

Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation & Section 6(f) Evaluation

Interstate 80/Interstate 580/US Highway 395 Freeway-to-Freeway
Interchange and Connecting Road Improvements
Reno and Sparks, Nevada

November 2018

NDOT Project Number 74020
FHWA Project Number NHFP-080-1(172)

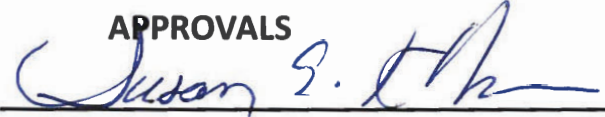



Interstate 80/Interstate 580/US Highway 395 Freeway-to-Freeway Interchange and Connecting Road Improvements
CITIES OF RENO AND SPARKS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
and Section 4(f) and Section 6(f) Evaluation

Project ID 74020
Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c) and 49 U.S.C. 303
by the
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
Nevada Department of Transportation

Cooperating Agencies:
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

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| <p><u>11/6/2018</u> Date of Approval</p> | <p>APPROVALS  Susan Klekar Nevada Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration</p> |
| <p><u>11-6-2018</u> Date of Approval</p> | <p> Rudy Malfabon Director, Nevada Department of Transportation</p> |

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At the conclusion of the environmental process, FHWA would issue a single Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision document pursuant to Pub. L. 112-141, 126 Stat. 405, Section 1319(b), unless FHWA determines statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude issuance of the combined document pursuant to Section 1319.

Comments on this Draft Environmental Impact Statement are due by January 15, 2019, or 60 days after the Notice of Availability is published in the *Federal Register*, whichever is later, and should be sent to:

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ABSTRACT

The Spaghetti Bowl reconstruction includes I-80 from Keystone Avenue in Reno to McCarran Boulevard in Sparks, and I-580/US 395 from Parr Boulevard/Dandini Boulevard to Meadowood Mall Way. The interchange of I-80 and I-580/US 395 is known as the Spaghetti Bowl. The Spaghetti Bowl was constructed between 1969 and 1971, when about 90,000 vehicles per day used it. About 260,000 vehicles per day used the Spaghetti Bowl in 2016. This segment of I-80 and I-580/US 395 has closely spaced interchanges, lane drops, and other outdated design features that, combined with heavy traffic volumes, result in nearly three crashes per day in the study area. As traffic increases, safety and traffic operations on this corridor will continue to deteriorate.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT STATEMENT

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (United States Code [U.S.C.] Title 42 Section 4332) requires that all federal agencies prepare a detailed environmental impact statement (EIS) for major federal actions that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is therefore required to prepare an EIS for proposals funded under its authority if such proposals are determined to be major actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EIS process is carried out in two stages. The **Draft EIS** is circulated for review by federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise, and made available to the public. The Draft EIS must be made available to the public at least 15 days before the public hearing. A minimum 45-day comment period is provided from the date the Draft EIS availability notice is published in the Federal Register. The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) must receive agency comments on or before the date listed on the front cover of the Draft EIS unless a time extension is requested and granted by NDOT and FHWA pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 139(g)(2)(A). After the Draft EIS comment period has elapsed, work may begin on the Final EIS.

The **Final EIS** will include the following:

1. Selection of the preferred course of action (alternative) and the basis for its selection.
2. Basic content of the Draft EIS, along with any changes, updated information, or additional information as a result of agency and public review.
3. Summary and disposition of substantive comments on social, economic, environmental, and engineering aspects resulting from the public hearing/public comment period and agency comments on the Draft EIS.
4. Resolution of environmental issues and documentation of compliance with applicable environmental laws and related requirements.

At the conclusion of the environmental process, FHWA would issue a single Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision document pursuant to Public Law 112-141, 126 Stat. 405, Section 1319(b), unless FHWA determines statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude issuance of the combined document pursuant to Section 1319. Both the Draft and Final EIS are full disclosure documents that provide descriptions of the proposed action, the affected environment, alternatives considered, and an analysis of the expected beneficial or adverse environmental effects.