



55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901-2902 • Tel: (831) 775-0903 • Website: www.tamcmonterey.org

November 30, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, MS-52  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Transportation Agency Comments on the 2015 Allocation Plan**

Dear Mr. Kempton:

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County is the Regional Transportation Planning and Congestion Management Agency for Monterey County. Transportation Agency staff appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the draft 2015/16 Allocation Plan in advance of the December 9, 2015 California Transportation Commission hearing. In addition, the briefings held by Commission staff after the release of the draft plan have been beneficial to help understand the proposal and provide necessary input.

As has been discussed at previous Commission meetings, the current structure of using gas tax revenues as a means to finance public infrastructure improvements is proving to be unsustainable. With increasing fuel efficiency in modern vehicles, including the promotion of electric and hybrid vehicles, the receipts and purchasing power of gas tax revenues will continue to decline even as vehicle miles travelled are projected to increase.

Compounding this issue for the public agencies that are charged with funding and delivering transportation improvements to State highways and local streets and roads, is the potential volatility of gas tax revenues that filter in to funding programs, such as the State Transportation Improvement Program. This effect is being realized with the Allocation Plan for the 2015/16 fiscal year, and is now being projected to continue into the 2016/17 fiscal year.

For Monterey County, this means that high-priority safety and capacity improvements that are funded with State Transportation Improvement Program dollars, such as the Highway 156 Improvement Project, may need to search for new sources of funding.

November 30, 2015

Thank you for considering our comments on the draft 2015/16 Allocation Plan. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Zeller of my staff at (831) 775-4416.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL ZELLER For:  
Debra L. Hale  
Executive Director

# MONTEREY COUNTY



## Monterey County Board of Supervisors

**John M. Phillips**  
Supervisor District 2

**Josh Stratton**  
Aide to the Supervisor

**Claudia J. Link**  
Aide to the Supervisor

December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, MS-52  
Sacramento, California 95814

P.O. Box 787  
Castroville, CA 95012  
831-755-5022  
831-633-0201  
District2@co.monterey.ca.us

RE: 2015 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding – Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing project

Mr. Kempton,

On behalf of the citizens of Monterey County, Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC), the students and residents of Castroville and the overall safety of our community, I formally request that you preserve the fiscal year 2015/16 funding for the Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing project.

This safety project is an important, urgent project for the welfare of an entire community. Currently, pedestrians, primarily students, must either cross through agricultural fields and active train tracks, or they must walk along the busy State Highway 156 to get to and from school every day. Other pedestrians must carry bikes, strollers and escort small children through this unsafe terrain just to get to the other side of the train tracks. Further, agricultural fields have specific limitations on when they can be sprayed when in close proximity to schools, but students travelling to and from school through the fields are not protected by these regulations and susceptible to pesticide impacts.

The Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing project is of the utmost importance to our community and cannot be delayed any longer. It is very important that this project be programmed for the fiscal year 2015/16 under the Active Transportation STIP allocation category.

Thank you for considering the inclusion of this important project. We have been looking forward to this much needed active transportation route in a disadvantaged community in much need of safe pedestrian access.

Sincerely,

John M. Phillips  
Supervisor, 2<sup>nd</sup> District



**CASTROVILLE  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES DISTRICT**

P.O. BOX 1065  
OFFICE: 11499 GEIL STREET  
CASTROVILLE, CA 95012  
FAX (831) 633-3103

24-HOUR TELEPHONE: (831) 633-2560

Mr. Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street MS-52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

December 8, 2015

RE: Transportation Agency Comments on the 2015 Allocation Plan and Support for Funding the Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project category is proposed to be continued into the 2016/17 fiscal year.

Dear Mr. Kempton:

On behalf of the Castroville Community Services District and the community of Castroville, I am writing this letter to request your support to preserve the funding of the Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project in fiscal year 2015/16.

In reviewing the draft 2015/16 allocation plan, it appears that funding for the Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project will be delayed.

Safety is a major concern within this project area. In addition to the High School and the Monte Del Lago trailer park (319 units) CHISPA has developed the Moro Cojo housing subdivision (135 single family homes), the Moro Lindo and El Cerrito Townhomes (90 apartment units) which are located within the project corridor. Many of the residents utilize the existing bicycle and pedestrian path along Castroville Blvd to connect to Castroville.

Currently, at the grade crossing, travelers must pick up their bikes and strollers to cross the railroad track which is unsafe.

Castroville is a small, disenfranchised community within Monterey County that has a large low income population that historically has been underserved, and lacks many basic amenities that surrounding communities have such as: safe pedestrian walkways, bicycle trails, parks, and recreational fields where our children can safely play soccer, football, and baseball.



**North Monterey County Unified School District**  
**District Office – Business Services**  
 8142 Moss Landing Rd., Moss Landing, California 95039-9617 (831) 633-3343

December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
 Executive Director  
 California Transportation Commission  
 1120 N Street, MS-52  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Transportation Agency Comments on the 2015 Allocation Plan**

Dear Mr. Kempton:

I am writing to request your reconsideration for funding allocations to preserve funding for the **Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project in fiscal year 2015/16**. The project is critical to ensure a safe path of travel for our students to safely travel to and from school. This priority safety project is located in an identified "disadvantaged community" in North Monterey County and provides a link for bicyclists and pedestrians to access nearby housing and schools. Currently, bicyclist and pedestrians (students) use this undesignated route with an informal at grade crossing where travelers must pick up their bikes and strollers to cross the railroad tracks. The project provides a safe, continuous, legal and convenient path and bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, and is on track for construction in Summer 2016.

The North Monterey County Unified School Districts serves over 4,500 students in grades K-12, along with preschool and adult students. 86% of our students are in poverty (federal guidelines) and over 900 students are considered homeless. The District travels over 70 square miles to provide home-to-school bussing to students, however many students and their families are involved in activities before/after school and on weekends and must be able to access safe paths of travel. The comprehensive high school campus is located on Castroville Blvd, off Hwy 156. There is a low-income housing development next to the high school campus of which a large percentage of families with children ranging in age live. These families are forced to travel over the railroad track area as the only means to walk into the town of Castroville. There are over 1,100 high school students and many are forced to travel from the town of Castroville across the railroad track area to get to the high school campus. This is very unsafe and of great concern to parents and community members.

Please ensure that funding is preserved for the Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project in the fiscal year 2015/16. Our underserved community, specifically our children and families need a safe path of travel in order to access schools and critical services.

Sincerely,

Kari Yeater  
 Superintendent

Tab 18

# North Monterey County LULAC

**LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS**  
P.O. Box 1359, Castroville, CA 95012



*President*  
*Diana Jimenez*

December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street MS-52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Vice President*  
*Adriana*  
*Melgoza*

RE: Transportation Agency Comments on the 2015 Allocation Plan and Support for Funding the Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project

Dear Mr. Kempton:

On behalf of the North Monterey County LULAC and the community of Castroville, I am writing this letter to request your support to preserve the funding of the Castroville bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing project in fiscal year 2015/16.

Castroville is a small, disenfranchised community within Monterey County that has a large low income population that historically has been underserved, and lacks many basic amenities that surrounding communities have such as; safe pedestrian walkways, bicycle trails, parks, and recreational fields where our children can safely play soccer, football, and baseball.

Additionally, Castroville is surrounded by three major highways (HWY 156, 1, and 183) that cuts off our community from surrounding areas, which includes HWY 183 that runs directly in the middle of our downtown. These highways make it very unsafe and difficult for children and families to travel through.

The Castroville bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing project is critical to creating a path for our children to safely travel to and from the local high school and their homes. Currently, children and families must maneuver through railroad crossings and agricultural fields to get from Castroville to the school.

Our community has been patiently waiting for the development of this project, which has previously been postponed. We respectfully ask for your assisting in not postponing the funding of this project any further due to safety reasons. We also recommend that the draft Allocation Plan distributes available funding equitably so that disenfranchised communities like ours get a fair chance of funding much needed projects.

We urge the Commission to fund the Castroville Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing Project in fiscal year 2015/2016. Thank you for your consideration of our request and comments.

Respectfully,

*Diana Jimenez*

Diana Jimenez  
NMC LULAC President

*Secretary*  
*Stephanie Ortiz*

*Treasurer*  
*Elsa Jimenez*

*Scholarship*  
*Chair*  
*Noemy Loveless*

*Scholarship*  
*Vice Chair*  
*Sally Childs*



December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, MS-52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: CHISPA Comments on the Draft 2015/16 Allocation Plan**

Dear Mr. Kempton:

In reviewing the draft 2015/16 allocation plan, it appears that funding for the local road rehabilitation category is proposed to be continued into the 2016/17 fiscal year.

For Monterey County, this means high-priority safety and capacity improvement projects such as the Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project will be delayed.

Safety is a major concern within this project area. CHISPA has developed the Moro Cojo housing subdivision (175 single family homes), the Moro Lindo and El Cerrito Townhomes (90 apartments units) which are located within the project corridor. Many of our residents utilize the existing bicycle and pedestrian path along Castroville Blvd. Currently, at the grade crossing, travelers must pick up their bikes and strollers to cross the railroad track which is unsafe.

The bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing will provide a safe and continuous path and bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad track to access nearby schools, shopping centers and recreational activity centers.

We urge the California Transportation Commission to keep funding for the Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project in fiscal year 15/16 to keep this project on track for construction in summer of 2016.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Cleary  
Director of Real Estate Development

CC: Michael Zeller, TAMC

December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street, MS-52  
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Community Support for the 2015/2016 Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Kempton

The community members of Castroville urge you to include funding in the 2015/2016 Allocation Plan to preserve funding for the **Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing Project**. This project will address the safety issue that we currently face with the lack of safe, convenient, continuous and legal paths to our nearby homes and schools.

Please see the attached signatures that are in **support** of the funds for the **Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing Project**. As community members, we need this project to help our community with safe bicycle paths. Thank you for considering our signatures on the draft 2015-2016 Allocation Plan. If you have any questions about our community signatures, please contact me at (831)277-5297.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Noemy Loveless", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Noemy Loveless  
Castroville Community Resident

Support for Castroville Bicycle Pedestrian Overcrossing Project

|    | Print Name             | Signature              | Zip Code |
|----|------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| 1  | Caroline Calderon      | Caroline Calderon      | 95012    |
| 2  | Jaqueline Rodriguez    | Jew.                   | 95012    |
| 3  | Isel Carnacho          | Isel Carnacho          | 95012    |
| 4  | Natalia Hernandez      | Natalia Hernandez 2    | 95012    |
| 5  | Jovita Jacome          | Jovita Jacome          | 95012    |
| 6  | Maria Carmen           | Maria C Cuiriz         | 95012    |
| 7  | LUZ Gutman             | Luz Gutman             | 95012    |
| 8  | Lorena Campos          | Lorena Campos          | 95012    |
| 9  | Lucrecia Cuiriz        | Lucrecia Cuiriz        | 95012    |
| 10 | FRANCISCA G. JOSE      | Francisca G. Jose      | 95012    |
| 11 | Franco Silva           | Franco Silva           | 95012    |
| 12 | ana calderon           | ana calderon           | 95012    |
| 13 | Diana Riddan           | Diana Riddan           | 95012    |
| 14 | Angelica Servin C      | Angelica Servin        | 95012    |
| 15 | Yesenia Alvarez        | Yesenia Alvarez        | 95012    |
| 16 | MARIA T SANCHEZ        | MARIA TERESA SANCHEZ   | 95012    |
| 17 | Ana Laura Calderon     | Ana Laura Calderon     | 95012    |
| 18 | Alicia Calderon        | Alicia Calderon        | 95012    |
| 19 | Resalia Moreno         | R M                    | 95012    |
| 20 | Noemy Loveless         | Noemy Loveless         | 95012    |
| 21 | ROSA CM                | ROSA CM                | 95012    |
| 22 | LINA ASCENCION         | LINA ASCENCION         | 95012    |
| 23 | Gloria Ornelas         | Gloria Ornelas         | 95012    |
| 24 | Maria Luisa Gutierrez  | Maria Luisa Gutierrez  | 95012    |
| 25 | Vindiana Barron        | Vindiana Barron        | 95012    |
| 26 | Teresa Jackson         | Teresa Jackson         | 95076    |
| 27 | Nicole I. Thornhill    | Nicole I. Thornhill    | 95012    |
| 28 | Aidee Landin           | Aidee Landin           | 95012    |
| 29 | CLAUDIA LUNA           | CLAUDIA LUNA           | 95012    |
| 30 | Astellina Montañez     | Astellina Montañez     | 95012    |
| 31 | Anastacia Reyes        | Anastacia Reyes        | 95012    |
| 32 | Mara Serrano           | Mara Serrano           | 95012    |
| 33 | Margarita Ramirez      | Margarita Ramirez      | 95012    |
| 34 | Regina Ortega          | Regina Ortega          | 95012    |
| 35 | Irene Montecano        | Irene Montecano        | 95012    |
| 36 | Maura Garcia           | Maura Garcia           | 95012    |
| 37 | Guadalupe Reyes        | Guadalupe Reyes        | 95012    |
| 38 | Beatriz Saldívar       | Be                     | 95012    |
| 39 | Guadalupe Garcia Ortiz | Guadalupe Garcia Ortiz | 95012    |
| 40 | Alberto Ortega         | Alberto Ortega         | 95012    |
| 41 | Gladys Salazar         | Francisco Rubio        | 95012    |
| 43 | Arceles Moya Villa     | Arceles J. Moya Villa  | 95012    |
| 44 | Maria Sosa             | Guadalupe Sosa         | 95012    |
| 45 | Patricia Sanchez       | Patricia Sanchez       | 95012    |

December 8, 2015

Will Kempton  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street MS-52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Kempton,

The Castroville Neighborhood Watch Program exists to improve quality of life for citizens in our community through neighborhood involvement. At present, over one hundred fifty neighbors have an association with our Neighborhood Watch. One of the primary objectives of the Castroville Neighborhood Watch is to ensure that our community is a safe place for our residents.

A major safety concern for our community over the years has been the lack of safe passage for students and residents to and from our local high school and a large housing development known as Moro Cojo. Without getting into particulars, students and residents who wish to walk or bike to or from the main part of Castroville to North County High School or the Moro Cojo neighborhood must cross through agriculture fields and over an elevated train track which is the main railroad corridor connecting Northern and Southern California. This simply is a tragedy waiting to happen as students, moms with strollers, and the elderly utilize this informal and dangerous route. Our community is largely populated by underserved and "disadvantaged" families who commonly employ walking and bicycling as their main means of transportation. Making the pathway available will significantly promote community safety for our citizens.

Some years ago the Transportation Agency of Monterey County established a project to create a safe path and bridge over the railroad tracks to connect Castroville with the high school and Moro Cojo neighborhood. Last month we were informed that funding for the project had been secured and that construction would begin in 2016. Now we are saddened and disappointed to learn that this project has been pushed back to an indefinite time in the future due to budget constraints. I am writing in behalf of myself and other concerned neighbors of the Castroville Neighborhood Watch to plead with you to preserve funding for the Castroville Bicycle & Pedestrian Overcrossing project.

Thank you for any consideration you could give to our request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rich Coffelt  
Castroville Neighborhood Watch Program



## Kern Council of Governments

### STATE ROUTE 58 CENTENNIAL CORRIDOR CONNECTOR PROJECT IN KERN COUNTY

The “Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act” or the “FAST Act” was signed into law on December 4, 2015; it dedicates \$10.7 billion over five years for freight improvements over the life of the bill. It is the intent of the Kern region partners to seek funding from the freight program of this new law to deliver the remainder of this important project.

*“...The FAST Act focuses on the importance of goods movement to the U.S. economy by establishing a new formula program for highway freight projects, and emphasizes the need to address large-scale projects of national or regional importance by establishing a new competitive grant program, the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) program. The NSFHP program will facilitate the construction of infrastructure projects that are difficult to complete solely using existing federal, state, local, and private funds.”*

#### BENEFITS

The State Route 58 Centennial Corridor project will produce numerous benefits, including: improving local and regional economic competitiveness, reducing travel time, reducing crashes and vehicle operating expenses, and creating jobs.

1. The project provides air quality benefits, reduced crashes, reduced fuel consumption, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions in addition to travel time savings;
2. This project is part of the region’s conforming long-range plan and sustainable communities strategy;
3. Produce savings totaling more than \$1.1 billion over the 20-year life cycle of the project;
4. Produce net savings in travel time, crashes and vehicle operating expense in the amount of \$13.1 million per year in 2015 and \$92.3 million per year in 2035;
5. Improve safety within the regional roadway network by reducing accidents, resulting in cost savings of more than \$7 million per year in 2015 and over \$52 million per year in Year 2035;
6. Improve interregional goods movement by carrying an estimated 5,656 heavy trucks by the year 2035;
7. Create a total of 1,050 new jobs, according to the FHWA website model;
8. The actual benefits under the Build Alternative are \$13.1 million in 2015 and \$92.3 million in 2035;
9. Collectively, these savings are estimated to total more than \$1.1 billion over the 20-year life cycle of the project, assuming current year dollars;
10. The Build Alternative will produce net savings in travel time, crashes and vehicle operating expense;
11. The actual benefits under the Build Alternative are \$13.1 million in 2015 and \$92.3 million in 2035;
12. Collectively, these savings are estimated to total more than \$1.1 billion over the 20-year life cycle of the project, assuming current year dollars.

#### PROGRAM STATUS

On behalf of our partnering agencies including Caltrans, City of Bakersfield, County of Kern and Kern Council of Governments, we ask for your continued support of this truly shelf ready project. Here’s an update on the significant progress made so far:

- ✓ Environmental Clearance – environmental document is signed – the Record of Decision is expected January 2016;
- ✓ Design – the design phase of this project is expected to be completed by June 2016;
- ✓ Rights-of-Way – the rights-of-way phase is expected to be completed by December 2016; and
- ✓ Construction - The final project is expected to be delivered in 3 phases – 1) north connection to Westside Parkway; 2) south section for ramp and bridge work at State Routes 58 and 99; and 3) the straight away segment between the north and south. Segment 1 is scheduled to begin in 2016; segments 2 and 3 would following depending on funding availability in the STIP and future federal freight grant but could be completed by 2020 or sooner.

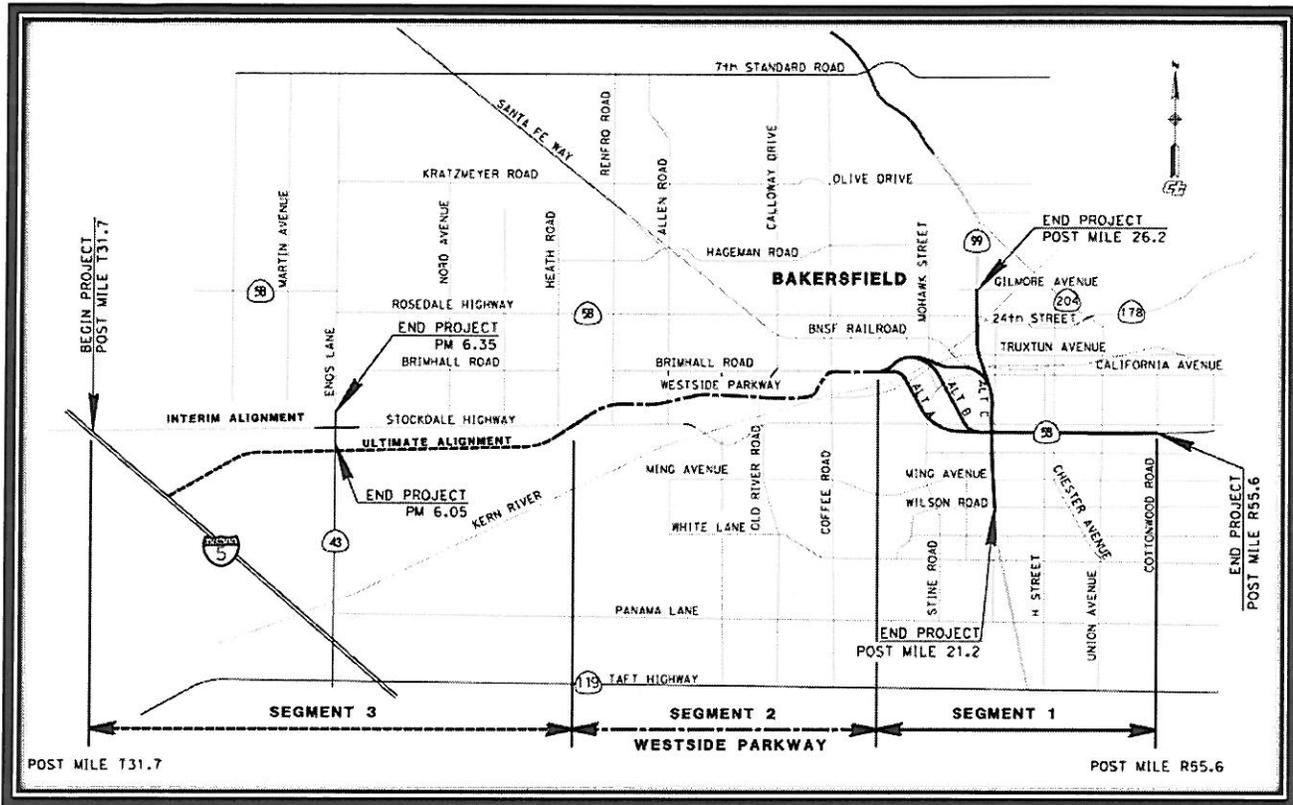
#### Kern Council of Governments

1401 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300, Bakersfield, California 93301 (661) 861-2191 Facsimile (661) 324-8215 TTY (661) 832-7433 [www.kerncog.org](http://www.kerncog.org)

**PROJECT FACT SHEET**  
**Centennial Corridor Freeway**  
**06-48460**  
**KER-58/99**

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Minerva Rodriguez (559-243-3518)

**LOCATION MAP:**



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION/SCOPE**

- **LIMITS:** On State Route 58 between Interstate 5 (PM T31.7) and Cottonwood Road (PM R55.6) and on State Route 99 between Wilson Road (PM 21.1) and Gilmore Road (PM 26.2) in Bakersfield.
- **DESCRIPTION (General):** Construct a new freeway alignment for the Centennial Corridor (Proposed State Route (SR) 58)
- **PURPOSE/BENEFITS:** To provide a continuous freeway route from Interstate 5 (I-5) (post mile T31.7) via the Westside Parkway (WSP) to Cottonwood Road (post mile 55.6) on existing SR 58, east of State Route (SR) 99. Improvements to SR 99 (post miles 21.2 to 26.2) would also be made to accommodate the connection with SR 58.
- **PROPOSAL:** To connect SR 58 to the east end of Westside Parkway by means of a six lane freeway

**FUNDING STATUS**

Current Construction Estimate: \$ 390,000,000 (FY 2016)  
 Current Right of Way Estimate: \$ 180,000,000 (FY 2014)

Programmed Construction Amount: Same  
 Programmed Right of Way Amount: Same

Fund Source: SAFETEA-LU Section 1301

NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE - The SR 58 Corridor is part of a corridor of National Significance stretching nearly from the west coast to the east coast; this 2-mile project and two San Bernardino (23-mile) projects will increase this route to 2,580 miles of continuous highway.

