



**DATE:** August 4, 2020

**TO:** Distribution List of Responsible Agencies and Interested Parties

**PROJECT CASE NO./TITLE:** Garfield/Eastern Intersection Improvements

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed project area is located within the southern portion of the City of Bell Gardens. The intersection is located east of the I-710 Freeway extending approximately 300 feet north of the intersection along Garfield Avenue and Eastern Avenue. The Garfield Avenue/Eastern Avenue intersection is approximately half-way between the freeway access ramps on Florence Avenue to the north and Firestone Avenue to the south. The City is bordered to the north by the City of Commerce, to the south by the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks and the City of South Gate, to the east by the Rio Hondo River and the City of Downey, and to the west by the Los Angeles River, the City of Bell, and the City of Cudahy. Regional access to the City of Bell Gardens is via the Long Beach Freeway (Interstate 710), which extends along the City's western boundary in a north-to-south direction as well as the nearby Santa Ana Freeway (Interstate 5) which lies just North of the City.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Project involves constructing improvements to the Garfield Avenue/Eastern Avenue intersection in the extreme southerly area of the City of Bell Gardens, immediately north of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks that border the City to the south. The improvements include a re-alignment of the existing "Y" intersection into a "T" intersection, constructing associated traffic signal modifications, implementing Best Management Practices, and constructing other improvements such as landscaping that will increase traffic safety, intersection capacity, and intersection operations in coordination with traffic operations along Garfield Avenue and Eastern Avenue. The proposed improvements will mitigate future growth projections, together with increased traffic from the I-710 Freeway improvements and future Level of Service impacts. Project construction phases are assumed to occur over approximately 18 months.

More specifically, the Project will consist of the following components:

- The new west-bound approach from Garfield Avenue to Eastern Avenue will consist of four travel lanes. The new travel lanes will include one dedicated right-turn lane, a joint through-lane and right-turn lane, and two left-turn lanes.
- Garfield Avenue's east bound connection with Eastern Avenue will be widened and still consist of two travel lanes.
- The north-bound approaches on Eastern Avenue at Garfield Avenue will consist of two dedicated right-turn lanes and two through - lanes. Eastern Avenue, north of Garfield Avenue, will consist of two travel lanes with a new bicycle lane. The south-bound approaches of Eastern Avenue north of Garfield Avenue will consist of a dedicated right-turn lane and two through - lanes. Eastern Avenue south of Garfield Avenue will consist of two travel lanes.
- The portion of Garfield Avenue located adjacent to Eastern Avenue will be landscaped and a monument sign will be constructed. In addition, medians will be installed on Eastern Avenue.

**LEAD AGENCY AND PROJECT SPONSOR:**

City of Bell Gardens  
Public Works Department  
8327 Garfield Avenue  
Bell Gardens, CA 90201  
Attn: Chau Vu, Public Works Director

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, notice is given to responsible and interested agencies that the City of Bell Gardens Public Works Department plans to oversee preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the above-described project. The purpose of this notice is to solicit guidance from your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the MND. Information in that regard should be submitted to this office as soon as possible, but **not later than thirty (30) days** after receiving this notice.

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:**

A SCOPING SESSION has been scheduled before the CITY OF BELL GARDENS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT to bring together and resolve concerns of affected federal, State and local agencies, the proponent of the proposed project, and other interested persons; as well as to inform the public of the nature and extent of the proposed project indicated below, and to provide an opportunity to identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant effects to be analyzed in depth in the MND and help eliminate from detailed study issues found not to be important.

The Scoping Session is not a public hearing on the merit of the proposed project and NO DECISION on the project will be made. Public testimony is limited to identifying issues regarding the project and potential environmental impacts. The project proponent will not be required to provide an immediate response to any concerns raised. The project proponent will be requested to address any concerns expressed at the Scoping Session, through revisions to the proposed project and/or completion of a Mitigated Negative Declaration, prior to the formal public hearing on the proposed project. Mailed notice of the public hearing will be provided to anyone requesting such notification.

**DATE OF SCOPING SESSION: THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020**

**TIME OF SCOPING SESSION: 6:00 PM**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR VIRTUAL SCOPING MEETING:**

*Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, please be advised that the public will participate in meetings telephonically. The public may view the meeting online. The Council Chamber is closed to the public at this time.*

*The City of Bell Gardens will follow the procedures as outlined below for Public Participation at Scoping Meeting:*

- 1. By Live Streaming:** <https://www.bellgardens.org/i-want-to/watch-public-meetings>  
*You may also review it via Facebook and YouTube.*
- 2. By Email:** [vsanchez@bellgardens.org](mailto:vsanchez@bellgardens.org). *Please identify if you will comment on PUBLIC COMMENTS ON EASTERN/GARFIELD PROJECT. Emails will be read during the meeting and shall become records of the scoping meeting. Please submit comments no later than one (1) hour prior to the meeting. If you have questions, please contact Veronica Sanchez, Admin. Specialist at 562-806-7793.*

- 3. By Phone:** Call the Public Works Department at (562) 806-7770 no later than one (1) hour prior to the meeting to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and staff will call you during the meeting at the appropriate time.

Call in to listen in Spanish (Llame Para Escuchar en Español): (562) 806-3983 \* Access Code: 1234

Persons wishing to submit written comments via postal mail, may address them to:

City of Bell Gardens Public Works Department  
Attn: Chau L. Vu, Public Works Director  
8327 Garfield Avenue  
Bell Gardens, CA 90201

Sincerely,

CITY OF BELL GARDENS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
Chau L. Vu, Public Works Director

## PROJECT AREA

### Garfield Avenue and Eastern Avenue Intersection

