education and law enforcement</li> <li>• Cleaner-burning buses</li> <li>• More efficient bus service</li> <li>• Density and mix of land uses, especially in targeted areas of Concord</li> <li>• Walk-friendly design (including reduced street-front parking lots and smaller block sizes)</li> <li>• End-of-trip amenities for preferred travel modes (like showers for active commuters, and preferred carpool parking spots at job locations)</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Pleasant Hill General Plan 2003</i>, adopted in July 2003 (City of Pleasant Hill, 2003)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Pleasant Hill General Plan</i> includes the following policies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety and Noise Program 8.3. Synchronize traffic signals on roads susceptible to high emission levels from idling vehicles.</li> <li>• Safety and Noise Program 8.4. Utilize alternative-fuel vehicles in the City fleet.</li> <li>• Safety and Noise Program 8.5. Give preference to firms using reduced-emission equipment for City contracts, including for services such as trash collection.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Walnut Creek General Plan 2005</i>, adopted in April 2006 (City of Walnut Creek, 2006)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Walnut Creek General Plan</i> includes the following actions that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action 31.1.1: Support local transportation control measures (TCM) and other ideas in the latest <i>Bay Area Clean Air Plan</i>.</li> <li>• Action 31.1.2: Develop a local, voluntary <i>Clean Air Plan</i>.</li> <li>• Action 31.1.3: Participate in the BAAQMD Spare the Air program.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of Walnut Creek Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in April 2012 (City of Walnut Creek, 2012)</p>	<p>The <i>City of Walnut Creek Climate Action Plan</i> established a GHG reduction target of 15 percent below the baseline 2005 GHG emissions levels by 2020. The Plan presents goals and measures related to energy, transportation, and waste reduction,</p>

Title	GHG Reduction Policies or Strategies
	<p>which have the potential to reduce GHG emissions by 104,747 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2020. With the incorporation of State-mandated initiatives, the City would meet the 2020 GHG reduction target.</p>
<p><i>Town of Danville 2030 General Plan</i>, adopted in March 2013 (City of Danville, 2013)</p>	<p>The <i>Town of Danville General Plan</i> includes the following transportation-related policies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.01: Make land use and transportation decisions that promote walking and bicycling and help to sustain public transportation.</li> <li>• 33.02: Encourage reductions in the number of residents commuting in and out of Danville by car. This can be achieved in part by providing a better balance between jobs and housing and providing housing that is responsive to the types of jobs that exist in Danville.</li> <li>• 33.03: Support programs by local employers that encourage employees to carpool, use public transportation, telecommute, or pursue other alternatives to driving alone to work.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Town of Danville Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in May 2009 (Town of Danville, 2009)</p>	<p>The <i>Town of Danville Climate Action Plan</i> established a goal of reducing the City's 2009 level of GHG emissions by 15 percent by the year 2020. The plan includes the following transportation-related goals that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement transportation planning processes that enhance an efficient transportation system in the Town and region.</li> <li>• Improve infrastructure and Transportation Systems Management (TSM).</li> <li>• Promote alternatives to single occupant auto commuting.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of San Ramon General Plan 2035</i>, adopted in April 2015, last amended in October 2019 (City of San Ramon, 2019)</p>	<p>The <i>City of San Ramon General Plan</i> includes the following transportation-related policies that would help reduce GHG emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12.7-G-1: Invest in more efficient and effective transportation infrastructure, City fleet management, and support for trip reduction programs to reduce traffic congestion, vehicle trips, and the need for costly new or expanded roadways.</li> <li>• 12.7-I-4: Provide information to encourage the use of transportation modes that minimize motor vehicle use and the resulting air pollution and GHG emissions.</li> <li>• 12.7-I-5: Construct and promote infrastructure and facilities that support and encourage the use of low-emission transportation and alternative modes of travel, including a safe and comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian system that connects all parts of the city.</li> </ul>
<p><i>City of San Ramon Climate Action Plan</i>, adopted in August 2011 (City of San Ramon, 2011)</p>	<p>The <i>City of San Ramon Climate Action Plan</i> would achieve an overall GHG reduction of 27.6 percent, which includes the benefits from new development and statewide measures compared with business as usual in 2020. This demonstrates consistency with the <i>CARB Climate Change Scoping Plan</i> target</p>

Title	GHG Reduction Policies or Strategies
	<p>for development related sources of 26.2 percent in 2020. The project reductions would be achieved through land use related measures, such as increased density (e.g., multi-story buildings, multi-family housing, and small lot single family), pedestrian and transit-oriented development, support for alternative transportation modes, and measures that reduce energy consumption through improved energy efficiency in buildings, water conservation, and waste reduction.</p>

### 3.4.3 Project Analysis

GHG emissions from transportation projects can be divided into those produced during operation of the State Highway System (SHS) (operational emissions) and those produced during construction. The primary GHGs produced by the transportation sector are CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and HFCs. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are a product of burning gasoline or diesel fuel in internal combustion engines, along with relatively small amounts of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O. A small amount of HFC emissions related to refrigeration is also included in the transportation sector. GHGs differ in how much heat each traps in the atmosphere, called global warming potential, or GWP. CO<sub>2</sub> is the most important GHG, so amounts of other gases are expressed relative to CO<sub>2</sub>, using a metric called “carbon dioxide equivalent”, or CO<sub>2</sub>e. The global warming potential of CO<sub>2</sub> is assigned a value of 1, and the GWP of other gases is assessed as multiples of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The CEQA Guidelines generally address greenhouse gas emissions as a cumulative impact due to the global nature of climate change (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21083[b][2]). As the California Supreme Court explained, “because of the global scale of climate change, any one project’s contribution is unlikely to be significant by itself” (Cleveland National Forest Foundation v. San Diego Assn. of Governments (2017) 3 Cal.5th 497, 512.). In assessing cumulative impacts, it must be determined if a project’s incremental effect is “cumulatively considerable” (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064[h][1] and 15130).

To make this determination, the incremental impacts of the project must be compared with the effects of past, current, and probable future projects. Although climate change is ultimately a cumulative impact, not every individual project that emits greenhouse gases must necessarily be found to contribute to a significant cumulative impact on the environment.

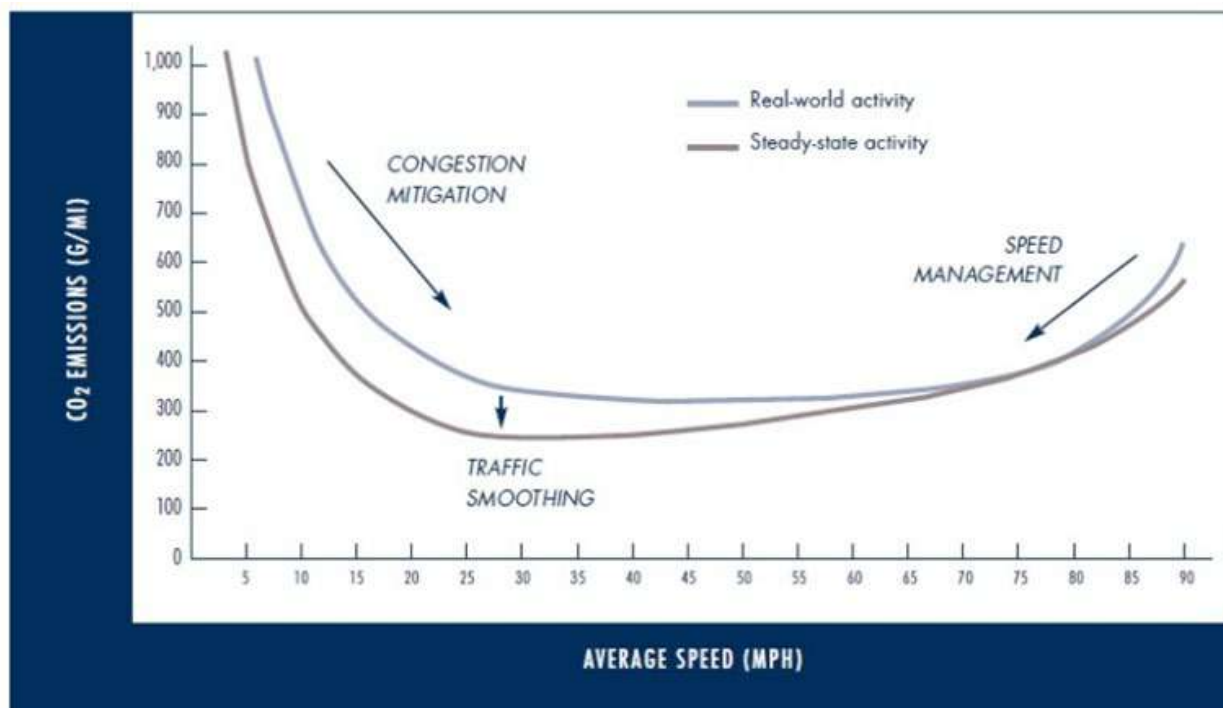
#### 3.4.3.1 Operational Emissions

The National GHG Inventory for 2021 reported that 79 percent of all U.S. GHG emissions in 2021 consisted of CO<sub>2</sub>, and fossil fuel combustion for transportation accounted for 92 percent of those CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Most (58 percent) transportation-related CO<sub>2</sub> was from operating light-duty vehicles, and 25 percent was from medium- and heavy-duty trucks and buses. The remainder of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions came from off-road sources (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2023a). Because CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

represent the greatest percentage of GHG emissions, it has been selected as a proxy for the following analysis for potential climate change impacts.

The highest levels of CO<sub>2</sub> from mobile sources such as automobiles occur at stop-and-go speeds (0–25 miles per hour) and speeds over 55 miles per hour; the most severe emissions occur from 0–25 miles per hour (see Figure 3.4-4). To the extent that a project enhances operational efficiency and improves travel times in high-congestion travel corridors, GHG emissions, particularly CO<sub>2</sub>, may be reduced, provided that improved travel times do not induce additional VMT.

Four primary strategies can reduce GHG emissions from transportation sources: (1) improving the transportation system and operational efficiencies, (2) reducing travel activity, (3) transitioning to lower GHG-emitting fuels, and (4) improving vehicle technologies and efficiency. To be most effective, all four strategies should be pursued concurrently.



Source: (Barth, Matthew and Kanok Boriboonsomsin, 2010)

### Figure 3.4-4. Possible Use of Traffic Operation Strategies in Reducing On-Road CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

*Plan Bay Area*, the 2013 RTP for the nine-county Bay Area, called for a 550-mile regional network of express lanes to be completed by 2035. The plan includes express lanes on I-680 in the project corridor (Association of Bay Area Governments and Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 2013). The goals of the regional express lane network include using express lane toll revenue to close gaps within the HOV lane



system and to increase travel-time savings for carpools and buses and optimizing throughput on freeway corridors to better meet current and future traffic demands.

Most recently, the Project is listed in the *Plan Bay Area 2050* financially constrained RTP as project 21-T12-116 (Express Lanes – Regional) and MTC’s financially constrained 2023 TIP as project TIP ID CC-170017 (I-680 NB Express Lane Completion). A 2023 TIP was released in September 2022 with the latest amendment submitted on June 28, 2023, and approved by FHWA on July 21, 2023. Alternative 1C, 2, and 3 are consistent with Plan Bay Area 2050 and the 2023 TIP. The RTP/SCS and the TIP would be updated as necessary prior to preparing the final environmental document if either Alternative 5 or the No-Build Alternative is selected as the preferred alternative.

The Project is part of CCTA’s INNOVATE 680 Program, which includes a strategy to improve transit service and freeway operations with technology and infrastructure investments to enhance mobility. In 2004, Contra Costa voters approved Measure J, which provided for the continuation of the half-cent transportation sales tax. The proposed Project is an element within the voter-approved expenditure plan for Measure J.

The purpose of the Project is to reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680, reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor, encourage use of HOV and transit service, optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands, and offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.

The Project is needed to address existing transportation deficiencies within the Project Study Limits related to congestion, system continuity, and operational improvements. There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242. System continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users. There is also weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard that creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.

Chapter 1 describes the development of the alternative planning process for the Project. Transit-only alternatives were eliminated from consideration because they would not meet the Project’s purpose and need. As described in Section 1.4.1.7, *Transportation System Management, Transportation Demand Management, and Mass Transit Alternatives*, although these strategies alone would not meet the purpose and need, TSM, TDM, and mass transit strategies are being incorporated into the Build Alternatives directly or as mitigation. For example, all Build Alternatives would include the following TSM measures: monitor traffic speed, density, and enforcement; incident management; and other subsystems to maintain acceptable traffic flow in the express lane. In addition, Measures **TRAN-MM-1** and **TRAN-MM-2** would improve transit access along the I-680 corridor and **TRAN-MM-3** would encourage and incentivize transit use,

as described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, of the CEQA Evaluation. Measures **TRAN-MM-1** through **TRAN-MM-3** would be implemented as mitigation for the Project's induced VMT should either Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, as described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*.

### 3.4.3.2 Quantitative Analysis

CARB developed the Emission FACTors (EMFAC) model to facilitate preparation of statewide and regional mobile source emissions inventories. The model generates emissions rates that can be multiplied by vehicle activity data from all motor vehicles, including passenger cars to heavy-duty trucks, operating on highways, freeways, and local roads in California. EMFAC has a rigorous scientific foundation, has been approved by U.S. EPA, and has been vetted through multiple stakeholder reviews. Caltrans developed CT-EMFAC to apply project-specific factors to CARB's model.

EMFAC's GHG emission rates are based on tailpipe emissions test data and the model does not account for factors such as the rate of acceleration and vehicle aerodynamics, which influence the amount of emissions generated by a vehicle. GHG emissions quantified using CT-EMFAC are therefore estimates and may not reflect actual on-road emissions. Furthermore, the model does not account for induced travel. Modeling GHG estimates with EMFAC or CT-EMFAC nevertheless remains the most precise means of estimating future greenhouse gas emissions. While CT-EMFAC is currently the best available tool for calculating GHG emissions from mobile sources, it is important to note that the GHG results are only useful for a comparison of alternatives. Federal CAFE and GHG emissions standards continue to evolve, and models will be updated to account for regulatory changes.

GHG emissions impacts for the No-Build and Build Alternatives were computed using CT-EMFAC2021 for the existing year and future years (Table 3.4.3-2) based on the VMT forecasts and speed data provided. The VMT analysis as described in Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, found that the project would induce demand in the opening year and design year for Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 (Table 3.4.3-1). This travel forecast was generated using the Contra Costa Countywide travel model. Revisions were made to the Countywide Model to ensure that the most important travel behavior changes would be represented, which included express lane modeling, HOV modeling, and induced demand adjustments. Additional details regarding the VMT forecast methodology is included in the Project's *Travel Forecast Report* completed in February 2022 (Kittelson & Associates and DKS Associates, 2022).

As demonstrated in Table 3.4.3-1, the Project's induced demand would be offset entirely by mitigation measures **TRAN-MM-1**, **TRAN-MM-2**, and **TRAN-MM-3**. Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*, fully describes the impact of these measures. Currently, the timing of implementation and funding for these measures has not yet been determined.

Each of the Build Alternatives would have lower overall GHG emissions when compared to baseline conditions. Overtime, with or without implementation of the Project, mobile



source GHG emissions in the region are forecast to decrease due to the improvements in vehicle technology and reformulation of fuels.

When compared to the No-Build Alternative, Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would have slightly higher (i.e., less than a 1 percent increase) GHG emissions for all analysis years, due to the slight (i.e., less than 0.1 percent) increase in VMT associated with each build alternative. Alternative 5 would have lower (1 percent less) GHG emissions and would still be able to reduce congestion (i.e., improve travel speeds). Alternative 5 performs the best overall as it would decrease GHG emissions. However, Alternative 3 has the lowest GHG emissions increase in the Opening Year (2027), while Alternative 5 has the smallest GHG emissions increase in the Design Year (2047) and RTP Horizon Year (2050). None of the proposed Build Alternatives would change the percentage of truck traffic in the region.

**Table 3.4.3-1. VMT Evaluation of Induced Demand for GHG Emissions Analysis**

Alternative	Annual VMT <sup>a</sup>	Project-induced Annual VMT (Induced Demand)	Project Reduction in Annual Induced Demand due to VMT mitigation	Net Induced Demand Value in annual VMT due to project	Net VMT for GHG calculation
<b>Existing/Baseline 2020</b>	33,553,289,170	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	33,553,289,170
<b><u>Open to Traffic – Opening Year 2027</u></b>					
No Build	35,692,277,106	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	35,692,277,106
Build Alternative 1C	35,714,090,255	23,933,284	23,933,284	-	35,714,090,255
Build Alternative 2	35,712,053,293	21,896,394	21,896,394	-	35,712,053,293
Build Alternative 3	35,715,074,196	24,917,376	24,917,376	-	35,715,074,196
<b><u>20-Year Horizon – Design Year 2047</u></b>					
No Build	39,940,377,641	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	39,940,377,641
Build Alternative 1C	39,975,814,099	35,436,334	35,436,334	-	39,975,814,099
Build Alternative 2	39,969,663,653	29,286,106	29,286,106	-	39,969,663,653
Build Alternative 3	39,976,113,312	35,735,448	35,735,448	-	39,976,113,312
<b><u>RTP Horizon Year 2050</u></b>					
No Build	40,577,592,721	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40,577,592,721
Build Alternative 1C	40,615,072,676	37,161,792	37,161,792	-	40,615,072,676
Build Alternative 2	40,608,305,207	30,394,563	30,394,563	-	40,608,305,207
Build Alternative 3	40,615,269,179	37,358,159	37,358,159	-	40,615,269,179

Alternative	Annual VMT <sup>a</sup>	Project-induced Annual VMT (Induced Demand)	Project Reduction in Annual Induced Demand due to VMT mitigation	Net Induced Demand Value in annual VMT due to project	Net VMT for GHG calculation
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Source: (Kittelson & Associates, 2024)

<sup>a</sup> Average weekday vehicle miles traveled (VMT) values is multiplied by 347 to estimate annual VMT.

**Table 3.4.3-2. Modeled Annual CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions and Vehicle Miles Traveled by Alternative**

Alternative	CO <sub>2</sub> e Emissions (metric tons/year)	Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled <sup>a</sup>
<b>Existing/Baseline 2020</b>	14,761,127	33,553,289,170
<b><u>Open to Traffic – Opening Year 2027</u></b>		
No Build	13,168,965	35,692,277,106
Build Alternative 1C	13,180,049	35,714,090,255
Build Alternative 2	13,180,715	35,712,053,293
Build Alternative 3	13,177,600	35,715,074,196
Build Alternative 5	13,011,002	35,692,277,106
<b><u>20-Year Horizon – Design Year 2047</u></b>		
No Build	11,488,202	39,940,377,641
Build Alternative 1C	11,494,827	39,975,814,099
Build Alternative 2	11,491,448	39,969,663,653
Build Alternative 3	11,495,633	39,976,113,312
Build Alternative 5	11,358,537	39,945,052,618
<b><u>RTP Horizon Year 2050</u></b>		
No Build	11,604,337	40,577,592,721
Build Alternative 1C	11,611,607	40,615,072,676
Build Alternative 2	11,607,992	40,608,305,207
Build Alternative 3	11,611,690	40,615,269,179
Build Alternative 5	11,503,360	40,582,968,945



Alternative	CO <sub>2</sub> e Emissions (metric tons/year)	Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled <sup>a</sup>
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Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). Table 21 - Modeled Annual CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions and Vehicle Miles Traveled, Air Quality Report. Calculations use CT-EMFAC 2021 version 1.0.2.0, 2023

Notes: CO<sub>2</sub>e = carbon dioxide equivalent including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) adjusted by their global warming potentials in IPCC's 4<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report.

<sup>a</sup> Annual vehicle miles traveled (VMT) values derived from Daily VMT values multiplied by 347, per CARB methodology (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023).

### 3.4.3.3 Construction Emissions

Construction GHG emissions would result from material processing and transportation, on-site construction equipment, and traffic delays due to construction. These emissions would be produced at different levels throughout the construction phase; their frequency and occurrence can be reduced through innovations in plans and specifications and by implementing better traffic management during construction phases. While construction GHG emissions are only produced for a short time, they have long-term effects in the atmosphere, so cannot be considered “temporary” in the same way as criteria pollutants that subside after construction is completed.

Use of long-life pavement, improved traffic management plans, and changes in materials can also help offset GHG emissions produced during construction by allowing longer intervals between maintenance and rehabilitation activities.

Construction GHG emissions were calculated using Caltrans Construction Emissions Tool (Cal-CET) (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023). Total construction GHG emissions would be approximately 9,640 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e over the course of 528 workdays, which includes 5,637 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e from roadway construction and 4,003 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e from structures construction.

All construction contracts include Caltrans Standard Specifications related to air quality. Section 7-1.02A and 7 1.02C, Emissions Reduction, requires contractors to comply with all laws applicable to the project and to certify they are aware of and will comply with all CARB emission reduction regulations. Section 14-9.02, Air Pollution Control, requires contractors to comply with all air pollution control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes. Certain common regulations, such as equipment idling restrictions, that reduce construction vehicle emissions also help reduce GHG emissions. These requirements are further discussed in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*.

### 3.4.3.4 CEQA Conclusion

Short term construction and long term operational GHG impacts were calculated using the Cal-CET and CT-EMFAC2021 emissions model (version 1.0.2.0). Caltrans is firmly committed to implementing measures to help reduce GHG emissions. These measures are outlined in the following section and are further discussed in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*.

Operational emissions were computed for the baseline conditions in 2020 and the No-Build and Build Alternatives in the years 2027, 2047, and 2050. Each of the Build Alternatives would have overall lower GHG emissions when compared to baseline conditions. VMT in the region is expected to continue increasing in the future, with or without the Project. GHG emissions trend directly with VMT and the Build Alternatives would only slightly increase (less than 0.1 percent) VMT compared to the No-Build Alternative. Therefore, there are no project-specific minimization measures to reduce operational GHG emissions.

### **3.4.4 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies**

#### **3.4.4.1 Statewide Efforts**

In response to AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, California is implementing measures to achieve emission reductions of GHGs that cause climate change. Climate change programs in California are effectively reducing GHG emissions from all sectors of the economy. These programs include regulations, market programs, and incentives that will transform transportation, industry, fuels, and other sectors, to take California into a sustainable, cleaner, low-carbon future, while maintaining a robust economy (California Air Resources Board, 2022c).

Major sectors of the California economy, including transportation, will need to reduce emissions to meet 2030 and 2050 GHG emissions targets. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research identified five sustainability pillars in a 2015 report: (1) increasing the share of renewable energy in the State's energy mix to at least 50 percent by 2030; (2) reducing petroleum use by up to 50 percent by 2030; (3) increasing the energy efficiency of existing buildings by 50 percent by 2030; (4) reducing emissions of short-lived climate pollutants; and (5) stewarding natural resources, including forests, working lands, and wetlands, to ensure that they store carbon, are resilient, and enhance other environmental benefits (California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 2015).

The transportation sector is integral to the people and economy of California. To achieve GHG emission reduction goals, it is vital that the state build on past successes in reducing criteria and toxic air pollutants from transportation and goods movement. GHG emission reductions will come from cleaner vehicle technologies, lower-carbon fuels, and reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Reducing today's petroleum use in cars and trucks is a key state goal for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (California Environmental Protection Agency, 2015).

In addition, SB 1386 (Wolk 2016) established as state policy the protection and management of natural and working lands and requires state agencies to consider that policy in their own decision making. Trees and vegetation on forests, rangelands, farms, and wetlands remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through biological processes and sequester the carbon in above- and below-ground matter.



Subsequently, Governor Gavin Newsom issued EO N-82-20 to combat the crises in climate change and biodiversity. It instructs state agencies to use existing authorities and resources to identify and implement near- and long-term actions to accelerate natural removal of carbon and build climate resilience in our forests, wetlands, urban greenspaces, agricultural soils, and land conservation activities in ways that serve all communities and in particular low-income, disadvantaged, and vulnerable communities. To support this order, the California Natural Resources Agency (California Natural Resources Agency, 2022a) released *Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy*.

#### **3.4.4.2 Caltrans Activities**

Caltrans continues to be involved on the Governor's Climate Action Team as the CARB works to implement EOs S-3-05 and S-01-07 and help achieve the targets set forth in AB 32. EO B-30-15, issued in April 2015, and SB 32 (2016), set an interim target to cut GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The following major initiatives are underway at Caltrans to help meet these targets.

#### **Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure**

The *California Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure* (CAPTI) builds on executive orders signed by Governor Newsom in 2019 and 2020 targeted at reducing GHG emissions in transportation, which account for more than 40 percent of all polluting emissions, to reach the state's climate goals. Under CAPTI, where feasible and within existing funding program structures, the state will invest discretionary transportation funds in sustainable infrastructure projects that align with its climate, health, and social equity goals (California State Transportation Agency, 2021).

#### **California Transportation Plan**

The California Transportation Plan (CTP) is a statewide, long-range transportation plan to meet our future mobility needs and reduce GHG emissions. It serves as an umbrella document for all the other statewide transportation planning documents. The CTP 2050 presents a vision of a safe, resilient, and universally accessible transportation system that supports vibrant communities, advances racial and economic justice, and improves public and environmental health. The plan's climate goal is to achieve statewide GHG emissions reduction targets and increase resilience to climate change. It demonstrates how GHG emissions from the transportation sector can be reduced through advancements in clean fuel technologies; continued shifts toward active travel, transit, and shared mobility; more efficient land use and development practices; and continued shifts to telework (California Department of Transportation, 2021a).

#### **Caltrans Strategic Plan**

The *Caltrans 2020–2024 Strategic Plan* includes goals of stewardship, climate action, and equity. Climate action strategies include developing and implementing a Caltrans Climate Action Plan; a robust program of climate action education, training, and outreach; partnership and collaboration; a VMT monitoring and reduction program; and

engaging with the most vulnerable communities in developing and implementing Caltrans climate action activities (California Department of Transportation, 2021b).

### **Caltrans Policy Directives and Other Initiatives**

Caltrans Director's Policy 30 (DP-30) Climate Change (June 22, 2012) established a policy to ensure coordinated efforts to incorporate climate change into Caltrans decisions and activities. Other Director's policies promote energy efficiency, conservation, and climate change, and commit Caltrans to sustainability practices in all planning, maintenance, and operations. *Caltrans Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Mitigation Report* (California Department of Transportation, 2020) provides a comprehensive overview of Caltrans' emissions and current Caltrans procedures and activities that track and reduce GHG emissions. It identifies additional opportunities for further reducing GHG emissions from Department-controlled emission sources, in support of Caltrans and State goals.

### **Project-Level GHG Reduction Strategies**

The following measures will also be implemented in the project to reduce GHG emissions and potential climate change impacts from the project, which are described further in Section 2.2.6, *Air Quality*, Section 2.2.8, *Energy*, and Section 3.2.17, *Transportation*:

- **AQ-1**, Equipment Maintenance
- **AQ-3**, Compliance with Air Quality Regulations and Ordinances,
- **AQ-5**, Construction Best Practices for Exhaust
- **E-1**, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Efforts
- **E-2**, Construction Equipment Operation
- **TRAN-1**, I-680 Express Bus Service
- **TRAN-2**, Shared Mobility Hubs
- **TRAN-3**, Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program

#### **3.4.5 Adaptation**

Reducing GHG emissions is only one part of an approach to address climate change. Caltrans must plan for the effects of climate change on the state's transportation infrastructure and strengthen or protect the facilities from damage. Climate change is expected to produce increased variability in precipitation, rising temperatures, rising sea levels, variability in storm surges and their intensity, and in the frequency and intensity of wildfires. Flooding and erosion can damage or wash out roads, longer periods of intense heat can buckle pavement and railroad tracks, and storm surges combined with a rising sea level can inundate highways. Wildfire can directly burn facilities directly and indirectly cause damage when rain falls on denuded slopes that landslide after a fire. Effects would vary by location and may, in the most extreme cases, require that a

facility be relocated or redesigned. Furthermore, the combined effects of transportation projects and climate change stressors can exacerbate the impacts of both on vulnerable communities in a project area. Accordingly, Caltrans must consider these types of climate stressors in how highways are planned, designed, built, operated, and maintained.

### 3.4.5.1 Federal Efforts

Under NEPA assignment, Caltrans is obligated to comply with all applicable federal environmental laws and FHWA NEPA regulations, policies, and guidance.

The *Fifth National Climate Assessment*, presents the most recent science and “analyzes the effects of global change on the natural environment, agriculture, energy production and use, land and water resources, transportation, human health and welfare, human social systems, and biological diversity; [It analyzes current trends in global climate change, both human-induced and natural, and projects major trends for the subsequent 25 to 100 years... to support informed decision-making across the United States.” Building on previous assessments, it continued to advance “an inclusive, diverse, and sustained process for assessing and communicating scientific knowledge on the impacts, risks, and vulnerabilities associated with a changing global climate” (U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2023).

The U.S. Department of Transportation recognizes the transportation sector’s major contribution of GHGs that cause climate change and has made climate action one of the department’s top priorities (U.S. Department of Transportation, 2014). FHWA’s policy is to strive to identify the risks of climate change and extreme weather events to current and planned transportation systems. FHWA has developed guidance and tools for transportation planning that fosters resilience to climate effects and sustainability at the federal, state, and local levels (Federal Highway Administration, 2022).

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides sea level rise projections for all U.S. coastal waters to help communities and decision makers assess their risk from sea level rise. Updated projections through 2150 were released in 2022 in a report and online tool (NOAA, 2022).

### 3.4.5.2 State Efforts

Climate change adaptation for transportation infrastructure involves long-term planning and risk management to address vulnerabilities in the transportation system. A number of state policies and tools have been developed to guide adaptation efforts.

*California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment* (Fourth Assessment) (2018) provides information to help decision makers across sectors and at state, regional, and local scales protect and build the resilience of the state’s people, infrastructure, natural systems, working lands, and waters. The Fourth Assessment reported that if no measures are taken to reduce GHG emissions by 2021 or sooner, the state is projected to experience an up to 8.8 degrees Fahrenheit increase in average annual maximum daily temperatures; a two-thirds decline in water supply from snowpack and water

shortages; a 77 percent increase in average area burned by wildfire; and large-scale erosion of up to 67 percent of Southern California beaches due to sea level rise. These effects will have profound impacts on infrastructure, agriculture, energy demand, natural systems, communities, and public health (State of California, 2018).

Sea level rise is a particular concern for transportation infrastructure in the coastal zone. Major urban airports will be at risk of flooding from sea level rise combined with storm surge as early as 2040; San Francisco airport is already at risk. Miles of coastal highways vulnerable to flooding in a 100-year storm event will triple to 370 by 2100, and 3,750 miles will be exposed to temporary flooding. The Fourth Assessment's findings highlight the need for proactive action to address these current and future impacts of climate change.

To help actors throughout the state address the findings of California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment, AB 2800's multidisciplinary Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group published *Paying it Forward: the Path Toward Climate-Safe Infrastructure in California*. This report provides guidance on assessing risk in the face of inherent uncertainties still posed by the best available climate change science. It also examines how state agencies can use infrastructure planning, design, and implementation processes to respond to the observed and anticipated climate change impacts (Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group 2018).

EO S-13-08, issued in 2008, directed state agencies to consider sea level rise scenarios for 2050 and 2100 during planning to assess project vulnerabilities, reduce risks, and increase resilience to sea level rise. It gave rise to the 2009 *California Climate Adaptation Strategy*, the Safeguarding California Plan, and a series of technical reports on statewide sea level rise projections and risks, including the *State of California Sea-Level Rise Guidance Update* in 2018. The reports addressed the full range of climate change impacts and recommended adaptation strategies. The current *California Climate Adaptation Strategy* incorporates key elements of the latest sector-specific plans such as the *Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy*, *Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan*, *Water Resilience Portfolio*, and the CAPTI (described above). Priorities in the 2023 *California Climate Adaptation Strategy* include acting in partnership with California Native American Tribes, strengthening protections for climate-vulnerable communities that lack capacity and resources, nature-based climate solutions, use of best available climate science, and partnering and collaboration to best leverage resources (California Natural Resources Agency, 2023).

EO B-30-15 recognizes that effects of climate change threaten California's infrastructure and requires state agencies to factor climate change into all planning and investment decisions. Under this EO, the Office of Planning and Research published *Planning and Investing for a Resilient California: A Guidebook for State Agencies*, to encourage a uniform and systematic approach to building resilience.

SB 1 Coastal Resources: Sea Level Rise (Atkins 2021) established statewide goals to "anticipate, assess, plan for, and, to the extent feasible, avoid, minimize, and mitigate the adverse environmental and economic effects of sea level rise within the coastal

zone”. As the legislation directed, the Ocean Protection Council collaborated with 17 state planning and coastal management agencies to develop the *State Agency Sea-Level Rise Action Plan for California* in February 2022. This plan promotes coordinated actions by state agencies to enhance California’s resilience to the impacts of sea level rise (California Ocean Protection Council, 2022)

### **3.4.5.3 Caltrans Adaptation Efforts**

#### **Caltrans Vulnerability Assessments**

Caltrans completed climate change vulnerability assessments to identify segments of the State Highway System vulnerable to climate change effects of precipitation, temperature, wildfire, storm surge, and sea level rise.

The climate change data in the assessments were developed in coordination with climate change scientists and experts at federal, state, and regional organizations at the forefront of climate science. The findings of the vulnerability assessments guide analysis of at-risk assets and development of Adaptation Priority Reports as a method to make capital programming decisions to address identified risks.

#### **Project Adaptation Analysis**

The adaptation analysis is intended to demonstrate how the project would be adapted or resilient to climate change effects. EO B-30-15 requires that all projects consider future climate conditions in planning and design decisions.

As climate change continues, melting ice and other factors are causing sea levels worldwide to rise. In California, scientists, engineers, and legislative agencies have put together several guidance documents to inform policy and design of projects impacted by sea-level rise. The following subsections describe guidance documents relevant to the Project area that have been published by the State of California, Caltrans, or Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission’s (BCDC) policy guidance was also reviewed for possible analysis; however, the Project Study Limits are outside BCDC’s jurisdictional area. Climate change risk analysis involves uncertainties as to the timing and intensity of potential risks, although the analysis below uses the best available science. The proposed Project is also outside the coastal zone and not in an area subject to sea level rise. Accordingly, direct impacts to transportation facilities due to projected sea level rise are not expected.

#### **Sea Level Rise**

The guiding document for the State of California, the *State of California Sea-Level Rise Guidance*, 2018 Update (California Natural Resources Agency and California Ocean Protection Council, 2018) provides scenario-based, sea level rise projections at local active tidal gauge locations. According to District 4’s *Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment*, Contra Costa County will have 2.1 miles of state highway exposed to sea level rise in the 0.5 meter (1.64 feet) scenario from 2048–2100, 2.3 miles in the 1 meter

(3.28 feet) scenario from 2064–2100, and 3.6 miles in the 1.75 meters case (5.74 ft) scenario from 2081–2100 (California Department of Transportation, 2018). Key sea level rise projection scenarios from this document for the nearest tidal gauge (San Francisco Bay) are shown in Table 3.4.5-1 and are included in the *Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment Memorandum* for the Project (WRECO, 2021). The medium-high scenario represents a 1-in-200 chance, or 0.5 percent probability, of occurring while the extreme risk scenario does not have a specific numerical probability associated with it but is based on the literature and research for regional factors along the U.S. coastline and Antarctic ice sheet instability.

**Table 3.4.5-1. Sea Level Rise Projections for San Francisco (feet of sea level rise)**

Year	Medium-High Risk Aversion (feet)	Extreme Risk Aversion (feet)
2030	0.8*	1.0
2050	1.9*	2.7
2070	3.1-3.5	5.2
2100	5.7-6.9	10.2

\* Only the high emissions scenario is available for the years 2030 and 2050.

Although the Project does not have direct contact with the ocean, sea level rise can still pose a risk if not properly prepared for when looking out to the year 2050 and beyond. The main vulnerable area for the Project is south of the Waterford exit at PM 23.9, before the Benicia-Martinez Bridge toll plaza. The low elevation of the travel lanes at this location (approximately 11 feet NAVD 88) presents the potential risk of up to 1 foot of roadway inundation for the year 2050 during a 100-year extreme tide under extreme risk aversion sea level rise scenario. Under more common tide conditions, this risk would not present within the design life of the Project. Furthermore, all work areas have been moved to south of the preserve. There would be no work near the toll plaza, which would further reduce the risk of sea level rise.

#### *California Department of Transportation*

The most up-to-date document from Caltrans regarding sea level rise policy is *Guidance on Incorporating Sea Level Rise* (California Department of Transportation, 2011). Based upon the guidance on when to incorporate sea level rise into the project programming and design, the Project would lean toward incorporating sea level rise into the project design because of anticipated travel delays resulting from inundation, as well as I-680 being a critical route. For 2050, the average sea level rise estimate suggested was 1.2 feet, which would be considered a low estimate based on more recent studies discussed above.



In addition to this guidance document, Caltrans published a *Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment* for District 4 in January 2018 documenting potential climate change impacts to infrastructure in Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties (California Department of Transportation, 2018). The Project Study Limits would be impacted near the northern section in the City of Martinez due to exposure to 1.64 feet of sea level rise and 100-year storm elevations as well as 3.28 feet of sea level rise. As discussed in the previous section, these levels of sea level rise are predicted by the medium-high risk aversion scenario to occur by 2050 and 2070, respectively, and by the extreme risk aversion scenario by 2040 and 2060.

### *San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board*

The San Francisco Bay RWQCB helped develop the Adaptation Atlas (the Atlas)—a document by the San Francisco Estuary Institute that breaks down areas of the San Francisco Bay into 30 Operational Landscape Units (OLU) (San Francisco Estuary Institute and San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association, 2019). Within this framework, the Project area falls under OLU 12, Walnut, which stretches from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge in Concord to Pacheco Creek. Rather than discuss risks and policies, the Atlas defines each OLU by its geomorphic, hydrologic, and historical conditions and suggests appropriate widescale adaptation measures for each area. OLU 12 can be described as a wide alluvial valley with large areas of historic tidal marshes. The Atlas suggests polders, ecotone levees, and reconnection of Walnut Creek with its baylands as appropriate sea level rise mitigation measures. These measures may involve I-680 in the future but fall outside the scope of this analysis.

### ***Precipitation and Flooding***

With climate change, California is expected to experience increasing temperatures and changing precipitation events, due to an increase in energy and moisture in the atmosphere (California Department of Transportation, 2018). Increased precipitation levels, combined with other changes in land use and land cover, can increase the risk of damage or loss from flooding. The Caltrans Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for District 4 mapped projected changes in 100-year storm precipitation under future climate change conditions. Mapping indicates that some portions of the Bay Area will likely experience a 15 percent increase in the precipitation depth coming from a 100-year storm by 2085.

According to the Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment Memorandum (WRECO, 2021) prepared for the Project, the Project passes through multiple flood zones, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). From north to south, I-680 crosses the FEMA floodway Peyton Slough just south of the toll plaza. The nearest cross section lists the flooding at 11 feet of elevation. The portion of I-680 directly surrounding this crossing is in Zone AE, which represents areas subject to a 1 percent or greater annual chance of flooding in any given year. There is an area of Zone A, which represents the 100-year base flood, south of the Pacheco Boulevard freeway entrance at PM 22.7. Another Zone AE regulatory floodway crossing exists just south of

the SR-4 Interchange at Grayson Creek. I-680 passes over the floodway between 18 and 19 feet of elevation. Areas directly surrounding this crossing are in Zone X, areas of 1 percent annual chance flood with annual depth less than 1 foot. I-680 also crosses the Las Trampas floodway in the City of Walnut Creek between 151 and 152 feet of elevation. Two other freeway undercrossings south of Las Trampas Creek are in Zone X, areas of 1 percent annual chance flood with annual depth less than 1 foot. The remaining areas are in Zone X, areas of minimal flood hazard.

According to the Water Quality Assessment Report (WRECO, 2022b) prepared for the Project, temporary water quality impacts can result from sediment discharge from disturbed soil areas and construction near water resources or drainage facilities that discharge to water bodies. Temporary impacts would be addressed using temporary construction site BMPs, such as temporary sediment control, soil stabilization, tracking control, waste management and materials pollution control, job site management, and miscellaneous job site management. These measures would be identified in the temporary water pollution control plans developed during the design phase and comply with Section 13 of Caltrans' Standard Specifications (2018).

According to the Drainage Impact Study prepared for the Project (WRECO, 2022a), all of the Build Alternatives would increase impervious surfaces, which would increase flows and impact existing drainage patterns to the local drainage systems. All Build Alternatives would include the installation of permanent BMPs to avoid the potential for Project-related stormwater discharges to substantially alter drainage patterns, violate water quality standards, or substantially degrade water quality. All Build Alternatives propose biofiltration swales, designed for bioretention, with either trash nets or gross solids removal devices (GSRD) to provide stormwater treatment and achieve trash capture. For bioretention swales, retention would be achieved through the use of an engineered soil mix and an underdrain system. The final location of permanent BMPs would be determined during the final design phase and in compliance with permit requirements from regulatory agencies. Given the proposed Project's water quality protection features that would minimize surface runoff impacts, Project facilities are not expected to be at risk from effects of future changes in storm precipitation and flooding.

### **Wildfire**

Wildfire poses a risk to driver safety, system operations, and Caltrans infrastructure. According to the Caltrans Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for District 4, the Project Study Limits are not within a very high, high, or moderate fire hazard severity zone (California Department of Transportation, 2018). There are no parts of the project classified as "exposed roadway" (California Department of Transportation, 2018). However, there are fire hazard severity zones in the surrounding hills, particularly within and adjacent to the Acalanes Ridge Open Space, Briones Regional Park, Mount Diablo State Park, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, as described in Section 2.1.7, *Utilities/Emergency Services*. Wildfire can contribute to potential landslides, flooding, and wildfire smoke. Construction contractors would be required to adhere to Caltrans Standard Specification for Fire Prevention. Wildfire is further discussed in Section 3.3, *Wildfire*.



## **Temperature**

Temperature affects choice of pavement materials, design of foundations, and retaining walls in terms of ground moisture conditions and need for expansion/contraction of bridge joints. During operations and maintenance, higher temperatures may affect safety of employees working outdoors, survival of landscaping and vegetation in right-of-way, and pavement condition, which could require more frequent maintenance. The Caltrans Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for District 4 analyzed the effect of temperature regarding pavement design. While the Bay Area and District 4 are generally cooler than the more inland districts, the Project Study Limits will still face extreme heat events more frequently in the future, which would likely increase the frequency of maintenance activities, impact landscaping and vegetation choices, and would affect the safety conditions for employees working outdoors (California Department of Transportation, 2018). One way temperature impacts Caltrans is through the selection of pavement binder grade. The appropriate pavement binder grade is one that can withstand the mean of the annual lowest temperature expected over a pavement's design life and the mean of the highest mean seven consecutive day high temperatures expected during a pavement's design life (California Department of Transportation, 2018). The design life of asphalt pavement is typically 20–25 years or sooner if quality degrades more rapidly (California Department of Transportation, 2018). As the Project would be operational in 2027, the scenario years in the Vulnerability Assessment for 2025 and 2055 are appropriate for this analysis. Within the Project Study Limits, the greatest change in average minimum temperature is 2.0 to 3.9 degrees Fahrenheit in 2025 and 4.0 to 5.9 in 2055. The greatest change in average 7-day maximum temperature is 2.0 to 3.9 degrees Fahrenheit in 2025 and 6.0 to 7.9 in 2055 (California Department of Transportation, 2018). These temperature variations should be considered in pavement material and maintenance decisions.



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## 4 Comments and Coordination

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Early and continuing coordination with the general public and public agencies is an essential part of the environmental process. It helps planners determine the necessary scope of environmental documentation and the level of analysis required, and to identify potential impacts and avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures and related environmental requirements. Agency and tribal consultation and public participation for this Project have been accomplished through a variety of formal and informal methods, including interagency coordination meetings, public meetings, public notices, and Project Development Team (PDT) meetings. This chapter summarizes the results of the Department's efforts to fully identify, address, and resolve project-related issues through early and continuing coordination.

### 4.1 GENERAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Since the proposed Project's initiation, studies for INNOVATE 680 Program, Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) solicited public input through the following methods:

- Multi-Media and Website (<https://ccta.net/projects/innovate-680/>)
  - Social Media, Project eBlasts
  - INNOVATE 680 eNewsletter
  - Ongoing INNOVATE 680 Website Updates
  - Brochure
  - Fact Sheets
  - Newsletters
  - PowerPoint Presentations
  - Hotline: (925) 278-5978
- Project/Public/Stakeholder Meetings
  - Environmental Meetings (Public Scoping)
  - Public Update Meeting (additional meeting)

This Section also outlines the methods and feedback received from the first round of public outreach conducted by CCTA and its consultants between March and April 2022 for INNOVATE 680 and updates to the *Countywide Transportation Plan*. While the feedback received is more general in nature to CCTA's *Action Plan* and *Countywide*

*Transportation Plan*, they help inform planning and provide useful context for how the public responds to the Project. There were a few comments directly related to the Project, such as bus express lanes or bus-only lanes on freeways and arterials, decrease traffic congestion, and plan for regional connections throughout Contra Costa County and beyond.

### **4.1.1 Outreach Methods**

Outreach was conducted to the general Contra Costa County community. Feedback was collected both in-person and virtually to provide for a variety of feedback channels, including:

- 11 In-Person Pop Up Events
- 5 Virtual Workshops
- Countywide Online Community Forum Survey
- 421 Project Flyers Distributed

### **4.1.2 In-Person Pop Up Events and Virtual Workshops**

In-person pop up events included interactive poster boards, surveys, and project flyers, while the virtual workshops included a PowerPoint presentation and group discussion. Regardless the event, participants were asked the same set of questions regarding transportation topics in the County (though additional feedback was welcomed and encouraged):

- What do you think transportation should look like in the future?
- What can we do to help you with your transportation needs?
- What is your bright idea for improving transportation in the County?

### **4.1.3 Comments and Frequently Mentioned Topics**

From the pop-up events, virtual workshops, and online community forum survey, a total of 704 comments were collected through this outreach effort. Of these comments, 151 were made on the online community forum survey and the remaining 553 comments were collected during the pop-up and workshop events. This list of comments includes frequently mentioned topics and ideas but is not an exhaustive list of general comments. Comments are not listed in order of priority:

- Increase walkability and explore pedestrian-only areas
- Increase bikeability, number of bike lanes, and bike lane convenience and safety



- Ensure bicyclists and pedestrians feel safe
- Conduct safety presentations for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers
- Bike and scooter share
- Improve last mile connections to public transit
- Bus express lanes or bus-only lanes on freeways and arterials
- Public transit improvements to frequency, hours of service, reliability, and cleanliness
- Ensure public transportation is accessible for all socioeconomic groups
- Improve paratransit and other accessible transportation options and solutions
- Safety improvements on BART and buses
- Improved parking options at major transit stations
- Plan for regional connections throughout the county and beyond
- Electrify the transportation system (public and private) and improve infrastructure
- Explore autonomous vehicles
- Decrease number of potholes on freeways and major roadways
- Decrease traffic congestion
- Improve the timing of traffic lights

## 4.2 MEASURE J

The Project is partially funded by Measure J. In November 2004, Contra Costa voters approved Measure J with a 71 percent vote. CCTA worked for over 2 years, along with local governments, organizations, and residents, to develop the *Expenditure Plan*, which specifies how the funds will be spent (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2011). The Expenditure Plan, which received the support of every Contra Costa city and town, as well as the County Board of Supervisors, includes funding for I-680 carpool lane closure/transit corridor improvements.

Measure J funds both capital projects and programs. Measure J also contains a Growth Management Program that is designed to help Contra Costa County plan for and accommodate the continued increases in population, households, and jobs that are expected to occur within the County through the year 2035 (Contra Costa

Transportation Authority, 2021). The adoption of Senate Bill (SB) 743 shifted the focus of transportation planning from performance-based analyses to transportation, land use, and planning decisions that encourage infill development, promote public health through active transportation, and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Therefore, in 2020, CCTA reoriented the *Measure J Growth Management Plan* to focus not only on regional roadways, but also on the transportation networks serving bicycles, pedestrians, and transit.

### 4.3 COUNTYWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

CCTA's *Countywide Transportation Plan* provides the overall direction for achieving and maintaining a balanced and functional transportation system within Contra Costa County while strengthening links between land use decisions and transportation (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2017). This plan outlines CCTA's vision for future transportation and establishes goals, strategies, projects, and actions for achieving that vision. The *Countywide Transportation Plan* is also the detailed plan that helps inform and direct transportation funding allocated throughout Contra Costa County. On September 20, 2017, CCTA certified the Final EIR for the plan.

As part of the 2017 update of the *Countywide Transportation Plan*, the Regional Transportation Planning Committees updated their Action Plans for Routes of Regional Significance. The completion of express lanes on I-680 is included in the *Central County Action Plan* (TRANSPAC, 2017). Updates to the Action Plans and the *Countywide Transportation Plan* are currently ongoing. CCTA and its consultants conducted outreach in March and April 2022, which included 11 in-person pop up events, 5 virtual workshops, online community forum survey, and distributing flyers (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2022).

### 4.4 INNOVATE 680 PROGRAM

The Project is part of the INNOVATE 680 Program. The INNOVATE 680 Program was conceived as an innovative approach to improve mobility along the I-680 corridor (Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2017). CCTA conducted a study in 2015 on potential transportation investments in the I-680 corridor that could relieve congestion and improve transit. The study was conducted collaboratively between CCTA staff and consultants, a Policy Advisory Committee, and a Technical Advisory Committee. The recommended investment strategy focused on improved transit service and freeway operations, with technology and infrastructure investments to enhance mobility.

From November 2020 through January 2021, CCTA conducted a survey of corridor residents about their transportation habits (referred to as "Wave 1") (INNOVATE 680, 2021). Overall, 50,000 residents were contacted during Wave 1 and 1,533 provided complete responses by January 4, 2021, representing an approximate 3.1 percent response rate. This survey was designed specifically to provide helpful information to the INNOVATE 680 program and its suite of projects. The responses to this survey also helped identify transportation habits along the corridor.

A second wave of the survey was conducted to understand current transportation behaviors, mode use and frequency, and perceived barriers and benefits for mode shift (referred to as “Wave 2”). The survey was open from November 1, 2022, to December 17, 2022. Out of the 1,533 residents who took the survey in Wave 1, 1,131 opted in to be contacted for future research (458 did not). In late 2022, the 1,311 who opted in were invited to participate in a follow-up survey via email and text. In total, 403 residents submitted complete responses for Wave 2, representing an approximate 26.2 percent response rate from the original sample and 35.6 percent of those that were invited to participate in Wave 2. A \$10 gift card was provided as incentive for taking the survey.

## 4.5 PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS

The Project scoping period for the I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project began on June 15 and extended 45 days through July 29, 2020. The Project’s scoping process was initiated with the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Preparation (NOP). The NOP is available in Appendix E, *Scoping Summary Report*. The NOP was posted at the State Clearinghouse (SCH #2020060297) on June 15, 2020. Public Notice was circulated electronically to public agencies and other key stakeholders on June 17, 2020, in compliance with Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

A dynamic public awareness and education program was implemented leading up to and throughout the 45-day scoping period in an effort to engage the diverse interested and affected public in the Project and the public scoping meeting. At the time, large gatherings were not permitted in Contra Costa County due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Caltrans, in partnership with CCTA and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), determined that given the circumstances, a virtual public scoping meeting would meet the requirements of the scoping meeting. For the public’s convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, a virtual public meeting (open-house) was available throughout the public scoping period from June 15 through July 29, 2020, at [innovate680.com](http://innovate680.com) in addition to the INNOVATE 680 Program website at [ccta.net/projects/innovate-680](http://ccta.net/projects/innovate-680). The virtual public meeting provided a Project overview and allowed attendees to navigate through important project information easily. Both websites were Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and could be viewed in attendees’ desired language through use of Google Translate.

Public notices for the scoping comment period were published in the *East Bay Times* on June 12 and June 30, 2020. Copies of the public notice advertisements are included in Appendix E, *Scoping Summary Report*. A postcard mailer announcing the virtual public open house was mailed on June 12, 2020, to 7,067 homeowners within 1,000 feet of the I-680 corridor from Marina Vista Road/Waterfront Road in Martinez (northern boundary) to Stove Valley Road in Alamo (southern boundary). Invitations were also mailed to elected officials who represent the project area. Copies of the postcard mailer and database methodology are included in Appendix E, *Scoping Summary Report*.

Throughout the scoping period, Caltrans, CCTA, and partner agencies posted information on their respective social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

On July 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., a stakeholder presentation was given via Zoom meeting to CCTA's INNOVATE 680 Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). CCTA and its consultants provided an update on public engagement/outreach activities occurring on the INNOVATE 680 Program, as well as some individual projects, including the Project.

On July 10, 2020, Contra Costa County Supervisor, Candace Andersen, included information about the Project in her weekly e-newsletter to her constituents.

A total of 15 written comments were received during the scoping period, which included 11 comments from the public (email or comment form). Four comments were received from agencies (one via email and three via SCH), which included the City of Walnut Creek, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California Highway Patrol, and the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). No comments were received via phone. Comments received during the public scoping period were reviewed and are provided in Appendix E, *Scoping Summary Report*.

Public comments included the following topics: support of or opposition to the project; website for NOP; purpose and need for the Project; alternatives and project features; developing an express bus system and other mass transit systems; and suggestions for technical topic discussions, including addressing vehicle miles travelled, equity, greenhouse gas emissions, air quality impacts, noise impacts, and installing soundwalls in the environmental document.

## **4.6 PROJECT AND STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION**

A PDT was formed at the initiation of this Project, consisting of representatives from the many stakeholders involved. The PDT includes representatives of Caltrans, MTC, CCTA, and consultants. The project team also had meetings throughout the development of the Project with the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), the California Highway Patrol (CHP), local cities, and agencies along the corridor. Stakeholder presentations were given to CCTA's INNOVATE 680 PAC on July 8, 2020, and February 8, 2023.

## **4.7 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC AGENCIES**

### **4.7.1 Federal Highway Administration**

After public circulation of the Draft EIR/EA, the proposed Project's air quality studies would be submitted to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for a project-level conformity determination.

## 4.7.2 Metropolitan Transportation Commission

CCTA initiated consultation with MTC's Air Quality Conformity Task Force by submitting Project Assessment Forms for PM<sub>2.5</sub> Interagency Consultation. At the Task Force's consultation meeting on March 24, 2022, the Task Force found that neither Alternatives 1C, 2, nor 3 would be a project of air quality concern (POAQC). The Task Force found that Alternative 5 would not be a POAQC on February 24, 2023, and concurred that the Project would not be a POAQC on December 19, 2023.

Public comment is requested regarding the information in the Project Assessment Summary for PM<sub>2.5</sub> Interagency Consultation and the Task Force's determination (see Appendix F, Consultations and Coordination). Following the close of the public review and comment period for the Draft EIR/EA, all comments received on the air quality conformity determination would be included in an air quality conformity report to be submitted to FHWA. FHWA makes the final determination on project-level conformity.

## 4.7.3 United States Army Corps of Engineers

The proposed Project has been designed to minimize impacts to wetlands and other waters of the United States, but the various alternatives under consideration would affect these resources as described in this EIR/EA. A preliminary jurisdictional delineation was submitted to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for concurrence on October 12, 2023. A permit application would be submitted to USACE during the detailed design phase.

## 4.7.4 United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered species consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is necessary when a project has the potential to affect a federally listed species and/or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment Memorandum of Agreement with FHWA, Caltrans is authorized to handle FHWA's responsibilities under NEPA and other federal environmental laws, such as the Federal Endangered Species Act.

Caltrans has prepared a draft Biological Assessment for consultation with USFWS based on the alternative with the greatest assumed level of impact (Alternative 3). Caltrans has made preliminary effects determinations that would be presented to the Services during Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) Section 7 consultation. Preliminary effects determinations based on the considered alternative concluded that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*), and northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*).

Caltrans has determined that the Project would have no effect on aquatic species and consultation with NMFS is not required.

### **4.7.5 California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

CDFW responded to the NOP via SCH in a letter dated July 21, 2020. California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Consultation protects species listed as threatened or endangered from take, unless authorized through an incidental take permit. Caltrans has determined that the Project would not result in a take of the Alameda whipsnake, or any other state listed species.

### **4.7.6 Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Project construction could affect waters of the state. Pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), a Notice of Intent would be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) during the detailed design phase. The proposed Project would implement any general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) issued by RWQCB.

### **4.7.7 State Historic Preservation Officer**

The Project's cultural resource studies will be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for concurrence of a determination of resources that are or are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The proposed Section 106 finding for the Project is a Finding of No Adverse Effect without Standard Conditions, pending review from the Caltrans Cultural Studies Office and concurrence from the SHPO, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(c) and Stipulation X.B.2 of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. This documentation will be included in Appendix F, *Consultations and Coordination*, in the Final Environmental Document.

## **4.8 TRIBAL ENTITIES**

NAHC responded to the NOP via SCH in a letter dated June 16, 2020. A request for a search of the sacred lands file and a list of interested individuals was sent to NAHC on August 3, 2020. NAHC responded on August 18, 2020, with negative results for sacred lands in the vicinity of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and provided a list of 12 interested individuals. CCTA, with the assistance of Far Western, conducted consultation with each of the representatives on the list. Letters were sent to individuals on August 31, 2020, with a second letter following on August 17, 2021. The latter detailed Project changes and provided a new map set. A follow-up email was sent to all interested party contacts on September 10, 2021, and no responses were received at that time.

In support of the Extended Phase I Report for the proposed project, emails (with attached letters and maps) were issued by Far Western to all parties on April 12, 2023. Follow-up phone calls were conducted by Far Western on May 12, 2023, and additional phone-calls and email correspondence were initiated by CCTA (in coordination with Caltrans) later the same month. All further correspondence was conducted by CCTA and Caltrans, and documentation is on file with the agencies. Coordination with the Native American tribes would continue throughout the duration of the proposed Project.



**Table 4-1. Native American Consultation Efforts**

Name	Tribal Affiliation	Letter Sent (2020/2021)	Email Sent (2021)	Email Sent (2023)
Irenne Zwierlein	Amah Matsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Corrina Gould	The Confederated Villages of Lisjan	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Merlene Sanchez	Guidiville Indian Rancheria	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Anne Marie Sayers	Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Monica Arellano	Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Katherine Perez	North Valley Yokuts Tribe	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Timothy Perez	North Valley Yokuts Tribe	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Andrew Galvan	The Ohlone Indian Tribe	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Dahlton Brown	Wilton Rancheria	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Jesus Tarango	Wilton Rancheria	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Antonio Ruiz	Wilton Rancheria	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023
Ralph Hatch	Wilton Rancheria	8/03/2020; 8/17/2021	9/10/2021	4/12/2023; 4/13/2023

Source: Far Western Anthropological Research Group, 2023

## 4.9 CIRCULATION, REVIEW, AND COMMENT ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Public input on the Project would be solicited during the review period for this Draft EIR/EA, which would last a minimum of 45 days. The review period, information about public meetings, and instructions for submitting comments, which are included on the first pages of this document, include the following:

- Please read this document.

- Additional copies of this document and the related technical studies are available for review at Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612
- Additional copies of this document will be available for review at:
  - Contra Costa Transportation Authority, 2999 Oak Road # 100, Walnut Creek, CA 94597
  - Martinez Library, 740 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553
  - Concord Library, 2900 Salvio Street, Concord, CA 94519
  - Pleasant Hill Library, 2 Monticello Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
  - Walnut Creek Library, 1644 N Broadway, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
  - Lafayette Library, 3491 Mount Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549
  - Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
  - Danville Library, 400 Front Street, Danville, CA 94526
  - San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St, San Ramon, CA 94583
  - Dougherty Station Library, 17017 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94582
  - Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Road, Moraga, CA 94556
- This document may be downloaded at the following website:  
ccta.net/expresslane
- Attend virtual public hearing/meeting at ccta.net/expresslane.
- Attend in-person public hearing/meeting at:

Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
2999 Oak Road, Suite 100  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597-2281

- Send comments via postal mail to:

Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis  
Attn: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Branch Chief  
Mail Station 8B, P.O. Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660
- Send comments via email to: [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)
- Provide comment via voicemail: (925) 278-5978
- Be sure to send comments by the deadline.



All formal comments received during the public comment period via postal mail, voicemail, or email would be addressed, and responses would be published in the Final EIR/EA. After receiving comments from the public and reviewing agencies, a Final EIR/EA would be prepared. Caltrans may prepare additional environmental and/or engineering studies to address comments. The Final EIR/EA would include responses to comments received on the Draft EIR/EA and would identify the preferred alternative. If the decision is made to approve the Project, a Notice of Determination would be published for compliance with CEQA, and Caltrans would decide whether to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under NEPA. A Notice of Availability of the FONSI would be sent to the affected units of federal, state, and local government, and to SCH, in compliance with Executive Order 12372.



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## Chapter 5 List of Preparers

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The preparation of this environmental document and project design involved a team of Caltrans personnel and consultants.

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# Chapter 6 Distribution List

This Draft EIR/EA will be distributed to the federal, State, regional, and local agencies listed in this section.

## 6.1 FEDERAL AGENCIES

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Pacific Southwest Office Attn: Martha Guzman, Regional Administrator 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105	Natural Resources Conservation Service Concord Service Center Attn: Brenda Phrakonekham, District Conservationist 5552 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521-4158	National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region California Coastal Area Office 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325 Santa Rosa, CA 95404
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco Regulatory District 450 Golden Gate Ave 4th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605 Sacramento, CA 95825-1846	Federal Highway Administration – California Division Attn: Elissa Konove, Deputy Division Administrator 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA 95814-4708

## 6.2 STATE AGENCIES

California Transportation Commission Attn: Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director 1120 N Street MS 52 Sacramento, CA 95814	Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse Attn: Christine Asiata Rodriguez, State Clearinghouse Manager 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	California Energy Commission Attn: Elizabeth Huber, Director Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814
California Air Resources Board Attn: Liane M. Randolph, Chair 1001 I Street #2828 Sacramento, CA 95814	California Office of Historic Preservation Attn: Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95814	California Department of Conservation Attn: David Shabazian, Director 715 P Street, MS 1900 Sacramento, CA 95814
California Department of Fish & Wildlife Region 3 Attn: Erin Chappell, Regional Manager 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100 Fairfield, CA 94534	California Highway Patrol Attn: Sean Duryee, Commissioner 601 North 7th Street Sacramento, CA 95811	California Public Utilities Commission Attn: Alice Busching Reynolds, President 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102
Native American Heritage Commission Attn: Raymond C. Hitchcock, Executive Secretary 1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691	California State Water Resources Control Board Attn: Eric Oppenheimer, Executive Director 1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	California Department of Toxic Substances Control Attn: Meredith Williams, Director P.O. Box 806 Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

California Natural Resources Agency Attn: Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources 715 P Street, 20th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	California State Lands Commission Attn: Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South Sacramento, CA 95825	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Attn: Joe Tyler, Director P.O. Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
California Department of Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Division P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296-0001	California Department of Water Resources Attn: Karla Nemeth, Director P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236-0001	-

### 6.3 REGIONAL/COUNTY/LOCAL AGENCIES

Association of Bay Area Governments Attn: Andrew B. Fremier, Executive Director 375 Beale Street, Suite 700 San Francisco, CA 94105	Bay Area Air Quality Management District Attn: Philip Fine Ph.D, Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer 375 Beale Street, Suite 600 San Francisco, CA 94105	East Bay Regional Park District Attn: Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605
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Walnut Creek Police Department Attn: Jamie Knox, Chief 1666 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Pleasant Hill Police Department Attn: Scott Vermillion, Police Chief 330 Civic Dr. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523	Concord Police Department Attn: Mark Bustillos, Chief 1350 Galindo Street Concord, CA 94520
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## 6.4 ELECTED OFFICIALS

<p>Office of United States Senator Senator Laphonza Butler One Post Street, Suite 2450 San Francisco, CA 94104</p>	<p>Office of United States Senator Senator Alex Padilla 333 Bush Street, Suite 3225 San Francisco, CA 94104</p>	<p>Office of United States Congress Member, 10th District Congressman Mark DeSaulnier 3100 Oak Road, Suite 110 Walnut Creek, CA 94597</p>
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Alamo Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Councilmember Robert Mowat 1025 Escobar Street Martinez, CA 94553	Alamo Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Vice Chair Michaela Straznicka MD, FACS 1025 Escobar Street Martinez, CA 94553	-

## 6.5 UTILITIES

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Wave Broadband 3700 Monte Villa Parkway Bothell, WA 98021	Sprint 6391 Sprint Parkway Overland Park, KS 66251-4300	-

## 6.6 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEES

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## 6.7 MEDIA

East Bay Times Attn: Judith Prieve, Contra Costa County Editor 2121 N. California Blvd. Suite 290 Walnut Creek, Ca 94596	Tri-Valley East Bay Times Attn: Cecily Burt, Bay Area Focus Editor cburt@bayareanewsgroup.com 2121 N. California Blvd. Suite 290 Walnut Creek, Ca 94596	92.1 KKDV Radio (Diablo Valley) Attn: Jim Hampton, Content Director 7901 Stoneridge Dr Pleasanton, CA 94588
Martinez News-Gazette Attn: Rick Jones, Editor 802 Alhambra Ave Martinez, CA 94553	Concord Transcript 175 Lennon Lane, Suite 100 Walnut Creek CA 94598	-



## 6.8 ADVOCACY GROUPS

<p>Save Mount Diablo Attn: Edward Sortwell Clement, Jr., Executive Director tclement@savemountdiablo.org 201 N. Civic Drive, Suite 190 Walnut Creek, CA 94596</p>	<p>Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter (Mount Diablo Group) Attn: Martha Kreeger, Chair; Mark Van Landuyt, Contra Costa Green New Deal Committee Chair/Interim Secretary P.O. Box 2663 Berkeley, CA 94702</p>	<p>Transform Attn: Jenn Guitart, Executive Director 560 14th Street, Suite 400 Oakland, CA 94612</p>
<p>Greenbelt Alliance Attn: Amanda Brown-Stevens, Executive Director abrownstevens@greenbelt.org P.O. Box 170159 San Francisco, CA 94117</p>	<p>Concord Family Service Center / Catholic Charities of East Bay Region Attn: Mary Kuhn, Deputy Chief of Communications 2120 Diamond Boulevard, #220 Concord, CA 94520</p>	<p>North Richmond Municipal Advisory Committee Attn: Tania Pulido, Staff Administrator 515 Silver Avenue North Richmond, CA 94801</p>
<p>Council of Business and Industry West Contra Costa County Attn: Rauly Butler, Executive Director rauly@councilofindustries.com P.O. Box 70088 PT. Richmond, CA 94807</p>	<p>Men and Women of Valor Attn: Pamela Saucer-Bilbo, Director 1350 Kelsey St. Richmond, CA 94804</p>	<p>Healthy Richmond Attn: Roxanne Carrillo Garza, Senior Director 1015 Nevin Avenue, Suite 101 Richmond, CA 94801</p>
<p>Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition Attn: Patricia Aguiar, Contra Costa Community Outreach Coordinator paguiar@calorganize.org 322 Harbour Way, #5 Richmond, CA 94801</p>	<p>Contra Costa Taxpayers Association Attn: James Pezzaglia, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President P.O. Box 27 Martinez, CA 94553-0000</p>	<p>Contra Costa Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Attn: Barbara Hunt, Development Director b.hunt@svdp-cc.org 2210 Gladstone Drive Pittsburg, CA 94565</p>
<p>East Bay Housing Organizations Attn: Lindsay Haddix, Executive Director 538 9th Street, Suite 200 Oakland, CA 94607</p>	<p>East Oakland Collective Attn: Candice Elder, Founder and Executive Director P.O. Box 5382 Richmond, CA 94801</p>	<p>First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission Attn: Brian Kelley, Communications Specialist I bkelley@first5coco.org 4005 Port Chicago Hwy Suite 120 Concord, CA 94520</p>
<p>La Clínica Monument Attn: Jane Garcia, CEO <a href="mailto:info@laclinica.org">info@laclinica.org</a> 2000 Sierra Rd, Concord, CA 94518</p>	<p>Monument Impact Attn: Tony Bravo, Community Engagement Director 1760 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94520-2700</p>	<p>Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition Attn: Melody Howe Weintraub, Chair/Cochair-Advocacy 3260 Blume Drive, Suite 110 Richmond, CA 94806</p>
<p>Neighborhood House of North Richmond Attn: Lloyd Madden, Board President and CEO 3065 Richmond Parkway, Suite 113 Richmond, CA 94806-1904</p>	<p>Neighborhood House of Richmond Attn: Rev. Andre Shumake P.O. Box 2261 Richmond, CA 94802-1261</p>	<p>Pittsburg Youth Action <a href="mailto:pittsburgyouthaction@gmail.com">pittsburgyouthaction@gmail.com</a></p>

Rich City Rides Bike Shop 1500 C MacDonald Avenue Richmond, CA 94801	Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council Attn: Garland Ellis P.O. Box 5436 Richmond, CA 94805-0000	Richmond Community Foundation Attn: Iris Podschun, Senior Director of Coaching and Collaboration 3260 Blume Drive, Suite 110, Richmond, CA 94806
Y&H Soda Foundation Attn: Luis Arteaga, Chief Executive Officer 1635 School Street Moraga, CA 94556-0000	Richmond Main Street Attn: Andrea Portillo-Knowles, Executive Director 1600 Nevin Plaza Richmond, CA 94801	Saffron Strand, Inc. Attn: Chysandra Nair, Secretary and Treasurer 147 W. Richmond Avenue, Suite E Richmond, CA 94801
Salvation Army of Concord Attn: AnnMarguerite Jones, Corps Officer 3950 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94521	San Ramon Valley Horsemen's Association Attn: Danielle Coburn, President P.O. Box 403 Danville, CA 94526-0403	Chronicle Season of Sharing Contra Costa County Attn: Elaine Lo, Treasurer & Secretary P.O. Box 7844 San Francisco, CA 94120
The Watershed Project Attn: Juliana Gonzalez, Executive Director 1327 South 46th Street, Bldg. 155 Richmond, CA 94804	-	-

## 6.9 LARGE BUSINESSES

Sunvalley Shopping Center 1 Sunvalley Blvd Concord, CA 94520	The Veranda Attn: Izamar Hook, Media Relations General Manager 2001 Diamond Blvd #2003 Concord, CA 94520	John Muir Health, Walnut Creek Medical Center Attn: Ben Drew, Communications Chief 1601 Ygnacio Valley Road Walnut Creek, CA 94598
Kaiser Permanente Attn: Deniene Erickson, Issues Manager deniene.x.erickson@kp.org	Kaiser Permanente Attn: Linda Krystof linda.krystof@kp.org	Kaiser Permanente Facility, Walnut Creek 1425 S Main St Walnut Creek, CA 94596

## 6.10 SMALL BUSINESSES

Econo Storage 375 Arthur Rd Martinez, CA 94553	UCI Construction Inc 261 Arthur Rd Martinez, CA 94553	Myrant Glass Co 187 Arthur Rd B Martinez, CA 94553
Farrington Kennels 170 Nardi Lane Martinez, CA 94553	Blum Road Storage Center 4450 Blum Rd Martinez, CA 94553	Buchanan Fields Golf Club 1091 Concord Ave Concord, CA 94520
International Food Market 1106 Meadow Ln Concord, CA 94520	Mercado del Valle 1651 Monument Blvd Concord, CA 94520	Los Rancheros Supermarket 1099 Reganti Dr, A Concord, CA 94518



Tacos El Patron 2290 Monument Blvd Pleasant Hill, CA 94523	Back Forty Texas BBQ 100 Coggins Dr Pleasant Hill, CA 94523	Pho Huynh Hiep 6 – Kevin’s Noodle House 2034 N Main St Walnut Creek, CA 94506
Lettuce Restaurant & Catering 1632 Locust St Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Teleferic Barcelona 1500 Mt Diablo Blvd Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Lavoro Laser 43 Quail Ct, Unit 107 Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Elks Lodge 1475 Creekside Dr Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Marta’s Flowers 11 Rudgear Dr Walnut Creek, CA 94596	-

## 6.11 BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau Attn: Audrey Gee, Chair of the Board 1280 Civic Drive, Suite 100 Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Concord Chamber of Commerce Attn: Jennifer Jimenez, Chair of the Board 2280 Diamond Blvd. #200 Concord, CA 94520	Martinez Chamber of Commerce Attn: Adam Hoffert, Chair of the Board 603 Marina Vista Martinez, CA 94553
Contra Costa Small Business Development Center Attn: Al Gohary, Director 1 Harpst St, House 71 Arcata, CA 95521 East Bay Small Business Development Center 25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard, VBT 346, Hayward, CA 94542	East Bay Works 4071 Port Chicago Hwy, Suite 250 Concord, CA 94520	Women’s Business Center Attn: Aldo Reyes, Manager (East Bay) areyes@anewamerica.org 1470 Fruitvale Avenue, Suite 5, Oakland, CA 94601

## 6.12 RESIDENTIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Del Rio Homeowners’ Association 1428 Del Rio Circle Concord, CA 94518	The Keys Condominium Owners Association Attn: Delaina Horner, Assistant General Manager 312 N Civic Dr Walnut Creek, CA 94596	Walnut Country Crossings Homeowners’ Association Attn: Mike Kindorf, President 4498 Lawson Court Concord, CA 94521
Countrywood Homeowners Association 1706 Countrywood Court Walnut Creek, CA 94598-1012	-	-

## 6.13 FAITH BASED GROUPS

Landmark Missionary Baptist Church 391 Arthur Blvd Martinez, CA 94553	First Light Christian Center 4769 Pacheco Blvd Martinez, CA 94553	Iglesia Fuente de Salvacion 1628 Broadway Avenue San Pablo, CA 94806
Interfaith Council of Contra Costa Attn: Charlotte Gin, Office Manager 404 Gregory Lane Pleasant Hill, CA 94523	-	-



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## Appendix A Section 4(f)

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### Section 4(f) Preliminary *De Minimis* Determinations

This section of the document discusses *de minimis* impact determinations under Section 4(f). Section 6009(a) of SAFETEA-LU amended Section 4(f) legislation at 23 United States Code (USC) 138 and 49 USC 303 to simplify the processing and approval of projects that have only *de minimis* impacts on lands protected by Section 4(f). This amendment provides that once the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) determines that a transportation use of Section 4(f) property, after consideration of any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures, results in a *de minimis* impact on that property, an analysis of avoidance alternatives is not required and the Section 4(f) evaluation process is complete. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) final rule on Section 4(f) *de minimis* findings is codified in 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 774.3 and CFR 774.17.

Responsibility for compliance with Section 4(f) has been assigned to the Department pursuant to 23 USC 326 and 327, including *de minimis* impact determinations, as well as coordination with those agencies that have jurisdiction over a Section 4(f) resource that may be affected by a project action.

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with Caltrans and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the I-680 express lane network in Contra Costa County, California. Five alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Project: one No-Build Alternative and four Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, and 5). The five alternatives, as well as the purpose and need for the proposed Project, are described further in Chapter 1 of the Draft EIR/EA. A Preferred Alternative will be selected after public circulation of the Draft EIR/EA.

The Project Study Limits are along northbound I-680 from post miles (PM) R10.0 to 23.2. The Project Study Limits include all areas needed to construct, operate, and maintain all the proposed Project's permanent features, based on conceptual Project design, and is described further in Chapter 1 of the Draft EIR/EA.

No temporary or permanent use of a Section 4(f) property would occur under the No-Build Alternative. Most of the proposed improvements under all Build Alternatives would be within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW). However, temporary construction easements (TCE), permanent (utility) easements, partial acquisitions, and temporary recreation trail closures would be needed, as described in more detail below.

### Section 4(f) Properties

Section 4(f) properties include publicly owned parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges. To qualify as a Section 4(f) property, a park, recreation area, or refuge must meet all of the following criteria:

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- It must be publicly owned.
- It must be open to the public (except in certain circumstances for refuges).
- Its major purpose must be for park, recreation, or refuge activity.
- It must be significant as a park, recreation area, or refuge.

To account for any potential indirect (i.e., proximity) impacts, the Section 4(f) Study Area for parks, recreation areas, and refuges was defined conservatively as all properties within approximately 0.5 mile of the Project's conceptual Project Study Limits (i.e., PM R4.4 to 24.5). The Project Study Limits were reduced to PM R10.0 to 23.2 during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Document. This is the same Study Area as the Community Impact Study Area described in Section 2.1.1, *Existing and Future Land Use*, of the Draft EIR/EA.

Section 4(f) also applies to a historic site when that site is listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), regardless of ownership. The Section 4(f) Study Area for historic sites is the approved area of potential effects (APE), as developed in accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1) and Caltrans' Section 106 Programmatic Agreement.

An initial review of readily available data sources preliminarily identified 111 existing and planned potential Section 4(f) properties within or adjacent to the Study Areas. This included 33 public parks; 5 recreation areas; 1 wildlife refuge; 40 bike, pedestrian, and equestrian paths; 23 public schools; 5 historic (built environment) sites; and 4 archaeological sites.

As discussed further below:

- Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would require the temporary closure and a permanent shift of the Iron Horse Regional Trail at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge;
- Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require the temporary closure of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge;
- All Build Alternatives would require temporary and/or permanent ROW from Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) property, which has been assumed eligible for listing on the NRHP.

### *Iron Horse Regional Trail*

The Iron Horse Regional Trail is a paved, multi-use trail that generally follows Southern Pacific Railroad ROW and spans most of Contra Costa County from the city of Livermore to Marsh Drive, with future plans to extend the trail north to the Radke-Martinez Regional Shoreline. The trail, which is largely parallel to I-680, intersects the

Project Study Limits at the following locations: State Route (SR) 242 Interchange, Rudgear Road Undercrossing, and Laurel Drive Undercrossing.

The Iron Horse Regional Trail is publicly owned, open to the public, created for recreation, and assumed significant for purposes of this evaluation. Therefore, the Iron Horse Regional Trail qualifies as a Section 4(f) property. The East Bay Regional Park District is the official with jurisdiction over the trail.

#### *Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail*

The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is a paved, multi-use trail that abuts the Contra Costa Canal. This trail was developed as a cooperative effort between the East Bay Regional Park District, the Contra Costa Water District, and the Bureau of Reclamation. The existing trail spans 13.5 miles from Muir Road (South of SR-4) in the city of Martinez to Willow Pass in the city of Concord. There are potential plans to extend the trail north to the Martinez Reservoir as well as other trails east of the Study Area.

The existing Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail crosses through the Project Study Limits at the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. This segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is shared with the Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. The Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is an approximately 12-mile-long, multi-use trail between Briones Regional Park and Mount Diablo State Park.

The Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail is publicly owned, open to the public, created for recreation, and assumed significant for the purposes of this evaluation. Therefore, the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail qualifies as a Section 4(f) property. The East Bay Regional Park District is the official with jurisdiction over the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail.

#### *Bay Area Rapid Transit*

BART is assumed eligible under NRHP Criterion A and California Register of Historical Resources Criterion 1 for its association with transportation history in the San Francisco Bay Area. BART is also assumed eligible at the local level of significance with a period of significance from 1973 to 1976. Therefore, BART qualifies as a Section 4(f) property.

The historic property boundary includes the railroad alignments and station footprints for those elements built within the period of significance. The character-defining features include the rail alignments, three-rail broad-gauge tracks, elevated and subterranean structures, and Transbay Tube. BART enters the APE on the east side of I-680 between Treat Boulevard and Park Side Drive and then crosses over I-680 north of the SR-24 Interchange. Within the APE, the tracks and berm, along with the I-680 overpass, are character-defining features. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is the official with jurisdiction over Section 4(f) historic sites.

## Use of a Section 4(f) Property

There are three conditions under which “use” of a Section 4(f) property occurs:

- Permanent Incorporation – when the transportation agency or project sponsor purchases the property directly (e.g., fee simple acquisition) or acquires a permanent interest in the use or maintenance of the property (e.g., maintenance or utility easement).
- Temporary Occupancy – when there is a temporary use of a property that is adverse in terms of Section 4(f)’s preservationist purpose.
- Constructive Use – when a transportation project’s proximity impacts on a Section 4(f) property, even without acquisition of the property, are so severe that the protected activities, features or attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f) are “substantially impaired.”

### *Iron Horse Regional Trail*

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would require the closure and temporary detour of approximately 500 feet of the Iron Horse Regional Trail between S. Broadway and Danville Boulevard for up to 4 weeks due to widening of the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. The Iron Horse Regional Trail would also need to be shifted slightly under the bridge within Caltrans ROW to avoid a new bridge column.

### *Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail*

Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require the closure and temporary detour of approximately 0.2 mile of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail between Jones Road and N Main Street for approximately 2 to 3 weeks for widening of the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge.

### *Bay Area Rapid Transit*

All Build Alternatives would require the temporary and/or permanent ROW acquisition from Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) property. Alternative 1C would result in the permanent incorporation of approximately 0.63 acre of BART property. Alternatives 2 and 5 would result in the temporary occupancy of approximately 0.06 acre and permanent incorporation of approximately 0.14 acre of BART property. Alternative 3 would result in the temporary occupancy of approximately 0.06 acre and permanent incorporation of approximately 0.78 acre of BART property.

## Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures

- PR-1: Temporary Detours for Recreation Trails.** CCTA will require that recreation trails within the Study Area remain open to the public during construction. If a segment of a recreation trail must be closed, CCTA will work with the officials with jurisdiction and local agencies to identify detours and appropriate

signage and flagging to minimize impacts to trail users. All temporary trails will have a minimum width in compliance with current Americans with Disability Act standards.

**PR-2: Temporary Construction Areas.** All temporary construction areas within or adjacent to recreation areas, including parks, trails, pathways, and/or other recreational facilities, will be restored to a condition as good or better than that of the property prior to construction. CCTA, along with the construction contractor, will work with affected agencies and the officials with jurisdiction to identify the necessary rehabilitation activities.

**PR-3: Iron Horse Regional Trail Relocation.** Should Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, Caltrans and CCTA will work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify a suitable location to shift the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. CCTA will also assist the East Bay Regional Park District in acquiring any necessary ROW or easements for this segment of the trail.

No additional measures to minimize harm to historic sites have been proposed. Should measures be developed in consultation with the SHPO during NHPA Section 106 consultation, which is schedule to conclude after selection of the preferred alternative, these measures would be included in the final environmental document.

If a Section 4(f) property is discovered or designated after circulation of the draft environmental document, a separate Section 4(f) evaluation would be prepared, which would be reviewed and approved following the same procedures as if the property were discovered during the environmental process.

### ***De Minimis Impact***

A *de minimis* impact involves the use of Section 4(f) property that is generally minor in nature. A determination of *de minimis* impact on a park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge may be made when all three of the following criteria are satisfied:

1. The transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f);
2. The public has been afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the effects of the project on the protected activities, features, and attributes of the Section 4(f) resource;
3. The official(s) with jurisdiction over the property are informed of Caltrans' intent to make the *de minimis* impact determination based on their written concurrence that the project would not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f).

For historic sites, *de minimis* impact means that Caltrans has determined, in accordance with 36 CFR part 800, that the project would not affect historic property or that the project would have “no adverse effect” on the historic property in question (23 CFR 774.17).

### *Iron Horse Regional Trail*

Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 include widening Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge over the Iron Horse Regional Trail between PM R12.6 and PM R12.7. The proposed Project would avoid impacting the Iron Horse Regional Trail parking lot on Danville Boulevard and the Rudgear Road Park-N-Ride at the Rudgear Road/Bishop Lane Intersection.

To protect workers and the public during construction, a segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge (approximately 500 feet of trail) would be closed temporarily for up to 4 weeks. One lane of Rudgear Road would also be closed during this period. To ensure that the trail is continuously operational during construction, Caltrans and the Project Sponsor (CCTA) would work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify potential detours for this segment prior to and during construction (**PR-1**). A potential detour for the trail could occur along Rudgear Road between S. Broadway and Danville Boulevard. Vegetation removal and ground disturbance would occur along this segment of the trail. **PR-2** would be implemented, which requires that temporary construction areas be rehabilitated to a condition as good or better than that prior to construction.

Widening the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge would permanently increase shading over the Iron Horse Regional Trail and require installing a new bridge column in the trail’s existing paved footprint. This would require a permanent change in land ownership where the new bridge column would be located. In order to avoid the new bridge column, the trail would be shifted under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge permanently. As required by **PR-3**, Caltrans and CCTA would coordinate with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify potential locations for the permanent shift of the trail after selection of the Preferred Alternative. The trail could permanently shift up to 50 feet closer to the bridge’s southern abutment into an area that is used for maintenance and staging. This staging area is within Caltrans ROW. The realigned Iron Horse Regional Trail segment would be paved and designed to meet current design standards in coordination with the East Bay Regional Park District.

With implementation of **PR-1** through **PR-3**, the proposed Project would not adversely affect any feature, attribute, or activity on the trail, and trail access would be maintained with detours. Thus, given the relatively small segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail that would be permanently acquired or affected by temporary use, and that no change would occur in the values, accessibility, or attributes of the resource, Caltrans has preliminarily determined that Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in a *de minimis* impact on the Iron Horse Regional Trail.



Alternative 5 would not widen the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge over the Iron Horse Regional Trail and would not result in any potential detours or ROW acquisitions from the trail. Therefore, Alternative 5 would not result in a Section 4(f) “use” of the trail.

### *Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail*

Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge over the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. None of the Build Alternatives would result in a permanent change in land ownership at this location.

To protect workers and the public during construction, Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require temporarily closing an approximate 0.2-mile segment of the trails between Jones Road and N Main Street for 2 to 3 weeks. In accordance with **PR-1**, detours would be provided during this period, which would be developed in coordination with the East Bay Regional Park District and local agencies. A potential location for a detour has been identified that would route users to Treat Boulevard/Geary Road (approximately 1 mile). Users may also be detoured along Oak Road east of Jones Road.

Falsework would be installed to support bridge widening and prevent any debris from falling onto the public and canal water passing under falsework during the remainder of the bridge widening. Vegetation removal and ground disturbance would occur along the segment of the trails under the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge. All temporary construction areas would be restored to a condition as good or better than that of the property prior to construction, in accordance with **PR-2**.

The 12-foot-wide trails’ edge is approximately 5 feet from the center line of Bent 3 columns and approximately 19 feet from the center line of Bent 4 columns. As such, piles and columns would be installed adjacent to, but not on, the existing paved trail. In addition, a sound wall (Evaluated Barrier 2) is being recommended under all Build Alternatives, as discussed in Section 2.2.7, *Noise and Vibration*. Evaluated Barrier 2 would extend along the shoulder of Contra Costa Canal Bridge over the trails under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5, but not Alternative 1C. The bridge would be widened an additional 30 feet over the trails along northbound I-680, which would increase shading over the trails. The BART tunnel east of the bridge would be avoided. No permanent improvements are proposed within the trails’ footprint.

With implementation of **PR-1** through **PR-2**, the proposed Project would not adversely affect any feature, attribute, or activity on the trails and access to the trails would be maintained with detours. Thus, given the relatively small segment of the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail that would be affected by temporary use, and that no change would occur in the values, accessibility, or attributes of the resource, Caltrans has preliminarily determined that Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 would result in a *de minimis* impact on the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail.

Alternative 1C would not widen the Contra Costa Canal Undercrossing Bridge over the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail and would not result in

any potential detours or ROW acquisitions from these trails. Therefore, Alternative 1C would not result in a Section 4(f) “use” of these trails.

### *Bay Area Rapid Transit*

BART property, with two sets of tracks on a berm, is adjacent to proposed activities along an approximately 0.4-mile section from the I-680 Northbound Offramp for Treat Boulevard south to the City of Walnut Creek Public Works Maintenance Yard at 511 Lawrence Way. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would require the partial fee acquisition of approximately 0.14 acre (6,170 square feet) and a TCE of approximately 0.06 acre (2,716 square feet) from BART property just north of the Maintenance Yard. The BART ROW that would be acquired is located between the BART tracks and the freeway. For the purposes of this evaluation, it was conservatively assumed that BART ROW extended to the existing I-680 fence line. This strip of land does not include any structures related to BART’s tracks or berm. Project activities include grading and retaining wall/sound wall construction, as well as widening the freeway and bridge over the Contra Costa Canal approximately 20 to 30 feet west of, and parallel to, BART. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 would not result in the physical destruction of, or damage to, all or part of BART, including its track or berm. The proposed grading, retaining wall/sound wall, and freeway and bridge widening would not alter the historic site physically.

In addition, Alternatives 1C and 3 would require a 0.67-acre (26,378 square feet) permanent easement and 0.03-acre (1,225 square feet) partial acquisition of BART property at APN 177-260-017. These acquisitions would occur along southbound I-680, near PM 14.5 at the BART Central Contra Costa Line/I-680 Overpass. Alternatives 2 and 5 would not require ROW from parcel 177-260-017.

Alternatives 1C and 3 include changes to a retaining wall near the west abutment of the BART Central Contra Costa Line/I-680 Overpass (Bridge 28-0258) in Walnut Creek. The bridge abutment and a soldier pile ground anchor were built in 1971 as part of the original BART construction project. The retaining wall is situated immediately east and downhill from the overpass abutment and uphill from the existing I-680 alignment. The BART retaining wall is below the existing grade and not visible. Following initial BART construction, Caltrans built additional retaining walls between the BART retaining wall and I-680 in the 1990s. These Caltrans retaining walls are visible from I-680 and the surrounding areas.

Alternatives 1C and 3 would remove the Caltrans retaining walls and construct a new tangent pile wall adjacent to, with a minimum of 1 foot, the tied-back retaining wall at the east corner of the BART abutment (Abutment 9). This work would be accompanied by grading adjacent to the BART overpass abutment, and approximately 0.03 acre of ROW adjacent to the BART overpass abutment would be acquired for the proposed Project. The new tangent pile wall, and nearby grading, would not cause physical changes to the existing BART structures, which would remain in place, and would somewhat alter the hillside within BART ROW.

None of the Build Alternatives propose removing the site from its historic location or changing the character of the property's use or physical features within the property's setting that contribute to its historic significance. The work would be constructed adjacent to BART structures in a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic site and its environment would be unimpaired. The proposed Project would also not introduce visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of the historic site's significant features. Additional freeway use would not create a new audible element that would diminish the integrity of BART or its historic features, as it would be minor compared to the current noise emitting from the freeway and BART.

The proposed Project would not result in an alteration of BART property that would be considered inconsistent with the Secretary of Interior's (SOI) Standards for the treatment of historic properties and applicable guidelines, because it does not propose any alterations to the historic property. The changes would alter the historic site's environment slightly, but would not diminish the integrity of materials, design, workmanship, setting, location, feeling, or association. Therefore, Caltrans has preliminarily determined that the Project would have a "no adverse effect" on BART under 36 CFR Part 800 and would result in a *de minimis* impact under Section 4(f) under all Build Alternatives.

### **Public Notice and Agency Coordination**

The preliminary *de minimis* impact determinations for the Iron Horse Regional Trail under Alternatives 1C, 2, and 3 and the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 are being made available for public review during the public comment period for the Draft EIR/EA. Any comments received on preliminary determinations during the public comment period would be addressed, as appropriate, and changes would be reflected in the final environmental document.

Caltrans notified the East Bay Regional Park District of its intent to make *de minimis* impact determinations for these resources prior to circulation of the Draft EIR/EA. Caltrans would seek the East Bay Regional Park District's written concurrence on *de minimis* impact determinations following public circulation of the Draft EIR/EA and selection of the Preferred Alternative. The East Bay Regional Park District's written concurrence would be included in Appendix A.1, *Section 4(f) Official(s) with Jurisdiction Correspondence* in the final environmental document.

In accordance with Caltrans' Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, Caltrans would inform the SHPO in writing that a non-response for the purposes of a No Adverse Effect determination for Section 106 would be treated as the written concurrence of the preliminary *de minimis* impact determination for BART. No additional noticing or public review is required for *de minimis* impact determinations for historic sites.

## Resources Evaluated Relative to the Requirements of Section 4(f): No-Use Determination(s)

Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act of 1966, codified in federal law at 49 USC 303, declares that “it is the policy of the United States Government that special effort should be made to preserve the natural beauty of the countryside and public park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites.”

This section of the document discusses parks, recreational facilities, wildlife refuges, and historic properties found within or next to the Project Study Limits that do not trigger Section 4(f) protection because: (1) they are not publicly owned, (2) they are not open to the public, (3) they are not eligible historic sites, or (4) the Project does not permanently use the property and does not hinder the preservation of the property.

As discussed above, an initial review of readily available data sources preliminarily identified 111 existing and planned potential Section 4(f) properties within or immediately adjacent to the Study Areas. All potential Section 4(f) properties within the Study Areas were evaluated for Section 4(f) qualification and “use”. Appendix I, *Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps*, shows the location of all proposed impact areas for each Build Alternative.

Other than the Iron Horse Regional Trail, the Contra Costa Canal Trail/Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail, and BART, which are describe above, the Project would not result in the direct physical use (i.e., permanent incorporation or temporary occupancy) of any Section 4(f) property.

Based on the information provided in Chapter 2, *Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences and Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures*, of the Draft EIR/EA, none of the Build Alternatives would result in proximity impacts that would be so severe that the activities, features, or attributes that potentially qualify any property for protection under Section 4(f) would be substantially impaired. The following publicly owned parks, recreation areas, and refuges were in the immediate vicinity of the Project Study Limits. These properties were considered Section 4(f) properties during the preparation of the environmental document, but no “use” would occur. Therefore, the provisions of Section 4(f) do not apply. These resources are described further in Section 2.1.3, *Parks and Recreational Facilities*.

- Buchanan Fields Golf Course
- Creekside Trail System (Planned) (T15, T16, T17)
- East Bay Municipal Utility District Trail (T3)
- Livorna Road Bicycle Facility (Planned) (B41)
- Mokelumne Aqueduct Trail (Planned) (T20)

- Parkmead Walking Path (T12)
- Pedestrian Bicycle Bridge (Planned) (BR1)
- Sherman Acres Park (P34)
- Southwest BART Trail (Planned) (T23)
- Sugarloaf Open Space (Sugarloaf Recreation Area) (P18)
- Walnut Creek BART Station Bike Path (B11)
- Walnut Creek to Buchanan Fields Golf Course Bike Path (Planned) (B13)
- Waterbird Regional Preserve (RG1)
- Willow Pass Road Trail (Planned) (B33)

Trails, paths, bikeways, and sidewalks that occupy a transportation facility ROW without limitation to any specific location within that ROW would not qualify as Section 4(f) properties so long as their continuity is maintained. It was further assumed that all other Class II (bike lanes) and Class III (shared routes) bikeways in the Study Area are designated or functioning primarily for transportation, not recreation. Therefore, the provisions of Section 4(f) do not apply to these bikeways under 23 CFR 774.13(f).

The following historic sites were identified in the APE. However, no work would occur within the vertical or horizontal boundaries of these resources. These properties are Section 4(f) properties, but no “use” would occur. **Therefore, the provisions of Section 4(f) do not apply.** These resources are described further in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*:

- Southern Pacific Railroad Northern Contra Costa Route
- Contra Costa Canal
- Mokelumne Aqueduct
- Contra Costa – Moraga Transmission Line

In addition, three prehistoric archaeological resources were identified within the APE. All three archaeological resources are eligible, or were assumed eligible, for NRHP listing. As described in Section 2.1.10, *Cultural Resources*, all three archaeological sites would be avoided. In accordance with 23 CFR 774.9(e) and 774.11(f), Caltrans would evaluate any additional archaeological resources that may be discovered or designated during construction.



**A.1 Section 4(f) Official(s) with Jurisdiction Correspondence (To Be Provided with the Final Environmental Document)**





# Appendix B Title VI Policy Statement

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## California Department of Transportation

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September 2022

### NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

The California Department of Transportation, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, ensures *“No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”*

Caltrans will make every effort to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its services, programs and activities, whether they are federally funded or not, and that services and benefits are fairly distributed to all people, regardless of race, color, or national origin. In addition, Caltrans will facilitate meaningful participation in the transportation planning process in a non-discriminatory manner.

Related federal statutes, remedies, and state law further those protections to include sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and age.

For information or guidance on how to file a complaint, or obtain more information regarding Title VI, please contact the Title VI Branch Manager at (916) 639-6392 or visit the following web page: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/civil-rights/title-vi>.

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille or in a language other than English, please contact the California Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, at PO Box 942874, MS-79, Sacramento, CA 94274-0001; (916) 879-6768 (TTY 711); or at [Title.VI@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Title.VI@dot.ca.gov).

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TONY TAVARES  
Director



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## **Appendix C      Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Summary**

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In order to be sure that all of the environmental measures identified in this document are executed at the appropriate times, the following mitigation program (as articulated on the proposed Environmental Commitments Record [ECR] which follows) would be implemented. During project design, avoidance, minimization, and /or mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project's final plans, specifications, and cost estimates, as appropriate. All permits will be obtained prior to implementation of the project. During construction, environmental and construction/engineering staff will ensure that the commitments contained in this ECR are fulfilled. Following construction and appropriate phases of project delivery, long-term mitigation maintenance and monitoring will take place, as applicable. As the following ECR is a draft, some fields have not been completed, and will be filled out as each of the measures is implemented. Note: Some measures may apply to more than one resource area. Duplicative or redundant measures have not been included in this ECR.

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## Environmental Commitments Record (ECR)

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 04-CC-680

**PM/PM:** R10.7/23.1

**EA/Project ID.:** 04-0Q3100/0418000070

**Project Description:** Construct express lane on Northbound I-680 from Livorna Road to north of Arthur Road in Contra Costa County

**Date (Last modification):** January 18, 2024

**Environmental Planner:** Wahida Rashid

**Phone No.:**

**Construction Liaison:** TBD

**Phone No.:**

**Resident Engineer:** TBD

**Phone No.:**

### PERMITS

Permit	Agency	Application Submitted	Permit Received	Permit Expiration	Permit Requirement Completed by:	Permit Requirement Completed on:	Comments
Section 7 Letter of Concurrence	United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)						Letter of Concurrence expected prior to final environmental document (FED)
NHPA Section 106	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)						To be completed prior to FED
DOT Section 4(f) <i>De Minimis</i> Concurrences	Officials with Jurisdiction						Letter of Concurrence expected prior to FED
Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)						Prepare application during the design phase
Section 404 Nationwide Permit	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)						Preliminary jurisdictional delineation (PJD) submitted to USACE on October 12, 2023 and resubmitted on February 15, 2024. Prepare preconstruction notification during the design phase
Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA)	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)						Prepare application during the design phase (if required)
Construction General Permit, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	RWQCB						Submit Notice of Intent prior to starting construction

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

#### PA&ED

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Noise	Prepare Final Noise Abatement Decision	Section 2.2.7, <i>Noise and Vibration</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Noise	Circulate preliminary noise abatement decision, letters to affected receptors	Prior to FED, design phase				No

#### DESIGN PHASE/BEFORE RTL

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Community Impact Assessment	During the final design phase for the Build Alternatives, a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) will be prepared in accordance with Caltrans' requirements and guidelines to minimize construction-related delays and inconvenience for travelers in the Project area.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	Sponsor/Design	Prepare TMP					No

Environmental Commitment Record for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Community Impact Assessment	<b>CIA-1:</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will continue to coordinate with the multiple regional and local government agencies involved in the proposed Project to improve traffic conditions along I-680 within Contra Costa County.	Section 2.1.2, <i>Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs</i> ; Community Impact Assessment (CIA)	No	Sponsor	Coordinate with local agencies					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>PR-1: Temporary Detours for Recreation Trails.</b> CCTA will require that recreation trails within the Study Area remain open to the public during construction. If a segment of a recreation trail must be closed, CCTA will work with the officials with jurisdiction and local agencies to identify detours and appropriate signage and flagging to minimize impacts to trail users. All temporary trails will have a minimum width in compliance with current Americans with Disability Act standards.	Section 2.1.3, <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i> ; Appendix A; CIA	Yes	Sponsor/Design	Prepare TMP					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>PR-2: Temporary Construction Areas.</b> All temporary construction areas within or adjacent to recreation areas, including parks, trails, pathways, and/or other recreational facilities, will be restored to a condition as good or better than that of the property prior to construction. CCTA, along with the construction contractor, will work with affected agencies and the officials with jurisdiction to identify the necessary rehabilitation activities.	Section 2.1.3, <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i> ; Appendix A; CIA	Yes	Sponsor, Landscape Architect	Prepare Landscape Plan					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>PR-3: Ironhorse Regional Trail Relocation.</b> Should Alternative 1C, 2, or 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, Caltrans and CCTA will work with the East Bay Regional Park District to identify a suitable location to shift the Iron Horse Regional Trail under the Rudgear Road Undercrossing Bridge. CCTA will also assist the East Bay Regional Park District in acquiring any necessary ROW or easements for this segment of the trail.	Section 2.1.3, <i>Parks and Recreational Facilities</i> ; Appendix A; CIA	Yes	Sponsor/Design	Sponsor and Caltrans to work with East Bay Regional Park District during final design					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>TRAN-1:</b> No two consecutive off-ramps or two consecutive on-ramps in the same direction will be closed concurrently during construction.	Section 2.1.8, <i>Traffic and Transportation/ Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities</i>	Yes	Sponsor/Design	Prepare TMP					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>TRAN-MM-1: I-680 Express Bus Service.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will work with County Connection and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority to implement a new I-680 express bus service and provide funding to rebrand, refurbish, and upgrade six existing buses for interim service (before hydrogen fuel-cell buses are available) and acquire six hydrogen fuel-cell buses (and 1 spare) when they are available for purchase.	Section 3.2.17, <i>Transportation</i>	No	Sponsor	Provide funding, begin PA/ED phase for bus service					Yes
Community Impact Assessment	<b>TRAN-MM-2: Shared Mobility Hubs.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of the following mobility hubs: Bollinger Canyon Road, Walnut Creek BART Station, and Martinez Amtrak Station. These hubs will be designed to support I-680 Express Bus Service as well as other fixed-route transit services. The hubs may include mobility hub improvements and Mobility-on-	Section 3.2.17, <i>Transportation</i>	No	Sponsor	Provide funding, begin PA/ED phase for hubs					Yes

Environmental Commitment Record for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
	Demand (MoD)/Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) application and could potentially include additional mobility services, such as microtransit and/or increased eBike/eScooter operations.									
Community Impact Assessment	<b>TRAN-MM-3: Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program.</b> Should either Alternative 1C, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3 be selected as the Preferred Alternative, CCTA will pursue funds and ensure the implementation of a countywide TDM Program for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. This program will consist of enhancing existing and creating new TDM incentives within Contra Costa County. The program will not supplant, supersede, or replace current CCTA TDM initiatives that are funded by Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) or Measure J. CCTA will operate the program through the County's existing TDM program (511 Contra Costa).	Section 3.2.17, <i>Transportation</i>	No	Sponsor	Prepare implementation plan for TDM Program					Yes
Landscape	Planting would be installed in areas where planting is removed for construction activities and to provide screening, where feasible. Highway planting and irrigation would follow completion of the roadway construction and could potentially be installed under a separate construction contract. A 3-year, plant-establishment period would be included.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Landscape Architect	Prepare Landscape Plan					No
Landscape	<b>VIS-2: Landscape Plan.</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans or designated contractors will prepare a highway landscape plan that will identify all opportunities to use areas within the state ROW for full landscaping consistent with the Caltrans Highway Design Manual. This will include planting for graded areas with plant species consistent with adjacent vegetation and enhancement of new Project structures such as ramps and tunnels to the extent feasible. This plan will incorporate all applicable procedures and requirement detailed in the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 900 – Landscape Architecture- Roadside (July 2020), consistent with the Classified Landscaped Freeway policies, and consistent with applicable city general plans or municipal codes, as applicable. During the design phase, the Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect will verify that the design minimizes removal of existing mature trees. If removal of mature trees cannot be avoided, additional landscape improvements will be incorporated into the final design for these areas where feasible. Highway planting within Caltrans right-of-way will be provided where feasible to screen residential views of proposed express lane signs and lights and other highway activity and infrastructure. Caltrans safety-setback requirements will apply for all plantings within State right-of-way. During the design phase, CCTA will consider topography, visual screening, and adjacent development in the placement of overhead signs, sign gantries, and sign lighting to minimize visual impacts to residents along the project corridor. Locations of project features may be adjusted where feasible given highway safety standards and other engineering and environmental considerations.	Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics, Visual Impact Assessment (VIA)</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Landscape Architect	Prepare Landscape Plan					No

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Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Landscape	<b>VIS-4: Lighting Plan.</b> During the design phase, CCTA and Caltrans will prepare a Lighting Plan and ensure that lighting fixtures be selected to minimize glare on adjacent properties and into the night sky. Lighting will be shielded with non-glare hoods and focused within the Project ROW. The Lighting Plan will be reviewed and approved by Caltrans District 4 Landscape Architect prior to construction to ensure compliance with these criteria. Construction lighting will be limited to within the area of work and light trespass will be avoided through the use of directional lighting and shielding as needed.	Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Landscape Architect	Prepare Lighting Plan					No
Landscape	<b>VIS-5: Aesthetic Treatments.</b> During the design phase, CCTA or designated contractors will work with Caltrans District 4 staff in order to verify that design elements are consistent with the vision for the Contra Costa County regarding aesthetic enhancements, scenic corridors, landscaping, and tree removal and plantings policies. During the design phase, the Project team will evaluate the aesthetic enhancements to be incorporated into the constructed elements to the extent feasible, such as design and color treatment for the new overhead sign structures, gantries, VTMSs and light standards shall be similar to the existing adjacent structures and poles, so to be visually compatible and consistent with the existing installations along the corridor. Additionally, where feasible, new concrete safety barriers and retaining walls should match the aesthetics (color, pattern and/or texture) of the existing barriers/walls along corridor for visual consistency. Treatments of color, pattern and/or texture are required in order to reduce visual impacts, glare, and the possible incidence of graffiti. If needed, maintenance agreements will be established during the design phase. Where feasible, vines could be planted along soundwalls to reduce visual impacts, potential for glare, and reduce the incidence of graffiti. Reference <i>Contra Costa I-680 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan</i> for aesthetic and landscape guidelines.	Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics, VIA</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Landscape Architect	Complete Structures Aesthetic Report					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-7:</b> Prior to demolition activities, the presence or absence of asbestos in the structures would be confirmed. If asbestos-containing materials are identified, the Project must also comply with Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing), which requires all asbestos-containing material found in the Project footprint be removed prior to demolition or renovation activity. There are specific requirements for surveying, notification, removal, and disposal of asbestos containing materials required by BAAQMD Regulation 11, Rule 2 (Asbestos Demolition, Renovation, and Manufacturing). BAAQMD Regulation should be consulted for specific requirements that pertain to the materials encountered.	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality</i>	No	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations					No
Water Quality	<b>HYD-1:</b> During final design, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that treatment Best Management Practices (BMP) in close proximity to the floodway along San Ramon Creek at Livorna Road (PM R11.33) will be analyzed to confirm the BMPs will have no impact on the base flood elevation or floodplain. The analysis will be coordinated with floodplain management agencies,	Section 2.2.1, <i>Hydrology and Floodplain</i>	Yes	Design. Sponsor	Prepare location hydraulic study based on final design to confirm no change to Base Flood Elevation (BFE)					No

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	including Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (CCCFC & WCD) during design phase.									
Water Quality	<b>WQ-3:</b> During the design phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved design pollution prevention BMPs for the Project will be further investigated. Design pollution prevention BMPs may include preservation of existing vegetation, slope/surface protection systems, and permanent erosion control measures (e.g., hydroseeding, hydromulch, fiber rolls, and netting).	Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality</i>	Yes	Sponsor	Prepare drainage plans					No
Water Quality	<b>WQ-4:</b> During the design phase, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure Caltrans-approved treatment BMPs will be further investigated and be consistent with the requirements of the NPDES Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the State of California, Department of Transportation, in effect at the time of design. Treatment BMPs may include infiltration devices, biofiltration devices, detention devices, media filters, and gross solids removal devices (GSRD) (e.g., trash capture devices).	Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality</i>	Yes	Sponsor	Partner with local agencies					No
Other	Caltrans' design and construction guidelines incorporate engineering standards that address seismic risks. Project elements would be designed and constructed to meet seismic design requirements for ground shaking and ground motions, as determined for the Project vicinity and site conditions. Caltrans also requires additional geotechnical subsurface and design investigations to be performed during the final Project design and engineering phase.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	Sponsor	Prepare Geotechnical Report					No
Other	<b>GEO-1:</b> Prior to completion of final design, CCTA or designated contractor will ensure that a professional geologist or professional engineer prepare a design-level geotechnical report. Recommendations from the final design-level geotechnical report will be incorporated into the final Project plans and specifications during the final design phase to ensure the geotechnical stability of the Project. This report will document soil-related constraints and hazards, such as slope instability, settlement liquefaction, or related secondary seismic impacts, which may be present. The report will also include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of expansive and potentially corrosive soils and recommendations regarding construction procedures and/or design criteria to reduce the effect of these soils on Project development,</li> <li>• Identification of potential liquefiable areas within the Project Study Limits and recommendations for mitigation measures,</li> <li>• Demonstration that the design of all proposed retaining walls is geotechnically suitable for soils within the Project Study Limits, and</li> <li>• Geotechnical recommendations for the specific foundation design and earthwork construction considered for this Project.</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.3, <i>Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography</i>	Yes	Sponsor, Design	Prepare Geotechnical Report					No
Paleontology	<b>PAL-1: Paleontological Mitigation Plan.</b> Prepare a Paleontological Mitigation Plan once Project design is nearly complete. The final plan will be implemented during construction. Include a specification in the construction contract stating that paleontological monitoring will occur in accordance with the Paleontological Mitigation Plan. Prepare a final report documenting the implementation of the approved	Section 2.2.4, <i>Paleontology</i> , PER	Yes	Sponsor, Paleontologist	SS 14-7.03, SSP 14-7.04. Prepare Paleontological Mitigation Plan					No

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	<p>Paleontological Mitigation Plan (i.e., Paleontological Mitigation Report). It is anticipated that the Paleontological Mitigation Plan would include the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project-specific Paleontological Mitigation Plan will be prepared by a qualified principal paleontologist (MS or PhD in paleontology) once adequate project design information regarding subsurface disturbance location, depth, and lateral extent is available.</li> <li>• The qualified principal paleontologist will be present at pre-construction meetings to confer with contractors who will be performing ground-disturbing activities.</li> <li>• Paleontological monitors, under the direction of the qualified principal paleontologist, will be on site to inspect cuts for fossils at all times during original ground disturbance involving sensitive geologic formations.</li> <li>• When fossils are discovered, the paleontologist (or paleontological monitor) will recover them. Construction work in these areas may be halted or diverted by the Resident Engineer to allow the prompt recovery of fossils.</li> <li>• Fossils collected during the monitoring and salvage portion of the mitigation program will be prepared to the point of identification, sorted, and cataloged.</li> <li>• Prepared fossils, along with copies of all pertinent field notes, photos, and maps, will be deposited in a scientific institution with paleontological collections.</li> <li>• A Paleontological Mitigation Report will be completed that outlines the results of the mitigation program.</li> <li>• Where feasible, selected road cuts or large finished slopes in areas with critically interesting paleontological features may be left exposed to serve as important educational and scientific features. This may be possible if no substantial adverse visual or safety impacts result.</li> </ul>									
Hazardous Waste	<p><b>HAZ-1: Preliminary Site Investigation.</b> During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that a Preliminary Site Investigation (PSI) is conducted at City of Walnut Creek Corp Yard, 511 Lawrence Way, Walnut Creek, CA (Assessor Parcel Number 173-014-005) in the area that would be disturbed by the Project should Alternatives 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative. The PSI would assess for the presence of site contamination, including hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds in soil and groundwater.</p>	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> , ISA	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations.					No
Hazardous Waste	<p><b>HAZ-2: Aerially Deposited Lead.</b> Soils located within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) have the potential to contain aerially deposited lead (ADL). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor, will ensure that soil sampling and analysis for ADL be conducted on Caltrans ROW (within the Project disturbance limits) that have not been previously characterized, to determine the proper handling and disposal requirements. Soil determined to contain lead concentrations exceeding stipulated thresholds must be managed in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.08 Regulated Material Containing Aerially Deposited Lead (2022) and under the July 1, 2016, ADL Agreement between Caltrans and the Department of Toxic</p>	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> , ISA	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations.					No



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	Substances Control. This ADL Agreement allows such soils to be safely reused within the Project Study Limits, as long as all requirements of the ADL Agreement are met.									
Hazardous Waste	<b>HAZ-3: Asbestos-Containing Material and Lead-Based Paint.</b> Structures, including buildings and bridges, may contain asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP). During the design phase, Project Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that structures be sampled for ACM and LBP prior to any demolition or disturbance activities. Soils surrounding the structures that will be disturbed should also be sampled for ACM and LBP. In addition, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that the survey be conducted in conformance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1403, and in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-11.13, Disturbance of Existing Paint Systems on Bridges, and Section 14-11.16, Asbestos-Containing Construction Materials in Bridges (2022).	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> , ISA	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations.					No
Hazardous Waste	<b>HAZ-4: Agricultural Land Uses.</b> Soils within the Project Study Limits that have not been previously disturbed may contain residual pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum from historical agricultural uses. During the design phase, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that undisturbed soil on historic agricultural land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum.	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> , ISA	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations.					No
Hazardous Waste	<b>HAZ-5: Railroad Land Uses.</b> Soil and groundwater within the Project Study Limits may be contaminated with common railroad-related contaminants, including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), asbestos, heavy metals, herbicides, and pesticides, from existing and historical railroad uses. During the design phase, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that soil and groundwater on historical and existing railroad land that may be disturbed by the proposed Project will be sampled for common railroad-related contaminants should Alternatives 1C, 2, 3, or 5 be selected as the Preferred Alternative.	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i> , ISA	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Perform Preliminary Site Investigations. Include appropriate SSP/nSSP and update ECR based on results of investigations.					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-5: Best Management Practices (Water Pollution Control).</b> Standard Caltrans BMPs, such as dust control, spill prevention and control, stockpile management, and other waste management practices as outlined in Section 13-1.01 of the Caltrans Standard Specifications shall be implemented. See also Measures WQ-1 and WQ-2, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i> . The Project will comply with the Construction General Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board and with Provisions of the Caltrans Statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The contractor will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Spill Prevention Plan for approval prior to the start of construction. Personnel will adhere to the instructions, protocols, and specifications, outlined in the most current	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	SS 13-1.01					No

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	<p>Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual and Caltrans Standard Specifications. At a minimum, protective measures will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventing pollutants generated by vehicle and equipment maintenance or cleaning from entering storm drains or aquatic resources</li> <li>Servicing or storing vehicles and equipment no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources unless the features are protected by impermeable barriers</li> <li>Maintaining vehicles and equipment to prevent fluid leaks</li> <li>Storing hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, solvents, etc., in sealed containers at a designated location no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources</li> <li>Collecting and disposing of concrete waste and contaminated water from curing in appropriate washouts located no less than 50 feet from storm drains and aquatic resources</li> <li>Using water trucks to control dust</li> <li>Capturing or controlling sediment with erosion control devices such as silt fence, fiber rolls, and appropriate erosion control netting, and covering temporary stockpiles.</li> </ul> <p>The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would reference the Caltrans Construction Site BMPs Manual. This manual is comprehensive and includes many other protective measures and guidance to prevent and minimize pollutant discharges. See also Measure WQ-2, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>.</p>									
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-6: Delineation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas.</b> ESA will be delineated using high-visibility fencing or alternative delineators. The fencing or delineators will be installed prior to the start of construction and regularly maintained and remain in place until construction is completed. Construction personnel or equipment will not access ESAs unless authorized by the biologist.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	SS 5-1.36, 14-1.02, ESAs to be included on final design					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-7: Prohibition of Monofilament Netting.</b> To prevent animals from being entangled, trapped or injured, monofilament fiber will not be use in erosion control devices or animal exclusion devices.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	nSSP					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-8: Covering of Excavations and Trenches.</b> To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife during construction excavated holes or trenches more than 1-foot-deep with walls steeper than 30 degrees would be covered by plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day. Alternatively, one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks would be installed. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they would be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	nSSP					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-9: Tree and Shrub Avoidance.</b> Tree and shrub removal will be avoided unless necessary to complete construction. Construction activities would avoid tree driplines. The following conservations measures will be implemented:	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Biologist, Landscape Architect	Prepare Landscape Plan and Tree Protection Plan					No
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each tree or group of trees to be retained will be enclosed by a buffer demarcated with ESA fencing at least one foot from the edge of the dripline(s) of the tree(s) prior to the</li> </ul>									

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	<p>beginning of construction. Fencing shall remain in place during all construction activities in the vicinity of the trees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The amount of water provided to the tree(s) should not differ from that which was supplied prior to the beginning of construction activities.</li> <li>The parking of vehicles or construction equipment, or storage of materials within the dripline of the tree(s), should not occur at any time.</li> <li>Signs, ropes, cables or other items will not be attached to unremoved trees.</li> <li>The following measures will be implemented if any disturbance is necessary within a tree's dripline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If grades must be altered more than plus or minus six inches, an appropriate aeration will be installed, and positive drainage will be maintained.</li> <li>If trenching is unavoidable, the number of trenches will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. Trees will be trimmed to remove branches proportional to the number of roots lost.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Limit the amount of excavation and compaction within the root protection zone (equals the dripline radius) to the greatest extent possible.</li> <li>No materials should be placed or stored within the root protection zone at any time through the duration of the Project. Spoils shall not be placed within the tree protection zone either temporarily or permanently.</li> <li>If trees must be removed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a certified arborist will mark trees necessary for removal before removal begins.</li> <li>tree pruning or removal would be performed by a certified arborist according to ANSI A300 pruning standards. Trees that need to be removed or pruned should be identified in the preconstruction walk through.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>									
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-11: Revegetation Following Construction.</b> All areas that are temporarily affected during construction shall be revegetated with an assemblage of native grass, shrub, and trees as appropriate. Invasive, exotic plants would be controlled within the proposed Project area to the maximum extent practicable, pursuant to Executive Order 13112.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Prepare Landscape Plan					
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-13: Lighting.</b> To the extent practicable, nighttime construction shall be minimized. Approximately 63 days of nightwork are anticipated. Artificial lighting of the proposed Project area during nighttime hours would be minimized to the maximum extent practicable and would be directed away from sensitive resources. Artificial lighting would be directed away from vegetated areas and only directed at areas where active construction is occurring. If lighting cannot be directed away from vegetated areas, shielding will be implemented to avoid spillover.  Permanent light fixtures would have shielding, light-emitting diodes configured at the minimum necessary number of bulbs,	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Resident Engineer/contractor	Prepare Lighting Plan					No

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	as well as optimal mounting height, mast-arm length, and angle to restrict light to the roadways (projected light spread from proposed new permanent lighting fixtures is shown on the figure set in Appendix A).									
Biology	<b>BIO-MM-1: Oak Woodlands.</b> In accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17: Oak Woodlands, native oak woodlands will be avoided to the maximum extent feasible. Any oak trees that are impacted would be mitigated through replacement or compensatory mitigation at a ratio to be determined in consultation with CDFW and based on the size of the tree removed, with large-diameter trees requiring greater replacement numbers than small trees. A Tree Protection Plan will be prepared and implemented to minimize damage to native trees during construction. Precise tree planting locations will be determined during the final design phase and will occur within the Caltrans ROW. Replanted areas will be monitored for success for up to 3 to 10 years and subject to success criteria. The performance criterion for replacement tree plantings is 70 percent survival of all plantings at the end of the monitoring period.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Biologist, Landscape Architect	Complete Landscape Concept Sheets, Prepare Landscape Plan and Tree Protection Plan					Yes
Biology	<b>BIO-MM-2:</b> Where impact areas overlap or would be adjacent to potential wetlands/waters, these wetlands/waters would be avoided to the greatest extent practicable. The location of permanent BMPs will be refined during final design and wetlands and other waters would be avoided where feasible. Mitigation for any permanent impacts on aquatic resources shall be provided at a minimum of 1:1 ratio, which would be determined in consultation with the permitting agencies during final design. Mitigation can be achieved through onsite restoration, in-lieu fee payment, or purchase of mitigation credits at a mitigation bank approved by USACE or RWQCB. Mitigation as required in regulatory permits issued through USACE and/or the RWQCB may be applied.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Wetlands and Other Waters</i> ; NES	Yes	Sponsor, Biologist	Prepare final design, Obtain Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Section 404 Permit, Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement					Yes

**ROW/PURCHASING**

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Community Impact Assessment	<b>CIA-2:</b> Caltrans will follow the process required for acquisition of right-of-way under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance Program.	Section 2.1.5, <i>Community Character and Cohesion</i> ; CIA	No	Real Estate/ROW	Comply with current Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act requirements when acquiring property.					No

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**PRE-CONSTRUCTION**

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Stormwater	A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and erosion control BMP would be developed and implemented to minimize any wind or water-related material discharges, in compliance with the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) as well as Section 13 of the 2022 Caltrans Standard Specifications and Revised Standard Specifications and Caltrans' Construction Site BMP Manual. The SWPPP would provide water pollution control practices to limit stormwater and non-stormwater discharges; temporary construction BMPs would be used to the maximum extent necessary.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Prepare SWPPP					No
Stormwater	<b>WQ-2:</b> Prior to construction, a SWPPP will be prepared and implemented to address all construction-related activities, equipment, and materials that have the potential to impact water quality. The SWPPP will identify the sources of pollutants that may affect the quality of stormwater and include the construction site BMPs to control pollutants such as sediment control, drainage inlet protection, construction materials management, and non-stormwater BMPs. Additional BMP reference material is contained within the Project Planning and Design Guide (Caltrans, 2019) and Construction Manual (Caltrans, 2022). These include, but are not limited to, temporary sediment control, temporary soil stabilization, scheduling, waste management, materials handling, and other non-stormwater BMPs.	Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Prepare SWPPP					No
Hazardous Waste	<b>HAZ-6: Construction Health and Safety Plan.</b> Prior to construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the development of a Health and Safety Plan to guide all construction activities. A Certified Industrial Hygienist will review this plan, based on evaluations of proposed construction activities, the potential hazards identified in Project's Phase I Initial Site Assessment (Parikh Consultants, Inc. 2022), and any future assessment prepared for the Project. This plan will contain specific procedures for encountering expected and unexpected contaminants. It will prescribe safe work practices, contaminant monitoring, personal protective equipment, emergency response procedures, and safety training requirements to protect construction workers and third parties. The plan will meet the requirements of 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910 and 1926, and all other applicable federal, State, and local regulations and requirements. The designated contractor will be responsible for preparing the Health and Safety Plan before the start of construction.	Section 2.2.5, <i>Hazardous Waste/Materials</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Prepare Construction Health and Safety Plan					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-2: Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT).</b> All construction personnel will attend a mandatory WEAT delivered by a biologist prior to entering the job site. New personnel will attend a training session before they are allowed to enter the job site. All personnel will sign a form stating that they completed training and understand all applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance. The contractor will provide translated training	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	No	District Biologist	RE to notify Biologist 14 days prior to start of construction; prepare WEAT					No

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	material. Caltrans will keep the forms on file and make them available to regulatory agencies upon request. At a minimum, the training will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A description of special-status species that could occur onsite and their habitats, and other sensitive resources.</li> <li>• A review of applicable conservation measures and how to avoid impacts by implementing them</li> <li>• A discussion of applicable agency regulations and consequences of noncompliance.</li> </ul>									
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-4: Pre-construction Surveys for Nesting Birds.</b> To avoid take of migratory birds during the nesting season (February 1 to September 30), to the extent feasible, vegetation and tree removal will only occur between October 1 and January 31. The biologist will conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys no more than 72 hours prior to the start of construction. If an active nest is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate exclusion buffer around the nest. The buffer will depend on species, an individual's response to disturbance, or the line-of-sight from the construction area to the nest. Equipment and personnel will not enter the buffer until the nest is inactive or juvenile birds are no longer dependent on adults. To prevent occupation or reoccupation, the biologist will remove partially constructed or inactive nests. If a nesting special-status bird species is discovered, Caltrans will coordinate with regulatory agencies for assistance.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	No	Project Biologist	RE to notify Biologist 14 days prior to start of construction; conduct survey and prepare survey report					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-5: Best Management Practices (Water Pollution Control).</b> Standard Caltrans BMPs, such as dust control, spill prevention and control, stockpile management, and other waste management practices as outlined in Section 13-1.01 of the Caltrans Standard Specifications shall be implemented. See also Measures WQ-1 and WQ-2, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i> . The Project will comply with the Construction General Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board and with Provisions of the Caltrans Statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The contractor will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Spill Prevention Plan for approval prior to the start of construction. Personnel will adhere to the instructions, protocols, and specifications, outlined in the most current Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual and Caltrans Standard Specifications. At a minimum, protective measures will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing pollutants generated by vehicle and equipment maintenance or cleaning from entering storm drains or aquatic resources</li> <li>• Servicing or storing vehicles and equipment no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources unless the features are protected by impermeable barriers</li> <li>• Maintaining vehicles and equipment to prevent fluid leaks</li> <li>• Storing hazardous materials such as fuels, oils, solvents, etc., in sealed containers at a designated location no less than 50 feet from storm drains or aquatic resources</li> </ul>	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Prepare SWPPP					No



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collecting and disposing of concrete waste and contaminated water from curing in appropriate washouts located no less than 50 feet from storm drains and aquatic resources</li> <li>Using water trucks to control dust</li> <li>Capturing or controlling sediment with erosion control devices such as silt fence, fiber rolls, and appropriate erosion control netting, and covering temporary stockpiles.</li> </ul> <p>The SWPPP would reference the Caltrans Construction Site BMPs Manual. This manual is comprehensive and includes many other protective measures and guidance to prevent and minimize pollutant discharges. See also Measure WQ-2, discussed in Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>.</p>									
Biology	<p><b>BIO-PLANTS-1: Protocol-Level Botanical Surveys.</b> Protocol-level botanical surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist in appropriate habitat for Congdon's tarplant (brome grassland) during the appropriate blooming period for the species (May through October). Surveys will be conducted during the two seasons prior to initial ground disturbance. If Congdon's tarplant, or any other rare plants are detected during these surveys, they will be mapped and flagged or fenced off for avoidance. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.</p>	Section 2.3.3, <i>Plant Species</i> ; NES	No	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<p><b>BIO-FROG-1: Pre-construction Surveys.</b> A USFWS-approved biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure California red-legged frogs are absent within the proposed work areas listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the NB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2)</li> <li>Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the SB side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3)</li> </ul>	Section 2.3.5, <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> ; NES	No	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<p><b>BIO-SNAKE-1: Alameda Whipsnake Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for Alameda whipsnake prior to any ground disturbance between Rudgear Road to Livorna Road (PM R12.7 and PM R11.3).</p>	Section 2.3.5, <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> ; NES	No	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<p><b>BIO-KITE-1: White-tailed Kite Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> If an active white-tailed kite nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.</p>	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03B. Conduct Nesting Bird Survey				Update buffer in 14-6.03B	No
Biology	<p><b>BIO-FALCON-1: Peregrine Falcon Pre-Construction Survey.</b> If an active peregrine falcon nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 500 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer</p>	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03B. Conduct Nesting Bird Survey				Update buffer in 14-6.03B	No

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	dependent on adults. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if necessary.									
Biology	<b>BIO-BEE-1: Bumble Bee Pre-Construction Nest Survey.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction bumble bee nest survey prior to any ground disturbance associated with the proposed Project in brome grassland, semi-natural ornamental, or non-native woodland habitat. If a bumble bee nest is discovered in or within 50 feet of any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey, then the nest will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A. Conduct Pre-Construction Survey				Update buffer in 14-6.03A	No
Biology	<b>BIO-SNAIL-1: Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for shoulderband snails prior to any ground disturbance in brome grassland, coast live oak woodland, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, or semi-natural ornamental habitats. If a shoulderband snail colony is discovered in any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey during the pre-construction survey, then it will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<b>BIO-TURTLE-1: Northwestern Pond Turtle Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey to ensure northwestern pond turtles are absent from the proposed impact area prior to any ground disturbance at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2)</li> <li>Rudgear Road to Livorna Road - between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7– PM R11.3)</li> </ul> If a northwestern pond turtle is observed in any proposed impact area, ground disturbance would not commence until the turtle leaves the proposed impact area on its own.	Section 2.3.5, <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<b>BIO-LIZARD-1: Coast Horned Lizard Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to any ground disturbance to ensure coast horned lizards are absent in proposed Project impact areas between Livorna Road and Rudgear Road (PM R11.3 and PM R12.6).	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	No	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<b>BIO-HAWK-1: Cooper's Hawk Nest Buffer.</b> If an active Cooper's hawk nest is discovered, a qualified biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer (no less than 300 feet) around it. The buffer will remain in place until the qualified biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or the young have left the area or are no longer dependent on adults. If necessary, Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if a Cooper's hawk nest is discovered.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03B. Conduct Nesting Bird Survey				Update buffer in 14-6.03B	No
Biology	<b>BIO-SNAIL-1: Bridges' Coast Range Shoulderband Pre-Construction Surveys.</b> A biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for shoulderband snails prior to any ground disturbance in brome grassland, coast live oak woodland, mixed invasive field, non-native woodland, or semi-natural ornamental habitats. If a shoulderband snail colony is	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No

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	discovered in any disturbance area during the pre-construction survey during the pre-construction survey, then it will be mapped, flagged, and avoided.									
Biology	<b>BIO-OWL-1: CDFW Protocol Surveys.</b> A qualified biologist will conduct burrowing owl surveys in brome grassland habitat in and within 500 meters (1,640 feet) of the BSA following CDFW's protocols (CDFW 2012) in the year prior to ground disturbance. Surveys will be repeated if construction is delayed or suspended for more than 30 days. If an occupied burrow or structure is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriately sized buffer around it following CDFW's 2012 guidelines.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A. Conduct Protocol Survey					No
Biology	<b>BIO-BAT-1: Bats Pre-construction Surveys.</b> A CDFW approved bat biologist will conduct preconstruction bat surveys no more than 3 days prior to the start of construction. If an active maternity roost is discovered, the biologist will establish an appropriate buffer around the roosts. Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if roosting bats or evidence of roosting are observed.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A. Conduct Pre-Construction Survey					No
Biology	<b>BIO-WOODRAT-1: San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Pre-construction Survey.</b> Prior to clearing of any vegetation in the proposed Project impact areas or within 50 feet of ground disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a survey for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests. If San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests are located, an exclusion buffer of at least 50 feet from these nests will be established to avoid disturbing the nests.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A. Conduct Pre-Construction Survey				Update buffer in 14-6.03A	No
Biology	<b>BIO-BADGER-1: American Badger Pre-Construction Burrow Mapping and Avoidance.</b> While carrying out protocol burrowing owl surveys ( <b>BIO-OWL-1</b> ), mapping of all mammal burrows will be conducted within suitable habitat up to 500 meters of proposed Project impact areas. During these surveys, any American badger burrows in the survey area will be mapped. Any American badger burrows identified during these surveys will be avoided by a minimum of 200 feet (occupied by adult badgers), and 500 feet if it is found to be a natal burrow (badger young present). Caltrans will contact CDFW for assistance if American badger dens are discovered.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A. Conduct Protocol Survey for Owl				Update buffer in 14-6.03A	No

**CONSTRUCTION**

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Community Impact Assessment	<b>UES-1:</b> During construction, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure that utility services for any underground or aboveground utilities that will be disturbed and/or removed during construction of the proposed Project will be maintained to avoid interruptions in service. If interruptions in service are unavoidable, notice will be given, and proper arrangements will be made with the affected residents and businesses.	Section 2.1.7, <i>Utilities/ Emergency Services</i>	No	Resident Engineer	Ensure USA notification					No

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Community Impact Assessment	<b>UES-2:</b> Prior to grading activities, Underground Service Alert (USA) will be notified at least 2 days prior to excavation, by calling 811.	Section 2.1.7, <i>Utilities/Emergency Services</i>	No	Resident Engineer	Ensure USA notification					No
Community Impact Assessment	<b>UES-3:</b> To minimize risk of fires during construction activities, Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the implementation of the following minimization measures: a. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain defensible spaces around active construction areas. b. Coordinate with CAL FIRE and local fire departments to identify and maintain firefighting equipment (e.g., extinguishers, shovels, water tankers) in active construction areas. c. Post emergency services phone numbers (i.e., fire, emergency medical, police) in visible locations in all active construction areas.	Section 2.1.7, <i>Utilities/Emergency Services</i>	No	Resident Engineer	Coordinate with CAL FIRE					No
Visual Resources	<b>VIS-1: Vegetation Removal.</b> During construction, the construction contractor will minimize the removal of groundcover, shrubs, and mature trees to the maximum extent possible, and utilize unvegetated areas for contractor staging/storage areas, when feasible. The construction contract will protect vegetation outside the clearing and grubbing limits from the contractor's operations, equipment, and materials storage. High visibility temporary fencing will be placed around vegetation to be protected before roadway work begins. Regular watering of vegetation should be provided to vegetation when construction interrupts normal automated irrigation. All disturbed areas will receive hydroseeded treatment of erosion control grasses, and if appropriate, locally native grasses. Any roadside vegetation and irrigation systems that are damaged or removed during project construction will be replaced according to Caltrans policy. When trenching for utilities, the construction contractor will avoid trenching within drip lines of trees and screening shrubs. Directional drilling that would avoid damaging root systems of established plant material will be used, when reasonable, as opposed to open trenching to install new conduit in places where work within the drip line would be required. Trees and screening shrubs will be protected from damage during construction.	Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics; VIA</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	Follow SWPPP, Landscape Plan, and Tree Protection Plan					No
Visual Resources	<b>VIS-3: Construction Shields.</b> During construction, the construction contractor will place unsightly materials, equipment storage, and staging so that they are not visible within the foreground of the highway corridor to the maximum extent feasible. Where such siting is unavoidable, material and equipment will be stored and visually screened to minimize visibility from the roadway and nearby sensitive off-road receptors.	Section 2.1.9, <i>Visual/Aesthetics; VIA</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	nSSP					No
Cultural Resources	Construction contractors are required to stop all work within 60 feet of the unanticipated discovery of a cultural resource, human remains, or paleontological resource and to not resume work until authorized. Construction contractors are instructed to secure the area and not move or take cultural or	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor, Sponsor, Project Archaeologist/Paleontologist	SS 14-2.03A. SS 14-7.03.					No

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	paleontological resources or human remains from the job site until the discovery can be assessed.									
Cultural Resources	<b>CUL-1: Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources.</b> If cultural materials are discovered during construction, all earth-moving activity within and around the immediate discovery area will be diverted until a qualified archaeologist can assess the nature and significance of the find.	Section 2.1.10, <i>Cultural Resources</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor, Sponsor, Project Archaeologist/	SS 14-2.03A					No
Cultural Resources	<b>CUL-2: Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains.</b> If human remains are discovered, California Health and Safety Code (H&SC) Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall stop in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County Coroner contacted. If the remains are thought by the coroner to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), who, pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98, will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At this time, the person who discovered the remains will contact District Environmental Branch so that they may work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.	Section 2.1.10, <i>Cultural Resources</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor, Sponsor, Project Archaeologist/	SS 14-2.03A					No
Stormwater	As part of construction, no debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, slash, sawdust, cement, concrete, washings, petroleum products or other organic or earthen material shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into waters of the United States or drainages. No discharges of excessively turbid water would be allowed, and all equipment would be well-maintained and free of leaks.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Follow SWPPP					No
Stormwater	Erosion control methods may include silt fencing, straw wattles, straw bales, coir blankets, sediment traps, and other protective methods to limit the potential for erosion of sediment beyond the work area.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Follow SWPPP					No
Stormwater	<b>WQ-1:</b> During construction, the Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure the Project complies with the provisions of the Caltrans NPDES Statewide Storm Water Permit and the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges of Stormwater Runoff Associated with Construction Activities in effect at the time of construction.	Section 2.2.2, <i>Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	Follow SWPPP and NPDES permit					No
Air Quality	Construction contractors would be required to comply with all applicable air-pollution-control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes that apply to the work being performed.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-9.02					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-1: Equipment Maintenance.</b> During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 7-1.02C, which requires that the construction contractor keep engines properly tuned and limit idling.	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 7-1.02C					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-2: Stormwater Best Management Practices.</b> During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 13 – Water Pollution Control, which requires a SWPPP and use of BMPs that manage fugitive dust and material track-out from construction sites. Many of the SWPPP requirements and BMPs are the same as BAAQMD's basic controls for construction sites (see <b>AQ-5</b> and <b>AQ-6</b> ).	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 13; prepare SWPPP					No

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Air Quality	<b>AQ-3: Compliance with Air Quality Regulations and Ordinances.</b> During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 14-9 – Air Quality, which specifically requires compliance by the construction contractor with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including air pollution control district and air quality management district regulations and local ordinances.	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-9					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-4: Dust Control.</b> During construction, the Project's Resident Engineer or designated contractor will ensure compliance with Caltrans' Standard Specifications Section 18 – Dust Palliatives, which includes requirements for the use of dust suppressants or controls that the construction contractor must follow.	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 18					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-5: Construction Best Practices for Exhaust.</b> During construction, the Project's or designated contractor will ensure that exhaust control BMPs for construction related emissions are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards, and it shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.</li> <li>• Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.</li> <li>• All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications.</li> <li>• Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites; or propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality, AQR</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-9					No
Air Quality	<b>AQ-6: Construction BMPs for Dust:</b> During construction, CCTA or CCTA's designated contractor will ensure that dust control BMPs for construction related emissions during ground disturbance are implemented as specified in the most recent Regional Transportation Plan, in which the Project is considered, where feasible and necessary. The following are construction BMPs from Mitigation Measure AQ-2 in the Final Environmental Impact Report Plan Bay Area 2050 (Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2021): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.</li> <li>• On-site dirt piles or other stockpiled particulate matter shall be covered, wind breaks installed, and water and/or soil stabilizers</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.6, <i>Air Quality, AQR</i>	No	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-9					No



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	<p>employed to reduce wind-blown dust emissions. The use of approved nontoxic soil stabilizers shall be incorporated according to manufacturers' specifications to all inactive construction areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. Dry power sweeping should only be performed in conjunction with thorough watering of the subject roads.</li> <li>• All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads and surfaces shall be limited to 15 mph.</li> <li>• All roadway, driveway, and sidewalk paving shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be paved as soon as possible after grading.</li> <li>• All construction sites shall provide a posted sign visible to the public with the telephone number and person to contact at the lead agency regarding dust complaints. The recommended response time for corrective action shall be within 48 hours. BAAQMD's Complaint Line (1-800-334-6367) shall also be included on posted signs to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.</li> <li>• All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 mph.</li> <li>• Wind breaks (e.g., trees, fences) shall be installed on the windward side(s) of actively disturbed areas of construction. Wind breaks should have at maximum 50 percent air porosity.</li> <li>• Vegetative ground cover (e.g., fast-germinating native grass seed) shall be planted in disturbed areas as soon as possible and watered appropriately until vegetation is established.</li> <li>• The simultaneous occurrence of excavation, grading, and ground-disturbing construction activities on the same area at any one time shall be limited. Activities shall be phased to reduce the amount of disturbed surfaces at any one time.</li> <li>• All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off before leaving the site.</li> <li>• Site accesses to a distance of 100 feet from the paved road shall be treated with a 6-to 12-inch compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.</li> </ul>									
Noise	Construction contractors would be required to control and monitor their construction noise. Caltrans Standard Specifications require that construction noise not exceed 86 A-weighted decibels (dBA) Lmax at 50 feet from the job site from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-8.02					No
Noise	<p><b>NOI-1:</b> During construction, CCTA, or their designated contractor, will ensure the following measures be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary noise impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All construction equipment shall conform to Standard Special Provision (SSP) Section 14-8.02, Noise Control, which requires noise not to exceed 52 dBA, preparation of a Noise Control Plan (NCP), and noise monitoring and letters would be sent to sensitive receptors as part of the NCP (California Department of Transportation 2018).</li> <li>• When feasible, noise-generating construction activities shall be restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays,</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.7, <i>Noise and Vibration, NSR</i>	Yes	RE/Construction contractor	SSP 14-8.02					No

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Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
	<p>with no construction occurring on weekends or holidays. If work is necessary outside of these hours, Caltrans shall require the contractor to implement a construction noise monitoring program and provide additional noise controls where practical and feasible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pile driving activities shall be limited to daytime hours only.</li> <li>• All internal combustion engine driven equipment shall be equipped with manufacturer recommended intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.</li> <li>• Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.</li> <li>• Noise-generating equipment shall be located as far as practical from sensitive receptors when sensitive receptors adjoin or are near the construction Project area.</li> <li>• "Quiet" air compressors and other "quiet" equipment shall be utilized where such technology exists.</li> </ul>									
Noise	<p><b>VIB-1:</b> During construction, CCTA, or their designated contractor, will ensure that the following measures be implemented during Project construction to reduce the potential for temporary vibration impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit impact or vibratory pile driving methods when within the exceedance distances from vibration-sensitive structures as listed in Table 2.2.7 53. Cast-in-Drilled Hole (CIDH) Piles is an alternative method that causes lower vibration levels. CIDH Piles should be used where geological conditions permit their use.</li> <li>- CIDH piles would exceed the 0.25-inches per second peak particle velocity (PPV) threshold for historic structures at 10 feet, the 0.3-inches per second PPV threshold for older structures at 9 feet, and the 0.5-inches per second PPV threshold for newer construction structures at 6-feet.</li> <li>• Avoid the use of vibratory rollers within 25 feet of sensitive structures. Static mode compaction shall be used when construction activities are less than 25 feet from sensitive structures.</li> <li>• Avoid dropping heavy objects or equipment within 25 feet of sensitive structures.</li> <li>• Place operating equipment on the construction site as far as possible from vibration-sensitive receptors.</li> <li>• Designate a person responsible for registering and investigating claims of excessive vibration. The contact information of such person shall be clearly posted on the construction site.</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.7, <i>Noise and Vibration</i> , NSR	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor/ Sponsor	SSP 14-8.03					No
Other	<p><b>E-1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Efforts.</b> During construction, CCTA will ensure that the following site-specific measure will be implemented where necessary and feasible to avoid or minimize impacts related to construction greenhouse gas emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A program that incentivizes construction workers to carpool and/or use public transit or electric vehicles to commute to and from the project site will be implemented.</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.8, <i>Energy</i> , Energy Analysis Report	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor/ Sponsor						No

Environmental Commitment Record for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Other	<p><b>E-2: Construction Equipment Operation.</b> Prior to construction, CCTA will ensure that a list of all off-road equipment greater than 25 horsepower (hp) that would be operated for more than 20 hours over the entire duration of project construction, including equipment from subcontractors, be submitted to the relevant air district (e.g., Bay Area Air Quality Management District) for review and certification. The list shall include all information necessary to ensure the equipment meets the following requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction equipment shall be zero emissions or have engines that meet or exceed either EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) Tier 4 off-road emission standards and shall have engines that are retrofitted with a CARB Level 3 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS), if one is available for the equipment being used. Equipment with engines that meet Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final emission standards automatically meet this requirement; therefore, a VDECS would not be required.</li> <li>• Idling time of diesel-powered construction equipment and trucks shall be limited to no more than two minutes. Clear signage of this idling restriction shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.</li> <li>• All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications.</li> <li>• Portable diesel generators shall be prohibited. Grid power electricity should be used to provide power at construction sites. Propane and natural gas generators may be used when grid power electricity is not feasible.</li> </ul>	Section 2.2.8, <i>Energy</i> , Energy Analysis Report	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor/ Sponsor	SS 14-9					No
Other	<p><b>E-3: Emergency Services Management.</b> Prior to and during construction, CCTA will ensure that the designated contractor will communicate with emergency service providers through the public information program to avoid emergency service delays, by ensuring all providers are aware of lane closures well in advance of implementation. Proactive public information systems, such as changeable message signs, will notify travelers of pending construction activities and new operational activities.</p>	Section 2.2.8, <i>Energy</i> , Energy Analysis Report	Yes	RE/ Construction Contractor, Sponsor	Coordinate with Emergency Service Responders					No
Biology	<p>Compliance with Executive Order (EO) 13112 on invasive species is a standard practice that Caltrans adheres to for all projects. In compliance with EO 13112, and subsequent guidance from FHWA, the landscaping and erosion control included in the Project would use species that are not listed as noxious weeds. The following methods would be used in accordance with standard construction practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No soil or plant material disposal of soil and plant materials would be allowed from areas that support invasive species to areas dominated by native vegetation.</li> <li>• Construction workers would be educated on weed identification and the importance of controlling and preventing the spread of identified, invasive, nonnative species.</li> <li>• Gravel and/or fill material to be placed in relatively weed-free areas would come from weed-free sources. Certified weed-free imported materials (or rice straw in upland areas) would be used.</li> </ul>	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	SSP 14-6.04. Follow Landscape Plan.					No

Environmental Commitment Record for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Biology	Construction contractors would be required to stop all work within 100 feet of a discovery of a regulated species.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03A (to increase buffer)					No
Biology	Construction contractors are also required to stop all work upon the discovery an injured or dead bird or discovery of migratory or nongame bird nests that may be adversely affected by construction activities.	Section 1.4.1.6, <i>Standardized Project Measures</i>	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Project Biologist	SSP 14-6.03B					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-1: Qualified Biologist.</b> A qualified biologist would be present during all construction activities in or adjacent to California red-legged frog ( <i>Rana draytonii</i> ) and/or Alameda whipsnake ( <i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i> ) habitat at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow Pass Road to Monument Boulevard area - between the work limits on the northbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with Walnut Creek to the east (PM R19.2 – PM R18.2).</li> <li>Rudgear Road to Livorna Road — between the work limits on the southbound side of I-680 and the habitat associated with San Ramon Creek to the west and at the Rudgear Road Undercrossing (PM R12.7 – PM R11.3).</li> </ul>	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	No	Sponsor, Biological Monitor						No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-3: Stop Work Authority.</b> The biologist will have the authority to stop work if they determine any permit and authorization requirements are not being fully implemented or unpermitted impacts to sensitive natural resources may occur.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Biological Monitor						
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-10: Invasive Species Control.</b> After construction is complete, the contractor will restore disturbed topographical contours to preconstruction conditions. The contractor would contain and remove noxious weeds and associated plant material, and obtain all permits, licenses, and certifications for proper disposal. The contractor would replant disturbed areas with fast-growing native grasses or a native erosion control seed mixture. Where seeding is not practical, the contractor would cover temporarily disturbed areas with black plastic solarization material. The contractor would maintain the material throughout the duration of construction and removed the material at the end of construction.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	SSP 14-6.04. Follow Landscape Plan and SWPPP					No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-12: Fugitive Dust.</b> Dust control measures would consist of regular truck watering of construction access areas and disturbed soil areas with the use of organic soil stabilizers to minimize airborne dust and soil particles generated from graded areas. Regular truck watering would be a requirement of the construction contract. In addition, for disturbed soil areas, an organic tackifier to control dust emissions blowing off of the ROW or out of the construction area during construction would be included in the contract special provisions. Watering guidelines would be established to avoid any excessive run-off that may flow into contiguous areas. Any material stockpiles would be watered, sprayed with tackifier, or covered, to minimize dust production and wind erosion.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	No	RE/Construction Contractor						No
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-14: Noise.</b> Construction-generated noise associated with the proposed Project will not surpass baseline ambient noise levels as described in the Noise Study Report for the proposed Project (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023).	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	nSSP					No

Environmental Commitment Record for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in design phase package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA?
Biology	<b>BIO-GEN-15: Trash.</b> All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps would be disposed of in closed containers and removed regularly from the work area.	Section 2.3.1, <i>Natural Communities</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor	SS 14-10.01					No
Biology	<b>BIO-FROG-2: California Red-Legged Frog Stop Work/Agency Coordination.</b> If a California red-legged frog were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.	Section 2.3.5, <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Biological Monitor	SSP 14-6.03A					No
Biology	<b>BIO-SNAKE-2: Alameda Whipsnake Stop Work/Agency Coordination.</b> If an Alameda whipsnake were to be encountered in an area where construction is taking place, work will cease within 50 feet of the observation and Caltrans will immediately contact the USFWS for assistance.	Section 2.3.5, <i>Threatened and Endangered Species</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Biological Monitor	SSP 14-6.03A					No
Biology	<b>BIO-BAT-2: Bat Roost Avoidance.</b> If bats are detected roosting within a bridge structure within 250 feet of disturbance, lighting will be directed away from the roosts, and combustion equipment and vehicles will not be parked or operated under the bridge or structure. If a roost is discovered in a structure or tree that is to be removed, then an appropriate exclusion method will be implemented in coordination with a qualified bat biologist.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	Yes	RE/Construction Contractor, Biological Monitor	nSSP					No
Biology	<b>BIO-WOODRAT-2: San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrat Nest Translocation.</b> Nest relocation will only occur if necessary and performed by a permitted biologist. Caltrans will contact CDFW if it is necessary to relocate a nest.	Section 2.3.4, <i>Animal Species</i> ; NES	No	Biological Monitor						No



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## Appendix D List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

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AADT	annual average daily traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
AB	Assembly Bill
ABAG	Association of Bay Area Governments
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACM	asbestos containing material
ACS	American Community Survey
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADI	area of direct impact
ADL	aerially deposited lead
a.m./AM	morning
APE	Area of Potential Effect
APN	Assessor Parcel Number
ARB	Air Resources Board
ASR	Archaeological Survey Report
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
AT&T	American Telephone and Telegraph
BA	Biological Assessment
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
BAM	Best Available Map
BART	Bay Area Rapid Transit
BATA	Bay Area Toll Authority
BCDC	Bay Conservation and Development Commission
bgs	below ground surface
BMP	Best Management Practice
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe
BO	Biological Opinion
BSA	Biological Study Area
CA	California
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CAC	Certified Asbestos Consultant
CAL-CET	Caltrans Construction Emissions Tool
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CAFE	Corporate Average Fuel Economy
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CAP	Climate Action Plan

CAPTI	California Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CAV	Clean Air Vehicle
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCC	California Coastal Commission
CCCSD	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
CCCSWA	Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCTA	Contra Costa Transportation Authority
CCWD	Contra Costa Water District
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly California Department of Fish and Game)
CDS	Concord Disposal Service
CEC	California Energy Commission
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
CFGC	California Fish and Game Code
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGS	California Geologic Survey
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CH <sub>4</sub>	methane
CIA	Community Impact Assessment
CIDH	cast-in-drilled-hole
CIH	Certified Industrial Hygienist
CIP	cast-in-place
CISS	cast-in-place-steel-shell
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
CO <sub>2</sub> e	carbon dioxide equivalent
CPA	Conservation Program Application
CREC	controlled recognized environmental condition
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CTC	California Transportation Commission
CTP	California Transportation Plan
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel



DBH	diameter at breast height
DED	Draft Environmental Document
DP	Director's Policy
DPS	distinct population segment
DSA	disturbed soil area
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
EA	Environmental Assessment
EBMUD	East Bay Municipality Utility District
EDR	Environmental Data Resources
EFH	essential fish habitat
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EISA	Energy Independence and Security Act
EL	express lane
EMFAC	emission factors
EO	Executive Order
ESA	environmentally sensitive area
ESHA	Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area
ESU	Evolutionary Significant Unit
ETS	Electronic Tolling System
FCAA	Federal Clean Air Act
FED	Final Environmental Document
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FER	Floodplain Encroachment Report
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Maps
FMMP	Federal Mapping and Monitoring Program
FNAE	Finding of No Adverse Effect
FOE	Finding of Effect
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
FSTIP	Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
FTIP	Federal Transportation Improvement Program
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
GP	general-purpose lane

GSRD	gross solids removal devices
GWP	global warming potential
H&SC	Health and Safety Code
H <sub>2</sub> S	hydrogen sulfide
HAS	Hydrologic Sub-Area
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HEI	Health Effects Institute
HFC	hydrofluorocarbons
HOV	high occupancy vehicle
HPSR	Historic Property Survey Report
HREC	historical recognized environmental condition
HRER	Historic Resources Evaluation Report
HU	Hydrologic Unit
I-	Interstate
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IS	Initial Study
ISA	Initial Site Assessment
KV	Key Viewpoint
lbs	pounds
LBP	lead based paint
LCFS	low carbon fuel standard
LED	light-emitting diode
LEDPA	least environmentally damaging practicable alternative
L <sub>eq</sub>	equivalent sound level
LHS	Location Hydraulic Study
L <sub>max</sub>	maximum A-weighted noise level during the measurement period
LOS	Levels of Service
LPR	License Plate Recognition
LSAA	Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
MASH	Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MLD	Most Likely Descendent
ML	managed lane
MM	Mitigation Measure
MMT	million metric tons
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOEs	Measure of Effectiveness
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
mph	miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization



MS4s	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
MSA	Magnuson–Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MT	metric tons
MTC	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
MWD	Martinez Water Department
MVSD	Mt. View Sanitary District
N <sub>2</sub> O	nitrous oxide
NA (or N/A)	Not Applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	noise abatement criteria
NADR	Noise Abatement Decision Report
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Repatriation Act
NAHC	Native American Historic Commission
NBI	National Bridge Inventory
NCSC	Natural Communities of Special Concern
NCST	National Center for Sustainable Transportation
ND	Negative Declaration
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NES	Natural Environment Study
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHSTA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NIS	New Impervious Surface
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
NO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of nitrogen
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOAA	National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
NOD	Notice of Determination
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSR	Noise Study Report
nSSP	Non-Standard Special Provisions [Caltrans]
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone
OHWM	Ordinary highwater mark
OLU	Operational Landscape Units
OPC	California Natural Resource Agency and Ocean Protection Council

OPR	Office of Planning and Research
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PA/ED	Project Approval/Environmental Document
Pb	lead
PCA	Project construction area
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyls
PCBR	Pacific Coast Bike Route
PDS	Project Development Support
PDT	Project Development Team
PER	Paleontological Evaluation Report
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PHD	Person Hours of Delay
PM	postmile
PM <sub>5</sub>	particulate matter, airborne particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter
PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter, airborne particles that are less than 10 microns in diameter
p.m./PM	afternoon
PMP	Paleontological Mitigation Plan
PMT	Person Miles of Travel
POAQC	project of air quality concern
POM	polycyclic organic matter
Porter-Cologne Act	Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
ppb	parts per billion
ppm	parts per million
PPV	Peak particle velocity
PQS	Professionally Qualified Staff
PRC	Public Resources Code
Project	I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project
PS&E	Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (design phase)
PSR	Project Study Report
RAP	Relocation Assistance Program
RCEM	Road Construction Emission Model
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
RCSC	Regional Customer Service Center
REC	recognized environmental condition
ROD	Record of Decision
ROG	reactive organic gases
ROW	right-of-way
RTIP	Regional Transportation Improvement Programs
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RTPA	Regional Transportation Planning Agency





RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAFE	Safer Affordable Efficient
SB	Senate Bill
SCCP	Solutions for Congested Corridors Program
SCH	State Clearinghouse
SCS	Sustainable Communities Strategy
SCVWD	Santa Clara Valley Water District
SER	Standard Environmental Reference
SF6	sulfur hexafluoride
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SLR	sea level rise
SM&I	Structures Maintenance and Investigation
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SOV	single occupancy vehicle
SR	State Route
SS	Standard Specifications [Caltrans]
SSC	Species of Special Concern
SSP	Standard Special Provisions [Caltrans]
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STP	Surface Transportation Program
SWMP	Storm Water Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Transportation Analysis Under CEQA
TAF	Transportation Analysis Framework
TASAS	Traffic Accident Surveillance and Analysis
TBA	Targeted Brownfields Assessments
TCE	Temporary construction easement
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TIP	Transportation Improvement Plan
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Loads
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TOAR	Traffic Operation Analysis Report
TOC	Toxic Organic Compounds
TOS	Traffic Operating System
TPH	total petroleum hydrocarbons
TWW	treated wood waste
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TSM	Transportation Systems Management
µg/m <sup>3</sup>	microgram per cubic meter

US or U.S.	United States
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
U.S. EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGRCP	U.S. Global Change Research Program
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VAU	Visual Assessment Unit
VIA	Visual Impact Assessment
VHD	vehicle hours of delay
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
VRP	visibly reducing particles
VTMS	Variable Toll Message Sign
VWM	Valley Waste Management
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirement
WPCP	Water Pollution Control Plan
WQAR	Water Quality Assessment Report
WQO	Water Quality Objective
°C	Celsius
°F	Fahrenheit
# or No.	number



# Appendix E      Notice of Preparation and Scoping Summary Report

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# SCOPING SUMMARY REPORT

I-680 Northbound Express  
Lane Completion Project  
CC-680 11.0/24.5

04-0Q3100

August 25, 2020



**Prepared for:**



California Department  
of Transportation

**Prepared by:**



100 Pringle Avenue, Suite 400  
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- C Public Notice Advertisements
- D Invite Mailer and Methodology
- E Social Media Posts
- F Elected Officials/Agency Staff Emails
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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in partnership with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), have begun preliminary design and environmental analysis on the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project (project). The project is part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program, which seeks to implement a suite of six projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays and operational challenges.

The project proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of this project is to provide 25 miles of nearly-continuous express lanes through Contra Costa County that will increase travel speeds and improve travel time reliability for those traveling by carpool, vanpool, or motorcycle or who choose to pay a fee to use the express lane.

**Figure 1: Study Area**



Under the environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) is being prepared for the proposed project. The EIR/EA will identify build and no-build alternatives, analyze the environmental impacts of the proposed alternatives, and propose mitigation measures to minimize potential environmental impacts on the physical, human and natural environment. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential adverse impacts will be identified in the EIR/EA.

The initial step for public and agency engagement within the CEQA EIR process is to publish a Notice of Preparation for the EIR, which begins the project scoping period. Project scoping shares information and requests input from agencies and the public to assist in defining the environmental issues and alternatives that should be examined in the environmental process. The Project scoping period for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project began on June 15 and extended 45 days through July 29, 2020. Leading up to and throughout the 45-day scoping period, Caltrans as Lead Agency for CEQA and NEPA, in partnership with CCTA and MTC, implemented a dynamic public awareness and education program in an effort to engage the diverse interested and affected public in the project and the public scoping meeting.

This Project Scoping Summary Report describes the process undertaken by the project partners to engage the public and seek input during the scoping period, including promotional tools developed and distributed as well as documents key issues and all comments received during the scoping period.

## **Background**

Interstate 680 (I-680) is a major north-south freeway connecting the Southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80), which crosses the Central Valley including the Sacramento metropolitan area. I-680 passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano counties. I-680 is heavily travelled with a mix of commuters, recreational travelers, and public transit services. Existing weekday, northbound PM peak period traffic demand results in significant delays and congestion. Northbound I-680 from Crow Canyon Road to Contra Costa Boulevard was ranked the 8th worst commute in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2016 according to the MTC's Top 50 Congested Locations.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/top\\_50\\_congestion\\_locations-2016\\_0.pdf](https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/top_50_congestion_locations-2016_0.pdf)

The I-680 Express Lane Completion Project will identify feasible solutions to improve operations and mobility within the critical corridor by addressing system continuity, congestion relief and operational improvements. Construction of a nearly-continuous express lane network within the county will lead to decreased travel time for all users while improving operations along the corridor. The alternatives to be fully evaluated in the EIR/EA are currently in development.

## 2.0 NOTICE OF PREPARATION

The Project's scoping process was initiated with the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Preparation (NOP). The NOP was posted at the State Clearinghouse (SCH #2020060297) on June 15, 2020, and Public Notice circulated electronically to public agencies and other key stakeholders in compliance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines on June 17. The NOP notified the public of the EIR/EA being prepared along with the scoping meeting information and how to provide comments on the project. The NOP package can be found in **Attachment A**, including the NOP and the Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal.

## 3.0 VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Although scoping meetings are typically held in person, large gatherings are currently not permitted in Contra Costa County due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Caltrans, in partnership with CCTA and MTC, determined that given the circumstances, a virtual public scoping meeting would meet the requirements of the scoping meeting. For the public's convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, a virtual public meeting (open house) was available throughout the public scoping period from June 15 through July 29, 2020 at [innovate680.com](https://innovate680.com) in addition to the Innovate 680 program site at [ccta.net/projects/innovate-680](https://ccta.net/projects/innovate-680). Caltrans approved the content of the scoping meeting before it began. The virtual public meeting provided an overview of the project and allowed attendees to easily navigate through important project information such as:

- Project purpose and need
- Express Lanes information
- Existing corridor conditions, challenges and proposed solutions
- Environmental requirements, process and key concerns
- Public engagement and submittal of comments

Both websites are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and can be viewed in attendees' desired language through use of Google Translate. Screenshots of the virtual public open house are included in **Attachment B**.

### 3.1 Virtual Public Open House Analytics

The following shows scoping meeting analytics from June 15 through July 29, 2020:

- Total Users (visitors): 272
- Total Sessions (visits): 356
- Average time on page: 0:44
- Total Users from California: 229
- Total Sessions from California: 277

#### **Sessions by Device Type:**

- Mobile: 155
- Desktop: 111
- Tablet: 4

**Acquisition by Session:** (i.e. how attendees accessed the virtual scoping meeting—direct URL or referral website such as CCTA/partner sites)

- Direct: 203
- Referral: 48
  - From ccta.net: 43
- Social Media: 17
  - Twitter: 16 users
  - Facebook: 1 user

## 4.0 NOP & PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING PROMOTION

In addition to the websites mentioned above, several methods of notification were used in addition to the publication of the NOP to notify the public of the scoping period and virtual public meeting: public notice advertisements, postcard mailer, social media posts, emails to elected officials/agency, stakeholder presentation, and an elected official newsletter.

### 4.1 Public Notice Advertisements

Public notices for the scoping comment period were published in the East Bay Times on June 12 and June 30, 2020. The online advertisements received 100,001 impressions and 60 clicks. Copies of the public notice advertisements are included in **Attachment C**.

#### 4.2 Postcard Mailer

A postcard mailer announcing the virtual public open house was mailed on June 12, 2020 to 7,067 homeowners within 1,000 feet of the I-680 corridor from Marina Vista Road/Waterfront Road in Martinez (northern boundary) to Stove Valley Road in Alamo (southern boundary). Copies of the postcard mailer and database methodology are included in **Attachment D**.

#### 4.3 Social Media

Throughout the scoping period, Caltrans, CCTA and partner agencies posted information on their respective social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Copies of the social media posts included in **Attachment E**.

#### 4.4 Elected Officials/Agency Staff Emails

Three emails were sent to elected officials and local agency staff providing a brief project update and notification of the virtual scoping meeting/45-day scoping period. Copies of the e-mails and attachments are included in **Attachment F**.

#### 4.5 Stakeholder Presentation

On July 8, 2020 at 6 p.m., a stakeholder presentation was given via Zoom meeting to CCTA's Innovate 680 Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). Linsey Willis (CCTA) and Rebecca Krawiec (Convey) provided an update on public engagement/outreach activities occurring on the Innovate 680 Program, as well as some of the individual projects, including the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project.

#### 4.6 Elected Official Newsletter

On July 10, 2020, Contra Costa County Supervisor Candace Andersen included information about the project in her weekly e-newsletter to her constituents. Below is a snippet of the project blurb:



To learn about the current status of Contra Costa Transportation Authority's Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project, visit their virtual open house at [innovate680.com](http://innovate680.com) for the latest information on efforts to complete this express lane network. This online forum will be open for comment until 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2020.

## 5.0 LETTERS & COMMENTS RECEIVED

Overall, 18 total sets of letters and comments were submitted during the project scoping period (copies of letters/comments can be found in **Attachment G**):

- Four from agencies
  - One via email (City of Walnut Creek)
  - Three via State Clearinghouse
    - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
    - California Highway Patrol
    - Native American Heritage Commission
- Eleven from individuals
  - Two individuals emailed comments before the scoping period began, then also provided scoping period comments via the comment form on the virtual scoping meeting webpage
  - One individual emailed twice to confirm comments were received the first time
- Of all comments received
  - Nine via comment form
  - Six via email (two with letter attachments addressed to Caltrans)
  - Three agency letters via State Clearinghouse
  - None via phone

Key issues submitted by individuals include, but are not limited to: environmental impacts, general project input, HOV lane, noise impacts, alternatives, transit line/bus connections, and vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

### **Air Quality Impacts**

- Additional lane will worsen particulate emissions & GHG emissions

### **Alternatives**

- The proposed project is “doomed to failure” as its new lane will fill up over time due to induced demand; additional alternatives that do not increase VMT need to be considered
- Opposed to project that creates new freeway capacity
- Study an alternative termed A Sustainable Approach to Congestion that would increase the use of HOV lanes by leaving them at 2+; developing automatic camera enforcement and sponsoring legislation to enable automatic ticketing; encouraging use of smartphone



ridesharing apps; developing an Express Bus network using the HOV lane; converting the Express Lane back to an HOV lane; considering conversion of a general-purpose lane to HOV lane in the gap section

- Consider all appropriate alternatives, including
  - long distance express bus service from Benicia to San Jose that includes study of bus connections to BART in the corridor
  - per-mile tolling of all I-680 general purpose lanes

### **General Project Input**

- Single driver paying for wear and tear of roadways for those using express lanes at reduced cost or free
- Unable to find project documentation (i.e., official NOP) on [innovate680.com](http://innovate680.com)

### **HOV Lane**

- Suggests that the proposed existing HOV lane conversion to "HOT" lanes will merit greater scrutiny because lane conversions will induce more VMT from SOV that now would be permitted to use the existing "HOV" lanes
- "Closing the gap" in the HOV lane by converting an existing lane of NB I-680 between Alamo and SR 242 should be examined as an alternative

### **Noise Impacts**

- Concerned about noise & vibrations
- Requests for noise level testing and sound wall

### **Transit Line/Bus Connections**

- Better way to reduce traffic and congestion without building, such as mass transit/public transport systems, smaller/electric cars, rapid transit lane for trains/buses/electric motor bike lane
- Express bus line on I-680 from San Jose to Benicia should be studied as alternative
- Like the concept of studying direct bus connectors from I-680 to Walnut Creek and/or Pleasant Hill BART stations
- EIR should compare environmental and equity effects for lane conversions & regional bus service mitigation

## **VMT**

- Project is about “congestion relief,” not reductions in VMT
- Adding any lane (including managed lane) will worsen VMT
- Identify in the environmental document how and to what degree each alternative would affect VMT

## **6.0 NEXT STEPS**

Caltrans, in partnership with CCTA and MTC are currently reviewing input received during the public scoping period and evaluating potential modifications to project alternatives, environmental impact analyses, and potential mitigation measures based on the comments received.

**ATTACHMENT A**  
Notice of Preparation Package

# Notice of Preparation

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## Notice of Preparation

**To:** State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning & Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** California Department of Transportation, District 4  
Attn: Wahida Rashid  
Office of Environmental Analysis  
Mail Station 8B, PO Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

**Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report**

California Department of Transportation will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (  is  is not ) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

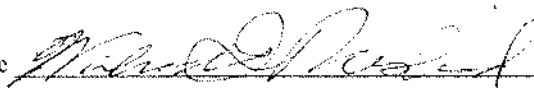
Please send your response to Wahida Rashid at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

**Project Title:** CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

**Project Applicant, if any:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Date June 15, 2020

Signature



Title

Senior Environmental Planner, Branch Chief

Telephone

(925) 278-5978

**Reference:** California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.



# Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment & Public Scoping Meeting for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project. Caltrans is issuing this NOP to solicit public and agency input into the development of the scope of the project and the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR/EA. This NOP also advises the public that outreach activities will be conducted by Caltrans in partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in support of the preparation of the EIR/EA.

**SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD: June 15 through July 29, 2020**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, traffic bottlenecks within the corridor, and increased travel times. To improve system continuity, congestion relief and operations, the project—part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program—proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.

## POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The purpose of the EIR/EA process is to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project on the physical, human, and natural environment. A wide variety of resource areas will be studied during the environmental review to identify potential impacts, including air quality, biological resources, climate change/greenhouse gas, community impacts, cultural resources (historic buildings, structures, and districts; archaeology), economic impacts, environmental justice, geology/soils/seismicity, growth, hazardous waste/hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality/storm water, land use, noise, paleontology, right of way/relocation, transportation/traffic studies, utilities, and visual impacts. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential adverse impacts will be identified and evaluated in the EIR/EA.

## ONLINE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A 45-day public scoping comment period will begin on June 15 and end on July 29, 2020. For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public scoping meeting will be available during this time to provide project information and seek public and agency input into the scope of the environmental review. The online public meeting can be found by visiting the Innovate 680 Program website at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680).

## SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and suggestions on the environmental scope of the project are invited from all interested parties for a period of 45 days from June 15 through 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2020.

Submit comments utilizing any of the following:

- **Direct Mail:** Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B  
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA  
111 Grand Ave, Oakland, CA 94612
- **Project Email:** [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)
- **Online Meeting comment card submittal**
- **Project Telephone:** 925-278-5978

## SPECIAL MEETING ACCOMMODATIONS

The online public scoping meeting is American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible and can be viewed in the desired language through use of Google translate. For additional accessibility preferences, email [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), call **925-278-5978** or for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired (TDD), users may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at **1-800-735-2929**, or **711**.

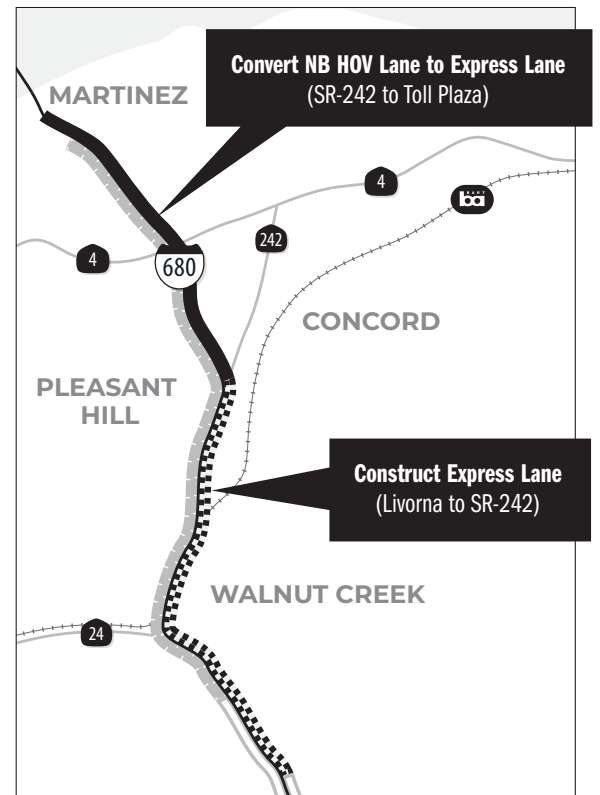
## ADAPTACIONES ESPECIALES PARA LA REUNIÓN

La reunión de consulta preliminar pública en línea es accesible de conformidad con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades o ADA y puede verse en el idioma de su preferencia mediante el uso del traductor de Google. Para otras preferencias de accesibilidad envíe un mensaje a [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), llame al **925 278 5978**, o los usuarios con problemas del oído o del habla (TDD por su sigla en inglés) pueden comunicarse con el Servicio de Retransmisión por Teletipo de California (TTY por su sigla en inglés) y/o con la Línea de Voz al **1 800 735 2929** o al **711**.

## 會議特殊情況遷就安排

我們的線上公共範圍網站符合《美國殘障人法》(Americans with Disabilities Act, 簡稱 ADA) 無障礙存取標準, 並且使用者可借助 Google 翻譯工具以所需的語言查看網站內容。如需查詢能否安排額外的協助工具, 請傳送電郵至 [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), 或致電 **925-278-5978** [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)。聾啞人士或聽力語言障礙 (TDD) 使用者請撥電話 **1-800-735-2929** 或 **711** 與加州殘障轉接服務 TTY 和/或語音熱線聯絡。

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this Project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.*



Lead Agency for CEQA/NEPA



Sponsor Agency



Funding Partner

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## Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613  
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

<b>SCH #</b>
--------------

**Project Title:** CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Lead Agency: California Department of Transportation Contact Person: Wahida Rashid  
 Mailing Address: Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B, PO Box 23660 Phone: (925) 278-5978  
 City: Oakland Zip: 94623-0660 County: Alameda

**Project Location:** County: Contra Costa City/Nearest Community: Walnut Creek/Pleasant Hill/Concord/Martinez  
 Cross Streets: Livorna Rd to SR 242/SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza Zip Code: VAR

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " N / \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " W Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Assessor's Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Twp.: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Base: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: I-680/SR-242 Waterways: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Airports: Buchanan Field Airport Railways: BART, AMTRAK Schools: Approx. 15

**Document Type:**

CEQA:  NOP  Draft EIR NEPA:  NOI Other:  Joint Document  
 Early Cons  Supplement/Subsequent EIR  EA  Final Document  
 Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) \_\_\_\_\_  Draft EIS  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mit Neg Dec Other: \_\_\_\_\_  FONSI \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Action Type:**

General Plan Update  Specific Plan  Rezone  Annexation  
 General Plan Amendment  Master Plan  Prezone  Redevelopment  
 General Plan Element  Planned Unit Development  Use Permit  Coastal Permit  
 Community Plan  Site Plan  Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)  Other: Trans. Improvement

**Development Type:**

Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_  Transportation: Type Express Lane  
 Office: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_  
 Commercial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  Power: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MW \_\_\_\_\_  
 Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_  
 Educational: \_\_\_\_\_  Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recreational: \_\_\_\_\_  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**

Aesthetic/Visual  Fiscal  Recreation/Parks  Vegetation  
 Agricultural Land  Flood Plain/Flooding  Schools/Universities  Water Quality  
 Air Quality  Forest Land/Fire Hazard  Septic Systems  Water Supply/Groundwater  
 Archeological/Historical  Geologic/Seismic  Sewer Capacity  Wetland/Riparian  
 Biological Resources  Minerals  Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading  Growth Inducement  
 Coastal Zone  Noise  Solid Waste  Land Use  
 Drainage/Absorption  Population/Housing Balance  Toxic/Hazardous  Cumulative Effects  
 Economic/Jobs  Public Services/Facilities  Traffic/Circulation  Other: R/W Relocation

**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**

**Road/Street/Highway**

**Project Description:** (please use a separate page if necessary)

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, traffic bottlenecks within the corridor, and increased travel times. To improve system continuity, congestion relief and operations, the project—part of CCTA ' s INNOVATE 680 program—proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

## Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".  
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board	<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
<input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Metropolitan Transportation Commission</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission	

### Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date June 15, 2020 Ending Date July 29, 2020

### Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>HDR, Inc.</u>	Applicant: <u>California Department of Transportation</u>
Address: <u>1111 Broadway, Suite 1630</u>	Address: <u>111 Grand Ave</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Oakland, CA 94607-4007</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Oakland, CA 94612</u>
Contact: <u>Cindy Adams</u>	Phone: _____
Phone: <u>(510) 285-1123</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 6/15/2020

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

**ATTACHMENT B**  
Website Screenshots

- >> WELCOME
- >> PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- >> PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED
- >> WHY EXPRESS LANES
- >> PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- >> KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- >> STAY CONNECTED

## WELCOME

### I-680 Express Lane Completion Project

#### Translate this meeting content:

Select Language ▾

#### Three Ways to Navigate This Meeting

- 1 Click the arrows on the sides of your screen.
- 2 Use the navigation bar to the left of your screen.
- 3 Use dots at top below the project title.

#### How to Participate

- Click through slides to learn about the project.
- Note that the project's scoping period is when the project's purpose and need, and potential alternatives are identified.
- Provide specific concerns related to the project's environmental scope.
- Comments can be recorded at any point by clicking the "Comment" button at upper right corner of the screen.
- To continue through slides, close comment form and reopen when needed.
- Don't forget to hit "Submit" after completing your review and comments.

**California Department of Transportation**  
Contra Costa County, I-680, PM R11.0 to PM 24.5

Thank you for your participation in our online Public Scoping Meeting for the proposed Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project. The entire session should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. We look forward to reviewing your input and continuing to work with you throughout the project. ***The comment period for this meeting has closed.***

- >> WELCOME
- >> PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- >> PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED
- >> WHY EXPRESS LANES
- >> PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- >> KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- >> STAY CONNECTED

## PROJECT INTRODUCTION

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in partnership with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), have begun preliminary design and environmental analysis on the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project (project). The project is part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program, which seeks to implement a suite of six projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays and operational challenges.

The project proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorno Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.

### LISTEN TO AUDIO



Click the map to enlarge.



- >> WELCOME
- >> PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- >> **PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED**
- >> WHY EXPRESS LANES
- >> PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- >> KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- >> STAY CONNECTED

## PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the Southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, bottlenecks and increased travel times due to a lack of continuous express lanes.

The purpose of the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project is to:



Reduce peak-period congestion and delay



Improve travel time reliability

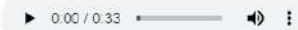


Optimize use of existing HOV lane capacity



Provide efficient travel options for all vehicles

LISTEN TO AUDIO



Based on existing roadway conditions and the 2018 Traffic Engineering Performance Assessment, the project is needed to address the following priorities:



**Congestion Relief** – Smooth traffic throughout the corridor, where delays can reach 30 minutes when traveling from one end of the county to the other (based on 2019 data)



**System Continuity** – Address the lack of continuous express lanes within the county, which leads to increased travel time for users



**Operational Improvements** – Reduce bottlenecks along the corridor by addressing weaving issues like those at the Lawrence Way on-ramp and Treat Boulevard off-ramp, which regularly cause traffic to back up through the SR-24 interchange





## WHY EXPRESS LANES

**Bay Area highway traffic congestion ranks among the worst in the U.S.** and is forecasted to increase with future demands. Peak period congestion reduces speed and travel time reliability. Express lanes are specially-designated highway lanes that allow non-carpool eligible drivers a choice to pay a toll to use the lane for a more reliable trip travel time.

A seamless express lane network will maximize vehicle capacity within HOV and general purpose lanes for those travelling through Contra Costa County.

**Express lanes have proven to be a useful tool to better manage freeway congestion where they are implemented.**

- Free or reduced tolls to carpools, vanpools, transit and other eligible vehicles
- Allows non-carpool eligible drivers to pay a toll to access lanes
- Have dynamic tolling – tolls increase as express lane traffic increases and decrease with traffic decrease

**680** I-680 is ranked 5th out of the 10 MOST CONGESTED corridors in the Bay Area

Source: (2013 & 2014) Vital Signs Report: Metropolitan Transportation Commission

LISTEN TO AUDIO





## PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING

Alternatives that move forward into environmental analysis must fit within the physical constraints of the corridor, minimize impacts, and be financially feasible while still meeting the project's purpose.

**The most notable physical challenges to add an express lane within the corridor are within the I-680/SR-24 interchange area.** The design team is in the process of formulating alternatives within this area that can be feasibly constructed given the following physical constraints:

- 1 BART Overcrossing Columns**
- 2 Constrained Right-of-Way**
- 3 SR-24 Northbound On-Ramp**

LISTEN TO AUDIO



Click the map to enlarge.

- >> WELCOME
- >> PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- >> PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED
- >> WHY EXPRESS LANES
- >> PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- >> KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- >> STAY CONNECTED

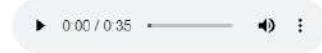
## ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

Identified feasible alternatives will be analyzed in the:

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  
Environmental Impact Report (EIR)  
&  
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)  
Environmental Assessment (EA)**

The EIR/EA will assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project on the physical, human and natural environment. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential adverse impacts will be identified in the EIR/EA.

LISTEN TO AUDIO



A wide variety of resource areas will be studied to identify potential impacts including:

- Air quality
- Biological resources
- Climate change/ greenhouse gas
- Community impacts
- Cultural resources (historic buildings, structures, and districts; archaeology)
- Economic impacts
- Environmental justice
- Geology/ soils/ seismicity
- Growth
- Hazardous waste/ hazardous materials
- Hydrology/ water quality/ storm water
- Land use
- Noise
- Paleontology
- Right-of-way/ relocation
- Transportation/ traffic studies
- Utilities
- Visual impacts



- » WELCOME
- » PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- » PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED
- » WHY EXPRESS LANES
- » PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- » ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- » ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- » KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- » STAY CONNECTED

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

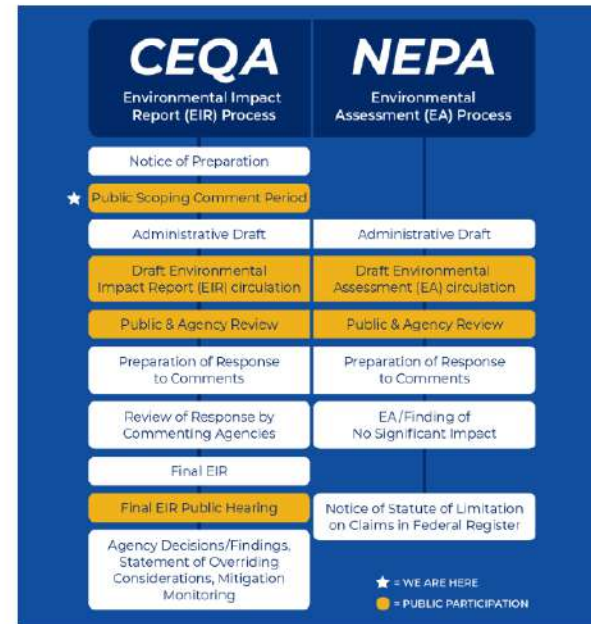
A Draft EIR/EA will be prepared that identifies build and no-build alternatives, analyzes the environmental impacts of proposed alternatives and proposes mitigation measures to minimize potential impacts. The Draft EIR/EA will be made available for public comment. Comments will be addressed in the Final EIR/EA, which will be approved by Caltrans, the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and Caltrans.

### LISTEN TO AUDIO



🔍 [Click the schedule graphic shown here to enlarge.](#)



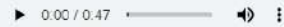


- » WELCOME
- » PROJECT INTRODUCTION
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- » ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- » ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- » **KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**
- » STAY CONNECTED

## KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

While the proposed project will analyze the full suite of environmental issues, a couple of areas stand out:

### LISTEN TO AUDIO



#### Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)



Study of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as a transportation impact is a new requirement under CEQA. Because new roadway capacity is proposed for the project, VMT will likely increase. We will be looking closely at appropriate mitigation measures. VMT is 'one vehicle traveling on a roadway for one mile.' Implementation of Senate Bill (SB)-743 will require evaluation of transportation impacts in VMT to determine CEQA significance.

#### Noise Concerns and Mitigation



Noise is frequently a concern for project neighbors. As part of this proposed project, a sound wall will be constructed along northbound I-680 adjacent to Jones Road between Lawrence Way and Treat Blvd. Construction of that wall is a commitment from the I-680 Southbound HOV Completion project. If additional areas qualify for sound walls based on the noise analysis, those walls will be proposed as part of the project.

- >> WELCOME
- >> PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- >> PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED
- >> WHY EXPRESS LANES
- >> PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS
- >> ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
- >> KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- >> STAY CONNECTED



## STAY CONNECTED

### Project Resources and Next Steps

Thank you for your interest in the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. Input received during the scoping period will be shared with the project team to aid in project development. **The comment period for this meeting has closed.**

#### LISTEN TO AUDIO



#### Share Your Thoughts

The submission period for comments concerning the proposed environmental scope of the project was open until July 29, 2020 and is now closed. If you would like to contact the project team you can use the following options:

#### E-MAIL SENT TO:

[info@innovate680.com](mailto:info@innovate680.com)

#### LETTER SENT TO:

**Caltrans District 4 Office**  
Office of Environmental Analysis  
111 Grand Ave, Mail Station 8B, Oakland, CA 94612  
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA

#### ONLINE COMMENT CARD:

Click "Contact" button in upper-right corner

### Project Milestones

<b>Data Collection, Alternatives Feasibility, Project Scoping</b> SPRING 2019 - SUMMER 2020
<b>Environmental Studies</b> SPRING 2019 - SUMMER 2021
<b>Public Scoping Period</b> ★ = WE ARE HERE SUMMER 2020
<b>Draft Environmental Document (EIR/EA)</b> WINTER 2021 - SPRING 2022
<b>Public Comment Period</b> SPRING 2022
<b>Final Environmental Document (EIR/EA)</b> WINTER 2022 - SPRING 2023
<b>Completion of Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Phase</b> SPRING 2023
<b>Design Phase</b> SPRING 2023 - SPRING 2025
<b>Construction</b> SPRING 2025 - WINTER 2027

● = CURRENT PHASE OF WORK    ● = FUTURE PHASES OF WORK



**ATTACHMENT C**  
Public Notice Advertisements

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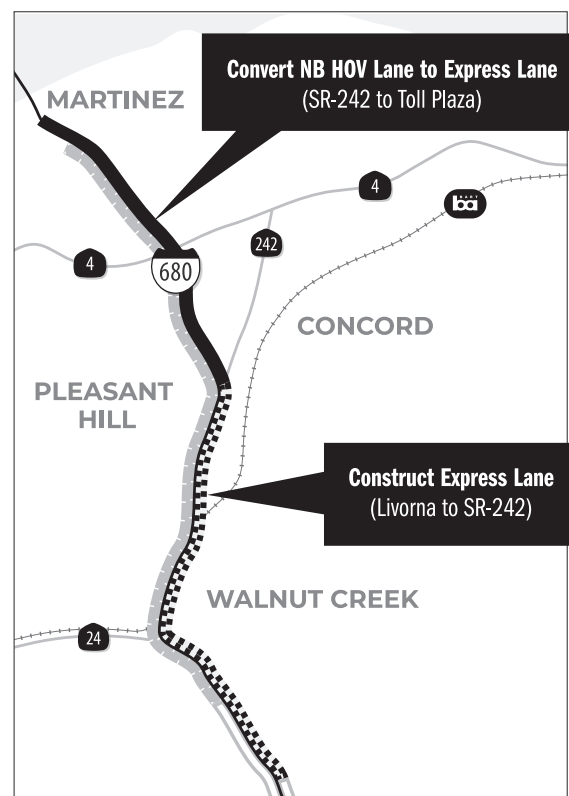
## Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment & Public Scoping Meeting for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project

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**SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD: June 15 through July 29, 2020**

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, traffic bottlenecks within the corridor, and increased travel times. To improve system continuity, congestion relief and operations, the project—part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program—proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.



### POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The purpose of the EIR/EA process is to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project on the physical, human, and natural environment. A wide variety of resource areas will be studied during the environmental review to identify potential impacts, including air quality, biological resources, climate change/greenhouse gas, community impacts, cultural resources (historic buildings, structures, and districts; archaeology), economic impacts, environmental justice, geology/soils/seismicity, growth, hazardous waste/hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality/storm water, land use, noise, paleontology, right of way/relocation, transportation/traffic studies, utilities, and visual impacts. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential adverse impacts will be identified and evaluated in the EIR/EA.

### ONLINE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A 45-day public scoping comment period will begin on June 15 and end on July 29, 2020. For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public scoping meeting will be available during this time to provide project information and seek public and agency input into the scope of the environmental review. The online public meeting can be found by visiting the Innovate 680 Program website at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680).

### SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and suggestions on the environmental scope of the project are invited from all interested parties for a period of 45 days from June 15 through 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2020.

Submit comments utilizing any of the following:

- **Direct Mail:** Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B  
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA  
111 Grand Ave, Oakland, CA 94612
- **Project Email:** [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)
- **Online Meeting comment card submittal**
- **Project Telephone:** 925-278-5978

### SPECIAL MEETING ACCOMMODATIONS

The online public scoping meeting is American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible and can be viewed in the desired language through use of Google translate. For additional accessibility preferences, email [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), call 925-278-5978 or for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired (TDD), users may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2929, or 711.

### ADAPTACIONES ESPECIALES PARA LA REUNIÓN

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### 會議特殊情況遷就安排

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Agency Responsible for CEQA/NEPA



CONTRA COSTA  
transportation  
authority

Lead Agency



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Funding Partner



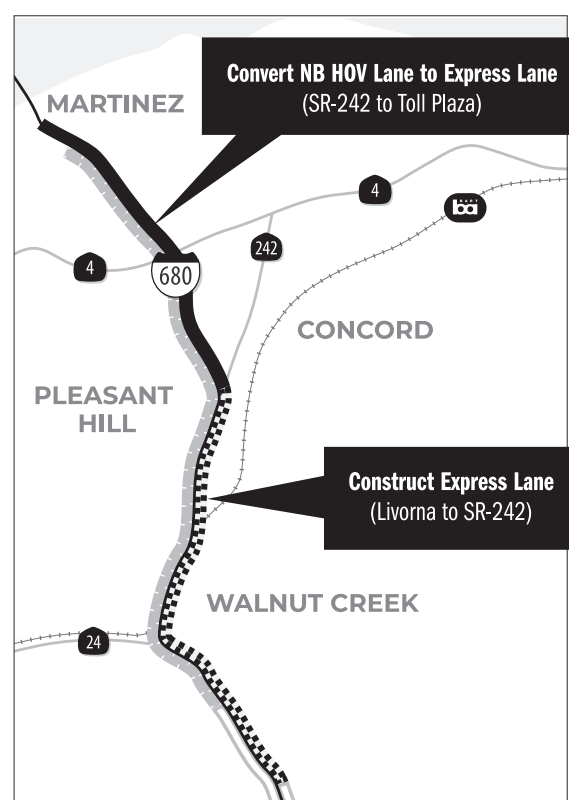
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CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency



CONTRA COSTA  
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authority

Sponsoring Agency



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
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**ATTACHMENT D**  
Invite Mailer and Methodology





AGENCY RESPONSIBLE  
FOR CEQA/NEPA



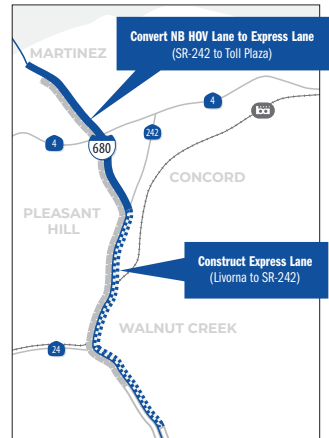
# Virtual PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

## Environmental Scoping Information

### Express Lane Completion Project

Public Comment Period is June 15-July 29, 2020

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), invites you to join us during our public scoping period to give us your thoughts on the proposed Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project. This project aims to reduce congestion through construction of a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242) and conversion of an existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to an express lane.



To learn more, visit [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680)



## YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO US!

For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public open house will host important project information including the scope of the environmental resource areas to be studied during this phase of the project development.

Please visit our virtual open house by clicking on the button titled [Express Lane Completion Virtual Public Open House](#) located on the homepage of the INNOVATE 680 Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680)





Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
2999 Oak Road, Suite 100  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

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Our online public scoping website is American with Disabilities Act or ADA accessible and can be viewed in desired language through use of Google translate. For additional accessibility preferences, please call **925-278-5978** or email **info@innovate680.com**. For the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at **1-800-735-2929**, or **711**.

Nuestra página Internet de consulta preliminar pública en línea es accesible de conformidad con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades o ADA y puede verse en el idioma de su preferencia mediante el uso del traductor de Google. Para otras preferencias de accesibilidad llame al **925-278-5978** o envíe un mensaje de correo electrónico a **info@innovate680.com**. Los usuarios con problemas del oído o del habla (TDD por su sigla en inglés) pueden comunicarse con el Servicio de Retransmisión por Teletipo de California (TTY por su sigla en inglés) y/o con la Línea de Voz al **1-800-735-2929** o al **711**.

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**INNOVATE 680**  
EXPRESS LANE COMPLETION

The graphic features a blue road with white lane markings receding into the distance, with several blue car icons driving on it. In the background, there are silhouettes of houses and hills. Below the road is a dark blue curved banner containing the text "INNOVATE 680" in large white letters, with "EXPRESS LANE COMPLETION" in smaller white letters underneath. The word "INNOVATE" has a network-like graphic of circles and lines integrated into its letters.

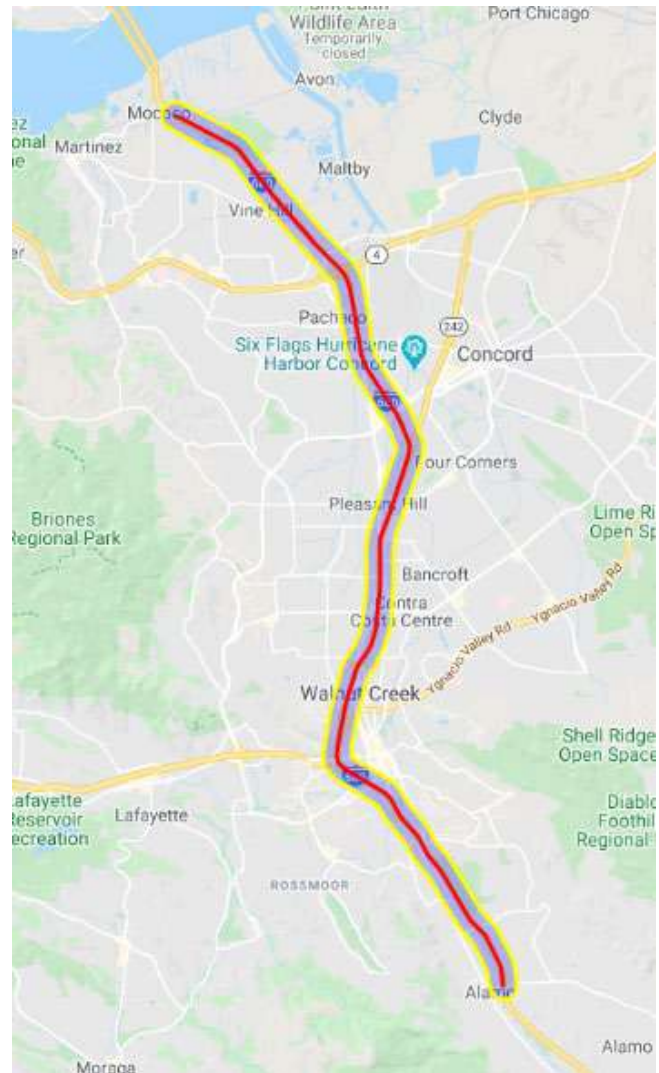
## CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Project Database Methodology May 5, 2020

The database for the CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Project is an inclusive and diverse list containing adjacent property owners, occupants and businesses, as well as key stakeholders such as community, neighborhood, and homeowners associations, emergency responders, local schools, organizations, agencies, and elected officials.

### Property Database

The online property-based software program ParcelQuest was used to determine the adjacent property owners/occupants and businesses.

Search parameters included 1000 ft. of the I-680 corridor from Marina Vista Road/Waterfront Road in Martinez (northern boundary) to Stone Valley Road in Alamo (southern boundary) which yielded 5,946 contacts (excluding renters/current occupants).



**ATTACHMENT E**  
Social Media Posts

Facebook

June 16, 2020



Contra Costa Transportation Authority - CCTA

June 16 at 7:55 AM · 🌐

The Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project virtual open house is now ready for viewing. This online scoping meeting can be found at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). You'll find project information under consideration during the environmental scoping phase. Your input is important to us. The public comment period is open from June 15 through July 29, 2020.

👍 3

3 Shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Contra Costa Transportation Authority - CCTA

June 16 at 7:55 AM · 🌐

CCTA invites you to visit our virtual open house for Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project. The Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Meeting can be found at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). We look forward to your input during the comment period, June 15 through July 29, 2020.

1 Share

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share

July 13, 2020

**CCTA**  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority - CCTA  
@ContraCostaTransportationAuthority

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About  
Photos  
Reviews  
Videos  
Events  
Posts  
Community

**VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE** **EXPRES LANE**

3.3 out of 5 - Based on the opinion of 7 people

**Community** See All  
Invite your friends to like this Page  
2,124 people like this  
2,238 people follow this  
55 check-ins

**About** See All  
2999 Oak Rd, Ste 100 (14.55 mi)  
Walnut Creek, California 94597  
(925) 256-4700  
www.ccta.net  
Government Organization

July 14, 2020

**CCTA**  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority - CCTA  
@ContraCostaTransportationAuthority

Home  
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Videos  
Events  
Posts  
Community

**VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE** **EXPRES LANE**

**Posts**  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority - CCTA  
15 hrs · 🌐  
We need your input. The public comment period, for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project, closes July 29th! Visit ccta.net/INNOVATE680. We look forward to your feedback.

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Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.  
Page created - December 10, 2012  
Page manager location: United States

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Twitter

June 16, 2020



Contra Costa TA @CCTA · Jun 16

Join us for a virtual open house for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. Visit [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). The public comment period is June 15 - July 29, 2020. Your feedback is important to us! **#Innovate680** **#CCTA**



INNOVATE 680 - CCTA

The Innovate 680 Program originated with one simple wish: a connected corridor that would move people faster and better. Imagin...  
[ccta.net](https://ccta.net)

8 9

June 24, 2020



City of San Ramon @CityofSanRamon · Jun 24

The Comment Period for the **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project** is open until July 29, 2020. Learn more and view details on how to submit comments here: [bit.ly/3dvufsr](https://bit.ly/3dvufsr)



3

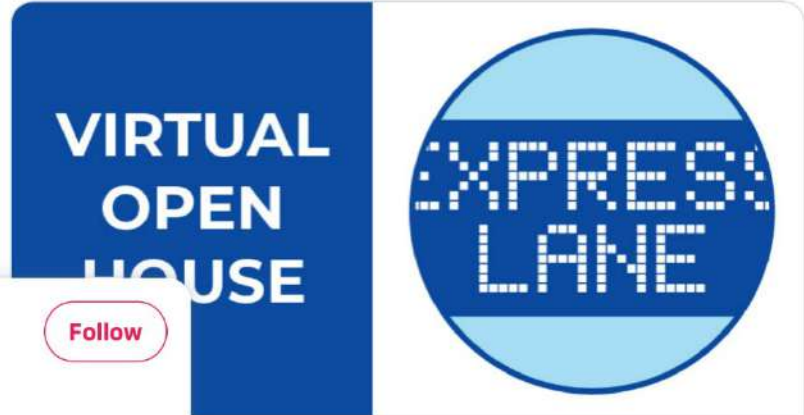


July 10, 2020



**Contra Costa TA** @CCTA · Jul 10

Curious about the status of express lanes in Contra Costa? The Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project virtual open house has the latest information on efforts to complete this express lane network. This online forum will be open for comment until 5 pm on July 29.



Follow

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...lane Completion Project Virtual Open House  
...com

11 Followers

...one you're following



1



6



**Caltrans District 4** @CaltransD4 · Jul 10

#Innovate680 @CaltransD4 has partnered with @CCTA and needs your feedback by 7/29 on the upcoming I-680 Express Lane Completion Project that proposes to decrease congestion and delays by constructing a NB express lane from Alamo up to the Benicia Bridge [innovate680.com](http://innovate680.com)

I-680 Express Lane Completion Project

**PUBLIC SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD**

During the Scoping period, responsible and trustee agencies, involved federal agencies, interest groups and members of the public are invited to submit comments on the environmental review and proposed project.

**45-Day Comment Period**

We have established a 45-day scoping comment period to allow interested parties time to review project information through this online public meeting and provide comments.

**Comments can be submitted through a number of ways.**

All comments concerning the proposed environmental scope of the project are to be submitted **by 5 p.m. on July 29, 2020** via the following options:

- E-Mail sent to: [info@innovate680.com](mailto:info@innovate680.com)
- Letter sent to: Caltrans District 4 Office, Office of Environmental Analysis, 111 Grand Ave, Mail Station 8B, Oakland, CA 94612, Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA
- Online comment card: Click "Leave a Comment" button in upper-right corner

Contra Costa TA and 4 others



4



3



July 13, 2020

 **Contra Costa TA** @CCTA · 1h

We need your feedback for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project at our virtual open house! The deadline for the public comment is only a few weeks away, July 29th. More at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](https://ccta.net/INNOVATE680) #Innovate680 #CCTA



   1 

July 21, 2020

**Tweets**   Tweets & replies   Media   Likes

 **Contra Costa TA** @CCTA · 2h

Tired of Traffic? Our Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project will help. Visit a virtual open house about this project by 5:00 pm on July 29, 2020 to learn more about the work happening on this critical corridor, and give us your thoughts on what is being planned.



  2  1 

 Contra Costa TA Retweeted

July 27, 2020

**Tweets**   Tweets & replies   Media   Likes

**Contra Costa TA** @CCTA · 17h

Curious about the status of Express Lanes in Contra Costa? The Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project virtual open house has the latest info on efforts to complete express lane network. The online forum will be open for comment until 5:00 pm on July 29, 2020.



The graphic features the text "VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE" in large blue letters on the left. On the right is a circular logo with "EXPRES LANE" in white, pixelated text on a blue background. Below the text is an illustration of a multi-lane highway with several cars driving away from the viewer.

3   1


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556 followers  
2h ·

The end of the public comment period for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project is fast approaching on July 29, 2020. Your input is crucial in the development of this important project. Visit the program website: ...see more



The graphic features the text "VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE" in large blue letters. Below it is an illustration of a multi-lane highway with several cars driving away from the viewer. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text "JOIN IN" in white.

1

Like   Comment   Share   Send

Be the first to comment on this

**ATTACHMENT F**

Elected Officials/Agency Staff Emails

<p>June 17, 2020</p>	<p>From Stephanie Hu (CCTA) to 12 local agency staff from the following agencies (attachment included Public Notice):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)</li> <li>• City of Concord</li> <li>• City of Danville</li> <li>• City of Pleasant Hill</li> <li>• City of San Ramon</li> <li>• City of Walnut Creek</li> <li>• Contra Costa County</li> <li>• County Connection</li> </ul>
<p>June 17, 2020</p>	<p>From Tiffany Gephart, Clerk of the Board - Central County Subregional Transportation Committee (TRANSPAC) to 43 elected officials and staff from the following agencies (attachment included invite mailer):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 511 Contra Costa</li> <li>• Bike East Bay</li> <li>• Building Industry Association of the Bay Area</li> <li>• City of Clayton</li> <li>• City of Concord</li> <li>• City of Martinez</li> <li>• City of Pleasant Hill</li> <li>• City of San Ramon</li> <li>• City of Walnut Creek</li> <li>• Contra Costa County</li> <li>• County Connection</li> <li>• County Department of Conservation and Development</li> <li>• West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC)</li> </ul>
<p>July 1, 2020</p>	<p>From Linsey Willis (CCTA) to 26 elected officials and staff from the following agencies (attachment included fact sheet):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Concord <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Leslye Asera, Community Relations Manager</li> <li>➤ Trish Beirne, Emergency &amp; Volunteer Services Manager</li> <li>➤ Valerie Barone, City Manager</li> </ul> </li> <li>• City of Martinez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Eric Figueroa Martinez, City Manager</li> <li>➤ Melissa Espinoza, Deputy City Clerk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City of Pleasant Hill<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Juanita Davalos, Administrative Analyst</li><li>➤ June Catalano, City Manager</li><li>➤ Martin Nelis, Public Information Officer</li></ul></li><li>• City of San Ramon<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Joe Gorton, City Manager</li><li>➤ Karen McHenry-Smith, Executive Assistant</li><li>➤ Lisa Bobadilla, Transportation Manager</li></ul></li><li>• City of Walnut Creek<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Dan Buckshi, City Manager</li><li>➤ Ryndie Azevedo, Executive Assistant to the City Manager</li></ul></li><li>• Contra Costa County<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Anne O, Chief of Staff (Supervisor Karen Mitchoff)</li><li>➤ David Fraser, Chief of Staff (Supervisor Federal D. Glover)</li><li>➤ Supervisor Candace Andersen<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Gayle Israel, Chief of Staff</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Town of Danville<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Andrew Dillard, Transportation Manager</li><li>➤ Diana Friedmann, Assistant to the Town Manager</li><li>➤ Joe Calabrigo, Town Manager</li></ul></li><li>• Chris Weeks, Bishop Ranch</li><li>• Michael Sponsler, District Director (Assemblymember Timothy S. Grayson)</li><li>• Senator Steve Glazer<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• George Escutia, District Director</li></ul></li><li>• Shanelle Scales, District Director (Congressman DeSaulnier)</li><li>• Shawn Kumagai, District Director (Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan)</li></ul>
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## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Stephanie Hu <StephanieH@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:50 AM  
**To:** lbobadilla@sanramon.ca.gov; Brian Bornstein - City of San Ramon (bbornstein@sanramon.ca.gov); Andy Dillard; Steve Waymire; Smadar Boardman; Eric Hu; Parikh, Abhishek; lynne.filson@weareharris.com; Monish Sen; Ricki Wells; Kamala Parks; Ruby Horta - CCCTA (horta@cccta.org)  
**Cc:** Linsey Willis; Danielle Stanislaus  
**Subject:** I680 Northbound Express Lane Completion - Public Scoping Meeting  
**Attachments:** INNOVATE\_EXP\_PublicNotice\_fullpage\_Rev3\_061020.pdf

Dear Local Agency Staff,

CCTA, in partnership with Caltrans and MTC, has started preliminary design and environmental analysis on the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. The project is part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program, which seeks to implement a suite of six projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays and operational challenges. The Express Lane Completion Project aims to reduce congestion through construction of a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and conversion of an existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle lane to an express lane.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, we are hosting a virtual/online public scoping meeting with a 45-day comment period to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing. The online public scoping meeting will be available from June 15 to 5 pm on July 29, 2020 to provide project information and seek public and agency input for the scope of the environmental review. The online public meeting can be found by visiting the Innovate 680 Program website at [www.ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://www.ccta.net/INNOVATE680).

CCTA invites you and your agency staff to provide input and comments.

Thank you,

**Stephanie K. Hu, P.E.**  
**Acting Director, Projects**



2999 Oak Road, Suite 100  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
phone 925.256.4740  
fax 925.256.4701  
cell 510.207.1485

[StephanieH@ccta.net](mailto:StephanieH@ccta.net) [www.ccta.net](http://www.ccta.net)

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# Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment & Public Scoping Meeting for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project. Caltrans is issuing this NOP to solicit public and agency input into the development of the scope of the project and the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR/EA. This NOP also advises the public that outreach activities will be conducted by Caltrans in partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in support of the preparation of the EIR/EA.

**SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD: June 15 through July 29, 2020**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

As a major north-south freeway, I-680 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects the southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80) and passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. Within Contra Costa County, travelers experience congestion, traffic bottlenecks within the corridor, and increased travel times. To improve system continuity, congestion relief and operations, the project—part of CCTA's INNOVATE 680 program—proposes to construct a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242). It would also convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza, to an express lane. The goal of the project is to complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County to increase travel speeds for those choosing to use the express lane.

## POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The purpose of the EIR/EA process is to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project on the physical, human, and natural environment. A wide variety of resource areas will be studied during the environmental review to identify potential impacts, including air quality, biological resources, climate change/greenhouse gas, community impacts, cultural resources (historic buildings, structures, and districts; archaeology), economic impacts, environmental justice, geology/soils/seismicity, growth, hazardous waste/hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality/storm water, land use, noise, paleontology, right of way/relocation, transportation/traffic studies, utilities, and visual impacts. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential adverse impacts will be identified and evaluated in the EIR/EA.

## ONLINE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A 45-day public scoping comment period will begin on June 15 and end on July 29, 2020. For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public scoping meeting will be available during this time to provide project information and seek public and agency input into the scope of the environmental review. The online public meeting can be found by visiting the Innovate 680 Program website at [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680).

## SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and suggestions on the environmental scope of the project are invited from all interested parties for a period of 45 days from June 15 through 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2020.

Submit comments utilizing any of the following:

- **Direct Mail:** Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B  
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA  
111 Grand Ave, Oakland, CA 94612
- **Project Email:** [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)
- **Online Meeting comment card submittal**
- **Project Telephone:** 925-278-5978

## SPECIAL MEETING ACCOMMODATIONS

The online public scoping meeting is American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible and can be viewed in the desired language through use of Google translate. For additional accessibility preferences, email [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), call **925-278-5978** or for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired (TDD), users may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at **1-800-735-2929**, or **711**.

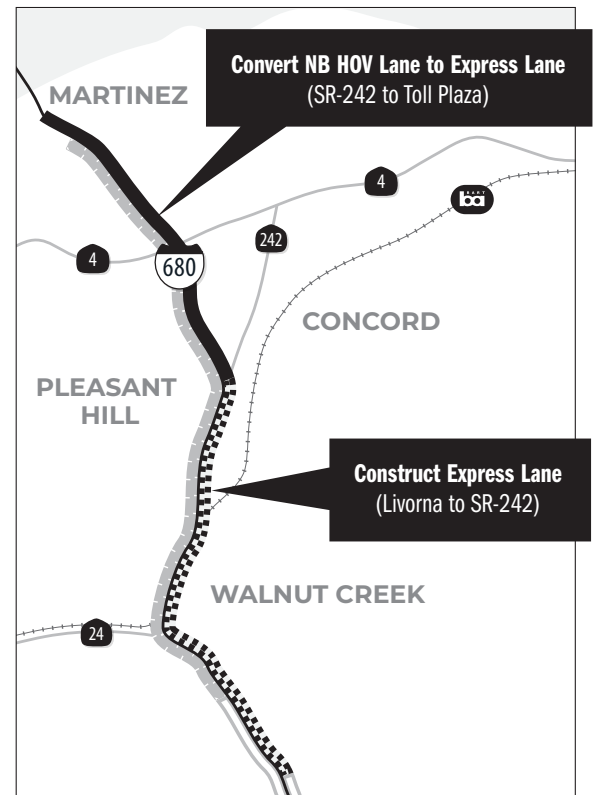
## ADAPTACIONES ESPECIALES PARA LA REUNIÓN

La reunión de consulta preliminar pública en línea es accesible de conformidad con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades o ADA y puede verse en el idioma de su preferencia mediante el uso del traductor de Google. Para otras preferencias de accesibilidad envíe un mensaje a [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), llame al **925 278 5978**, o los usuarios con problemas del oído o del habla (TDD por su sigla en inglés) pueden comunicarse con el Servicio de Retransmisión por Teletipo de California (TTY por su sigla en inglés) y/o con la Línea de Voz al **1 800 735 2929** o al **711**.

## 會議特殊情況遷就安排

我們的線上公共範圍網站符合《美國殘障人法》(Americans with Disabilities Act, 簡稱 ADA) 無障礙存取標準, 並且使用者可借助 Google 翻譯工具以所需的語言查看網站內容。如需查詢能否安排額外的協助工具, 請傳送電郵至 [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com), 或致電 **925-278-5978** [info@INNOVATE680.com](mailto:info@INNOVATE680.com)。聾啞人士或聽力語言障礙 (TDD) 使用者請撥電話 **1-800-735-2929** 或 **711** 與加州殘障轉接服務 TTY 和/或語音熱線聯絡。

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this Project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.*



Agency Responsible for CEQA/NEPA



CONTRA COSTA  
transportation  
authority

Lead Agency



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Funding Partner

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## Teurn, Tammy

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**Subject:** FW: I-680 Express Lane Completion Project - Environmental Scoping Information  
**Attachments:** 1-680\_Express\_Lane\_Completion\_Open\_House.pdf

**From:** Tiffany Gephart <Tiffany@graybowenscott.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 12:27 PM

**To:** Candace Andersen <candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us>; Anna Battagello <transportation@dcd.cccounty.us>; Aileen Hernandez <ghernan@bart.gov>; Robert Sarmiento <robert.sarmiento@dcd.cccounty.us>; Ruby Horta <horta@cccta.org>; Eric Hu <ehu@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us>; Andrew M Smith <asmith@walnut-creek.org>; Jamar Stamps <jamar.stamps@dcd.cccounty.us>; ballenger@walnut-creek.org; Abhishek Parikh <abhishek.parikh@cityofconcord.org>; lynne.filson@weareharris.com; Scott Alman <scott.alman@weareharris.com>; Lisa Vorderbrueggen <lvorderbrueggen@biabayarea.org>; Hisham Noeimi <hnoeimi@ccta.net>; corinne@511contracosta.org; jnemeth@wcctac.org; 'Lisa Bobadilla' <lbobadilla@sanramon.ca.gov>; bruceolehlson@hotmail.com; haskew@walnut-creek.org; dvavrek@sbcglobal.net; Peter Cloven <gobears86@gmail.com>; jpierce@ci.clayton.ca.us; Karen Mitchoff <Karen.Mitchoff@bos.cccounty.us>; John Mercurio <johnmercurio@astound.net>; Sue Noack <snoack@pleasanthillca.org>; Carlyn Obringer <carlyno@yahoo.com>; Debora Allen <debora.allen@bart.gov>; laurie\_lau@dot.ca.gov; erick.bird@dot.ca.gov; Ariel Mercado <amercad@bart.gov>; Bob Pickett <bobpickett@sbcglobal.net>; mrinn@pleasanthillca.org; Edi Birsan <edi.birsan@cityofconcord.org>; lisa.chow@bos.cccounty.us; tcatalano@ci.clayton.ca.us; Kirsten Riker <kriker@511contracosta.org>; Peter Engel <pengel@ccta.net>; Stephanie Hu <StephanieH@ccta.net>; Tanner Michael (mtanner@bart.gov) <mtanner@bart.gov>; markrcr@sbcglobal.net; Randolph Leptien <rleptien@cityofmartinez.org>; Ricki Wells <RWells@bart.gov>

**Cc:** Matthew Todd <Matt@graybowenscott.com>

**Subject:** I-680 Express Lane Completion Project - Environmental Scoping Information

Good afternoon, please see attached information regarding a Virtual Public Open House with Environmental Scoping Information for the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project. The comment period is open through July 29, 2020. Additional information is in the attached material.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Gephart  
Clerk of the Board, TRANSPAC  
<https://transpac.us/>

TIFFANY GEPHART | Project Administrator | Gray-Bowen-Scott  
1211 Newell Avenue, Suite 200 | Walnut Creek, CA 94596 | T: 925.937.0980 x213 [tiffany@graybowenscott.com](mailto:tiffany@graybowenscott.com) | [www.GrayBowenScott.com](http://www.GrayBowenScott.com)





# Virtual PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

## Environmental Scoping Information

### Express Lane Completion Project

Public Comment Period is June 15-July 29, 2020

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), invites you to join us during our public scoping period to give your thoughts on the proposed Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion project. This project aims to reduce congestion through construction of a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 (SR-242) and conversion of an existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to an express lane.



To learn more, visit [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680)



## YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO US!

For your convenience, and to allow participation in a safe environment while social distancing, an online public open house will host important project information including the scope of the environmental resource areas to be studied during this phase of the project development.

Please visit our virtual open house by clicking on the button titled [Express Lane Completion Virtual Public Open House](#) located on the homepage of the INNOVATE 680 Program website:

[ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680)



## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 3:46 PM  
**To:** Barone, Valerie; trish.beirne@cityofconcord.org  
**Cc:** Leslye.Asera@cityofconcord.org  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hello Valerie & Leslye,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that will have some impacts in the City of Concord.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

\*\*\*\*\*

Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 4:03 PM  
**To:** Eric Figueroa Martinez  
**Cc:** mespinoza@cityofmartinez.org  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hello Eric,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that will have some impacts in the City of Martinez.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

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<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

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Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

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We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

\*\*\*\*\*

Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 3:58 PM  
**To:** jcatalano@pleasanthillca.org; jdavalos@pleasanthillca.org  
**Cc:** mnelis@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi June and Juanita

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that will have some impacts in the City of Pleasant Hill.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

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<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

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If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)



## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 4:05 PM  
**To:** Jgorton@sanramon.ca.gov; ksmith@sanramon.ca.gov  
**Cc:** Lisa Bobadilla (lbobadilla@sanramon.ca.gov)  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hello Joe and Karen,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that could have some impacts on the City of San Ramon.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 3:19 PM  
**To:** buckshi@walnut-creek.org; razevedo@walnut-creek.org  
**Cc:** Tim Haile  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hello Dan and Ryndie,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that will have some impacts in the City of Walnut Creek.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** Anne O  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Anne,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Supervisor to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

MTC and CCTA staff welcome the opportunity to brief your office on the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project and Clean Air Vehicle tolling. If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out to myself to schedule a time that works for your team.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)



## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:27 AM  
**To:** david.fraser@bos.cccounty.us  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi David,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Supervisor to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

MTC and CCTA staff welcome the opportunity to brief your office on the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project and Clean Air Vehicle tolling. If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out to myself to schedule a time that works for your team.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** Gayle Israel  
**Cc:** Candace Andersen (candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us)  
(candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us)  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Gayle,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Supervisor to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

MTC and CCTA staff welcome the opportunity to brief your office on the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project and Clean Air Vehicle tolling. If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out to myself to schedule a time that works for your team.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia

Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 4:04 PM  
**To:** jcalabrigo@danville.ca.gov  
**Cc:** dfriedmann@danville.ca.gov; ADillard@danville.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hello Joe,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes that will have some impacts in the City of Danville.

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out and I'll be happy to connect you with the appropriate person at MTC.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)



## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 4:31 PM  
**To:** Chris Weeks  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Chris,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January. Happy to connect you with MTC if you'd like more information.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

\*\*\*\*\*

Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 11:35 AM  
**To:** mike.sponsler@asm.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Mike,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Assembly Member to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

To facilitate a key phase of construction, CCTA and the contractor have scheduled a two-week closure of the southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop to SB I-680. The closure is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00 PM, with the on-ramp reopening on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM. Signs will be in place before and during the closure. The detour route from the closed southbound South Main Street on-ramp loop will be to continue to the Rudgear Road on-ramp for access onto SB I-680. Only traffic utilizing the on-ramp from South Main Street will be impacted. You can view the advisory and the detour closure map:

<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

MTC and CCTA staff welcome the opportunity to brief your office on the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project and Clean Air Vehicle tolling. If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out to myself to schedule a time that works for your team.

### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority has developed a forward-thinking suite of tools to help manage congestion and provide more options for travelers on I-680. We're calling this effort *INNOVATE 680*. One of the planned projects is to reduce congestion through the construction of a new northbound express lane from Livorna Road to State Route 242 and the conversion of the existing northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from State Route 242 to the Benicia Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through

Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, CCTA has shifted our environmental public scoping meeting for the proposed northbound I-680 Express Lane Completion Project to a **Virtual Open House** with a public comment period, **June 15 through July 29, 2020**. Your district is included in the project area.

We invite you and the public to visit our **Express Lane Completion Virtual Scoping Open House**, which is accessible through the homepage of the *INNOVATE 680* Program website: [ccta.net/INNOVATE680](http://ccta.net/INNOVATE680). Here you will find important information under review during this environmental scoping phase of the project. We look forward to your input during the comment period.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

\*\*\*\*\*

Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Escutia, George  
**Cc:** senator.glazer@senate.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi George,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Senator to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

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<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

### **Clean Air Vehicle Tolling**

While tolling north of Rudgear Road will come online in late December/early January, the I-680 express lane south of Rudgear Road will see changes this fall. Expected to start in September 2020, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will begin half-price tolling for Clean Air Vehicles on the existing 680 Express Lanes between Rudgear Road and Alcosta Boulevard. Half price tolls for Clean Air Vehicles will also be in effect when tolling begins on the new express lane north of Rudgear in late December/early January.

MTC and CCTA staff welcome the opportunity to brief your office on the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project and Clean Air Vehicle tolling. If your office would like to be briefed, please feel free to reach out to myself to schedule a time that works for your team.

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Martinez Bridge into an express lane. When finished, the project will complete the I-680 express lane network through Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

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We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

\*\*\*\*\*

Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)



## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 12:24 PM  
**To:** Scales, Shanelle  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Shanelle,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Congressman to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) has made substantial progress on the construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge to Rudgear Road, which will connect with the existing Express Lane to create one continuous lane from the toll bridge to the county line in San Ramon in the southbound direction of I-680. For your reference, attached is our current project newsletter. We are partnering with the contractor to accelerate the schedule and believe we will be able to open the new lane capacity to traffic this fall – nearly an entire year ahead of schedule.

### **S. Main Street on-ramp closure July 5-20, 2020**

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<https://mailchi.mp/ccta/southmainadvisoryjuly5?e=108457bcd3>

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We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)

## Teurn, Tammy

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**From:** Linsey Willis <lwillis@ccta.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:22 AM  
**To:** Kumagai, Shawn  
**Subject:** Update on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project and additional Express Lane Information  
**Attachments:** Summer2020\_FactSheet.pdf

Hi Shawn,

Hope you are doing well and staying safe! Thank you for your support of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's projects and programs. We wanted to alert you and the Assembly Member to some pertinent events and information regarding Express Lanes in your district:

### **I-680 Southbound Express Lane Project Update**

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### **I-680 Express Lane Completion Project**

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Contra Costa County and provide drivers with options to pay tolls for a more reliable trip and improve lane performance to better benefit high occupancy vehicles.

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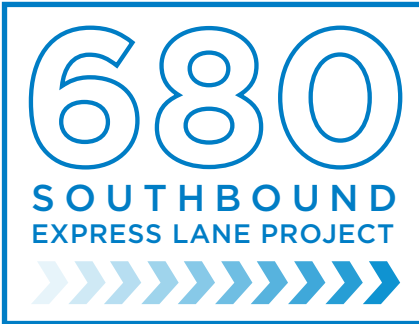
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We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Express Lanes, or any other projects and programs that CCTA is currently working on.

Sincerely,  
Linsey Willis

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Linsey Willis  
Director of External Affairs  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
(925) 256-4728  
[lwillis@ccta.net](mailto:lwillis@ccta.net)



SUMMER 2020

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

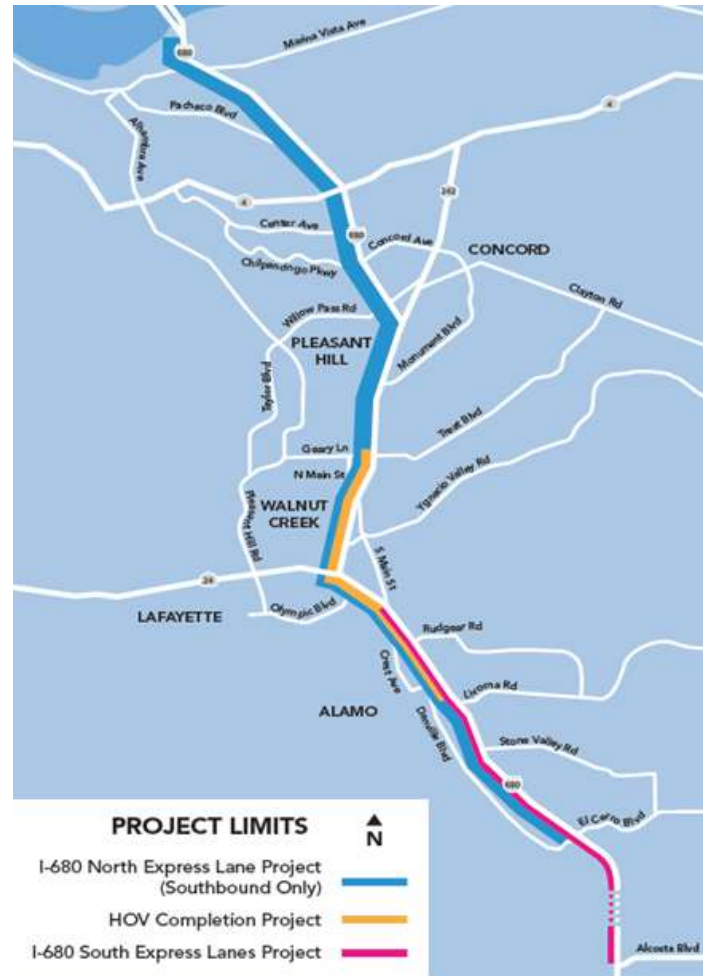
In Fall 2018, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and project partners began construction on 11 miles of an express lane on southbound I-680 (SB I-680) from Marina Vista Avenue in Martinez to around Livorna Road in Alamo. Since breaking ground, much progress has been made on the project, with the majority of the highway widening work between the Benicia Bridge and State Route 24 nearing completion.

In April 2020, CCTA and the contractor mutually agreed to an accelerated and ambitious project schedule in order to open new lane capacity to taxpayers ahead of schedule by revising the planned work sequence to complete multiple stages of work concurrently.

The project entails I-680 freeway widening work in the southbound direction between North Main Street in Walnut Creek to just South of Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek to accommodate the completion of the high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/carpool lane, which will be converted to an express lane. Additionally, the project will convert eight miles of an existing southbound HOV/carpool lane to an express lane between Marina Vista Avenue in Martinez and North Main Street in Walnut Creek. When construction and toll system integration are complete, there will be 24 miles of continuous southbound express lane between the Benicia-Martinez Bridge toll plaza and the Alameda County line.

Express lanes provide travel choices for the motoring public, improving mobility and freeway operations. Once tolling begins, use of express lanes requires a FasTrak Flex Toll Tag. Carpools and other eligible vehicles travel toll free or pay half-price tolls. Solo drivers pay full tolls.

## PROJECT MAP



Wall Face Concrete Forming at Retaining Wall No. 2

# CONSTRUCTION UPDATES: WHAT TO EXPECT

## SUMMER 2020 - EARLY 2021

### ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE PROJECT IMPACTS

**Motorists:** The project will employ daytime lane closures to keep traffic impacts to a minimum, provided traffic volumes remain light due to COVID-19. If traffic volumes increase, nighttime closures may be required.



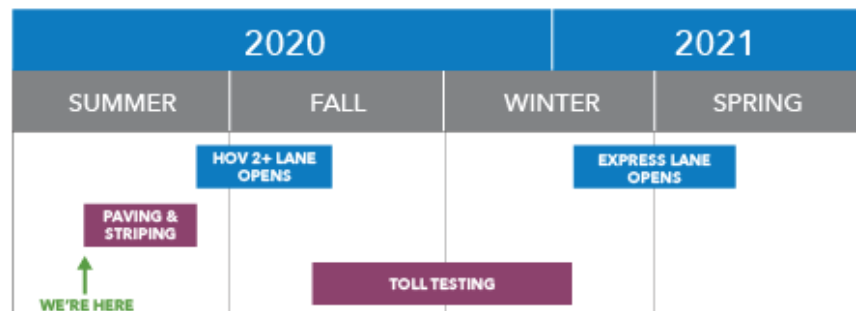
**Project Neighbors:** Construction noise generated from concrete demolition will be minimal. This work will occur in conjunction with the lane closures. Updates will be posted on the project website.

**Construction Stages:** Construction is proceeding almost a year ahead of schedule, and new lane capacity for 2+ carpools is anticipated to open in Fall 2020. When the new lane opens, it will be signed like an express lane, but will operate as an HOV 2+ carpool lane while toll testing occurs. Operation of the lane as an express lane is expected to begin in early 2021.

**In preparation for the opening of the new lane, key construction activities include:**

- Completion of retaining walls and construction of soundwalls between the freeway ramps at South Main Street in Walnut Creek
- Completion of median concrete barrier between Rudgear Road and Livorna Road
- Removal of construction K-rail and completion of express lane signing and striping
- Completion of electronic tolling system testing
- Removal of temporary driver education sign overlays

### PROJECT TIMELINE



### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Fun Facts About Our Retaining Walls

- During recent drilling for the soldier pile retaining wall, construction crews unearthed an old highway that sits beneath present-day I-680.
- There are five retaining walls, and each wall is a different type.
- The total length of the retaining walls is four times the height of the Empire State Building.



**ATTACHMENT G**  
Letters & Comments Received

State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife



## Memorandum

Date: July 21, 2020

To: Ms. Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation, District 4  
Post Office Box 23660, MS-8B  
Oakland, CA 94623  
[Wahida.Rahid@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Wahida.Rahid@dot.ca.gov)

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jul 21 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DocuSigned by:

*Gregg Erickson*

From: Mr. Gregg Erickson, Regional Manager

BE74D4C93C604EA...

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-Bay Delta Region, 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100, Fairfield, CA 94534

Subject: CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project, Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report, SCH No. 2020060297, Contra Costa County

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane Completion Project (Project) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to our jurisdiction, CDFW is submitting comments on the NOP as a means to inform the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) as the Lead Agency, of our concerns regarding potentially significant impacts to sensitive resources associated with the proposed Project.

### PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Caltrans proposes to convert existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes and construct new Express Lanes on Interstate 680 (I-680). The HOV to Express Lane conversion is proposed to occur from the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to the State Route 242 (SR-242) interchange with I-680 and the new Express Lane construction is proposed to occur from the SR-242, I-680 interchange to Livorna Road underpass in the unincorporated Community of Alamo in Contra Costa County.

### CDFW ROLE

CDFW is a Trustee Agency with responsibility under CEQA §15386 for commenting on projects that could impact fish, plant and wildlife resources. CDFW is also considered a Responsible Agency if a project would require discretionary approval, such as permits issued under the California Endangered Species Act, the Native Plant Protection Act, the Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Program and other provisions of the Fish and Game Code that afford protection to the State's fish and wildlife trust resources.

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<sup>1</sup> CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

Ms. Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation

2

July 21, 2020

## **LAKE AND STREAMBED ALTERATION AGREEMENT**

Please be advised that the proposed Project may be subject to LSA Notification for impacts to drainage systems that connect to tributaries of main stem creeks and tributaries that occur within the Project limits. CDFW requires an LSA Notification, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et. seq., for or any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow; change or use material from the bed, channel, or bank including associated riparian or wetland resources; or deposit or dispose of material where it may pass into a river, lake or stream. Work within ephemeral streams, washes, watercourses with a subsurface flow, and floodplains are subject to notification requirements.

The Project has the potential to impact bed, bank, channel and riparian habitat associated with the following drainages, floodplains, tributaries and mainstems of Walnut Creek, Grayson Creek and Las Trampas Creek.

## **CALIFORNIA ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

Please be advised that a CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP) must be obtained if the Project has the potential to result in take of species of plants or animals listed under CESA, either during construction or over the life of the Project. Under CESA, take is defined as “to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill.” Issuance of an ITP is subject to CEQA documentation. If the Project will impact CESA-listed species, early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to the Project and mitigation measures may be required in order to obtain a CESA Permit.

The Project has the potential to result in take of the following species listed under CESA; California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), State Threatened and Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*), State Threatened.

## **COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

CDFW acting as a Responsible Agency, has discretionary approval under CESA through issuance of an ITP and an LSA Agreement as well as other provisions of the Fish and Game Code that afford protection to the State’s fish and wildlife trust resources. CDFW offers the following comments and recommendations below to assist Caltrans in identifying and/or mitigating the Project’s significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

### **Comment 1 – Fish and Wildlife Resources**

CDFW recommends that a full list or table is included in the Biological Resources Section of the draft EIR that notes species common name, scientific name, State and federal listing status (as applicable), habitat type preference and determination on presence for all special-status species with the potential to occur within the Project.

Ms. Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation

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July 21, 2020

CDFW offers the following list of species that have the potential to occur within the Project limits including but not limited to; California tiger salamander (State Threatened), Alameda whipsnake (State Threatened), California red-legged frog (State Species of Special Concern (SSC), western burrowing owl (SSC), pallid bat (SSC), Townsend's big eared bat (SSC), Congdon's tarplant (SSC), Contra Costa goldfields (Rare Plant 1B) and Big Tarplant (Rare Plant 1B). A full and complete of fish and wildlife resources should be developed using wildlife databases such as the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), scientific studies or species inventories from nearby locations, focused survey results or findings associated with the current Project and focused survey results or findings from previous projects within the vicinity of the currently proposed Project.

### **Comment 2 – Fish Passage**

Senate Bill 857 (SB-857), which amended Fish and Game Code 5901 and added section 156 to the Streets and Highways Code states in section 156.3, "For any project using state or federal transportation funds programmed after January 1, 2006, [Caltrans] shall insure that, if the project affects a stream crossing on a stream where anadromous fish are, or historically were, found, an assessment of potential barriers to fish passage is done prior to commencing project design. [Caltrans] shall submit the assessment to the [CDFW] and add it to the CALFISH database. If any structural barrier to passage exists, remediation of the problem shall be designed into the project by the implementing agency. New projects shall be constructed so that they do not present a barrier to fish passage. When barriers to fish passage are being addressed, plans and projects shall be developed in consultation with the [CDFW]."

The following fish passage assessment database identification numbers exist within the currently proposed Project limits and represent potential fish passage barriers that should be identified, evaluated and discussed in the subsequent draft EIR according to the requirements of SB-857;

PAD ID# 761078, I-680; PM 24.0, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761077, I-680; PM 22.7, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761076, I-680; PM 21.8, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761074, I-680; PM 20.9, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761074, I-680; PM 19.2, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761073, I-680; PM 18.7, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761072, I-680; PM 18.3, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761071, I-680; PM 16.1, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761070, I-680; PM 13.7, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761069, I-680; PM 13.5, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761068, I-680; PM 12.6, Unassessed  
PAD ID# 761067; I-680; PM 11.3, Unassessed

CDFW recommends the following avoidance and minimization measures is included in the subsequent draft EIR:

Ms. Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation

2

July 21, 2020

### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 1: BIO-FISH Passage:**

For any project using state or federal transportation funds programmed after January 1, 2006, Caltrans shall insure that, if the Project affects a stream crossing on a stream where anadromous fish are, or historically were, found, an assessment of potential barriers to fish passage is done prior to commencing Project design. Caltrans shall submit the assessment to the CDFW and add it to the CALFISH database. If any structural barrier to passage exists, remediation of the problem shall be designed into the Project by the implementing agency. New projects shall be constructed so that they do not present a barrier to fish passage. When barriers to fish passage are being addressed, plans and projects shall be developed in consultation with CDFW.

### **COMMENT 3 – BATS**

CDFW has determined that various locations throughout the Project limits have the potential to contain bat species, many of which are state species of special concern. CDFW made this determination by referencing CNDDDB and by remote habitat analysis, as well as, the widely accepted concept that roosting bats have a strong preference to inhabit voids and crevices in culverts, bridges and other anthropogenic structures. To evaluate and avoid potential impacts to bat species, CDFW recommends incorporating the following mitigation measures and that these measures be made conditions of approval for the Project.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 1: Bat Habitat Assessment**

A qualified biologist should conduct a habitat assessment for bats at work sites seven (7) days prior to the start of Project activities and every 14 days during Project activities. The habitat assessment shall include a visual inspection of features within 200 feet of the work area for potential roosting features (bats need not be present). Habitat features found during the survey shall be flagged or marked.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 2: Bat Habitat Monitoring**

If any habitat features identified in the habitat assessment will be altered or disturbed by Project construction, the qualified biologist should monitor the feature daily to ensure bats are not disturbed, impacted, or fatalities are caused by the Project.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 3: Bat Project Avoidance**

If bat colonies are observed at the Project site, at any time, all Project activities should stop until the qualified biologist develops a bat avoidance plan to be implement at the Project site. If voids, crevices or other anthropogenic roosting habitat is removed, replacement habitat in the form of bat boxes or artificial roosting structures should be installed in consultation with CDFW to achieve the appropriate design and placement. Once the plan is implemented, Project activities may recommence.

Ms. Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation

2

July 21, 2020

## **CONCLUSION**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California's fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

Questions regarding this memorandum or further coordination should be directed to Mr. Robert Stanley, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (707) 428-2093 or [Robert.Stanley@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Stanley@wildlife.ca.gov); or Mr. Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager, at (707) 944-5577 or [Craig.Weightman@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Craig.Weightman@wildlife.ca.gov).

cc: State Clearinghouse #2020060297



**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL**

Contra Costa Area  
5001 Blum Road  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 646-4980  
(800) 735-2929 (TT/TDD)  
(800) 735-2922 (Voice)



July 20, 2020

File No.: 320.16370.15929

7/29/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Jul 21 2020**

State Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3044

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

RE: SCH #2020060297

The California Highway Patrol, Contra Costa Area, received the "Notice of Preparation" for environmental review of the Interstate 680 (I-680) Express Lane project. After review, we have concerns with the potential impact this proposed project could have on our operations.

Our first concern relates to the fact the Express Lane will convert a general-purpose lane into a preferential lane. This will result in fewer general-purpose lanes, which will increase traffic congestion and change traffic patterns. This may lead to a significant increase in traffic collisions and create additional demands on our operations. Our second concern is Express Lanes violations cannot be visually observed, as High Occupancy Lane violations currently are. This severely limits our enforcement abilities, since violations can only be observed at the toll reading gantries.

Please direct any questions regarding these comments to Lieutenant Ara Gregorian, ID 15929, at (925) 646-4980.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D.G. Seaman".

D.G. SEAMAN, Captain  
Commander



# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

7/29/2020

Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

June 16, 2020

Jun 19 2020

Wahida Rashid  
California Department of Transportation  
Office of Environmental Analysis, Mail Station 8B, PO Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

## STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

**Re: 2020060297, CCTA I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project, Contra Costa County**

Dear Ms. Rashid:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has received the Notice of Preparation (NOP), Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) or Early Consultation for the project referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code §21000 et seq.), specifically Public Resources Code §21084.1, states that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code § 21084.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit.14, § 15064.5 (b) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b))). If there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before a lead agency, that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) shall be prepared. (Pub. Resources Code §21080 (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 5064 subd.(a)(1) (CEQA Guidelines § 15064 (a)(1))). In order to determine whether a project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, a lead agency will need to determine whether there are historical resources within the area of potential effect (APE).

CEQA was amended significantly in 2014. Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) (AB 52) amended CEQA to create a separate category of cultural resources, "tribal cultural resources" (Pub. Resources Code §21074) and provides that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.2). Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)). **AB 52 applies to any project for which a notice of preparation, a notice of negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration is filed on or after July 1, 2015.** If your project involves the adoption of or amendment to a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation or proposed designation of open space, on or after March 1, 2005, it may also be subject to Senate Bill 18 (Burton, Chapter 905, Statutes of 2004) (SB 18). **Both SB 18 and AB 52 have tribal consultation requirements.** If your project is also subject to the federal National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) (NEPA), the tribal consultation requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (154 U.S.C. 300101, 36 C.F.R. §800 et seq.) may also apply.

The NAHC recommends consultation with California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of your proposed project as early as possible in order to avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains and best protect tribal cultural resources. Below is a brief summary of portions of AB 52 and SB 18 as well as the NAHC's recommendations for conducting cultural resources assessments.

**Consult your legal counsel about compliance with AB 52 and SB 18 as well as compliance with any other applicable laws.**



CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

SECRETARY  
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AB 52 has added to CEQA the additional requirements listed below, along with many other requirements:

- 1. Fourteen Day Period to Provide Notice of Completion of an Application/Decision to Undertake a Project:** Within fourteen (14) days of determining that an application for a project is complete or of a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, a lead agency shall provide formal notification to a designated contact of, or tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, to be accomplished by at least one written notice that includes:
  - a.** A brief description of the project.
  - b.** The lead agency contact information.
  - c.** Notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d)).
  - d.** A "California Native American tribe" is defined as a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC for the purposes of Chapter 905 of Statutes of 2004 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21073).
  
- 2. Begin Consultation Within 30 Days of Receiving a Tribe's Request for Consultation and Before Releasing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Environmental Impact Report:** A lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a request for consultation from a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1, subs. (d) and (e)) and prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration or Environmental Impact Report. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).
  - a.** For purposes of AB 52, "consultation shall have the same meaning as provided in Gov. Code §65352.4 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).
  
- 3. Mandatory Topics of Consultation If Requested by a Tribe:** The following topics of consultation, if a tribe requests to discuss them, are mandatory topics of consultation:
  - a.** Alternatives to the project.
  - b.** Recommended mitigation measures.
  - c.** Significant effects. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).
  
- 4. Discretionary Topics of Consultation:** The following topics are discretionary topics of consultation:
  - a.** Type of environmental review necessary.
  - b.** Significance of the tribal cultural resources.
  - c.** Significance of the project's impacts on tribal cultural resources.
  - d.** If necessary, project alternatives or appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation that the tribe may recommend to the lead agency. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).
  
- 5. Confidentiality of Information Submitted by a Tribe During the Environmental Review Process:** With some exceptions, any information, including but not limited to, the location, description, and use of tribal cultural resources submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process shall not be included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, consistent with Government Code §6254 (r) and §6254.10. Any information submitted by a California Native American tribe during the consultation or environmental review process shall be published in a confidential appendix to the environmental document unless the tribe that provided the information consents, in writing, to the disclosure of some or all of the information to the public. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (c)(1)).
  
- 6. Discussion of Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources in the Environmental Document:** If a project may have a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency's environmental document shall discuss both of the following:
  - a.** Whether the proposed project has a significant impact on an identified tribal cultural resource.
  - b.** Whether feasible alternatives or mitigation measures, including those measures that may be agreed to pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (a), avoid or substantially lessen the impact on the identified tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (b)).

- 7. Conclusion of Consultation:** Consultation with a tribe shall be considered concluded when either of the following occurs:
- a.** The parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a tribal cultural resource; or
  - b.** A party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (b)).
- 8. Recommending Mitigation Measures Agreed Upon in Consultation in the Environmental Document:** Any mitigation measures agreed upon in the consultation conducted pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2 shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document and in an adopted mitigation monitoring and reporting program, if determined to avoid or lessen the impact pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (b), paragraph 2, and shall be fully enforceable. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (a)).
- 9. Required Consideration of Feasible Mitigation:** If mitigation measures recommended by the staff of the lead agency as a result of the consultation process are not included in the environmental document or if there are no agreed upon mitigation measures at the conclusion of consultation, or if consultation does not occur, and if substantial evidence demonstrates that a project will cause a significant effect to a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency shall consider feasible mitigation pursuant to Public Resources Code §21084.3 (b). (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (e)).
- 10. Examples of Mitigation Measures That, If Feasible, May Be Considered to Avoid or Minimize Significant Adverse Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources:**
- a.** Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to:
    - i.** Planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context.
    - ii.** Planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.
  - b.** Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:
    - i.** Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource.
    - ii.** Protecting the traditional use of the resource.
    - iii.** Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.
  - c.** Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.
  - d.** Protecting the resource. (Pub. Resource Code §21084.3 (b)).
  - e.** Please note that a federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC to protect a California prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place may acquire and hold conservation easements if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. (Civ. Code §815.3 (c)).
  - f.** Please note that it is the policy of the state that Native American remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated. (Pub. Resources Code §5097.991).
- 11. Prerequisites for Certifying an Environmental Impact Report or Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration with a Significant Impact on an Identified Tribal Cultural Resource:** An Environmental Impact Report may not be certified, nor may a mitigated negative declaration or a negative declaration be adopted unless one of the following occurs:
- a.** The consultation process between the tribes and the lead agency has occurred as provided in Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2 and concluded pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2.
  - b.** The tribe that requested consultation failed to provide comments to the lead agency or otherwise failed to engage in the consultation process.
  - c.** The lead agency provided notice of the project to the tribe in compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d) and the tribe failed to request consultation within 30 days. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (d)).

The NAHC's PowerPoint presentation titled, "Tribal Consultation Under AB 52: Requirements and Best Practices" may be found online at: [http://nahc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AB52TribalConsultation\\_CalEPAPDF.pdf](http://nahc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AB52TribalConsultation_CalEPAPDF.pdf)

## SB 18

SB 18 applies to local governments and requires local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with tribes prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation of open space. (Gov. Code §65352.3). Local governments should consult the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's "Tribal Consultation Guidelines," which can be found online at: [https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09\\_14\\_05\\_Updated\\_Guidelines\\_922.pdf](https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09_14_05_Updated_Guidelines_922.pdf).

Some of SB 18's provisions include:

1. **Tribal Consultation:** If a local government considers a proposal to adopt or amend a general plan or a specific plan, or to designate open space it is required to contact the appropriate tribes identified by the NAHC by requesting a "Tribal Consultation List." If a tribe, once contacted, requests consultation the local government must consult with the tribe on the plan proposal. **A tribe has 90 days from the date of receipt of notification to request consultation unless a shorter timeframe has been agreed to by the tribe.** (Gov. Code §65352.3 (a)(2)).
2. **No Statutory Time Limit on SB 18 Tribal Consultation.** There is no statutory time limit on SB 18 tribal consultation.
3. **Confidentiality:** Consistent with the guidelines developed and adopted by the Office of Planning and Research pursuant to Gov. Code §65040.2, the city or county shall protect the confidentiality of the information concerning the specific identity, location, character, and use of places, features and objects described in Public Resources Code §5097.9 and §5097.993 that are within the city's or county's jurisdiction. (Gov. Code §65352.3 (b)).
4. **Conclusion of SB 18 Tribal Consultation:** Consultation should be concluded at the point in which:
  - a. The parties to the consultation come to a mutual agreement concerning the appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation; or
  - b. Either the local government or the tribe, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached concerning the appropriate measures of preservation or mitigation. (Tribal Consultation Guidelines, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (2005) at p. 18).

Agencies should be aware that neither AB 52 nor SB 18 precludes agencies from initiating tribal consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with their jurisdictions before the timeframes provided in AB 52 and SB 18. For that reason, we urge you to continue to request Native American Tribal Contact Lists and "Sacred Lands File" searches from the NAHC. The request forms can be found online at: <http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/forms/>.

### NAHC Recommendations for Cultural Resources Assessments

To adequately assess the existence and significance of tribal cultural resources and plan for avoidance, preservation in place, or barring both, mitigation of project-related impacts to tribal cultural resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

1. Contact the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) Center ([http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=1068](http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1068)) for an archaeological records search. The records search will determine:
  - a. If part or all of the APE has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
  - b. If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
  - c. If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
  - d. If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
2. If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
  - a. The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum and not be made available for public disclosure.
  - b. The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional CHRIS center.

3. Contact the NAHC for:
  - a. A Sacred Lands File search. Remember that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the Sacred Lands File, nor are they required to do so. A Sacred Lands File search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project's APE.
  - b. A Native American Tribal Consultation List of appropriate tribes for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in planning for avoidance, preservation in place, or, failing both, mitigation measures.
  
4. Remember that the lack of surface evidence of archaeological resources (including tribal cultural resources) does not preclude their subsurface existence.
  - a. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of inadvertently discovered archaeological resources per Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064.5(f) (CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5(f)). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American with knowledge of cultural resources should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
  - b. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
  - c. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the treatment and disposition of inadvertently discovered Native American human remains. Health and Safety Code § 7050.5, Public Resources Code § 5097.98, and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064.5, subdivisions (d) and (e) (CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5, subds. (d) and (e)) address the processes to be followed in the event of an inadvertent discovery of any Native American human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: [Nancy.Gonzalez-Lopez@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Nancy.Gonzalez-Lopez@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Nancy Gonzalez-Lopez  
Cultural Resources Analyst

cc: State Clearinghouse



# Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund

P.O. Box 151439 San Rafael, CA 94915 415-331-1982

July 29, 2020  
By E-Mail to:  
Info@  
innovate680.com

Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP  
Department of Transportation, District 4  
P.O. Box 23660 MS 8B  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

Re: I-680 Express Lanes Project NOP

Dear Ms. Rashid:

The Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund, TRANSDEF, is an environmental organization focused on reducing the climate impacts of transportation. We offer the following comments on the Interstate 680 Express Lanes Project Notice of Preparation ("NOP").

Our first comment is that the dumbed-down website, innovate680.com, is obviously intended only for the general public. By not even offering a copy of the NOP, there is no detailed Project Description. That makes it impossible for a professional to fully comment, and violates the requirement to circulate the NOP.

## Avoid Caltrans' Past Bad Practices

1. We must insist that Caltrans cease and desist from its novel EIR/EA format that eliminates discussion of the significance of the identified impacts, or disclosure of the thresholds of significance. Findings of significant impacts are the heart of CEQA. As a result, an EIR missing these critical elements cannot be considered to be a valid CEQA document.
2. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "To the extent that a project relieves congestion by enhancing operations and improving travel times in high-congestion travel corridors, GHG emissions, particularly CO<sub>2</sub>, may be reduced." With an analysis of induced demand, it will be apparent that there will be no congestion relief. Therefore, there will be are no GHG emissions reduction benefits from the project.
3. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "The proposed Express lanes would encourage and support ridesharing, carpooling, and transit use, to reduce

vehicle trips and their associated GHG emissions." That statement is not descriptive of the real world in which solo driving predominates.

4. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "Express lanes are intended to facilitate transit and other alternatives to solo driving." On the contrary, their facilitation of solo driving will result in lower use of alternatives. Any use of such claims must be accompanied by data supporting the contention.
5. Merely showing "a reduction in future emissions with the project compared to existing emissions" is not sufficient "evidence of substantial progress in reducing emissions." Substantial progress is necessarily a quantitative evaluation of the rate of reduction.
6. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "The proposed project would not ... change the type or amount of growth expected. California has reached the point where suburban development supported by a freeway network has stopped working. Caltrans' projects merely continue the status quo, while ignoring the regional problems of congestion and excessive VMT growth that arise from land uses that are dependent on solo driving for mobility. It is well-known that highway expansion favors auto-dependent suburbs, while transit expansion favors more compact development.

#### Issues to Study

1. Evaluate whether the proposed project is consistent with the performance targets in Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan, which calls for increasing the percentage of nonauto mode share and reducing VMT. A policy inconsistency would be a significant impact of this checklist item:
  - a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?
2. Verify the legality of the project. All during the 1990s, the Clean Air Act prohibited the building of general-purpose lanes in ozone non-attainment areas. TRANSDEF has no reason to believe that these provisions are not still operative. Because the Bay Area is still a non-attainment area, it would be illegal to construct managed lanes or express lanes, which function just like general purpose lanes by permitting use by solo drivers.
3. Develop a methodology that incorporates induced demand in the estimation of VMT for use in the modelling of VHD, LOS, travel times, travel speeds and improvements in measures of effectiveness.

4. Use the following criterion for GHG Analysis: Will the rate of the project's GHG reductions (increases) impede progress towards the State's achievement of its goals of reducing GHGs below 1990 levels by 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050? Will the emissions trajectory be similar to the rate of reduction needed by the State?

### Alternatives

The proposed project is doomed to failure. The current transportation literature cited in the Department's own *Transportation Impacts Analysis under CEQA* (TAC) guide acknowledges that new lanes will essentially fill up in the medium-to-long term due to induced demand, eliminating the desired congestion relief. This understanding is not reflected in the Project Purpose and Need. The increase in VMT that is expected to be the result of this project is contrary to the State's Mobile Source Strategy, because it will result in increased GHGs. **Before starting an EIR, project leaders need to consider alternatives and identify ways to reduce the growth in VMT so as to result in a much faster rate of GHG emissions reductions.** The entire project needs to be re-thought, starting from the foundation of induced demand.

As you know from the TAC (p. 8), the Alternatives Analysis is essential in capacity-increasing projects. The practice of eliminating all alternatives from the study, except perhaps a strawman intended to be discarded, is no longer acceptable.

TRANSDEF has long objected to MTC's Express Lane program as short-sighted and counterproductive. Because the region's primary transportation problem is an imbalance between Single Occupant Vehicles (SOVs) and High Occupancy Vehicles (HOVs), the very last thing the region needs is to make its highest priority the facilitation of more SOVs. The sole function of Express lanes is to shift SOVs into HOV lanes, and in the process, raise the occupancy requirement for HOVs to suppress their usage and sell the space to SOVs. Because the capacity of an Express Lane is limited, a strategy based on them can only have a finite lifetime. They have no hope of accommodating regional SOV growth over decades, and are more likely to fill up in only 5 years, due to induced demand.

The purpose of HOV lanes is to offer the travel time advantage of a free-flowing lane, as an incentive to individuals willing to undertake the minor inconvenience of carpooling.

We urge Caltrans to study the following alternative: A Sustainable Approach to Congestion. It would greatly increase the use of HOV lanes by HOVs, something Caltrans has never seriously attempted, to our knowledge. The elements of such a program would be:

1. Arrange the hours of HOV lane operation to mirror the hours that general-purpose lanes are typically congested.
2. Keep the occupancy requirement at 2, to make carpooling widely feasible.
3. Enforce the HOV occupancy requirement by developing automatic camera systems that are capable of reliably seeing infrared heat signatures from passengers in the front and rear seats, and sponsoring legislation to enable automatic ticketing.

4. Encouraging the use of smartphone-based ridematching apps, in which a driver is matched with a passenger heading to a destination near theirs. Widespread promotion of an app, along with a security check similar to how Uber/Lyft drivers are checked, would make the public aware of the possibility of gaining access to the HOV lane by using ridematching, again, like Uber, except that the payment is the ability to use the HOV lane. This is a no-capital-cost method of expanding system capacity.
5. Develop an Express Bus network using HOV lanes.
6. Convert Express Lanes back to HOV lanes.
7. Consider converting a general-purpose lane to HOV lane in the gap section.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

/s/ DAVID SCHONBRUNN

David Schonbrunn,  
President



## Bay Area Transportation Working Group

**Bay Area Transportation Working Group** Bay Area Transportation Working Group (BATWG) is an all-volunteer organization formed in 2012 to keep up with and respond to ongoing San Francisco Bay Area transportation issues and events. We are dedicated to finding ways of easing regional traffic congestion by improving the reliability, efficiency, and general appeal of the region's passenger rail and bus systems.

July 29, 2020

Caltrans District 4 Office, Office of Environmental Analysis  
111 Grand Ave, Mail Station 8B, Oakland, CA 94612  
Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC & ALA

Re: Public Scoping Comments on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project

Dear Ms. Rashid:

The following comments are in response to the I-680 Express (HOT) Lane Completion Project.

In their project website (<https://www.innovate680.com/>), the sponsors of the HOT lane project acknowledge in the Key Environmental Issues/SB 743 tab that **“because new roadway capacity is proposed for the project, VMT will likely increase”**. The sponsors of the HOT lane project go on to indicate that “we will be looking closely at appropriate mitigation measures.”

First, BATWG is opposed to the creation of new freeway capacity associated with this project (namely, a new freeway lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road in Alamo to the SR 242 junction in Concord). Alternatives to increasing car-carrying capacity of I-680 and the inevitable VMT increases it would generate must be considered. All appropriate alternatives and mitigation measures must be analyzed, including a long-distance I-680 express bus service from Benicia to San Jose and per-mile tolling of all I-680 mixed-flow lanes.

Second, BATWG is strongly opposed to converting existing I-680 HOV lanes to VMT-increasing HOT lanes. Instead, in the near term there should be rigorously-enforced HOV lanes limited to bonafide high-occupancy vehicles. In any event it must be clearly stated in the environmental clearance documents how and to what degree each alternative would affect VMT.

Third, because of the likely adverse, VMT-increasing environmental impact of adding more freeway lane-miles and converting existing HOV lanes to HOT lanes, BATWG believes that an

I-680 express bus route operating between Benicia to downtown San Jose with a limited number of intermediate stops would be far preferable to a HOT lane and should be analyzed as a project alternative. (The Los Angeles County MTA “J” Line, formerly known as the “Silver Line,” which operates express buses on I-10 and I-110, should be studied as a model.) These constraints should apply equally to the “Interstate 680 Express Lanes from State Route 84 to Alcosta Boulevard Project” covering ten miles between San Ramon and Sunol (EA 04-0Q3000 /Project ID 0418000069), currently going through environmental clearance as another I-680 freeway expansion project also destined to inevitably induce new VMT. Bus connections between I-680 and Pleasant Hill BART or Walnut Creek BART station should also be studied, (possibly including, but not limited to, on/off ramps leading directly to/from any HOV lanes). This alternative could also incorporate an expansion and extension of the existing Wheels/LAVTA Route 70.

An I-680 express bus line should be planned and arranged to eventually connect efficiently to other long-distance express bus lines. The ultimate objective should be to open a regional network of out-of-traffic express buses so as to provide long distance service between parts of the region that BART does not serve. An express bus system gives promise of providing this needed service more cost-effectively and with greater flexibility and many years sooner than an expansion of the BART system would.

BATWG also believes that per-mile tolling on all existing mixed-flow I-680 lanes in the project area (Livorna Road to Benicia/Martinez Bridge) should be studied as a fully-competitive project alternative. When analyzed under the SB 743 framework, such tolling would reduce demand for VMT and free up existing freeway capacity for transit vehicles. Here’s what MTC’s just-released draft Plan Bay Area 2050 has to say on the subject: ***“Implement Per-Mile Tolling on Congested Freeways with Transit Alternatives. Apply a per-mile charge on auto travel on select highly-congested freeway corridors where transit alternatives exist, with discounts for carpoolers, low-income residents, and off-peak travel, with excess revenues reinvested into transit alternatives in the corridor.”*** (“Transportation Strategies,” p. 2.)

In closing it is necessary to point out that MTC, a project sponsor, has for years dragged its feet on developing the regional express bus service promised to voters in 2004 Regional Measure 2 and first discussed at MTC in the 1970’s. Rather than facing the region’s transportation problems squarely, MTC is known for promoting ill-conceived political “pork barrel” boondoggles like Valley Link, the Oakland Airport Connector, and its VMT-increasing “HOT” lanes. The current need is to turn toward more enlightened and longer term solutions.

Your consideration of these comments would be appreciated,

Sincerely,



Gerald Cauthen, PE,

President, Bay Area Transportation Working Group

510 208 5441

[www.batwgblog.com](http://www.batwgblog.com)



DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
6/12/20 12:47 PM	Barbara Simpson 225 N. Villa Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595 bsimpson@theheritagedowntown.com	Email (Project)	<p>Subject: Express Lane Comments</p> <p>For years now (I have lived here for 16 years) I have complained to several officials about the increase noise level close to 680/24 interchange (Olympic, Mt. Diablo, Saranap, South Main). We are community of single family and condominium homeowners.</p> <p>I was told the last study was done 10 years ago, I was told that with the new pavement going in that it would possibly cut down on the extra noise level.</p> <p>No joke, it sounds like an automobile race track if the winds are coming from the South/West.</p> <p>I could get a petition going, but first want to know if a new decibel sound test will be done for this area.</p> <p>Thank you, Barbara Simpson</p>
6/12/20 2:34 PM	Richard Barnes 12 Clipper Ln Martinez, CA 94553 925-207-6355 703-609-5148 bkmbarnes@gmail.com	Email (CCTA)	<p>Subject: VIRTUAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE 680/4</p> <p>Dear Sir,</p> <p>It is an excellent commitment to move forward the future of Contra Costa County, with the great "Innovate 680" project, improving its transportation systems.</p> <p>My name is Richard Barnes, I live at 12 Clipper Ln, Martinez, CA 94553. My home is located close to I-680. The current improvement of highway 680/4 adding express lanes would impact a great deal to the quality of my life. Day and night, we listen to the sounds of vehicles travelling on 680 and sometimes their vibrations. Recently, the sounds got worse (louder) because cars, trucks, and motorcycles speed have increased from lack of traffic due to COVID-19. With the increase of express lanes, I can imaging the mounting of sound waves, not less, but more.</p> <p>I have noticed some parts of I-680 have sound-proofing walls. Please consider extending it or building a new one on the I-680 areas to my neighborhood? Many of the residents here would greatly appreciate it. This includes the wellness of our health.</p> <p>I have written the same request before through the California government website, but have heard nothing. At this time, I would like this request be included in your upcoming Virtual Public Open House June 15 - July 25, 2020. Feel free to contact me via email: bkmbarnes@gmail.com or 925-207-6355 or 703-609-5148.</p> <p>Sincerely and with best regards, Richard Barnes</p>
6/15/20 11:24 AM	Richard Barnes 12 Clipper Ln	Comment Form	Please consider construct a sound wall to protect the neighborhoods of Blum and Clipper, etc., as said in my email 6/12/2020 to your office. Converting the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
	Martinez, CA 94553 925-207-6355 703-609-5148 bkmbarnes@gmail.com		Plaza, to an express lane increase travel speeds would increase the noise level in our residential areas. Thank you for looking into this.
6/18/20 5:04 PM	Kathleen Toliver kathleenjd@sbcglobal.net	Comment Form	<p>Our home is on Brookdale Ct in Alamo - which lies directly below the construction taking place on 680 South between Rudgear Road and Livorna Road. We are the ONLY residential community along this section of 680 South which has been DEPRIVED OF A SOUND WALL. We requested a sound wall be constructed during this project, yet we were wrongfully denied this request. This expansion has GREATLY increased the amount of noise pollution we suffer from in our homes. You have not only moved the freeway closer to us, you have deprived us of the protection from the increased noise by denying us the benefits of a sound wall. Along the immediate surrounding areas of 680 south, there are sections of sound walls which travel along off ramps- where there are NO close homes. In fact, there are uninterrupted sections of sound walls for MILES! Yet, we are to believe we are magically the ONLY section of freeway where the noise levels are not high enough to warrant a sound wall? This is ABSURD. And it is absolutely inaccurate.</p> <p>This project has not only brought the freeway closer, it has allowed traffic to pass by at higher rates of speed, causing tremendous amounts of noise pollution to poison our environment. Not only does this expansion and the deprivation of a sound wall subject us to unacceptable noise levels, it also subjects us to visual disruptions. Because you pushed the freeway almost on top of us, while refusing to build a sound wall, the high profile vehicles are not only incredibly loud, they can be seen as they incessantly speed by, within mere yards from our homes. We are under constant assault thanks to this project and your refusal to protect our neighborhood with a sound wall. Not only are we subject to the unacceptable increase in noise, your refusal to construct a sound wall has also put our neighborhood and our residents at grave risk of harm.</p> <p>Our homes are unique in that they are directly below the freeway. There is no high sound wall to protect us from the risk of a vehicle or debris flying down below into our homes or our street. Furthermore, if anything flammable gets over the inadequately low wall that has been constructed, it is our homes and our families at risk- for the few remaining trees that weren't decimated to make room for the expansion, could easily ignite and destroy our homes.</p> <p>This expansion has done nothing but negatively impact our neighborhood. As such, we are once again asking that the wall along the section of freeway above our homes be extended to a height that protects us from the increased noise; the increased risk of harm from being insufficiently protected from debris or fire hazards; as well as the overall visual blight that is now looming over our entire neighborhood.</p> <p>Failing to protect our neighborhood by pushing the freeway closer to our homes, yet willingly failing to construct the wall to a height similar to nearly EVERY section of wall along the 680 corridor puts us at risk and is nothing short of negligence.</p>

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
6/30/20 8:25 PM	Betsy Burkhart Communications and Outreach Manager City of Walnut Creek 925.943.5895 Cell: 925.404.4994 burkhart@walnut-creek.org	Email (CCTA)	Hi, Lynsey –  As someone who heads south on 680 from Walnut Creek to Bollinger Canyon each day, watching the progress in the first half of the year on the SB 680 project has been incredible.  We are sharing the info about the July closure at South Main, and wanted to find out what kind of additional outreach CCTA has been doing to reach homeowners in the area – assuming those who have registered for updates have been getting them. I just registered for the updates, didn't realize that I hadn't subscribed already!!!  Hope you are doing well –  Thanks, Betsy
7/10/20 12:17 PM	Matt Williams mwillia@mac.com	Comment Form	This is about "congestion relief" and not reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled! Also, this project, will it help make the Sustainable Communities Strategy a success or not? #climatechange
7/10/20 12:40 PM	Jeff Jacoby Innovate680@apologise.to	Comment Form	As a single driver paying gasoline taxes, I am paying for wear and tear of the roadways for electric cars and trucks that get to use these lanes for reduced costs or free.
7/10/20 3:57 PM	Joe Bolte joebolte@gmail.com	Comment Form	Adding any lane, including a managed lane will worsen VMT, particulate emissions and GHG emissions. The SEIR should compare enviro and equity effects for converting one lane to managed, converting two lanes, and mitigation via regional bus service.
7/11/20 12:21 PM	Barbara Simpson craigsimpson@sbcglobal.com	Comment Form	What testing and will be done to mitigate high decibels created by additional traffic (high speed) that nearby neighborhoods' are subject to I understand a sound study hasn't been done in over 10 years.
7/12/20 7:03 PM	Nick Waranoff waranoff@comcast.net	Comment Form	This is an important project to keep traffic moving.
7/27/20 3:47 PM	Anthony N Phillips a.n.phillips@att.net	Comment Form	I think there are better ways to reduce traffic and congestion without road building. I think building more roads causes the problems... Mass transit / public transport systems like BART are more efficient and effective, so are smaller cars and electric cars I would prefer a rapid transit lane for trains or buses or an electric motor bike lane
7/29/20 4:32 PM	David Schonbrunn, President Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund (TRANSDEF) P.O. Box 151439 San Rafael, CA 94915-1439 415-370-7250 cell & office David@Schonbrunn.org	Email (Project)	Please find the attached NOP comments. An email indicating receipt would be much appreciated.  <b>Letter Attachment</b> Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund P.O. Box 151439   San Rafael, CA 94915   415-331-1982  July 29, 2020 By E-Mail to: info@innovate680.com  Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP Department of Transportation, District 4

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
			<p>P.O. Box 23660 MS 8B Oakland, CA 94623-0660</p> <p>Re: I-680 Express Lanes Project NOP</p> <p>Dear Ms. Rashid:</p> <p>The Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund, TRANSDEF, is an environmental organization focused on reducing the climate impacts of transportation. We offer the following comments on the Interstate 680 Express Lanes Project Notice of Preparation ("NOP").</p> <p>Our first comment is that the dumbed-down website, innovate680.com, is obviously intended only for the general public. By not even offering a copy of the NOP, there is no detailed Project Description. That makes it impossible for a professional to fully comment, and violates the requirement to circulate the NOP.</p> <p><u>Avoid Caltrans' Past Bad Practices</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We must insist that Caltrans cease and desist from its novel EIR/EA format that eliminates discussion of the significance of the identified impacts, or disclosure of the thresholds of significance. Findings of significant impacts are the heart of CEQA. As a result, an EIR missing these critical elements cannot be considered to be a valid CEQA document.</li> <li>2. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "To the extent that a project relieves congestion by enhancing operations and improving travel times in high congestion travel corridors, GHG emissions, particularly CO2, may be reduced." With an analysis of induced demand, it will be apparent that there will be no congestion relief. Therefore, there will be are no GHG emissions reduction benefits from the project.</li> <li>3. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "The proposed Express lanes would encourage and support ridesharing, carpooling, and transit use, to reduce vehicle trips and their associated GHG emissions." That statement is not descriptive of the real world in which solo driving predominates.</li> <li>4. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "Express lanes are intended to facilitate transit and other alternatives to solo driving." On the contrary, their facilitation of solo driving will result in lower use of alternatives. Any use of such claims must be accompanied by data supporting the contention.</li> <li>5. Merely showing "a reduction in future emissions with the project compared to existing emissions" is not sufficient "evidence of substantial progress in reducing emissions." Substantial progress is necessarily a quantitative evaluation of the rate of reduction.</li> <li>6. Do not try to rely on statements such as the following: "The proposed project would not ... change the type or amount of growth expected. California has reached the point where suburban development supported by a freeway network has stopped working. Caltrans' projects merely continue the status quo, while ignoring the</li> </ol>

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
			<p>regional problems of congestion and excessive VMT growth that arise from land uses that are dependent on solo driving for mobility. It is well-known that highway expansion favors auto-dependent suburbs, while transit expansion favors more compact development.</p> <p><u>Issues to Study</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate whether the proposed project is consistent with the performance targets in Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan, which calls for increasing the percentage of nonauto mode share and reducing VMT. A policy inconsistency would be a significant impact of this checklist item: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or <u>policy</u> establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Verify the legality of the project. All during the 1990s, the Clean Air Act prohibited the building of general-purpose lanes in ozone non-attainment areas. TRANSDEF has no reason to believe that these provisions are not still operative. Because the Bay Area is still a non-attainment area, it would be illegal to construct managed lanes or express lanes, which function just like general purpose lanes by permitting use by solo drivers.</li> <li>3. Develop a methodology that incorporates induced demand in the estimation of VMT for use in the modelling of VHD, LOS, travel times, travel speeds and improvements in measures of effectiveness.</li> <li>4. Use the following criterion for GHG Analysis: Will the rate of the project's GHG reductions (increases) impede progress towards the State's achievement of its goals of reducing GHGs below 1990 levels by 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050? Will the emissions trajectory be similar to the rate of reduction needed by the State?</li> </ol> <p><u>Alternatives</u></p> <p>The proposed project is doomed to failure. The current transportation literature cited in the Department's own <i>Transportation Impacts Analysis under CEQA</i> (TAC) guide acknowledges that new lanes will essentially fill up in the medium-to-long term due to induced demand, eliminating the desired congestion relief. This understanding is not reflected in the Project Purpose and Need. The increase in VMT that is expected to be the result of this project is contrary to the State's Mobile Source Strategy, because it will result in increased GHGs. <b>Before starting an EIR, project leaders need to consider alternatives and identify ways to reduce the growth in VMT so as to result in a much faster rate of GHG emissions reductions.</b> The entire project needs to be rethought, starting from the foundation of induced demand.</p> <p>As you know from the TAC (p. 8), the Alternatives Analysis is essential in capacity increasing projects. The practice of eliminating all alternatives from the study, except perhaps a strawman intended to be discarded, is no longer acceptable.</p>

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
			<p>TRANSDEF has long objected to MTC's Express Lane program as short-sighted and counterproductive. Because the region's primary transportation problem is an imbalance between Single Occupant Vehicles (SOVs) and High Occupancy Vehicles (HOVs), the very last thing the region needs is to make its highest priority the facilitation of more SOVs. The sole function of Express lanes is to shift SOVs into HOV lanes, and in the process, raise the occupancy requirement for HOVs to suppress their usage and sell the space to SOVs. Because the capacity of an Express Lane is limited, a strategy based on them can only have a finite lifetime. They have no hope of accommodating regional SOV growth over decades, and are more likely to fill up in only 5 years, due to induced demand.</p> <p>The purpose of HOV lanes is to offer the travel time advantage of a free-flowing lane, as an incentive to individuals willing to undertake the minor inconvenience of carpooling.</p> <p>We urge Caltrans to study the following alternative: A Sustainable Approach to Congestion. It would greatly increase the use of HOV lanes by HOVs, something Caltrans has never seriously attempted, to our knowledge. The elements of such a program would be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arrange the hours of HOV lane operation to mirror the hours that general-purpose lanes are typically congested.</li> <li>2. Keep the occupancy requirement at 2, to make carpooling widely feasible.</li> <li>3. Enforce the HOV occupancy requirement by developing automatic camera systems that are capable of reliably seeing infrared heat signatures from passengers in the front and rear seats, and sponsoring legislation to enable automatic ticketing.</li> <li>4. Encouraging the use of smartphone-based ridematching apps, in which a driver is matched with a passenger heading to a destination near theirs. Widespread promotion of an app, along with a security check similar to how Uber/Lyft drivers are checked, would make the public aware of the possibility of gaining access to the HOV lane by using ridematching, again, like Uber, except that the payment is the ability to use the HOV lane. This is a no-capital-cost method of expanding system capacity.</li> <li>5. Develop an Express Bus network using HOV lanes.</li> <li>6. Convert Express Lanes back to HOV lanes.</li> <li>7. Consider converting a general-purpose lane to HOV lane in the gap section.</li> </ol> <p>Thank you for considering these comments.</p> <p>Sincerely, /s/ DAVID SCHONBRUNN David Schonbrunn, President</p>
7/29/20 4:48 PM	Gerald Cauthen P.E. Co-Founder and President, Bay Area Transportation Working Group (BATWG) 510 208 5441	Email (Project)	<p>Please review the attached BATWG comments to the I-680 Express Lane Proposal. Thank you.</p> <p><b><u>Letter Attachment</u></b> Bay Area Transportation Working Group</p>



DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
	<a href="mailto:cautn1@aol.com">cautn1@aol.com</a>		<p><i>Bay Area Transportation Working Group (BATWG) is an all-volunteer organization formed in 2012 to keep up with and respond to ongoing San Francisco Bay Area transportation issues and events. We are dedicated to finding ways of easing regional traffic congestion by improving the reliability, efficiency, and general appeal of the region's passenger rail and bus systems.</i></p> <p>July 29, 2020</p> <p>Caltrans District 4 Office, Office of Environmental Analysis 111 Grand Ave, Mail Station 8B, Oakland, CA 94612 Attention: Wahida Rashid, Caltrans Senior EP, CC &amp; ALA</p> <p><u>Re: Public Scoping Comments on I-680 Express Lane Completion Project</u></p> <p>Dear Ms. Rashid:</p> <p>The following comments are in response to the I-680 Express (HOT) Lane Completion Project.</p> <p>In their project website (<a href="https://www.innovate680.com/">https://www.innovate680.com/</a>), the sponsors of the HOT lane project acknowledge in the Key Environmental Issues/SB 743 tab that <b>“because new roadway capacity is proposed for the project, VMT will likely increase”</b>. The sponsors of the HOT lane project go on to indicate that “we will be looking closely at appropriate mitigation measures.”</p> <p>First, BATWG is opposed to the creation of new freeway capacity associated with this project (namely, a new freeway lane on northbound I-680 from Livorna Road in Alamo to the SR 242 junction in Concord). Alternatives to increasing car-carrying capacity of I-680 and the inevitable VMT increases it would generate must be considered. All appropriate alternatives and mitigation measures must be analyzed, including a long-distance I-680 express bus service from Benicia to San Jose and per-mile tolling of all I-680 mixed-flow lanes.</p> <p>Second, BATWG is strongly opposed to converting existing I-680 HOV lanes to VMT increasing HOT lanes. Instead, in the near term there should be rigorously-enforced HOV lanes limited to bonafide high-occupancy vehicles. In any event it must be clearly stated in the environmental clearance documents how and to what degree each alternative would affect VMT.</p> <p>Third, because of the likely adverse, VMT-increasing environmental impact of adding more freeway lane-miles and converting existing HOV lanes to HOT lanes, BATWG believes that an I-680 express bus route operating between Benicia to downtown San Jose with a limited number of intermediate stops would be far preferable to a HOT lane and should be analyzed as a project alternative. (The Los Angeles County MTA “J” Line, formerly known as</p>

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			<p>the "Silver Line," which operates express buses on I-10 and I-110, should be studied as a model.) These constraints should apply equally to the "Interstate 680 Express Lanes from State Route 84 to Alcosta Boulevard Project" covering ten miles between San Ramon and Sunol (EA 04-0Q3000/Project ID 0418000069), currently going through environmental clearance as another I-680 freeway expansion project also destined to inevitably induce new VMT. Bus connections between I-680 and Pleasant Hill BART or Walnut Creek BART station should also be studied, (possibly including, but not limited to, on/off ramps leading directly to/from any HOV lanes). This alternative could also incorporate an expansion and extension of the existing Wheels/LAVTA Route 70.</p> <p>An I-680 express bus line should be planned and arranged to eventually connect efficiently to other long-distance express bus lines. The ultimate objective should be to open a regional network of out-of-traffic express buses so as to provide long distance service between parts of the region that BART does not serve. An express bus system gives promise of providing this needed service more cost-effectively and with greater flexibility and many years sooner than an expansion of the BART system would.</p> <p>BATWG also believes that per-mile tolling on all existing mixed-flow I-680 lanes in the project area (Livorna Road to Benicia/Martinez Bridge) should be studied as a fully-competitive project alternative. When analyzed under the SB 743 framework, such tolling would reduce demand for VMT and free up existing freeway capacity for transit vehicles. Here's what MTC's just-released draft Plan Bay Area 2050 has to say on the subject: <i>"Implement Per-Mile Tolling on Congested Freeways with Transit Alternatives. Apply a per-mile charge on auto travel on select highly-congested freeway corridors where transit alternatives exist, with discounts for carpoolers, low-income residents, and off-peak travel, with excess revenues reinvested into transit alternatives in the corridor."</i> ("Transportation Strategies," p. 2.)</p> <p>In closing it is necessary to point out that MTC, a project sponsor, has for years dragged its feet on developing the regional express bus service promised to voters in 2004 Regional Measure 2 and first discussed at MTC in the 1970's. Rather than facing the region's transportation problems squarely, MTC is known for promoting ill-conceived political "pork barrel" boondoggles like Valley Link, the Oakland Airport Connector, and its VMT-increasing "HOT" lanes. The current need is to turn toward more enlightened and longer term solutions.</p> <p>Your consideration of these comments would be appreciated.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Gerald Cauthen, PE,  President, Bay Area Transportation Working Group  510 208 5441  www.batwgblog.com</p>
7/29/20 5:02 PM	Gerald Cauthen P.E. Co-Founder and President,	Email (Project)	A few minutes ago we sent you a set of comments in response to the I-680 Express Lane Project. Could you please confirm that you received them? Thanks.

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
	Bay Area Transportation Working Group (BATWG) 510 208 5441 cautn1@aol.com		
7/29/20 7:55 PM	Jason Bezis jbezis@yahoo.com	Comment Form	<p>I cannot find any official documents or documentation about this "public scoping comment" period on the www.innovate680.com website. Usually there is some "official" or "draft" document to respond to. I cannot even tell, for example, if this is a NEPA federal analysis or a CEQA state analysis or both a NEPA and CEQA joint federal/state analysis. Is this a "Notice of Preparation"? If so, where on the www.innovate680.com website can I find a formal Notice of Preparation?</p> <p>I believe that an express bus line on I-680 extending from San Jose to Benicia should be studied as a project alternative. If the "build project" option is selected, then I believe that an I-680 express bus should be studied as mitigation for the VMT that this freeway capacity expansion would generate. Express buses could cover the length of I-680 (more or less) from Benicia to downtown San Jose (with limited immediate stops possibly at Pleasant Hill or Walnut Creek BART, Bishop Ranch, West or East Dublin BART, and Warm Springs or Milpitas BART). This would have to be authentic express bus service, prioritizing the most direct route, deviating from the freeway as little as possible. If there were to be a Bishop Ranch stop (major employment center), it would need to be as close to I-680 as possible because the existing Bishop Ranch Transit Center is too far away (it is located next to the former Southern Pacific Railroad corridor, which the State of California had long designated as a mass transit corridor).</p> <p>I like the concept of studying direct bus connectors from I-680 to Walnut Creek and/or Pleasant Hill BART stations. I have used Wheels Route 70 buses from both BART stations many times over the past 17 years and have found it annoying to sit in several minutes of surface street traffic on Ygnacio Valley Road or Treat Boulevard between the BART stations and I-680. The existing southbound I-680 onramp is some distance from Pleasant Hill BART station and requires existing Wheels No. 70 "express buses" to have to travel south from Pleasant Hill BART station to Treat Boulevard, cross I-680, and then travel north on Pleasant Hill Road/North Main Street a few blocks to the southbound I-680 onramp. This can be especially time-consuming during afternoon rush hours.</p> <p>Concerning the proposed existing HOV lane conversion to "HOT" lanes, I believe that such conversions merit greater scrutiny under an SB 743 analysis than before because these lane conversions will induce more VMT from single-occupancy vehicles that now would be permitted to use the existing "HOV" lanes. These single occupant vehicles are not "high occupancy." This calls into question the environmental justification for initial construction of these freeway capacity increases as supposed "HOV" lanes.</p> <p>I also believe that "closing the gap" in the HOV lane by converting an existing lane of northbound I-680 between Alamo and SR 242 should be examined as an alternative. I remember when the I-680/SR 24 junction was re-constructed during most of the 1990s. I don't understand why an HOV lane wasn't planned at that time and the facility designed</p>

DATE & TIME	CONTACT INFO	SOURCE	COMMENTS
			eventually to accommodate an HOV lane. I want the alternatives analysis to explain. Converting an existing lane to HOV presumably would solve any "gap" problem while minimizing construction cost and disruption.

# Appendix F Consultation and Coordination Documents

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This appendix includes the following consultation and correspondence regarding the proposed Project:

- PM 2.5 Interagency Consultation – MTC Air Quality Conformity Task Force Determinations that Project is not a Project of Air Quality Concern
- 2023 Transportation Improvement Program and Plan Bay Area 2050 Project Listings
- Federal Highway Administration Project-Level Conformity Determination (To Be Provided with the Final Environmental Document, If Applicable)
- State Historic Preservation Officer Concurrence (To Be Provided with the Final Environmental Document, If Applicable)
- Native American Heritage Commission Coordination
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Species Lists
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Letter of Concurrence (To Be Provided with the Final Environmental Document, If Applicable)

See Appendix A, *Section 4(f)*, for coordination with official(s) with jurisdiction under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act.



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## Gorman, George

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**From:** George.Gorman@hdrinc.com  
**Subject:** RE: FMS POAQC Project TIP ID: CC-170017 (Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project) update: Project is a not a POAQC

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**From:** Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 6:21 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Hu <StephanieH@ccta.net>  
**Cc:** Fund Management System <fms@bayareametro.gov>; Kaya, Garrett <Garrett.Kaya@hdrinc.com>; Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>  
**Subject:** FMS POAQC Project TIP ID: CC-170017 (Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project) update: Project is a not a POAQC

**CAUTION: [EXTERNAL]** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Based on the recent interagency consultation with the Air Quality Conformity Task force, Project TIP ID CC-170017 (FMS ID: 6563) does not fit the definition of a project of air quality concern as defined by 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1) or 40 CFR 93.128 and therefore is not subject to PM2.5 project level conformity requirement. Please save this email as documentation confirming the project has undergone and completed the interagency consultation requirement for PM2.5 project level conformity. Note project sponsors are required to undergo a proactive public involvement process which provides opportunity for public review as outlined by 40 CFR 93.105(e). For projects that are not of air quality concern, a comment period is only required for project level conformity determinations if such a comment period would have been required under NEPA. For more information, please see FHWA PM2.5 Project Level Conformity Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air\\_quality/conformity/policy\\_and\\_guidance/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/conformity/policy_and_guidance/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm)

If you have any questions, please direct them to Harold Brazil at hbrazil@bayareametro.gov or by phone at 415-778-6747

**From:** [Gorman, George](#)  
**To:** [Jay Witt](#)  
**Subject:** FW: FMS POAQC Project TIP ID CC-170017 (Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project) update: Project is a not a POAQC  
**Date:** Friday, February 24, 2023 1:38:12 PM

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Hi Jay, See below. Thanks,

**George F. (Geof) Gorman**, JD  
D 714-730-2380

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**From:** Harold Brazil <[HBrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:HBrazil@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** Stephanie Hu <[StephanieH@ccta.net](mailto:StephanieH@ccta.net)>  
**Cc:** Fund Management System <[fms@bayareametro.gov](mailto:fms@bayareametro.gov)>; Harold Brazil <[HBrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:HBrazil@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Subject:** FMS POAQC Project TIP ID CC-170017 (Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project) update: Project is a not a POAQC

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** This message was sent from outside the company. Please do not click links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Project Sponsor

Based on the recent interagency consultation with the Air Quality Conformity Task force, Project TIP ID CC-170017 (FMS ID: 6563) does not fit the definition of a project of air quality concern as defined by 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1) or 40 CFR 93.128 and therefore is not subject to PM<sub>2.5</sub> project level conformity requirement. Please save this email as documentation confirming the project has undergone and completed the interagency consultation requirement for PM<sub>2.5</sub> project level conformity. Note project sponsors are required to undergo a proactive public involvement process which provides opportunity for public review as outlined by 40 CFR 93.105(e). For projects that are not of air quality concern, a comment period is only required for project level conformity determinations if such a comment period would have been required under NEPA. For more information, please see FHWA PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Level Conformity Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air\\_quality/conformity/policy\\_and\\_guidance/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/conformity/policy_and_guidance/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm)

If you have any questions, please direct them to Harold Brazil at [hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov) or by phone at 415-778-6747

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force  
Summary Meeting Notes  
January 26, 2023**

Participants:

Chadi Chazbek – Kimley-Horn  
Rodney Tavitias – Caltrans  
Alexander Smith – FTA  
Garrett Kaya – WKE  
Cam Oakes – Caltrans  
Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans  
Vicky Hsu – HDR  
Michael Dorantes – EPA  
Emma Maggioncalda – Caltrans  
Cidney Chiu – Caltrans  
John Saelee – MTC  
Shilpa Mareddy – Caltrans  
Patrick Pittenger – FHWA  
Paul Hensleigh – YSAQMD  
Sri Koneru – HDR  
Peter Lee – MTC/BATA  
Adekemi Ademuyewo – FHWA  
George Gorman – HDR  
Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD  
Eldar Levin - HDR

Ingrid Supit – MTC/BATA  
Olivia Chan – Kimley-Horn  
Mike Aronson – Kittelson  
Ace Malisos – Kimley-Horn  
Danae Hall – Kimley-Horn  
Angela Louie – MTC  
Prasanna Muthireddy – Kimley-Horn  
Jay Witt – Illingworth-Rodkin, Inc.  
Angie Kung – HDR  
Noemi Wyss – Kimley-Horn  
Uyenlan Vu – HDR  
Edwin Xie – Kimley-Horn  
Adam Crenshaw – MTC  
Harold Brazil – MTC  
Tanay Pradhan – Kimley-Horn  
Karishma Becha – Caltrans  
Stephanie Hu – CCTA  
Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans  
Erika Vaca – Caltrans  
Jonathan Goodman – Caltrans

**1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultation**

**a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status**

**i. Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project**

Garrett Kaya (WKE) began the presentation for the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project by reviewing the previous meeting with the Task Force March 2022, where:

- 1C, 2, 3 and No-Build Alternatives were presented
- The project was determined **not** to be a POAQC

Mr. Kaya stated the purpose of the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project was:

- Reduce peak-period congestion and delay
- Optimize use of existing HOV lane capacity
- Improve travel time reliability
- Provide efficient travel options for all vehicles

Based on comments received during public scoping and the implementation of SB743 for Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT), the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project team recently added a new alternative that converts an existing General Purpose (GP) lane to an express lane. The segment north of SR242 would remain as a HOV to Express Lane conversion. This new GP lane conversion alternative (number 5) does not add capacity since it does not add any new lanes and –

- Does not change land use along the corridor
- Truck percentages along the corridor are consistent with other Build Alternatives

## Build Alternatives

- Four Build Alternatives
  - **Alternative 1C**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment
  - **Alternative 2**
    - Reduce the Gap plus Braided Ramps
  - **Alternative 3**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment plus Braided Ramps
  - **Alternative 5**
    - Reduce the Gap with GP conversion plus Braided Ramps



Patrick Pittenger (FHWA): asked to confirm that the additional alternative being presented is because of the need to conform with the CEQA process as compared to the previous process that was undertaken. Mr. Kaya indicated that it was a combination of 2 reasons:

1. There is a VMT component that is now part of the CEQA process and in the state of California we are required to look at alternatives that reduce the vehicle miles traveled.
2. There were comments received during the public scoping period that asked to look at doing GP lane conversions and (originally) it didn't look like it was going to be doable. After digging into the details of the traffic data, alternative 5 showed results were better than the No build alternative – so at that point alternative 5 became a viable to move forward with.

# Opening Year 2027 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Truck AADT	Total AADT**	% Trucks
No Build*	6,108	156,623	3.9%
Alternative 1C	6,108	167,534	3.6%
Alternative 2	6,108	167,679	3.6%
Alternative 3	6,108	168,146	3.6%
Alternative 5	6,108	157,423	3.9%

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022  
 \*Truck Percentage from Caltrans 2020 Census Data applied to No Build AADT  
 \*\*General Purpose Lanes plus Express Lane

Build Alternatives do not add lane capacity that is available to truck traffic.



Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) commented: when the project is submitted to Caltrans for review, please make sure the information within the CTIPS database showing continuous funding throughout the all phases of the project – from PE to right away, because again, if Caltrans sees a gap, we are going to ask questions. Mr. Kaya acknowledged the comment.

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA, FHWA and Caltrans (deferring their determination to FHWA), the Task Force concluded the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project was not of air quality concern.

## ii. Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges Project

Sri Koneru (HDR) began the presentation for the Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges project by indicating the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), in cooperation with Caltrans, proposes to convert the existing all All-Electronic Tolling (AET) systems to Open Road Tolling (ORT) systems at the Antioch Bridge, Benicia-Martinez Bridge, and Carquinez Bridge.

Mr. Koneru also mentioned the proposed Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges project is located at the toll plazas for the Antioch Bridge, Benicia-Martinez Bridge, and Carquinez Bridge in Contra Costa and Solano Counties. The Project would provide toll discounts to high occupancy vehicles with three or more passengers (HOV 3+) at all three bridge locations.

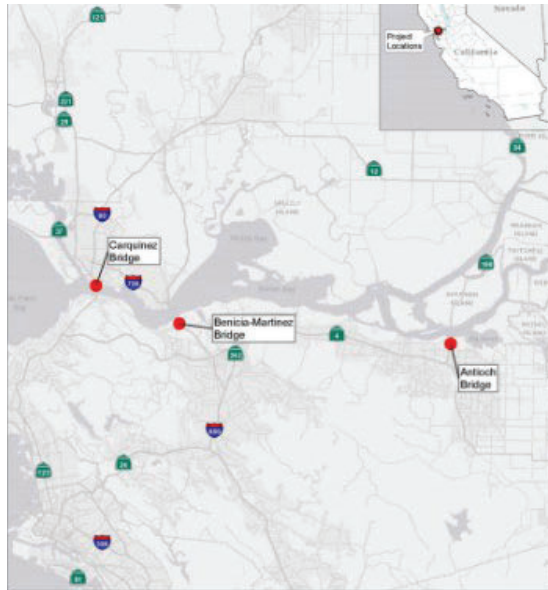
Mr. Koneru listed the purposes and needs for the Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges project with the following:

- Replace aging tolling infrastructure
- Enhance safety at toll plazas
- Improve operations through bridge toll plazas

## Project Location

### Northern Bridges (EA 04W520)

- **Antioch Bridge**: SR-160  
(Contra Costa County)
- **Benicia-Martinez Bridge**: I-680  
(Contra Costa County)
- **Carquinez Bridge**: I-80  
(Contra Costa and Solano Counties)



Mr. Koneru added that the Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges project is needed to address operational and safety deficiencies for vehicles traveling through BATA toll collection facilities at the Antioch, Benicia-Martinez, and Carquinez Bridge toll plazas. The existing toll collection system is aging, and improvements are required to meet the technological standards for both the existing AET systems and the proposed ORT systems. The existing toll collection booths and other civil infrastructure that were used during manual toll collection need to be removed to improve travel time and safety.





**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA, Caltrans and FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans), the Task Force concluded the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project was not of air quality concern.

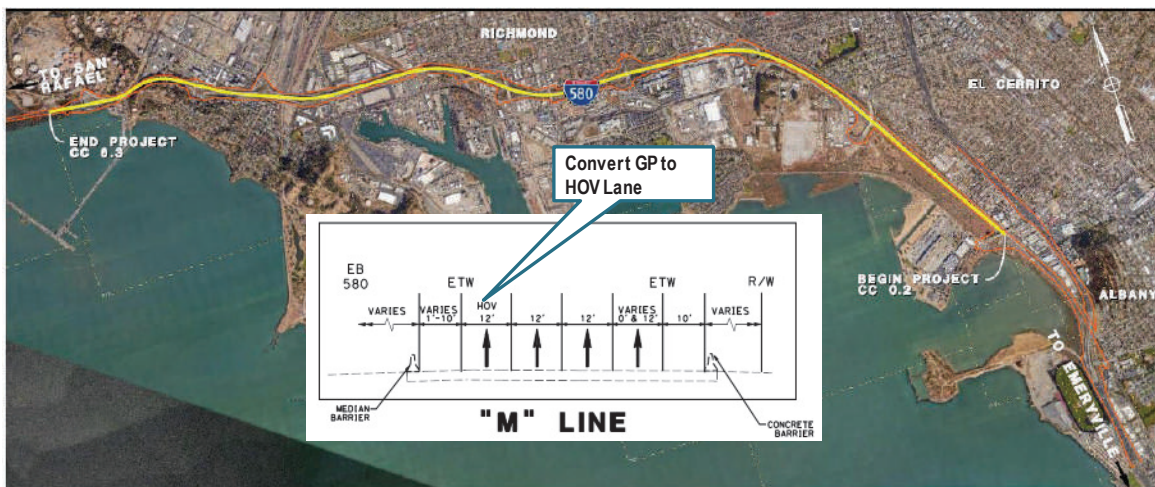
### iii. Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Project

Ace Malisos (Kimley-Horn) began the presentation for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project by indicating the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) proposes the Richmond-San Rafael (RSR) Bridge Open Road Tolling (ORT) and Interstate 580 (I-580) Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Project (proposed project). BATA developed the RSR Bridge Forward initiative which implements a suite of strategies to address congestion and improve options for travelling in the RSR Bridge Corridor. The RSR Bridge ORT and I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Project would provide safety and operational improvements on westbound I-580 approaching the RSR Bridge by reinstating a previous westbound I-580 HOV lane through Richmond to encourage carpooling and transit ridership, and replacing the existing tolling structure with open road tolling.

Mr. Malisos went on to say the purpose of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project is to:

- Promote mode shift by providing travel time savings for carpooling and transit riders;
- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and corresponding greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- Improve safety by eliminating the need to pass through the existing toll plaza; and
- Improve operational efficiency by upgrading the existing toll infrastructure to accommodate the future BATA system-wide upgrade on the toll collection system.

## I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane



Mr. Malisos also mentioned the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project is needed to address operational and safety deficiencies for vehicles traveling through the BATA toll collection facilities at the toll plaza and to encourage carpooling and transit ridership.

Mr. Malisos said the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project consists of the following improvements:

- Remove the existing RSR Bridge Toll Booths, tolling equipment and canopy structure and install an ORT gantry.
- Reconfigure I-580 mainline at the proposed ORT gantry to three lanes (two general purpose lanes and one HOV3+ lane) and improve weaving bottle neck caused by existing seven lanes merging to two lanes.
- Realign Stenmark Drive on-ramp to conform to I-580 reconfiguration and install separate ORT gantry for the Stenmark Drive on-ramp.
- Convert the leftmost general-purpose lane along I-580 to an HOV2+ lane from Regatta Boulevard interchange to the Stenmark Drive off-ramp
- Removal, replacement, or relocation of existing roadway signs and signposts, as needed, for the ORT and HOV conversion.
- Trenching and/or horizontal directional drilling (up to 3-ft deep and 2-ft wide) to extend electrical and communication conduit and fiber and bring these services to the tolling equipment, signage, and toll equipment building. Auxiliary cabinets may be required between toll equipment building and gantries.
- Modifications to drainage systems, grading, lighting, landscaping, and necessary utility connections/relocations for the new toll collection facilities.





Michael Dorantes (EPA) asked about what project factors are projected to contribute to reductions in VMT and greenhouse gas emissions and Mr. Malisos responded by indicating that the continuous HOV lane component of the project is projected to increase the number of people carpooling and using transit. (due to increased transit efficiency from the continuous HOV lane through the corridor)

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA, Caltrans and FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans), the Task Force concluded the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project was not of air quality concern.

#### iv. I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion Project

Ace Malisos (Kimley-Horn) began the presentation for the I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion project by stating the The Bay Bridge Forward (BBF) Interstate 580 (I-580) Westbound (WB) High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Extension project is in the City of Oakland. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the Project sponsor, implementing agency, and lead agency on the project. Project partners include the Caltrans and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC).

Mr. Malisos went on to say the I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion project proposes to convert 1.7 miles of an existing general-purpose (GP) lane to an HOV lane. Signing and striping work would occur along the existing HOV lane between I-580 Post Mile 46.9 and I-580 Post Mile 46.7. The proposed HOV lane would extend from the beginning of the existing HOV lane on I-580 WB at the Interstate 80 (I-80) WB connector to approximately the Broadway-Richmond Boulevard Undercrossing. The project limit extends further along I-580 WB from the Broadway-Richmond Boulevard Undercrossing to I-580 Post Mile 43.2 at the Lake Park Ave Overcrossing for the installation of advanced HOV lane signs and restriping. No HOV lane extension is proposed for this portion of the Project site.

#### Project Location



Mr. Malisos pointed out; the purpose of the I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion project is to:

- Increase person throughput during peak hours.
- Improve travel time reliability to support buses and high-occupancy vehicles.
- Encourage mode shift by providing travel time savings for HOV and transit users.

Mr. Malisos added GP Lane conversion to an HOV lane would entail the removal of current striping, application of new striping, and installation of signs. The proposed HOV lane would be an HOV 3+. The HOV lane would be separated from the remaining GP lanes by a combination of dashed white striping (continuous access), a single solid white stripe (access discouraged), or solid, double, white striping (restricted access). The proposed HOV lane would operate during the same hours as the existing facility between 5 A.M and 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. and 7 P.M. Monday through Friday. All Project work would occur within the current freeway roadway width and right-of way.

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA, Caltrans and FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans), the Task Force concluded the I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion project was not of air quality concern.

#### **b. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity**

##### **i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern**

The Task Force had no concerns.

**Final Determination:** With input from FTA, FHWA, EPA, Caltrans and MTC, the Task Force agreed that the projects on the exempt list **2b\_POAQC\_Exempt\_List\_012323.pdf** are exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> project level analysis.

### **3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns**

#### **a. Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects**

Adam Crenshaw (MTC) stated MTC is proposing to add two projects the TIP through future amendments and the projects are scheduled to go to the Commission in March 2023. Abhijit Bagde (Caltrans) commented that Caltrans will be making an internal TIP approval on Friday (1/27/23) and Patrick Pittenger (FHWA) indicated he would follow-up with federal partners to complete the process.

Task Force members had no other comments.

#### **b. Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements Project**

Eldar Levin (HDR) began the presentation for the Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements project by identifying the project purpose and need –

Need:

- Significant highway peak period congestion results in increased travel times

- Accelerated growth in the jobs-housing imbalance between the East Bay and Peninsula has increased traffic congestion and travel times along the corridor
- Limited Transbay highway capacity is available, resulting in the need implement innovative strategies to improve operations and mobility, and incentivize bus use
- Current Transbay buses do not have travel time reliability for users

Purpose:

- Increase person throughput by encouraging use of Transbay bus services
- Improve travel time reliability for bus commuters
- Reduce peak-period congestion and delay along the SR 84/Dumbarton Bridge corridor

Mr. Levin went on to describe the Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements project including the following components:

- Implement a contiguous preferential bus-only lane along the right side of Bayfront Expressway in both directions, between Marsh Rd and the Dumbarton Bridge (< 3 mi), by use of signing, striping, and signals
- Operate the PTBOL in the WB direction during the AM peak period, and in the EB direction during the PM peak period, at a maximum speed of 35 mph (Note: the PTBOL is closed all other times)
- Implement an additional traffic signal phase at the intersections with Marsh Rd and Willow Rd, to accommodate a dedicated left-turn phase for buses (in the WB direction)
- Deploy Transit Signal Prioritization at the following five intersections: Marsh Rd, Chrysler Dr, Chilco St, and the two Facebook Way intersections
- Complete other minor improvements – relocations and/or protection of fixed objects, cold planing and overlaying pavement sections, modifying curb ramps and sidewalks

Mr. Levin concluded the discussion of the Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements project by indicating the following:

- The Project would reduce vehicle-hours of delay (VHD), person-hours of delay (PHD), travel times, and maximum individual delays: the Project would also increase travel speeds for all modes of travel;
- The PTBOL on SR 84/Bayfront Expressway would improve mobility between southern Alameda County and San Mateo County, increase person throughput, and reduce congestion within cities that are directly affected by traffic along the Dumbarton Bridge corridor;
- The Project is not anticipated to generate additional vehicular or truck trips, therefore AADT and truck percentages along SR 84 for the Build and No Build conditions are considered the same

After Mr. Levin's presentation, Harold Brazil (MTC) confirmed the Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements project was included in MTC's travel demand modeling for the Plan Bay Area 2050 (PBA2050) conformity analysis and Patrick Pittenger (FHWA), Michael Dorantes (EPA) Alexander Smith (FTA) and Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) concurred for the regional conformity determination for the project.

#### 4. Consent Calendar

##### a. December 1, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

**Final Determination;** With input from all members, the Task Force concluded that the consent calendar was approved.

## 5. Other Items

- Cam Oakes (Caltrans) and Cid Chiu (Caltrans) introduced themselves as the replacements for Dick Fahey's Caltrans District 4 Task Force representative.
- Andrea Gordon (BAAQMD) updated the group on EPA's proposal to lower the PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual standard and Michael Dorantes (EPA) followed the standard could be as low as 8 micrograms, or as high as 11 micrograms per cubic meter.
- Patrick Pittenger (FHWA) mentioned FHWA is currently looking to fill two positions: a Senior Community Planner for District 4 and an Air Quality Specialist.





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**Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting**  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Join Zoom Meeting @  
<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>  
**Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853**

(Additional Zoom Meeting Call-In Info on Next Page)

**January 26, 2023**  
**9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
  - a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status
    - i. Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project
    - ii. Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges Project
    - iii. Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Project
    - iv. I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion Project
  - b. Confirm Project Projects Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity  
Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns
  - a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects  
3a\_Regional\_AQ\_Conformity\_Review\_012623.pdf  
3a\_Attachment-A\_List\_of\_Proposed\_New\_Projects\_012623.pdf
  - b. Dumbarton Forward Operational Improvements Project  
– Task Force discussion for regional conformity determination
4. Consent Calendar
  - a. December 1, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
5. Other Items

Next Meeting: February 23, 2023

MTC Staff Liaison:

Harold Brazil

[hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov)

Harold Brazil is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

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213.244.140.110 (Germany)

103.122.166.55 (Australia Sydney)

103.122.167.55 (Australia Melbourne)

64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

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## *Memorandum*

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: January 23, 2023

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

A project sponsor representing one project, seeks interagency consultation from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) at today's meeting and the projects are as follows:

No.	Project Sponsor	Project Title
1	Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)	Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project
2	Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) in cooperation with Caltrans	Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges Project
3	Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) in cooperation with Caltrans	Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Project
4	Metropolitan Transportation Commission	I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Conversion Project

**2ai\_Interstate\_680\_NB\_Exp\_Lane\_Completion\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project)

**2aii\_Open\_Rd\_Toll\_Convers\_North\_Bridges\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the Open Road Tolling Conversion Northern Bridges project)

**2aiii\_Richmond\_San\_Rafael\_Bridge\_Open\_Rd\_Toll\_HOV\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Open Road Tolling and I-580 Westbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane project)

**2aiv\_I-580\_WB\_HOV\_Lanes\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the I-580 Westbound HOV Lanes project)

MTC also requests the review and concurrence from the Task Force on a project which a project sponsor has identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC. **2b\_POAQC\_Exempt\_List\_012323.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

## Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern

**Project Title: Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project**  
**Summary for Air Quality Conformity – Revision 1 3-28-2022, Revision 2 12-23-2022**  
**Task Force Meeting: March 24, 2022**

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### **Description**

Project will address the gap in the northbound (NB) managed lane on Interstate 680 (I-680) between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242). Currently, I-680 NB includes an express lane from Alcosta Boulevard to Livorna Road and an HOV lane from SR-242 to about one mile south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The 'gap' between these two managed lane segments extends for 7.5 miles.

Five alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Project: one No Build alternative and four Build Alternatives. The five alternatives are:

No Build Alternative - Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements made.

Build Alternative 1C - Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5 mile "gap" between the two existing managed lane segments by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location with minor restriping of the off-ramp gore.

Build Alternative 2 - Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I 680/SR-24 interchange. Traffic operational improvements would be made by addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on- and off-ramp configuration. The existing NB truck scale facility near the Treat Boulevard off ramp would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks will access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

Build Alternative 3 - Alternative 3 represents the combined project improvements proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5 mile "gap" between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility near the Treat Boulevard off ramp would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks will access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

Build Alternative 5 - Alternative 5 is comparable to Alternative 2, leaving a 2-mile gap in the managed lane and constructing braided ramps between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard; however, instead of widening or reducing lane and shoulder widths to add an express lane from the Livorna interchange to the South Main Street interchange and south of the North Main Street off-ramp to the SR-242 interchange, Alternative 5 converts the inside general-purpose lane to an express lane at these locations.

### **Background**

NEPA process for Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) is in process  
Public review for Draft EIR/EA is anticipated May/June 2023  
No comments received on air quality thus far  
Seeking air quality conformity determination on or before December 2023  
Schedule based on deadline for STP funding allocation

**Not a Project of Air Quality Concern (40 CFR 93.123(b)(1))**

*(i) New or expanded highway projects with significant number/increase in diesel vehicles?*

Not a new or expanded highway project.

Improvements to I-680 NB managed lanes only.

No change in traffic volume or truck percentages on I-680.

*(ii) Affects intersections at LOS D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles?*

Diesel vehicles (trucks) currently represent between 6.8% and 2.7% of the AADT on I-680, based on Caltrans 2020 Traffic Census Data. Truck percentages on NB I-680 are anticipated to be between 6.7% and 2.5% in the future years (2027, 2047, and 2050) for the Build Alternatives.

Interchanges and/or intersections will not be significantly altered by the project, nor do they serve a significant number of diesel trucks.

The project would not change land uses along the corridor. Thus, the project would not increase diesel traffic.

*(iii) New bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(iv) Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(v) Affects areas identified in PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> implementation plan as site of violation?*

No. The Project would not result in an increase of either PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels compared to the No-Build Alternative. Additionally, the Project location is not in an area identified by the SIP as one that could violate or possibly violate the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

**RTIP ID#** *(required)* 21-T12-116

**TIP ID#** *(required)* CC-170017

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force Consideration Date**

3/24/2022

**Project Description** *(clearly describe project)*

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, congestion relief, and operations. The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges. The Project limits on I-680 are from post mile (PM) R4.4 at the southern limit to PM 24.5 at the northern limit. More than one configuration is under consideration for the proposed Project, including the construction of a northbound express lane between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242) (PM R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). In addition, the Project would convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (PM R18.87 to R22.87, approximately 4.0 miles) to an express lane.

Five alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Project: one No Build alternative and four Build Alternatives. The Build Alternatives satisfy the Project purpose and need, while avoiding and/or minimizing environmental impacts. The five alternatives are:

No Build Alternative - Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements made.

Build Alternative 1C - Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location with minor restriping of the off-ramp gore.

Build Alternative 2 - Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I 680/SR-24 interchange. Traffic operational improvements would be made by addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on- and off-ramp configuration. The existing NB truck scale facility near the Treat Boulevard off ramp would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks will access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

Build Alternative 3 - Alternative 3 represents the combined project improvements proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility near the Treat Boulevard off ramp would remain in its current location with access provided directly from the mainline. Trucks will access the facility on a new dedicated truck scale off-ramp.

Build Alternative 5 - Alternative 5 is comparable to Alternative 2, leaving a 2-mile gap in the managed lane and constructing braided ramps between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard; however, instead of widening or reducing lane and shoulder widths to add an express lane from the Livorna interchange to the South Main Street interchange and south of the North Main Street off-ramp to the SR-242 interchange, Alternative 5 converts the inside general-purpose lane to an express lane at these locations.



<b>Type of Project:</b> Express Lane Extension/Gap Closure, Convert HOV lane to Express Lane				
<b>County</b>	<b>Narrative Location/Route &amp; Postmiles</b>			
Contra Costa County	Construct an Express Lane on NB I680 from Livorna Rd. to SR-242 (PM R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). Convert existing HOV lane to Express Lane on NB I-680 from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge (PM R18.87 to R22.87, approximately 4.0 miles) .			
<b>Caltrans Projects – EA# 04-0Q3100</b>				
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)				
<b>Contact Person</b> Stephanie Hu	<b>Phone#</b> (925) 256-4740	<b>Fax#</b>	<b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:StephanieH@ccta.net">StephanieH@ccta.net</a>	
<b>Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed (check appropriate box)</b>				
<i>Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>EA or Draft EIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FONSI or Final EIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>PS&amp;E or Construction</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other</i>
<b>Scheduled Date of Federal Action:</b> June 2024				
<b>NEPA Delegation – Project Type (check appropriate box)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 326 – Categorical Exclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 327 – Non-Categorical Exclusion</b>	
<b>Current Programming Dates (as appropriate)</b>				
	<b>PE/Environmental</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>ROW</b>	<b>CON</b>
<b>Start</b>	June 2020	June 2024	June 2024	January 2026
<b>End</b>	June 2024	December 2026	December 2026	December 2027
<b>Project Purpose and Need (Summary): (please be brief)</b>				
<p>The purpose of the proposed Project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680.</li> <li>• Reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor.</li> <li>• Encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service.</li> <li>• Optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor.</li> <li>• Offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.</li> </ul> <p>The need for the project to address existing transportation problems within the PSL are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congestion – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the area experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours.</li> <li>• System Continuity – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users.</li> <li>• Operational Improvements – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.</li> </ul>				

***Surrounding Land Use/Traffic Generators (especially effect on diesel traffic)***

The Project is located primarily within the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez in Contra Costa County, California (Figure 1). The Project is bounded from Fostoria Way to slightly north of Marina Vista Road by an urbanized area with residential and commercial development south of State Route 4 (SR-4), and industrial and residential areas north of SR-4 (Figure 2). The Waterbird Regional Preserve, a 198-acre regional park that primarily consists of the Al McNabney Marsh, lies east of I-680 at the northern end of the Project.

I-680 is a major north-south freeway connecting the Southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80), which crosses the Central Valley including the Sacramento metropolitan area. I-680 passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano counties. I-680 is part of the National Network under the Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) and provides connections to other National Network routes (such as I-580). I-680 also provides connections to STAA Terminal Access Routes and California Legal Truck Routes such as SR 84.

Land uses adjacent to the project area consist of both urban/developed land and open space and include industrial, residential, public/semi-public development. The existing (i.e., 2020) average truck volumes and percentages for the project area are provided in the table below. The project would not result in changes to land use that would affect diesel truck traffic in the area. Truck AADTs range between 9,440 and 5,643 (5.46 to 3.23 percent) based on the land uses served by this segment of I-680.

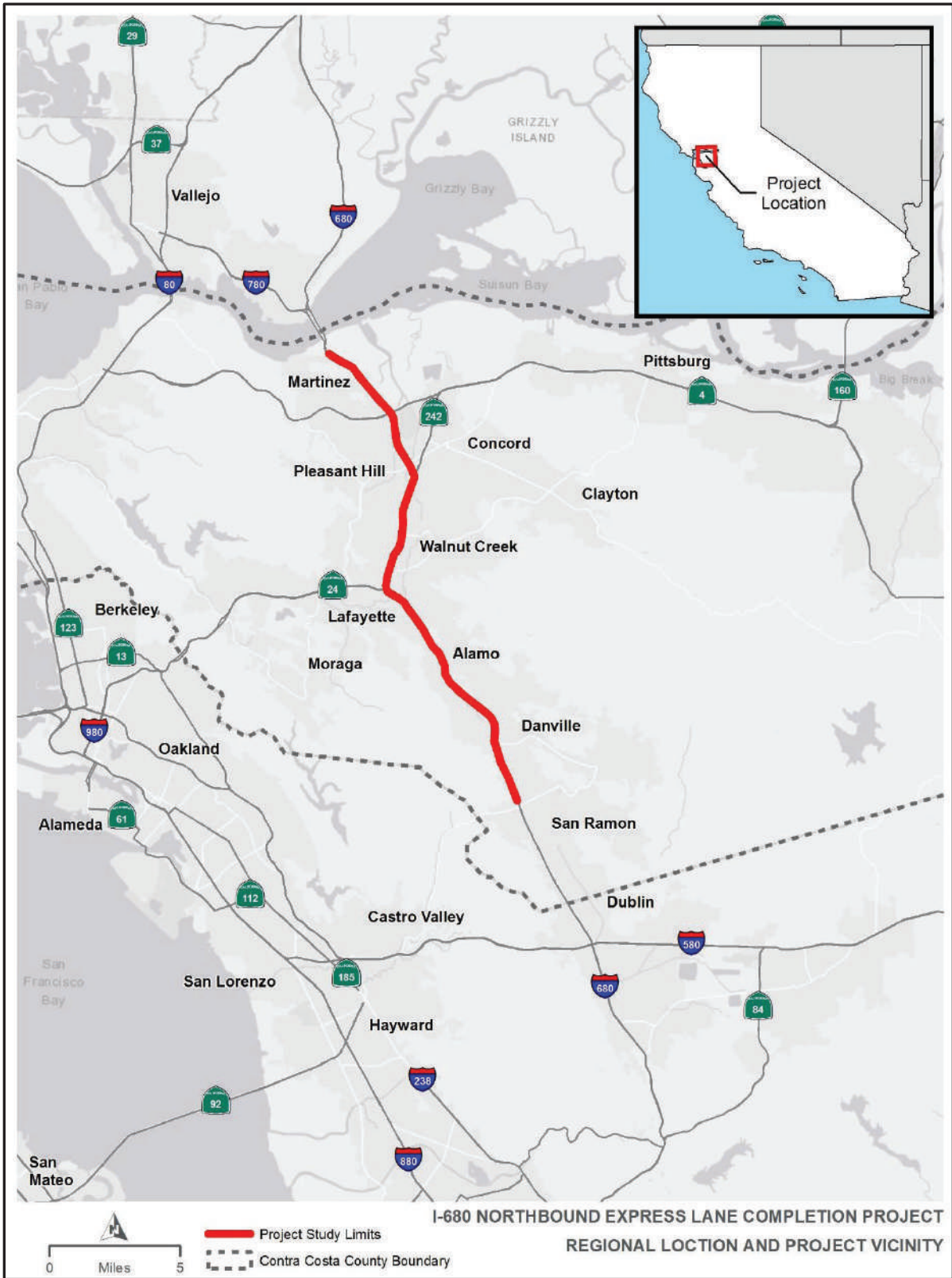


Figure 1. Regional Location and Project Vicinity



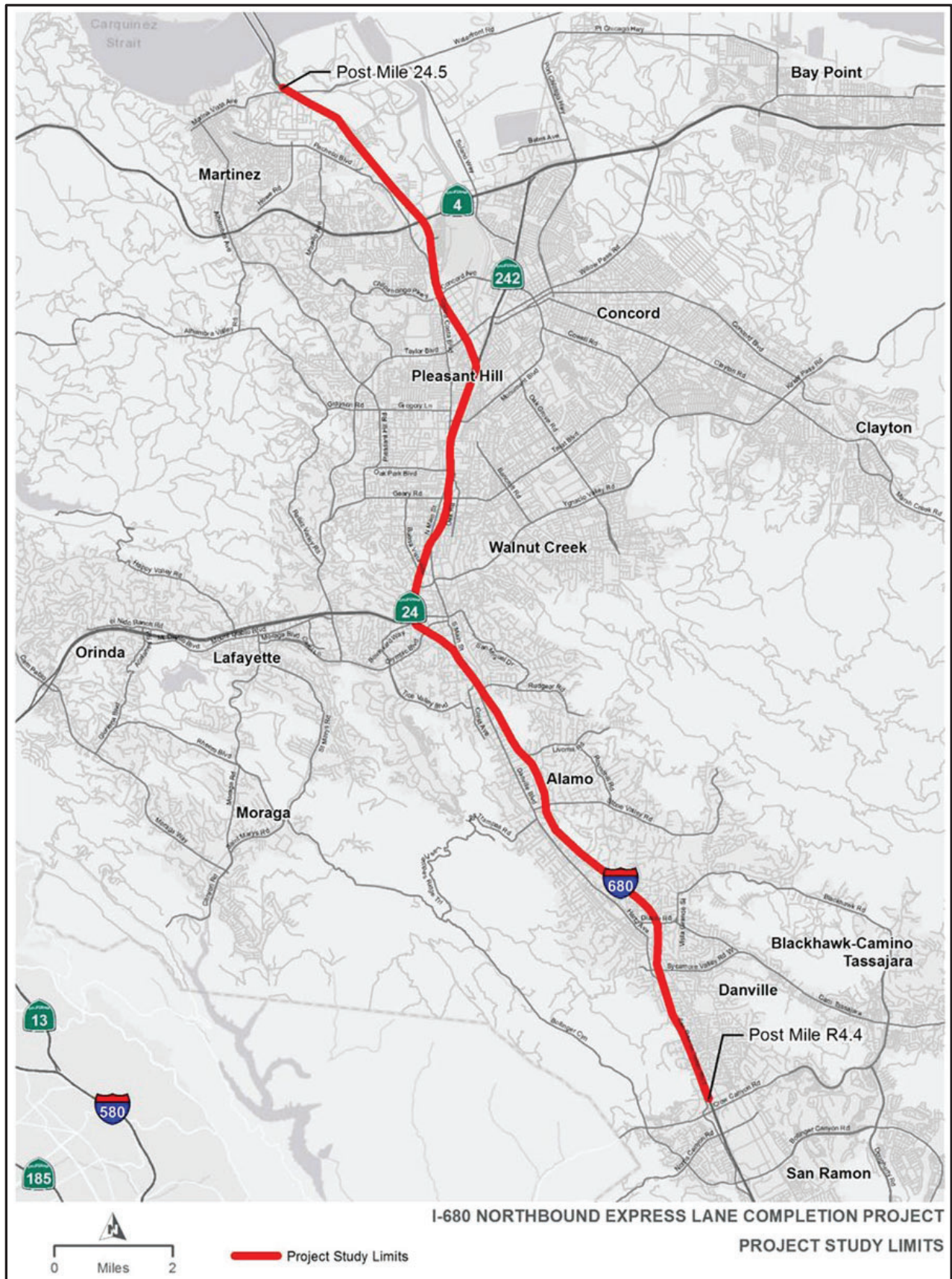


Figure 2. Project Study Limits

**Brief summary of assumptions and methodology used for conducting analysis**

Kittelson & Associates, Inc. developed the traffic forecasts by using the Contra Costa travel demand model. The model did not forecast truck percentages, therefore existing condition truck percentages from Caltrans 2020 Census Data are used to estimate truck AADT based on traffic forecasts for the No-Build conditions. The project Build Alternatives would not cause any changes in truck volumes, as it will not change adjacent land uses nor increase capacity for truck traffic.

**Opening Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility**

**Opening Year 2027**

I-680 NB Location	Total NB AADT					NB Truck AADT					% Trucks				
	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
N. of Alcosta	91,516	93,007	92,745	93,024	92,032	4,850	4,850	4,850	4,850	4,850	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
N. of Crow Canyon	103,687	105,506	105,216	105,536	104,496	6,636	6,636	6,636	6,636	6,636	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4
N. of Sycamore Valley	108,570	111,136	110,667	111,103	109,688	6,948	6,948	6,948	6,948	6,948	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
N. of El Cerro	108,000	110,502	110,070	110,468	109,205	6,912	6,912	6,912	6,912	6,912	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
N. of Stone Valley	108,685	115,066	114,532	115,011	112,493	6,956	6,956	6,956	6,956	6,956	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.2
N. of Livorna	112,630	119,186	118,685	119,176	113,460	7,208	7,208	7,208	7,208	7,208	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.4
N. of Rudgear	115,699	120,939	119,237	120,922	116,654	7,405	7,405	7,405	7,405	7,405	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3
S. of Olympic	105,720	111,041	108,521	111,034	106,619	6,766	6,766	6,766	6,766	6,766	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3
N. of Olympic	85,629	93,027	88,814	93,405	87,222	5,480	5,480	5,480	5,480	5,480	6.4	5.9	6.2	5.9	6.3
S. of Ygnacio Valley	143,147	151,725	146,855	151,606	143,156	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.1
S. of N. Main	143,147	151,725	146,855	151,606	143,156	5,440	5,440	5,440	5,440	5,440	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.8
S. of Treat	155,772	165,728	147,479	145,042	137,308	4,206	4,206	4,206	4,206	4,206	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.9	3.1
N. of Oak Park	156,623	167,534	167,679	168,146	157,423	6,108	6,108	6,108	6,108	6,108	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.9
N. of Monument	146,856	156,101	155,683	156,224	147,002	5,727	5,727	5,727	5,727	5,727	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9
S. of Willow Pass	77,561	86,693	86,460	86,605	77,947	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.9
N. of Willow Pass	89,628	96,006	95,751	95,862	90,976	4,392	4,392	4,392	4,392	4,392	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.8
N. of Concord Ave.	98,156	104,065	103,928	104,024	100,553	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6
N. of SR 4	90,884	94,943	94,850	94,964	91,431	6,180	6,180	6,180	6,180	6,180	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.8
S. of Waterfront	86,742	89,688	89,596	89,706	86,802	5,898	5,898	5,898	5,898	5,898	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8
N. of Waterfront	91,196	93,371	93,256	93,383	91,629	6,201	6,201	6,201	6,201	6,201	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8
Benicia Bridge	91,196	93,371	93,256	93,383	91,629	6,201	6,201	6,201	6,201	6,201	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)



**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility**

**Design Year 2047**

I-680 NB Location	Total NB AADT					NB Truck AADT					% Trucks				
	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
N. of Alcosta	106,838	108,417	108,067	108,393	107,306	5,662	5,662	5,662	5,662	5,662	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
N. of Crow Canyon	110,525	112,732	112,454	112,690	111,230	7,074	7,074	7,074	7,074	7,074	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4
N. of Sycamore Valley	116,495	119,232	118,860	119,383	117,515	7,456	7,456	7,456	7,456	7,456	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3
N. of El Cerro	115,010	117,789	117,418	117,792	116,135	7,361	7,361	7,361	7,361	7,361	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3
N. of Stone Valley	116,607	123,264	122,835	123,248	120,880	7,463	7,463	7,463	7,463	7,463	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2
N. of Livorna	119,352	127,460	126,936	127,661	120,631	7,639	7,639	7,639	7,639	7,639	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.3
N. of Rudgear	123,731	129,695	128,449	129,677	123,806	7,919	7,919	7,919	7,919	7,919	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.4
S. of Olympic	112,644	119,091	117,054	119,095	112,901	7,209	7,209	7,209	7,209	7,209	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.4
N. of Olympic	92,429	101,902	96,830	102,285	92,558	5,915	5,915	5,915	5,915	5,915	6.4	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.4
S. of Ygnacio Valley	149,828	161,563	154,059	161,256	148,596	6,143	6,143	6,143	6,143	6,143	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.1
S. of N. Main	149,828	161,563	154,059	161,256	148,596	5,693	5,693	5,693	5,693	5,693	3.8	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.8
S. of Treat	163,277	175,949	156,727	157,132	143,244	4,408	4,408	4,408	4,408	4,408	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1
N. of Oak Park	164,653	177,607	177,447	178,456	164,027	6,421	6,421	6,421	6,421	6,421	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.9
N. of Monument	156,073	166,474	166,230	166,715	155,040	6,087	6,087	6,087	6,087	6,087	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9
S. of Willow Pass	84,850	94,489	94,491	94,655	84,176	4,158	4,158	4,158	4,158	4,158	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.9
N. of Willow Pass	98,457	105,012	104,766	105,051	99,150	4,824	4,824	4,824	4,824	4,824	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.9
N. of Concord Ave.	108,394	114,349	114,202	114,473	109,775	2,927	2,927	2,927	2,927	2,927	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7
N. of SR 4	102,234	106,246	106,031	106,294	101,367	6,952	6,952	6,952	6,952	6,952	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.9
S. of Waterfront	98,899	101,492	101,234	101,484	98,543	6,725	6,725	6,725	6,725	6,725	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8
N. of Waterfront	106,809	109,013	108,843	108,987	106,784	7,263	7,263	7,263	7,263	7,263	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8
Benicia Bridge	106,809	109,013	108,843	108,987	106,784	7,263	7,263	7,263	7,263	7,263	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)

### RTP Horizon Year 2050

I-680 NB Location	Total NB AADT					NB Truck AADT					% Trucks				
	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
N. of Alcosta	109,137	110,728	110,365	110,699	109,598	5,784	5,784	5,784	5,784	5,784	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
N. of Crow Canyon	111,550	113,816	113,540	113,763	112,240	7,139	7,139	7,139	7,139	7,139	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4
N. of Sycamore Valley	117,684	120,446	120,089	120,625	118,689	7,532	7,532	7,532	7,532	7,532	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3
N. of El Cerro	116,061	118,882	118,521	118,891	117,175	7,428	7,428	7,428	7,428	7,428	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3
N. of Stone Valley	117,795	124,493	124,081	124,484	122,138	7,539	7,539	7,539	7,539	7,539	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2
N. of Livorna	120,360	128,701	128,174	128,933	121,707	7,703	7,703	7,703	7,703	7,703	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.3
N. of Rudgear	124,936	131,009	129,831	130,990	124,879	7,996	7,996	7,996	7,996	7,996	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.4
S. of Olympic	113,683	120,298	118,334	120,305	113,843	7,276	7,276	7,276	7,276	7,276	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.4
N. of Olympic	93,450	103,233	98,033	103,617	93,359	5,981	5,981	5,981	5,981	5,981	6.4	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.4
S. of Ygnacio Valley	150,830	163,039	155,139	162,703	149,413	6,184	6,184	6,184	6,184	6,184	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.1
S. of N. Main	150,830	163,039	155,139	162,703	149,413	5,732	5,732	5,732	5,732	5,732	3.8	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.8
S. of Treat	164,403	177,482	158,114	158,946	144,134	4,439	4,439	4,439	4,439	4,439	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1
N. of Oak Park	165,858	179,118	178,912	180,002	165,017	6,468	6,468	6,468	6,468	6,468	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.9
N. of Monument	157,456	168,030	167,812	168,289	156,246	6,141	6,141	6,141	6,141	6,141	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.9
S. of Willow Pass	85,944	95,659	95,696	95,862	85,110	4,211	4,211	4,211	4,211	4,211	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.9
N. of Willow Pass	99,782	106,363	106,119	106,430	100,377	4,889	4,889	4,889	4,889	4,889	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.9
N. of Concord Ave.	109,929	115,891	115,743	116,040	111,159	2,968	2,968	2,968	2,968	2,968	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7
N. of SR 4	103,936	107,942	107,708	107,993	102,857	7,068	7,068	7,068	7,068	7,068	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.9
S. of Waterfront	100,723	103,262	102,980	103,251	100,304	6,849	6,849	6,849	6,849	6,849	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.8
N. of Waterfront	109,151	111,359	111,181	111,328	109,057	7,422	7,422	7,422	7,422	7,422	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8
Benicia Bridge	109,151	111,359	111,181	111,328	109,057	7,422	7,422	7,422	7,422	7,422	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)

**Opening Year: If facility is an interchange(s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is an interchange (s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**Opening Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**Describe potential traffic redistribution effects of congestion relief (*impact on other facilities*)**

The proposed Project would implement congestion priced tolling in the proposed express lane to provide a more reliable travel time option to travelers. It would encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service by offering free access to the express lane. The proposed Project would also shift SOV drivers choosing to pay a toll from the general-purpose lanes to the Express Lane. It would also reduce recurring peak-period traffic congestion and delay on northbound I-680, which would reduce travel times for all travelers. In addition, the Project would optimize the use of the existing HOV lane capacity north of SR-242 by converting the HOV lane to an express lane. It should be noted that only two-axle vehicles are permitted in Express Lanes.

**Comments/Explanation/Details (please be brief)**

This project does not meet the definition of a Project of Air Quality Concern (POAQC) as defined by 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1). Specifically:

- The Project will not result in a significant number or significant increase in diesel vehicles in the area.
- The Build Alternatives do not change the number of diesel vehicles using the corridor nor do they degrade the LOS of the interchanges in in the corridor. The primary purpose of the project is to provide a reliable travel time option, encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service while, at the same time, optimizing the use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands for personal vehicles and transit (i.e., gasoline and electric powered vehicles).
- The Project does not involve a bus terminal, rail terminal, or transfer points involving a significant number of diesel vehicles congregating at a single location.
- The I-680 corridor is not an area identified by the SIP as a location where the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub> could be violated or possibly violated.

# CCTA Northbound 680 Express Lane Completion Project

Prepared for the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Task Force

Revised December 22, 2022



# Purpose

- Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Task Force
  - Last Met March 29, 2022 to discuss the Project
  - Presented Alternatives 1C, 2, 3 and No-Build
  - Project determined **not** to be a POAQC
- Introduce a new Build Alternative 5 to the Project
  - Alternative 5 does not change land use along the corridor
  - Truck percentages along the corridor are consistent with other Build Alternatives
  - Information from the initial presentation not pertaining to Alternative 5 have been moved to Background Slides





# PROJECT OVERVIEW



# Project Limits

## LEGEND/KEY

-  Project limits
-  SB & NB Express Lanes



# Project Purpose

- **The purpose of the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project is to:**



Reduce peak-period congestion and delay



Optimize use of existing HOV lane capacity



Improve travel time reliability



Provide efficient travel options for all vehicles



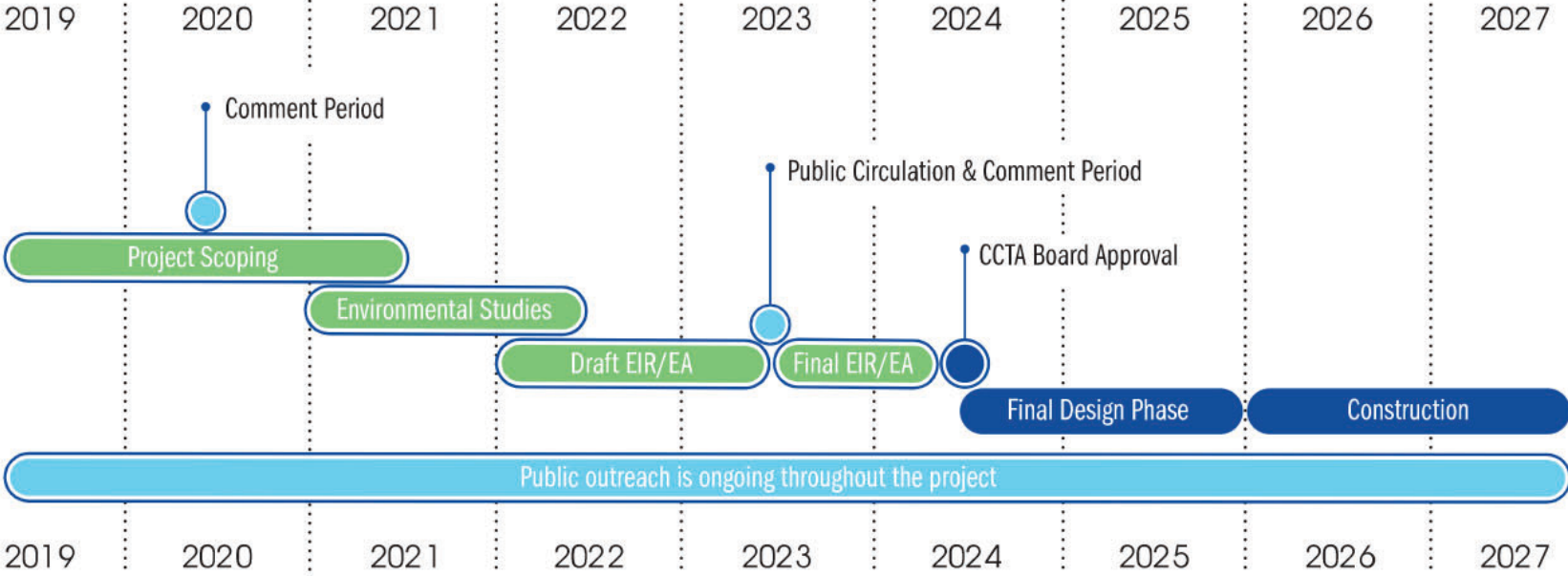
# Project Need

**The project is needed to address existing transportation problems within the project study limits:**

- **Congestion** – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the area experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours.
- **System Continuity** – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users.
- **Operational Improvements** – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.

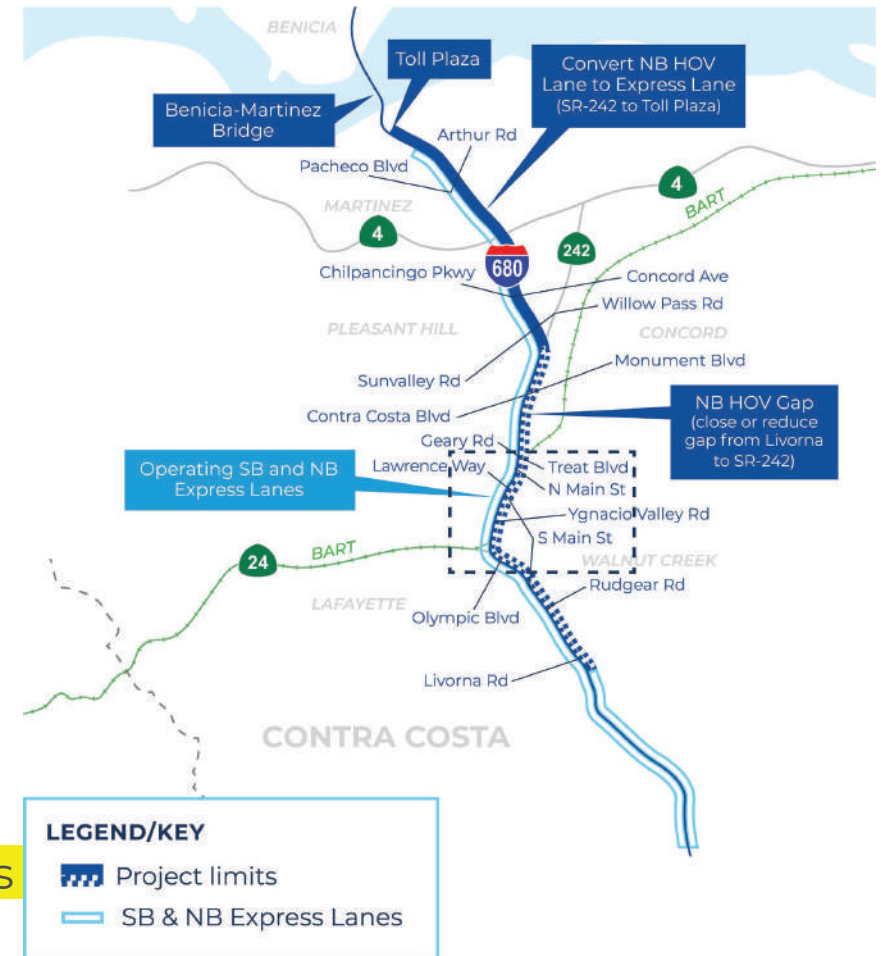


# Project Schedule



# Build Alternatives

- Four Build Alternatives
  - **Alternative 1C**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment
  - **Alternative 2**
    - Reduce the Gap plus Braided Ramps
  - **Alternative 3**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment plus Braided Ramps
  - **Alternative 5**
    - Reduce the Gap with GP conversion plus Braided Ramps





# Alternative 5

- **Convert NB I-680 Inside General Purpose Lane to an Express Lane**  
From Livorna Road to North of South Main Street
  - From South of North Main Street to the SR-242 Interchange
- **Construct Braided Ramps (Similar to Alternatives 2 & 3)**
  - Grade Separate Lawrence Way On-Ramp & Treat Boulevard Off-Ramp
  - Treat Boulevard Exits at Existing North Main Street Off-Ramp
  - NB Truck Scales Exit at Dedicated Off-Ramp
- **Convert Existing HOV Lane to Express Lane (All Build Alternatives)**
  - From SR-242 Interchange to South of Benicia-Martinez Toll Plaza



# Opening Year 2027 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Truck AADT	Total AADT**	% Trucks
No Build*	6,108	156,623	3.9%
Alternative 1C	6,108	167,534	3.6%
Alternative 2	6,108	167,679	3.6%
Alternative 3	6,108	168,146	3.6%
<b>Alternative 5</b>	<b>6,108</b>	<b>157,423</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022

\*Truck Percentage from Caltrans 2020 Census Data applied to No Build AADT

\*\*General Purpose Lanes plus Express Lane

Build Alternatives do not add lane capacity that is available to truck traffic.



# Design Year 2047 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Truck AADT	Total AADT**	% Trucks
No Build*	6,421	164,653	3.9%
Alternative 1C	6,421	177,607	3.6%
Alternative 2	6,421	177,447	3.6%
Alternative 3	6,421	178,456	3.6%
Alternative 5	6,421	164,027	3.9%

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022

\*Truck Percentage from Caltrans 2020 Census Data applied to No Build AADT

\*\*General Purpose Lanes plus Express Lane

Build Alternatives do not add lane capacity that is available to truck traffic.



# Design Year 2047 Vehicle Hours of Delay

	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 5
VHT (hr.)	45,428	44,280	41,689	46,166	41,996
Total delay (hr.)	27,101	25,390	22,607	27,046	23,778
Avg delay (sec/veh)	499	468	414	503	439

Source: DKS Associates I-680 NB Express Lanes VISSIM Operations Analysis, 2022



# Not a Project of Air Quality Concern

- Diesel vehicles (trucks) currently represent between 6.8% and 2.7% of the AADT on I-680, based on Caltrans 2020 Traffic Census Data. Truck percentages on NB I-680 are anticipated to be between 6.7% and 2.5% in the future years (2027, 2047, and 2050) for the Build Alternatives.
- Interchanges and/or intersections will not be significantly altered by the project, nor do they serve a significant number of diesel trucks.
- The project would not change land uses along the corridor. Thus, the project would not increase diesel traffic.
- **Statements on this slide are valid for Alternative 5.**



# Questions







THANK YOU

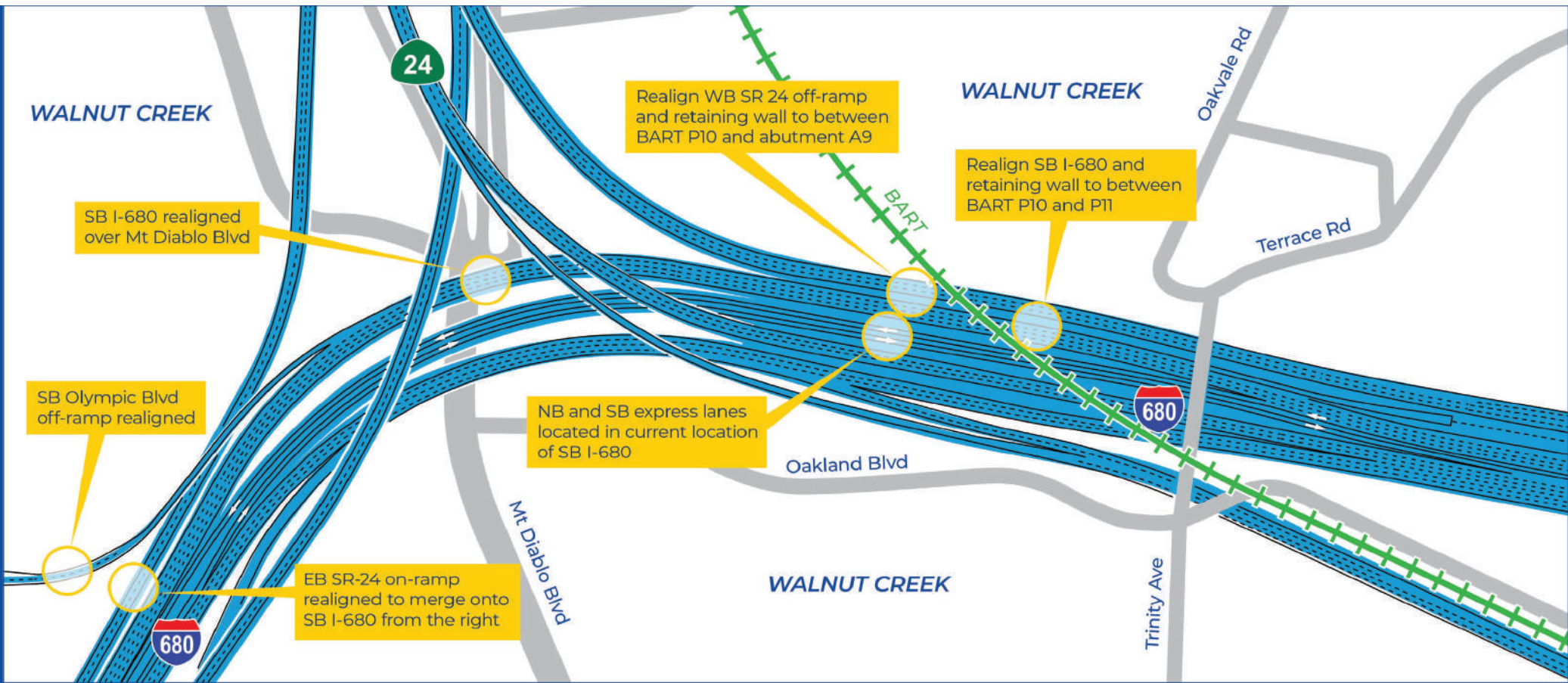


# Background



# PROJECT ALTERNATIVES





# Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project

## Alternative 1C — Close the Gap with Realignment



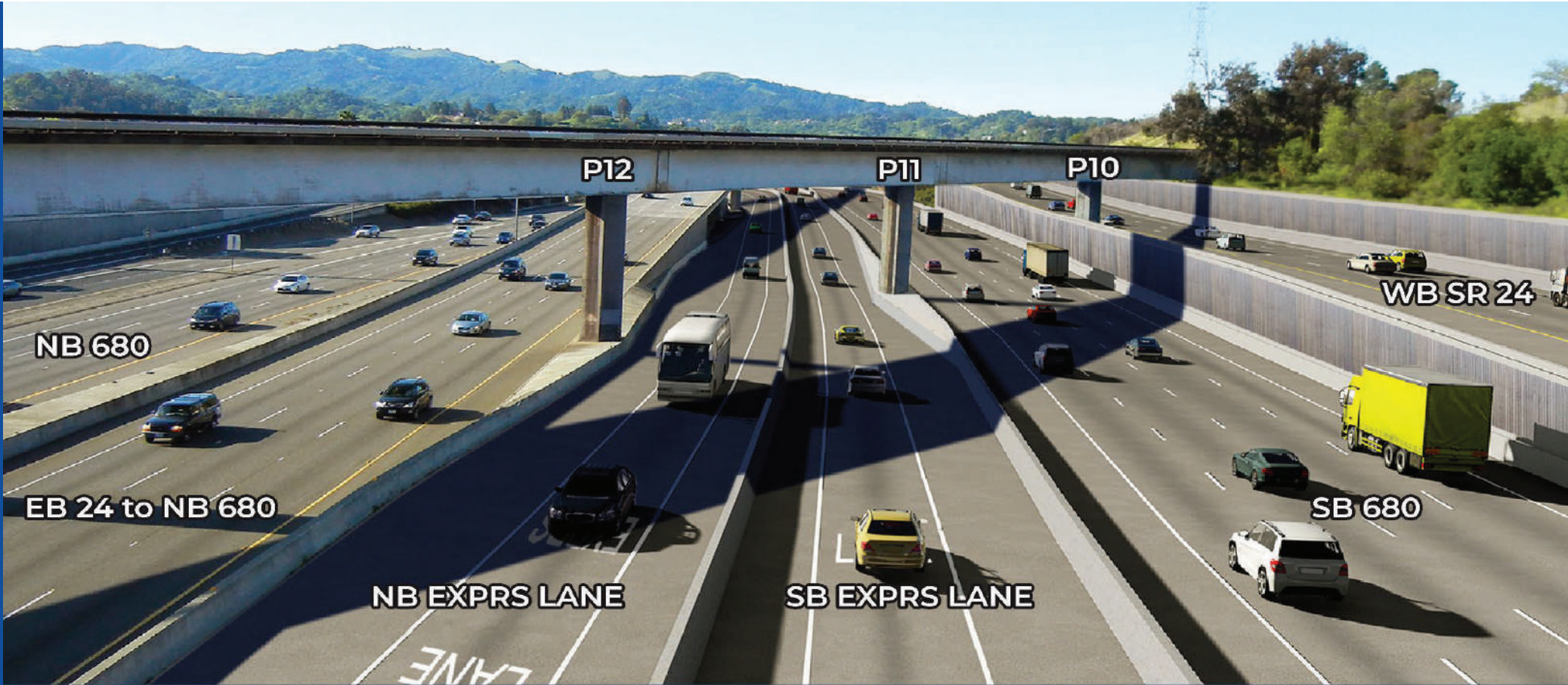




Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Existing Condition**



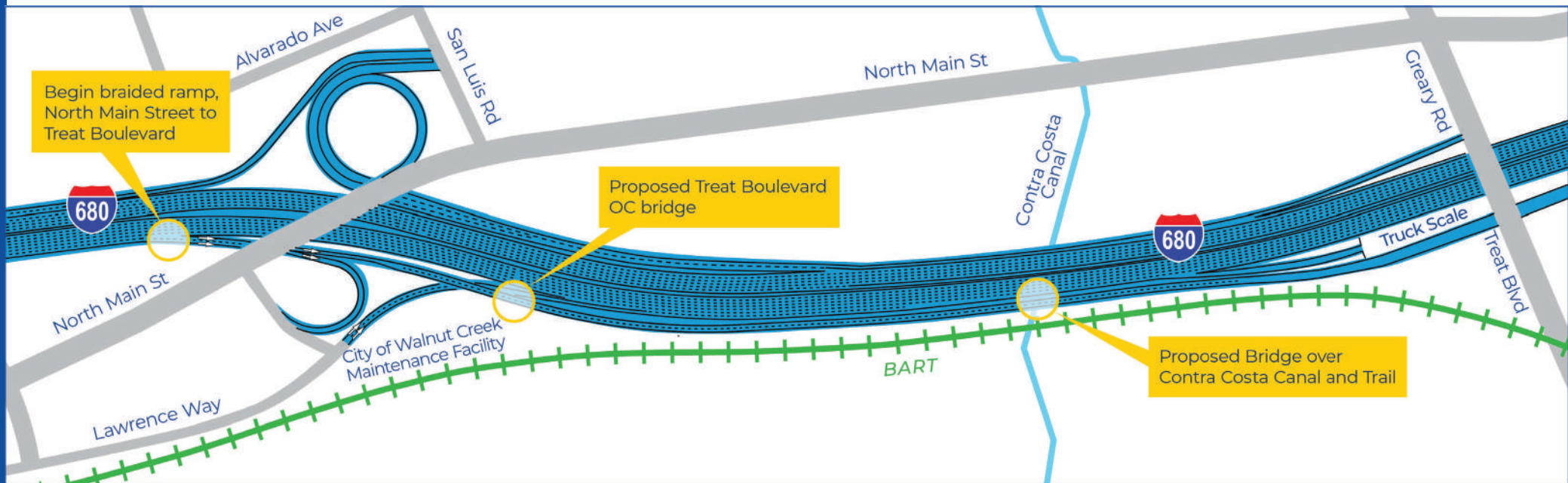




Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Alternative 1C**







# Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project

## Alternative 2 — Reduce the Gap plus Braided Ramps





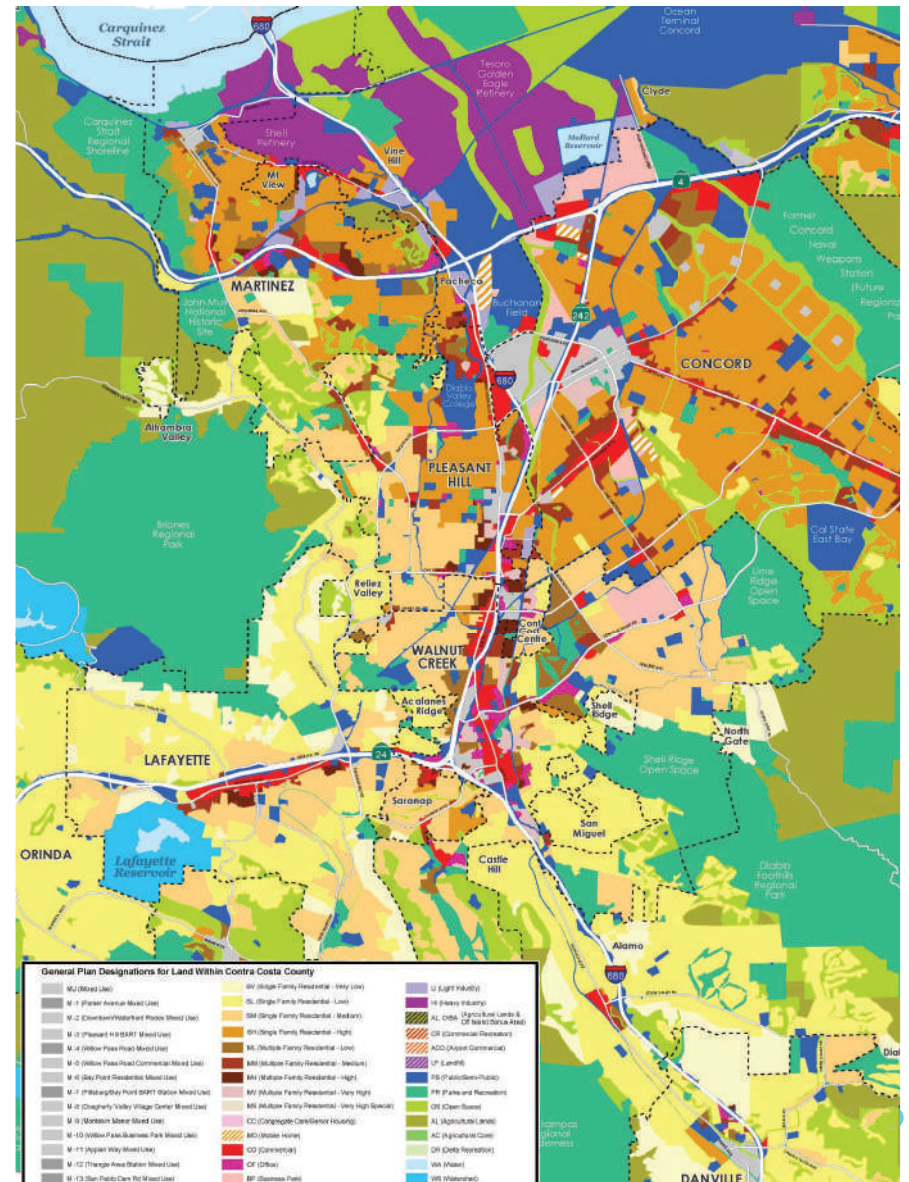
Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Alternative 3** — Close the Gap with Realignment plus Braided Ramps



# Land Uses

The project location and adjacent study area land uses are predominately:

- Commercial and Retail
- Residential
- Industrial
- Research and Development
- Open Space/Recreation





**Air Quality Conformity Task Force  
Summary Meeting Notes  
December 1, 2022**

Participants:

Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans

Dick Fahey – Caltrans

Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD

Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans

Ace Malisos – Kimley-Horn

Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans

Paul Hensleigh – YSAQMD

Jean Mazur – FTA

Patrick Pittenger – FHWA

Michael Dorantes – EPA

Jacqueline Kahrs – Caltrans

Adam Crenshaw – MTC

Harold Brazil – MTC

**1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultation**

**a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status**

**i. Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement Project (Follow-up Discussion on Task Force Determination)**

Harold Brazil (MTC) confirmed Jean Mazur (FTA) and Alexander Smith (FTA) had concurred that the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project wasn't of air quality concern. Michael Dorantes (EPA) and Patrick Pittenger (FHWA) also indicated their concurrence.

**Final Determination:** After follow-up discussions and with input from EPA, FTA, FHWA and Caltrans (deferring their determination to FHWA), the Task Force concluded that the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project was not of air quality concern.

**3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns**

Adam Crenshaw (MTC) made the following points:

- The extension of San Teresa Boulevard out of Gilroy cannot be classified as exempt under 40 CFR 93.126 or 40 CFR 93.127
- The roadway being extended currently classified as is a minor arterial.
- MTC believes the extension of the roadway is not regionally significant and adding this project to the TIP would not require an update to be able to the regional conformity analysis

Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) did not think the project would influence the regional conformity analysis and Harold Brazil (MTC) concurred with Mr. Tavitas.

Michael Dorantes (EPA) asked for confirmation of the road facility classifications in the project area and Mr. Brazil stated MTC will follow-up.

**Final Determination;** Task Force concluded that the US 101/SR-25/Santa Teresa Blvd Extension project should not be considered regionally significant for regional air quality conformity purposes.

#### **4. Other Items**

- Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) discussed and provided guidance on project environmental documentation requirements
- Patrick Pittenger (FHWA) provided an update on the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program
- Task Force members gave their sincere congratulations to Dick Fahey (Caltrans) on his upcoming retirement and thanked Mr. Fahey his years of participation and contribution to the Task Force.

*Please note: Consent calendar item, the October 27, 2022 meeting summary agenda item, inadvertently was not discussed at this meeting.*

**From:** [Fund Management System](#)  
**To:** [stephanieh@ccta.net](mailto:stephanieh@ccta.net); [Kevin Chen](#)  
**Cc:** [Fund Management System](#); [Harold Brazil](#)  
**Subject:** FMS POAQC Project TIP ID CC-170017 (I-680 NB Express Lane Completion) update: Project is a not a POAQC  
**Date:** Friday, April 1, 2022 10:02:32 AM

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Dear Project Sponsor

Based on the recent interagency consultation with the Air Quality Conformity Task force, Project TIP ID CC-170017 (FMS ID:6563.00) does not fit the definition of a project of air quality concern as defined by 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1) or 40 CFR 93.128 and therefore is not subject to PM2.5 project level conformity requirement. Please save this email as documentation confirming the project has undergone and completed the interagency consultation requirement for PM2.5 project level conformity. Note project sponsors are required to undergo a proactive public involvement process which provides opportunity for public review as outlined by 40 CFR 93.105(e). For projects that are not of air quality concern, a comment period is only required for project level conformity determinations if such a comment period would have been required under NEPA. For more information, please see FHWA PM2.5 Project Level Conformity Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air\\_quality/conformity/reference/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/conformity/reference/faqs/pm25faqs.cfm)

If you have any questions, please direct them to Harold Brazil at [hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov) or by phone at 415-778-6747



**Air Quality Conformity Task Force  
Summary Meeting Notes  
March 24, 2022**

Participants:

Lexie Arellano – Caltrans	Joon Kang – Caltrans
Kevin Krewson – Caltrans	Genay Markham – Leadership Development & Advocacy
Chris Lillie – VTA	Shilpa Mareddy – Caltrans
Jacqueline Kahrs – Caltrans	Joseph Vaughn – FHWA
Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans	Jay Witt – Illingworth & Rodkin Inc
Lani Lee Ho – VTA	Danielle Sanchez – Mark Thomas
Patrick Pittenger – FHWA	Mike Aronson – Kittelson & Associates, Inc
Maria Levario – HDR	Charlie Winter – Caltrans
Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans	George Gorman – HDR
John Hesler – David Powers & Associates	Phil Pierce – Zoox
Sheena Patel – HDR	John Saelee – MTC
Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans	Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Alex Jewell – Kimley-Horn	Harold Brazil – MTC
Stephanie Hu – CCTA	
Panah Stauffer – EPA	
Dick Fahey – Caltrans	

**1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations**

**a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status**

**i. Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School Project**

Alex Jewell (Kimley-Horn) described the purpose of the Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School project is to close slip lanes, add bulbouts, install detection systems, ADA compliant pedestrian signals, enhance existing bike lanes to include green bike lanes, create new bicycle lanes and bicycle boulevards. Mr. Jewell added the project is needed to provide increased safety to pedestrians and bicyclists. Many of the proposed intersections have been challenging to navigate for pedestrians and cyclists. There is also a need to provide bike and pedestrian enhancements around Columbia and San Miguel Elementary Schools.

Mr. Jewell added the Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School project will provide various improvements at 23 intersections, including:

- New bulbouts

- Create new bicycle lanes and bicycle boulevards, enhance existing bike lanes, add green bike lanes
- Add high visibility crosswalks and install crosswalk warning systems at selected locations
- Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) improvements will be constructed for Columbia and San Miguel Elementary Schools

Mr. Jewell mentioned some of the background activities as part of the Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School project involving community engagement (which prioritize providing active transportation improvements closer to the schools), project scope changes, CTC approvals at their December 2020 and January 2021 meetings and (most recently) March 2022 CEQA project approval.

***Final Determination:*** With input from EPA, FTA (via email), FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans) and Caltrans, the Task Force concluded the Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School project was not of air quality concern.

## **ii. I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project**

Chris Lillie (VTA) began his presentation of the I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements project by indicating the Project would modify the existing I-280/Winchester Boulevard interchange by constructing a new tunnel off-ramp from northbound I-280 to Winchester Boulevard. The Project would also construct a new direct connector ramp from northbound SR 17 to northbound I-280 and would replace the existing Monroe Pedestrian Overcrossing improving the improve bicycle/pedestrian access and transit connectivity in the project area.

- *Tunnel Off-Ramp to Winchester Boulevard via Tisch Way*

The new off-ramp from northbound I-280 would connect to Winchester Boulevard via Tisch Way. The new off-ramp would diverge from the current northbound I-280 off-ramp to Stevens Creek Boulevard; run parallel to northbound I-280 separated by a concrete barrier; cross under the I-880 separation structure, which would be widened with tie-back walls; cross under the existing southbound I-280 to northbound I-880 connector ramp structure; tunnel for a total distance of approximately 640 feet under a new northbound SR17 to northbound I-280 connector ramp, the existing southbound I-880 to northbound I-280 connector ramp, and Tisch Way; and rise to terminate at the Tisch Way and Hatton Street intersection. A new traffic signal would be installed at the intersection of Tisch Way and Hatton Street to replace the existing traffic signal used with the current intersection layout.

- *Flyover Connector Ramp*

The existing northbound SR17 to northbound I-280 loop ramp conflicts with the proposed new off-ramp from northbound I-280 to Winchester Boulevard. Therefore, the loop ramp would be removed and replaced with a new northbound SR17 to northbound I-280 direct connector ramp. The connector ramp would diverge from the existing northbound SR17 to southbound I-280 connector ramp and would “flyover” the I-280/I-880/SR17 interchange entering northbound I-

280 west of the I-280/I-880/SR17 interchange. The new connector ramp would reach a maximum height of approximately 70 feet above the northbound off-ramp from I-280 to Stevens Creek Boulevard. The connector ramp would widen to two (2) lanes along its length before merging to one lane and entering northbound I-280 as a fourth lane. The flyover connector ramp would be metered with two (2) mixed-flow lanes.

- *Monroe Pedestrian Overcrossing*

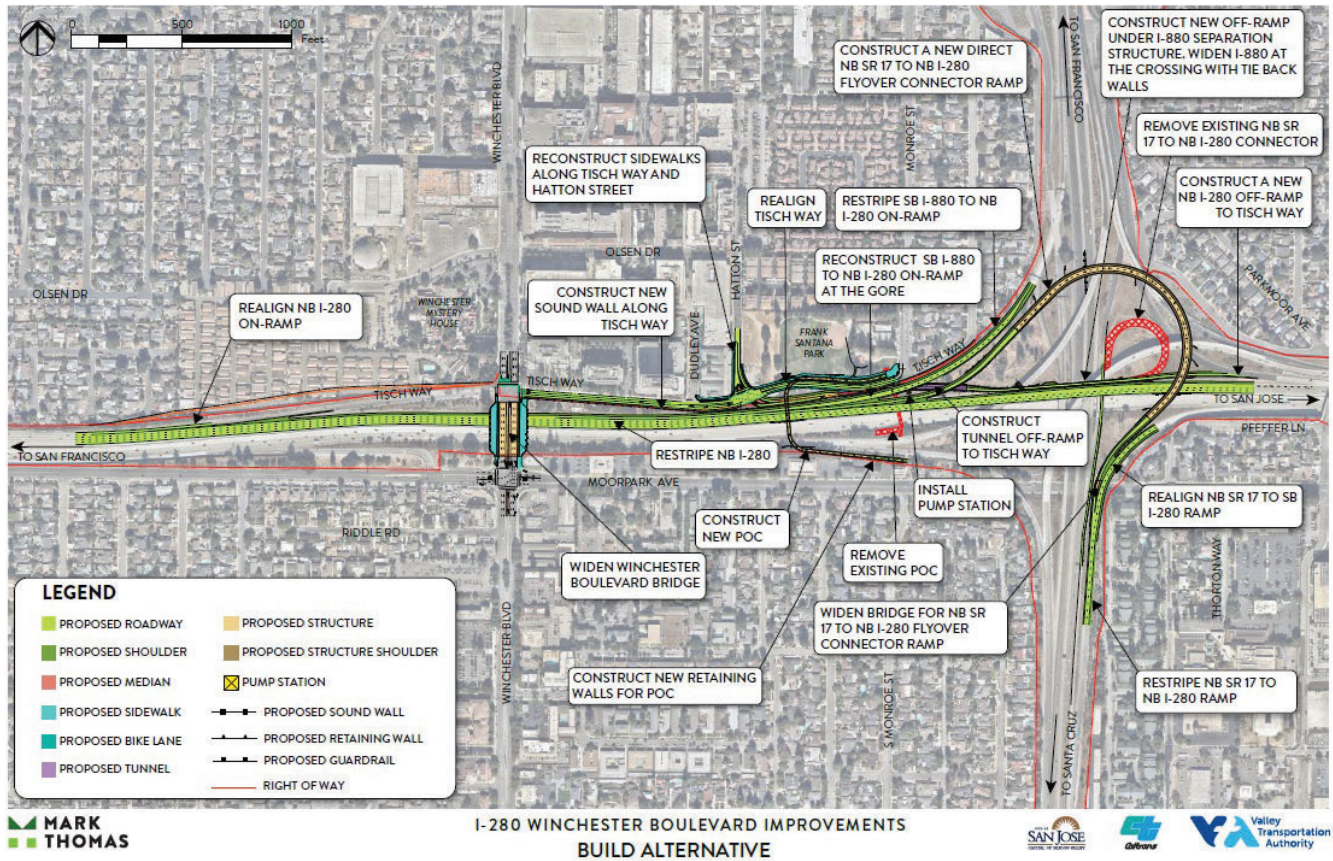
The existing Monroe bike/pedestrian over crossing (POC) over I-280 conflicts with the proposed northbound I-280 off-ramp to Winchester Boulevard. It would, therefore, be removed and replaced with a new POC. The north landing for the new POC would be constructed at the corner of Monroe Street and Tisch Way within Frank Santana Park. The new POC would be approximately 16-feet wide and reach a maximum height of approximately 30 feet.

- *Frank Santana Park*

To accommodate the proposed off-ramp from northbound I-280 to Winchester Boulevard and the reconstruction of the Monroe POC, the walking paths and softball field in Frank Santana Park would be shifted and realigned. Two vacant parcels located on the western edge of Santana Park, fronting Hatton Street, would be purchased, and the portion not needed for Project-related improvements would be transferred to the City of San Jose for expansion of Santana Park.

- *Other Project Elements*

- The existing southbound I-880 to northbound I-280 connector ramp would be restriped to accommodate two (2) mixed-flow lanes and realigned to provide a 1,000-foot auxiliary lane before merging onto the northbound I-280 mainline. The connector ramp would be metered with two (2) mixed-flow lanes.
- The existing Winchester Boulevard bridge over I-280 would be widened to provide enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities in both directions.
- Buffered bike lanes and pedestrian facilities would be added on both northbound and southbound Winchester Boulevard within the project limits.
- A buffered bike lane would be constructed on the southside of Tisch Way from Monroe Street to Winchester Boulevard.
- A combination of multi-use path, buffered bike lane, and designated bike route would be added on the north side of Tisch Way from Monroe Street to Winchester Boulevard.
- Emergency vehicle preemption would be added to traffic signals at the intersections of Tisch Way and Hatton Street and Tisch Way and Winchester Boulevard.



The Task Force had no follow-up questions for Mr. Lillie on the I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements project.

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA (via email), FHWA and Caltrans (deferring their determination to FHWA), the Task Force concluded the I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements project was not of air quality concern.

### iii. Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Sheena Patel (HDR) opened her presentation of the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project by identifying the purpose of the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project is to:

- Reduce peak-period congestion and delay
- Optimize use of existing HOV lane capacity
- Improve travel time reliability
- Provide efficient travel options for all vehicles

Ms. Patel added the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project is needed to address the following existing transportation problems within the project study limits:



- **Congestion** – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the area experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours.
- **System Continuity** – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users.
- **Operational Improvements** – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.

Ms. Patel noted that there are four alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project: one No Build alternative and three Build Alternatives. The four alternatives are:

No Build Alternative - Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements made.



Build Alternative 1c - Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location.



***Build Alternative 2*** - Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I 680/SR-24 interchange. Traffic operational improvements would be made by addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on- and off-ramp configuration. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

***Build Alternative 3*** - Alternative 3 represents the combined project improvements proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

Panah Stauffer (EPA) asked if CCTA expected the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project to cause the ADT in the project area to increase and Mike Aronson (Kittelson & Associates, Inc) indicated the projected increasing AADT is a function of both providing the additional managed lane capacity (inducing travel) and following Caltrans’ regulations for SB 743. Mr. Aronson went on to say some of the increase in travel volumes in the project area would be produced from traffic diverted from the local streets to the freeway (which would otherwise not be able to use the freeway because of capacity limitations). Jay Witt (Illingworth & Rodkin Inc) added the project team used the same percentage from Caltrans’ truck census data to estimate truck volumes, so the truck volumes are based on this same percentage, but the total truck percent is based on total AADT total volume – which changes in each alternative.



Ms. Stauffer had an additional clarifying question on the truck AADT numbers which the CCTA project team on the 3% truck fraction was held constant for the build scenarios' truck AADT numbers. Ms. Stauffer noted the slides included in the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project presentation showed the overall traffic AADT is increasing, but the absolute truck AADT numbers were decreasing, and the thought would be that a constant percentage of increasing numbers would lead to increasing truck numbers.

After regrouping with their Air and Traffic folks, the CCTA project team decided on a different forecast methodology for the project that better represents the impacts of the project on truck traffic. Since the project Build Alternatives would not add capacity that is available to trucks, it is more appropriate to assume the truck volumes on I-680 would not change from the No Build conditions to the Build conditions. The total AADT under the Build Alternatives increases compared to the No Build, and the result is a very marginal reduction to the truck percentages (truck AADT/total AADT) for the project conditions.

The slides below represent the different forecast methodology used to revise the truck traffic estimates for the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project.

## Opening Year 2027 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Truck AADT	Total AADT**	% Trucks
No Build*	6,108	156,623	3.9%
Alternative 1c	6,108	167,534	3.6%
Alternative 2	6,108	167,679	3.6%
Alternative 3	6,108	168,146	3.6%

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022  
 \*Truck Percentage from Caltrans 2020 Census Data applied to No Build AADT  
 \*\*General Purpose Lanes plus Express Lane

Build Alternatives do not add lane capacity that is available to truck traffic.

# Design Year 2047 AADT Summary

## @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Truck AADT	Total AADT**	% Trucks
No Build*	6,421	164,653	3.9%
Alternative 1c	6,421	177,607	3.6%
Alternative 2	6,421	177,447	3.6%
Alternative 3	6,421	178,456	3.6%

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022  
 \*Truck Percentage from Caltrans 2020 Census Data applied to No Build AADT  
 \*\*General Purpose Lanes plus Express Lane

Build Alternatives do not add lane capacity that is available to truck traffic.

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA, FTA (via email), FHWA and Caltrans (deferring their determination to FHWA), the Task Force concluded the Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion project was not of air quality concern.

### iv. US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing Project

Shilpa Mareddy (Caltrans) began her discussion on the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project by identifying the Project’s purpose:

- To address current seismic structural deficiencies, improve the structure’s resistance to seismic events and reduce the potential for failure of Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing (OC)
- To upgrade pedestrian infrastructure within the state right of way, bring the State pedestrian infrastructure to current Americans with Disabilities Act standards, and improve safety, access, and connectivity across Tamalpais Drive OC

Ms. Mareddy also stated the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project proposes to construct ADA compliant infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists, new sidewalks, and intersections, roadside safety improvements and bus bypass improvements at the Tamalpais Drive OC and US 101 in City of Corte Madera. The project will also replace the existing bridge cable restrainers with concrete seat extensions at Abutment 1, Bent 2 and Abutment 10; replace access doors at closure wall; repair spalled surface areas on the bridge deck soffit; clean the deck drains, and remove all ivy growing on the concrete surface of the structure.

The six Build Alternatives analyzed for the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project include:

Alternative 2A:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct two new pedestrian loop ramps with stairways.
- Construct a new pedestrian sidewalk along SB US 101 off-ramp from the intersection at the Tamalpais OC to the existing bus station at the bus bypass.
- At the NB US 101 on-ramp intersection this option will include intersection modification, ramp widening, and an addition of a sign-controlled bus only ramp.
- The existing bus bypass on NB 101 off-ramp will be removed.

Alternative 2B:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct two new pedestrian loop ramps with stairways.
- Construct a new pedestrian sidewalk along SB US 101 off-ramp from the intersection at the Tamalpais Drive OC to the existing bus station at the bus bypass.
- The existing NB US 101 diagonal on-ramp will be realigned to be controlled at a new signalized intersection at Tamalpais Drive OC. The realigned NB on-ramp will include a new bus stop and bus pullout.
- The existing bus bypass at the NB US 101 off-ramp will be removed.

Alternative 3A:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct two new pedestrian ramps.
- Bridge widening and a new pedestrian/bike sidewalk at the SW intersection on Tamalpais Drive to Casa Buena Drive.
- Work at the SB US 101 off-ramp intersection includes ramp widening for a new bus stop and bus pullout.
- Reconfigure the NB and SB US 101 on-ramps to include signalized intersections.
- The NB on-ramp will be widened for a new bus bypass/stop.
- The SB US 101 loop on-ramp and connected bus bypass/stop will be removed
- The NB US 101 off-ramp bus bypass will also be removed.
- 

Alternative 3B:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct a new pedestrian overcrossing for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Bridge widening and a new pedestrian/bike sidewalk at the SW quadrant of the intersection on Tamalpais Drive to Casa Buena Drive.
- Work at the SB US 101 off-ramp intersection includes ramp widening for a new bus stop and bus pullout.
- Reconfigure the NB and SB US 101 on-ramps to include signalized intersections.
- The NB on-ramp will be widened for a new bus bypass/stop.
- Also, the SB 101 loop on-ramp and connected bus bypass/stop will be removed.
- The NB US 101 off-ramp bus bypass/stop will also be removed.

Alternative 4A:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct two new pedestrian ramps.
- Bridge widening and a new pedestrian/bike sidewalk at the SW intersection on Tamalpais Drive to Casa Buena Drive.
- Work at the SB US 101 off-ramp intersection includes ramp widening for a new bus stop and bus pullout. This option will reconfigure the NB and SB US 101 on-ramps to include signalized intersections.
- The NB on-ramp will be widened for a new bus bypass/stop.
- The NB and SB US 101 loop on-ramps and associated bus bypasses/stops will be removed.

Alternative 4B:

- Remove the two existing pedestrian spiral walkway ramps and construct two new pedestrian ramps.
- Bridge widening and a new pedestrian/bike sidewalk at the SW intersection on Tamalpais Drive to Casa Buena Drive.
- Work at the SB US 101 off-ramp intersection includes ramp widening for a new bus stop and bus pullout. This option will reconfigure the NB and SB 101 on-ramps, and NB and SB 101 loop ramps to signalized intersections.
- All existing bus bypasses/stops will be removed with this option.

In conclusion, Ms. Mareddy stated the following:

- The project is proposed to address current seismic deficiencies, upgrade pedestrian infrastructure to current ADA standards and improve safety, access and connectivity across Tamalpais Drive OC.
- The project would not increase capacity or percentage of trucks in the area.
- The project should not be considered a project of air quality concern and, therefore, a PM2.5 hot-spot analysis for project-level conformity determination is not required.

Dick Fahey (Caltrans) noted that in some of the alternatives in the analysis, although they are small volume numbers – the truck traffic doubles but he did not know if it was a huge concern. Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) added that truck volume increases are more of a concern when they are located passed the ramp gore and potentially would not be considered exempted under 40 CFR 93.127 – then the project can be considered regionally significant.

Panah Stauffer (EPA) indicated that she did not think the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project was of air quality concern, but she wanted to double check internally at EPA before making a final determination.

**Final Determination:** With input from EPA (after double checking on the project), FTA (via email), FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans) and Caltrans, the Task Force concluded the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project was not of air quality concern.

**b. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity**

**i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern**

***Final Determination:*** With input from FTA, FHWA, EPA, Caltrans and MTC and with the omission of the “*Replace San Pablo Avenue OH Bridge No 28C0062*” (TIP ID# CC-170054) project in Pinole, the Task Force agreed that the project on the exempt list **2b\_Exempt List 03172022.pdf** is exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> project level analysis.

The “*Replace San Pablo Avenue OH Bridge No 28C0062*” project will be reviewed by the Task Force to see if it can be considered exempt under 40 CFR 93.126 when additional car and truck AADTs and truck map data are provided by the City of Pinole.

**3. Consent Calendar**

**a. February 24, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary**

The Consent Calendar item for the February 24, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary was inadvertently not discussed and will be reviewed at the Task Force’s April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415.778.6700  
[www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

## **Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting** Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Join Zoom Meeting @  
<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>  
**Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853**

(Additional Zoom Meeting Call-In Info on Next Page)

**March 24, 2022**  
**9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
  - a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status
    - i. I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project
    - ii. Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project
    - iii. US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing Project
    - iv. Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School Project
  - b. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity  
Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
3. Consent Calendar
  - a. February 24, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
4. Other Items

Next Meeting: April 28, 2022

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil [hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov)



Harold Brazil is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853

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162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

115.114.131.7 (India Mumbai)

115.114.115.7 (India Hyderabad)

213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)

213.244.140.110 (Germany)

103.122.166.55 (Australia Sydney)

103.122.167.55 (Australia Melbourne)

64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

207.226.132.110 (Japan Tokyo)

149.137.24.110 (Japan Osaka)

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853



## Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: March 17, 2022

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

A project sponsor representing one project, seeks interagency consultation from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) at today’s meeting and the projects are as follows:

No.	Project Sponsor	Project Title
1	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)	I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project
2	Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)	Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Project
3	Caltrans	US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing Project
4	City of Sunnyvale	Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School Project

**2ai\_I\_280\_Winchester\_Blvd\_Intchg\_Improve\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the I-280 Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements project)

**2aii\_I\_680\_NB\_Express\_Lane\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane project)

**2aiii\_US\_101\_Tamalpais\_Dr\_Overcrossing\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the US 101/Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing project)

**2aiv\_Sunnyvale\_SNAIL\_Safe\_Routes\_to\_School\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for Sunnyvale SNAIL Safe Routes to School project)

MTC also requests the review and concurrence from the Task Force on projects which project sponsors have identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC. **2b\_Exempt List 031722.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

**Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern**  
**Project Title: I-280/Winchester Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project**  
**Project Summary for Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting: March 24, 2022**

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**Description**

- Project would modify the existing I-280/Winchester Boulevard interchange in the City of San Jose.
- Project would improve access to the project area from northbound I-280 by constructing a new tunnel off-ramp from NB I-280 to Winchester Boulevard and a new direct connector ramp from NB SR17 to NB I-280.
- Project also includes other improvements to enhance bicycle and pedestrian access and transit connectivity in the project area.

**Background**

- EIR/EA will be prepared in compliance with CEQA and NEPA.
- Public scoping meeting was held in September 2020. Comments were received regarding potential air pollution and associated health risks for those living in the project area and utilizing Frank Santana Park.
- Technical reports supporting the EIR/EA are near completion.
- Seeking air quality conformity determination in Spring/Summer 2022.
- Draft EIR/EA would be circulated for public review starting in late 2022 or early 2023.

**Not a Project of Air Quality Concern (40 CFR 93.123(b)(1))**

*(i) New or expanded highway projects with significant number/increase in diesel vehicles?*

- Not a new or expanded highway project
- Improvements to existing partial interchange – no new lanes on I-280
- Improved directional efficiency for vehicular and truck traffic in the project area resulting in lower overall VMT

*(ii) Affects intersections at LOS D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles?*

- The intersections impacted by the Build Alternative do not serve a significant number of diesel vehicles nor will the LOS of the intersections change due to increased traffic volumes from a significant number of diesel vehicles.

*(iii) New bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(iv) Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(v) Affects areas identified in PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> implementation plan as site of violation?*

- The project location is not in an area identified by the SIP as one that could violate or possibly violate the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub>.
- Project is exempt from regional conformity requirements per 40 CFR 93.127 as it meets the definition of an interchange reconfiguration project

**Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern**  
**Project Title: Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project**  
**Project Summary for Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting: March 24, 2022**

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**Description**

Project will address the gap in the northbound (NB) managed lane on Interstate 680 (I-680) between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242). Currently, I-680 NB includes an express lane from Alcosta Boulevard to Livorna Road and an HOV lane from SR-242 to about one mile south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The 'gap' between these two managed lane segments extends for 7.5 miles.

Four alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Project: one No Build alternative and three Build Alternatives. The four alternatives are:

No Build Alternative - Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements made.

Build Alternative 1c - Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5 mile "gap" between the two existing managed lane segments by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location.

Build Alternative 2 - Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I 680/SR-24 interchange. Traffic operational improvements would be made by addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on- and off-ramp configuration. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

Build Alternative 3 - Alternative 3 represents the combined project improvements proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5 mile "gap" between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

**Background**

- NEPA process for Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) is in process
- Public review for Draft EIR/EA is anticipated May/June 2023
- No comments received on air quality thus far
- Seeking air quality conformity determination on or before December 2023
- Schedule based on deadline for STP funding allocation

**Not a Project of Air Quality Concern (40 CFR 93.123(b)(1))**

*(i) New or expanded highway projects with significant number/increase in diesel vehicles?*

- Not a new or expanded highway project.
- Improvements to I-680 NB managed lanes only.
- No change in traffic volume or truck percentages on I-680.

*(ii) Affects intersections at LOS D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles?*

- Diesel vehicles (trucks) currently represent between 5.5% and 3.2% of the AADT on I-680, based on Caltrans 2020 Traffic Census Data. Truck percentages on NB I-680 are anticipated to be between 6.4% and 4% in the future years (2027, 2047, and 2050).

- Interchanges and/or intersections will not be significantly altered by the project, nor do they serve a significant number of diesel trucks.
- The project would not change land uses along the corridor. Thus, the project would not increase diesel traffic.

*(iii) New bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(iv) Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable*

*(v) Affects areas identified in PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> implementation plan as site of violation?*

- No. The Project would not result in an increase of either PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels compared to the No-Build Alternative. Additionally, the Project location is not in an area identified by the SIP as one that could violate or possibly violate the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

## Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern

**Project Title: Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project**  
**Summary for Air Quality Conformity**  
**Task Force Meeting: March 24, 2022**

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### Description

The Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) proposes to address the gap in the northbound (NB) managed lane on Interstate 680 (I-680) between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242). Currently, I-680 NB includes an express lane from Alcosta Boulevard to Livorna Road and an HOV lane from SR-242 to about one mile south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza. The 'gap' between these two managed lane segments extends for 7.5 miles.

### Background

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, operations and provide congestion relief. The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges.

### Project of Air Quality Concern (40 CFR 93.123(b)(1))

*(i) New or expanded highway projects with significant number/increase in diesel vehicles?*

No.

- Not a new or expanded highway project.
- Improvements to I-680 NB managed lanes only.
- No change in traffic volume or truck percentages on I-680.

*(ii) Affects intersections at LOS D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles?*

No.

- Diesel vehicles (trucks) currently represent between 5.5% and 3.2% of the AADT on I-680, based on Caltrans 2020 Traffic Census Data. Truck percentages on NB I-680 are anticipated to be between 6.4% and 4% in the future years (2027, 2047, and 2050).
- Interchanges and/or intersections will not be significantly altered by the project, nor do they serve a significant number of diesel trucks.
- The project would not change land uses along the corridor. Thus, the project would not increase diesel traffic.

*(iii) New bus and rail terminals and transfer points?- No.*

*(iv) Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points?- No.*

*(v) Affects areas identified in PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> implementation plan as site of violation?*

No. The Project would not result in an increase of either PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels compared to the No-Build Alternative. Additionally, the Project location is not in an area identified by the SIP as one that could violate or possibly violate the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub>.



**RTIP ID#** *(required)* 21-T12-116

**TIP ID#** *(required)* CC-170017

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force Consideration Date**

3/24/2022

**Project Description** *(clearly describe project)*

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, congestion relief, and operations. The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges. The Project limits on I-680 are from post mile (PM) R4.4 at the southern limit to PM 24.5 at the northern limit. More than one configuration is under consideration for the proposed Project, including the construction of a northbound express lane between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242) (PM R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). In addition, the Project would convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR-242 to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (PM R18.87 to R23.28, approximately 4.6 miles) to an express lane. The Project also includes a design option for a striped buffer restriction towards the southern project limits, from PM R6.15 to R8.9. Project limits were extended to PM R4.4 to accommodate signing and lighting requirements for the design option buffer. .

Four alternatives are being evaluated as part of the Project: one no build alternative and three build alternatives. The Build Alternatives satisfy the Project purpose and need, while avoiding and/or minimizing environmental impacts. The four alternatives are:

No Build Alternative - Under the No-Build Alternative, northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements made.

Build Alternative 1c - Alternative 1C proposes to close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility, south of the Treat Boulevard overcrossing structure between northbound I-680 and the Treat Boulevard off-ramp, would remain in its current condition and location.

Build Alternative 2 - Alternative 2 would leave a 2-mile gap in the northbound I-680 managed lane in the vicinity of the I 680/SR-24 interchange. Traffic operational improvements would be made by addressing the existing major bottleneck between North Main Street and Treat Boulevard. The existing weaving issues between these interchanges would be alleviated by modifying the on- and off-ramp configuration. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

Build Alternative 3 - Alternative 3 represents the combined project improvements proposed under Alternative 1C and Alternative 2. Alternative 3 would close the 7.5 mile “gap” between the two existing managed lane segments on I-680 by constructing a northbound express lane from Livorna Road to SR-242 and by converting the existing northbound HOV lane that runs from SR-242 to just south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza to an express lane. The existing NB truck scale facility would not be removed or relocated; it would remain in its current condition and location.

Design Option A - As a design option, an approximately 2.75-mile long striped buffer restriction from PM R6.15 to PM R8.9 at the southern end of the project limits is included for all build alternatives. The proposed buffer would include a striped double white line restricting access to the express lane between the Sycamore Valley Road NB off-ramp and El Pintado Road NB on-ramp. The southern limits would be extended to post mile R4.4 to accommodate signs and lighting. The purpose of the buffer is to address potential traffic congestion and weaving that may occur in this area based on preliminary traffic modeling results. Construction of Design Option A would be included in any of the three build alternatives, if needed, and would not result in increase in construction duration.

<b>Type of Project:</b> Express Lane Extension/Gap Closure, Extend HOV lane				
<b>County</b>	<b>Narrative Location/Route &amp; Postmiles</b>			
Contra Costa County	Construct an Express Lane on NB I680 from Livorna Rd. to SR-242 (PM R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). Convert existing HOV lane to Express Lane on NB I-680 from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge (PM R18.87 to R23.28, approximately 4.6 miles) .			
<b>Caltrans Projects – EA# 04-0Q3100</b>				
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)				
<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Phone#</b>	<b>Fax#</b>	<b>Email</b>	
Stephanie Hu	(925) 256-4740		<a href="mailto:StephanieH@ccta.net">StephanieH@ccta.net</a>	
<b>Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed</b> ( <i>check appropriate box</i> )				
<i>Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>EA or Draft EIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FONSI or Final EIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>PS&amp;E or Construction</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other</i>
<b>Scheduled Date of Federal Action:</b> June 2024				
<b>NEPA Delegation – Project Type</b> ( <i>check appropriate box</i> )				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 326 – Categorical Exclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 327 – Non-Categorical Exclusion</b>	
<b>Current Programming Dates</b> ( <i>as appropriate</i> )				
	<b>PE/Environmental</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>ROW</b>	<b>CON</b>
<b>Start</b>	June 2020	June 2024	June 2024	January 2026
<b>End</b>	June 2024	December 2026	December 2026	December 2027
<b>Project Purpose and Need (Summary):</b> ( <i>please be brief</i> )				
<p>The purpose of the proposed Project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680.</li> <li>• Reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor.</li> <li>• Encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service.</li> <li>• Optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor.</li> <li>• Offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.</li> </ul> <p>The need for the project to address existing transportation problems within the PSL are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congestion – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the area experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours.</li> <li>• System Continuity – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users.</li> <li>• Operational Improvements – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.</li> </ul>				

**Surrounding Land Use/Traffic Generators (especially effect on diesel traffic)**

The Project is located primarily within the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez in Contra Costa County, California (Figure 1). The Project is bounded from Fostoria Way to slightly north of Marina Vista Road by an urbanized area with residential and commercial development south of State Route 4 (SR-4), and industrial and residential areas north of SR-4 (Figure 2). The Waterbird Regional Preserve, a 198-acre regional park that primarily consists of the Al McNabney Marsh, lies east of I-680 at the northern end of the Project.

I-680 is a major north-south freeway connecting the Southern San Francisco Bay Area with Interstate 80 (I-80), which crosses the Central Valley including the Sacramento metropolitan area. I-680 passes through Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano counties. I-680 is part of the National Network under the Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) and provides connections to other National Network routes (such as I-580). I-680 also provides connections to STAA Terminal Access Routes and California Legal Truck Routes such as SR 84.

Land uses adjacent to the project area consist of both urban/developed land and open space and include industrial, residential, public/semi-public development. The existing (i.e., 2020) average truck volumes and percentages for the project area are provided in the table below. The project would not result in changes to land use that would affect diesel truck traffic in the area. Truck AADTs range between 9,440 and 5,643 (5.46 to 3.23 percent) based on the land uses served by this segment of I-680.

Average Truck Volumes – 2020 (Source: Caltrans Traffic Census Program)

I-680 POSTMILE	DESCRIPTION	TRUCK AADT TOTAL	TRK PERCENT TOT	2 AXLE AADT	2 AXLE %	3 AXLE AADT	3 AXLE %	4 AXLE AADT	4 AXLE %	5 AXLE AADT	5 AXLE %
0.020	ALAMEDA/CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LINE	9,440	5.46	5,912	62.63	610	6.46	295	3.13	2,623	27.79
14.383	WALNUT CREEK, JCT. RTE. 24 WEST	9,073	5.25	4,264	47.00	922	10.18	400	4.41	3,487	38.42
15.606	WALNUT CREEK, NORTH MAIN STREET	7,286	3.23	3,693	50.51	731	9.92	366	5.03	2,496	34.55
18.707	CONCORD, JCT. RTE. 242 NORTH	7,220	4.41	3,699	51.36	721	9.98	292	4.02	2,508	34.65
21.191	JCT. RTE. 4	5,643	4.76	2,927	51.85	712	13.23	180	3.28	1,826	31.65



**Figure 1. Regional Location and Project Vicinity**



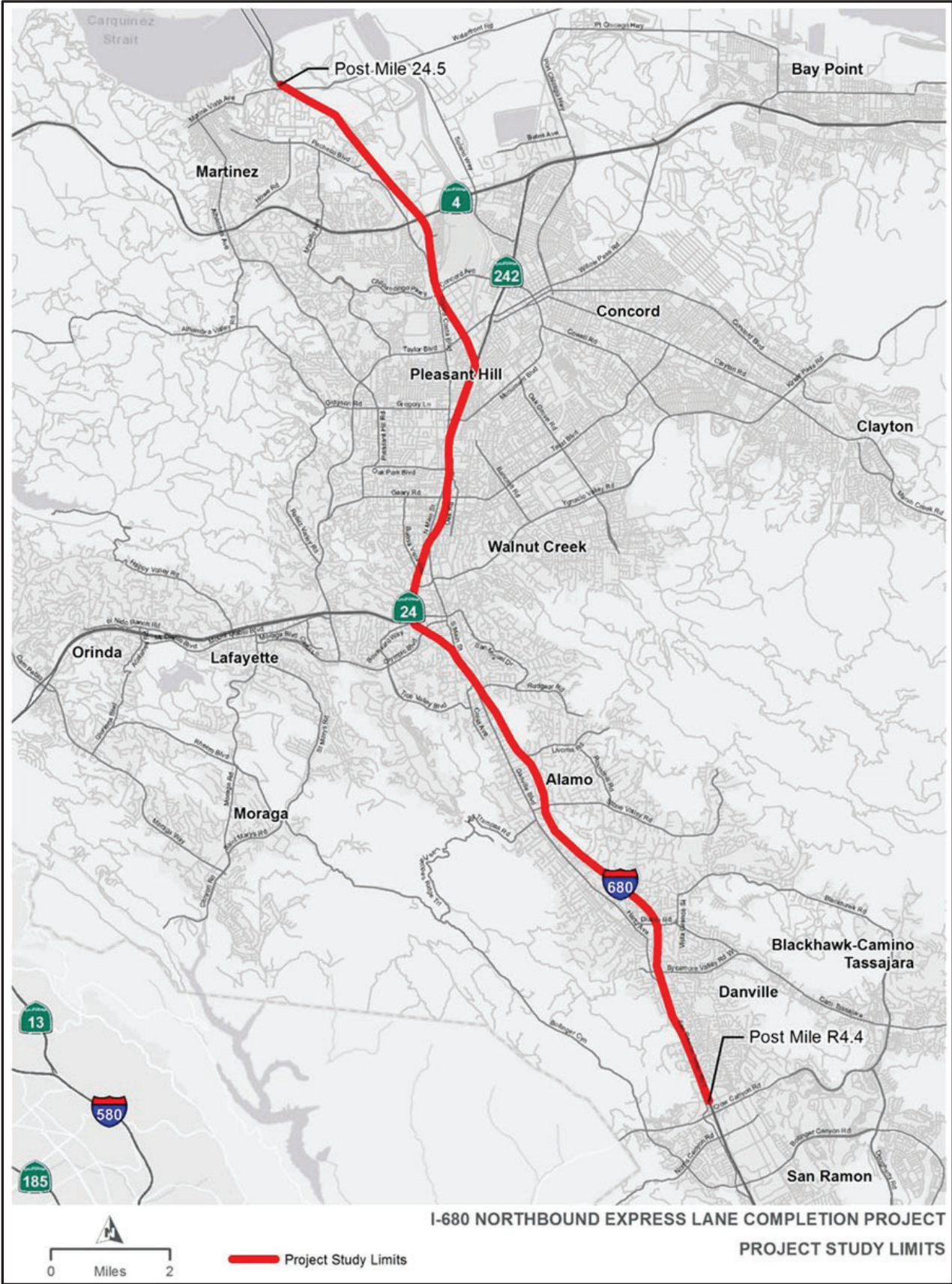


Figure 2. Project Study Limits

**Brief summary of assumptions and methodology used for conducting analysis**

Kittelsohn & Associates, Inc. developed the traffic forecasts by using the Contra Costa travel demand model. The model did not forecast truck percentages, therefore existing condition truck percentages provided by Kittelsohn & Associates, Inc. are used to estimate truck AADT given traffic forecasts for the Build and No-Build conditions. The project would not cause any changes in truck volumes, as it will not change adjacent land uses nor increase capacity for truck traffic.



**Opening Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility**

**Opening Year 2027**

	Total NB AADT				NB Truck AADT				% Trucks			
	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3
N. of Alcosta	91,516	93,007	92,745	93,024	4,850	4,929	4,915	4,930	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.30
N. of Crow Canyon	103,687	105,506	105,216	105,536	5,145	5,218	5,204	5,222	4.96	4.95	4.95	4.95
N. of Sycamore Valley	108,570	111,136	110,667	111,103	5,395	5,558	5,528	5,558	4.97	5.00	5.00	5.00
N. of El Cerro	108,000	110,502	110,070	110,468	5,361	5,517	5,490	5,518	4.96	4.99	4.99	4.99
N. of Stone Valley	108,685	115,066	114,532	115,011	5,406	5,793	5,754	5,786	4.97	5.03	5.02	5.03
N. of Livorna	112,630	119,186	118,685	119,176	7,208	6,066	6,035	6,059	6.40	5.09	5.08	5.08
N. of Rudgear	115,699	120,939	119,237	120,922	7,405	6,194	6,102	6,188	6.40	5.12	5.12	5.12
S. of Olympic	105,720	111,041	108,521	111,034	6,766	5,756	6,945	5,773	6.40	5.18	6.40	5.20
N. of Olympic	85,629	93,027	88,814	93,405	5,480	4,603	5,684	4,645	6.40	4.95	6.40	4.97
S. of Ygnacio Valley	143,147	151,725	146,855	151,606	5,869	5,355	6,021	5,362	4.10	3.53	4.10	3.54
S. of N. Main	143,147	151,725	146,855	151,606	5,440	4,963	4,709	4,969	3.80	3.27	3.21	3.28
S. of Treat	155,772	165,728	147,479	145,042	4,206	3,905	3,363	3,354	2.70	2.36	2.28	2.31
N. of Oak Park	156,623	167,534	167,679	168,146	6,108	5,594	5,645	5,611	3.90	3.34	3.37	3.34
N. of Monument	146,856	156,101	155,683	156,224	5,727	5,236	5,181	5,229	3.90	3.35	3.33	3.35
S. of Willow Pass	77,561	86,693	86,460	86,605	3,430	3,178	3,118	3,159	4.42	3.67	3.61	3.65
N. of Willow Pass	89,628	96,006	95,751	95,862	4,021	3,634	3,573	3,613	4.49	3.79	3.73	3.77
N. of Concord Ave.	98,156	104,065	103,928	104,024	2,376	2,230	2,197	2,218	2.42	2.14	2.11	2.13
N. of SR 4	90,884	94,943	94,850	94,964	5,571	5,146	5,125	5,134	6.13	5.42	5.40	5.41
S. of Waterfront	86,742	89,688	89,596	89,706	5,211	4,773	4,756	4,761	6.01	5.32	5.31	5.31
N. of Waterfront	91,196	93,371	93,256	93,383	6,201	6,349	6,341	6,350	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80
Benecia Bridge	91,196	93,371	93,256	93,383	6,201	6,349	6,341	6,350	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)

**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility**

**Design Year 2047**

I-680 NB Location	Total NB AADT				NB Truck AADT				% Trucks			
	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3
N. of Alcosta	106,838	108,417	108,067	108,393	4,376	4,462	4,444	4,460	4.10	4.12	4.11	4.11
N. of Crow Canyon	110,525	112,732	112,454	112,690	5,519	5,657	5,646	5,655	4.99	5.02	5.02	5.02
N. of Sycamore Valley	116,495	119,232	118,860	119,383	5,891	6,057	6,043	6,061	5.06	5.08	5.08	5.08
N. of El Cerro	115,010	117,789	117,418	117,792	5,793	5,964	5,951	5,959	5.04	5.06	5.07	5.06
N. of Stone Valley	116,607	123,264	122,835	123,248	5,890	6,285	6,281	6,282	5.05	5.10	5.11	5.10
N. of Livorna	119,352	127,460	126,936	127,661	7,639	6,571	6,560	6,581	6.40	5.16	5.17	5.15
N. of Rudgear	123,731	129,695	128,449	129,677	7,919	6,744	6,695	6,748	6.40	5.20	5.21	5.20
S. of Olympic	112,644	119,091	117,054	119,095	7,209	6,129	7,491	6,139	6.40	5.15	6.40	5.15
N. of Olympic	92,429	101,902	96,830	102,285	5,915	5,029	6,197	5,063	6.40	4.94	6.40	4.95
S. of Ygnacio Valley	149,828	161,563	154,059	161,256	6,143	5,668	6,316	5,662	4.10	3.51	4.10	3.51
S. of N. Main	149,828	161,563	154,059	161,256	5,693	5,253	4,926	5,247	3.80	3.25	3.20	3.25
S. of Treat	163,277	175,949	156,727	157,132	4,408	4,121	3,572	3,617	2.70	2.34	2.28	2.30
N. of Oak Park	164,653	177,607	177,447	178,456	6,421	5,971	5,968	6,010	3.90	3.36	3.36	3.37
N. of Monument	156,073	166,474	166,230	166,715	6,087	5,562	5,538	5,575	3.90	3.34	3.33	3.34
S. of Willow Pass	84,850	94,489	94,491	94,655	3,559	3,460	3,442	3,474	4.19	3.66	3.64	3.67
N. of Willow Pass	98,457	105,012	104,766	105,051	4,226	3,976	3,946	3,983	4.29	3.79	3.77	3.79
N. of Concord Ave.	108,394	114,349	114,202	114,473	2,511	2,445	2,427	2,451	2.32	2.14	2.13	2.14
N. of SR 4	102,234	106,246	106,031	106,294	6,012	5,678	5,678	5,682	5.88	5.34	5.36	5.35
S. of Waterfront	98,899	101,492	101,234	101,484	5,689	5,328	5,315	5,337	5.75	5.25	5.25	5.26
N. of Waterfront	106,809	109,013	108,843	108,987	7,263	7,413	7,401	7,411	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80
Benecia Bridge	106,809	109,013	108,843	108,987	6,531	6,643	6,636	6,640	6.11	6.09	6.10	6.09

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)

### RTP Horizon Year 2050

I-680 NB Location	Total NB AADT				NB Truck AADT				% Trucks			
	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3	No Build	Alt 1c	Alt 2	Alt 3
N. of Alcosta	109,137	110,728	110,365	110,699	4,305	4,392	4,373	4,390	3.94	3.97	3.96	3.97
N. of Crow Canyon	111,550	113,816	113,540	113,763	5,575	5,723	5,712	5,720	5.00	5.03	5.03	5.03
N. of Sycamore Valley	117,684	120,446	120,089	120,625	5,966	6,132	6,120	6,136	5.07	5.09	5.10	5.09
N. of El Cerro	116,061	118,882	118,521	118,891	5,858	6,031	6,020	6,025	5.05	5.07	5.08	5.07
N. of Stone Valley	117,795	124,493	124,081	124,484	5,963	6,359	6,360	6,356	5.06	5.11	5.13	5.11
N. of Livorna	120,360	128,701	128,174	128,933	7,703	6,647	6,639	6,659	6.40	5.16	5.18	5.16
N. of Rudgear	124,936	131,009	129,831	130,990	7,996	6,827	6,784	6,832	6.40	5.21	5.23	5.22
S. of Olympic	113,683	120,298	118,334	120,305	7,276	6,185	7,573	6,194	6.40	5.14	6.40	5.15
N. of Olympic	93,450	103,233	98,033	103,617	5,981	5,093	6,274	5,126	6.40	4.93	6.40	4.95
S. of Ygnacio Valley	150,830	163,039	155,139	162,703	6,184	5,715	6,361	5,707	4.10	3.51	4.10	3.51
S. of N. Main	150,830	163,039	155,139	162,703	5,732	5,297	4,959	5,289	3.80	3.25	3.20	3.25
S. of Treat	164,403	177,482	158,114	158,946	4,439	4,153	3,604	3,657	2.70	2.34	2.28	2.30
N. of Oak Park	165,858	179,118	178,912	180,002	6,468	6,027	6,017	6,070	3.90	3.36	3.36	3.37
N. of Monument	157,456	168,030	167,812	168,289	6,141	5,610	5,591	5,627	3.90	3.34	3.33	3.34
S. of Willow Pass	85,944	95,659	95,696	95,862	3,579	3,503	3,491	3,521	4.16	3.66	3.65	3.67
N. of Willow Pass	99,782	106,363	106,119	106,430	4,257	4,027	4,002	4,039	4.27	3.79	3.77	3.79
N. of Concord Ave.	109,929	115,891	115,743	116,040	2,532	2,477	2,462	2,486	2.30	2.14	2.13	2.14
N. of SR 4	103,936	107,942	107,708	107,993	6,078	5,758	5,761	5,764	5.85	5.33	5.35	5.34
S. of Waterfront	100,723	103,262	102,980	103,251	5,760	5,411	5,399	5,423	5.72	5.24	5.24	5.25
N. of Waterfront	109,151	111,359	111,181	111,328	7,422	7,572	7,560	7,570	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.80
Benecia Bridge	109,151	111,359	111,181	111,328	6,580	6,687	6,680	6,684	6.03	6.01	6.01	6.00
N. of Alcosta	109,137	110,728	110,365	110,699	4,305	4,392	4,373	4,390	3.94	3.97	3.96	3.97
N. of Crow Canyon	111,550	113,816	113,540	113,763	5,575	5,723	5,712	5,720	5.00	5.03	5.03	5.03

Source: Based on traffic forecasts provided by Kittelson & Associates, Inc. (Innovate680\_Segments\_20220216.xlsx)

**Opening Year: If facility is an interchange(s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is an interchange (s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**Opening Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses**

Not Applicable – facility is an Interstate corridor.

**Describe potential traffic redistribution effects of congestion relief (*impact on other facilities*)**

The proposed Project would implement congestion priced tolling in the proposed express lane to provide a more reliable travel time option to travelers. It would encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service by offering free access to the express lane. The proposed Project would also shift SOV drivers choosing to pay a toll from the general-purpose lanes to the Express Lane. It would also reduce recurring peak-period traffic congestion and delay on northbound I-680, which would reduce travel times for all travelers. In addition, the Project would optimize the use of the existing HOV lane capacity north of SR-242 by converting the HOV lane to an express lane. It should be noted that only two-axle vehicles are permitted in Express Lanes.

**Comments/Explanation/Details (please be brief)**

This project does not meet the definition of a Project of Air Quality Concern (POAQC) as defined by 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1). Specifically:

- The Project will not result in a significant number or significant increase in diesel vehicles in the area.
- The Build Alternatives do not change the number of diesel vehicles using the corridor nor do they degrade the LOS of the interchanges in in the corridor. The primary purpose of the project is to provide a reliable travel time option, encourage use of high occupancy vehicles and transit service while, at the same time, optimizing the use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor to better meet current and future traffic demands for personal vehicles and transit (i.e., gasoline and electric powered vehicles).
- The Project does not involve a bus terminal, rail terminal, or transfer points involving a significant number of diesel vehicles congregating at a single location.
- The I-680 corridor is not an area identified by the SIP as a location where the NAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub> could be violated or possibly violated.

# CCTA Northbound 680 Express Lane Completion Project

**Prepared for the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Task Force**

March 24, 2022

Presented by: Sheena Patel, HDR





# PROJECT OVERVIEW



# Project Limits

## LEGEND/KEY



Project limits



SB & NB Express Lanes



# Project Purpose

- **The purpose of the I-680 Express Lane Completion Project is to:**



Reduce peak-period congestion and delay



Optimize use of existing HOV lane capacity



Improve travel time reliability



Provide efficient travel options for all vehicles



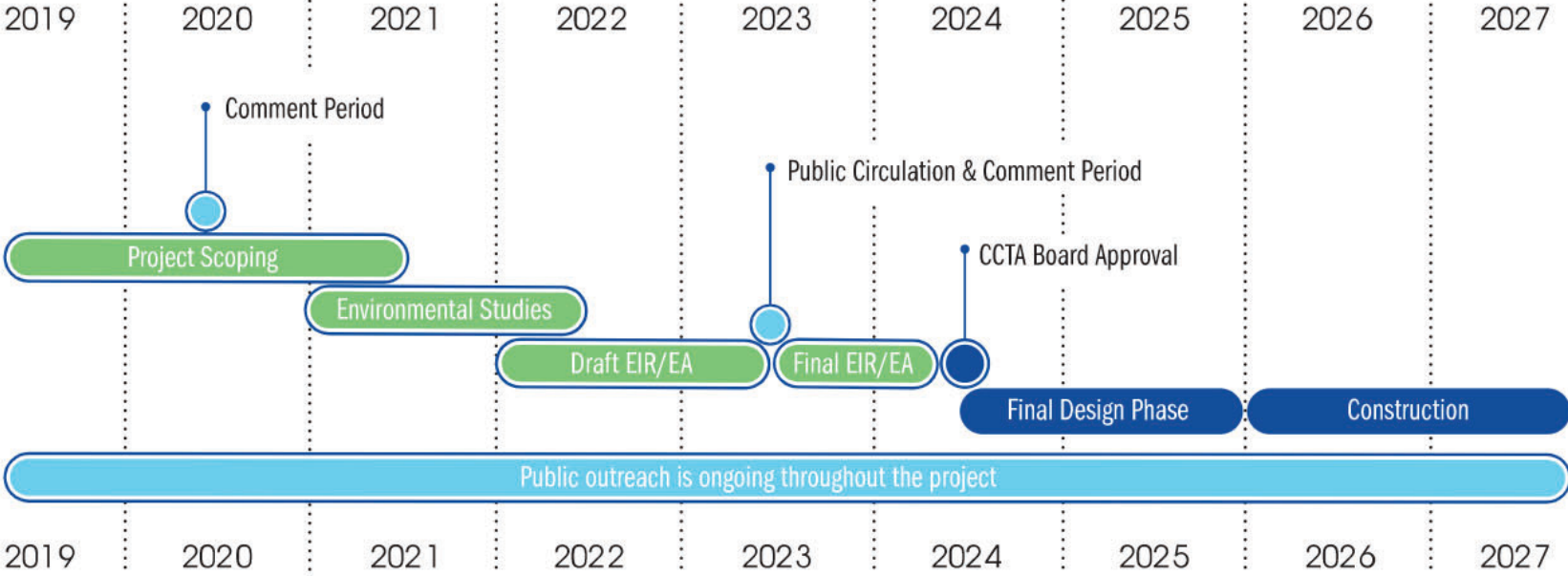
# Project Need

**The project is needed to address existing transportation problems within the project study limits:**

- **Congestion** – Northbound I-680 general-purpose lanes within the area experience substantial congestion (over 30 minutes of delay) during peak hours.
- **System Continuity** – There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system, and increasing travel time for all users.
- **Operational Improvements** – The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.



# Project Schedule



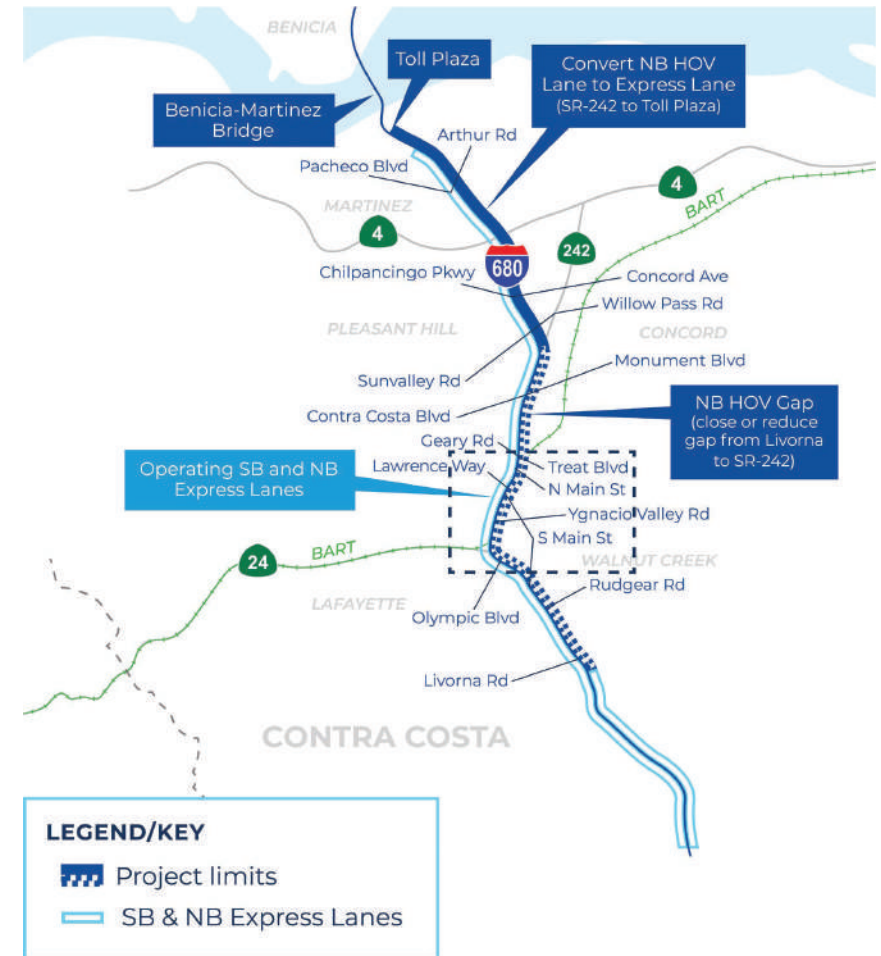
# PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

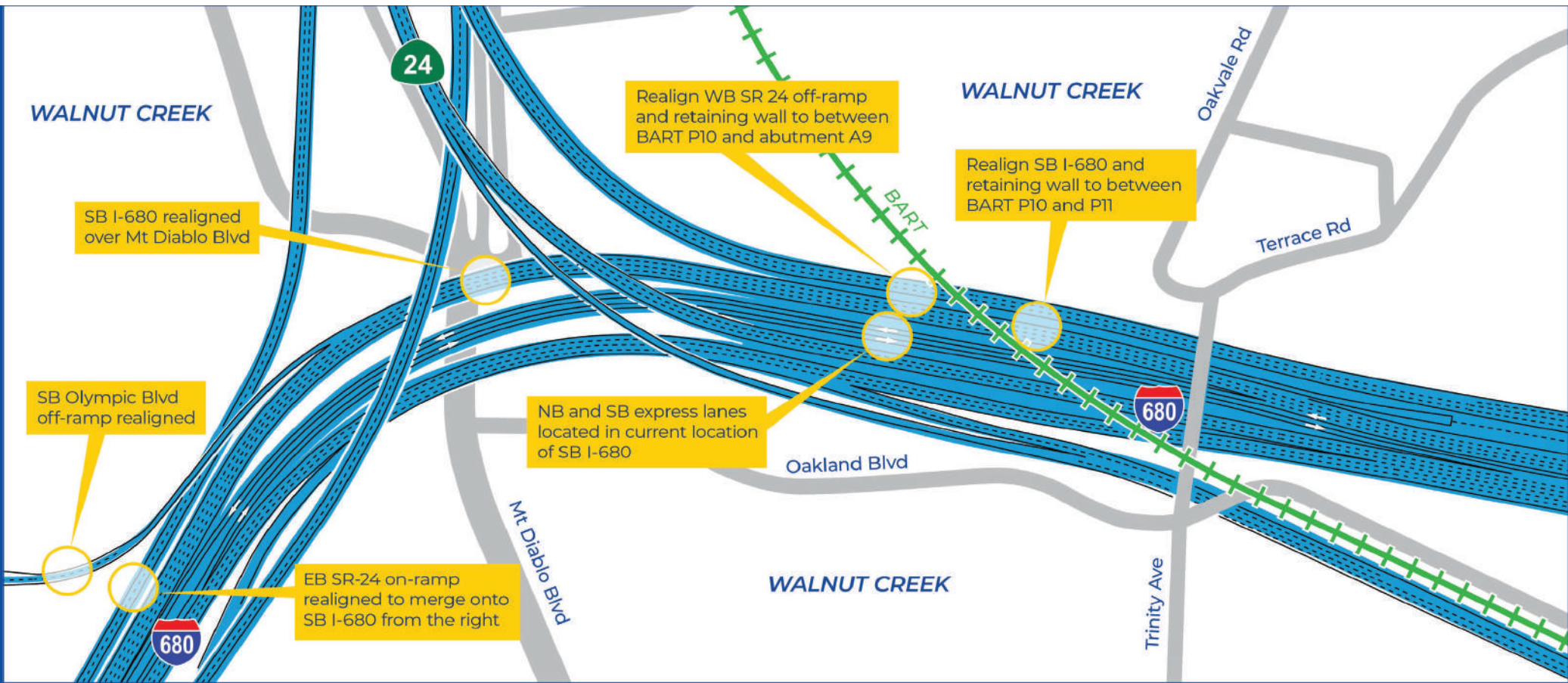




# Build Alternatives

- Three Build Alternatives
  - **Alternative 1C**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment
  - **Alternative 2**
    - Reduce the Gap plus Braided Ramps
  - **Alternative 3**
    - Close the Gap with Realignment plus Braided Ramps
- Received comments through the environmental scoping process on alternatives. Recommendations are being investigated.





# Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project

## Alternative 1C — Close the Gap with Realignment



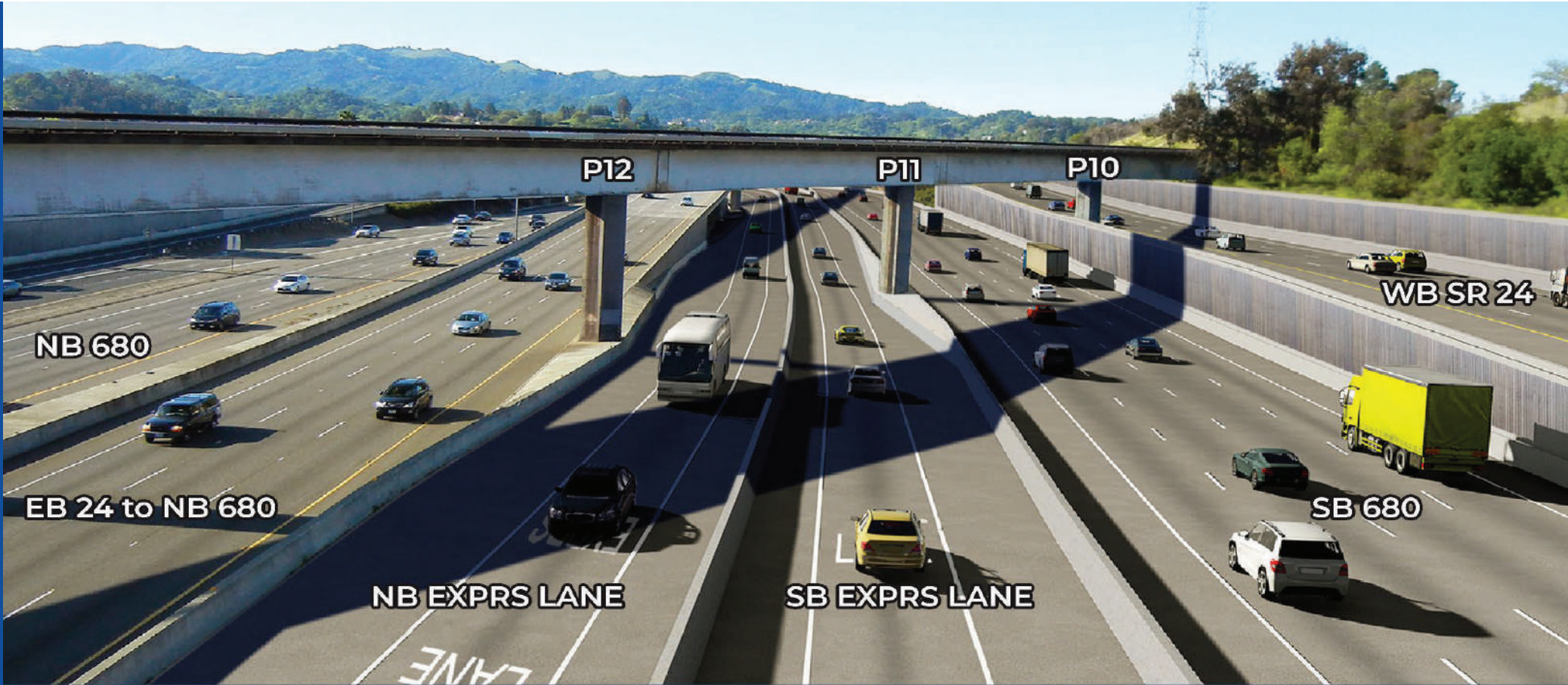




Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Existing Condition**

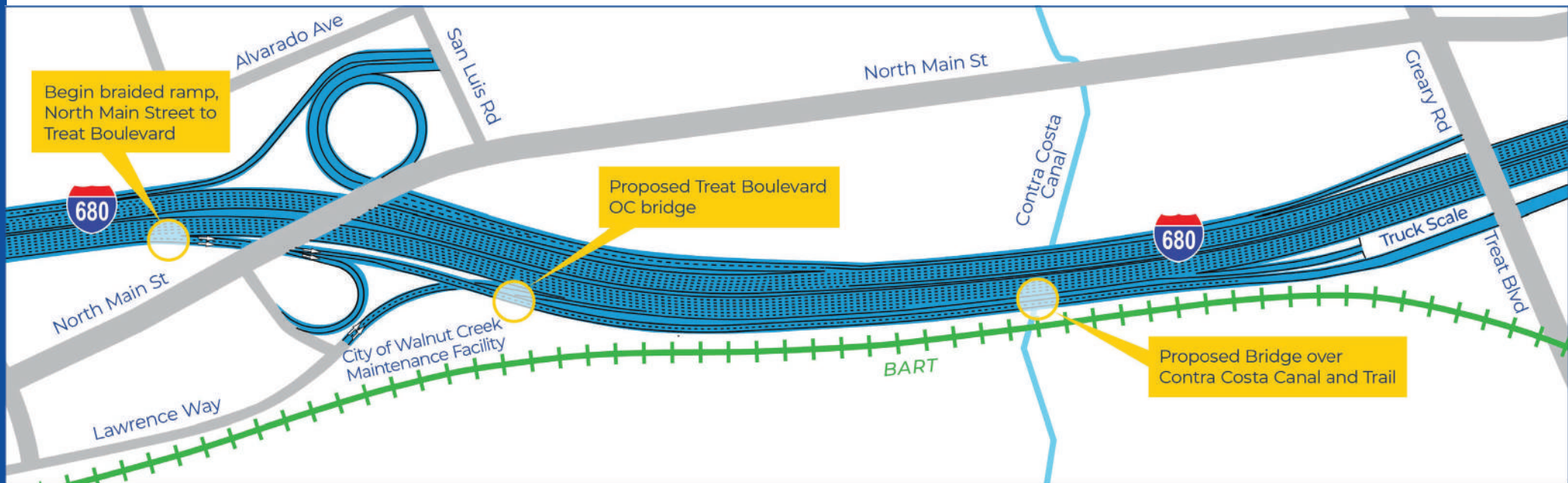






Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Alternative 1C**





# Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project

## Alternative 2 — Reduce the Gap plus Braided Ramps







Innovate 680 | Express Lane Completion Project  
**Alternative 3** — Close the Gap with Realignment plus Braided Ramps

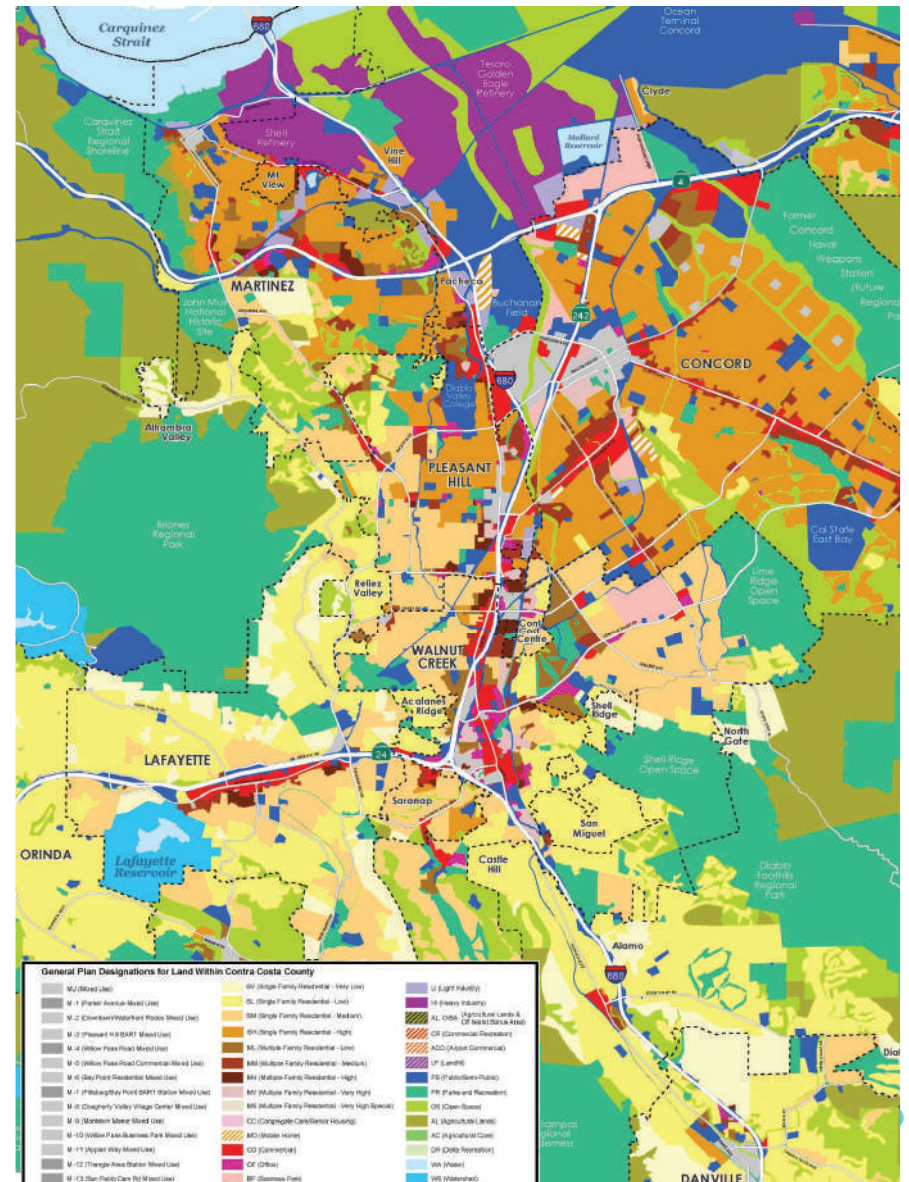




# Land Uses

The project location and adjacent study area land uses are predominately:

- Commercial and Retail
- Residential
- Industrial
- Research and Development
- Open Space/Recreation



# Opening Year 2027 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Total AADT	Truck AADT*	% Truck AADT Change**
No Build	156,623	6,108	
Alternative 1c	167,534	5,594	-9.2
Alternative 2	167,679	5,645	-8.2
Alternative 3	168,146	5,611	-8.8

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022  
\*Based on GP lanes forecast  
\*\*Based on Total AADT volumes (GP and EL volumes)



# Design Year 2047 AADT Summary @ I-680 North of Oak Park

Alternative	Total AADT	Truck AADT*	% Truck AADT Change**
No Build	164,653	6,421	
Alternative 1c	177,607	5,971	-7.5
Alternative 2	177,447	5,968	-7.6
Alternative 3	178,456	6,010	-6.8

Source: Kittleson & Associates Traffic Forecast, 2022  
\*Based on GP lanes forecast  
\*\*Based on Total AADT volumes (GP and EL volumes)



# Design Year 2047 Vehicle Hours of Delay

	No Build	Alt 1C	Alt 2	Alt 3
VHT (hr.)	45,738	44,280	41,329	45,296
Total delay (hr.)	27,324	25,390	22,226	26,136
Avg delay (sec/veh)	502	468	407	484

Source: DKS Associates I-680 NB Express Lanes VISSIM Operations Analysis, 2022



# Not a Project of Air Quality Concern

- Diesel vehicles (trucks) currently represent between 5.5% and 3.2% of the AADT on I-680, based on Caltrans 2020 Traffic Census Data. Truck percentages on NB I-680 are anticipated to be between 6.4% and 4% in the future years (2027, 2047, and 2050).
- Interchanges and/or intersections will not be significantly altered by the project, nor do they serve a significant number of diesel trucks.
- The project would not change land uses along the corridor. Thus, the project would not increase diesel traffic.



# Questions







THANK YOU



**Air Quality Conformity Task Force  
Summary Meeting Notes  
February 24, 2022**

Participants:

Dick Fahey – Caltrans  
Shilpa Mareddy – Caltrans  
Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans  
Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans  
Lexie Arellano – Caltrans  
Kevin Krewson – Caltrans  
Gez Tizazu – Caltrans  
Jacqueline Kahrs – Caltrans

Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans  
Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD  
Patrick Pittenger – FHWA  
Dominique Kraft – FTA  
John Saelee – MTC  
Adam Crenshaw – MTC  
Harold Brazil – MTC

**1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations**

**a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status**

**i. I-580/680/780 Traffic Management Systems Project**

Shilpa Mareddy (Caltrans) began her discussion on the I-580/680/780 Traffic Management Systems project by identifying some of the land uses in the project area:

- Interstate 680 (I-680)
  - Within Solano County project limits, I-680 is the Benicia-Martinez Bridge, which is comprised of two structures (north and south bound) of 5 and 4 lanes. The route connects the suburban communities of Solano County with Central Contra Costa County via the Bridge and with I- 80 and SR 12 further north at the Cordelia Junction.
  - Within Alameda County project limits, I-680 is a six-lane freeway, interchanging with I-580 in the City of Dublin.
  - Within Contra Costa County project limits, I-680 is an eight-lane freeway.
- Interstate 580 (I-580)
  - Within Alameda County project limits, I-580 is a ten-lane divided freeway, interchanging with I-680 in the City of Dublin. The Corridor serves local traffic within the Tri-Valley, links commuters to economic and employment centers, and supports interregional travel through direct access to I-80, I-880 (via 1-238), and I-5 in San Joaquin County.
- Interstate 780 (I-780)

- I-780 is a seven-mile four-lane freeway which closely follows the Carquinez Strait, linking I-680 in Benicia to 1-80 in Vallejo. The route traverses' dense suburban communities and is entirely located within Solano County.

Ms. Mareddy also pointed out the purpose and need of the I-580/680/780 Traffic Management Systems project being –

- Purpose:  
The purpose of this project is to provide a high-capacity fiber-optic communication backbone (trunk) that will link Caltrans-owned facility to the TOS field components. This project also closes gaps in TOS and RM elements to maximize throughput of the freeway and better inform the traveling public of freeway incidents and activities within the project limits.
- Need:  
With the lack of Caltrans-owned fiber optic cables throughout the system, most of the existing communication is routed through the slower GPRS modems or leased lines. As a result of the deficiencies, information concerning incidents and freeway conditions are inadequately and inefficiently collected and transferred, reducing the effectiveness of the TOS to manage and analyze the throughput of the freeway system.

Not all ramps have ramp metering and HOV bypass systems, and according to Caltrans policy, when ramp volume exceeds the threshold or adversely affects adjacent freeway flow, ramp meter and HOV bypass lane need to be installed. Hence various ramps need ramp meters and HOV bypass lanes.

Ms. Mareddy went into the specific proposed description of the I-580/680/780 Traffic Management Systems project by listing the following:

- Install fiber optic communication trunk line to close fiber trunk gaps within project limits along I-580, I-680, and I-780.
- Install distribution line connecting TOS elements, field hubs, and cable trunk line.
- Install/upgrade Traffic Operation Systems (TOS)
- Install missing over ground equipment and traffic controller cabinets.
- Install/upgrade Ramp Metering (RM) Element at 66 ramps.
- Widen ramp to provide HOV bypass lanes at 27 locations
- Restripe ramp to add HOV bypass lane or convert existing GP lane to HOV bypass lane at 8 locations.
- Widen EB I-780 to SB I-680 connector to add HOV bypass lane for a length of 700 feet.
- Re-stripe EB I-780 to I-680 NB connector to convert existing GP lane to HOV bypass lane for a length of approximately 3000 feet.
- Construct CHP enforcement area at all ramps that add/convert HOV lane.

**Final Determination:** The determination on the I-580/680/780 Traffic Management Systems project was deferred to a follow-up meeting to include input from EPA. The follow-up meeting occurred on March 8<sup>th</sup> and the meeting discussion points are included below.

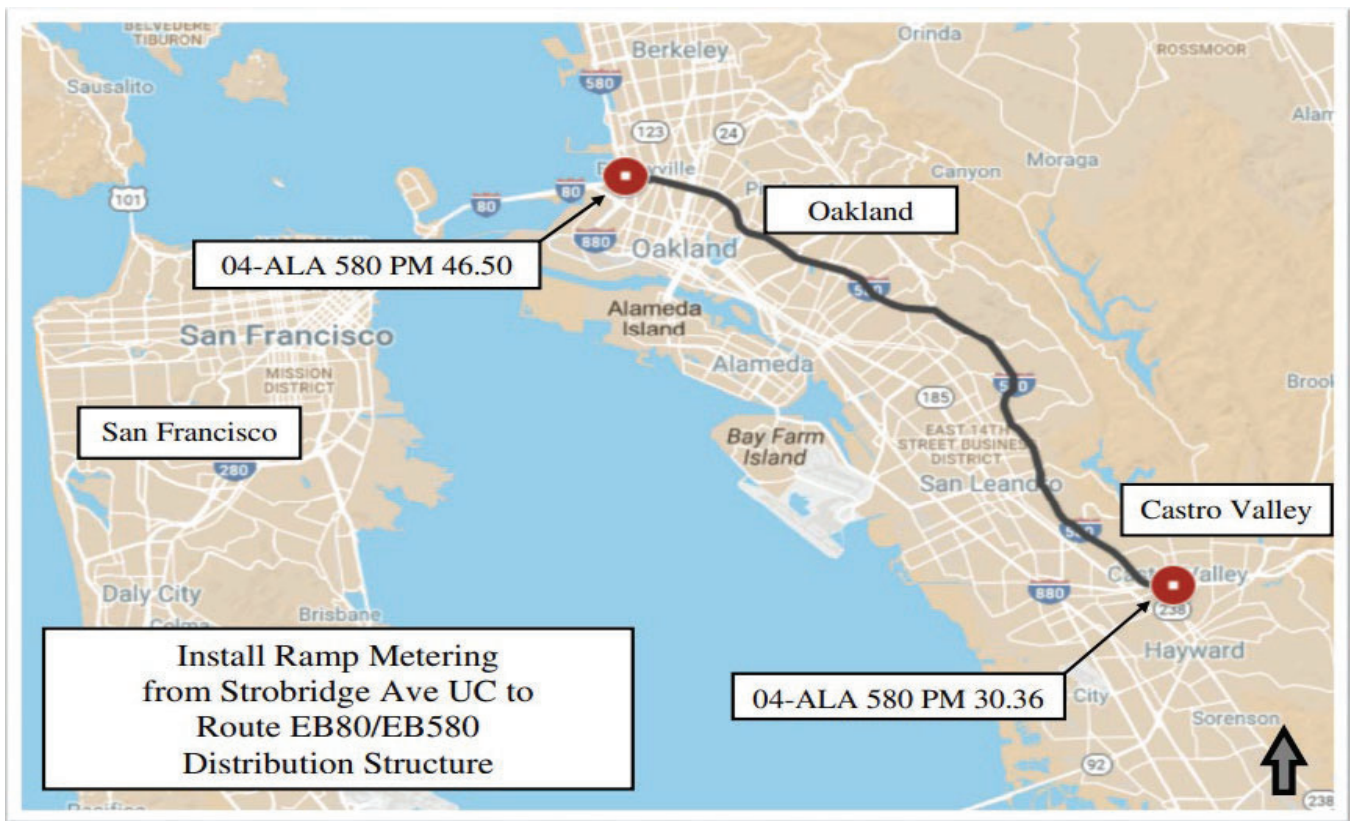
## ii. I-580 Ramp Metering Installation Project

Note: the following information was available at the meeting and discussion on this item was deferred to a follow-up meeting with EPA

Land uses in the I-580 Ramp Metering Installation project area included the following:

- The I-580 corridor provides direct connections to three major north-south freeways, I-5, I-680 and I-880.
- I-580 is a major gateway for goods movement into and out of the San Francisco Bay Area's five seaports, three commercial airports, and four rail freight terminals, and is the primary route for eastbound travelers destined for the Sierra Nevada Mountains and Southern California.
- I-580 serves inter-regional and inter-county commute trips in Alameda County.
- The segment of I-580 within the project limits is a six to ten-lane freeway with no high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes. Truck traffic is prohibited on I-580 from Foothill Boulevard in San Leandro (postmile 34.9) to Grand Avenue in Oakland (postmile 43.6), except during emergencies. This portion of I-580 is officially designated as a State Scenic Route.

### PROJECT LOCATION



Purpose of Project:

The purpose of the I-580 Ramp Metering Installation project is to install or upgrade ramp metering systems and widen ramp entrances to provide HOV bypass lanes, where applicable. The proposed improvements will:

- Manage congestion and control traffic flow entering freeway
- Minimize off-ramp to on-ramp cut through traffic during peak hours
- Enhance safety by reducing congestion-related accidents

Need of Project:

The current and anticipated future transportation demand contributes to the need for this project. According to recent Performance Measurement System (PeMS) data, there are approximately 265,000 hours of annual vehicle delay along this segment of the I-580 corridor. The accumulation of vehicular delay combined with regional economic growth are causing extended queuing on westbound direction during AM peak commute hours, and eastbound direction during PM peak commute hours.

The main design features of the Build Alternatives for the I-580 Ramp Metering Installation project are as follows:

- Install/upgrade Ramp Metering (RM) Systems at 43 entrance ramp locations.
- Widen ramp to add a HOV bypass lane or a GP lane.
- Construct Maintenance Vehicle pullouts (MVP) where applicable.
- Construct CHP enforcement areas on the ramps.
- Cold plane and overlay of existing ramp pavement from mainline to the ramp intersection.

**Final Determination:** The determination on the I-580 Ramp Metering Installation project was deferred to a follow-up meeting to include input from EPA. The follow-up meeting occurred on March 8<sup>th</sup> and the meeting discussion points are included below.

**iii. SON 116/Lakeville Road and State Gulch Road Intersection Improvement Project**

Note: the following information was available at the meeting and discussion on this item was deferred to a follow-up meeting with EPA

The project proposes to improve safety on State Rote (SR) 116 and State Gulch Road intersection at Post Mile 39.27 in the City of Lakeville in Sonoma County. The following 4 alternatives are under considerations:

- Alternative 1A: Signalized Intersection at Existing Location
  - Install traffic signals at all 3 legs of the existing intersection.
  - Traffic Signals will meter traffic through the intersection and enhance movement from Lakeville Highway with proposed right-turn channelization lane.
- Alternative 1B: Signalized Intersection realigned to East
  - Realign intersection east and install traffic signals at all 3 legs of the intersection.

- Traffic Signals will meter traffic through the intersection and enhance movement from Lakeville Highway with proposed right-turn channelization lane.
- Alternative 2A: Roundabout at Existing Location
  - Construct roundabout at existing intersection.
- Alternative 2B: Roundabout realigned to East
  - Realign intersection east and construct roundabout at intersection.

Purpose of Project:

The purpose of the Project is to improve safety on SR 116 at the intersection of SR 116 (Stage Gulch Road) and Lakeville Highway by reducing the potential for broadside collisions and decreasing the severity of accidents.

Need of Project:

The Project is needed due to an established pattern of broadside collisions involving northbound through vehicles on Lakeville Highway with left turning vehicles going eastbound on SR 116. Based on the 3-year Traffic Accident Surveillance and Analysis System from 01/01/2015 to 12/31/2017 there were 16 collisions at the intersection of which 1 was fatal and 6 involved injuries.

**Table 1: 3-Year Traffic Accident Data between 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2017**

Highway Intersection	Number of Accidents					Actual Accident Rates <sup>1</sup>			Average Accident Rates <sup>1</sup>		
	Total	FAT	INJ	F+I	PDO	FAT	F+I	Total	FAT	F+I	Total
SON 116 PM 39.27	16	1	6	0	16	0.08	0.53	1.210.69	0.02	0.17	0.33

Notes:

FAT = Fatal Accidents

INJ = Injury accidents

F+I = Fatal plus Injury accidents

PDO = Property damage only

<sup>1</sup> # of Accidents/ Million Vehicle Miles

Conclusions drawn from evaluation:

- The SON 116/Lakeville Road and State Gulch Road Intersection Project would improve Operational Improvement Project would resolve the broadside collision and reduce the number and severity of accidents.
- The project will construct a signalized intersection or a roundabout.
- Therefore, this project should be considered as a safety project, and it is an exempt project.

**Final Determination:** The determination on the SON 116/Lakeville Road and State Gulch Road Intersection project was deferred to a follow-up meeting to include input from EPA. The follow-up meeting occurred on March 8<sup>th</sup> and the meeting discussion points are included below.







Harold

---

Harold Brazil  
Senior Planner  
[hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov)

BAY AREA METRO | [BayAreaMetro.gov](http://BayAreaMetro.gov)  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Association of Bay Area Governments

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Phone: 415-778-6747  
Gen. 415-778-6700  
<http://www.mtc.ca.gov/>

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40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List

County	TIP ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Expanded Description	Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126
CC	CC-190023	Walnut Creek	Walnut Creek-5 Main St - Las Trampas CrBridge Rep	Walnut Creek: S. Main St over Las Trampas Creek (28C0075): Replace existing 5-lane bridge with a new 5-lane bridge	Walnut Creek: S. Main St over Las Trampas Creek (28C0075): Replace existing 5-lane bridge with a new 5-lane bridge	Safety - Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes)
SCL	SCL210026	San Jose	Julian and St. James Couplet Conversion	San Jose: Along Julian St from Coleman Ave to 3rd St and St James from Market St to 4th St: Convert 1-way to 2-way traffic	San Jose: Along Julian St from Coleman Ave to 3rd St and St James from Market St to 4th St: Convert 1-way to 2-way traffic to improve roadway functionality and safety for all roadway users and to improve neighborhood livability. Project would include, but not limited to: 1. Restriping the street for two-way traffic (one lane in each direction), 2. New and modified signals to accommodate two-way traffic and improve signal responsiveness for people walking and bicycling, 3. Streetlights (new pedestrian-scale lighting and conversion of existing lights to smart, energy efficient lighting) 4. Amenities for livability, traffic calming and complete streets, including street trees, wayfinding information, refurbishing non-functional fountains as planters, green backed bicycle sharrows, bike racks, accessible ramps, and high-visibility/decorative crosswalks	Safety - Hazard elimination program
SCL	SCL210027	Mountain View	Mountain View Shoreline Blvd Pathway Improvements	Mountain View: Adjacent to Shoreline Blvd from Wright Ave to Villa St: Reconstruct a pathway connection to connect neighborhoods and the Transit Center and Downtown.	Mountain View: Adjacent to Shoreline Blvd from Wright Ave to Villa St: Reconstruct a pathway connection to connect neighborhoods and the Transit Center and Downtown. Project scope includes removal of the existing pathway, installation of a new ADA-compliant bicycle and pedestrian pathway, curb, gutter, curb ramps, stairs, pathway lighting, landscaping, irrigation, storm drains, and retaining wall.	Air Quality - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
SF	SF-210005	SFMTA	Transbay Terminal Mobility Hub - East Cut	San Francisco: At former temporary Transbay Terminal, block bound by Folsom, Main, Howard and Beale streets, one block east of Salesforce Transit Center: Implement Mobility Hub Pilot improvements.	San Francisco: At the former temporary Transbay Terminal block bound by Folsom, Main, Howard and Beale streets, one block east of Salesforce Transit Center (The Transbay Terminal Mobility Hub at the Crossing at East Cut): Develop a mobility hub with East Cut Community Benefit District (CBD), where the CBD is implementing temporary uses including food service, recreational facilities, and programming. The Crossing at East Cut opened in summer 2021, and is expected to remain open until redevelopment occurs in 2025. Grant funds will be used for a quick-build project that includes long-term bicycle parking, seating, wayfinding and other amenities. These facilities will be complemented by the East Cut CBD's Crossing at East Cut programming and public space improvements at the project site.	Air Quality - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
SOL	SOL210010	Vallejo	Vallejo Springs Rd Pavement Preservation	Vallejo: On Springs Rd from Humboldt St. to Maywood Dr: Pavement preservation including pavement rehabilitation, curb ramps imp., curb and gutter, and pavement striping	Vallejo: On Springs Rd from Humboldt St. to Maywood Dr: Pavement preservation including developing and implementing a water pollution program, traffic control for street closures and detours, surveying and staking for proposed grades, remove and replace curb, gutter, sidewalk, and curb ramps, cold-milling removal of asphalt concrete, hot-mix asphalt paving, lowering and raising of existing utilities, recycling disposed materials, pavement striping, signage, relocating utilities, Capital Improvements shall include demolition, and all ancillary work associated with the work, completed in place as shown on the drawings and specifications. This project is part of an exchange of federal funds (OBAG2-SSM) from SOL170008.	Safety - Pavement resurfacing or rehabilitation

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)  
Programming Information for Federal Request for Authorization (RFA)**

- To Be Submitted To Caltrans With Request For Authorization Of Federal Highway Funding -

**I-680 NB Express Lane Completion** **ACTIVE** **CTIPS ID: 20600006244**

**TIP ID:** CC-170017 **TIP Status:** ACTIVE **Version:** 9 **FMS ID:** 6563 **TIP Revision:** 2023-00 **TIP Revision Approval Date:** 12/16/2022

**Sponsor:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) **Implementing Agency:** Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

**County:** Contra Costa **Investment Category:** SYSTMGMT:100% **State Highway Rte:** 680

**Trans. System:** State Highway

**Primary Mode:** Auto:100% **Sub Mode:** Auto:100%

**Project Name:** I-680 NB Express Lane Completion

**Project Description:** Contra Costa County : I680 NB from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge : I680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane; from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane; from N Main to Treat: Operational improvements; various locations along I680: install limited access buffers

**Expanded Description:** Contra Costa County: I680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane from N Main St to Treat Blvd: Operational improvements various locations along I680: install limited access buffers and mitigation projects. The PBA 2050 project ID is 21-T12-116

**RTP Description:**

**RTP ID:** 21-T12-116 **RTP Cycle:** PLANBAYAREA2050

**Regional Air Quality Status:** Non-Exempt (N/A) - N/A

**Air Basin:** San Francisco Bay Area **Air District:** BAAQMD

**TIP Funding:** (All Funding in Whole Dollars)

Fund Code	Phase	Prog Year	Total	Prior	TIP 4-Year Period				Later	Obligation Information			Toll Credits
					FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	FY 25/26		Fed Proj No.	Date	Amount	
SALESTAX-MEASURE-CC	ENV	2018	-	-									
SALESTAX-MEASURE-CC	ENV	2019	\$714,000	\$714,000									
SB1-RRAA-LPP-FORMULA	ENV	2019	\$2,286,000	\$2,286,000						06/27/19	\$2,286,000		
STP-T5-OBAG2-REG-AOM	ENV	2018	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000						STPL-6084(233)	04/16/18	\$8,000,000	\$917,600
STP-T5-OBAG2-REG-AOM	ENV	2019	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000						STPL-6084(233)	12/14/18	\$2,000,000	
STP-T5-OBAG2-REG-RSI	ENV	2019	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000						STPL-6084(233)	12/14/18	\$4,000,000	
RIP-T5-20-FED-CC	PSE	2027	\$15,000,000					\$15,000,000					
RTP-LRP	PSE	2027	\$44,000,000					\$44,000,000					
RTP-LRP	ROW	2027	\$5,500,000					\$5,500,000					
RTP-LRP	CON	2028	\$415,500,000					\$415,500,000					
RTP-LRP	CON_CE	2028	\$63,000,000					\$63,000,000					
<b>Project Totals</b>			\$560,000,000	\$17,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$543,000,000			\$16,286,000	\$917,600

Contact Information	Name & Title	Agency	Phone	Email
<b>Project Sponsor Contact:</b>	Stephanie Hu, Senior Engineer	CCTA	925-256-4740	stephanieh@ccta.net
	Kevin Chen, Assistant Director	MTC	415-778-5338	kchen@bayareametro.gov
<b>Sponsor Single Point of Contact:</b>	Hisham Noeimi, Engineering Manager	CCTA	925-256-4731	hnoeimi@ccta.net

**End of Project Version: 9**

**End of TIP ID: CC-170017**

List of 2023 TIP Projects by County

County	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	TIP ID	RTP ID	Air Quality Description	Conformity Analysis Year
Alameda	Fremont	State Route 262 (Mission Blvd) Improvements	In Fremont: Mission Blvd/I-680 IC: Implement interchange improvements at I-680 and new freeway lanes between I-680 and I-880	ALA170001	21-T06-046	NON-EXEMPT	2050
Alameda	Hayward	I-880 Auxiliary lanes at Industrial Parkway	Hayward: I-880 NB between Industrial Pkwy and Alameda Creek; I-808 SB between Industrial Pkwy and Whipple Rd: Construct auxiliary lanes	ALA090020	21-T06-024	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Alameda	Hayward	I-880 I/C Improvements (Winton Ave and A St)	Hayward: I-880 from Winton Ave & A St: Reconfigure interchanges providing NB & SB auxiliary lanes between the A St and Winton Ave interchanges, complete streets features for bicyclists & pedestrians,	ALA170046	21-T06-024	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Alameda	Hayward	I-880/Industrial Parkway West Interchange	In Hayward: At I-880/Industrial Parkway West: Reconstruct interchange, replace overcrossing structure, reconfigure on/off-ramps, provide HOV bypass lanes, widen & reconfigure local streets &	ALA110002	21-T06-024	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Alameda	Hayward	Rt 92/Clawiter/Whitesell Interchange Improvements	Hayward: Rt 92/Clawiter Rd: Upgrade existing Clawiter interchange. Add ramps and overcrossing for Whitesell St. extension. Signalize ramp intersections.	ALA090016	21-T06-041	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Alameda	MTC	Bay Bridge Forward: Alameda I-580 WB HOV Lane Ext	Alameda County: On I-580 westbound approach to the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge toll plaza from the SR 24/I-980 interchange to I-80: Convert one general purpose lane to an HOV lane.	ALA190018	21-T06-049	NON-EXEMPT	2025
Alameda	MTC	BBF: I-80 WB Bus Only Lane Extension	Alameda County: On I-80 westbound between SFOBB Toll Plaza and Powell Street interchange: Construct a bus only or HOV lane.	ALA210028	21-T06-049	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Alameda	Oakland	Oakland Grand Avenue Roadway Improvements	Oakland: Grand Ave between MacArthur and Mandela: Implement improvements to bus operations, walking, and biking including a bus only lane and road diet (from four lanes to two lanes)	ALA210024	21-T08-060	NON-EXEMPT - Not Regionally Significant Project	Not Modeled
Alameda	Oakland	Oakland: Telegraph Avenue Complete Streets	Oakland: on Telegraph Avenue between 20th St and 41st St: Implement complete street project inc. road diet, buffered bike lanes, ped crossing improvements, bulbouts, bus boarding islands, traffic signal	ALA150047	21-T08-060	NON-EXEMPT - Not Regionally Significant Project	Not Modeled
Alameda	Oakland	West Oakland Howard Terminal Downtown Connectivity	Oakland: Between West Oakland, Howard Terminal, and Jack London District: Provide connectivity with improvements including railroad crossings, intersection improvements, transit only lanes and a new	ALA210023	21-T08-060	NON-EXEMPT - Not Regionally Significant Project	Not Modeled
Alameda	Union City	East-West Connector: Decoto and Quarry Lakes Pkwy	Union City and Fremont: Decoto Rd from I-880 to SR-238 (Mission Blvd): Widen roadway and implement complete streets improvements; Quarry Lakes Pkwy alignment between Paseo Padre Pkwy and SR-	ALA978004	21-T07-056	NON-EXEMPT	2040
Contra Costa	Brentwood	Brentwood Boulevard Widening - North (Phase I)	Brentwood: Brentwood Boulevard from Havenwood Avenue to Homecoming Way: Phase I-Widen from 2 to 4 lanes including a new parallel bridge over Marsh Creek, traffic signal modifications, and utilities	CC-070011	21-T07-056	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Contra Costa	Brentwood	Brentwood Boulevard Widening - North (Phase II)	Brentwood: Brentwood Blvd. between Homecoming Way and Lone Tree Way: Widen existing roadway from 2 to 4 lanes	CC-170015	21-T07-056	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Contra Costa	CC County	Byron Highway - Vasco Road Connection	Contra Costa County: between Byron Highway and Vasco Road: Construct an east-west connection road	CC-070081	21-T06-047	NON-EXEMPT	2040
Contra Costa	CC County	Camino Tassajara Realignment, S of Windemere Pkwy	Contra Costa County: Camino Tassajara between Windemere Parkway and the City of Dublin: Realign curves and widen road to four lanes	CC-170016	21-T07-056	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Contra Costa	CCTA	CCTA - Carshare 4 All	Contra Costa County: Various locations: Expand carshare access at transit locations and conduct outreach	CC-150009	21-EN09-132	NON-EXEMPT - Not Regionally Significant Project	Not Modeled
Contra Costa	CCTA	I-680 NB Express Lane Completion	CC County: I680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane; from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane; from N Main to Treat: Operational improvements;	CC-170017	21-T12-116	NON-EXEMPT	2030
Contra Costa	CCTA	I-680 Part Time Transit Lane	In Contra Costa County: On I-680 between Ygnacio Valley Rd and Alcosta Blvd: Increase bus service efficiency by implementing bus operations on shoulder (BOS)	CC-170061	21-T12-122	NON-EXEMPT	2030

Note: Projects with a conformity analysis year of 2050 reference programmatic projects or projects with a completion date after 2040 in Plan Bay Area 2050.



Roadway Projects  
**Contra Costa County**  
*State Highway Projects*

**TIP ID:** CC-170017    **County:** Contra Costa    **System:** STATE\_HWY RTP ID: 21-T12-116    **CTIPS** 20600006244  
**Sponsor:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)    **Implementing Agency:** Metropolitan Transportation  
**Project Name:** I-680 NB Express Lane Completion  
**Description:** Contra Costa County : I680 NB from Livorna to Benicia-Martinez Bridge : I680 NB from Livorna to SR-242: Widen to extend managed Lane; from SR-242 to Benicia-Martinez Bridge: Convert HOV to Express Lane; from N Main to Treat: Operational improvements; various locations along I680: install limited access buffers  
**Air Quality Exempt Code:** Non-Exempt

Route: 680		Post Mile From:	Post Mile To:	Toll Credits: \$ 917,600				
All funding in thousands of dollars								
Phase	Fund Source	Prior Years	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Future Years	Total Programmed
ENV	SALESTAX-MEASURE	\$ 714						\$ 714
ENV	SB1	\$ 2,286						\$ 2,286
ENV	STP	\$ 14,000						\$ 14,000
PSE	RIP						\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
PSE	RTP-LRP						\$ 44,000	\$ 44,000
ROW	RTP-LRP						\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500
CON	RTP-LRP						\$ 415,500	\$ 415,500
CON_CE	RTP-LRP						\$ 63,000	\$ 63,000
<b>Total Programmed Funding:</b>		\$ 17,000					\$ 543,000	\$ 560,000

**TIP ID:** CC-170062    **County:** Contra Costa    **System:** STATE\_HWY RTP ID: 21-T07-057    **CTIPS** 20600006504  
**Sponsor:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)    **Implementing Agency:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
**Project Name:** Innovate680:Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering Ph1  
**Description:** Contra Costa County : on NB I-680 between Alcosta Blvd to Olympic Blvd : Implement Coordinated Adaptive Ramp Metering  
**Air Quality Exempt Code:** 40 CFR 93.126 - Safety - Traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signalization projects

Route:		Post Mile From:	Post Mile To:	Toll Credits:				
All funding in thousands of dollars								
Phase	Fund Source	Prior Years	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Future Years	Total Programmed
ENV	SALESTAX-MEASURE	\$ 1,400						\$ 1,400
PSE	RIP			\$ 2,000				\$ 2,000
CON	RIP					\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000
CON_CE	RIP					\$ 3,000		\$ 3,000
<b>Total Programmed Funding:</b>		\$ 1,400		\$ 2,000		\$ 23,000		\$ 26,400

**TIP ID:** CC-190018    **County:** Contra Costa    **System:** STATE\_HWY RTP ID: 21-T03-009    **CTIPS** 20600006720  
**Sponsor:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)    **Implementing Agency:** Contra Costa Transportation Authority  
**Project Name:** Bay Area MOD  
**Description:** Contra Costa County : In the I680 Corridor and surrounding communities : Develop an integrated and scalable platform & application (app) aimed at reducing traffic congestion  
**Air Quality Exempt Code:** 40 CFR 93.126 - Other - Grants for training and research programs

Route:		Post Mile From:	Post Mile To:	Toll Credits:				
All funding in thousands of dollars								
Phase	Fund Source	Prior Years	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Future Years	Total Programmed
CON	OTHER FEDERAL	\$ 8,000						\$ 8,000
CON	OTHER LOCAL	\$ 8,970						\$ 8,970
CON	SALESTAX-MEASURE	\$ 858						\$ 858
<b>Total Programmed Funding:</b>		\$ 17,828						\$ 17,828

End of section

# Plan Bay Area 2050 Transportation Project List

**Filter/Search** ⓘ

**County**

**Plan Strategy**

**Open Period** ⓘ

**CLEAR FILTERS**

RTP ID	Title	Scope	Open Period	Funding* (millions)
21-T12-116	Express Lanes   Regional	This program includes funding to implement express lanes through HOV lane conversions on I-80 (ALA, CC), I-280 (SCL), I-680 (CC), I-880 (SCL), US-101 (SCL), SR-4 (CC), SR-84 (ALA), SR-85 (SCL), SR-87 (SCL), and SR-92 (ALA); partial HOV lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SF), I-680 (CC), and US-101 (SF); freeway lane conversions on I-80 (SOL), I-280 (SCL), I-580 (ALA), I-680 (SCL), and I-880 (ALA); new lanes on I-80 (SOL), I-680 (ALA, CC), I-880 (ALA), and US-101 (SM); new dual lanes with HOV lane conversions on SR-85 (SCL); and new dual lanes on US-101 (SCL).	2021 - 2035	\$4,530

**DOWNLOAD DATA** ⓘ **Total Records: 1**

\* Funding is reported in year-of-expenditure (YOE) dollars, accounting for an annual inflation rate of 2.2%. Funding accounts for both capital and operations and maintenance costs.

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

August 18, 2020

Melinda Pacheco Patrick, Principal Investigator/Project Manager  
Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

Via Email to: [melinda@farwestern.com](mailto:melinda@farwestern.com)

**Re: I-680 Express Lane Project, Contra Costa County**

Dear Ms. Patrick:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: [Sarah.Fonseca@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Fonseca@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Sarah Fonseca  
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

SECRETARY  
**Merri Lopez-Keifer**  
Luiseño

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Russell Attebery**  
Karuk

COMMISSIONER  
**Marshall McKay**  
Wintun

COMMISSIONER  
**William Mungary**  
Paiute/White Mountain  
Apache

COMMISSIONER  
**Julie Tumamait-Stenslie**  
Chumash

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
**Christina Snider**  
Pomo

**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**  
1550 Harbor Boulevard  
Suite 100  
West Sacramento,  
California 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)  
[NAHC.ca.gov](http://NAHC.ca.gov)

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Contra Costa County  
8/18/2020**

**Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista**

Irenne Zwierlein, Chairperson  
789 Canada Road Costanoan  
Woodside, CA, 94062  
Phone: (650) 851 - 7489  
Fax: (650) 332-1526  
amahmutsuntribal@gmail.com

**Guidiville Indian Rancheria**

Merlene Sanchez, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 339 Pomo  
Talmage, CA, 95481  
Phone: (707) 462 - 3682  
Fax: (707) 462-9183  
admin@guidiville.net

**Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan**

Ann Marie Sayers, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 28 Costanoan  
Hollister, CA, 95024  
Phone: (831) 637 - 4238  
ams@indiancanyon.org

**Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area**

Monica Arellano,  
20885 Redwood Road, Suite 232 Costanoan  
Castro Valley, CA, 94546  
Phone: (408) 205 - 9714  
marellano@muvekma.org

**North Valley Yokuts Tribe**

Katherine Perez, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 717 Costanoan  
Linden, CA, 95236 Northern Valley  
Phone: (209) 887 - 3415 Yokut  
canutes@verizon.net

**North Valley Yokuts Tribe**

Timothy Perez, MLD Contact  
P.O. Box 717 Costanoan  
Linden, CA, 95236 Northern Valley  
Phone: (209) 662 - 2788 Yokut  
huskanam@gmail.com

**The Ohlone Indian Tribe**

Andrew Galvan,  
P.O. Box 3388 Bay Miwok  
Fremont, CA, 94539 Ohlone  
Phone: (510) 882 - 0527 Patwin  
Fax: (510) 687-9393 Plains Miwok  
chochenyo@AOL.com

**Wilton Rancheria**

Dahlton Brown, Director of Administration  
9728 Kent Street Miwok  
Elk Grove, CA, 95624  
Phone: (916) 683 - 6000  
dbrown@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov

**Wilton Rancheria**

Jesus Tarango, Chairperson  
9728 Kent Street Miwok  
Elk Grove, CA, 95624  
Phone: (916) 683 - 6000  
Fax: (916) 683-6015  
jtarango@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov

**Wilton Rancheria**

Antonio Ruiz, Cultural Resources Officer  
9728 Kent Street Miwok  
Elk Grove, CA, 95624  
Phone: (916) 683 - 6000  
aruiz@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov

**Wilton Rancheria**

Ralph Hatch, Cultural Preservation Department  
9415 Rancheria Drive Miwok  
Wilton, CA, 95693  
rhatch@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov

**The Confederated Villages of Lisjan**

Corrina Gould, Chairperson  
10926 Edes Avenue Bay Miwok  
Oakland, CA, 94603 Ohlone  
Phone: (510) 575 - 8408 Delta Yokut  
cvltribe@gmail.com

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed I-680 Express Lane Project, Contra Costa County.

## **Official Species List**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

### **Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office**

Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846  
(916) 414-6600

---

## Project Summary

Project Code: 2022-0013152  
Event Code: None  
Project Name: Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project  
Project Type: Road/Hwy - Maintenance/Modification  
Project Description: The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, congestion relief, and operations. The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges. More than one configuration is under consideration for the proposed Project, including the construction of a northbound express lane between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242) (post mile R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). In addition, the Project would convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR 242 to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (post mile R18.87 to R23.28, approximately 4.6 miles) to an express lane.

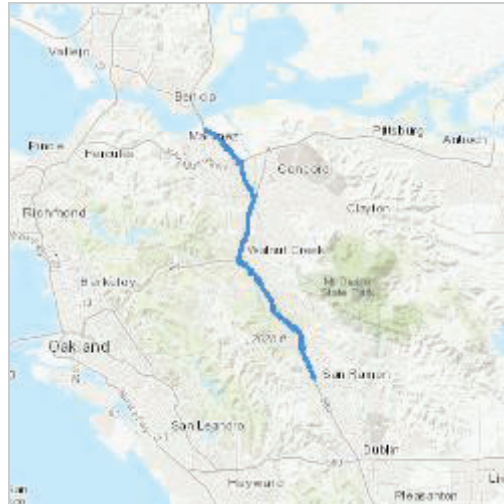
The Project is located primarily within the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez in Contra Costa County, California. The Project is bounded from Fostoria Way to slightly north of Marina Vista Road by an urbanized area with residential and commercial development south of State Route 4 (SR-4), and industrial and residential areas north of SR-4. The Waterbird Regional Preserve, a 198-acre regional park that primarily consists of the Al McNabney Marsh, lies east of I-680 at the northern end of the Project.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@37.90393935,-122.06996944176737,14z>

---





Counties: Contra Costa County, California

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 15 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

### Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse <i>Reithrodontomys raviventris</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/613">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/613</a>	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873</a>	Endangered

### Birds

NAME	STATUS
California Clapper Rail <i>Rallus longirostris obsoletus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4240">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4240</a>	Endangered
California Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum browni</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104</a>	Endangered

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## Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Alameda Whipsnake (=striped Racer) <i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5524">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5524</a>	Threatened
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482</a>	Threatened

## Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891</a>	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076</a>	Threatened

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321</a>	Threatened

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Delta Green Ground Beetle <i>Elaphrus viridis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2319">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2319</a>	Threatened
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

## Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
California Freshwater Shrimp <i>Syncaris pacifica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7903">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7903</a>	Endangered
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498</a>	Threatened

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Contra Costa Goldfields <i>Lasthenia conjugens</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7058">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7058</a>	Endangered
Soft Bird's-beak <i>Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8541">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8541</a>	Endangered

## Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

## **IPaC User Contact Information**

Name: Dan Williams

Address: 2379 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200

City: Sacramento

State: CA

Zip: 95833-4240

Email [daniel.williams@hdrinc.com](mailto:daniel.williams@hdrinc.com)

Phone: 7149431266

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Quad Name **Vine Hill**  
Quad Number **38122-A1**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -  
CCC Coho ESU (E) -  
CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) - **X**  
SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) - **X**  
NC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
CCC Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**  
SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SC Steelhead DPS (E) -  
CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**  
Eulachon (T) -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) - **X**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat - **X**  
NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
Eulachon Critical Habitat -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat - **X**

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -  
Range White Abalone (E) -



## **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

## **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

## **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

## **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

## **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH - **X**  
Coastal Pelagics EFH - **X**  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

## **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

### **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds - **X**

Quad Name **Walnut Creek**

Quad Number **37122-H1**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) -

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

## **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

## **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

## **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

## **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

## **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

## **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

## **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Las Trampas Ridge**

Quad Number **37122-G1**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) -

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

## **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

## **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

## **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

## **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

## **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH - **X**  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

## **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

## **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Diablo**

Quad Number **37121-G8**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -



## **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

## **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

## **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

## **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

## **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH - **X**  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

## **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

## **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office  
Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846  
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To:

March 07, 2024

Project Code: 2022-0013152

Project Name: Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through IPaC by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2))

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

**Migratory Birds:** In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see [Migratory Bird Permit | What We Do | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#).

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

### **Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office**

Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846  
(916) 414-6600

## PROJECT SUMMARY

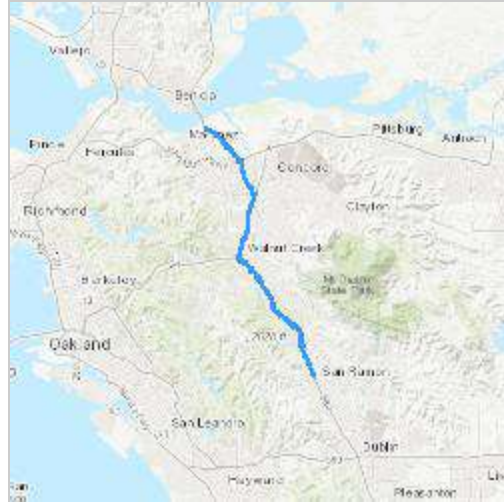
**Project Code:** 2022-0013152  
**Project Name:** Interstate 680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project  
**Project Type:** Road/Hwy - Maintenance/Modification  
**Project Description:** The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is proposing to complete the Interstate 680 (I-680) express lane network in Contra Costa County, California, to improve system continuity, congestion relief, and operations. The I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project (Project) is part of the CCTA INNOVATE 680 Program, which seeks to implement a suite of projects that, when operating together, will address corridor-wide congestion, travel delays, and operational challenges. More than one configuration is under consideration for the proposed Project, including the construction of a northbound express lane between Livorna Road and State Route 242 (SR-242) (post mile R11.30 to R18.87, approximately 7.5 miles). In addition, the Project would convert the existing northbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane that runs from SR 242 to south of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge Toll Plaza (post mile R18.87 to R23.28, approximately 4.6 miles) to an express lane.

The Project is located primarily within the cities of Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez in Contra Costa County, California. The Project is bounded from Fostoria Way to slightly north of Marina Vista Road by an urbanized area with residential and commercial development south of State Route 4 (SR-4), and industrial and residential areas north of SR-4. The Waterbird Regional Preserve, a 198-acre regional park that primarily consists of the Al McNabney Marsh, lies east of I-680 at the northern end of the Project.

**Project Location:**

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@37.90393935,-122.06996944176737,14z>





Counties: Contra Costa County, California

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 14 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

### MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse <i>Reithrodontomys raviventris</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/613">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/613</a>	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873</a>	Endangered

### BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
California Least Tern <i>Sternula antillarum browni</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104</a>	Endangered
California Ridgway's Rail <i>Rallus obsoletus obsoletus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4240">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4240</a>	Endangered

**REPTILES**

NAME	STATUS
Alameda Whipsnake (=striped Racer) <i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5524">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5524</a>	Threatened
Northwestern Pond Turtle <i>Actinemys marmorata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1111">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1111</a>	Proposed Threatened

**AMPHIBIANS**

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891</a>	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076</a>	Threatened
Foothill Yellow-legged Frog <i>Rana boylei</i> Population: Central Coast Distinct Population Segment (Central Coast DPS) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5133">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5133</a>	Threatened
Western Spadefoot <i>Spea hammondi</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5425">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5425</a>	Proposed Threatened

**INSECTS**

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

**CRUSTACEANS**

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498</a>	Threatened

## FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Contra Costa Goldfields <i>Lasthenia conjugens</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7058">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7058</a>	Endangered
Soft Bird's-beak <i>Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8541">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8541</a>	Endangered

## CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: HDR  
Name: Dan Williams  
Address: 2365 Iron Point Road  
City: Folsom  
State: CA  
Zip: 95630  
Email: daniel.williams@hdrinc.com  
Phone: 7149431266

## **LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Lead Agency: California Department of Transportation



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# Appendix G Comment Letters and Responses

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To Be Provided with Final Environmental Document.



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# Appendix H      **Final Determination of Engineering and Operational Acceptability**

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To Be Provided with Final Environmental Document, If Applicable.



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# Appendix I      Project Feature Figures and Impact Maps

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# I.1. Major Project Features

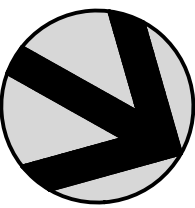


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EXISTING R3-480 Mod (VTMS)  
 PROPOSED - UPDATED DESTINATION

EXPRESS LANE

ONLY TOLL

TO [Go Main St] SXXXXXXXXXX  
 TO SXXXXXXXXXX

**SEGMENT 1**  
 PM R10.0 TO PM R11.0

**SEGMENT 2**  
 PM R11.0 TO PM 13.55

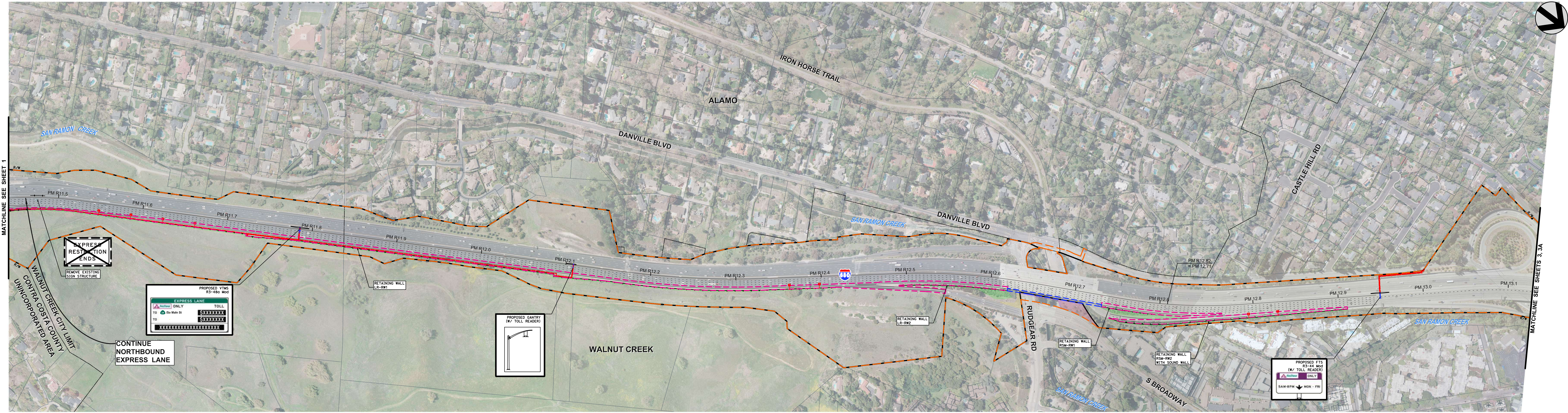
**LEGEND**

CALTRANS R/W	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
GUARDRAIL	PROPOSED BMP AREA
CONCRETE BARRIER	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)



I-680 NB EXP LANE PROJECT - PM 13.55 TO PM 10.0 - ALTERNATIVE 5 - SHEET 1A OF 9





SEGMENT 2  
PM R11.0 TO PM 13.55

LEGEND	
	CALTRANS R/W
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT
	GUARDRAIL
	CONCRETE BARRIER
	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS
	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE
	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE
	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)

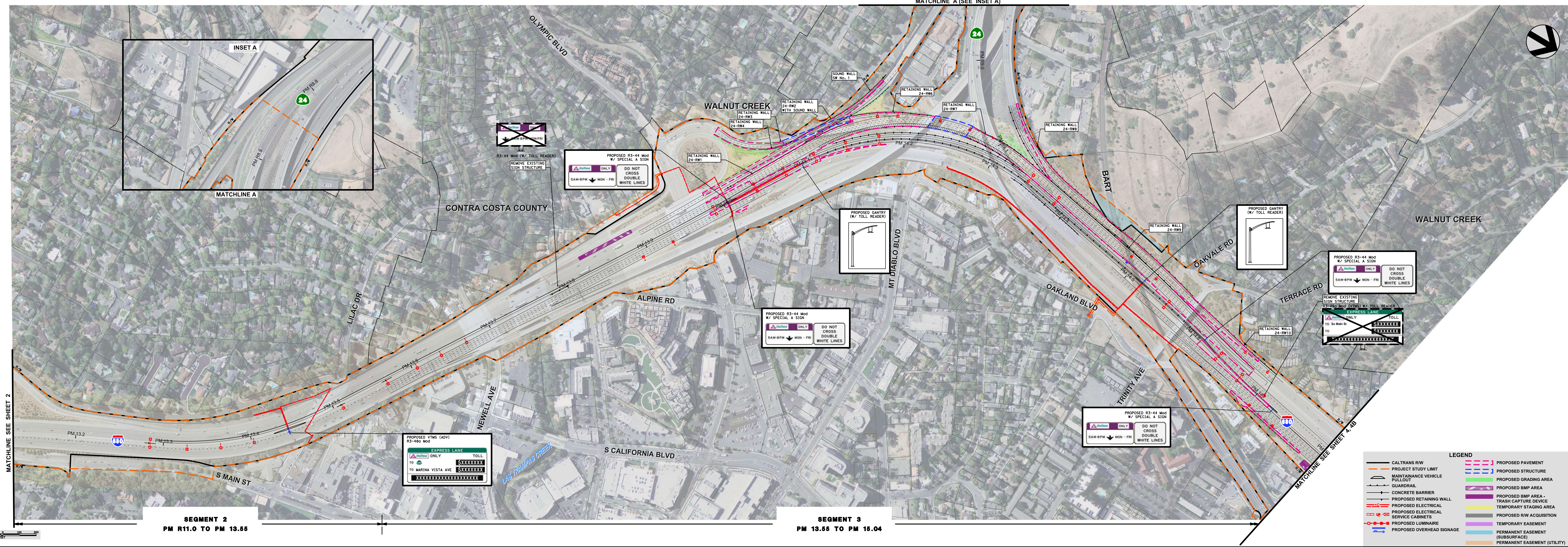
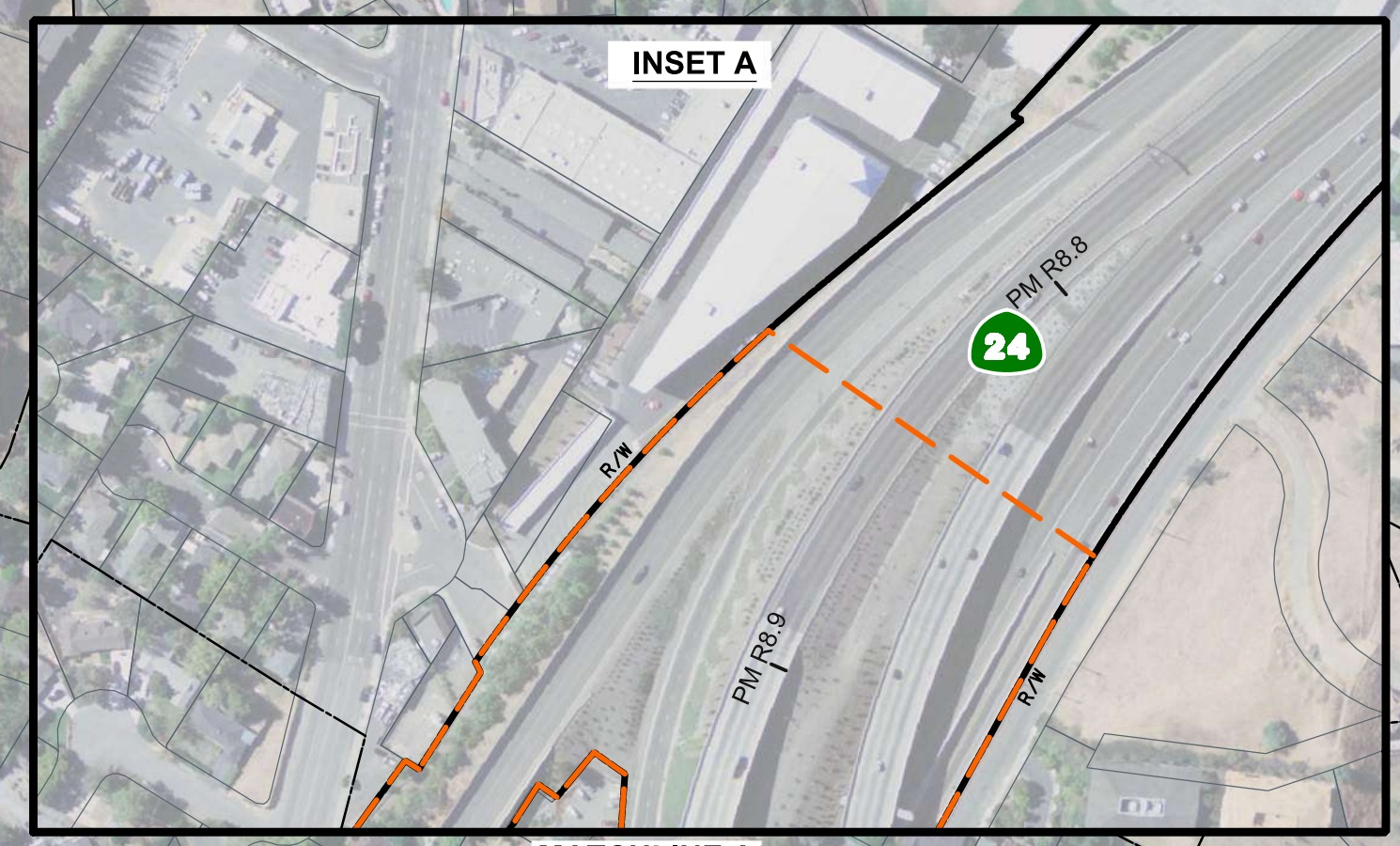




**SEGMENT 2**  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

LEGEND	
	CALTRANS R/W
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT
	GUARDRAIL
	CONCRETE BARRIER
	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS
	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE
	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE
	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	PERMANENT EASEMENT
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





SEGMENT 2  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

PROPOSED VTMS (ADV)  
R3-48a Mod

EXPRESS LANE	TOLL
ONLY	SXXXXXXXX
TO MARINA VISTA AVE	SXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	

PROPOSED R3-44 Mod  
W/ SPECIAL A SIGN

ONLY	DO NOT CROSS DOUBLE WHITE LINES
SAM-BPM MON - FRI	

PROPOSED R3-44 Mod  
W/ SPECIAL A SIGN

ONLY	DO NOT CROSS DOUBLE WHITE LINES
SAM-BPM MON - FRI	

PROPOSED R3-44 Mod  
W/ SPECIAL A SIGN

ONLY	DO NOT CROSS DOUBLE WHITE LINES
SAM-BPM MON - FRI	

PROPOSED R3-44 Mod  
W/ SPECIAL A SIGN

ONLY	DO NOT CROSS DOUBLE WHITE LINES
SAM-BPM MON - FRI	

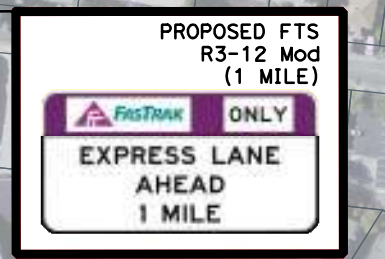
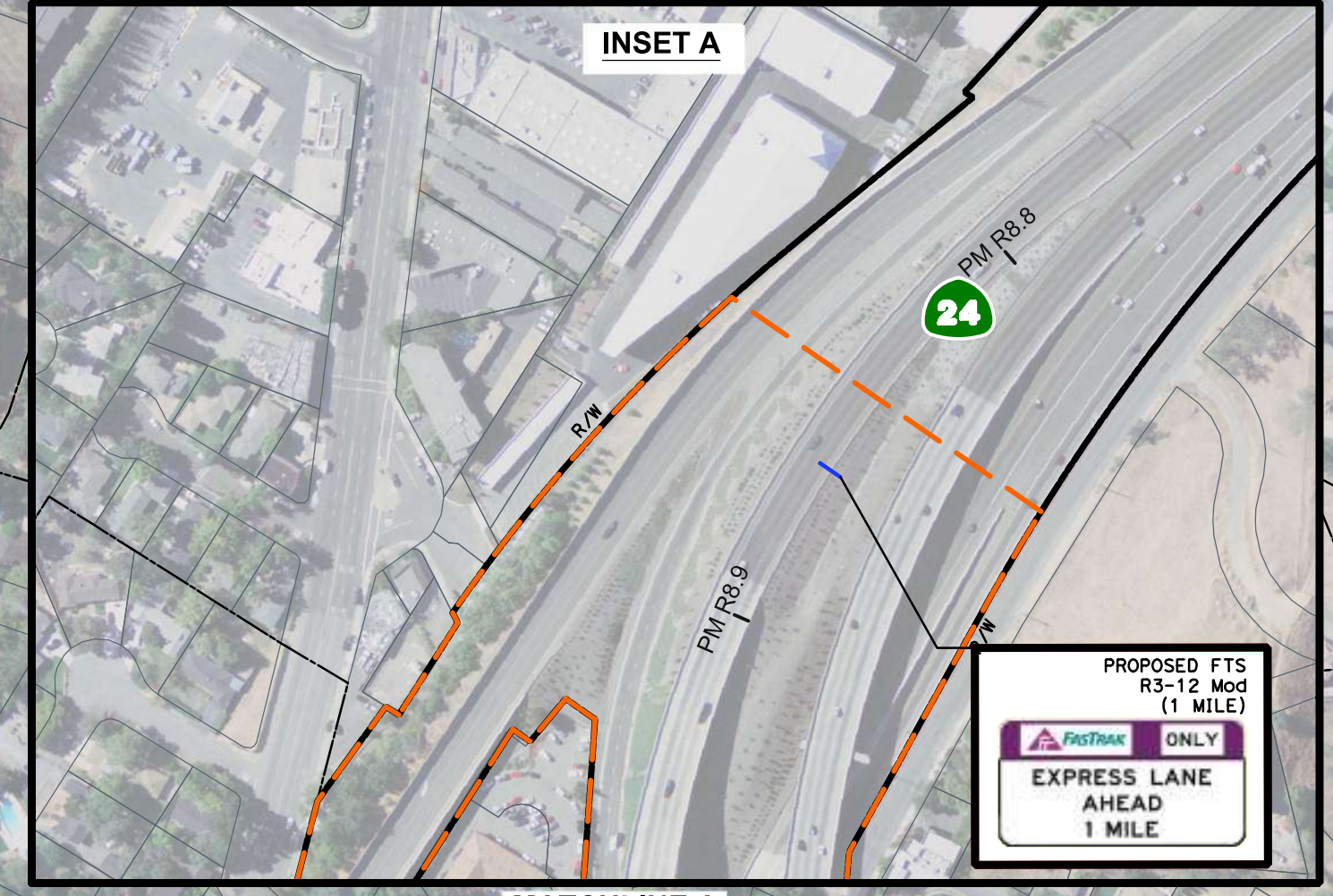
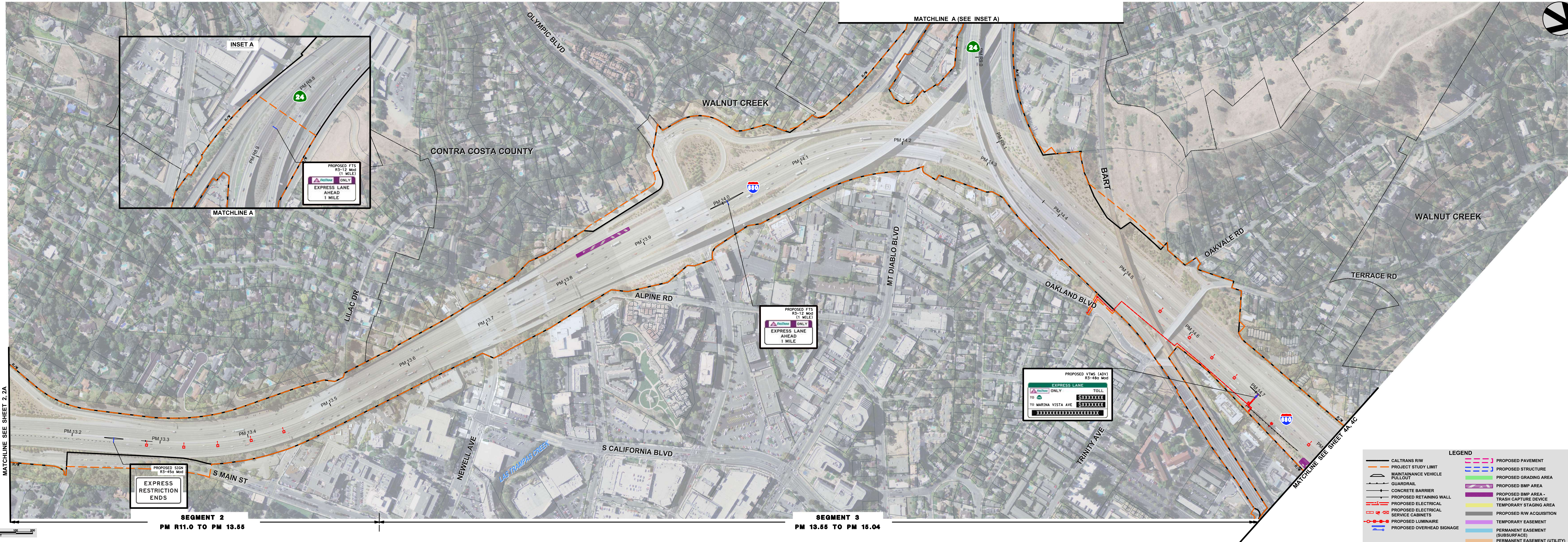
REMOVE EXISTING SIGN STRUCTURE  
R3-48a Mod (VTMS) W/ TOLL READER

EXPRESS LANE	TOLL
ONLY	SXXXXXXXX
TO 50 Main St	SXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	

LEGEND

—	CALTRANS R/W	—	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
—	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	—	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
—	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	—	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
—	GUARDRAIL	—	PROPOSED BMP AREA
—	CONCRETE BARRIER	—	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
—	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	—	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	—	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	—	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
—	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	—	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
—	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	—	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)

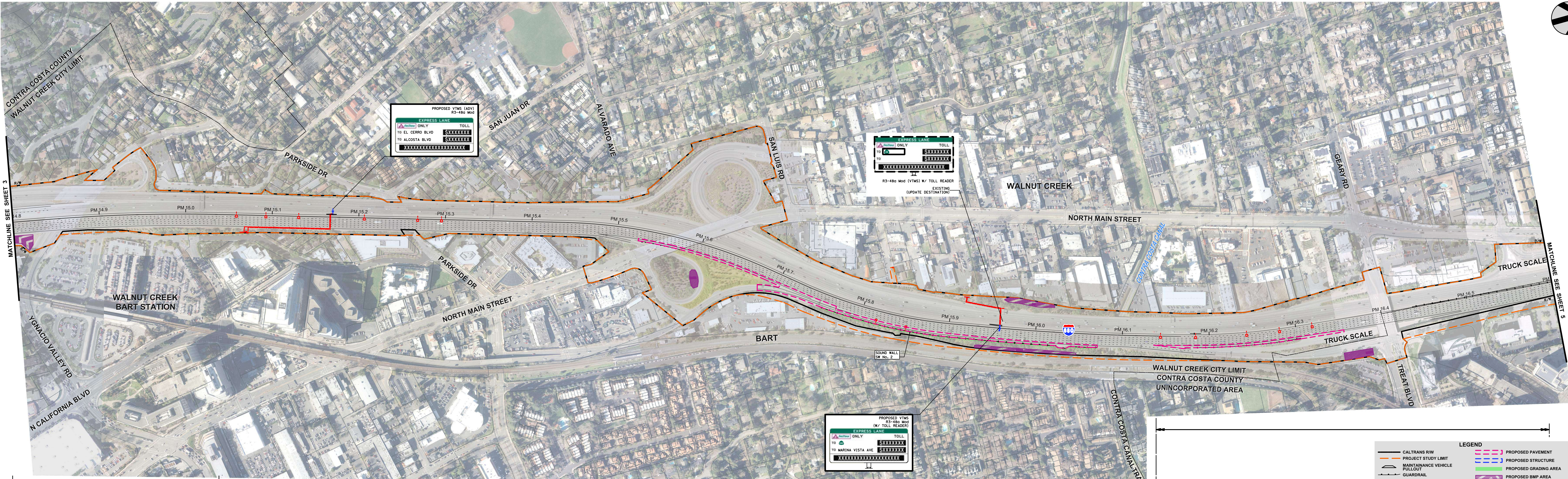
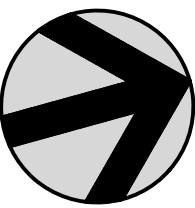




**LEGEND**

—	CALTRANS R/W	—	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
—	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	—	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
—	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	—	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
—	GUARDRAIL	—	PROPOSED BMP AREA
—	CONCRETE BARRIER	—	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
—	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	—	PROPOSED STAGING AREA
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	—	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
—	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	—	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
—	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	—	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
—		—	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED VTMS (ADV)  
R3-480 Mod

EXPRESS LANE ONLY TOLL

TO EL CERRO BLVD XXXXXXXX

TO ALCOSTA BLVD XXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

EXPRESS LANE ONLY TOLL

R3-480 Mod (VTMS) W/ TOLL READER

EXISTING (UPDATE DESTINATION)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PROPOSED VTMS (W/ TOLL READER)  
R3-480 Mod

EXPRESS LANE ONLY TOLL

TO MARINA VISTA AVE XXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

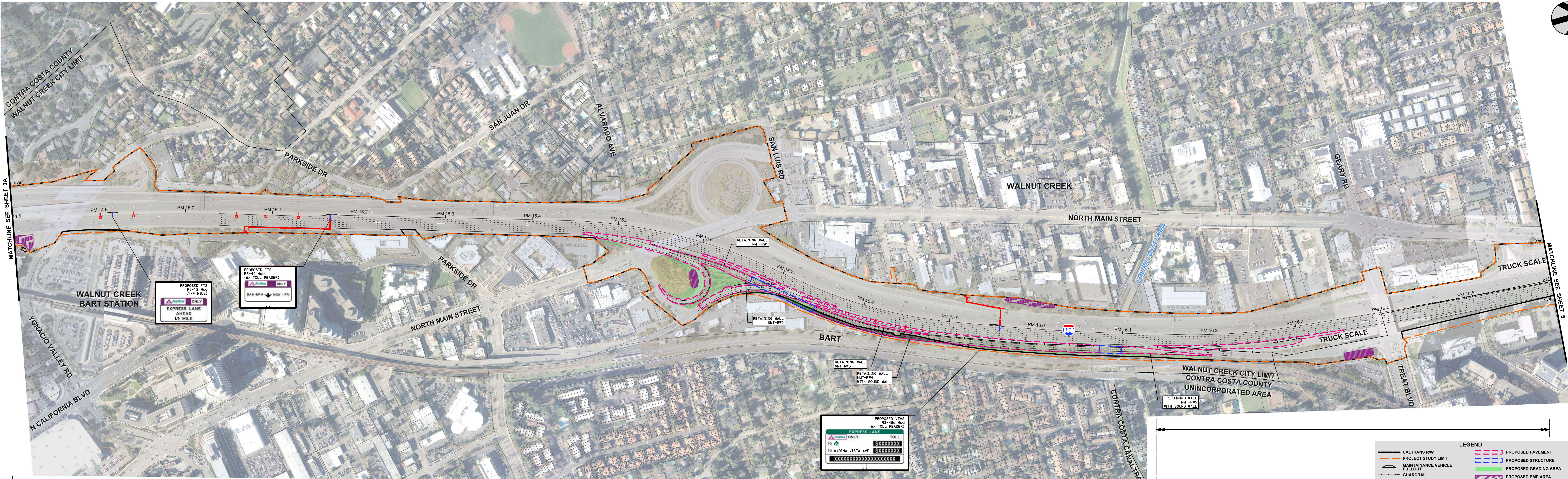
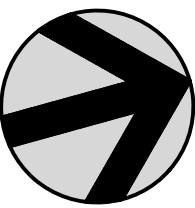
SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM 19.15

**LEGEND**

—	CALTRANS R/W	---	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
- - -	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	---	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
—	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	---	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
—	GUARDRAIL	---	PROPOSED BMP AREA
—	CONCRETE BARRIER	---	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
—	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	---	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	---	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	---	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
—	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	---	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
—	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	---	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED FTS  
R3-12 Mod  
(1/4 MILE)  
Express Lane  
Ahead  
1/4 MILE

PROPOSED FTS  
R3-14 Mod  
(w/ Toll Reader)  
SUN-THU ONLY  
SUN-THU MON-FRI

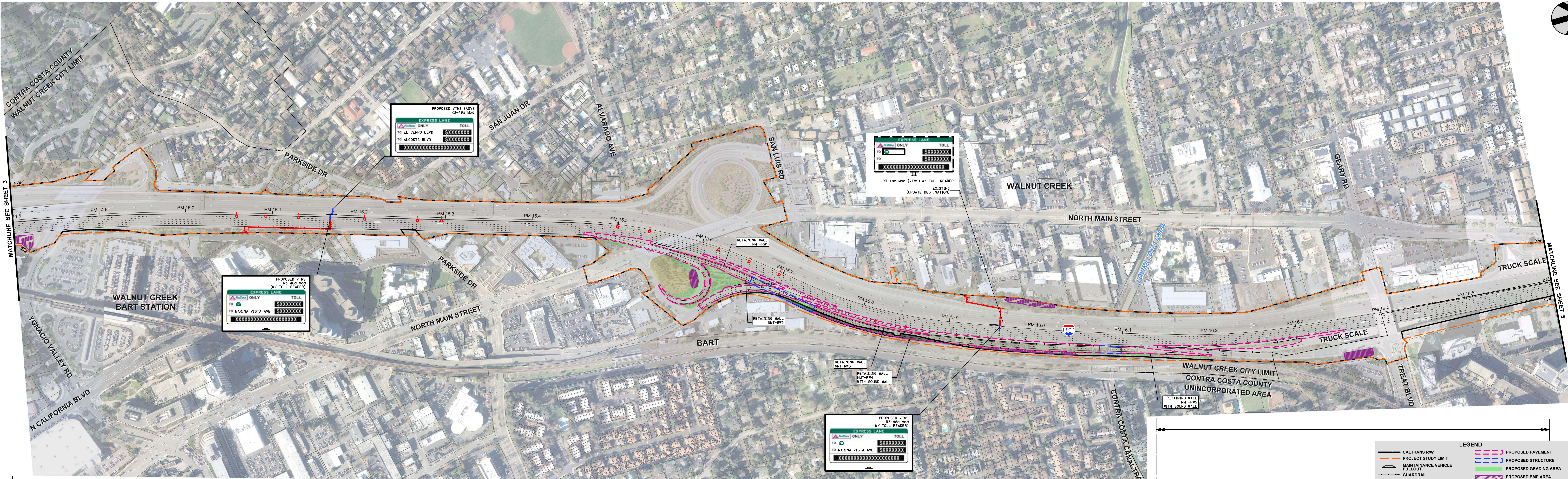
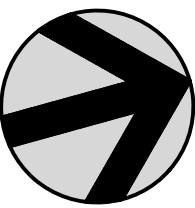
PROPOSED VMS  
R3-48a Mod  
(w/ Toll Reader)  
EXPRESS LANE ONLY  
TOLL  
TO MARINA VISTA AVE \$XXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

- LEGEND**
- CALTRANS R/W
  - PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
  - MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT
  - GUARDRAIL
  - CONCRETE BARRIER
  - PROPOSED RETAINING WALL
  - PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS
  - PROPOSED LUMINAIRE
  - PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE
  - PROPOSED PAVEMENT
  - PROPOSED STRUCTURE
  - PROPOSED GRADING AREA
  - PROPOSED BMP AREA
  - PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
  - TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
  - PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)



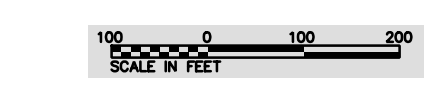


MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 3

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 5

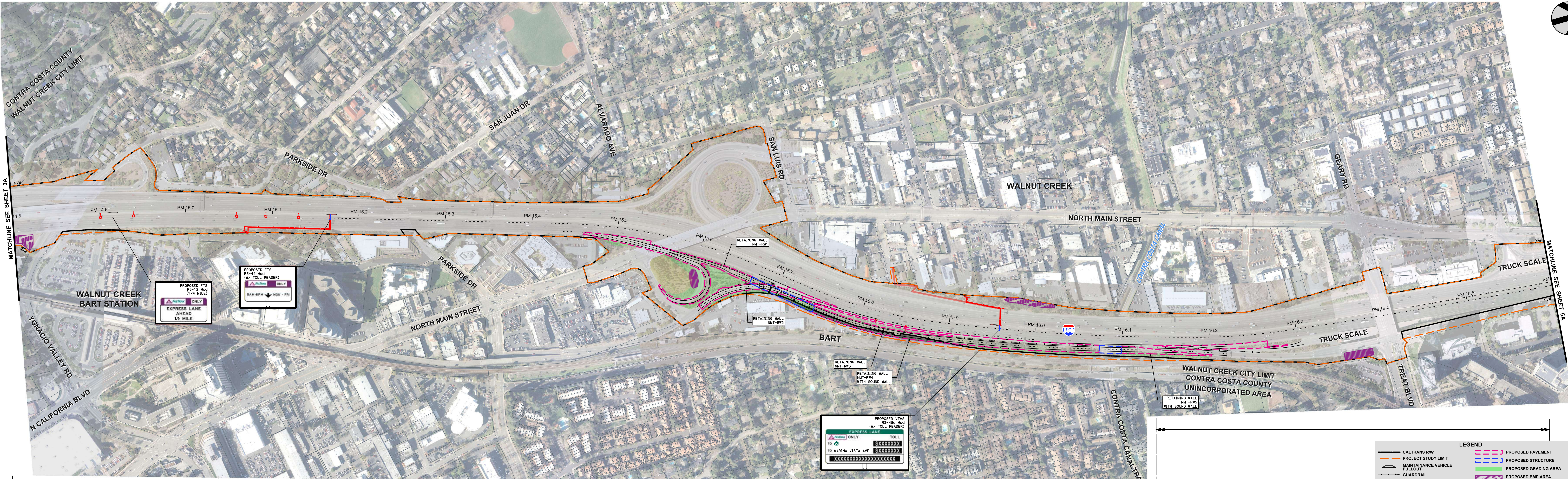
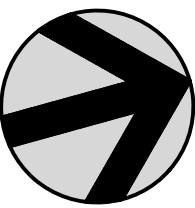
SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15



LEGEND			
	CALTRANS R/W		PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT		PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT		PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	GUARDRAIL		PROPOSED BMP AREA
	CONCRETE BARRIER		PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL		TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS		PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE		TEMPORARY EASEMENT
	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE		PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
			PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED FTS  
R3-12 Mod  
(1/4 MILE)  
ONLY  
EXPRESS LANE  
AHEAD  
1/4 MILE

PROPOSED FTS  
R3-14 Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)  
ONLY  
SAM-BPM MON - FRI

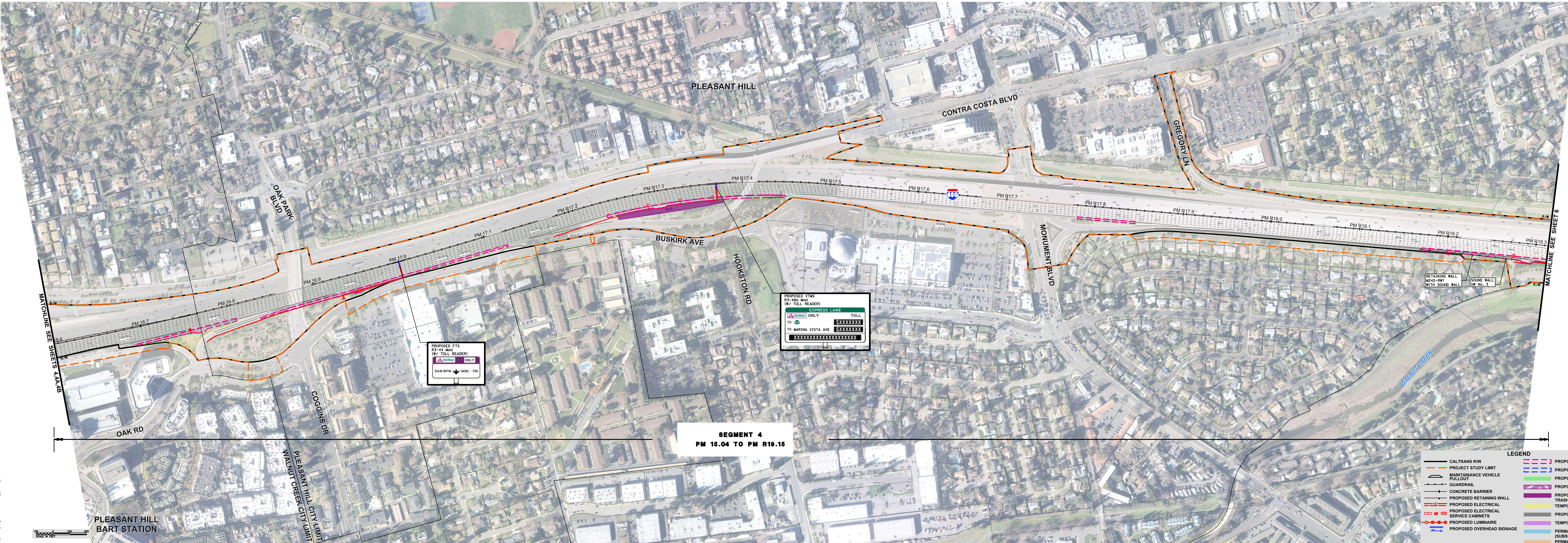
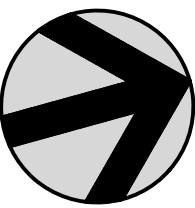
PROPOSED VMS  
R3-48a Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)  
EXPRESS LANE ONLY  
TOLL  
TO SXXXXXXXXX  
TO MARINA VISTA SXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

LEGEND			
	CALTRANS R/W		PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT		PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT		PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	GUARDRAIL		PROPOSED BMP AREA
	CONCRETE BARRIER		PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL		TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS		PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS		PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE		PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)
	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE		





PROPOSED VTMS  
R3-44 Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)

EXPRESS LANE	TOLL
TO ONLY	XXXXXXXXXX
TO MARINA VISTA AVE	XXXXXXXXXX
	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

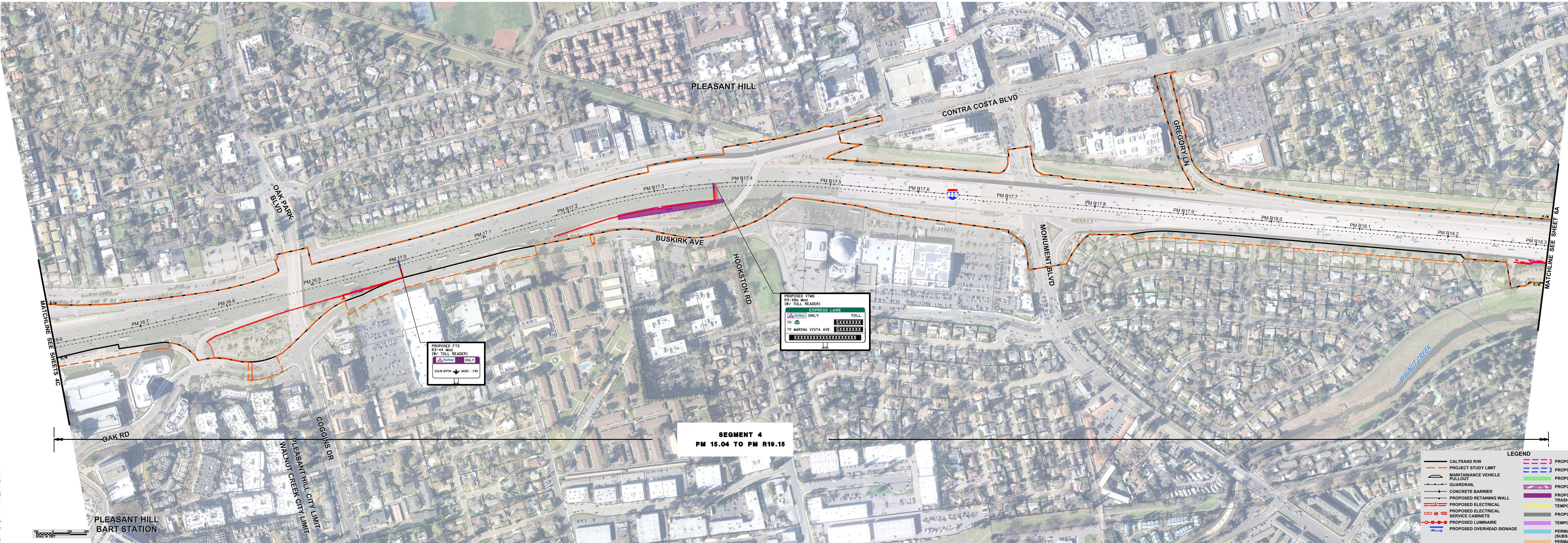
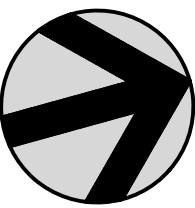
PROPOSED FTS  
R3-44 Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)

SAM-BPM MON - FRI

**SEGMENT 4**  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

- LEGEND**
- CALTRANS R/W
  - PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
  - MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT
  - GUARDRAIL
  - CONCRETE BARRIER
  - PROPOSED RETAINING WALL
  - PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS
  - PROPOSED LUMINAIRE
  - PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE
  - PROPOSED PAVEMENT
  - PROPOSED STRUCTURE
  - PROPOSED GRADING AREA
  - PROPOSED BMP AREA
  - PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
  - TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
  - PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
  - TEMPORARY EASEMENT
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





**SEGMENT 4**  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

PROPOSED FTS  
R3-44 Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)

ONLY

SAM-BPM MON - FRI

PROPOSED VTMS  
R3-48 Mod  
(W/ TOLL READER)

EXPRESS LANE

ONLY TOLL

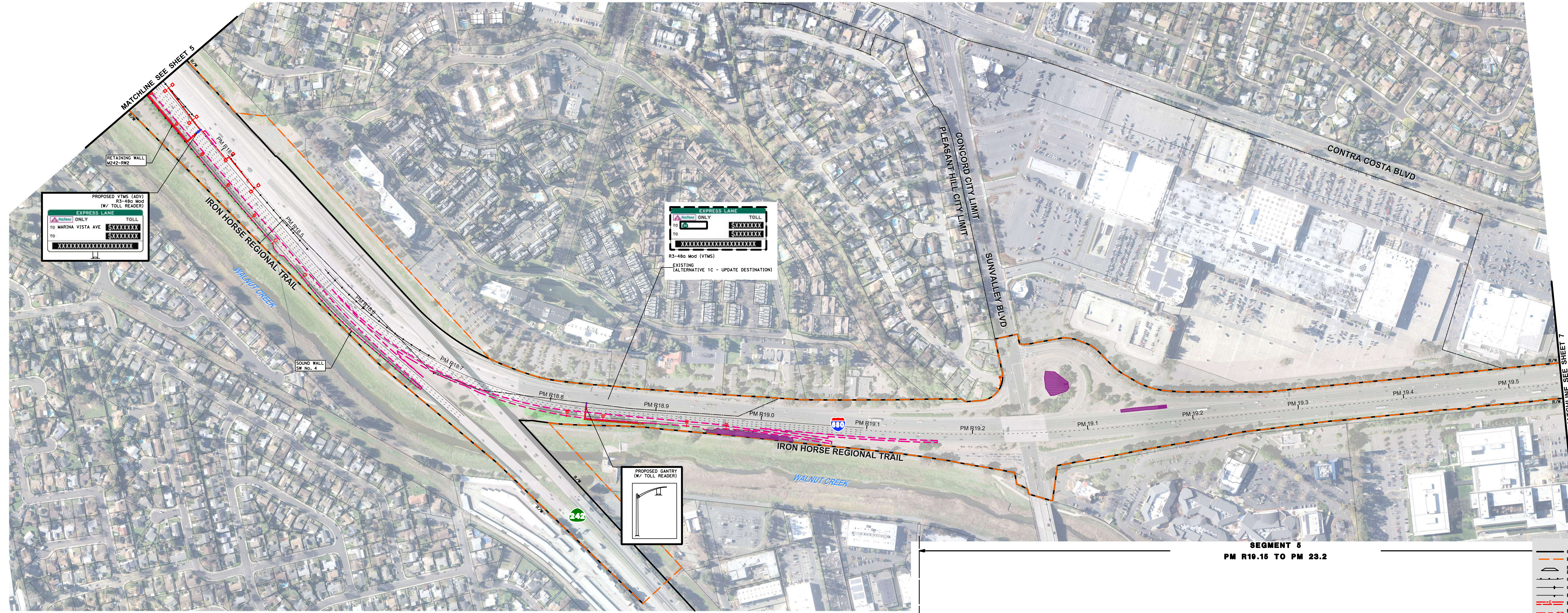
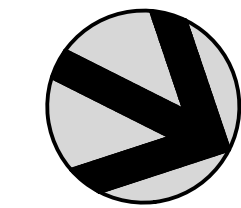
TO MARINA VISTA AVE

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**LEGEND**

—	CALTRANS R/W	---	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
- - -	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	---	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
—	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	---	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
—	GUARDRAIL	---	PROPOSED BMP AREA
—	CONCRETE BARRIER	---	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
—	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	---	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	---	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
—	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	---	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
—	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	---	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
—	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	---	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED VTMS (ADV) R3-480 Mod (W/ TOLL READER)

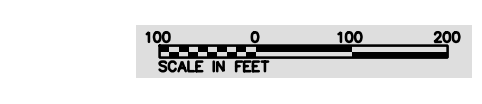
EXPRESS LANE ONLY	TOLL
TO MARINA VISTA AVE	\$XXXXXX
TO	\$XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX

EXPRESS LANE TOLL

ONLY	TOLL
TO	\$XXXXXX
TO	\$XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX

R3-480 Mod (VTMS)  
EXISTING (ALTERNATIVE 1C - UPDATE DESTINATION)

PROPOSED GANTRY (W/ TOLL READER)



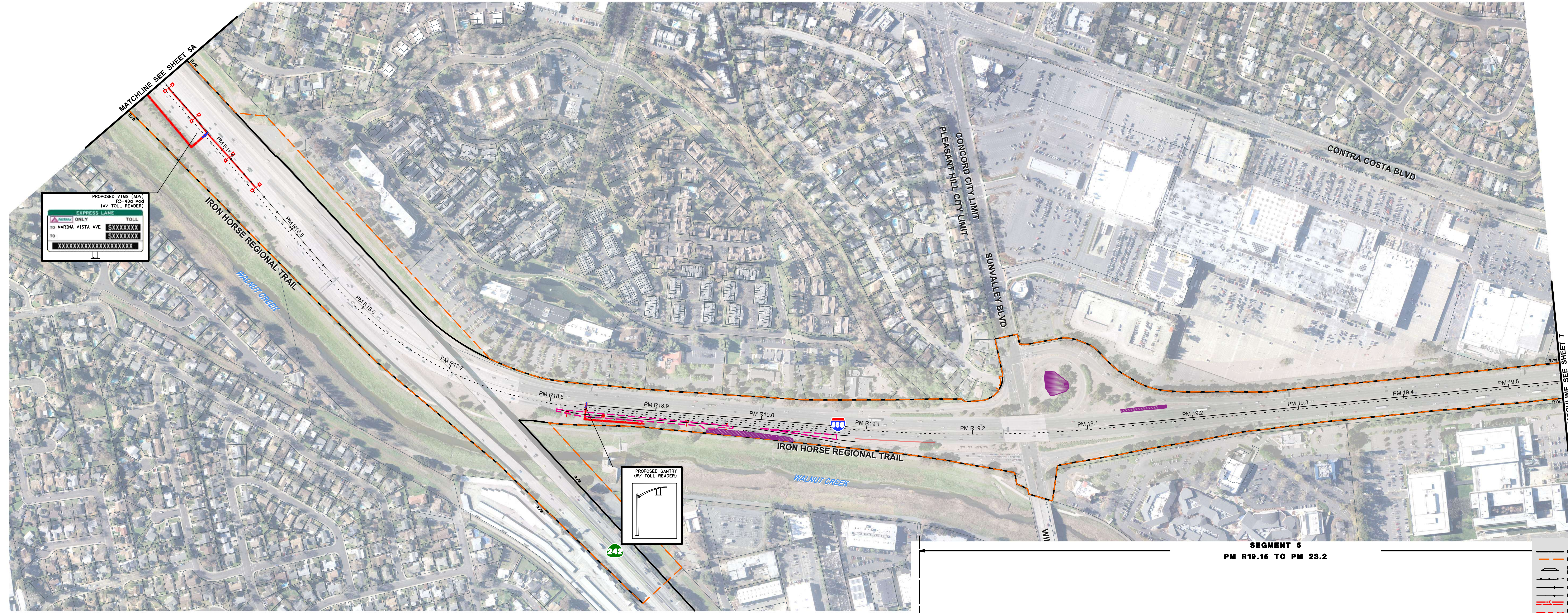
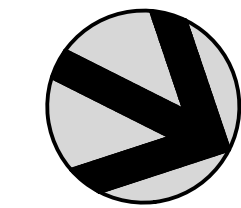
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

SEGMENT 5  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

LEGEND

	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED VTMS (ADV) R3-480 Mod (W/ TOLL READER)

EXPRESS LANE ONLY TOLL

TO MARINA VISTA AVE \$XXXXXXXX

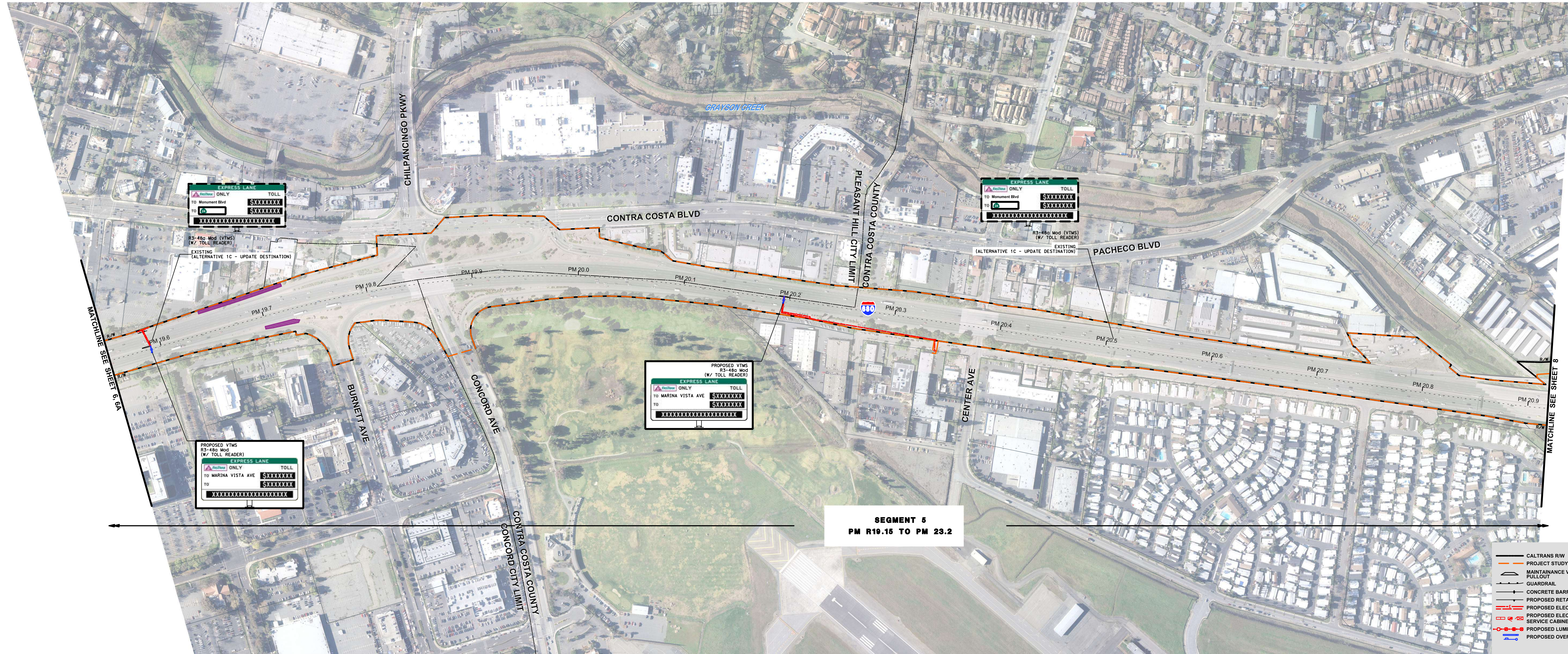
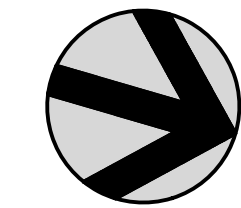
TO \$XXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PROPOSED GANTRY (W/ TOLL READER)





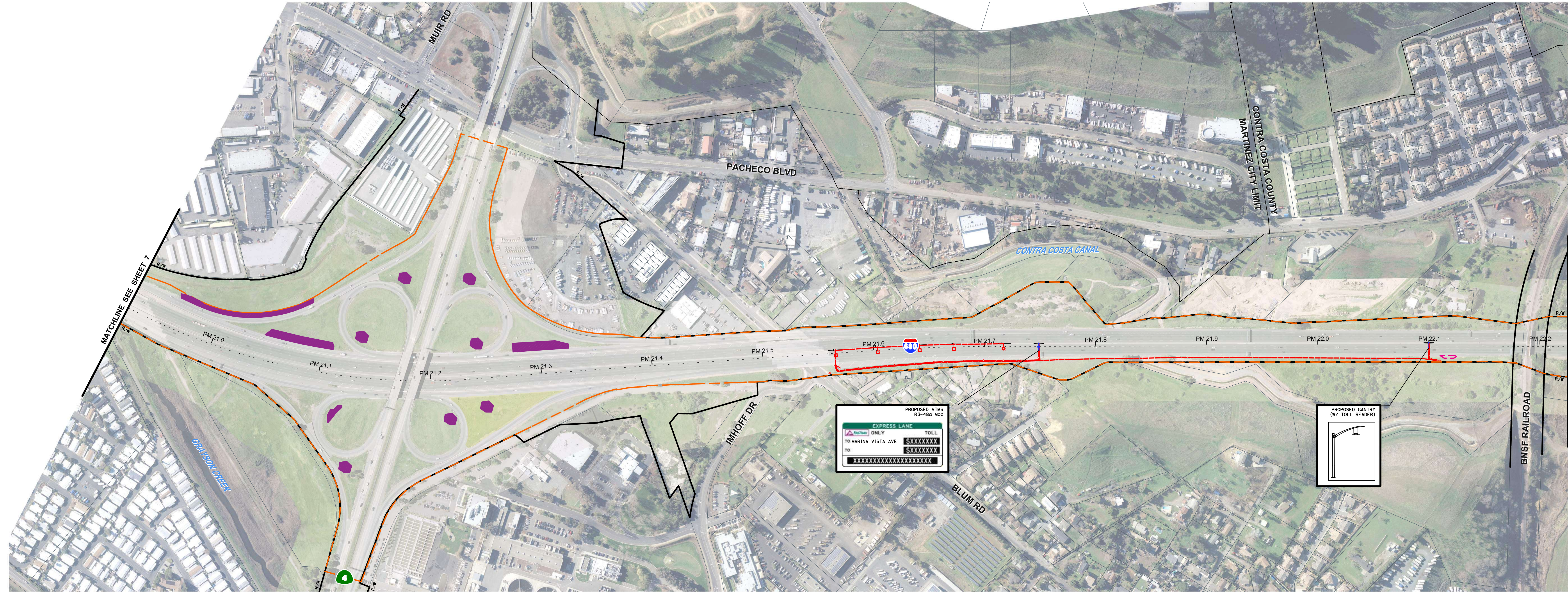
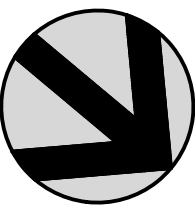


**SEGMENT 5**  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

**LEGEND**

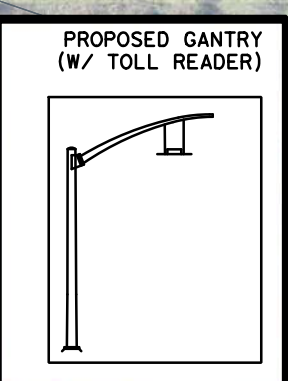
	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA
	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





PROPOSED VTMS  
R3-48a Mod

EXPRESS LANE	
ONLY	TOLL
TO MARINA VISTA AVE	\$XXXXXX
TO	\$XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

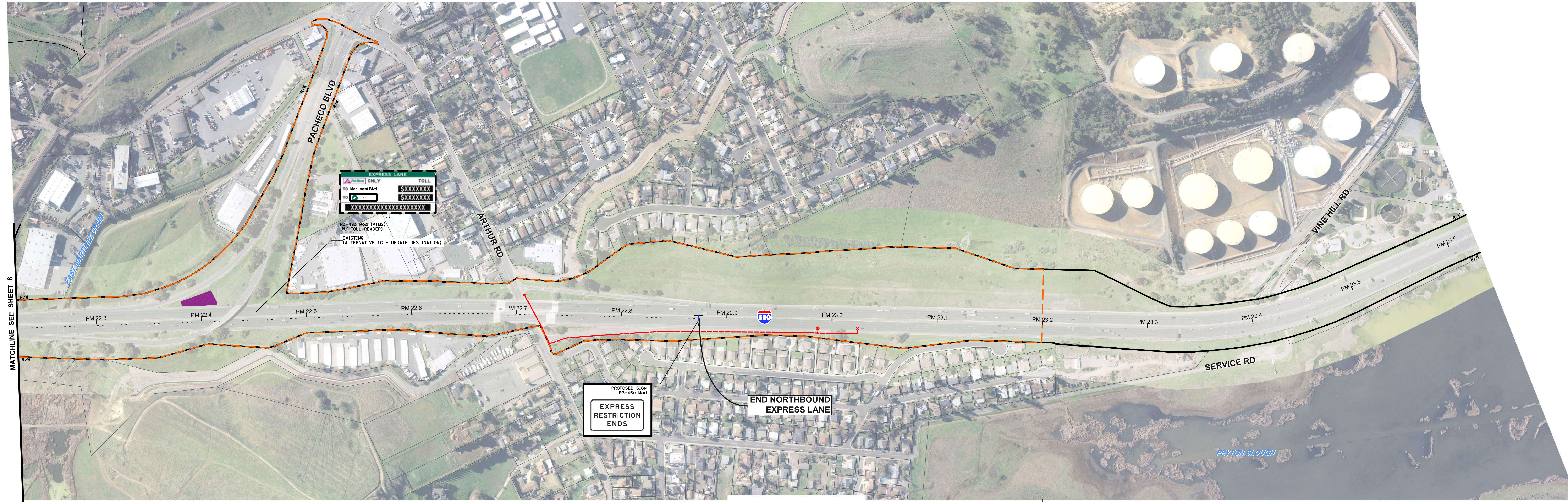
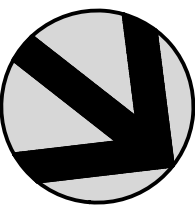


**SEGMENT 5**  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

**LEGEND**

CALTRANS R/W	PROPOSED PAVEMENT
PROJECT STUDY LIMIT	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT	PROPOSED GRADING AREA
GUARDRAIL	PROPOSED BMP AREA
CONCRETE BARRIER	PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
PROPOSED RETAINING WALL	TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS	PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
PROPOSED LUMINAIRE	TEMPORARY EASEMENT
PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)

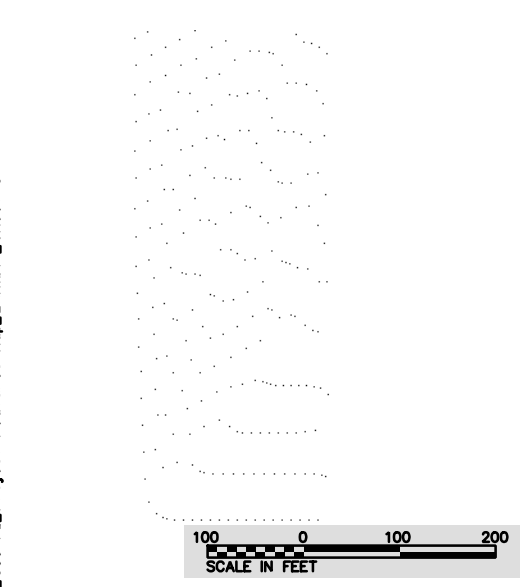




SEGMENT 5  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

**LEGEND**

	CALTRANS R/W		PROPOSED PAVEMENT
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT		PROPOSED STRUCTURE
	MAINTENANCE VEHICLE PULLOUT		PROPOSED GRADING AREA
	GUARDRAIL		PROPOSED BMP AREA
	CONCRETE BARRIER		PROPOSED BMP AREA - TRASH CAPTURE DEVICE
	PROPOSED RETAINING WALL		TEMPORARY STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED ELECTRICAL SERVICE CABINETS		PROPOSED R/W ACQUISITION
	PROPOSED LUMINAIRE		TEMPORARY EASEMENT
	PROPOSED OVERHEAD SIGNAGE		PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
			PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





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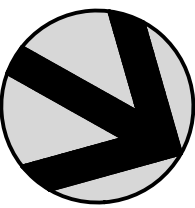


## I.2. Project Impact Maps



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**SEGMENT 1**  
PM R10.0 TO PM R11.0

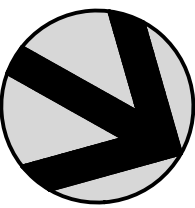
**SEGMENT 2**  
PM R11.0 TO PM 13.55

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 2

LEGEND	
	CALTRANS R/W
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
	PROJECT FOOTPRINT
	PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
	TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
	STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W
	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)
	ADVANCE SIGNAGE IMPACT AREA (ABOVE GROUND)







SEGMENT 1  
PM R10.0 TO PM R11.0

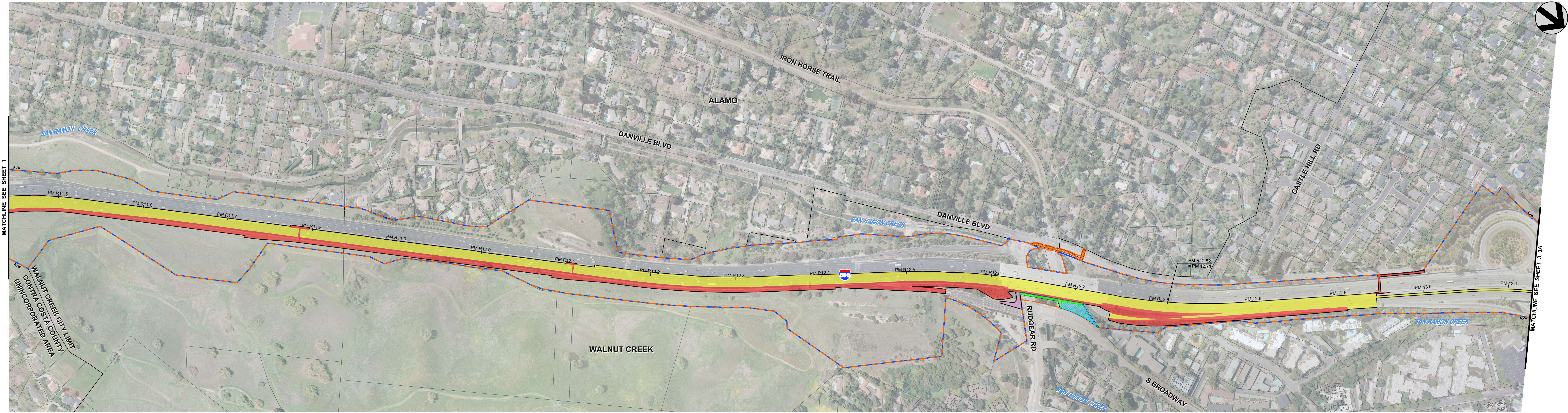
SEGMENT 2  
PM R11.0 TO PM 13.55

LEGEND	
	CALTRANS R/W
	PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
	PROJECT FOOTPRINT
	PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
	TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
	STAGING AREA
	PROPOSED R/W
	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
	PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)
	ADVANCE SIGNAGE IMPACT AREA (ABOVE GROUND)



DATE: 11/15/23  
 TIME: 10:00 AM  
 PROJECT: I-680 NORTHBOUND EXPRESS LANE PROJECT  
 SHEET: 1A OF 9



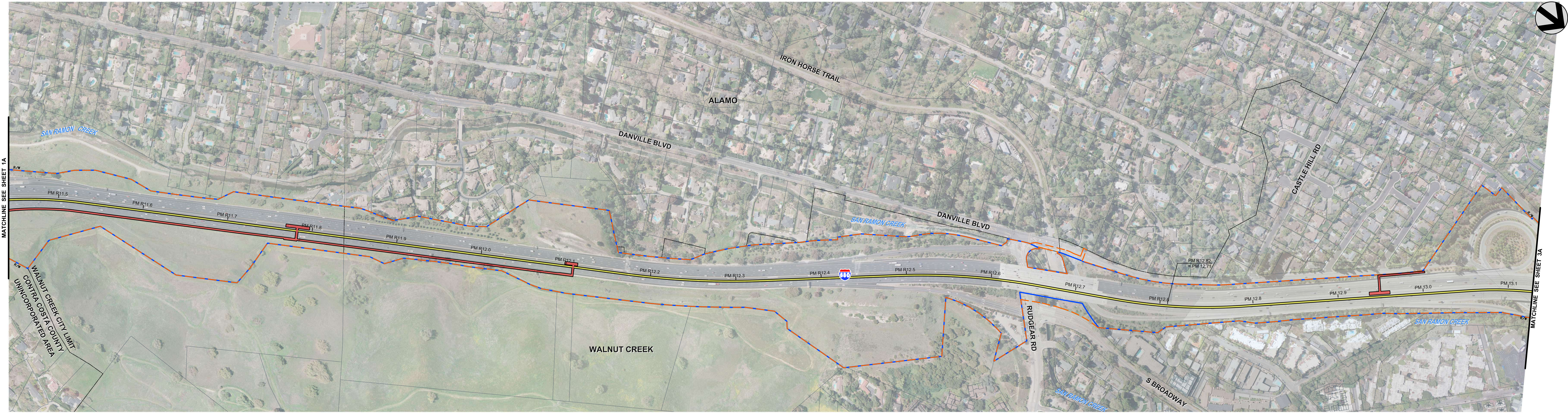
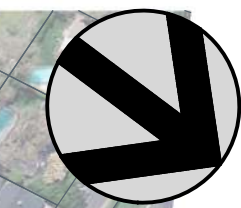


**SEGMENT 2**  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 1A

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 3A

SEGMENT 2  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

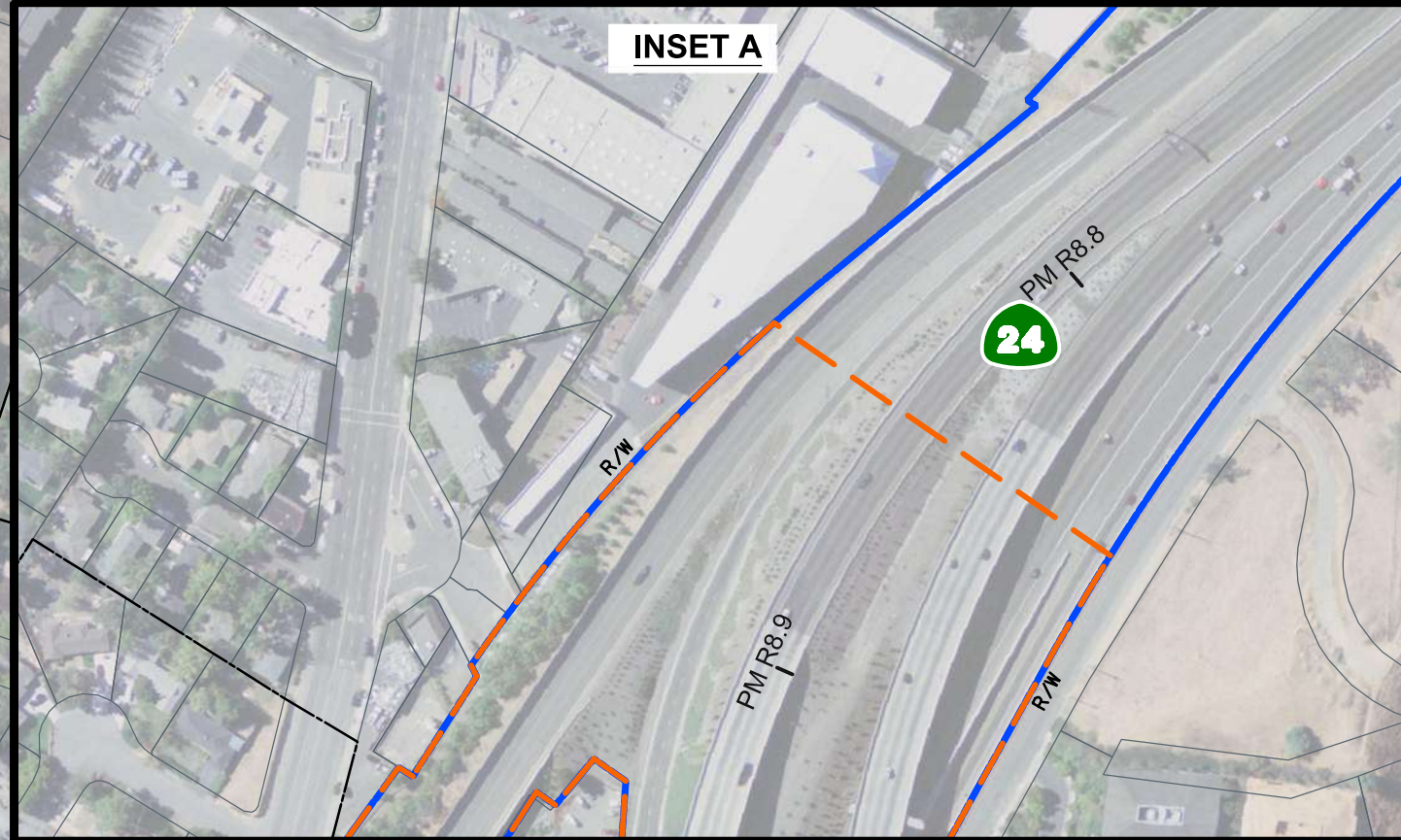
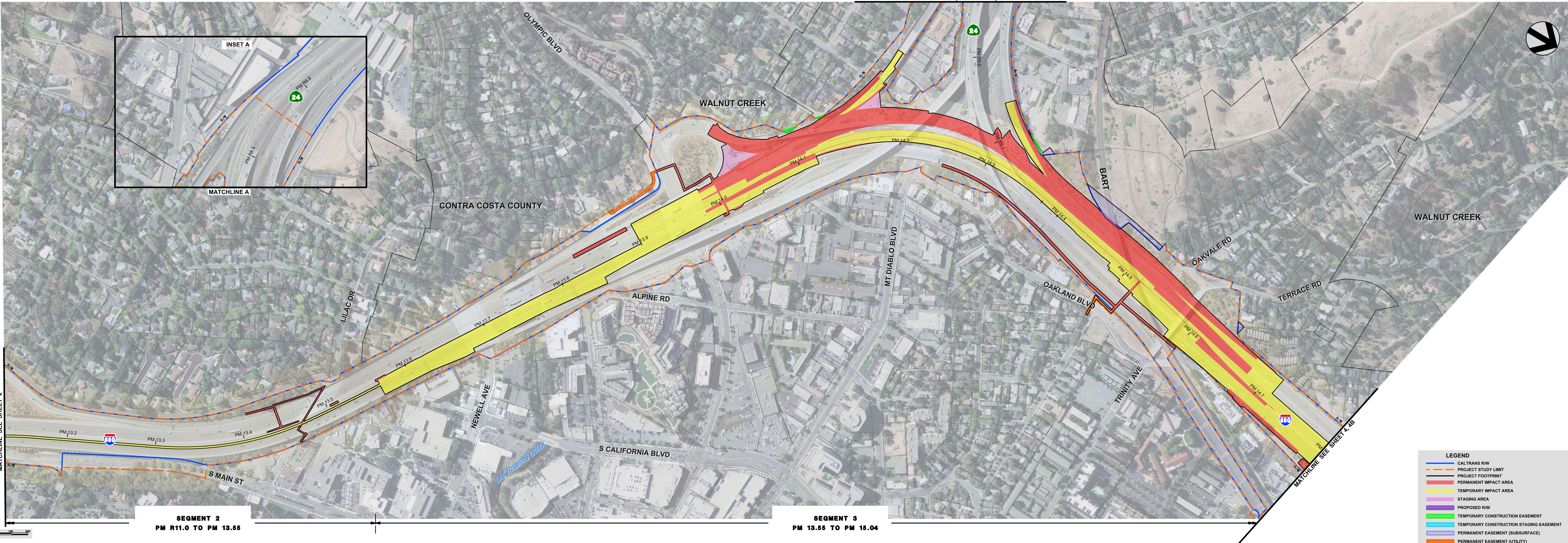
DATE: 11/15/23  
PROJECT: I-680 NORTHBOUND EXPRESS LANE PROJECT  
SHEET: 2A OF 9



**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





MATCHLINE A

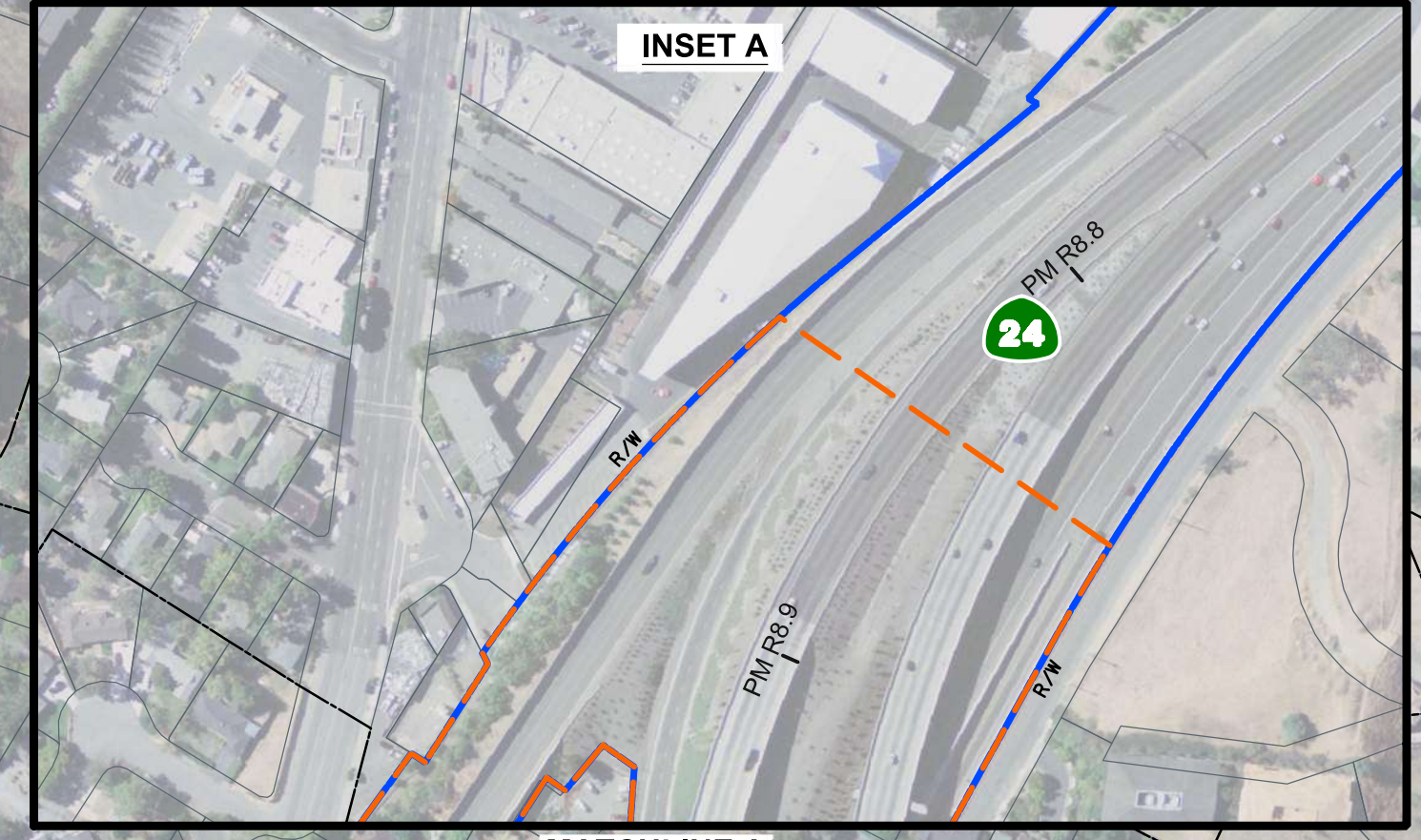
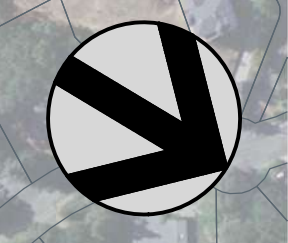
SEGMENT 2  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





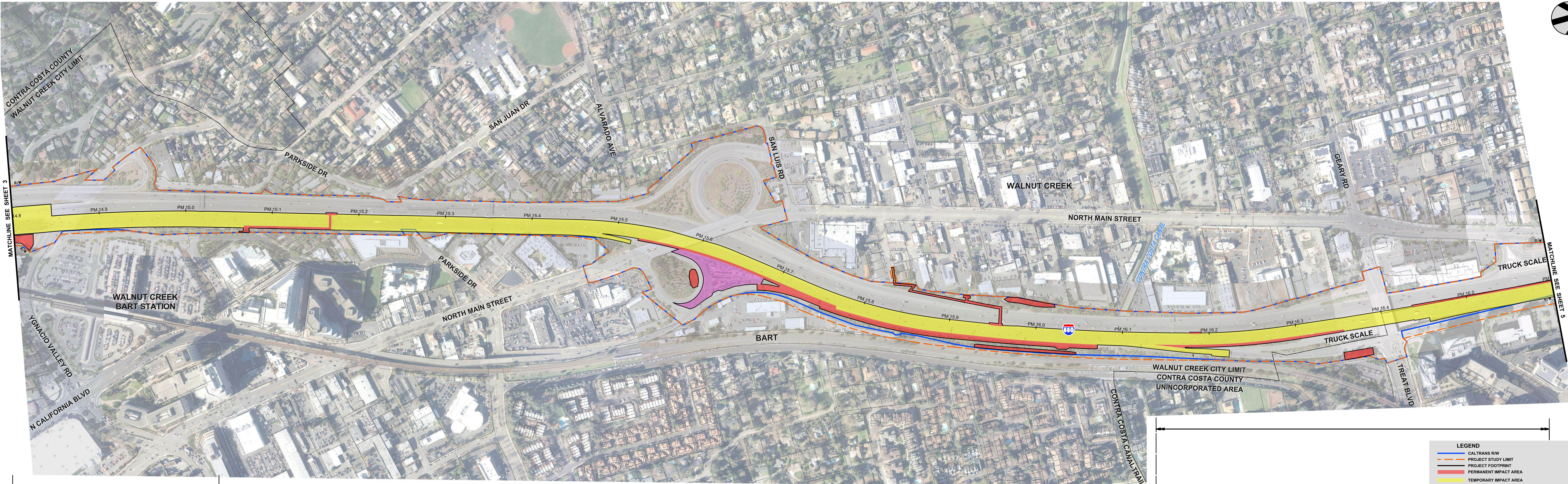
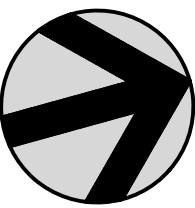
**SEGMENT 2**  
PM 11.0 TO PM 13.55

**SEGMENT 3**  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)



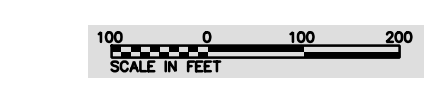


SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

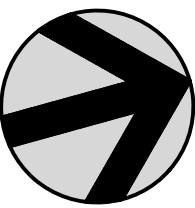
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)

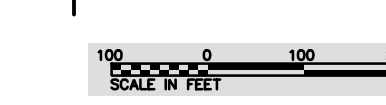






SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

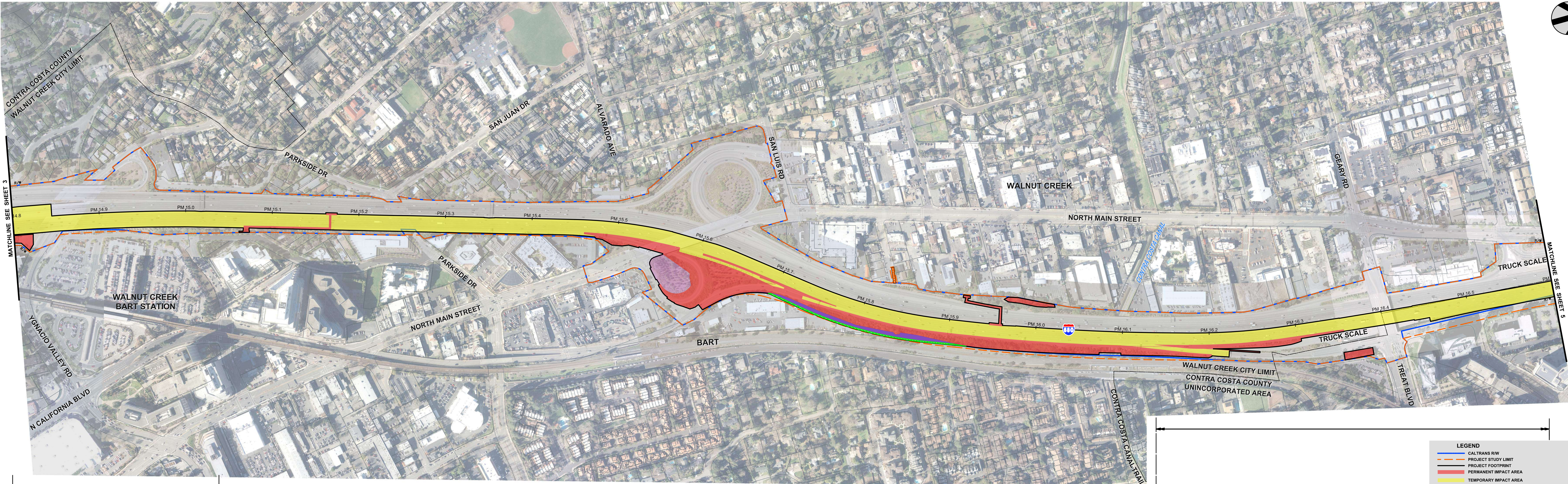
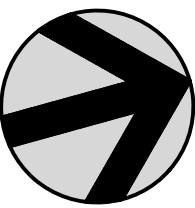
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15



**LEGEND**

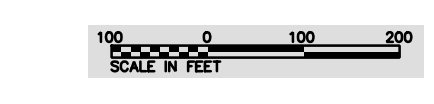
- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

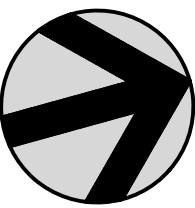
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15



**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 3A

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 5A

SEGMENT 3  
PM 13.55 TO PM 15.04

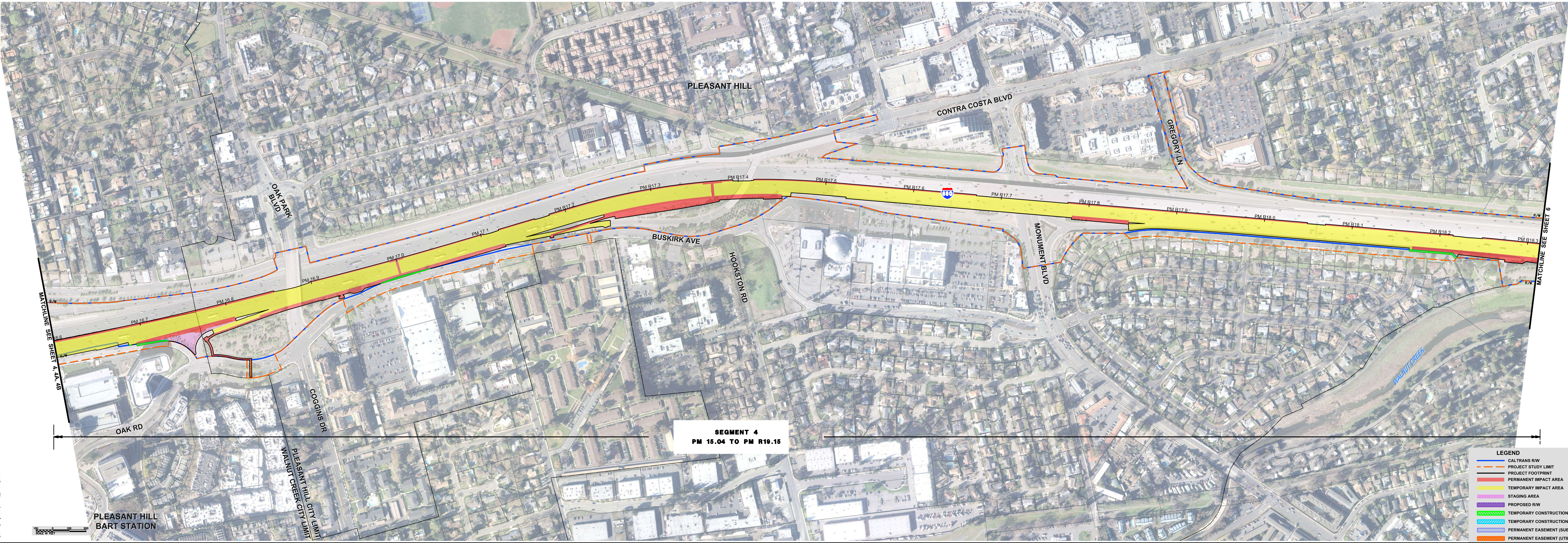
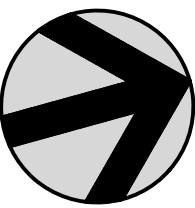
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15



**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





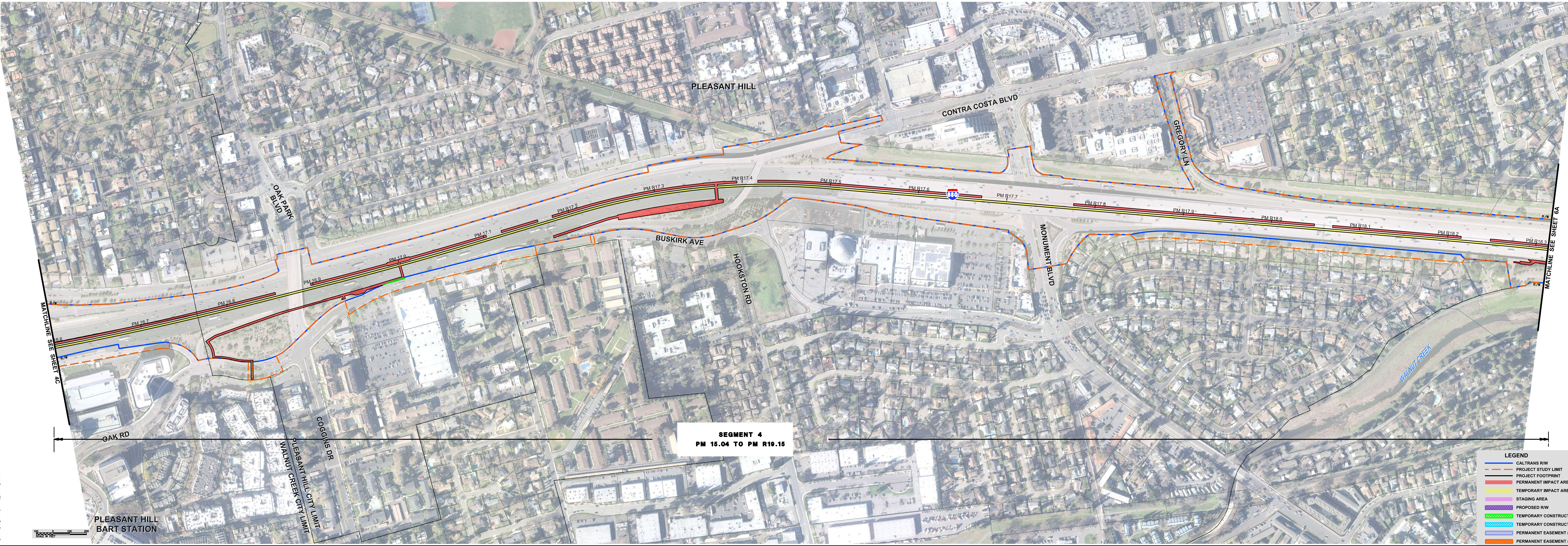
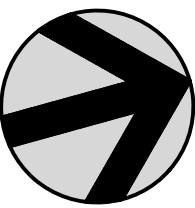
**SEGMENT 4**  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 4, 4A, 4B

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 6

- LEGEND**
- CALTRANS R/W
  - PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
  - PROJECT FOOTPRINT
  - PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
  - TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
  - STAGING AREA
  - PROPOSED R/W
  - TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
  - TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)



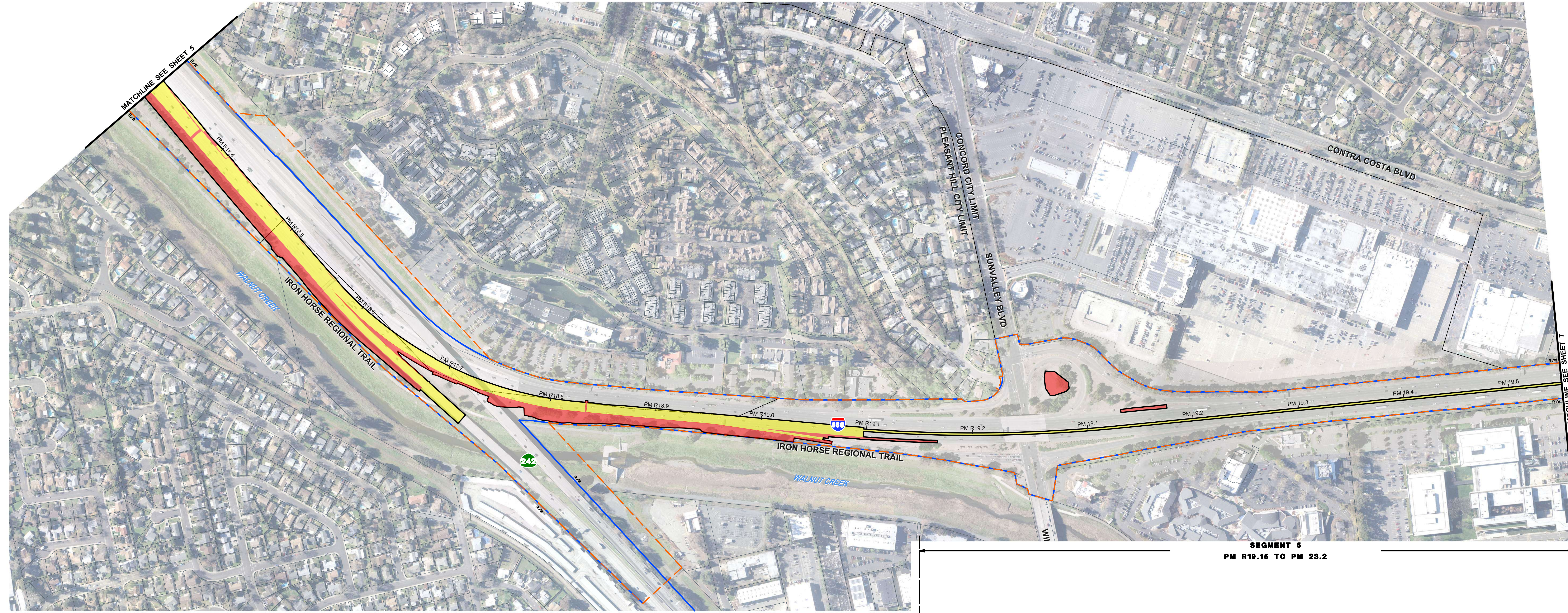
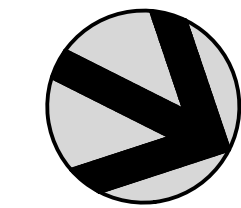


**SEGMENT 4**  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





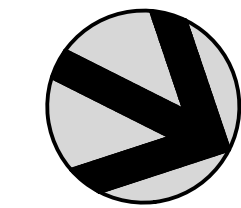
SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

SEGMENT 5  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 5A

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 7

SEGMENT 4  
PM 15.04 TO PM R19.15

SEGMENT 5  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

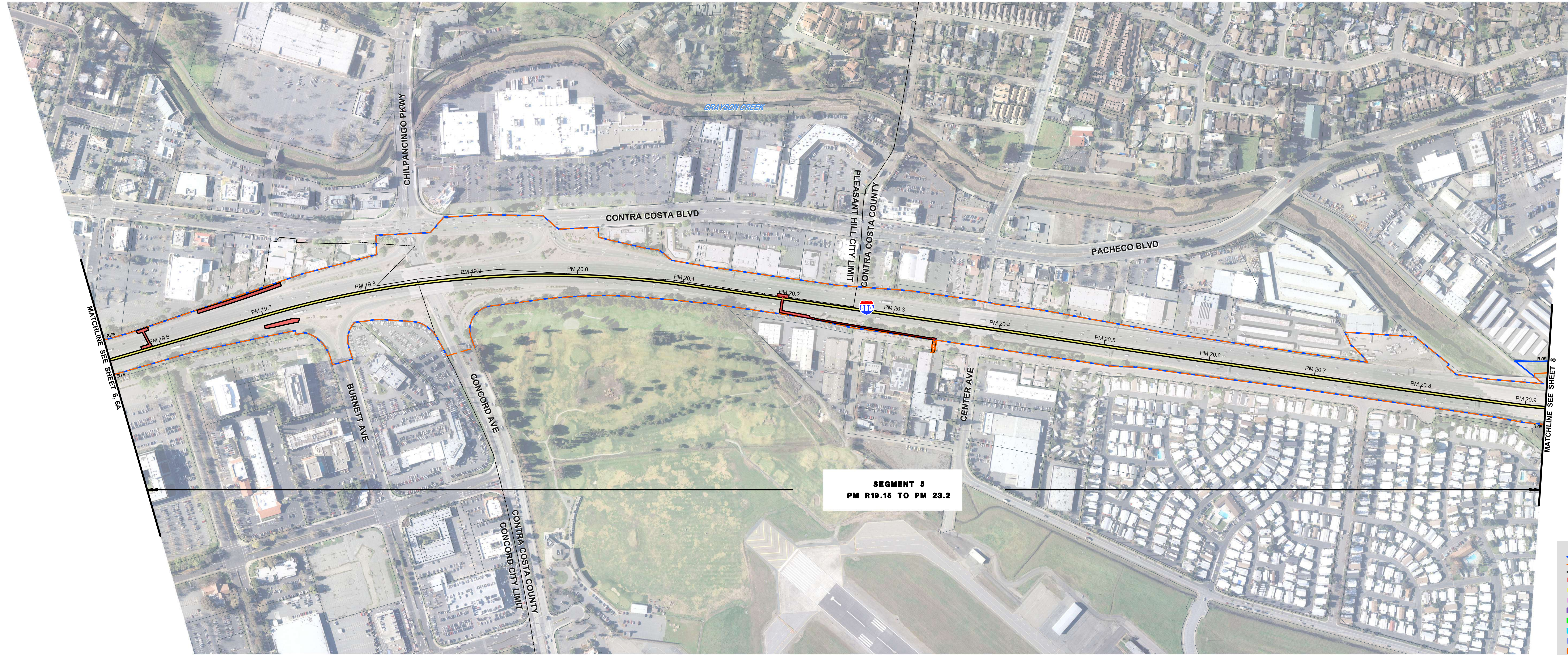
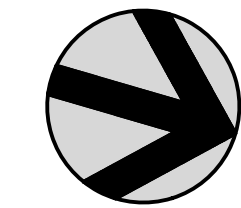
**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)



DATE: 11/15/23  
 TIME: 10:00 AM  
 PROJECT: I-680 NORTHBOUND EXPRESS LANE PROJECT  
 SHEET: 6A OF 9  
 DRAWN BY: [unreadable]  
 CHECKED BY: [unreadable]  
 APPROVED BY: [unreadable]

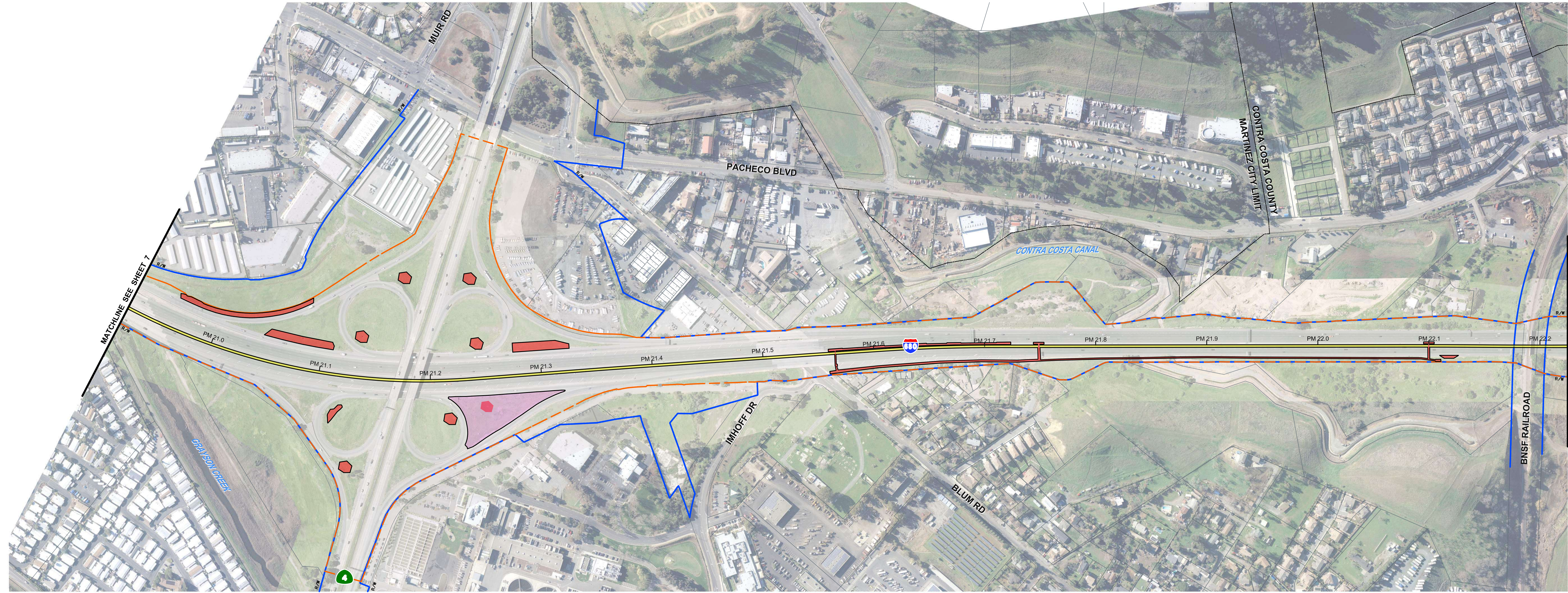
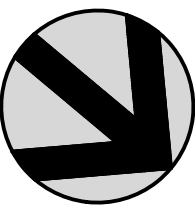




**SEGMENT 5**  
**PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2**

- LEGEND**
- CALTRANS R/W
  - PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
  - PROJECT FOOTPRINT
  - PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
  - TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
  - STAGING AREA
  - PROPOSED R/W
  - TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
  - TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
  - PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 7

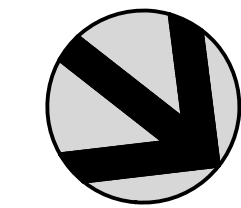
MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 9

**SEGMENT 5**  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)





SEGMENT 5  
PM R19.15 TO PM 23.2

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 8

**LEGEND**

- CALTRANS R/W
- PROJECT STUDY LIMIT
- PROJECT FOOTPRINT
- PERMANENT IMPACT AREA
- TEMPORARY IMPACT AREA
- STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED R/W
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION STAGING EASEMENT
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (SUBSURFACE)
- PERMANENT EASEMENT (UTILITY)
- ADVANCE SIGNAGE IMPACT AREA (ABOVE GROUND)



DATE: 11/15/23  
 DRAWN BY: J. HARRIS  
 CHECKED BY: M. HARRIS  
 PROJECT: I-680 NB EXPRESS LANE PROJECT IMPACT MAPS - ALTERNATIVE 1C, 2, 3 & 5 - SHEET 9



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# Appendix J    Noise

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# Appendix J. Noise

## J.1 SUMMARY OF NOISE MEASUREMENTS

**Table J-1. Summary of Short-Term Noise Measurements**

Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute $L_{eq}$ , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-2	456 Rodrigues Avenue	B	Residential	4/13/2021	9:40 a.m.	60	1024	37	65	65/65/55
					9:50 a.m.	60	998	37	66	65/65/55
ST-3	4512 Actriz Place	B	Residential	4/13/2021	9:30 a.m.	58	1014	31	79	65/65/55
					9:40 a.m.	58	1024	37	65	65/65/55
ST-4	4395 Cabrilho Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	10:00 a.m.	61	1008	55	69	65/65/55
					10:10 a.m.	61	935	42	57	65/65/55
ST-5	3930 Via Estrella	B	Residential	4/13/2021	10:30 a.m.	49	1002	39	67	65/65/55
					10:40 a.m.	50	993	29	79	65/65/55
ST-6	4088 Via Estrella	B	Residential	4/13/2021	10:00 a.m.	52	1008	55	69	65/65/55
					10:10 a.m.	51	935	42	57	65/65/55



Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-7	515 Ross Circle	B	Residential	4/13/2021	9:30 a.m.	54	1014	31	79	65/65/55
					9:40 a.m.	53	1024	37	65	65/65/55
ST-9	Marlin's RV Park 381 Arthur Road	C	Campground - RV Park	4/13/2021	10:40 a.m.	64	993	29	79	65/65/55
					10:50 a.m.	63	999	35	60	65/65/55
ST-11	10 Ladybug Court	B	Residential	4/13/2021	10:20 a.m.	53	1062	34	69	65/65/55
					10:30 a.m.	52	1002	39	67	65/65/55
ST-12	753 Katydid Court	B	Residential	4/13/2021	10:20 a.m.	60	1062	34	69	65/65/55
					10:30 a.m.	61	1002	39	67	65/65/55
ST-13	1 Emshee Lane	B	Residential	4/13/2021	11:00 a.m.	50	927	28	83	65/65/55
					11:10 a.m.	51	985	31	90	65/65/55
ST-14	88 Rutherford Lane	G	Undeveloped	4/13/2021	11:00 a.m.	73	927	28	83	65/65/55
					11:10 a.m.	73	985	31	90	65/65/55
ST-17	249 Minoru Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	12:00 p.m.	64	1228	33	63	65/65/55
					12:10 p.m.	64	1213	39	48	65/65/55





Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-18	168 Damascus Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	12:30 p.m.	61	1233	39	59	65/65/55
					12:40 p.m.	61	1284	28	47	65/65/55
ST-19	Eagles Landing 110 Berry Drive	C	Campground - RV Park	4/13/2021	1:00 p.m.	63	1248	34	55	65/65/55
					1:10 p.m.	64	1230	43	66	65/65/55
ST-20	Buchanan Fields Golf Club-1091 Concord Avenue	C	Active Sports Area - Golf Course	4/13/2021	12:10 p.m.	67	1213	39	48	65/65/55
					12:20 p.m.	66	1309	36	63	65/65/55
ST-21	Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar-1975 Diamond Boulevard-Outdoor Eating Area	E	Restaurant	4/13/2021	12:50 p.m.	65	1372	20	52	65/65/55
					1:00 p.m.	65	1248	34	55	65/65/55
ST-22	859 Santa Cruz Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	12:10 p.m.	60	1213	39	48	65/65/55
					12:20 p.m.	59	1309	36	63	65/65/55
ST-23	700 Ellinwood Way	E	Hotel	4/13/2021	12:50 p.m.	70	1372	20	52	65/65/55
					1:00 p.m.	69	1248	34	55	65/65/55
ST-24	100 Ellinwood Way	D	University	4/13/2021	1:00 p.m.	68	1248	34	55	65/65/55
					1:10 p.m.	68	1230	43	66	65/65/55



Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-26	1330 Brookview Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	1:50 p.m.	61	2171	121	60	65/65/55
					2:00 p.m.	61	1997	118	56	65/65/55
ST-27	1165 Brookview Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	2:20 p.m.	62	1875	105	72	65/65/55
ST-28	1919 Marta Drive	C	Trail	4/13/2021	1:50 p.m.	69	2171	121	60	65/65/55
					2:00 p.m.	68	1875	105	72	65/65/55
ST-29	2155 Sherman Dr.	B	Residential	4/13/2021	1:40 p.m.	61	1945	99	68	65/65/55
					1:50 p.m.	62	2171	121	60	65/65/55
ST-30	Soldier's Memorial Monument-40 Boyd Road	C	Memorial Park	4/14/2021	9:30 a.m.	68	2389	54	109	65/65/55
					9:40 a.m.	69	2410	33	72	65/65/55
ST-31	EBMUD Trail-2805 Contra Costa Boulevard	C	Trail	4/13/2021	1:40 p.m.	60	1945	99	68	65/65/55
					1:50 p.m.	59	2171	121	60	65/65/55
ST-32	3352 Buskirk Avenue	F	Other Developed Land	4/13/21	2:10 p.m.	64	1944	97	51	65/65/55
					2:20 p.m.	63	1875	105	72	65/65/55
ST-33	Park Regency Apartment Complex-3128 Oak Road-Pool Area	B	Residential	4/14/2021	10:30 a.m.	53	2412	41	69	65/65/55
					10:40 a.m.	52	2362	44	71	65/65/55





Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-34	1005 Esther Drive	B	Residential	4/13/2021	2:10 p.m.	57	1944	97	51	65/65/55
					2:20 p.m.	58	1875	105	72	65/65/55
ST-35	1035 Esther Dr.	B	Residential-not rep	4/14/2021	9:20 a.m.	70	2383	37	71	65/65/55
					9:30 a.m.	71	2389	54	109	65/65/55
ST-36	14 Pleasant Court	B	Residential	4/14/2021	10:00 a.m.	57	2180	33	77	65/65/55
					10:10 a.m.	57	2216	40	72	65/65/55
ST-37	Kingston Place Apartments-3055 N. Main Street	B	Residential	4/14/2021	10:20 a.m.	51	2217	38	62	65/65/55
					10:30 a.m.	50	2412	41	69	65/65/55
ST-38	Holiday Inn Express Walnut Creek-2730 N. Main Street-Pool Area	E	Hotel	4/14/2021	11:10 a.m.	54	1712	105	71	65/65/55
					11:30 a.m.	54	1762	34	71	65/65/55
ST-39	2740 Jones Road	B	Residential	4/14/2021	12:10 p.m.	59	1811	39	52	65/65/55
					12:20 p.m.	59	1938	48	62	65/65/55
ST-41	2600 Jones Road	B	Residential	4/14/2021	11:00 a.m.	61 <sup>1</sup>	1739	55	69	65/65/55
					11:30 a.m.	62 <sup>1</sup>	1762	34	71	65/65/55
ST-42	2548 Jones Road	B	Residential	4/14/2021	11:50 a.m.	56 <sup>2</sup>	1774	41	68	65/65/55
					12:00 p.m.	63 <sup>1</sup>	1820	38	57	65/65/55
ST-43	1409 Walden Road	B	Residential	4/14/2021	12:20 p.m.	54	1938	48	62	65/65/55
					12:30 p.m.	53	1887	41	66	65/65/55
ST-44	55 Via Los Ninos	B	Residential	4/14/2021	11.20 a.m.	64 <sup>2</sup>	1706	40	65	65/65/55



Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
					11:30 a.m.	68 <sup>1</sup>	1762	34	71	65/65/55
ST-45	Motel 6 Walnut Creek-2389 N Main Street- Pool Area	E	Hotel	4/14/2021	11:30 a.m.	64	1762	34	71	65/65/55
					11:40 a.m.	65	1767	38	63	65/65/55
ST-46	1641 Alvarado Avenue	B	Residential	4/14/2021	1:00 p.m.	60	2041	43	76	65/65/55
					1:10 p.m.	59	1819	47	58	65/65/55
ST-48	2231 Buena Vista Avenue	B	Residential	4/14/2021	1:40 p.m.	59	2023	34	67	65/65/55
					1:50 p.m.	60	2054	34	66	65/65/55
ST-49	Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses-2207 Buena Vista Avenue	D	Place of Worship	4/14/2021	12:00 p.m.	59	1820	38	57	65/65/55
					12:10 p.m.	58	1811	39	52	65/65/55
ST-50	2115 Overlook Drive	B	Residential	4/14/2021	12:40 p.m.	64	2000	29	73	65/65/55
					12:50 p.m.	64	1973	35	68	65/65/55
ST-52	135 Vista Hermosa	B	Residential	4/14/2021	1:40 p.m.	62	2023	34	67	65/65/55
					1:50 p.m.	62	2054	34	66	65/65/55
ST-53	2101 Oakvale Road	G	Undeveloped	4/14/2021	1:00 p.m.	71	2041	43	76	65/65/55
					1:10 p.m.	70	1819	47	58	65/65/55
ST-54	1971 Almond Avenue	B	Residential	4/14/2021	1:10 p.m.	61	1819	47	58	65/65/55
					1:20 p.m.	60	2050	44	67	65/65/55
ST-55	St. Mary School-1158 Bont Lane	D	School	4/15/2021	11:30 a.m.	69	1514	35	45	65/65/55
					11:40 a.m.	69	1512	35	48	65/65/55





Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-56	Alpine Park Apartments-1777 Botelho Drive	B	Residential	4/15/2021	9:40 a.m.	63	1764	67	65	65/65/55
					9:50 a.m.	63	1581	95	74	65/65/55
ST-57	1271 Bonita Lane	B	Residential	4/15/2021	12:10 p.m.	55	1530	41	40	65/65/55
					12:20 p.m.	54	1520	42	49	65/65/55
ST-58	131 Paulson Lane	B	Residential	4/15/2021	10:50 a.m.	58	1461	42	42	65/65/55
					11:00 a.m.	58	1454	34	49	65/65/55
ST-59	1548 Webb Lane	B	Residential	4/15/2021	9:20 a.m.	55	1893	80	91	65/65/55
					9:30 a.m.	56	1768	89	75	65/65/55
ST-60	1524 Brentwood Court	B	Residential	4/15/2021	10:00 a.m.	68	1372	31	47	65/65/55
					10:10 a.m.	68	1402	31	62	65/65/55
ST-61	Iron Horse Regional Trail-2039 Danville Boulevard	C	Trail	4/15/2021	10:30 a.m.	61	1447	33	54	65/65/55
					10:40 a.m.	62	1549	40	47	65/65/55
ST-62	36 Quail Court	C	Office	4/15/2021	11:10 a.m.	61	1520	39	42	65/65/55
					11:20 a.m.	61	1542	41	42	65/65/55
ST-63	The Bridge at Walnut Creek Apartments-1365 Creekside Drive	B	Residential	4/15/2021	11:50 a.m.	58	1520	41	51	65/65/55
					12:00 p.m.	58	1489	36	45	65/65/55
ST-64	2212 Danville Boulevard	B	Residential	4/15/2021	10:30 a.m.	54	1514	35	45	65/65/55
					10:40 a.m.	55	1512	35	48	65/65/55



Appendix J. Noise

Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-65	60 Layman Court	B	Residential	4/15/2021	10:10 a.m.	51	1402	31	62	65/65/55
					10:20 a.m.	53	1451	37	53	65/65/55
ST-66	1428 Sunnybrook Road	B	Residential	4/15/21	11:10 a.m.	50	1520	39	42	65/65/55
					11:20 a.m.	52	1542	41	42	65/65/55
ST-67	172 Sugarloaf Court	B	Residential	4/15/2021	10:50 a.m.	65	1461	42	42	65/65/55
					11:00 a.m.	66	1454	34	49	65/65/55
ST-69	1421 Laurenita Way	B	Residential	4/15/2021	12:00 p.m.	51	1489	36	45	65/65/55
					12:10 p.m.	52	1530	41	40	65/65/55
ST-70	430 Vernal Drive	B	Residential	4/15/2021	11:30 a.m.	53	1514	35	45	65/65/55
					11:40 a.m.	54	1512	35	48	65/65/55
ST-71	1394 Casa Vallecita	B	Residential	4/15/2021	12:40 p.m.	48	1585	37	47	65/65/55
					12:50 p.m.	49	1565	38	49	65/65/55
ST-72	430 Vernal Drive	B	Residential	4/15/2021	11:40 a.m.	68	1512	35	48	65/65/55
					11:50 a.m.	68	1520	41	51	65/65/55
ST-73	10 Eaton Court	B	Residential	4/15/2021	12:40 p.m.	50	1585	37	47	65/65/55
					12:50 p.m.	51	1565	38	49	65/65/55
ST-74	175 S. Jackson Way	B	Residential	4/15/2021	1:00 p.m.	49	1629	43	41	65/65/55
					1:10 p.m.	50	1585	43	51	65/65/55





Receptor ID	Location (See Appendix E)	Activity Category	Land Use	Date	Start Time	10-minute L <sub>eq</sub> , dBA	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Observed Speeds, mph
ST-75	1021 Via del Gato	B	Residential	4/15/2021	1:20 p.m.	62	1613	42	58	65/65/55
					1:30 p.m.	63	1709	47	43	65/65/55
ST-76	Creekside Community Church-1350 Danville Boulevard	D	Place of Worship	4/15/2021	12:20 p.m.	51	1520	42	49	65/65/55
					12:30 p.m.	52	1509	37	56	65/65/55
ST-77	1098 Via del Gato	B	Residential	4/15/21	1:50 p.m.	66	1799	45	42	65/65/55
					2:00 p.m.	67	1716	38	40	65/65/55
ST-78	324 Massoni Court	B	Residential	4/15/2021	11:50 a.m.	49	1520	41	51	65/65/55
					12:00 p.m.	51	1489	36	45	65/65/55

Source: (Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc., 2023)

Notes:

1 Noise levels include BART

2 Noise levels without BART

**Table J-2. Summary of Long-Term Noise Monitoring at Locations LT-1 to LT-11**

Receptor ID	Location (See Photos in Appendix E)	Date	Loudest Hour(s)	Loudest Hour $L_{eq[h]}$ , dBA
LT-2	Past the end of 88 Rutherford	04/12/2021	4:00 p.m.	79
		04/13/2021	4:00 p.m.	80
		04/14/2021	7:00 p.m.	79
LT-3	1975 Diamond Boulevard	04/13/2021	7:00 p.m.	70
		04/14/2021	2:00 p.m.	69
		04/15/2021	7:00 p.m.	69
LT-4	15 Cleopatra Drive	04/13/2021	7:00 p.m.	68
		04/14/2021	12:00 p.m.	70
		04/15/2021	6:00 a.m.	68
LT-5	2687 Oak Road	04/14/2021	5:00 p.m.	65
		04/15/2021	3:00 p.m.	63
		04/16/2021	2:00 p.m.	64
		04/17/2021	5:00 p.m.	63
		04/18/2021	5:00 p.m.	62
		04/19/2021	12:00 p.m.	66
LT-6	68 Kuhl Court	04/14/2021	5:00 p.m.	60
		04/15/2021	5:00 a.m.	63
		04/16/2021	5:00 a.m.	62
		04/17/2021	7:00 a.m.	62
		04/18/2021	8:00 a.m.	61
		04/19/2021	6:00 a.m.	63
LT-7	1660 Lilac Dr.	04/14/2021	9:00 p.m.	60
		04/15/2021	8:00 a.m.	63





Receptor ID	Location (See Photos in Appendix E)	Date	Loudest Hour(s)	Loudest Hour $L_{eq(1h)}$ , dBA
		04/16/2021	8:00 a.m.	63
		04/17/2021	5:00 p.m.	64
		04/18/2021	10:00 a.m.	62
LT-8	Rudgear Park & Ride	04/15/2021	1:00 p.m.	69
		04/16/2021	12:00 p.m.	69
		04/17/2021	4:00 p.m.	70
		04/18/2021	5:00 p.m.	69
		04/19/2021	11:00 a.m.	69

## **J.2 RECEPTOR AND NOISE BARRIER LOCATIONS**



**Figure J-1. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers between Marina Vista Avenue and Pacheco Boulevard**





Figure J-2. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers Between Pacheco Boulevard and State Route 4

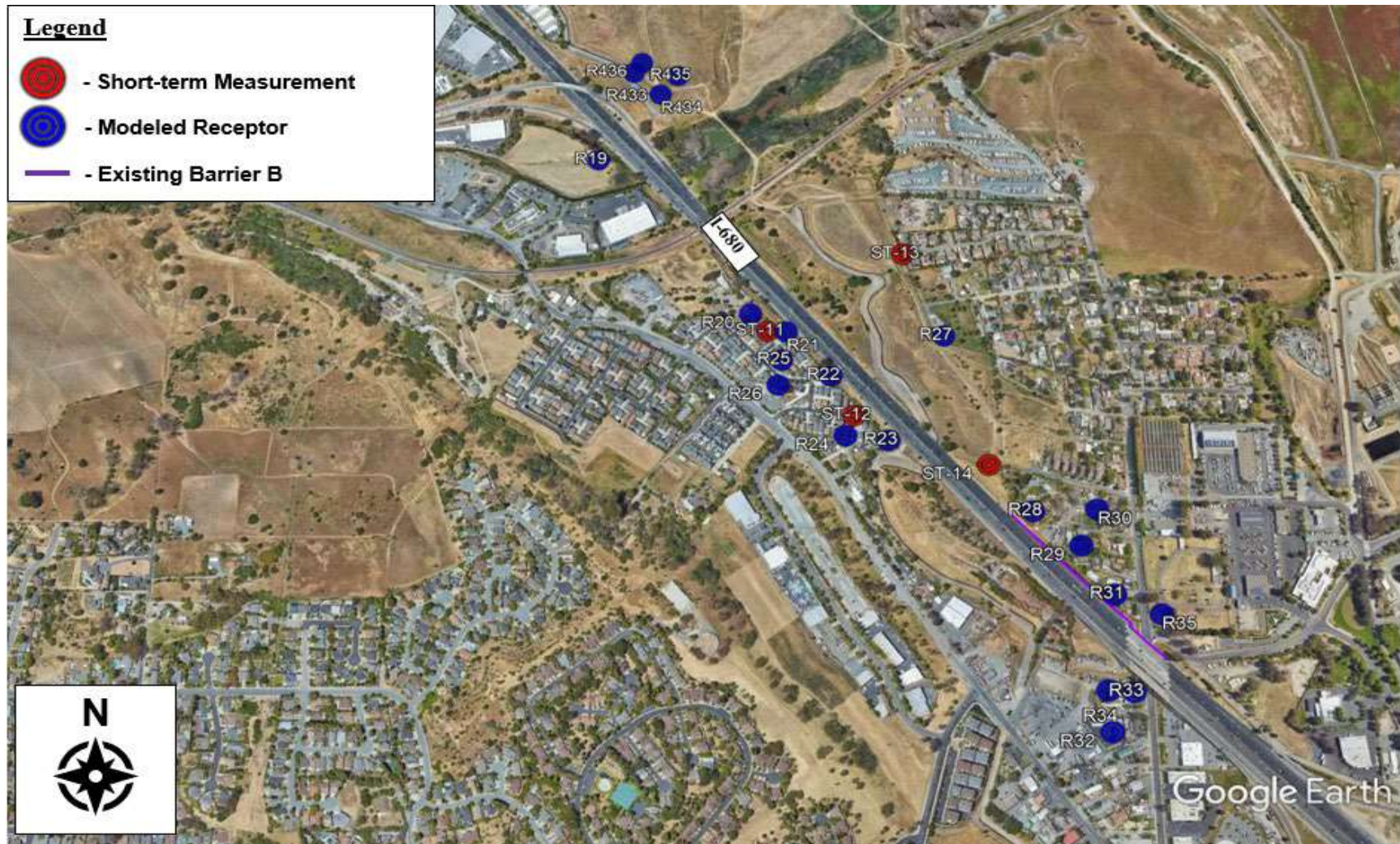








Figure J-4. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from Concord Avenue to State Route 242





Figure J-5. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from south of State Route 242 to Monument Boulevard





Figure J-6. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from south of Monument Boulevard to Treat Boulevard

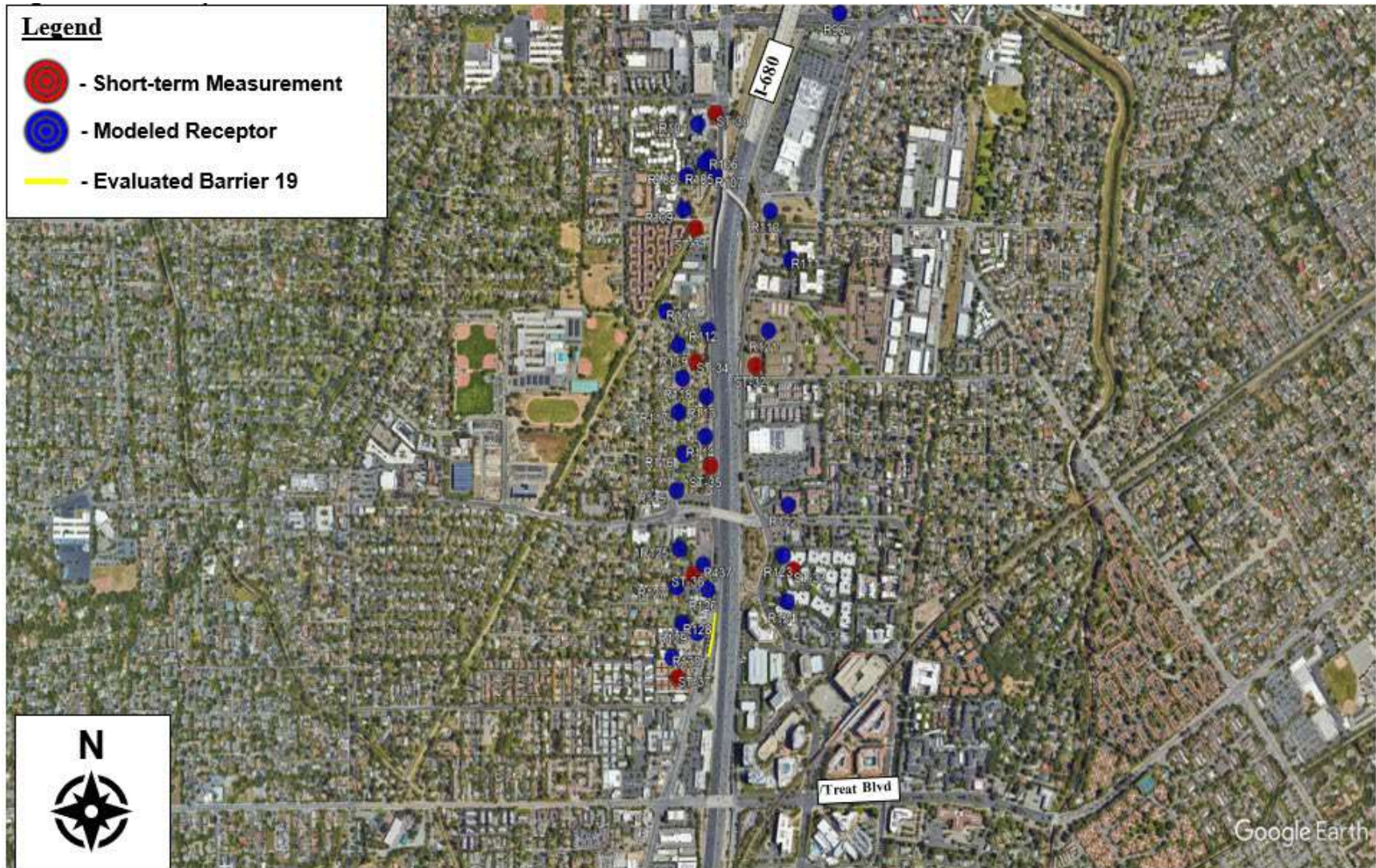
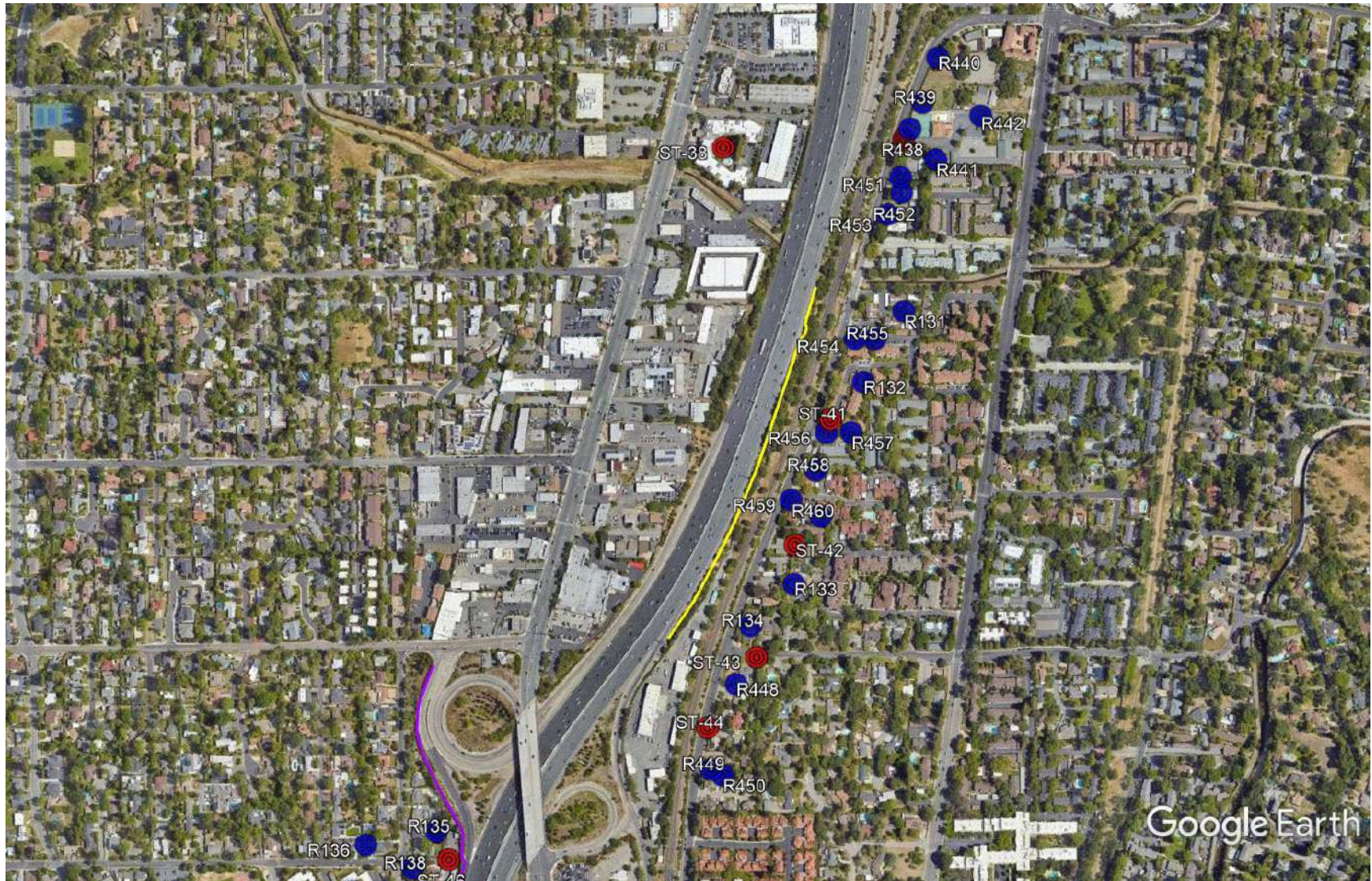




Figure J-7a. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from South of Treat Boulevard to N Main Street (ALT 1C)





**Figure J-7b. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from South of Treat Boulevard to N Main Street (ALT 2/3)**

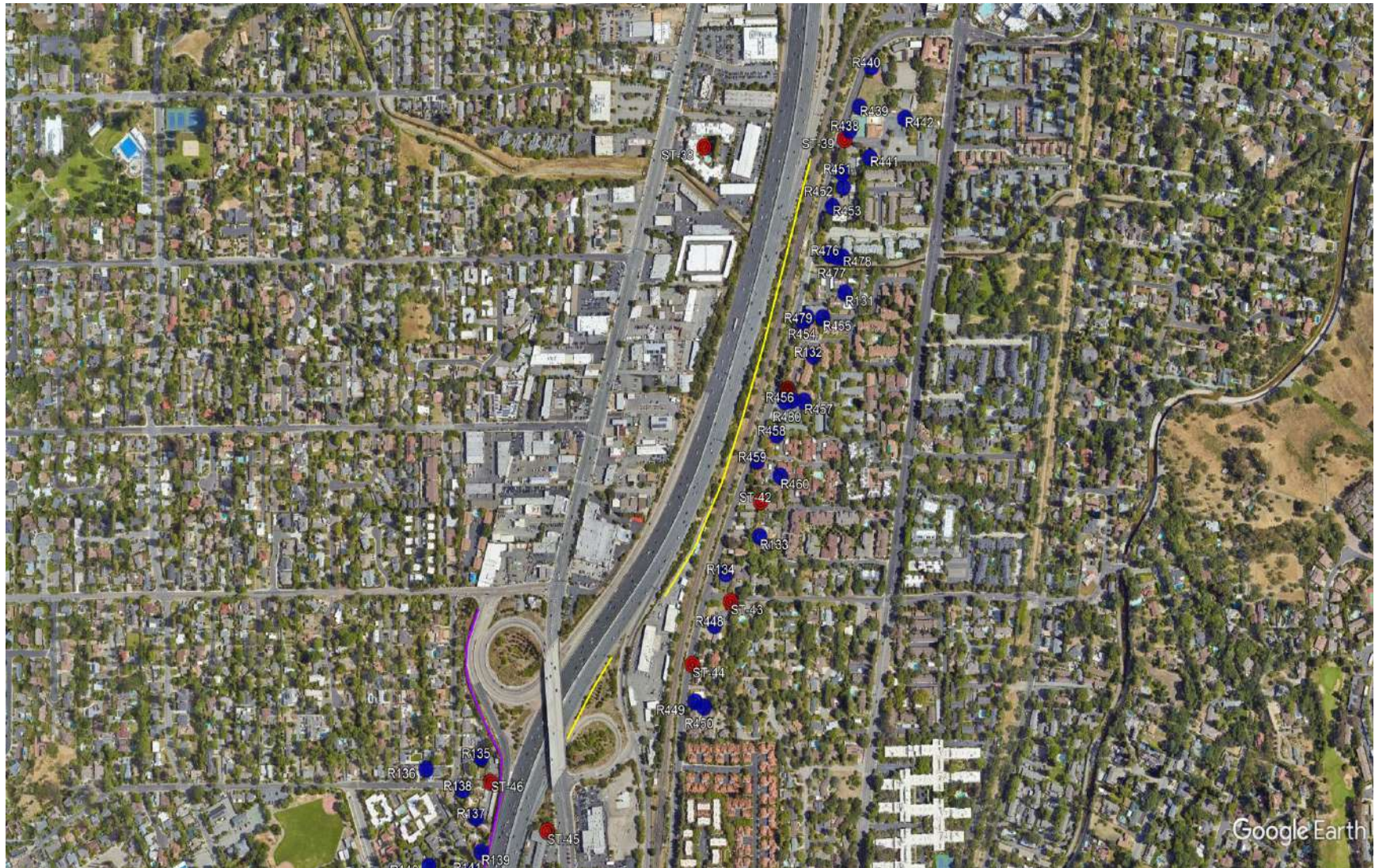
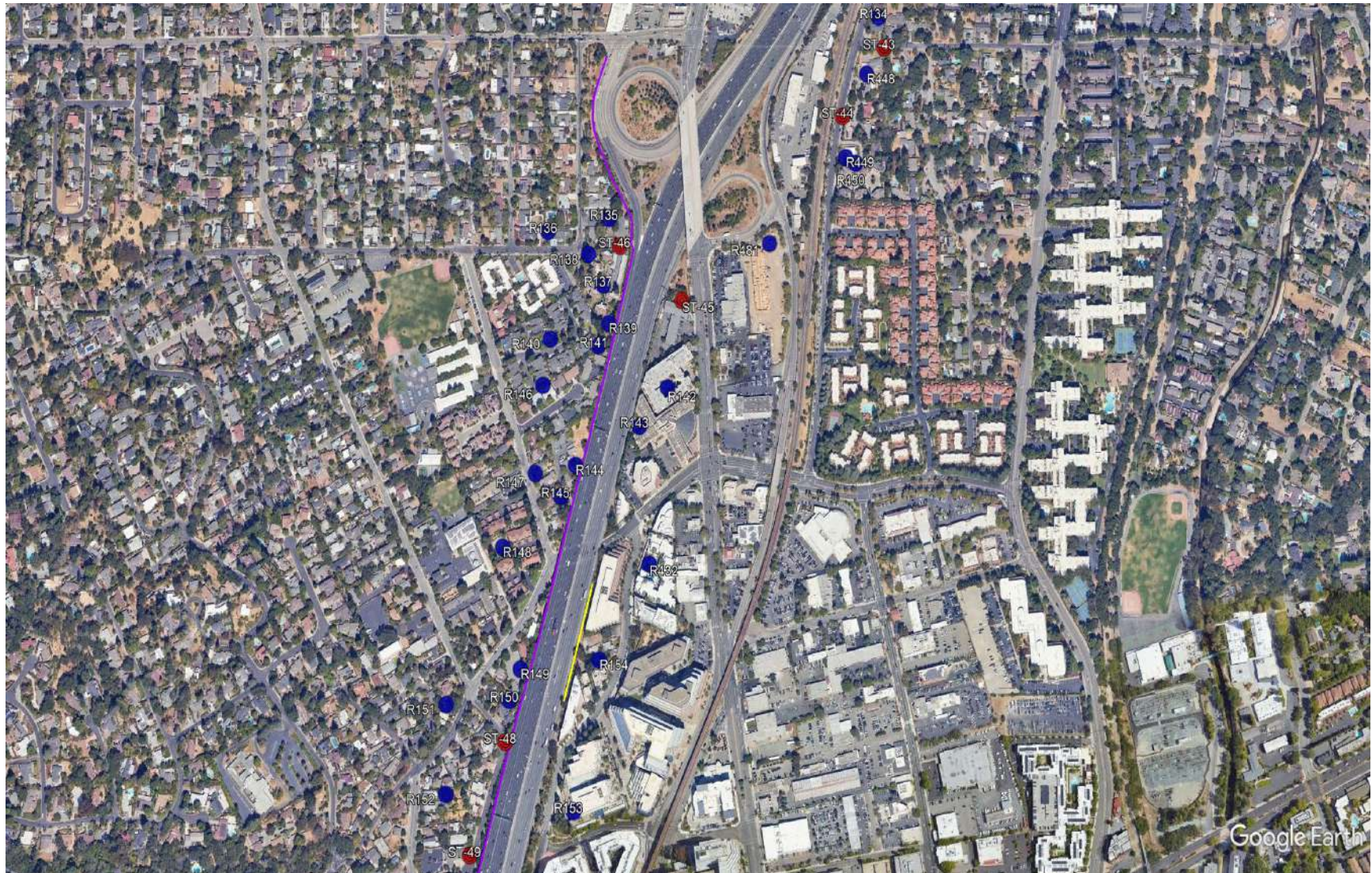




Figure J-8. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers form N Main Street to Ygnacio Valley Road





**Figure J-9. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from Ygnacio Valley Road to State Route 24**





Figure J-10a. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from State Route 24 to S Main Street (ALT 1C and ALT 3)





**Figure J-10b. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from State Route 24 to Newell Avenue (ALT 2 and ALT 5)**





Figure J-11. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from South of Newell Avenue to North of Rudgear Road



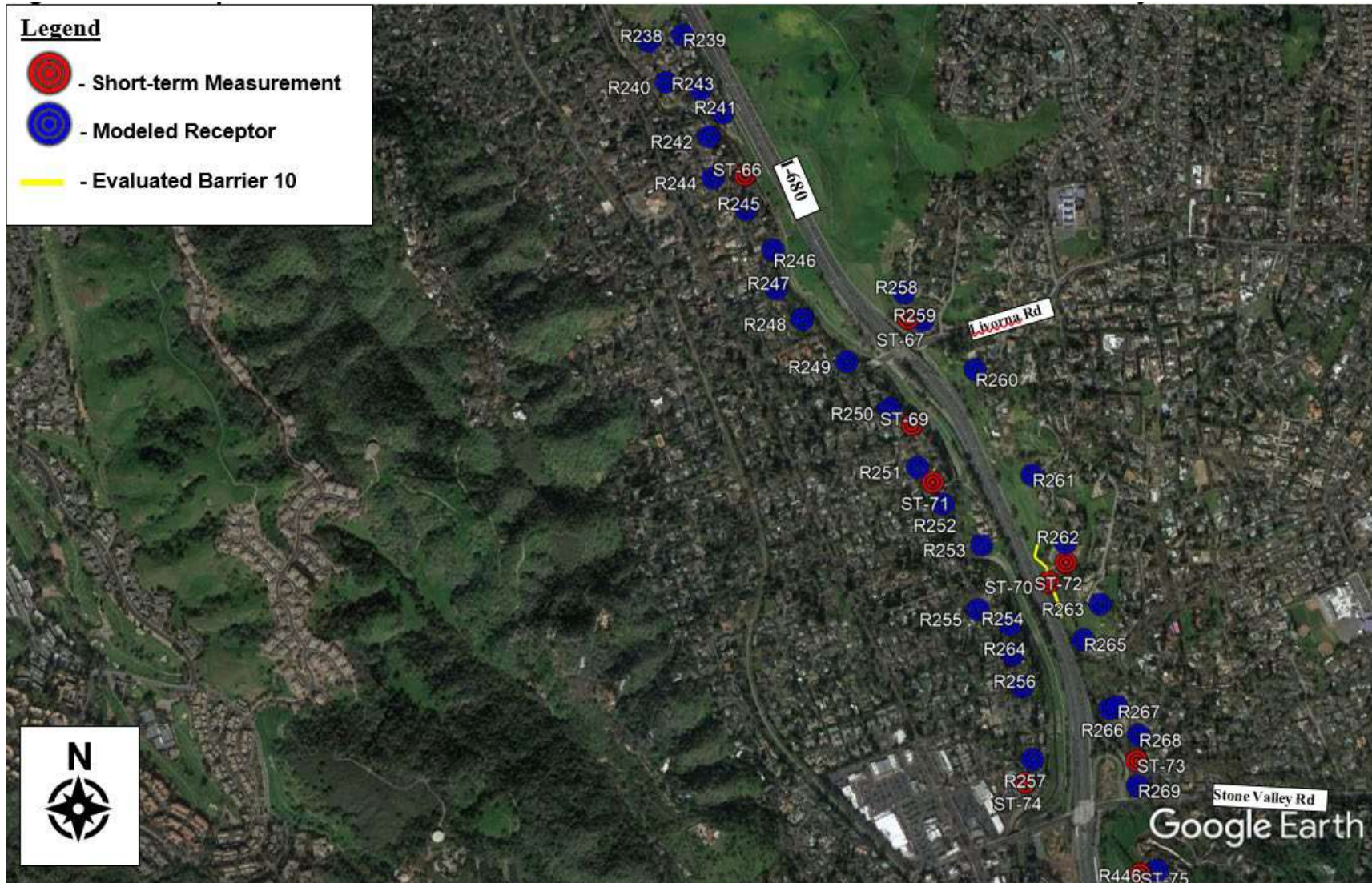


Figure J-12. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from North of Rudgear Road to North of Livorna Road





Figure J-13. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from North of Livorna Road to Stone Valley Road





**Figure J-14. Receptor Locations and Noise Barriers from Stone Valley Road to North of El Cerro Blvd**













Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA Alternative 1C																																	
					Existing Noise Level L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA <sup>2</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)									Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>																						
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA					Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA			6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>			
						L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA			L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR				
ST-23	-	Hotel	-	700 Ellinwood Way	73	74	74	1	0	E (72)	None <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-24	Existing Barrier D	University	1	100 Ellinwood Way	65	67	67	2	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-26	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	9	1330 Brookview Drive	57	57	62	0	5	B (67)	None	61	1	0	61	1	0	60	2	0	60	2	0	60	2	0	59	3	0									
ST-27	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	1165 Brookview Drive	56	56	59	0	3	B (67)	None	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0						
ST-28	Existing Barrier D	Trail	1	1919 Marta Drive	67	69	68	2	-1	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-29	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting	Residential	0	2155 Sherman Drive	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0						







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-42	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2548 Jones Road	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	54	2	0	53	3	0	52	4	0	51	5	2	51	5	2	51	5	2
ST-43	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	3	1409 Walden Road	53	54	54	1	0	B (67)	None	53	1	0	52	2	0	52	2	0	51	3	0	51	3	0	51	3	0
ST-44	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	55 Via Los Ninos	67	68	69	1	1	B (67)	A/E	69	0	0	69	0	0	69	0	0	68	1	0	68	1	0	67	2	0
ST-45	Existing Barrier G.1, G.2, G.3	Hotel		2389 N. Main Street	65	66	67	1	1	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-46	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	1641 Alvarado Avenue	63	63	64	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-48	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	2231 Buena Vista Avenue	64	64	65	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-49	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Place of Worship	1	2207 Buena Vista Avenue	63	63	63	0	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-50	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	2115 Overlook Drive	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																										
					Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)									Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>															
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA					Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA			6 feet		8 feet		10 feet		12 feet <sup>4</sup>		14 feet <sup>4</sup>		16 feet <sup>4</sup>	
						$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA			$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-63	RSM-RW2	Residential	49	1357 Creekside Drive	63	63	71	0	8	B (67)	None	71	0	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	69	2	0	68	3	0	67	4	0		
ST-64		Residential		2212 Danville Boulevard	55	55	56	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-65		Residential		60 Layman Court	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-66		Residential		1428 Sunnybrook Road	53	53	53	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-67		Residential		172 Sugarloaf Court	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	None <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-69		Residential		1421 Laurenita Way	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-70	Evaluated Barrier 10	Residential	1	430 Vernal Drive	70	70	70	0	0	B (67)	A/E	67	3	0	66	4	0	65	5	1	64	6	1	63	7	1	63	7	1		
ST-71		Residential		1394 Casa Vallecita	49	49	49	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-72	Evaluated Barrier 10	Residential	2	430 Vernal Drive	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	55	0	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0		
R3		Residential		434 Rodrigues Avenue	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R4		Residential		4155 Cabrilho Drive	54	55	55	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R5		Residential		4408 Actriz	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			































Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R75	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	6	1195 Brookview Drive	49	49	52	0	3	B (67)	None	51	1	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0
R76	Existing Barrier D	Residential	4	1179 Brookview Drive	61	62	62	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R77	Existing Barrier D	Residential	4	1619 N Marta Drive	65	65	65	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R78	Existing Barrier D	Residential	13	1643 N Marta Drive	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R79	Existing Barrier D	Residential	8	1955 Marta Drive	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R80	Existing Barrier D	Residential	3	1999 Marta Drive	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R81	Existing Barrier D	Residential	2	46 Anelda Drive	65	66	66	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R82	Existing Barrier D	Residential	8	1994 Marta Drive	61	61	62	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R83	Existing Barrier D	Residential	6	47 Phyllis Drive	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R84	Existing Barrier D	Residential	4	64 E Vivian Drive	60	60	60	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R85	Existing Barrier D	Residential	4	1942 Marta Drive	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R92	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	2089 Sherman Drive	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0
R93	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	1	16 Belinda Drive	65	65	66	0	1	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0
R94	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	11	2143 Sherman Drive	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0
R95	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier	Residential	5	2215 Sherman Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R96	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	3	2238 Sherman Drive	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	A/E	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0
R97	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	3	2184 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R98	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	2154 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R99	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4,	Residential	8	2131 Ahneita Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA Alternative 1C																								
					Existing Noise Level L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA <sup>2</sup>	Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h)	I.L.	NBR
R103	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	4	Sherman Acres Park	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0			
R104		Hotel		Hyatt House Pleasant Hill- 2611 Contra Costa Boulevard-Pool Area	52	53	53	1	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R105		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments- 2635 Contra Costa Boulevard-Pool Area	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R106		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments- 2635 Contra Costa Boulevard	62	63	63	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R107		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments- 2635 Contra Costa Boulevard	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R108		Residential		2483 Jewell	57	58	58	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			





























Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R178	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential	4	1966 Dora Avenue	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0
R179		Residential		1428 Oakland Boulevard	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R180		Residential		Monarch Apartments - 1384 Oakland Boulevard- Pool Area	59	59	60	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R181		Residential		1366 Oakland Boulevard	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R182		School		Forma Gym- 1908 Olympic Boulevard- Pool Area	64	64	64	0	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R183	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1236 Clover Lane	65	65	73	0	8	B (67)	A/E	71	2	0	70	3	0	70	3	0	69	4	0	69	4	0	69	4	0
R184	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	4	1192 Dewing Lane	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	67	1	0	66	2	0	66	2	0
R185	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	3	1237 Clover Lane	62	62	64	0	2	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	63	1	0	63	1	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																											
						Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																											
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA			Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA			Activity Category (NAC)		Impact Type <sup>1</sup>		6 feet		8 feet		10 feet		12 feet <sup>4</sup>		14 feet <sup>4</sup>		16 feet <sup>4</sup>	
						$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	I.L.	NBR	Activity Category	Impact Type	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.
R186	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1261 Bonita Lane	63	63	67	0	4	B (67)	A/E	67	0	0	67	0	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0				
R187	Existing Barrier H	Residential	3	111 Paulson Lane	70	71	72	1	1	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R188	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	38 Autumn Trail Lane	64	64	66	0	2	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R189	Existing Barrier H	Residential	6	62 Autumn Trail Lane	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R190	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	1712 Newell Avenue	57	58	59	1	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R191	Existing Barrier H	Residential	3	1670 Newell Avenue	58	59	59	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R192	Existing Barrier H	Place of Worship	1	Chabad of Contra Costa-1671 Newell Avenue	59	60	60	1	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R193	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	171 Circle Drive	61	61	62	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R194	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	1664 Lilac Drive	61	61	62	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
R195	Existing Barrier H	Residential	3	174 Circle Drive	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA Alternative 1C																																
					Existing Noise Level L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA <sup>2</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)															Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>															
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup>			Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA			Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA			6 feet					8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
						L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR			L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR	L <sub>eq</sub> (h), dBA	I.L.	NBR			
R196	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	1	Montecito Condominium- 1315 Alma Avenue- In Center Areas	53	53	54	0	1	B (67)	None	54	0	0	54	0	0	53	1	0	53	1	0	52	2	0	52	2	0								
R197	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	3	Montecito Condominium- 1315 Alma Avenue- Along Alpine Road	70	70	72	0	2	B (67)	A/E	68	4	0	67	5	3	65	7	3	65	7	3	64	8	3	63	9	3								
R198	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	3	Montecito Condominium- 1315 Alma Avenue- On SW corner of complex, along Alpine Road	73	73	74	0	1	B (67)	A/E	68	5	3	67	6	3	65	8	3	64	9	3	64	9	3	63	10	3								
R199	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	1	Alpine Park Apartments- 1776 Botelho Drive- In middle open space	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	55	0	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	53	2	0	53	2	0								
R200	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	10	Alpine Park Apartments- 1776 Botelho Drive- SW corner	70	70	72	0	2	B (67)	A/E	68	3	0	66	5	10	66	5	10	65	6	10	65	6	10	64	7	10								

























Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																							
						6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>								
						$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR						
R462	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1213 Clover Lane	61	61	64	0	3	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	63	1	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	61	3	0
R463	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1260 Clover Lane	65	65	69	0	4	B (67)	A/E	69	0	0	68	1	0	68	1	0	67	2	0	66	3	0	65	4	0
R464	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	5	1110 Boulevard Way	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E	67	1	0	67	1	0	67	1	0	66	2	0	65	3	0	64	4	0
R465	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1285 Bonita Lane	66	66	71	0	5	B (67)	A/E	71	0	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	69	2	0	69	2	0
R476	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2685 Oak Road	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0
R477	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2687 Oak Road	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0
R478	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	8	2684 Oak Road	63	63	64	0	1	B (67)	None	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	62	3	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 1C																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R479	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	12	2638 Jones Road	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	66	2	0	65	3	0	65	3	0	65	3	0	65	3	0	65	3	0
R480	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2641 Oak Road	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	61	2	0	60	3	0	59	4	0	58	5	2	57	6	2	57	6	2
R481	-	Hotel	1	470-490 Lawrence Way	65	66	66	1	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R482	-	Residential	1	101 Pringle Avenue	54	54	55	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R483	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	54	54	56	0	2	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R484	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Impact Type: S = Substantial Increase (12 dBA or more), A/E = Approach or Exceed NAC, None = Increase is less than 12 decibels and noise levels do not approach or exceed the NAC.

<sup>2</sup> As stated in the TeNS, modeling results are rounded to the nearest decibel before comparisons are made.

<sup>3</sup> As stated in the Traffic Noise Protocol (TNAP) April 2020, bike paths that serve primarily as a transportation facility are not evaluated as recreational trails. .

<sup>4</sup>This location is not representative of the area of frequent human use, exterior noise levels are provided for TNM model validation only. An additional modeled receiver was placed in the area of frequent human use.<sup>5</sup> This location does not include any exterior noise sensitive land uses; exterior noise levels are provided for reference only.

<sup>6</sup>Minimum height needed to break the line-of-sight between 11.5-foot truck stack and first row receptors.

<sup>7</sup>Interior noise level for situations where no exterior activity areas are to be affected by the traffic noise. Refer to section 7.1.2 and Appendix D.





**Table J-4. Predicted Future Noise and Barrier Analysis (Alternative 2)**

Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																																			
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																													
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>														
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR												
ST-2	-	Residential	-	456 Rodrigues Avenue	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-3	-	Residential	-	4512 Actriz Place	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-4	-	Residential	-	4395 Cabrilho Drive	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-5	-	Residential	-	3930 Via Estrella	50	51	51	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-6	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	6	4088 Via Estrella	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	63	1	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0
ST-7	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	7	515 Ross Circle	55	56	57	1	1	B (67)	None	57	0	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0
ST-9	Existing Barriers A.1 A.2	Campground – RV Park	1	381 Arthur Road	67	68	68	1	0	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-11	-	Residential	-	10 Ladybug Court	53	54	54	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-12	-	Residential	-	753 Katydid Court	59	59	60	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	















Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{exc}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{exc}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-56	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	4	1776 Botelho Drive	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	63	2	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	60	5	4	60	5	4	59	6	4
ST-57	Existing Barrier G.1, G.2, G.3	Residential	2	1278 Bonita Lane	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None																		
ST-58	Existing Barrier H	Residential	1	131 Paulson Lane	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-59	Existing Barrier H	Residential	1	1548 Webb Lane	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-60	Existing Barrier I	Residential	1	1524 Brentwood Court	69	69	69	0	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-61	Evaluated Barrier 8	Trail	0	2051 Danville Boulevard	67	67	67	0	0	C (67)	A/E	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	64	3	0	63	4	0
ST-62	Evaluated Barrier 7	Office	0	36 Quail Court	66	67	67	1	0	C (67)	None <sup>4</sup>	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0
ST-63	RSM-RW2	Residential	49	1357 Creekside Drive	63	63	71	0	8	B (67)	A/E	71	0	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	69	2	0	68	3	0	67	4	0
ST-64		Residential		2212 Danville Boulevard	55	55	56	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-65		Residential		60 Layman Court	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-66		Residential		1428 Sunnybrook Road	53	53	53	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-67		Residential		172 Sugarloaf Court	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	None <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-























Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																								
					Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R52	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential		164 Sahara Drive	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R53	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential		146 Algiers Way	62	63	63	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R54	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential		160 Damascus Drive	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R55	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Campground		180 Khartoum Drive	63	64	64	1	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R56	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Campground		110 Berry Drive (Eagles Landing Mobile Home Park)	64	64	64	0	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R57	Existing Barrier C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential		110 Berry Drive (Eagles Landing Mobile Home Park)	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
R58		Community Center		104 Berry Drive	63	64	64	1	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																																	
					Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																										
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>											
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR									
R67		Residential	7	Homewood Suites by Hilton Pleasant Hill Condord-650 Ellinwood Way-Pool Area	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R68		Residential	5	103 Ellinwood Way	60	60	60	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R69		Residential	5	201 Ellinwood Way	58	59	59	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R70	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Trail	4	304 Rock Creek Way	62	62	68	0	6	C (67)	A/E	67	1	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0	66	2	0
R71	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	4	Iron Horse Regional Trail	51	51	57	0	6	B (67)	None	55	2	0	54	3	0	54	3	0	53	4	0	53	4	0	53	4	0	53	4	0	53	4	0	53	4	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R72	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	13	1371 Brookview Drive	49	49	53	0	4	B (67)	None	53	0	0	52	1	0	52	1	0	52	1	0	52	1	0	51	2	0
R73	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3E	Residential	8	1301 Brookview Drive	50	50	53	0	3	B (67)	None	53	0	0	53	0	0	52	1	0	52	1	0	52	1	0	52	1	0
R74	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	3	1251 Brookview Drive	50	50	52	0	2	B (67)	None	52	0	0	52	0	0	52	0	0	52	0	0	51	1	0	51	1	0
R75	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier	Residential	2	1195 Brookview Drive	49	49	52	0	3	B (67)	None	51	1	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0











Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R94	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	2143 Sherman Drive	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0
R95	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	9	2215 Sherman Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R96	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	5	2238 Sherman Drive	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	A/E	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R97	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	4	2184 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R98	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2154 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R99	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2131 Ahneita Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R100	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier	Residential		2096 Ramona Drive	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R101	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2077 Ahneita Drive	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0
R102	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		35 Cleopatra Drive	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	56	3	0
R103	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		Sherman Acres Park	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0
R104		Hotel		Hyatt House Pleasant Hill- 2611 Contra Costa	52	53	53	1	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



























Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R172	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential	4	1945 Trinity Avenue	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0
R173		Residential		1944 Trinity Avenue	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R174	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential		1973 Trinity Avenue	73	73	73	0	0	B (67)	A/E	71	2	0	71	2	0	70	3	0	69	4	0	68	5	0	68	5	0
R175		Residential		Three by Lenox Apartments-1950-1954 Trinity Avenue	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R176	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential		1942 Almond Avenue	60	60	60	0	0	B (67)	None	60	0	0	60	0	0	60	0	0	60	0	0	60	0	0	60	0	0
R177	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential	2	1950 Dora Avenue	55	57	55	2	-2	B (67)	None	55	0	0	55	0	0	55	0	0	55	0	0	55	0	0	55	0	0
R178	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential	4	1966 Dora Avenue	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0	58	0	0
R179		Residential	3	1428 Oakland Boulevard	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R180		Residential	2	Monarch Apartments - 1384 Oakland Boulevard- Pool Area	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R181		Residential	3	1366 Oakland Boulevard	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R182		School	4	Forma Gym-1908 Olympic Boulevard- Pool Area	64	64	64	0	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R183		Residential	6	1236 Clover Lane	65	65	65	0	0	B (67)	None	71	2	0	70	3	0	70	3	0	69	4	0	69	4	0	69	4	0
R184	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	4	1192 Dewing Lane	65	65	67	0	2	B (67)	A/E	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	67	1	0	66	2	0	66	2	0
R185	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	3	1237 Clover Lane	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	63	1	0	63	1	0
R186	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	1	1261 Bonita Lane	63	63	65	0	4	B (67)	None	67	0	0	67	0	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0
R187	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	111 Paulson Lane	70	71	71	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R188	Existing Barrier H	Residential	4	38 Autumn Trail Lane	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R189	Existing Barrier H	Residential	3	62 Autumn Trail Lane	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R190	Existing Barrier H	Residential	1	1712 Newell Avenue	57	58	58	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R191	Existing Barrier H	Residential	3	1670 Newell Avenue	58	59	59	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R192	Existing Barrier H	Place of Worship	3	Chabad of Contra Costa-	59	60	60	1	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	









Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																																	
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																											
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>												
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR										
R210	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	3	1557 Brentwood Court	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R211	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	5	1518 Sunny Court	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R212	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	3	1864 Castle Oaks Court	61	62	62	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R213	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	2	100 Hammersmith Court	63	63	63	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R214	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	1	124 Post Rd	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R215	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	1	1918 Arbol Grande	70	70	70	0	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R216	Existing Barrier 1	Residential	1	27 Crest Avenue	70	70	70	0	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R217	Existing Barrier 1	Residential		61 Crest Avenue	61	62	62	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R218	Existing Barrier 1, Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential	1	36 Crest Avenue	64	64	65	0	1	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	
R219	Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential	32	2049 Danville Boulevard	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	
R220	Evaluated Barrier 7	School	1	Las Lomas High School-1460 S Main Street	64	65	65	1	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	
R221	Evaluated Barrier 7	School	10	Las Lomas High School-1460 S	66	66	66	0	0	C (67)	A/E	63	3	0	63	3	0	62	4	0	62	4	0	61	5	1	61	5	1	61	5	1	61	5	1	61	5	1	













Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R262	Evaluated Barrier 10	Residential		411 Vernal Drive	48	48	48	0	0	B (67)	None	48	0	0	48	0	0	48	0	0	48	0	0	48	0	0	48	0	0
R263	Evaluated Barrier 10	Residential		81 Vernal Court	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	56	0	0	56	0	0	55	1	0	55	1	0	55	1	0	55	1	0
R264		Residential		64 N Jackson Way	54	54	54	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R265		Residential		234 Stone Valley Way	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R432		Residential		1555 Riviera Avenue	63	63	65	0	2	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R433		Residential	1	Bayview Estates Residential	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R434		Residential	1	Bayview Estates Residential	61	62	62	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R435		Residential	2	Bayview Estates Residential	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R436		Residential	2	Bayview Estates Residential	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R437		Hotel	2	Cambria Hotel and Suites	54	54	54	0	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R438		Residential	4	Oak Road Townhouse Condominium	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R439		Residential	1	Oak Road Townhouse Condominium	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R440		Residential	3	Oak Road Townhouse Condominium	63	65	65	2	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-







Appendix J. Noise

Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R460	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	509 Jones Place	64	64	65	0	1	B (67)	None	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	60	5	1	59	6	1
R461	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	3	1168 Dewing Lane	64	64	67	0	3	B (67)	A/E	69	1	0	69	1	0	68	2	0	67	3	0	65	5	3	63	7	3
R462	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1213 Clover Lane	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	63	1	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	61	3	0
R463	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1260 Clover Lane	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E	69	0	0	68	1	0	68	1	0	67	2	0	66	3	0	65	4	0
R464	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	5	1110 Boulevard Way	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E	67	1	0	67	1	0	67	1	0	66	2	0	65	3	0	64	4	0
R465	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1285 Bonita Lane	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	71	0	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	69	2	0	69	2	0
R476	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2685 Oak Road	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 2																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R477	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2687 Oak Road	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	61	3	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	59	5	4	59	5	4
R478	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	8	2684 Oak Road	63	63	64	0	1	B (67)	None	62	2	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	59	5	8
R479	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	12	2638 Jones Road	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0
R480	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2641 Oak Road	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	61	2	0	60	3	0	60	3	0	59	4	0	58	5	2	58	5	2
R481	-	Hotel	1	470-490 Lawrence Way	65	66	66	1	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R482	-	Residential	1	101 Pringle Avenue	54	54	54	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R483	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	54	54	55	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R484	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	57	57	57	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Impact Type: S = Substantial Increase (12 dBA or more), A/E = Approach or Exceed NAC, None = Increase is less than 12 decibels and noise levels do not approach or exceed the NAC.

<sup>2</sup> As stated in the TeNS, modeling results are rounded to the nearest decibel before comparisons are made.

<sup>3</sup> As stated in the Traffic Noise Protocol (TNAP) April 2020, bike paths that serve primarily as a transportation facility are not evaluated as recreational trails.

<sup>4</sup>This location is not representative of the area of frequent human use, exterior noise levels are provided for TNM model validation only. An additional modeled receiver was placed in the area of frequent human use.

<sup>5</sup> This location does not include any exterior noise sensitive land uses; exterior noise levels are provided for reference only.

<sup>6</sup> Minimum height needed to break the line of sight between 11.5-foot truck stack and first row receptors.

<sup>7</sup>Interior noise level for situations where no exterior activity areas are to be affected by the traffic noise. Refer to section 7.1.2 and Appendix D.



**Table J-5. Predicted Future Noise and Barrier Analysis (Alternative 3)**

Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																																			
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																													
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>														
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR												
ST-2	-	Residential	-	456 Rodrigues Avenue	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-3	-	Residential	-	4512 Actriz Place	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST-4	-	Residential	-	4395 Cabrilho Drive	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-5	-	Residential	-	3930 Via Estrella	50	51	51	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-6	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	6	4088 Via Estrella	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	63	1	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0			
ST-7	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	7	515 Ross Circle	55	56	57	1	1	B (67)	None	57	0	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0
ST-9	Existing Barriers A.1 A.2	Campground – RV Park	1	381 Arthur Road	67	68	68	1	0	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-11	-	Residential	-	10 Ladybug Court	53	54	54	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-12	-	Residential	-	753 Katydid Court	59	59	60	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-26	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	9	1330 Brookview Drive	57	57	61	0	4	B (67)	None	60	1	0	60	1	0	59	2	0	59	2	0	59	2	0	59	2	0
ST-27	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	1165 Brookview Drive	56	56	57	0	1	B (67)	None	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0
ST-28	Existing Barrier D	Trail	1	1919 Marta Drive	67	69	68	2	-1	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-29	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	0	2155 Sherman Drive	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
ST-30	-	Park	-	2511 Contra Costa Boulevard	62	62	62	0	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-31	-	Trail	-	2805 Contra Costa Boulevard	59	60	60	1	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-32	-	Other Developed Land	-	3352 Buskirk Avenue	66	66	67	0	1	F	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-33	-	Residential	-	3128 Oak Road	52	52	53	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	





































Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R74	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3 Existing	Residential	6	1251 Brookview Drive	50	50	52	0	2	B (67)	None	52	0	0	52	0	0	52	0	0	52	0	0	51	1	0	51	1	0
R75	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	5	1195 Brookview Drive	49	49	52	0	3	B (67)	None	51	1	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0	50	2	0
R76	Existing Barrier D	Residential	4	1179 Brookview Drive	61	62	62	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R77	Existing Barrier D	Residential	3	1619 N Marta Drive	65	65	65	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R78	Existing Barrier D	Residential	7	1643 N Marta Drive	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R79	Existing Barrier D	Residential	16	1955 Marta Drive	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R80	Existing Barrier D	Residential	10	1999 Marta Drive	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R81	Existing Barrier D	Residential	10	46 Anelda Drive	65	66	66	1	0	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R82	Existing Barrier D	Residential	11	1994 Marta Drive	61	61	62	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R83	Existing Barrier D	Residential	5	47 Phyllis Drive	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R92	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2089 Sherman Drive	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0
R93	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		16 Belinda Drive	65	65	66	0	1	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0
R94	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2143 Sherman Drive	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0
R95	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2215 Sherman Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R96	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2238 Sherman Drive	68	68	68	0	0	B (67)	A/E	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0	68	0	0





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R97	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	10	2184 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R98	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2154 Ramona Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R99	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2131 Ahneita Drive	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
R100	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3E	Residential		2096 Ramona Drive	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0	59	0	0
R101	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		2077 Ahneita Drive	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0	57	1	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R102	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential		35 Cleopatra Drive	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	57	2	0	56	3	0
R103	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Exiting Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	4	Sherman Acres Park	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0	62	0	0
R104		Hotel		Hyatt House Pleasant Hill-2611 Contra Costa Boulevard-Pool Area	52	53	53	1	0	F (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R105		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments-2635 Contra Costa Boulevard-Pool Area	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R106		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments-2635 Contra Costa Boulevard	62	63	63	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R107		Residential		The Boulevard Apartments-2635 Contra Costa Boulevard	59	60	60	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	











Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R131	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential		2650 Jones Road-Pool Area	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	61	1	0	60	2	0	60	2	0	60	2	0	60	2	0			
R132	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	2616 Jones Road-Pool Area	63	63	65	0	2	B (67)	None	62	3	0	61	4	0	61	4	0	60	5	1	59	6	59	6	1	
R133	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	61 Shady Lane-Pool Area	52	53	53	1	0	B (67)	None	51	2	0	50	3	0	50	3	0	50	3	0	49	4	49	4	0	
R134	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	5	1424 Walden Road	58	58	58	0	0	B (67)	None	55	3	0	54	4	0	54	4	0	54	4	0	53	5	53	5	1	
R135	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	4	2408 Casa Way	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R136	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	2401 Casa Way	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R137	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	3	1621 Alvarado Avenue- Pool Area	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R138	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	5	1651 Alvarado Avenue	50	50	50	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R139	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	4	1581 Alvarado Avenue	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R140	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	5	462 Via Royal-Pool Area	55	55	56	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R141	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential		421 Via Royal	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



























Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R219	Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential		2049 Danville Boulevard	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	61	4	0
R220	Evaluated Barrier 7	School		Las Lomas High School-1460 S Main Street	64	65	66	1	1	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	64	2	0	64	2	0	64	2	0	63	3	0	63	3	0	62	4	0
R221	Evaluated Barrier 7	School		Las Lomas High School-1460 S Main Street-Tennis Courts	66	66	68	0	2	C (67)	A/E	65	3	0	65	3	0	64	4	0	64	4	0	63	5	1	63	5	1
R222	Evaluated Barrier 7	Medical		Margie Ryerson, MFT-38 Quail Court	68	68	69	0	1	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	67	2	0	67	2	0	66	3	0	66	3	0	65	4	0	65	4	0
R223		Residential		The Retreat at Walnut Creek Apartments- 1459 Creekside Drive-Pool Area	48	49	49	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R224	RSM-RW2	Residential		125 Near Court-Pool Area	63	64	64	1	1	B (67)	None	62	2	0	62	2	0	62	2	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	60	4	0
R225	RSM-RW2	Residential		1385 Creekside Drive	61	62	65	1	3	B (67)	None	65	0	0	65	0	0	65	0	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0
R226	RSM-RW2	Residential		1376 Creekside Drive-Pool Area	63	64	73	1	9	B (67)	A/E	73	0	0	73	0	0	73	0	0	73	0	0	73	0	0	73	0	0
R227	RSM-RW2	Residential		1300 Creekside Drive	56	56	57	0	1	B (67)	None	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0	57	0	0
R228	Evaluated Barrier 9	Residential		25 Bishop Lane	65	65	66	0	1	B (67)	A/E	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0
R229	Evaluated Barrier 9	Residential		28 Bishop Lane	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	A/E	61	1	0	61	1	0	61	1	0	61	1	0	60	2	0	60	2	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R230	Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential	1	2061 Danville Boulevard	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0
R231		Undeveloped		Sugarloaf Open Space	75	75	76	0	1	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R232		Residential		11 Scripps Haven Ln	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R233		Residential		2112 Danville Boulevard	57	57	57	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R234		Residential		17 Brookdale Court	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R235		Residential		11 Los Ranchitos	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R236		Residential		40 Los Ranchitos	57	57	57	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R237		Undeveloped			71	71	71	0	0	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R238		Residential		66 Candleston Place	52	52	53	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R239		Residential		55 Candleston Place	54	55	55	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R240		Residential		15 Stonecastle Drive	50	50	50	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R241		Residential		86 Candleston Place	52	53	53	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R242		Residential		1428 Twelve Oaks Court	51	52	52	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R243		Residential		78 Candleston Place	53	53	53	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R244		Residential		1458 Sunnybrook Road	50	50	51	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-











Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R457	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2608 Jones Road	56	56	57	0	1	B (67)	None	56	1	0	56	1	0	55	2	0	55	2	0	54	3	0	54	3	0
R458	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2600 Jones Road	65	65	66	0	1	B (67)	A/E	65	1	0	64	2	0	64	2	0	63	3	0	63	3	0	62	4	0
R459	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	501 Jones Place	70	70	69	0	-1	B (67)	A/E	68	1	0	67	2	0	67	2	0	67	2	0	67	2	0	67	2	0
R460	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	509 Jones Place	64	64	65	0	1	B (67)	None	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0	60	5	1	59	6	1
R461	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	3	1168 Dewing Lane	64	64	71	0	7	B (67)	A/E	70	1	0	69	1	0	68	2	0	67	3	0	65	5	3	63	7	3
R462	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1213 Clover Lane	61	61	65	0	4	B (67)	None	65	0	0	65	0	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0
R463	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1260 Clover Lane	65	65	69	0	4	B (67)	A/E	69	0	0	68	1	0	68	1	0	67	2	0	66	3	0	65	4	0





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 3																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R464	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	5	1110 Boulevard Way	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E	67	1	0	67	1	0	67	1	0	66	2	0	65	3	0	64	4	0
R465	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1285 Bonita Lane	66	66	71	0	5	B (67)	A/E	71	0	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	70	1	0	69	2	0	69	2	0
R476	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2685 Oak Road	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0
R477	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	2687 Oak Road	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	61	3	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	59	5	4	59	5	4
R478	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	8	2684 Oak Road	63	63	64	0	1	B (67)	None	62	2	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	60	4	0	59	5	8
R479	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	12	2638 Jones Road	66	66	67	0	1	B (67)	A/E	66	1	0	66	1	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0	65	2	0
R480	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2641 Oak Road	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	61	2	0	60	3	0	60	3	0	59	4	0	58	5	2	58	5	2
R481	-	Hotel	1	470-490 Lawrence Way	65	66	66	1	0	E (72)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R482	-	Residential	1	101 Pringle Avenue	54	54	55	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R483	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	54	54	56	0	2	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R484	-	Residential	1	1919 N California Boulevard	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-6	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	6	4088 Via Estrella	63	64	64	1	0	B (67)	None	63	1	0	62	2	0	61	3	0	61	3	0	60	4	0	60	4	0
ST-7	Evaluated Barrier 1	Residential	7	515 Ross Circle	55	56	56	1	0	B (67)	None	57	0	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0	56	1	0
ST-9	Existing Barriers A.1 A.2	Campground – RV Park	1	381 Arthur Road	67	68	68	1	0	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-11	-	Residential	-	10 Ladybug Court	53	54	54	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-12	-	Residential	-	753 Katydid Court	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-13	-	Residential	-	1 Emshee Lane	53	54	54	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-14	-	Undeveloped	-	88 Rutherford Lane	73	74	74	1	0	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-17	Existing Barriers C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential	7	249 Minoru Drive	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-18	Existing Barriers C.1, C.2, C.3	Residential	-	168 Damascus Drive	65	65	65	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-19	Existing Barriers	Campground - RV Park	1	110 Berry Drive	64	65	65	1	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	







Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																				
						Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																				
						6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>					
						$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR			
	E.3, SW No. 3																									
ST-28	Existing Barrier D	Trail	1	1919 Marta Drive	67	69	68	2	-1	C (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST-29	Existing Barrier E.1, SW No.4, Existing Barrier E.3, SW No. 3	Residential	0	2155 Sherman Drive	63	64	63	1	-1	B (67)	None	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0	64	0	0
ST-30	-	Park	-	2511 Contra Costa Boulevard	62	62	62	0	0	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-31	-	Trail	-	2805 Contra Costa Boulevard	59	60	59	1	-1	C (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-32	-	Other Developed Land	-	3352 Buskirk Avenue	66	66	66	0	0	F	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-33	-	Residential	-	3128 Oak Road	52	52	52	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-34	-	Residential	-	1005 Esther Drive	61	62	61	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-35	-	Residential	-	1035 Esther Dr.	75	75	75	0	0	B (67)	None <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-36	-	Residential	-	14 Pleasant Court	58	59	58	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-37	-	Residential	-	3055 N. Main Street	53	53	53	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	







Appendix J. Noise

Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																														
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																								
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>									
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR							
ST-49	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Place of Worship	1	2207 Buena Vista Avenue	63	63	63	0	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-50	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	2115 Overlook Drive	68	68	67	0	-1	B (67)	A/E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST-52	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	135 Vista Hermosa	61	61	60	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-53	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Undeveloped	1	2101 Oakvale Road	76	76	76	0	0	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-54	Evaluated Barrier 4	Residential	2	1971 Almond Avenue	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	65	3	0	64	4	0	64	4	0	63	5	2	63	5	2	62	6	2							
ST-55		School		1158 Bont Lane	70	70	70	0	0	D	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-56	Evaluated Barrier 6	Residential	4	1776 Botelho Drive	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	61	2	0	60	3	0	59	4	0	58	5	4	58	5	4	57	6	4							
ST-57	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1278 Bonita Lane	62	62	63	0	1	B (67)	None	65	0	0	65	0	0	64	1	0	64	1	0	64	1	0	64	1	0							
ST-58	Existing Barrier H	Residential	1	131 Paulson Lane	61	61	62	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





Appendix J. Noise

Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
ST-72	Evaluated Barrier 10	Residential	2	430 Vernal Drive	55	55	55	0	0	B (67)	None	55	0	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0	54	1	0
R3		Residential	4	434 Rodrigues Avenue	56	57	56	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R4		Residential		4155 Cabrilho Drive	54	55	55	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R5		Residential	1	4408 Actriz Place	60	61	61	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R6		Residential		4464 Actriz Place	57	58	58	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R7		Residential		4544 Actriz Place	62	63	63	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R8		Residential		4218 Cabrilho Drive	54	55	55	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R9		Residential		4298 Cabrilho Drive	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R10		Residential		4584 Actriz Place	63	64	63	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R11		Residential		4350 Cabrilho Drive	58	59	59	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R12		Residential		4009 Via Estrella	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

















































Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																				
						Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																				
						6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>					
						$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR			
Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup>	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup>	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>																					
R147	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	5	2322 San Juan Avenue	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R148	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	6	1694 Parkside Drive- Pool Area	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R149	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential		1747 Parkside Drive	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R150	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential		2242 Buena Vista Avenue	62	62	62	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R151	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential		2301 Buena Vista Avenue- Pool Area	64	64	63	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R152	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	6	2190 Hillside Avenue	65	65	64	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R153		Residential	8	Berman Skin Institute Medical & Cosmetic Dermatology-100 Pringle Ave	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R154	Evaluated Barrier 3	Residential	5	1638 Riviera Avenue	66	66	66	0	0	B (67)	A/E	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	66	0	0	65	1	0	65	1	0
R155	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	5	2111 Hillside Avenue	62	62	60	0	-2	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R156	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	8	2238 Overlook Drive	65	65	64	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R157	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	N/A	62	62	61	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R158	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	12 Jocelyn Place	62	62	61	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R159	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	1	27 Jocelyn Place	59	59	59	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R160	Existing Barrier F.1, F.2, F.3	Residential	4	31 St Johns Court	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R161		School		Futures Academy-101	67	67	67	0	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



















Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet		8 feet		10 feet		12 feet <sup>4</sup>		14 feet <sup>4</sup>		16 feet <sup>4</sup>							
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR			
R219	Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential		2049 Danville Boulevard	64	65	65	1	0	B (67)	None	64	1	0	64	1	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	61	4	0
R220	Evaluated Barrier 7	School		Las Lomas High School-1460 S Main Street	64	65	64	1	-1	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	63	2	0	63	2	0	63	2	0	62	3	0	62	3	0	61	4	0
R221	Evaluated Barrier 7	School		Las Lomas High School-1460 S Main Street-Tennis Courts	66	66	66	0	0	C (67)	A/E	64	3	0	64	3	0	63	4	0	63	4	0	62	5	1	62	5	1
R222	Evaluated Barrier 7	Medical		Margie Ryerson, MFT-38 Quail Court	68	68	68	0	0	D (52) <sup>7</sup>	None	67	2	0	67	2	0	66	3	0	66	3	0	65	4	0	65	4	0
R223		Residential		The Retreat at Walnut Creek Apartments- 1459 Creekside Drive-Pool Area	48	49	49	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R224	RSM-RW2	Residential		125 Near Court-Pool Area	63	64	63	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R225	RSM-RW2	Residential		1385 Creekside Drive	61	62	61	1	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R226	RSM-RW2	Residential		1376 Creekside Drive-Pool Area	63	64	65	1	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R227	RSM-RW2	Residential		1300 Creekside Drive	56	56	55	0	-1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R228	Evaluated Barrier 9	Residential		25 Bishop Lane	65	65	65	0	0	B (67)	None	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0
R229	Evaluated Barrier 9	Residential		28 Bishop Lane	62	62	61	0	-1	B (67)	None	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	65	1	0	64	2	0	64	2	0



Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																								
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																		
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>			
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	
R230	Evaluated Barrier 8	Residential		2061 Danville Boulevard	66	67	67	1	0	B (67)	A/E	66	1	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	66	1	0	
R231		Undeveloped		Sugarloaf Open Space	75	75	76	0	1	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R232		Residential		11 Scripps Haven Ln	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
R233		Residential		2112 Danville Boulevard	57	57	58	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R234		Residential		17 Brookdale Court	58	58	59	0	1	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R235		Residential		11 Los Ranchitos	56	57	57	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R236		Residential		40 Los Ranchitos	57	57	57	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R237		Undeveloped			71	71	71	0	0	G	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R238		Residential		66 Candleston Place	52	52	52	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R239		Residential		55 Candleston Place	54	55	55	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R240		Residential		15 Stonecastle Drive	50	50	50	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R241		Residential		86 Candleston Place	52	53	53	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R242		Residential		1428 Twelve Oaks Court	51	52	52	1	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R243		Residential		78 Candleston Place	53	53	53	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R244		Residential		1458 Sunnybrook Road	50	50	50	0	0	B (67)	None	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-













Receptor I.D.	Barrier I.D.	Land Use	Number of Dwelling Units	Address	Existing Noise Level $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA <sup>2</sup>	I-680 Future Worst Hour Noise Levels - $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA Alternative 5																							
						Design Year Noise Level without Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project <sup>2</sup> $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level without Project minus Existing Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Design Year Noise Level with Project Minus No Project Conditions $L_{eq}(h)$ , dBA	Activity Category (NAC)	Impact Type <sup>1</sup>	Noise Prediction with Barrier, Barrier Insertion Loss (I.L.), and Number of Benefited Receptors (NBR)																	
												6 feet			8 feet			10 feet			12 feet <sup>4</sup>			14 feet <sup>4</sup>			16 feet <sup>4</sup>		
												$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR	$L_{eq}(h)$	I.L.	NBR
R457	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2608 Jones Road	56	56	56	0	0	B (67)	None	56	1	0	56	1	0	55	2	0	55	2	0	54	3	0	54	3	0
R458	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	2	2600 Jones Road	65	65	66	0	1	B (67)	A/E	65	1	0	64	2	0	64	2	0	63	3	0	63	3	0	62	4	0
R459	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	4	501 Jones Place	70	70	68	0	-2	B (67)	A/E																		
R460	Evaluated Barrier 2	Residential	1	509 Jones Place	64	64	64	0	0	B (67)	None																		
R461	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	3	1168 Dewing Lane	64	64	67	0	3	B (67)	A/E																		
R462	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1213 Clover Lane	61	61	61	0	0	B (67)	None																		
R463	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	2	1260 Clover Lane	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E																		
R464	Evaluated Barrier 5, 24-RW2, SW No. 1, 24-RW4	Residential	5	1110 Boulevard Way	65	65	68	0	3	B (67)	A/E																		





<sup>5</sup> This location does not include any exterior noise sensitive land uses; exterior noise levels are provided for reference only.

<sup>6</sup> Minimum height needed to break the line of sight between 11.5-foot truck stack and first row receptors.

<sup>7</sup> Interior noise level for situations where no exterior activity areas are to be affected by the traffic noise. Refer to section 7.1.2 and Appendix D.



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# Appendix K      Level of Service

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**Table K-1. 2027 Existing AM Peak Hour Level of Service (LOS)**

Location	Segement Type	2027 AM Peak Hour (8-9 AM)														
		Existing		No-Build		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4		Alternative 5		
		Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	
1	Alcosta Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.5	D	33.5	D	34.7	D	33.6	D	33.2	D	33.5	D	33.5	D
2	Bet Alcosta Blvd Off- to On-ramp	Basic	29.7	D	34.6	D	33.6	D	33.9	D	33.7	D	34.6	D	34.6	D
3	Alcosta Blvd On-ramp	Merge	28.8	D	37.9	F	38.7	F	37.5	F	39.1	F	38.0	F	38.0	F
4	Bet. Alcosta Blvd On- and Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	29.2	D	32.1	D	32.3	D	32.3	D	32.4	D	32.1	D	32.1	D
5	Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	21.8	C	24.2	C	24.1	C	24.1	C	24.2	C	24.2	C	24.2	C
6	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	19.1	C	21.9	C	22.1	C	22.1	C	22.1	C	21.9	C	21.9	C
7	Bollinger Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	17.9	B	20.7	C	20.8	C	20.8	C	20.9	C	20.7	C	20.7	C
8	Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	18.9	B	22.1	C	22.3	C	22.4	C	22.3	C	22.1	C	22.1	C
9	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	19.3	C	22.3	C	22.6	C	22.6	C	22.5	C	22.3	C	22.3	C
10	Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	19.6	B	22.8	C	25.1	C	23.0	C	23.2	C	22.8	C	22.8	C
11	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	19.1	C	22.4	C	22.7	C	22.7	C	22.6	C	22.4	C	22.4	C
12	Crow Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	21.9	C	32.4	D	51.8	F	66.8	F	57.2	F	32.3	D	32.3	D
13	Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	19.3	B	28.6	D	49.3	F	57.6	F	51.5	F	28.5	D	28.5	D
14	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Basic	19.9	C	74.9	F	92.1	F	97.1	F	93.8	F	74.5	F	74.5	F
15	Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	19.4	B	95.3	F	99.7	F	102.8	F	99.0	F	95.2	F	95.2	F
16	Bet Sycamore Valley Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	28.6	D	126.9	F	127.1	F	128.9	F	126.0	F	126.9	F	126.9	F
17	Weave bet Sycamore Valley Rd On- and Diablo Rd Off-ramp	Weave	30.6	D	82.5	F	82.8	F	85.3	F	81.3	F	82.8	F	82.8	F
18	Bet Diablo Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	36.4	E	75.0	F	75.3	F	75.9	F	73.1	F	75.3	F	75.3	F
19	Diablo Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	30.3	D	59.0	F	60.4	F	61.3	F	59.1	F	59.2	F	59.2	F
20	Weave bet Diablo Rd Diagonal On- and El Cerro Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	38.8	F	85.0	F	84.0	F	85.3	F	82.4	F	85.1	F	85.1	F
21	Bet El Cerro Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	46.1	F	76.9	F	75.3	F	77.2	F	73.7	F	77.0	F	77.0	F
22	El Cerro Blvd On-ramp	Merge	66.0	F	75.8	F	75.6	F	73.1	F	77.6	F	75.7	F	75.7	F
23	Bet El Cerro Blvd On- and El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Basic	48.0	F	62.9	F	62.3	F	63.6	F	61.0	F	62.9	F	62.9	F
24	El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Merge	41.3	F	42.4	F	60.8	F	60.9	F	62.3	F	42.6	F	42.6	F
25	Bet El Pintado Rd On- and Stone Valey Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Basic	33.9	D	40.3	E	34.5	D	35.0	D	34.7	D	39.9	E	39.9	E
26	Stone Valley Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Diverge	34.7	D	40.3	F	35.4	F	35.7	F	35.3	F	40.1	F	40.1	F
27	Stone Valley Rd Loop Off-ramp	Diverge	31.7	D	35.8	F	34.5	D	35.6	F	34.2	D	35.7	F	35.7	F
28	Bet Stone Valley Rd Loop Off- and On-ramp	Basic	29.1	D	32.2	D	36.4	E	35.6	E	34.7	D	32.2	D	32.2	D
29	Weave bet Stone Valley Rd On- and Livorna Rd Off-ramp	Weave	31.0	D	34.8	D	40.5	F	39.6	F	39.6	F	34.8	D	35.0	D
30	Bet Livorna Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	34.1	D	36.7	E	35.5	E	35.7	E	35.5	E	36.7	E	43.3	E
31	Livorna Rd On-ramp	Merge	41.9	F	39.2	F	25.0	C	25.4	C	27.3	C	39.2	F	42.2	F
32	Bet Livorna Rd On- and Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Basic	28.8	D	31.9	D	27.2	D	27.3	D	28.6	D	31.9	D	33.9	D
33	Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	33.0	D	36.4	F	27.4	C	28.4	D	29.2	D	36.4	F	38.3	F
34	Bet Rudgear Rd Off- and Danville Blvd On-ramp	Basic	27.7	D	31.5	D	27.8	D	26.6	D	29.5	D	31.6	D	32.9	D
35	Weave bet Danville Blvd On and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	25.3	C	30.6	D	30.8	D	28.1	D	29.6	D	30.8	D	30.6	D
36	Bet Main St Off- and Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Basic	23.8	C	27.0	D	30.0	D	26.8	D	30.1	D	27.4	D	26.9	D
37	Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Diverge	22.8	C	25.9	C	28.9	D	25.7	C	29.0	D	26.3	C	26.1	C
38	Bet Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off- and Olympic Blvd On-ramp	Basic	27.5	D	33.3	D	26.2	D	32.3	D	28.1	D	35.2	E	34.3	D
39	Weave bet Olympic Blvd On- and Ygnacio Valley Rd Off-ramp	Weave	26.4	C	30.6	D	23.4	C	32.2	D	24.5	C	32.7	D	31.0	D
40	Bet Ygnacio Valley Rd Off- and SR 24 EB On-ramp	Basic	24.3	C	27.5	D	22.5	C	27.8	D	23.3	C	31.4	D	27.5	D
41	SR 24 EB On-ramp	Merge	21.2	C	23.4	C	20.1	C	22.3	C	20.4	C	27.6	C	23.6	C
42	Bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Basic	20.8	C	23.6	C	22.8	C	24.2	C	20.5	C	29.0	D	25.2	C
43	Main St Off-ramp	Diverge	21.1	C	21.8	C	27.8	C	31.2	D	23.8	C	36.6	F	29.3	D
44	Weave bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	20.5	C	23.0	C	22.5	C	23.7	C	20.7	C	30.0	D	25.0	C
45	Bet Main St Off- and Lawrence Way On-ramp	Basic	22.9	C	25.4	C	25.7	C	19.9	C	18.9	C	43.3	E	26.4	D
46	Weave bet Lawrence Way On- and Treat Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	24.9	C	30.6	D	23.2	C	18.9	B	17.6	B	63.3	F	36.6	F
47	Bet Treat Blvd Off- and Truck Scales On-ramp	Basic	21.2	C	24.1	C	21.8	C	22.4	C	20.8	C	58.9	F	49.5	F
48	Truck Scales On-ramp	Merge	12.8	B	14.1	B	14.2	B	15.6	B	14.1	B	47.2	F	43.7	F
49	Treat Blvd On-ramp	Merge	11.7	B	13.0	B	12.9	B	13.2	B	12.2	B	40.8	F	38.8	F
50	Weave bet Oak Rd / Buskirk Ave On- and Contra Costa Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	19.5	B	21.9	C	21.0	C	20.9	C	20.2	C	67.6	F	72.9	F
51	Monument Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	15.5	B	15.7	B	15.7	B	21.1	C	18.7	B	30.8	D	31.5	D
52	Bet Monument Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	22.1	C	24.2	C	21.8	C	21.7	C	21.6	C	41.1	E	41.9	E
53	Monument Blvd On-ramp	Merge	18.9	B	19.0	B	19.1	B	19.2	B	19.1	B	20.0	B	20.1	C
54	Bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Basic	20.5	C	22.6	C	19.9	C	19.5	C	20.1	C	36.1	E	36.0	E
55	SR 242 Off-ramp	Diverge	21.6	C	23.1	C	21.0	C	20.8	C	23.7	C	32.2	D	32.3	D
56	Weave bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Weave	21.1	C	23.1	C	20.7	C	20.3	C	22.3	C	34.4	D	34.5	D
57	Bet SR 242 Off- and Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Basic	23.4	C	27.3	D	23.8	C	21.9	C	24.6	C	29.3	D	29.4	D
58	Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.2	D	36.5	F	35.3	F	27.9	C	33.3	D	37.9	F	37.5	F
59	Bet Willow Pass Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	18.2	C	20.9	C	21.0	C	20.4	C	21.1	C	20.3	C	20.3	C
60	Weave bet Willow Pass Rd On- and Burnett Ave Off-ramp	Weave	15.5	B	17.6	B	18.2	B	18.1	B	18.3	B	17.2	B	17.3	B
61	Bet Burnett Ave Off- and On-ramp	Basic	16.6	B	19.4	C	20.0	C	20.1	C	20.3	C	19.1	C	19.2	C
62	Burnett Ave On-ramp	Merge	15.7	B	20.5	C	20.8	C	21.1	C	21.1	C	20.0	B	20.1	C
63	Concord Ave On-ramp	Merge	20.8	C	18.0	B	18.9	B	19.0	B	19.2	B	17.9	B	17.9	B
64	Bet Concord Ave On- and SR 4 Off-ramp	Basic	20.3	C	12.2	B	12.7	B	12.8	B	13.0	B	12.1	B	12.1	B
65	SR 4 Off-ramp	Diverge	15.2	B	11.7	B	11.8	B	11.8	B	12.0	B	11.4	B	11.5	B
66	Bet SR 4 Off- and On-ramp	Basic	11.4	B	14.0	B	14.2	B	14.2	B	14.4	B	13.7	B	13.8	B
67	SR 4 On-ramp	Merge	14.2	B	16.8	B	17.0	B	16.9	B	17.3	B	16.7	B	16.7	B
68	Bet SR 4 On- and Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Basic	18.0	B	21.3	C	21.6	C	21.6	C	21.8	C	21.1	C	21.1	C
69	Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	20.1	C	23.5	C	23.8	C	23.5	C	24.0	C	23.1	C	23.2	C
70	Bet Pacheco Blvd Off- and Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Basic	15.4	B	18.6	C	18.9	C	18.9	C	19.1	C	18.4	C	18.4	C
71	Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Merge	14.6	B	17.4	B	17.8	B	17.6	B	17.9	B	17.2	B	17.2	B
72	Bet Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On- and Waterfront Off-ramp	Basic	15.7	B	18.6	C	18.6	C	18.6	C	18.7	C	18.4	C	18.0	B
73	Waterfront Off-ramp	Diverge	16.4	B	19.0	B	19.0	B	18.7	B	19.1	B	18.9	B	18.2	B
74	Bet Waterfront Off- and On-ramp	Basic	12.6	B	15.3	B	15.1	B	15.0	B	15.2	B	15.1	B	14.4	B

**Table K-2. 2027 Existing PM Peak Hour Level of Service (LOS)**

Location	Segement Type	2027 PM Peak Hour (5-6 PM)														
		Existing		No-Build		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4		Alternative 5		
		Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	
1	Alcosta Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	35.8	F	37.7	F	30.3	D	39.1	F	30.3	D	37.7	F	37.7	F
2	Bet Alcosta Blvd Off- to On-ramp	Basic	45.4	F	29.5	D	28.0	D	39.0	E	29.8	D	36.1	E	27.2	D
3	Alcosta Blvd On-ramp	Merge	25.3	C	25.9	C	27.1	C	45.6	F	32.3	D	25.9	C	25.9	C
4	Bet. Alcosta Blvd On- and Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	26.7	D	27.1	D	37.8	E	81.4	F	64.7	F	31.1	D	27.1	D
5	Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	20.0	B	19.2	B	60.9	F	95.3	F	87.3	F	27.0	C	19.2	B
6	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	23.4	C	23.4	C	97.4	F	135.8	F	129.7	F	34.4	D	21.7	C
7	Bollinger Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	23.8	C	24.7	C	75.2	F	92.2	F	89.1	F	31.7	D	23.5	C
8	Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	22.8	C	25.9	C	77.1	F	87.2	F	84.9	F	31.1	D	26.1	C
9	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	24.1	C	35.6	E	103.3	F	111.9	F	111.1	F	38.0	E	35.9	E
10	Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.2	D	60.8	F	121.8	F	127.6	F	128.4	F	65.1	F	60.0	F
11	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	32.1	D	35.7	E	103.5	F	112.2	F	111.5	F	38.1	E	36.0	E
12	Crow Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	54.8	F	98.2	F	113.9	F	115.6	F	116.7	F	111.6	F	93.9	F
13	Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	51.9	F	67.8	F	78.9	F	80.3	F	80.9	F	80.0	F	65.2	F
14	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Basic	84.5	F	101.8	F	107.4	F	107.6	F	109.2	F	112.1	F	99.7	F
15	Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	106.6	F	104.4	F	109.4	F	111.2	F	111.8	F	118.0	F	101.9	F
16	Bet Sycamore Valley Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	140.7	F	113.4	F	116.9	F	116.8	F	117.2	F	126.5	F	112.0	F
17	Weave bet Sycamore Valley Rd On- and Diablo Rd Off-ramp	Weave	108.8	F	65.6	F	68.8	F	67.9	F	68.3	F	80.3	F	63.7	F
18	Bet Diablo Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	110.8	F	61.3	F	63.5	F	62.2	F	62.7	F	78.8	F	59.4	F
19	Diablo Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	90.9	F	47.8	F	47.7	F	46.1	F	46.8	F	61.9	F	45.1	F
20	Weave bet Diablo Rd Diagonal On- and El Cerro Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	95.6	F	48.5	F	50.1	F	50.5	F	51.6	F	64.4	F	47.2	F
21	Bet El Cerro Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	111.7	F	63.2	F	65.0	F	64.5	F	65.7	F	81.0	F	61.4	F
22	El Cerro Blvd On-ramp	Merge	96.2	F	51.9	F	52.4	F	51.5	F	52.7	F	67.3	F	49.4	F
23	Bet El Cerro Blvd On- and El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Basic	101.4	F	53.1	F	56.5	F	55.9	F	57.5	F	70.9	F	51.5	F
24	El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Merge	89.2	F	44.1	F	43.6	F	43.4	F	44.0	F	61.0	F	41.8	F
25	Bet El Pintado Rd On- and Stone Valey Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Basic	78.6	F	36.7	E	29.7	D	29.8	D	30.0	D	51.0	F	29.5	D
26	Stone Valley Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Diverge	79.4	F	35.9	F	31.1	D	30.9	D	31.0	D	54.9	F	30.0	D
27	Stone Valley Rd Loop Off-ramp	Diverge	77.4	F	31.3	D	31.2	D	31.1	D	30.6	D	54.2	F	28.0	D
28	Bet Stone Valley Rd Loop Off- and On-ramp	Basic	79.0	F	32.1	D	36.6	E	36.2	E	35.9	E	57.0	F	27.5	D
29	Weave bet Stone Valley Rd On- and Livorna Rd Off-ramp	Weave	80.4	F	35.5	F	36.2	F	36.2	F	36.4	F	62.5	F	30.0	D
30	Bet Livorna Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	72.9	F	36.1	E	30.8	D	31.8	D	31.3	D	59.9	F	29.2	D
31	Livorna Rd On-ramp	Merge	75.0	F	34.0	D	19.0	B	19.1	B	18.9	B	61.4	F	28.5	D
32	Bet Livorna Rd On- and Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Basic	72.8	F	39.9	E	22.5	C	22.7	C	22.6	C	63.4	F	30.4	D
33	Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	60.6	F	39.6	F	24.5	C	26.0	C	24.5	C	56.4	F	34.0	D
34	Bet Rudgear Rd Off- and Danville Blvd On-ramp	Basic	75.2	F	36.1	E	19.7	C	19.7	C	19.7	C	69.3	F	22.2	C
35	Weave bet Danville Blvd On and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	85.2	F	44.5	F	19.8	B	20.8	C	19.7	B	78.8	F	19.3	B
36	Bet Main St Off- and Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Basic	77.4	F	51.6	F	19.7	C	20.2	C	19.5	C	72.4	F	21.0	C
37	Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Diverge	78.2	F	66.0	F	16.8	B	19.3	B	17.1	B	74.6	F	34.2	D
38	Bet Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off- and Olympic Blvd On-ramp	Basic	137.0	F	128.8	F	12.0	B	22.8	C	44.3	E	133.3	F	103.8	F
39	Weave bet Olympic Blvd On- and Ygnacio Valley Rd Off-ramp	Weave	115.4	F	110.2	F	18.6	B	27.5	C	97.0	F	112.1	F	106.5	F
40	Bet Ygnacio Valley Rd Off- and SR 24 EB On-ramp	Basic	112.5	F	109.0	F	50.3	F	30.2	D	106.2	F	111.0	F	106.6	F
41	SR 24 EB On-ramp	Merge	102.7	F	103.9	F	90.4	F	29.5	D	89.5	F	109.7	F	103.6	F
42	Bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Basic	90.0	F	92.1	F	96.7	F	38.1	E	106.0	F	96.8	F	89.7	F
43	Main St Off-ramp	Diverge	84.5	F	82.3	F	98.4	F	51.2	F	115.4	F	86.0	F	78.2	F
44	Weave bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	88.9	F	89.9	F	94.6	F	37.5	F	102.9	F	96.2	F	88.8	F
45	Bet Main St Off- and Lawrence Way On-ramp	Basic	76.5	F	81.2	F	86.6	F	77.6	F	105.2	F	92.9	F	87.5	F
46	Weave bet Lawrence Way On- and Treat Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	50.5	F	55.2	F	57.3	F	64.2	F	65.1	F	52.8	F	56.0	F
47	Bet Treat Blvd Off- and Truck Scales On-ramp	Basic	63.4	F	65.3	F	68.6	F	71.6	F	72.1	F	49.8	F	57.2	F
48	Truck Scales On-ramp	Merge	115.4	F	107.8	F	116.2	F	116.6	F	118.9	F	87.2	F	94.5	F
49	Treat Blvd On-ramp	Merge	93.9	F	97.1	F	98.0	F	89.6	F	90.5	F	90.0	F	92.3	F
50	Weave bet Oak Rd / Buskirk Ave On- and Contra Costa Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	55.3	F	59.3	F	53.3	F	48.9	F	50.5	F	54.3	F	56.0	F
51	Monument Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	48.9	F	53.9	F	50.8	F	43.8	F	48.5	F	48.6	F	52.3	F
52	Bet Monument Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	60.3	F	62.8	F	58.9	F	55.6	F	57.8	F	55.9	F	60.8	F
53	Monument Blvd On-ramp	Merge	82.6	F	82.5	F	82.0	F	81.9	F	82.6	F	80.0	F	81.2	F
54	Bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Basic	59.3	F	60.3	F	57.9	F	57.1	F	57.3	F	61.3	F	60.0	F
55	SR 242 Off-ramp	Diverge	65.4	F	66.2	F	64.2	F	63.9	F	63.8	F	70.6	F	66.7	F
56	Weave bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Weave	57.1	F	58.0	F	55.4	F	54.9	F	55.2	F	58.3	F	57.5	F
57	Bet SR 242 Off- and Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Basic	24.3	C	25.6	C	21.1	C	21.4	C	20.5	C	25.3	C	25.7	C
58	Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	25.8	C	26.9	C	22.9	C	23.5	C	22.2	C	29.8	D	19.5	B
59	Bet Willow Pass Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	19.7	C	19.8	C	20.1	C	19.7	C	19.5	C	19.3	C	15.7	B
60	Weave bet Willow Pass Rd On- and Burnett Ave Off-ramp	Weave	18.8	B	19.5	B	19.2	B	19.1	B	19.2	B	19.0	B	16.8	B
61	Bet Burnett Ave Off- and On-ramp	Basic	26.9	D	21.4	C	21.1	C	20.9	C	21.2	C	21.0	C	18.6	C
62	Burnett Ave On-ramp	Merge	44.5	F	25.5	C	24.3	C	23.6	C	24.8	C	24.5	C	21.0	C
63	Concord Ave On-ramp	Merge	40.8	F	20.9	C	20.5	C	19.6	B	20.1	C	20.7	C	19.3	B
64	Bet Concord Ave On- and SR 4 Off-ramp	Basic	26.8	D	13.4	B	13.7	B	13.0	B	13.4	B	13.3	B	12.5	B
65	SR 4 Off-ramp	Diverge	22.7	C	16.0	B	16.1	B	14.8	B	15.8	B	15.5	B	13.8	B
66	Bet SR 4 Off- and On-ramp	Basic	18.6	C	19.6	C	18.2	C	17.6	B	18.2	C	19.0	C	17.0	B
67	SR 4 On-ramp	Merge	19.6	B	20.9	C	19.4	B	19.2	B	19.4	B	20.1	C	18.3	B
68	Bet SR 4 On- and Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Basic	25.8	C	26.7	D	24.7	C	24.6	C	24.8	C	26.1	D	23.8	C
69	Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.3	D	29.1	D	27.0	C	26.9	C	27.3	C	28.2	D	25.6	C
70	Bet Pacheco Blvd Off- and Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Basic	22.3	C	23.4	C	20.6	C	20.4	C	20.9	C	22.8	C	20.1	C
71	Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Merge	23.8	C	26.4	C	20.9	C	20.6	C	20.6	C	24.9	C	20.9	C
72	Bet Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On- and Waterfront Off-ramp	Basic	22.9	C	24.2	C	22.4	C	22.2	C	22.4	C	24.9	C	22.1	C
73	Waterfront Off-ramp	Diverge	23.4	C	24.5	C	22.6	C	22.2	C	22.5	C	25.3	C	22.2	C
74	Bet Waterfront Off- and On-ramp	Basic	21.2	C	22.6	C	21.6	C	21.4	C	21.5	C	24.3	C	21.4	C

**Table K-3. 2047 Existing AM Peak Hour Level of Service (LOS)**

Location	Segement Type	2047 AM Peak Hour (8-9 AM)														
		Existing		No-Build		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4		Alternative 5		
		Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	
1	Alcosta Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.5	D	117.8	F	117.7	F	118.6	F	117.2	F	117.5	F	117.5	F
2	Bet Alcosta Blvd Off- to On-ramp	Basic	29.7	D	79.1	F	76.6	F	76.5	F	76.3	F	94.7	F	90.3	F
3	Alcosta Blvd On-ramp	Merge	28.8	D	59.6	F	59.0	F	59.6	F	58.7	F	59.7	F	59.7	F
4	Bet. Alcosta Blvd On- and Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	29.2	D	36.0	E	41.7	E	45.8	F	40.0	E	36.3	E	36.2	E
5	Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	21.8	C	30.7	D	42.8	F	50.2	F	42.7	F	30.9	D	31.1	D
6	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	19.1	C	36.8	E	60.3	F	73.6	F	62.5	F	37.0	E	37.9	E
7	Bollinger Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	17.9	B	38.9	F	57.2	F	67.0	F	57.8	F	40.0	F	40.9	F
8	Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	18.9	B	43.9	F	57.8	F	64.8	F	58.3	F	44.0	F	45.7	F
9	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	19.3	C	55.4	F	71.7	F	78.2	F	70.5	F	55.7	F	56.6	F
10	Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	19.6	B	72.0	F	90.8	F	96.8	F	89.3	F	72.4	F	72.1	F
11	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	19.1	C	55.6	F	72.0	F	78.5	F	70.8	F	55.9	F	56.8	F
12	Crow Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	21.9	C	110.4	F	122.7	F	126.0	F	122.4	F	110.9	F	111.7	F
13	Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	19.3	B	83.7	F	88.5	F	90.7	F	88.5	F	84.1	F	84.9	F
14	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Basic	19.9	C	112.4	F	115.8	F	117.2	F	115.5	F	113.8	F	114.6	F
15	Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	19.4	B	112.8	F	117.5	F	118.5	F	116.6	F	116.9	F	116.8	F
16	Bet Sycamore Valley Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	28.6	D	131.0	F	133.7	F	134.2	F	132.3	F	138.4	F	135.4	F
17	Weave bet Sycamore Valley Rd On- and Diablo Rd Off-ramp	Weave	30.6	D	83.9	F	86.2	F	86.2	F	84.9	F	95.6	F	90.3	F
18	Bet Diablo Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	36.4	E	72.2	F	74.2	F	74.3	F	72.5	F	87.3	F	80.9	F
19	Diablo Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	30.3	D	56.6	F	58.8	F	58.4	F	57.3	F	70.3	F	64.2	F
20	Weave bet Diablo Rd Diagonal On- and El Cerro Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	38.8	F	82.1	F	84.1	F	83.4	F	81.6	F	100.3	F	92.0	F
21	Bet El Cerro Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	46.1	F	74.9	F	77.2	F	76.7	F	75.2	F	95.8	F	86.0	F
22	El Cerro Blvd On-ramp	Merge	66.0	F	75.9	F	73.4	F	72.3	F	74.7	F	98.1	F	87.6	F
23	Bet El Cerro Blvd On- and El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Basic	48.0	F	61.1	F	61.0	F	60.8	F	60.9	F	86.6	F	75.1	F
24	El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Merge	41.3	F	40.6	F	42.1	F	41.2	F	45.9	F	68.4	F	57.3	F
25	Bet El Pintado Rd On- and Stone Valey Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Basic	33.9	D	42.4	E	35.2	E	35.3	E	35.1	E	77.8	F	66.6	F
26	Stone Valley Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Diverge	34.7	D	42.2	F	35.8	F	35.6	F	35.5	F	85.5	F	73.7	F
27	Stone Valley Rd Loop Off-ramp	Diverge	31.7	D	38.2	F	36.6	F	34.5	D	35.3	F	86.8	F	77.1	F
28	Bet Stone Valley Rd Loop Off- and On-ramp	Basic	29.1	D	40.2	E	41.3	E	35.5	E	38.3	E	86.5	F	81.5	F
29	Weave bet Stone Valley Rd On- and Livorna Rd Off-ramp	Weave	31.0	D	51.8	F	44.9	F	41.5	F	43.8	F	96.1	F	91.0	F
30	Bet Livorna Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	34.1	D	60.1	F	35.6	E	35.4	E	35.6	E	116.3	F	115.1	F
31	Livorna Rd On-ramp	Merge	41.9	F	49.4	F	26.5	C	26.4	C	26.5	C	93.5	F	79.6	F
32	Bet Livorna Rd On- and Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Basic	28.8	D	32.5	D	27.8	D	27.7	D	28.0	D	96.4	F	80.2	F
33	Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	33.0	D	37.8	F	29.7	D	29.6	D	30.0	D	101.3	F	83.7	F
34	Bet Rudgear Rd Off- and Danville Blvd On-ramp	Basic	27.7	D	31.3	D	26.8	D	26.4	D	27.0	D	109.3	F	89.4	F
35	Weave bet Danville Blvd On and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	25.3	C	30.9	D	34.6	D	32.8	D	34.7	D	77.8	F	65.1	F
36	Bet Main St Off- and Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Basic	23.8	C	27.3	D	29.3	D	27.5	D	29.7	D	66.9	F	58.2	F
37	Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Diverge	22.8	C	26.2	C	28.5	D	26.4	C	28.7	D	57.2	F	50.4	F
38	Bet Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off- and Olympic Blvd On-ramp	Basic	27.5	D	34.4	D	25.9	C	32.8	D	28.3	D	92.2	F	80.7	F
39	Weave bet Olympic Blvd On- and Ygnacio Valley Rd Off-ramp	Weave	26.4	C	33.6	D	22.9	C	32.7	D	25.3	C	85.7	F	76.2	F
40	Bet Ygnacio Valley Rd Off- and SR 24 EB On-ramp	Basic	24.3	C	28.8	D	22.3	C	28.0	D	24.8	C	98.3	F	87.6	F
41	SR 24 EB On-ramp	Merge	21.2	C	24.2	C	21.4	C	23.5	C	22.1	C	75.6	F	70.5	F
42	Bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Basic	20.8	C	24.7	C	24.4	C	25.3	C	22.2	C	62.4	F	59.7	F
43	Main St Off-ramp	Diverge	21.1	C	22.4	C	30.0	D	30.6	D	26.4	C	74.0	F	70.3	F
44	Weave bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	20.5	C	23.9	C	24.1	C	24.7	C	22.6	C	67.5	F	64.1	F
45	Bet Main St Off- and Lawrence Way On-ramp	Basic	22.9	C	27.2	D	27.1	D	22.2	C	21.0	C	73.1	F	80.6	F
46	Weave bet Lawrence Way On- and Treat Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	24.9	C	35.4	F	25.2	C	21.5	C	19.7	B	79.5	F	89.0	F
47	Bet Treat Blvd Off- and Truck Scales On-ramp	Basic	21.2	C	26.0	D	23.4	C	25.0	C	23.3	C	61.9	F	70.0	F
48	Truck Scales On-ramp	Merge	12.8	B	15.3	B	15.6	B	16.8	B	16.2	B	48.2	F	53.6	F
49	Treat Blvd On-ramp	Merge	11.7	B	13.7	B	14.2	B	14.6	B	14.4	B	39.5	F	42.0	F
50	Weave bet Oak Rd / Buskirk Ave On- and Contra Costa Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	19.5	B	23.3	C	22.6	C	22.9	C	22.5	C	67.7	F	75.2	F
51	Monument Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	15.5	B	16.5	B	16.6	B	22.9	C	19.9	B	31.1	D	32.2	D
52	Bet Monument Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	22.1	C	25.8	C	23.1	C	23.4	C	24.8	C	43.0	E	43.7	E
53	Monument Blvd On-ramp	Merge	18.9	B	20.3	C	20.8	C	20.6	C	21.0	C	20.8	C	20.8	C
54	Bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Basic	20.5	C	24.9	C	21.4	C	21.2	C	28.6	D	37.1	E	37.5	E
55	SR 242 Off-ramp	Diverge	21.6	C	25.1	C	22.5	C	22.4	C	33.4	D	32.7	D	33.0	D
56	Weave bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Weave	21.1	C	25.2	C	22.3	C	22.0	C	30.5	D	35.3	F	35.6	F
57	Bet SR 242 Off- and Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Basic	23.4	C	29.7	D	25.0	C	24.2	C	27.5	D	28.7	D	29.1	D
58	Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.2	D	39.9	F	32.6	D	31.9	D	34.4	D	35.7	F	36.2	F
59	Bet Willow Pass Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	18.2	C	22.8	C	23.8	C	23.1	C	24.3	C	20.8	C	20.9	C
60	Weave bet Willow Pass Rd On- and Burnett Ave Off-ramp	Weave	15.5	B	19.2	B	20.5	C	20.2	C	21.1	C	17.7	B	17.8	B
61	Bet Burnett Ave Off- and On-ramp	Basic	16.6	B	21.5	C	22.8	C	22.6	C	23.3	C	20.0	C	20.1	C
62	Burnett Ave On-ramp	Merge	15.7	B	22.5	C	23.6	C	23.3	C	24.3	C	20.5	C	20.7	C
63	Concord Ave On-ramp	Merge	20.8	C	18.8	B	20.4	C	20.2	C	20.8	C	18.0	B	18.1	B
64	Bet Concord Ave On- and SR 4 Off-ramp	Basic	20.3	C	12.6	B	13.7	B	13.6	B	14.0	B	12.1	B	12.2	B
65	SR 4 Off-ramp	Diverge	15.2	B	13.2	B	13.8	B	13.9	B	14.1	B	12.4	B	12.5	B
66	Bet SR 4 Off- and On-ramp	Basic	11.4	B	16.2	B	16.8	B	16.9	B	17.2	B	15.1	B	15.2	B
67	SR 4 On-ramp	Merge	14.2	B	19.2	B	19.8	B	19.8	B	20.4	C	18.3	B	18.4	B
68	Bet SR 4 On- and Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Basic	18.0	B	24.4	C	25.3	C	25.3	C	25.8	C	23.2	C	23.3	C
69	Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	20.1	C	26.9	C	27.9	C	27.7	C	28.4	D	25.6	C	25.4	C
70	Bet Pacheco Blvd Off- and Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Basic	15.4	B	20.9	C	21.6	C	21.6	C	22.0	C	19.7	C	19.8	C
71	Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Merge	14.6	B	19.3	B	20.0	C	19.9	B	20.4	C	18.2	B	18.3	B
72	Bet Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On- and Waterfront Off-ramp	Basic	15.7	B	20.6	C	20.9	C	21.0	C	21.2	C	19.5	C	19.1	C
73	Waterfront Off-ramp	Diverge	16.4	B	21.0	C	21.4	C	21.2	C	21.8	C	20.0	C	19.3	B
74	Bet Waterfront Off- and On-ramp	Basic	12.6	B	17.4	B	17.3	B	17.2	B	17.6	B	16.3	B	15.7	B



**Table K-4. 2047 Existing PM Peak Hour Level of Service (LOS)**

Location	Segment Type	2047 PM Peak Hour (5-6 PM)														
		Existing		No-Build		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4		Alternative 5		
		Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	Density	LOS	
1	Alcosta Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	35.8	F	160.0	F	161.5	F	169.3	F	162.7	F	192.4	F	160.2	F
2	Bet Alcosta Blvd Off- to On-ramp	Basic	45.4	F	105.5	F	101.8	F	104.7	F	102.1	F	136.6	F	100.6	F
3	Alcosta Blvd On-ramp	Merge	25.3	C	125.6	F	123.8	F	133.4	F	123.8	F	178.4	F	123.8	F
4	Bet. Alcosta Blvd On- and Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	26.7	D	135.8	F	137.1	F	140.9	F	137.1	F	169.6	F	133.2	F
5	Bollinger Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	20.0	B	107.6	F	108.7	F	111.1	F	107.8	F	131.2	F	105.2	F
6	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	23.4	C	149.1	F	150.0	F	153.1	F	148.3	F	180.1	F	145.4	F
7	Bollinger Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	23.8	C	105.9	F	106.4	F	110.7	F	104.6	F	171.9	F	100.7	F
8	Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	22.8	C	99.2	F	100.3	F	105.0	F	99.6	F	144.6	F	95.2	F
9	Bet Bollinger Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Basic	24.1	C	125.4	F	126.0	F	129.7	F	126.5	F	155.6	F	121.9	F
10	Crow Canyon Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.2	D	140.4	F	142.0	F	144.9	F	142.3	F	166.0	F	137.0	F
11	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	32.1	D	125.8	F	126.4	F	131.1	F	126.9	F	156.1	F	122.3	F
12	Crow Canyon Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	54.8	F	138.4	F	141.8	F	144.9	F	143.0	F	172.3	F	132.4	F
13	Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On-ramp	Merge	51.9	F	99.0	F	105.0	F	106.7	F	105.0	F	137.7	F	93.1	F
14	Bet Crow Canyon Rd Diagonal On- and Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Basic	84.5	F	121.1	F	128.6	F	129.8	F	128.4	F	154.5	F	116.6	F
15	Sycamore Valley Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	106.6	F	131.0	F	137.3	F	137.1	F	135.3	F	163.9	F	124.0	F
16	Bet Sycamore Valley Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	140.7	F	127.5	F	127.3	F	128.1	F	126.6	F	158.4	F	121.3	F
17	Weave bet Sycamore Valley Rd On- and Diablo Rd Off-ramp	Weave	108.8	F	77.5	F	73.3	F	75.0	F	73.4	F	117.3	F	71.1	F
18	Bet Diablo Rd Off- and Loop On-ramp	Basic	110.8	F	74.0	F	69.6	F	72.3	F	70.0	F	117.3	F	66.2	F
19	Diablo Rd Loop On-ramp	Merge	90.9	F	59.0	F	55.1	F	56.1	F	55.0	F	98.1	F	51.6	F
20	Weave bet Diablo Rd Diagonal On- and El Cerro Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	95.6	F	62.9	F	63.5	F	64.3	F	63.8	F	108.2	F	57.8	F
21	Bet El Cerro Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	111.7	F	72.8	F	69.0	F	69.9	F	70.0	F	112.3	F	66.1	F
22	El Cerro Blvd On-ramp	Merge	96.2	F	58.9	F	55.6	F	56.2	F	55.7	F	96.6	F	52.8	F
23	Bet El Cerro Blvd On- and El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Basic	101.4	F	61.1	F	59.0	F	60.5	F	59.3	F	102.2	F	55.9	F
24	El Pintado Rd On-ramp	Merge	89.2	F	49.6	F	44.2	F	45.2	F	44.1	F	89.3	F	43.5	F
25	Bet El Pintado Rd On- and Stone Valey Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Basic	78.6	F	42.0	E	29.0	D	29.9	D	29.0	D	78.8	F	29.6	D
26	Stone Valley Rd Diagonal Off-ramp	Diverge	79.4	F	42.0	F	30.0	D	30.7	D	29.5	D	84.3	F	30.5	D
27	Stone Valley Rd Loop Off-ramp	Diverge	77.4	F	35.2	F	27.4	C	27.9	C	26.4	C	84.3	F	27.6	C
28	Bet Stone Valley Rd Loop Off- and On-ramp	Basic	79.0	F	36.5	E	32.3	D	29.2	D	27.8	D	90.2	F	28.4	D
29	Weave bet Stone Valley Rd On- and Livorna Rd Off-ramp	Weave	80.4	F	40.8	F	34.3	D	34.7	D	33.0	D	94.0	F	34.6	D
30	Bet Livorna Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	72.9	F	38.7	E	28.9	D	33.0	D	32.0	D	88.0	F	26.4	D
31	Livorna Rd On-ramp	Merge	75.0	F	40.6	F	19.2	B	21.5	C	19.6	B	92.1	F	27.1	C
32	Bet Livorna Rd On- and Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Basic	72.8	F	45.5	F	22.4	C	26.1	D	22.7	C	87.2	F	27.4	D
33	Rudgear Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	60.6	F	46.3	F	24.8	C	28.8	D	24.7	C	76.7	F	32.5	D
34	Bet Rudgear Rd Off- and Danville Blvd On-ramp	Basic	75.2	F	51.3	F	19.2	C	23.3	C	19.8	C	93.5	F	21.1	C
35	Weave bet Danville Blvd On and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	85.2	F	71.2	F	19.1	B	23.1	C	19.3	B	96.1	F	18.8	B
36	Bet Main St Off- and Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Basic	77.4	F	73.5	F	19.3	C	22.1	C	20.1	C	82.2	F	17.2	B
37	Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off-ramp	Diverge	78.2	F	79.9	F	15.8	B	25.0	C	20.2	C	82.0	F	20.0	C
38	Bet Olympic Blvd / SR 24 WB Off- and Olympic Blvd On-ramp	Basic	137.0	F	137.5	F	10.9	A	45.0	E	85.4	F	143.3	F	66.6	F
39	Weave bet Olympic Blvd On- and Ygnacio Valley Rd Off-ramp	Weave	115.4	F	113.8	F	14.2	B	57.1	F	127.2	F	120.0	F	95.1	F
40	Bet Ygnacio Valley Rd Off- and SR 24 EB On-ramp	Basic	112.5	F	110.6	F	47.5	F	62.0	F	124.4	F	114.9	F	102.7	F
41	SR 24 EB On-ramp	Merge	102.7	F	103.3	F	97.6	F	63.1	F	102.6	F	109.9	F	102.1	F
42	Bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Basic	90.0	F	93.0	F	98.6	F	86.2	F	109.0	F	101.5	F	89.2	F
43	Main St Off-ramp	Diverge	84.5	F	89.8	F	105.9	F	113.5	F	113.1	F	97.8	F	82.3	F
44	Weave bet SR 24 EB On- and Main St Off-ramp	Weave	88.9	F	91.8	F	99.3	F	81.0	F	108.8	F	101.1	F	89.1	F
45	Bet Main St Off- and Lawrence Way On-ramp	Basic	76.5	F	84.2	F	88.7	F	105.4	F	108.1	F	94.0	F	90.1	F
46	Weave bet Lawrence Way On- and Treat Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	50.5	F	57.8	F	58.8	F	67.8	F	66.6	F	53.2	F	57.7	F
47	Bet Treat Blvd Off- and Truck Scales On-ramp	Basic	63.4	F	69.7	F	73.4	F	73.9	F	74.3	F	51.0	F	60.6	F
48	Truck Scales On-ramp	Merge	115.4	F	112.6	F	121.4	F	116.9	F	119.9	F	90.8	F	100.3	F
49	Treat Blvd On-ramp	Merge	93.9	F	100.7	F	100.4	F	89.7	F	92.1	F	90.8	F	95.8	F
50	Weave bet Oak Rd / Buskirk Ave On- and Contra Costa Blvd Off-ramp	Weave	55.3	F	61.6	F	55.0	F	51.0	F	51.7	F	53.3	F	56.9	F
51	Monument Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	48.9	F	54.1	F	51.2	F	46.8	F	47.9	F	44.9	F	51.7	F
52	Bet Monument Blvd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	60.3	F	63.9	F	58.9	F	58.2	F	59.0	F	56.4	F	61.4	F
53	Monument Blvd On-ramp	Merge	82.6	F	80.9	F	80.9	F	80.3	F	81.3	F	78.4	F	79.8	F
54	Bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Basic	59.3	F	61.0	F	57.6	F	58.2	F	58.4	F	63.7	F	60.2	F
55	SR 242 Off-ramp	Diverge	65.4	F	67.3	F	64.0	F	64.8	F	64.6	F	71.8	F	67.1	F
56	Weave bet Monument Blvd On- and SR 242 Off-ramp	Weave	57.1	F	58.4	F	55.1	F	55.7	F	55.8	F	60.1	F	57.6	F
57	Bet SR 242 Off- and Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Basic	24.3	C	26.6	D	21.0	C	23.1	C	21.9	C	27.3	D	26.5	D
58	Willow Pass Rd Off-ramp	Diverge	25.8	C	27.9	C	22.8	C	25.6	C	24.0	C	31.3	D	19.9	B
59	Bet Willow Pass Rd Off- and On-ramp	Basic	19.7	C	20.5	C	20.0	C	21.7	C	21.2	C	21.2	C	16.1	B
60	Weave bet Willow Pass Rd On- and Burnett Ave Off-ramp	Weave	18.8	B	21.9	C	18.7	B	22.6	C	22.3	C	22.2	C	18.7	B
61	Bet Burnett Ave Off- and On-ramp	Basic	26.9	D	24.0	C	20.3	C	24.1	C	24.3	C	25.1	C	20.7	C
62	Burnett Ave On-ramp	Merge	44.5	F	29.6	D	23.5	C	28.2	D	29.1	D	31.8	D	23.5	C
63	Concord Ave On-ramp	Merge	40.8	F	23.3	C	21.8	C	20.8	C	21.2	C	23.2	C	21.5	C
64	Bet Concord Ave On- and SR 4 Off-ramp	Basic	26.8	D	15.2	B	14.5	B	14.2	B	14.5	B	15.1	B	14.2	B
65	SR 4 Off-ramp	Diverge	22.7	C	18.7	B	17.3	B	17.9	B	18.8	B	20.5	C	16.2	B
66	Bet SR 4 Off- and On-ramp	Basic	18.6	C	20.9	C	18.1	C	19.2	C	19.6	C	21.2	C	17.9	B
67	SR 4 On-ramp	Merge	19.6	B	23.0	C	19.5	B	20.8	C	20.8	C	24.3	C	19.4	B
68	Bet SR 4 On- and Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Basic	25.8	C	28.5	D	24.8	C	26.5	D	26.6	D	29.1	D	25.1	C
69	Pacheco Blvd Off-ramp	Diverge	28.3	D	30.6	D	26.8	C	28.4	D	28.5	D	31.2	D	26.9	C
70	Bet Pacheco Blvd Off- and Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Basic	22.3	C	26.5	D	21.3	C	23.0	C	23.0	C	29.9	D	21.8	C
71	Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On-ramp	Merge	23.8	C	35.8	F	23.4	C	26.7	C	25.8	C	37.2	F	24.1	C
72	Bet Arthur Rd / Pacheco Blvd On- and Waterfront Off-ramp	Basic	22.9	C	26.2	D	23.6	C	25.3	C	25.3	C	28.0	D	24.0	C
73	Waterfront Off-ramp	Diverge	23.4	C	26.9	C	23.8	C	25.5	C	25.6	C	28.8	D	24.3	C
74	Bet Waterfront Off- and On-ramp	Basic	21.2	C	24.7	C	22.8	C	24.7	C	24.5	C	27.7	D	23.3	C

# Appendix L List of Technical Studies

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## L.1 List of Technical Studies

Air Quality Report, Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. (December 2023)

Analysis of VMT Mitigation Effectiveness Memorandum, Kittelson & Associates (August 2022)

Aquatic Resources Delineation Report, HDR Engineering Inc. (August 2022)

Archaeological Survey Report with Extended Phase I, Far Western Anthropological Research Group (August 2023)

Community Impact Assessment, HDR Engineering, Inc. (November 2023)

Energy Analysis Report, HDR Engineering, Inc. (December 2023)

Errata Memorandum for Alternative 5, HDR Engineering, Inc. (November 2022)

Errata Memorandum for Project Limit Change, HDR Engineering, Inc. (November 2023)

Historic Resources Evaluation Report, JRP Historic Consulting (April 2023)

Initial Site Assessment, Parikh Consultants, Inc. (April 2022)

Intersection Operations Analysis, DKS Associates (June 2023)

Location Hydraulic Study, WRECO (November 2022)

Natural Environment Study, HDR Engineering Inc. (April 2023)

Noise Abatement Decision Report, HDR Engineering, Inc. (January 2024)

Noise Study Report, Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. (January 2024)

Paleontological Evaluation Report, Paleo Solutions, Inc. (October 2021)

Preliminary Geotechnical Design Report, Parikh Consultants, Inc. (February 2022)

Ramp Closure Study, HDR Engineering, Inc. (July 2023)

Ramp Closure Detour Analysis, DKS Associates (July 2023)

Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment Memorandum, WRECO (August 2021)

Structures Aesthetic Report, Haygood & Associates (July 2023)

Traffic Operations Analysis Report, DKS Associates (February 2023)

Tree Inventory Memorandum, HDR Engineering Inc. (September 2021)



Vehicle Miles Travelled Updates Memorandum, Kittelson & Associates (September 2023)

Visual Impact Assessment, Haygood & Associates (August 2022)

Visual Resource Evaluation and Visual Impact Assessment Memorandum (Alternative 5), Haygood & Associates (November 2022)

Visual Resource Evaluation and Visual Impact Assessment Memorandum (Project Limits), Haygood & Associates (November 2023)

Water Quality Assessment Report, WRECO (March 2022)