

I-15/SR-74 (CENTRAL AVENUE) INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Overview

The City of Lake Elsinore (City), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is proposing improvements to the Interstate 15 (I-15)/State Route 74 (SR-74) (Central Avenue) interchange located in the City of Lake Elsinore, California. The I-15/SR-74 Interchange Improvement Project (Project) is needed to improve traffic conditions, reduce congestion at the interchange, and help alleviate traffic surrounding local intersections within the Project area.

The goals of the Project include:

- Support anticipated regional growth and local development projects.
- Relieve congestion by providing additional ramp storage capacity and directional connectivity between I-15 and SR-74.
- Improve operational efficiency of signalized intersections, turning movements, and throughput volumes.
- Improve mobility and access for all users, residents, and businesses within the Project limits.

Project Milestones



Next Steps

Following the end of the 30-day public comment process of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA), the Project Team will review and formally respond to comments received. Formal responses to public comments will be included in the appendices of the Draft IS/EA.

Visit the Interactive StoryMap at **bit.ly/CentralAveInterchangeProject.com** or visit the Project webpage at **www.lake-elsinore.org/CentralAveInterchange** for detailed maps on the proposed alternatives, additional Project information, schedule updates and ways you can participate!

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Project Alternatives

The City and Caltrans are considering three alternatives as part of the Project: one no-build alternative and two build alternatives.

The Build Alternatives (Alternatives 2 and 3) would feature a number of improvements in the Project area including added freeway signage, new sidewalks and traffic signals, widening of a segment of SR-74 (Central Avenue), Dexter Avenue, and the southbound on- and off-ramps, feasibility studies for new noise barriers, and drainage culvert extensions. Unique features between the Build Alternatives (Alternatives 2 and 3) are seen below.

The estimated Project cost is between \$39 million for Alternative 2, and \$35 million for Alternative 3. The City is currently working to secure the funding required.

Alternative 1 (No-Build)

Under Alternative 1 (No-Build), the I-15/SR-74 interchange would remain in its current condition and no improvements would be implemented.

Alternative 2 (Northbound [NB] Hook Ramps)

- Replaces the existing NB on-ramp with NB hook on- and off-ramps terminating at Dexter Avenue.
- The NB hook off-ramp features a two lane exit from I-15, and provides one left-turn and two right-turn lanes at the Dexter Avenue intersection.

Alternative 3 (NB Hook Ramps with NB Loop Off-Ramp to Westbound [WB] SR-74)

- Replaces the existing NB on-ramp with NB hook on- and off-ramps terminating at Dexter Avenue.
- The NB hook off-ramp features a single lane exit from I-15 and provides one left and one right-turn lane at Dexter Avenue intersection.
- Adds a NB loop off-ramp that provides direct connectivity between I-15 NB and SR-74 WB.

