



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

March 17, 2015

2015 Regional Transportation Plan

Notice is hereby given that the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) as the lead agency has prepared an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan ("RTP").

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) has developed a 2015 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) to guide future transportation projects and to facilitate a land use scenario for the region that is consistent with the requirements of Senate Bill 375 (SB 375).

PROJECT LOCATION:

The geographical extent of the proposed RTP includes the area within the limits of Shasta County, California, including the incorporated cities of Anderson, Redding and Shasta Lake, and all unincorporated areas under the jurisdiction of the County of Shasta. Capital improvement projects identified in the RTP are located on Interstate 5 (I-5), state highways, county roads and local streets, as well as on airport property, transit district property and tribal lands.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: SRTA is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft 2015 RTP Environmental Impact Report (EIR). You may comment by providing testimony at a public hearing at the SRTA Board Meeting on April 28, 2015 at 3:00 p.m., at the Shasta County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1450 Court Street, Suite 263, Redding, California. You may also submit written comments to SRTA prior to the close of public comment which ends on May 16, 2015, at 4:00 p.m.

PROJECT DETAILS: The Draft 2015 RTP addresses all transportation modes including motor vehicles, transit (commuter and local), rail, goods movement (rail freight and trucking), bicycle and pedestrian facilities, aviation systems, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), and transportation systems management (TSM) programs and projects within the plan's horizon year of 2035. Specifically the RTP is intended to meet the region's transportation goals regarding current and future mobility needs through the identification of policies, actions, and a list of projects that will address these needs. The RTP will guide the development of the Regional and Federal Transportation Improvement Programs (RTIP and FTIP) as well as other transportation programming documents and plans throughout Shasta County.

This Draft RTP includes a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which is a new component in the RTP required by California Senate Bill 375, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of

2008 ("SB 375"). SB 375 mandates regional greenhouse gas ("GHG") reduction targets for cars and light trucks and, pursuant to that law, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has established 2020 and 2035 GHG reduction targets for each region covered by one of the state's metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). As the MPO for Shasta County, SRTA is required to prepare an SCS as part of the RTP that demonstrates how GHG reduction targets will be met through integrated land use, housing, and transportation planning. SRTA has developed several possible regional growth scenarios to evaluate the effect of various land use and transportation choices on meeting the established GHG emissions targets per SB 375.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: SRTA has prepared a Draft Program EIR pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIR has been prepared because of the potential for unavoidable, significant adverse effects resulting from program implementation. The EIR prepared for the 2015 RTP identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts, and monitoring requirements. Significant and unavoidable effects on the environment are anticipated in the following areas:

- Biological Resources;
- Cultural Resources;
- Land Use (Agricultural Resources).

If the project description changes, SRTA will require a reevaluation of the EIR to consider the changes. If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed 2015 RTP.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: If a copy of the EIR is not attached, the EIR may be obtained and all documents referenced in the EIR may be reviewed at the SRTA office located at: 1255 East Street, Suite 202, Redding, CA 96001. In addition, the EIR and Draft RTP are available online at <http://www.srta.ca.gov/>.

HOW TO COMMENT: Because of the time sensitive nature of the regional transportation planning process, we request your response at the earliest possible date. Mail comments to SRTA, 1255 East Street, Suite 202, Redding, CA 96001 or e-mail comments to srta@srta.ca.gov no later than May 16, 2015. If representing an agency, please identify the agency name and appropriate contact name, phone number, and email address. Comments from the public must include name, phone number, and email or postal address. Please limit comments to environmental issues evaluated in the Draft EIR such as traffic, biology, noise, etc. You will receive notice of the dates of future public meetings to consider project approval or denial. The Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is expected to consider certification of the EIR and approval of the 2015 RTP at its board meeting on June 30, 2015. The meeting will start at 3:00 pm at the City of Redding Council Chambers at 777 Cypress Avenue, Redding, CA.

For more information, visit <http://www.srta.ca.gov/> or call 530-262-6190.