

EASTERN AREA COMMUNITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE

February 21, 2014

Myrtle Cole – San Diego City Council District 4
Andrew Rice - CalTrans
Rob Rundle - SANDAG

RE: SR-94 HOV/EXPRESS LANES

Dear Ms. Cole and Messrs. Rice and Rundle:

An Environmental Document for the plans to add new express lanes along State Route SR-94 ("SR-94") in San Diego is currently scheduled for mid to late 2014.

As presented to the Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee (EACPC), by Caltrans, there are 3 alternative being considered, for which at least one plan includes closing the A Street to SR-94 onramp. The plans do not include Euclid Avenue or other ramps east of the A Street onramp, however EACPC, the recognized planning group for the Webster neighborhood in which A Street and related SR-94 onramps are located, knows that closure of the A Street-to-SR-94 onramp will create significant impacts to the Euclid Avenue-to-SR-94 onramp as well as to Federal Boulevard (Federal) through the Webster community. As such, EACPC requests that any and all Environmental Documents that include a study of the effects of the closure of the A Street-to-SR-94 onramp include the impacts to the Euclid Avenue-to-SR-94 onramp and to Federal Boulevard.

The A Street onramp is used by several industrial and commercial carriers, including FedEx, Coca-Cola and multiple semi tractor-trailer trucks that are parked and stored on industrial lots along Federal. The A Street onramp allows convenient access by these users to SR-94 and keeps most of the neighborhood streets through the Webster community free from the big-rig traffic.

The Euclid Ave-to-SR-94 onramps are already plagued by more traffic than the street and ramps were designed for, need to be improved and redesigned for the current traffic and are certainly not equipped to handle the additional traffic if the A Street ramp is closed.

Therefore, EACPC requests the Environmental Documents include:

1. Analysis of current traffic usage on the A Street ramp, conducted during normal business week days, (i.e. not on a vacation day);
2. Analysis of how that traffic will travel to and on Federal Boulevard to the Euclid-SR-94 ramps;

3. Analysis of traffic back-ups along Federal Boulevard east and west, and Euclid Avenue and 54th Street north and south;
4. Analysis of the current traffic signals and possible additional traffic signals required to make Federal Boulevard and Euclid Avenue safe for multiple modes of transportation, including bikes and pedestrians, and costs to improve these signals;
5. Analysis of street lights needed to make intersections and differing modes of transportation safe at night;
6. Analysis of impacts to the air quality by the increase of diesel exhaust from the big-rigs;

Ideally, EACPC would like the Euclid Avenue to SR-94 onramps to be improved to levels satisfactory to handle current and expected new traffic as part of the plans for the SR-94 HOV/Express lanes if the A Street onramp is to be closed.

Thank you very much for all your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

EASTERN AREA COMMUNITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura Riebau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Riebau, Chair

cc: San Diego City Council Members
Lorena Gonzales, State Assembly
Ben Hueso, State Senator