

Public Comment Agenda Item No. 15

Board of Directors Meeting

**May 1, 2024
10:15 a.m.**

Location:

San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
First Floor Lobby Board Room
1170 W. 3rd Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent – Regional/Subregional Planning

15. Award Contract No. 24-1003069 for State Route 247/62 Emergency Bypass Study

That the Board, acting as the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority:

Approve the award of Contract No. 24-1003069 to WSP USA, Inc., for the State Route 247/62 (SR 247/62) Emergency Bypass Study to develop a bypass strategy for Interstate 15/Cajon Pass closures and identify potential geometric and operational improvements on SR 247 and SR 62, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$762,899, to be funded by State earmark funds from the Priority Legislative Budget Projects Program, for a term ending June 30, 2026.

Written public comment was received and is attached for your information.



San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
1170 W. 3rd Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410

May 1, 2024 Agenda Item #15

Honorable Board President Rowe and Board Members,

While the Town of Yucca Valley is in support of the action proposed in agenda item #15 regarding the State Route 247/62 Emergency Bypass Study, we want to highlight our concerns regarding both existing conditions and potential future conditions. The eastern terminus of State Route 247 intersects with State Route 62 in the center of the Town of Yucca Valley. Current traffic studies indicated that there are in excess of 30,000 vehicle trips per day at this intersection and on State Route 62 within the Town limits. Additionally, the intersection of SRs 247/62 currently operates at a level of service (LOS) of D, depending on time of day. Critically, this failing level of service is often caused by increased truck traffic proceeding northbound on SR 247 from eastbound SR 62. The current capacity of SR 62 at the intersection of SR 247 is not sufficient to provide an adequate level of service under existing conditions.

Therefore it is paramount that the scope of work in the Bypass Study explicitly include analysis of existing conditions, capacity, level of service and modeling of the impact of any additional traffic flow resultant from potential bypass traffic. Further, the study must include identified modifications, expansions, and mitigation measures to ensure an adequate level of service throughout any proposed bypass route. It is critical that the study also include the identification of corresponding costs estimates, funding models, and funding sources for future expansion as such improvements are not within the financial scope of the Town.

As a graphical illustration, please see the photos on pages 2&3, taken on Monday April 29, 2024 at 1:30 pm. Pay particular attention to the impact of semi-truck traffic impeding the efficient flow on SR 62, while waiting to enter northbound SR 247.

Thank you for your understanding of our concerns regarding this study and the resultant recommendations. Our concern for associated potential negative traffic impacts and gridlock cannot be overstated. We look forward to working with SBCTA to effectively plan for our collective future.

Curtis

Curtis Yakimow
Town Manager



Photos of SR 62 Eastbound taken on April 29, 2024 at 1:30 pm.





Photos of SR 62 Eastbound taken on April 29, 2024 at 1:30 pm.

