SR 11 AND EAST OTAY MESA PORT OF ENTRY

FACT SHEET

The Project

State Route 11 (SR 11) and a new Port of Entry (POE) at East Otay Mesa will improve the efficient movement of people, goods, and services between the United States and Mexico.

Scheduled to open in 2015, this new POE and three-mile, four-lane state highway will connect the U.S.-Mexico border to key regional, state, and international highways.

In the United States, SR 11 will connect to State Routes 905 and 125. In Mexico, the corridor will connect the new POE to the Tijuana-Tecate and Tijuana-Ensenada free and toll roads.

The Need

The new POE at East Otay Mesa will help reduce traffic at the existing San Ysidro and Otay Mesa Ports of Entry. The border crossing also will provide an alternate entry for commercial traffic that currently is limited

The annual volume of trucks at Otay Mesa is approximately 1.5 million trucks. By 2010, the volume is expected to reach 2.1 million. SR 11 will help reduce congestion on surface streets and will provide an important link to the region's freeway network.

Project Costs

Depending on the selected alternative the cost of constructing the four-lane freeway ranges

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(Continued on reverse)





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from \$280 to \$350 million. The POE facility is estimated to cost in the range of \$250 to \$300 million depending on the functionality of the POE.

Project Status

An initial application for a new POE at East Otay Mesa was submitted in 2001 to the U.S. State Department and is under review by federal agencies.

- A Biological Constraints Report, which evaluated cultural and biological resources and hazardous waste, was completed in early 2002.
- » A Value Analysis Study, which focused on the circulation of southbound truck traffic accessing the new POE, was completed in 2002.
- » An Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) will be prepared for the East Otay Mesa POE, SR 11, and the truck bypass road that will carry trucks to the California Vehicle Enforcement Facility. Pending funding, the EIR/EIS is scheduled for completion in late 2009/early 2010.
- » Design completion is scheduled for late 2012.
- » The highway and POE are scheduled to open in 2015.

Funding Status

The California Transportation Commission has programmed \$8 million for SR 11 from the interregional improvement program of the State Transportation Improvement Program to initiate environmental studies. Additional funding from local, regional, state, and federal sources will be pursued. SAFETEA-LU includes \$800,000 for this project.

Summary

Environmental studies for SR 11 continue. Caltrans will be funding a feasibility study to determine the functionality, requirements, cost, and benefits of the new East Otay Mesa Port of Entry. The study will allow General Service Administration (GSA) to proceed with obtaining Congressional authorization and funding for the new POE. This additional border crossing is expected to handle 25,000 southbound and northbound vehicles each day by the year 2020. It is an important link to international trade markets.