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I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS

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# Cultural Resource Studies Overview

presented to the

## Community Design and Local Economy Subject Working Group

March 11, 2010



# Cultural Resource Study - Purpose

- Identify historic resources within study area
- Determine significance of resources
- Evaluate effects on resources
- Assess ability to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects
- Conduct consultation

# Regulatory Framework

- California Environmental Quality Act – Section 15064.5 defines criteria for “historical resources” and determination of significant effects
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act sets national policy for recognizing and protecting historic properties, and established:
  - National Register of Historic Places
  - State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO)
  - Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)
- Section 4(f) of National Transportation Act of 1966 affords additional protection to properties listed on or determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register

# Identify Resources

- Conduct records search
- Define “Area of Potential Effect” (APE)
- Conduct field surveys
- Identify resources that may be significant under CEQA and/or eligible for the National Register

# Determine Significance

- CEQA and National Register criteria are similar:
  - A) Associated with historic events
  - B) Associated with lives of important persons
  - C) Embodies characteristics of an historic type, period, region, or method of construction
  - D) Has yielded or may be likely to yield important historic or prehistoric data

# Evaluate Effects

- Direct effects (property acquisition; destruction of all or part of a resource)
- Indirect effects (e.g., auditory, visual, access)
- Determine whether effects are adverse (Section 106) or significant (CEQA)

# Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation

- Avoidance (e.g., apply design features, shift alignment, consider other alternatives)
- Minimization (similar to avoidance measures, but cannot fully avoid)
- Mitigation (different measures for different types of resources, including “treatment plans”)

# Consultation

- Native American Tribes
- Local Historical Societies and other organizations or people that may have knowledge of historic resources
- State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on determinations of eligibility, findings of effect, and treatment plans



# Next Steps

- Draft Historic Property Survey Report (HPSR) in review (February/March 2010)
- Review preliminary findings (April/May 2010)
- Prepare revised HPSR and conduct consultation (May-August 2010)
- Integrate findings and recommendations into Draft EIR/EIS (Fall 2010)