

Municipal Services Agency

Department of Transportation

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County of Sacramento

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HAZEL AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT – MADISON AVENUE TO US HIGHWAY 50 ~DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW~

In early-January, the Sacramento County Department of Environmental Review and Assessment (DERA) issued a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Hazel Avenue Widening Project. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act, the EIR/EA evaluated a number of project alternatives. The evaluation determined that the environmentally superior alternative, which meets the project purpose and need, is a six-lane widening project with a parkway feature including landscaped areas, a pedestrian/bike path, and sound walls where appropriate.

Community members are invited to stop by an **Informational Open House** on the proposed project on **Thursday, February 16, 2006** at any time between **5:00 and 8:00 PM**. The Open House will be held at the **CSUS Aquatic Center** (1901 Hazel Avenue @ Gold Country Boulevard). Exhibit boards will be on display, project team members will be available to answer questions, and attendees will be provided with an opportunity to provide formal comments on the Draft EIR/EA.

You may also testify before the Fair Oaks Community Council on the project and adequacy of the environmental document at a **Public Hearing** which is being held at **6:30 PM** on **Wednesday, March 1, 2006**. The Public Hearing will also be held at the **CSUS Aquatic Center** (1901 Hazel Avenue @ Gold Country Boulevard).

The Draft EIR/EA (including an Executive Summary) may be downloaded from the DERA web site at **www.dera.saccounty.net** (click Hazel Avenue Widening Project under Major

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“Leading the Way to Greater Mobility”

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Projects in the left-hand sidebar) or via a link on the Project web site at www.hazelavenue.org. A hard copy is also available upon request by calling Antonia Barry at (916) 874-6990 or e-mailing barrya@saccounty.net.

Written and verbal comments will be accepted until close of business on March 1, 2006 and at the public hearing that evening. Written comments should be sent to County of Sacramento, Department of Environmental Review and Assessment, Attention: Antonia Barry, 827 7th Street, Room 220, Sacramento, CA 95814 or submitted via e-mail to barrya@saccounty.net.

The Sacramento County Department of Transportation is dedicated to providing a safe and efficient transportation system that achieves community mobility for citizens, businesses, and industry within Sacramento County. The goal of the Hazel Avenue Corridor Study is to identify the best means of accommodating motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and residents along the two-mile section of Hazel Avenue from Madison Avenue to US Highway 50.

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