



WELCOME/REGISTRATION

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN HOUSE

6 – 8 p.m.

Learn about the proposed Project, discuss technical aspects with the project team, and provide public comment on the Project Draft Environmental Document.



The Retreat



Lake Elsinore Cultural Center



Eagle Glen Golf Club

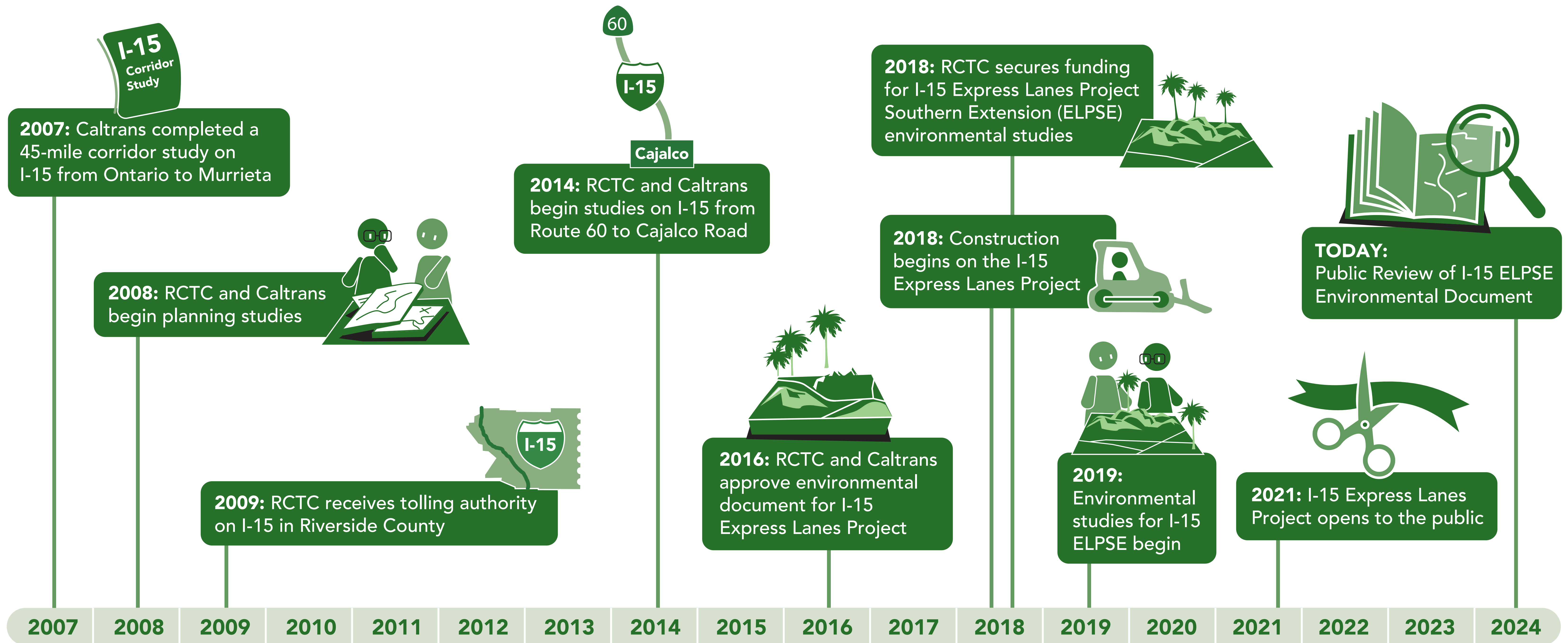
1. Open house format; no formal presentation
2. Spanish interpretation available
3. Sign up to receive future project information

Project information is also available at

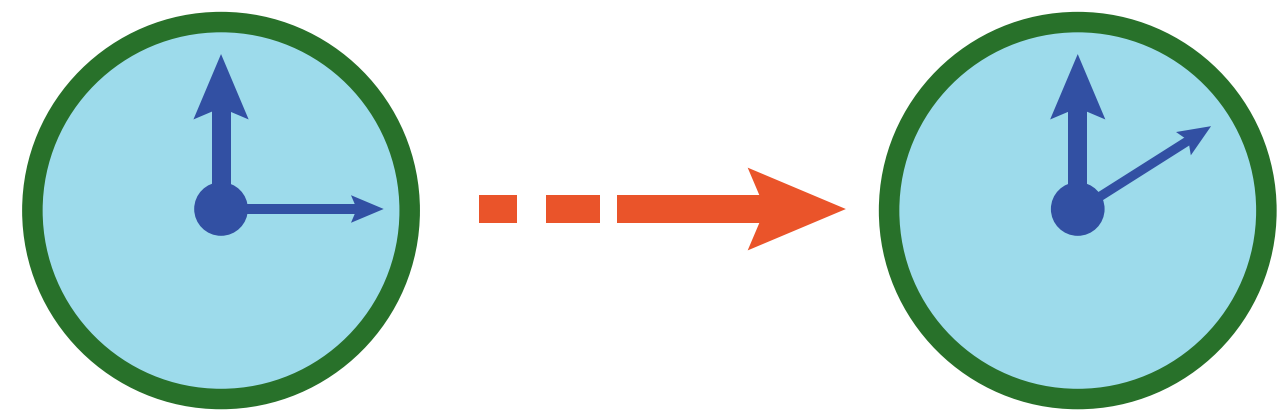
rctc.org/15ProjectSouth

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) assures that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance, as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and Federal Executive Order 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations).

PROJECT HISTORY



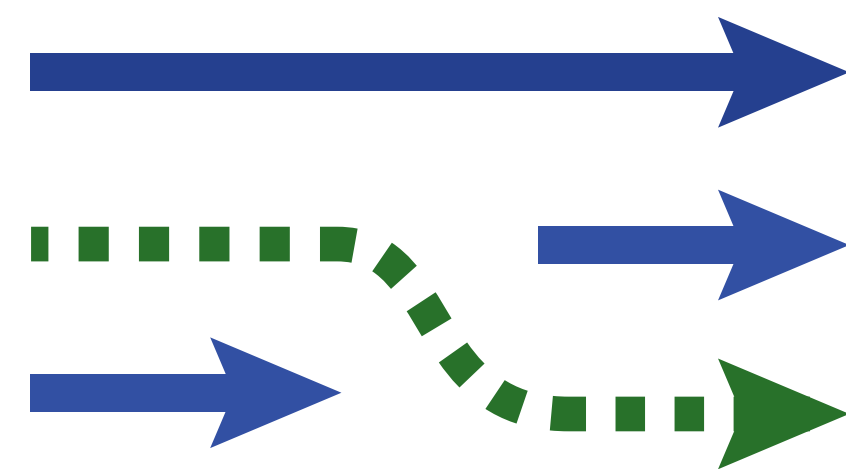
PURPOSE OF PROJECT



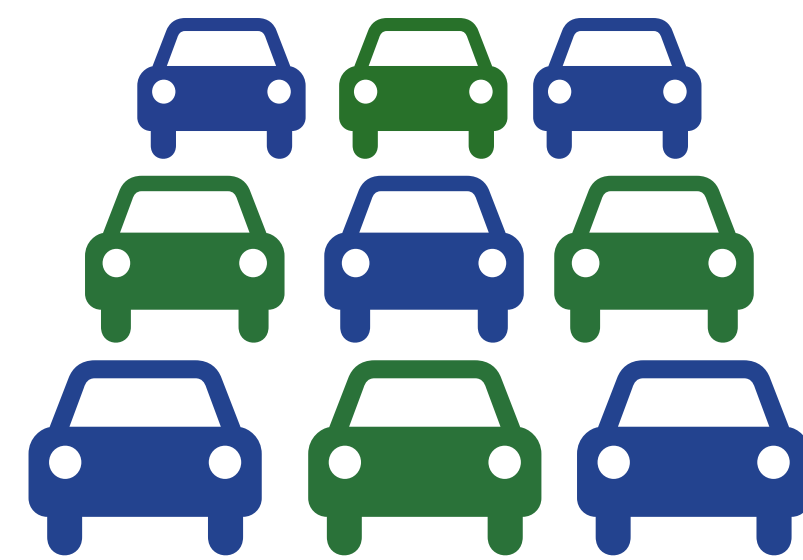
Manage traffic operations and improve travel times



Expand travel mode choice (i.e. carpooling and mass transit)



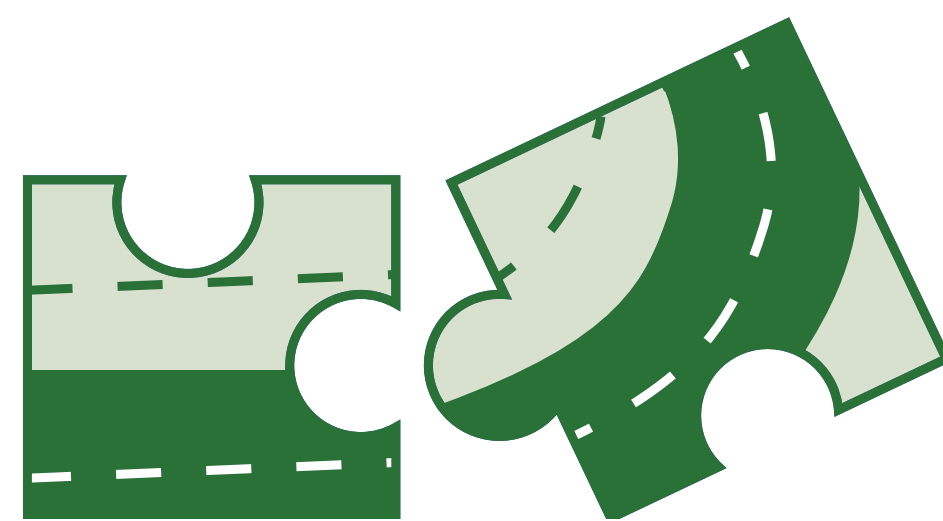
Increase travel time reliability



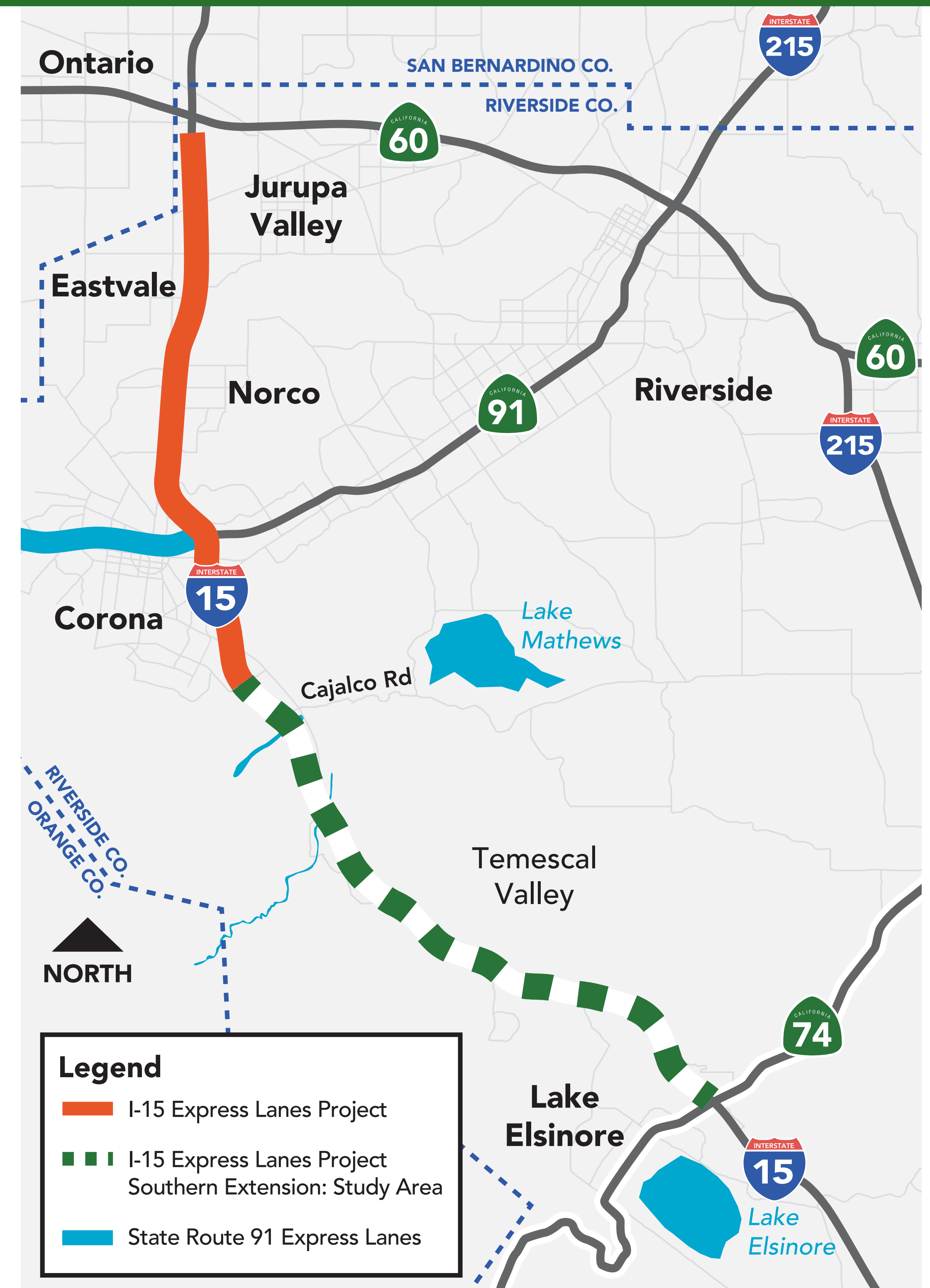
Improve traffic flow (throughput)



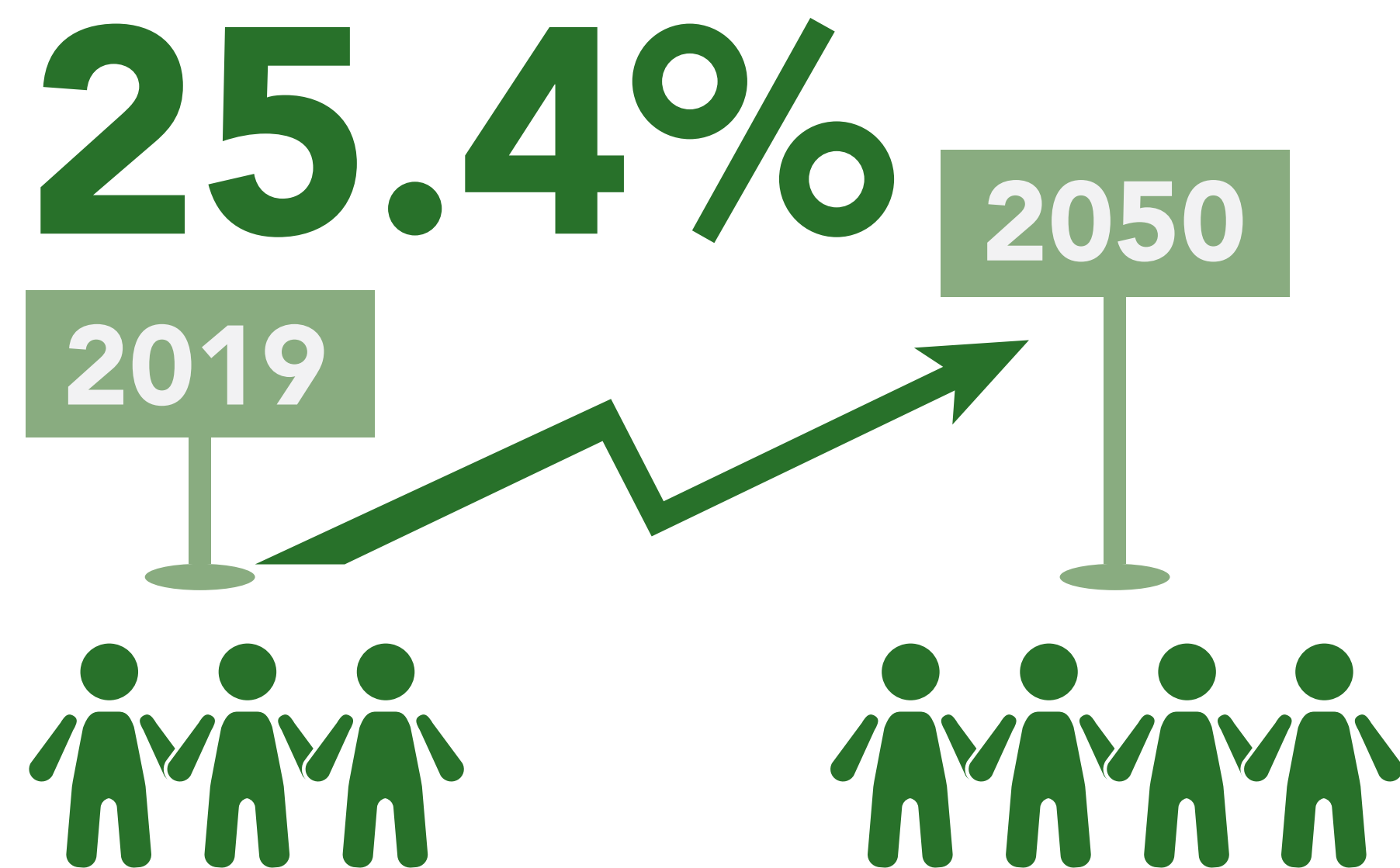
Provide a cost-effective mobility solution



Expand and maintain compatibility with the regional express lanes network



POPULATION TRENDS



Riverside County's population was nearly 2.4 million in 2019 and is projected to grow to nearly 3.0 million by 2050

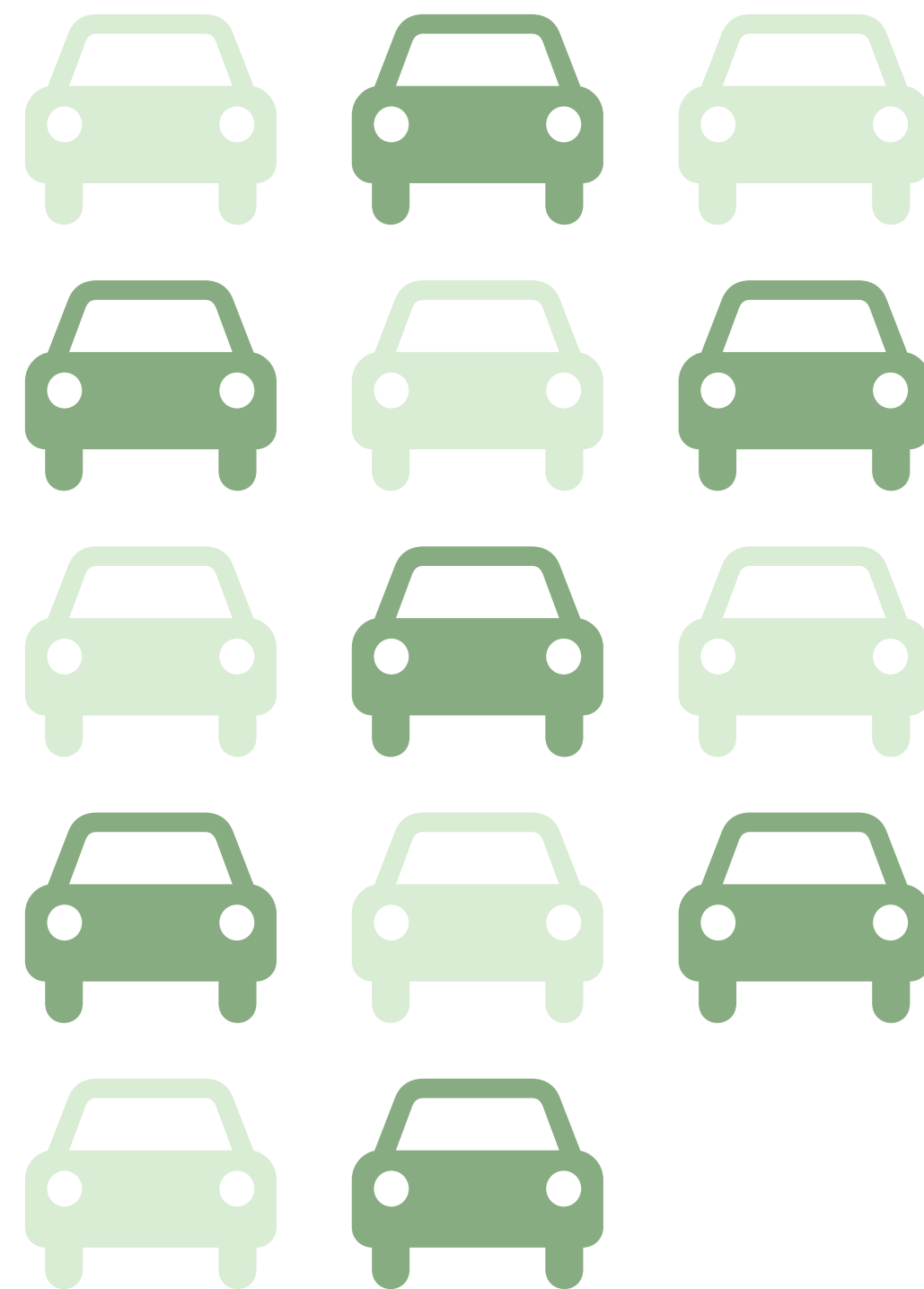


In 2023, Riverside County was the fastest growing county in California with a population increase of 13,800

TRAFFIC TRENDS

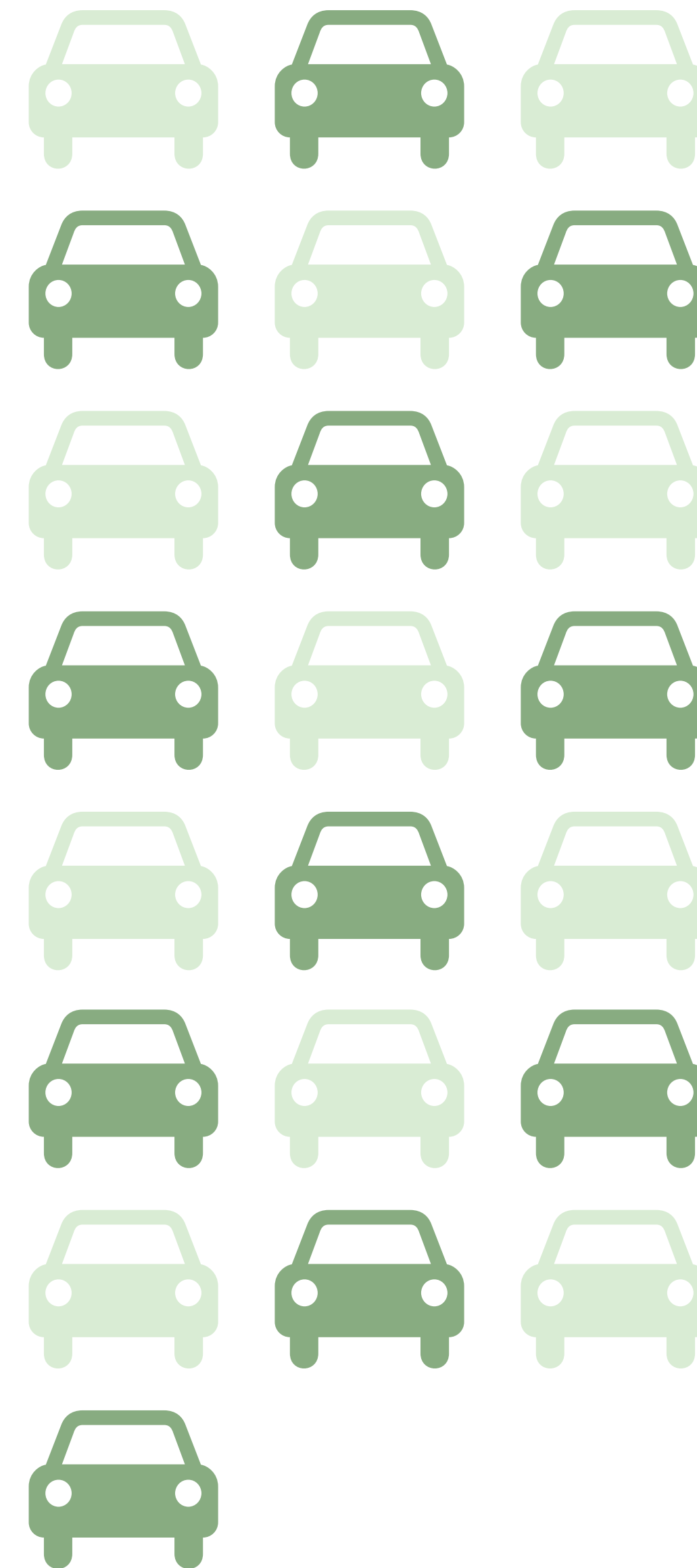
141,000

In 2019, **141,000 vehicles per day** travelled the I-15 corridor, which only has the capacity to handle 120,000 vehicles per day



225,000

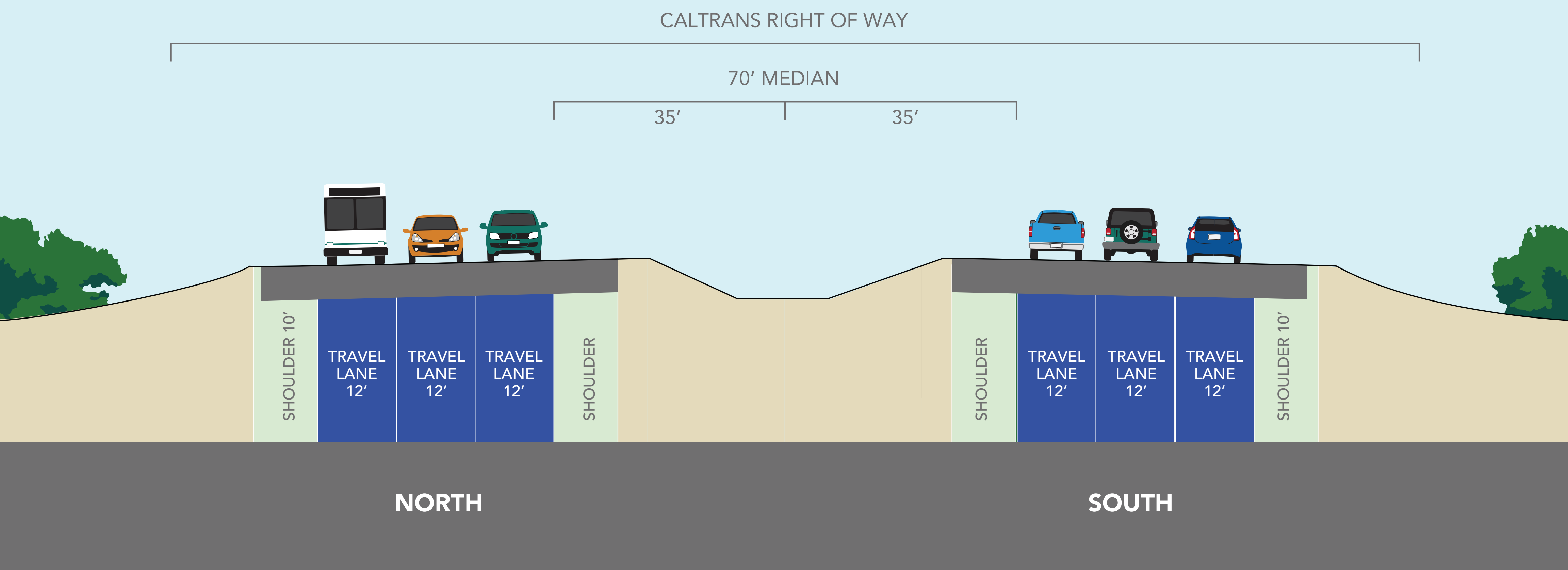
2040 forecast: **225,000 vehicles per day**



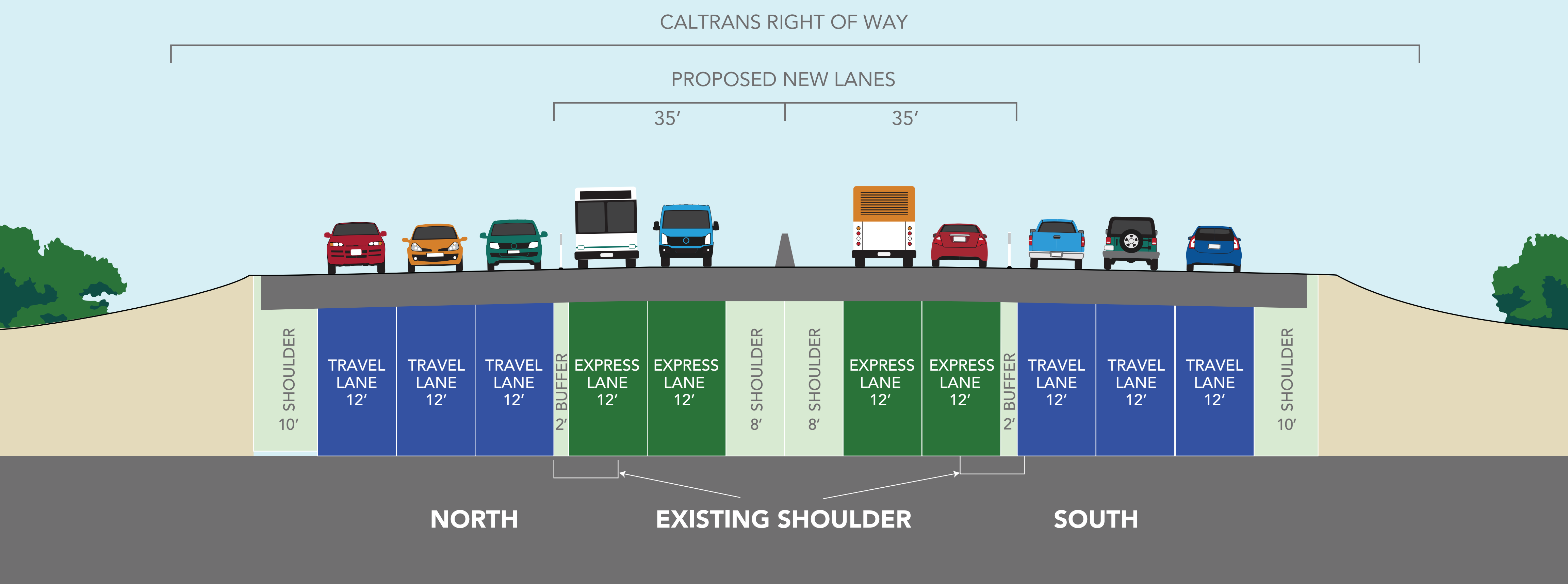


CURRENT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

CURRENT CONDITION



PROPOSED CONDITION

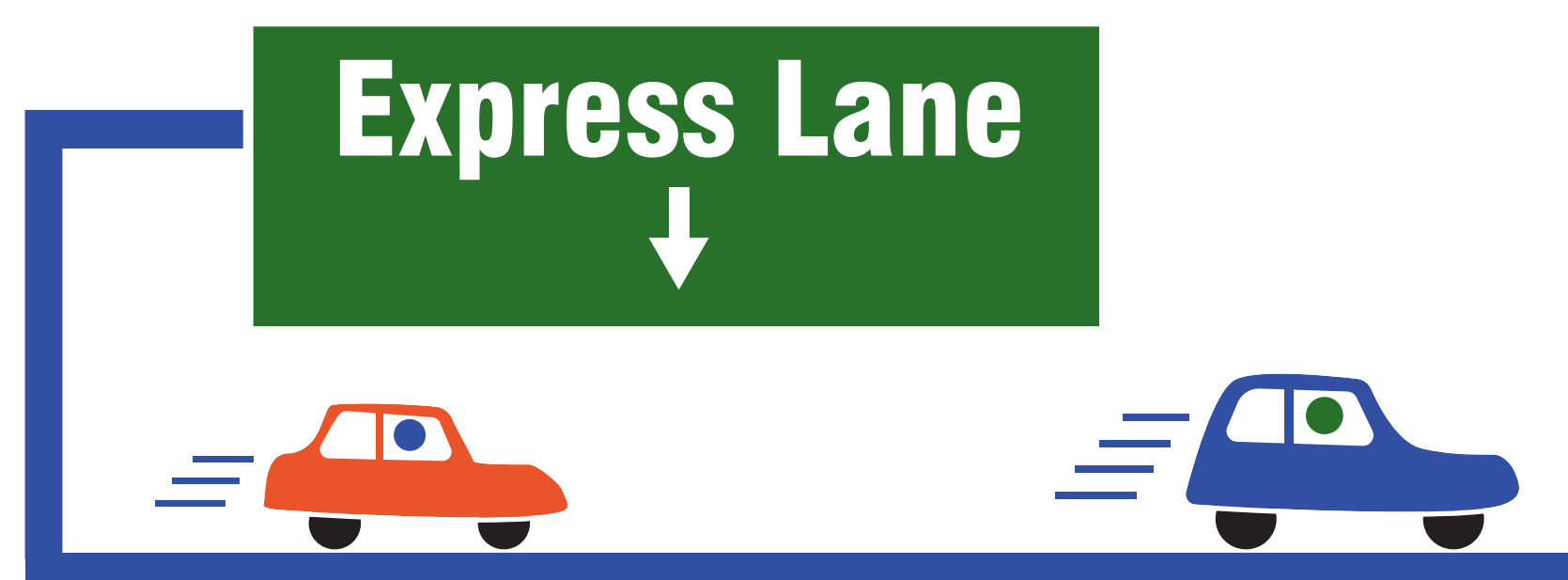


CURRENT I-15 EXPRESS LANE USE

Express lanes provide a viable option to manage congestion along the I-15 corridor and are in demand by Riverside County residents



Average toll paid in Riverside County portion of I-15 Express Lanes



15 MILES

Four Segments of Express Lanes in Riverside County on I-15

+81,100

Average Daily Transactions



Buses can utilize the Express Lanes at no cost



HOV3+

Travel for Free with FasTrak Flex Switchable Transponder

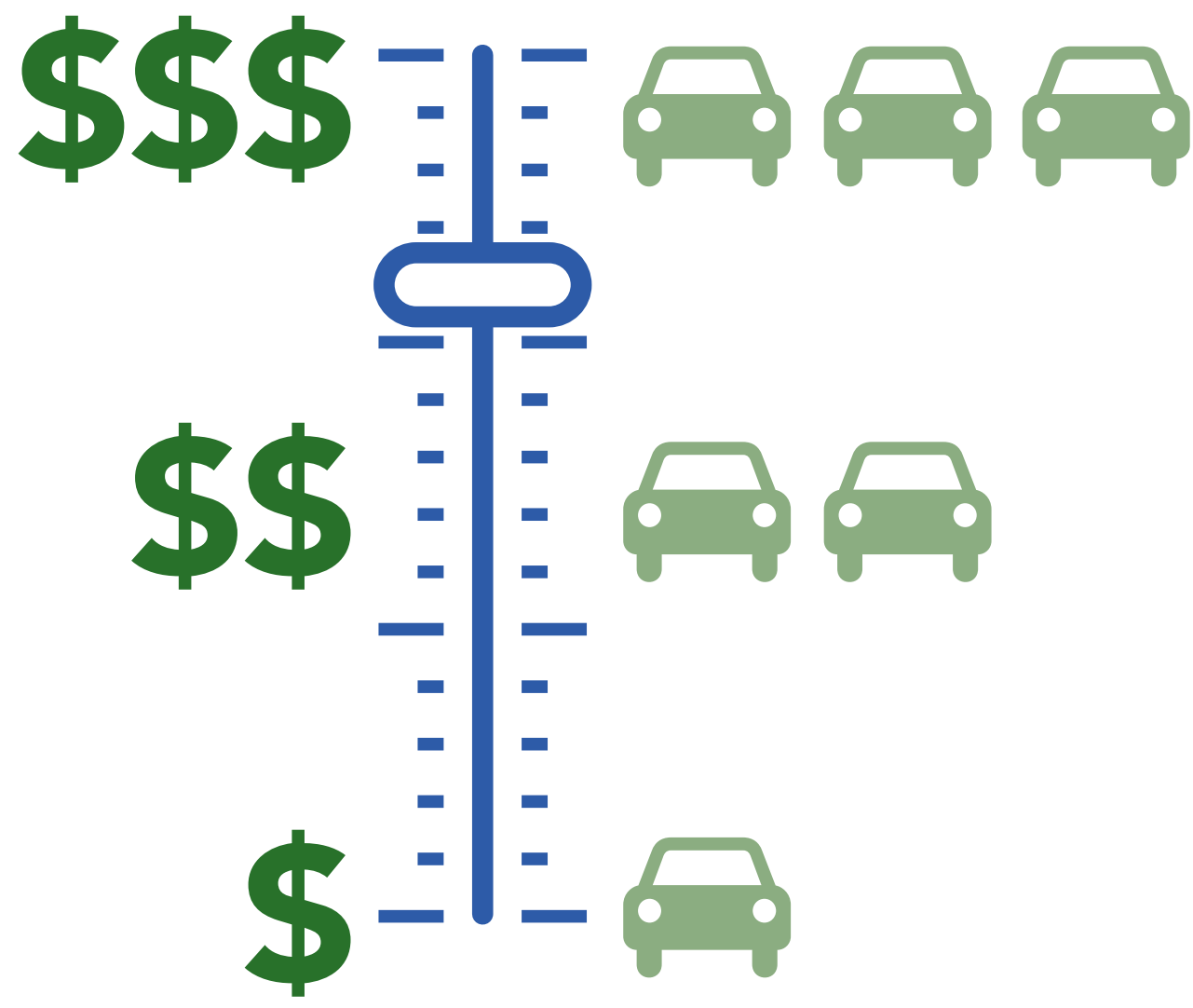
+30 MILLION



Annual Transactions



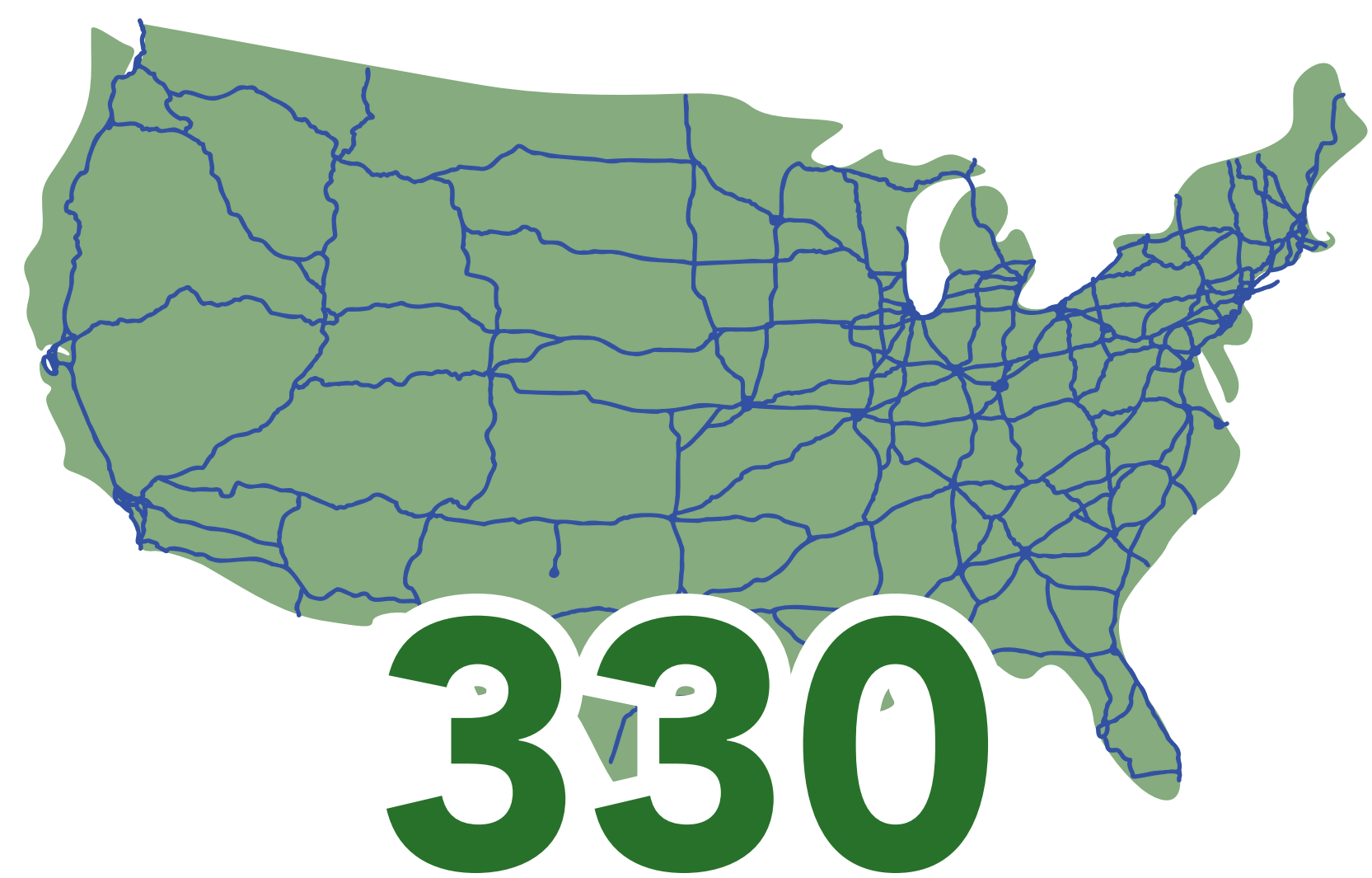
HOW DO EXPRESS LANES WORK?



DYNAMIC TOLLING

- Express lanes help manage traffic flow
- Toll rates based on congestion level within the toll lanes
- Goal to improve travel times and flow of traffic

Number of toll roads and tolled express lane facilities across 35 states



FasTrak® is an electronic toll collection system used in California

RCTC'S INTEROPERABLE SYSTEM

- No toll booths; all tolls are collected electronically
- Vehicles only need a valid FasTrak® account and transponder
- Drivers can use their transponder on any tolled system in California

AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSES

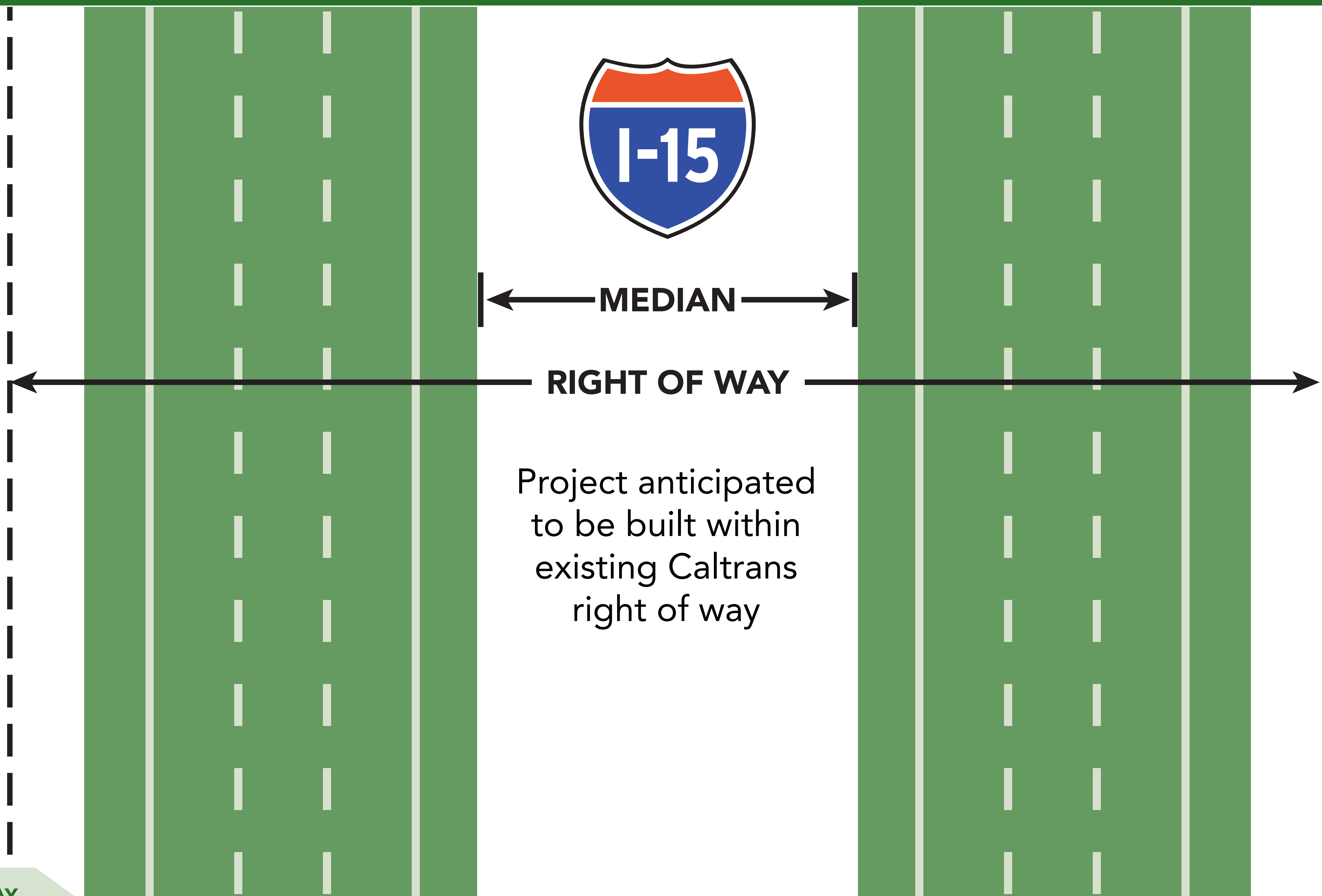
To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the following resources were studied to determine to what extent these resources would be affected by the proposed project.



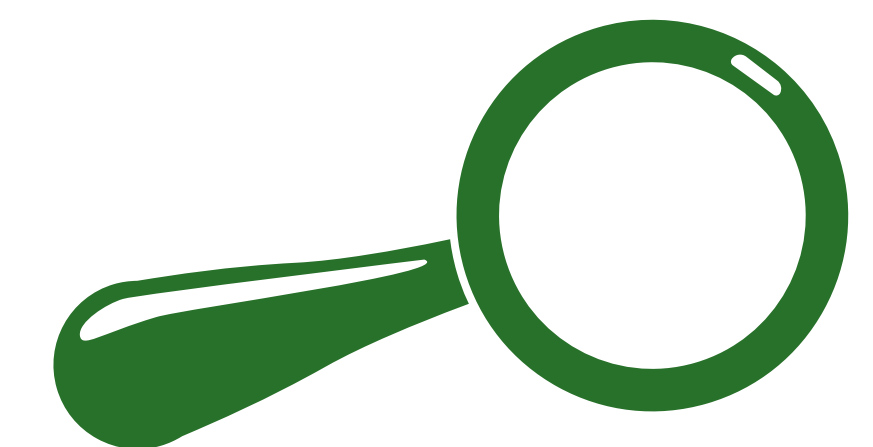
RESOURCE TOPICS

- Aesthetics/Visual
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Community Impact Assessment
- Cultural Resources
- Cumulative Impacts
- Energy Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Paleontological Resources
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Traffic/Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

RIGHT OF WAY



Project anticipated
to be built within
existing Caltrans
right of way



Right of way needs have
been studied

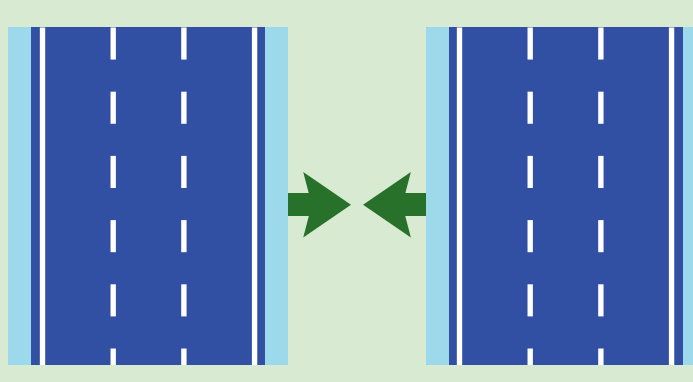
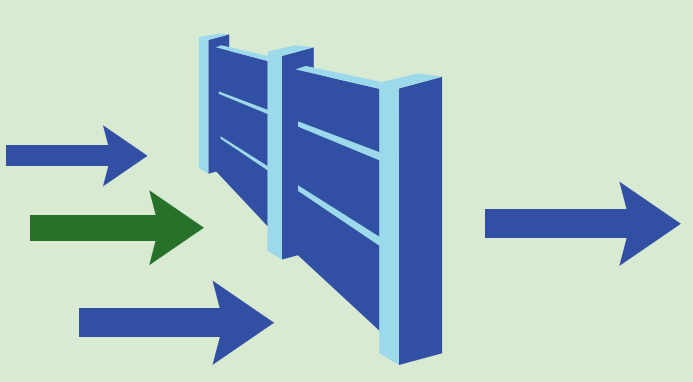

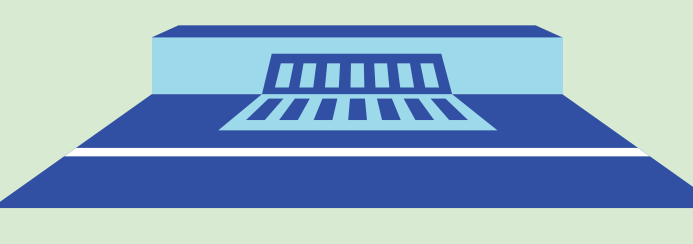


KEY PROJECT FEATURES

Proposed Lane Improvements Between El Cerrito in Corona to Main Street in Lake Elsinore

- Two tolled Express Lanes in both directions of travel between El Cerrito Road to SR-74 (Central Avenue) - totaling 15.8 miles of express lanes
- Southbound Auxiliary Lanes
 - Cajalco Road to Weirick Road
 - Nichols Road to SR-74 (Central Avenue)
 - SR-74 (Central Avenue) to Main Street
- Reconfigures Southbound I-15 Weirick Road Off-Ramp to a dual-lane exit



Additional Corridor Improvements

 <p>Widening of up to 15 mainline freeway bridges</p>	 <p>Potential noise barriers and retaining walls</p>	 <p>Additional choices for transit services</p>
 <p>Drainage system improvements to collect and treat roadway run-off</p>	 <p>Electronic toll collection equipment, ramp meters, lighting, and signs</p>	 <p>Guide signs 2-miles prior to start of the Tolled Express Lanes network</p>



PRELIMINARY EXPRESS LANE ACCESS LOCATIONS



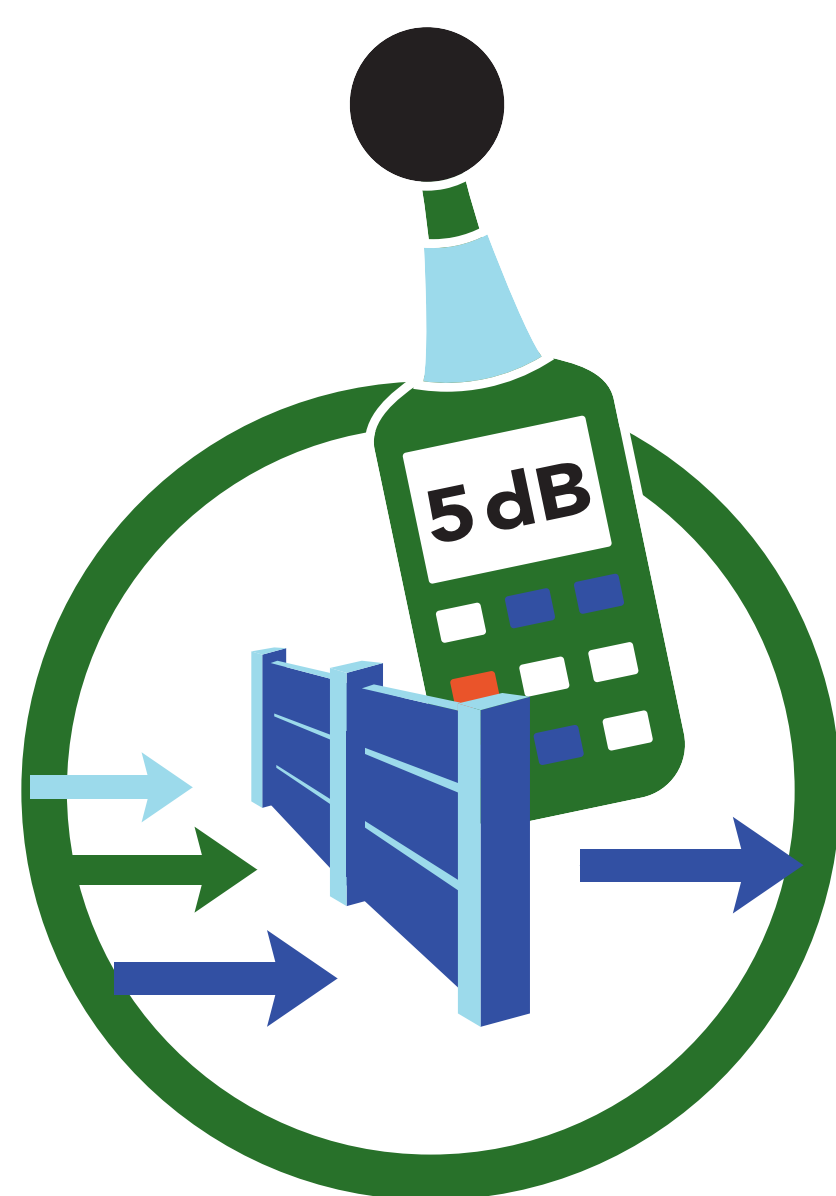
We appreciate your feedback on the Preliminary Express Lane Access Locations

NOISE & NOISE BARRIERS

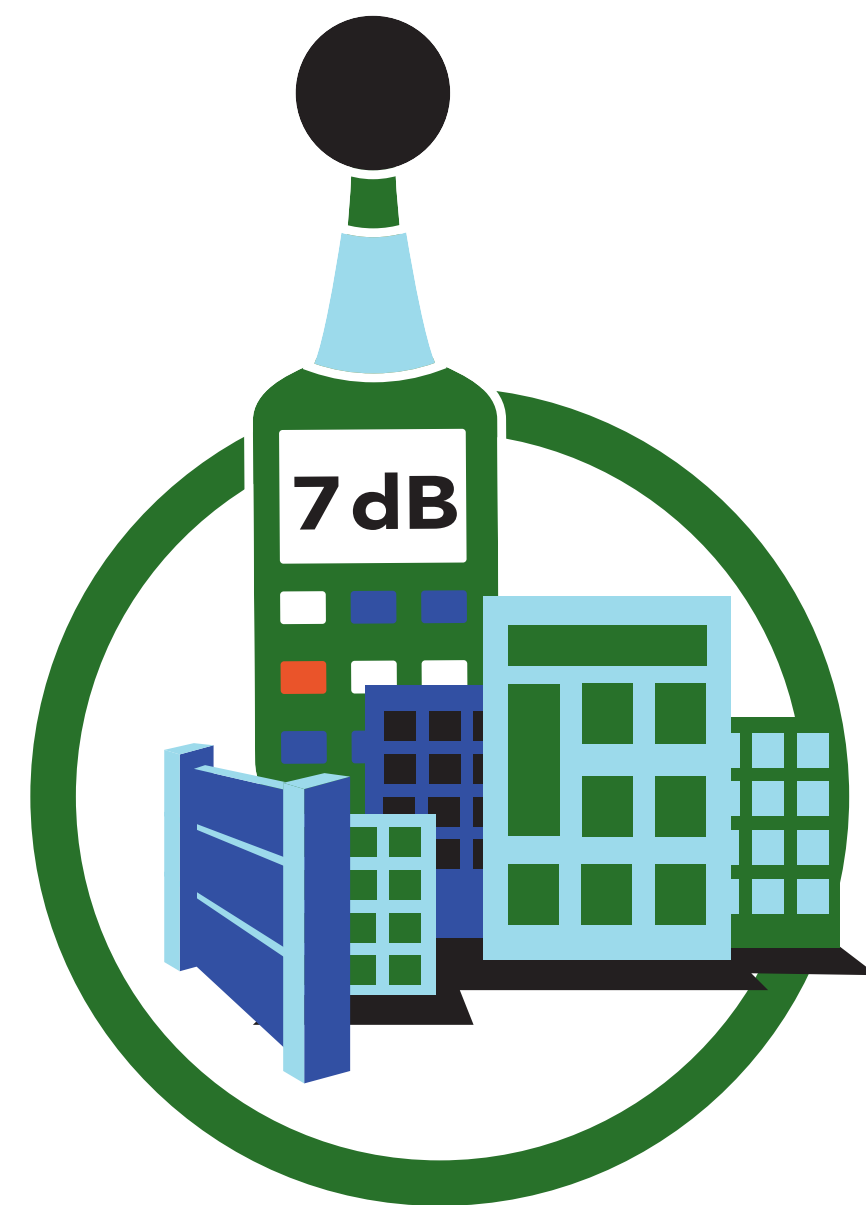
Noise data was gathered and the need for noise barriers was evaluated based on the following feasible and reasonableness criteria:



FEASIBLE
Does the future noise level approach or exceed noise criteria?



FEASIBLE
Would a noise barrier reduce noise by 5 decibels?



REASONABLE
Would a noise barrier reduce noise at one or more properties by 7 decibels?



REASONABLE
Is a noise barrier within the cost allowance?



REASONABLE
Did the impacted property owners vote yes for a noise wall?



FUNDING

ENVIRONMENTAL PHASE

\$29 million in federal funding for project environmental phase.



\$29,000,000

CONSTRUCTION PHASE

If this project is approved, RCTC will explore federal, state, local, toll, and other sources to fund future project phases.



ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE



May 2019: Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Process begins

October 21 – November 22, 2019: 30-day Public Scoping Period

December 2019 – September 2024: Technical Studies and Analyses, Development of Draft Environmental Document, Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement

October 9 – November 26, 2024: 45-day Draft Environmental Document Public Review and Comment Period

Next Steps:

- Respond to public and agency comments
- Select Preferred Alternative
- Produce Final Environmental Document
- Project Approval with filing of Notice of Determination



PUBLIC REVIEW COMMENTS

We welcome your comments! Please provide input during our 45-day public review period, October 9 to November 26, 2024.

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS USING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS



State your comments to the court reporter



Email comments to 15projectsouth@rctc.org or visit rctc.org/15ProjectSouth and click "Submit Comment"



Mail written comments to:
Jeff Dietzler
Riverside County
Transportation Commission,
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor,
Riverside, CA 92501



Fill out a comment card and submit it tonight or by mail through November 26, 2024



RIVERSIDE
COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Interstate 15
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT
Southern Extension



STAY CONNECTED

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

Register to receive project updates,
written responses to public comments,
and other notifications.

