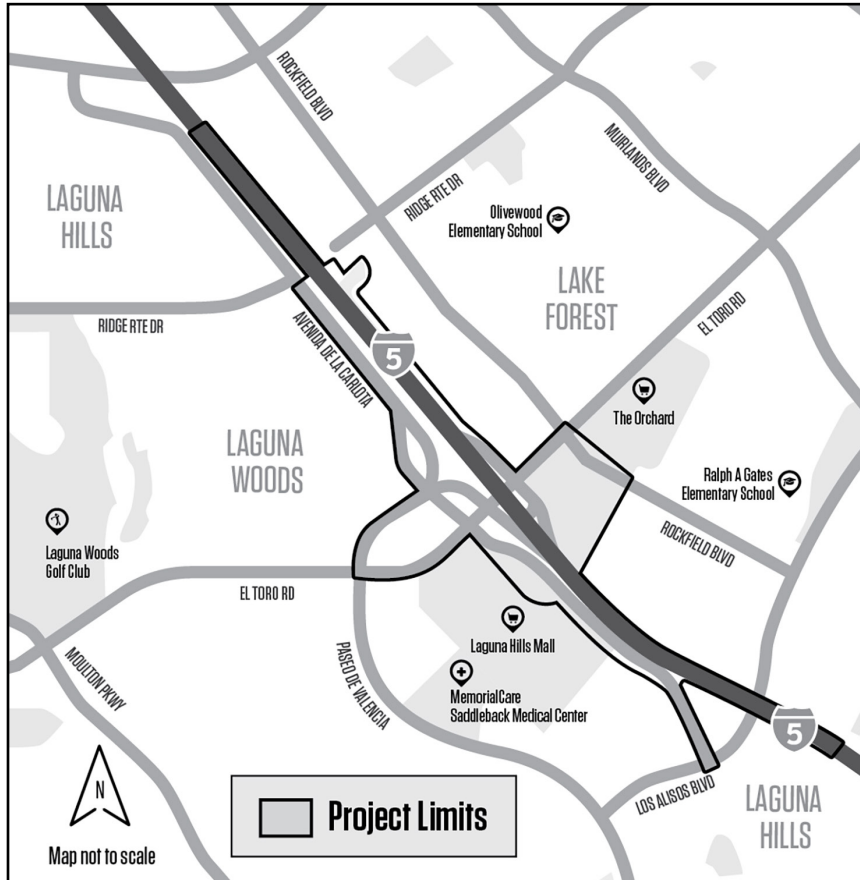


## Extension of Public Scoping Comment Period



### I-5/El Toro Road Interchange Project Notice of Availability of a Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR)



### WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), proposes to modify the Interstate 5 (I-5)/El Toro Road Interchange. The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow, optimize traffic signalization, improve traffic mobility through adjacent local street intersections, reduce freeway ramp queuing, and apply technology to help manage traffic demand within the cities of Lake Forest, Laguna Woods, and Laguna Hills. Currently, the project is in the environmental review and preliminary engineering process. Four preliminary alternatives, including three Build Alternatives and the No-Build Alternative are under consideration.

### WHY THIS AD?

This notice is to inform you of the ongoing environmental and preliminary engineering process. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental

Assessment (EA) will be prepared to evaluate potential effects that could result from the proposed project. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the environmental document will be prepared as a joint environmental document. This is the Caltrans Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase for this Project.

The public scoping period for the project was initially conducted from July 11, 2023 to August 25, 2023. In response to comments received during the initial public scoping period, we are extending the public scoping period for an additional 45 days (November 1, 2023 - December 18, 2023) to provide additional time for the public, resource agencies, and stakeholders to provide input on the depth and breadth of issues that should be addressed in the environmental document.

### WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) and additional project materials will be available for public review and comment at [dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-12/district-12-programs/district-12-environmental/i-5-el-toro-road-interchange-improvement-project](https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-12/district-12-programs/district-12-environmental/i-5-el-toro-road-interchange-improvement-project) and at the following locations below for viewing during normal business hours.

- **Caltrans District 12**, 1750 E. 4th St. #100, Santa Ana, CA 92705
- **El Toro Library**, 24672 Raymond Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630
- **Laguna Woods Village Library**, 24266 Calle Aragon, Laguna Woods, CA 92637
- **Laguna Hills Technology Library**, 25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

### WHERE YOU COME IN

Comments can be submitted during the extended public scoping period (**November 1, 2023 – December 18, 2023**) in any of the following formats:

- Online comment form at the Caltrans website: [dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-12/district-12-programs/district-12-environmental/i-5-el-toro-road-interchange-improvement-project](https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-12/district-12-programs/district-12-environmental/i-5-el-toro-road-interchange-improvement-project)
- Email comments to [D12.ELToro@dot.ca.gov](mailto:D12.ELToro@dot.ca.gov) with the subject line "I-5 El Toro Road Interchange Project."
- Regular mail to **Gabriela Duran, Caltrans District 12, Division of Environmental Analysis, 1750 East Fourth Street, Suite 100, Santa Ana, CA 92705**

Please submit comments **no later than 5:00 PM on Monday, December 18, 2023.**

If you have previously provided comments between July 12, 2023, and August 25, 2023, your comments will be considered by the project development team as appropriate. If you submitted your comments via United States Postal Service mail during the initial comment period, we respectfully request that you resubmit your comment letter during the extended scoping period.

### CONTACT

To request alternative accommodations for accessing project information please contact the Caltrans District 12 Public Information Office at (657) 328-6000. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service line at 1 (800) 735-2929 or Voice Line at 1(800) 735-2922.

For more information about this project, please call **Fernando Chavarria, Community Relations Officer**, at **(714) 560-5306**, or visit the project webpage [bit.ly/ElToroRoad](https://bit.ly/ElToroRoad) or utilize the QR Code here.

**@i5ELTORO** **@i5ELTORO**

