

Attachment 5



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA 95814
May 11, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
File #: 12-ORA-55 Newport Blvd.
EA 098400
Document #: P52460

Ms. Cindy Quon, District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 12
3337 Michelson Drive, Suite 380
Irvine, CA 92612-8894

Attention: Leslie Manderscheid

Dear Ms. Quon:

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impacts

On May 10, 2005 we received your submittal of the revised Environmental Assessment and request for Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI). After review and discussion with your staff, we find the Environmental Assessment to be sufficient for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We have included for your use and distribution, the original signed Finding of No Significant Impact for this project. This will complete the NEPA requirements for the project, which may be advanced accordingly.

Should you have any questions, you may contact Lisa Cathcart-Randall, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (916) 498-5048 or Tay Dam, Senior Project Development Engineer, at (213) 321-6360.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene K. Fong".

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

Enclosure



**FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR**

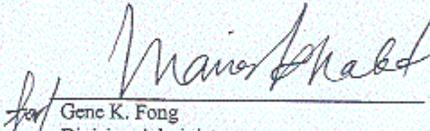
SR-55/Newport Boulevard Improvements Project
On State Route 55
In the City of Costa Mesa, Orange County

Located in the City of Costa Mesa in Orange County, California, the project encompasses SR-55/Newport Boulevard, extending from about 460 feet north of 19th Street to 17th Street with minor work south of 17th Street for restriping. The project would add a fourth northbound lane from 17th Street to 19th Street and a fourth southbound lane from the project northern limit to Broadway. To accommodate the addition of lanes, median reconfigurations, minor curb relocations along the southbound lanes, and lane-width reductions are proposed. Existing curbside on-street parking along the northbound lanes would be retained from 17th Street to Flower Street. Sidewalk and curb reconstruction will also be completed at various locations, and will meet American with Disabilities Act requirements.

The Federal Highway Administration has determined that this project will not have any significant impact on the human environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact is based on the attached Environmental Assessment and associated technical documents, which have been independently evaluated by the Federal Highway Administration and determined to adequately and accurately, discuss the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed project. The Environmental Assessment and associated technical documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an environmental impact statement is not required. The Federal Highway Administration takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope and content of the Environmental Assessment.

Date

5/11/05


Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration