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EA 05-12910  
Route 1/17 for Merge Lane

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**RE: PROJECT STATUS UPDATE REPORT**

- Right of Way is now on the critical path in terms of the schedule for delivery of the Route 1/17 Merge Lanes project. We anticipate Right of Way funding for this project in July 2004. It will take 8 months from July, (March 2005), to clear the right of way requirements – ownership verifications, appraisal reevaluations, site inspections, and utility relocations. This means construction could begin in September 2005 if construction funds are available.
- As a fall back if construction money is not available for the entire project, the design team will be pursuing splitting out a soundwall project. A small amount of money was added to this project from Caltrans' Soundwall Retrofit Program; and, could be available sooner than the STIP money. This could be used to minimally fund a soundwall project. The soundwalls south of Morrissey could be constructed. Unfortunately, landscaping would not be included as part of the project because of lack of adequate funding. Landscaping on and around the soundwalls would be installed during construction of the main project. This stand-alone project could be ready for construction by summer of 2005 assuming right of way easements would still have to be acquired. We will be sending out flyers, and getting feedback from affected residents on this option in February.

Luis Duazo,  
Project Manager  
Caltrans

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