

SR-79 Project - Microsoft Internet Explorer
 Address <http://www.sr79project.info>



SR-79 PROJECT

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[Description](#)
[Need](#)
[Benefits](#)
[Location Map](#)
[Partners](#)



[Process](#)
[Schedule](#)
[Library/Links](#)
[Email Signup](#)
[Comments](#)
[Contact/Meeting](#)

The SR-79 Project is a proposed realignment of SR-79 between Domenigoni Parkway and Gilman Springs Road in the San Jacinto-Hemet area. The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), the agency responsible for transportation in Riverside County and the administrator of Measure A, Riverside County's 1/2 cent sales tax for transportation, is conducting environmental studies on a variety of alternatives for the project.






A project of Riverside County Transportation Commission
 RCTC • 4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 12008 • Riverside, CA 92502-2208 • 951-787-7141 • www.rctc.org

Source: Geographics


Project Website, November 2004
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[Description](#) [Need](#) [Benefits](#) [Location Map](#) [Partners](#)






[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)

Description

What is the SR-79 Project?

This project proposes to realign SR-79 between Domenigoni Parkway and Gilman Springs Road. Currently, the highway runs motorists through a circuitous north-south route and needs improvements in efficiency, safety and capacity. The new project proposal would realign the highway to provide a more direct route within the San Jacinto Valley. Regional motorists would be able to use a true, north-south route while residents of Hemet and San Jacinto will enjoy better mobility on local streets.

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[Description](#) [Need](#) [Benefits](#) [Location Map](#) [Partners](#)



[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)

Need
Why is the SR-79 Project Needed?

The SR-79 Project is being developed to meet the following important mobility goals for the Hemet-San Jacinto area:

- Create roadway capacity for the area's population and business needs in 2030
- Serve regional movement of people and goods
- Provide a more effective connection between Domenigoni Parkway and Gilman Springs Road
- Separate local and regional traffic by transforming SR-79 into an improved regional highway that takes heavy regional traffic off of local and residential roads
- Resolve shared use of SR-74 and SR-79
- Create a facility that is compatible with future transportation needs which will include a future public transit facility
- Improve overall motorist safety






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[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)


Benefits

What are the Benefits of the SR-79 Project?

For the **General Public**, the SR-79 Project will provide a more direct north-south route for through traffic and improve mobility on local streets.

For **Businesses**, the SR-79 Project will expedite the movement of goods and services and create a north-south route within the San Jacinto Valley.

Everyone will benefit from improvements in efficiency, safety and capacity.

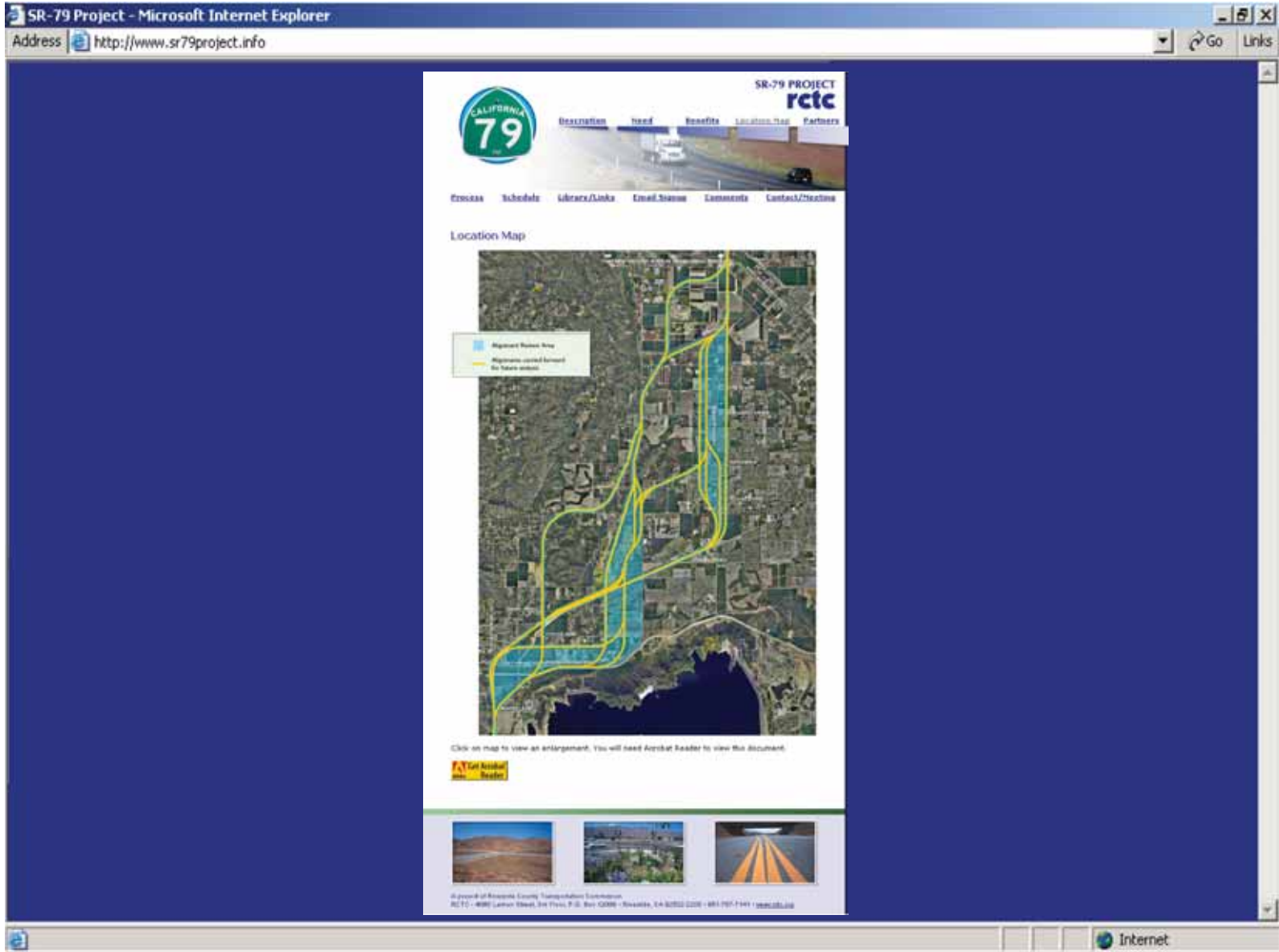




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[Description](#)
[Need](#)
[Benefits](#)
[Location Map](#)
[Partners](#)



[Process](#)
[Schedule](#)
[Library/Links](#)
[Email Signup](#)
[Comments](#)
[Contact/Meeting](#)

Partners

Who are the SR-79 Project Partners?

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the County of Riverside, and the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto are partners in this project.






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[Description](#) [Need](#) [Benefits](#) [Location Map](#) [Partners](#)



[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meetings](#)

Process

How Will an Alignment be Selected?

The current project studies an area between Domenigoni Parkway and Gilman Springs Road, a distance of approximately 19 miles. The project may extend farther to the south past Domenigoni Parkway depending on the alignment that is selected. Additionally, improvements between the Ramona Expressway and Gilman Springs Road have already been constructed although this area is still considered part of the project and study area.

The current alignment of the highway runs motorists on an indirect North-South route that needs improvements in efficiency, safety and capacity. In fact, SR-79 is even interrupted and shares roadway with SR-74 which is a primary East-West route in the City of Hemet. As an example of the inefficiency of the highway, the distance between Domenigoni Parkway and Gilman Springs Road is only 11 miles, yet the distance to travel between the two points on SR-79 is 19 miles.




In developing solutions to this problem, federal and state law requires that a reasonable range of alignments be considered as part of the environmental process. In considering various alignments the project is broken down into smaller segments. Each and every segment is evaluated separately and is also evaluated for how they work together when joined together as part of a single alignment.

So far, 91 separate highway segments have been identified and studied as part of this process. A number of the segments were eventually eliminated for a variety of reasons because:

- They didn't meet the project purpose
- They were infeasible to build
- They caused environmental or community impacts that were unacceptable
- They would conflict with other public facilities such as the local airport

There are a number of segments that are feasible and need additional study. Generally, the segments would be connected to form three possible routes. These routes are classified as Western, Central and Eastern. The [location map](#) identifies these routes with a yellow line. The green area on the map is an Alignment Review Area where greater flexibility will be shown during the technical study period to assure that each of the three alternatives will address and avoid significant environmental impacts that are discovered as part of the technical study process.

In all, 60 segments remain for further analysis. At the end of the environmental process, when a preferred alignment is selected, it may be comprised of any portions of the three studied alternatives. For example, the northern portion of one alternative may be combined with the southern portion of another alternative.






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[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)

Schedule
What is the Schedule for the SR-79 Project?

2004 - 2006	2007 - 2008	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Scoping Meetings • Technical Reports • Evaluate and Redefine Alternatives • Draft EIS/EIR • Public Hearings and EIS/EIR Circulation • Identify Preferred Alternative • Final EIS/EIR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Engineering Design • Right-of-Way Acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction 

Transportation projects have many phases that are required by law before they can be implemented. The SR-79 Project has been the subject of a Realignment Study Report (1998), a Project Study Report (2000) leading to the development of a Purpose and Need (2003) and Project Criteria and Alternatives Selection (2004) document approved by the participating transportation and environmental agencies. The current phase is a Project Report and Draft Environmental Impact Study/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) which will lead to a Final EIS/EIR.

This work is expected to take two to three years. After that, final engineering design and right-of-way acquisition can take place. When that work is completed construction can begin.






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[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)

Library/Links

How can I get copies of project documents?


Project documents are listed below - Choose the one(s) you want:

- [SR-79 Project Newsletter \(1.5 MB PDF\)](#)
- [Project Study Report/Project Development Support \(3.0 MB PDF\)](#)
- [Final Purpose and Need](#)
- [Final Project Criteria and Alternatives Selection for Preliminary Agreement](#)

Public Meeting Exhibits




- [Project Need, Schedule, Partners, and Related Projects \(984 KB PDF\)](#)
- [Draft Western Alignment \(3.3 MB PDF\)](#)
- [Draft Central Alignment \(3.3 MB PDF\)](#)
- [Draft Eastern Alignment \(3.3 MB PDF\)](#)
- [Locally Preferred Alternatives \(1.6 MB PDF\)](#)

You will need Acrobat Reader to view these documents.



Are there other websites relevant to the project?

- [Riverside County Transportation Commission \(RCTC\)](#)
- [Riverside County Integrated Project \(RCIP\)](#)






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Email Signup

It saves paper, energy, and money to communicate via email. Sign up here and get information and newsletters about this project.

*Email:

*Name:

Phone:

Mailing Address:




City, State:

*Zip:

Parcel Number:

Fields with * are required.

I want to be informed about public meetings to be held as a part of the environmental process.

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Comments

We want to hear what you think. If you have any comments about the SR-79 Project please enter them below.

Comments:

Please tell us who you are so we can record your comments correctly.

*Email:

*Name:

Phone:

Mailing Address:


City, State:

*Zip:

Parcel Number:

Fields with * are required.

I want to be informed about public meetings to be held as a part of the environmental process.





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[Process](#) [Schedule](#) [Library/Links](#) [Email Signup](#) [Comments](#) [Contact/Meeting](#)

Contact/Meeting

How Can You Participate in the SR-79 Process?




Email Us:
 To sign up for information, newsletters, and to be notified for upcoming meetings via email click [HERE](#).
 To send your comments about the SR-79 Project via email click [HERE](#).

Write Us:
 Hideo Sugita
 Deputy Executive Director
 Riverside County Transportation Commission
 P.O. Box 12008
 Riverside, CA 92502-2208

Attend a Meeting

Project Scoping Meetings:
 Wednesday, September 29, 2004, 6:30 pm
 James Simpson Memorial Center
 305 East Devonshire Ave.
 Hemet, CA

Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 6:30 pm
 San Jacinto Unified School District
 Conference Room
 2045 San Jacinto Ave.
 San Jacinto, CA

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