

Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority

*Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
City of Coachella
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians*

STAFF REPORT
6/11/2020

TO: Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority Chair and Board Members

FROM: Gabor Pakozdi, City Engineer, City of Coachella

SUBJECT: Weight Limits Restrictions for the Dillon Road Bridge over the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC) Project, Project # 2019-ST-109.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Cancel direction for a second public hearing for weight limits restriction signs.

BACKGROUND:

During the Special JPA Board meeting on January 30, 2020, the JPA Board directed staff to hold two public hearings to inform truckers on weight limits restriction signs for the Dillon Road Bridge over Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Caltrans Structure Maintenance and Investigations (SMI) Unit has performed numerous bridge inspections and load rating analysis in 2019. Caltrans SMI conducted a couple routine bridge inspections on January 15 and February 9, 2020. The sufficiency rating (SF) was further reduced 26.4 to 16.6 out of 100.

Because the bridge no longer has the capacity to carry normal truck loads, posting weight limits restriction signs was required by federal laws for "Public Road" open to public travel, which means the public authority (facility owner, Twenty-Nine Palms) has the responsibility to ensure public safety per 23 U.S. Code § 101, 23 CFR Part 655 other, etc. As a compliance measure, two sets each of regulatory (R12-5) and warning [W-20 (CA)] signs were installed on January 7, 2020 to inform truckers to use alternate routes per California Vehicle Codes, Article 5. Bridges and Other Structures [35750 - 35755].

The Code also requires notification by public hearing. Because of the cancellation of the March 2020 JPA Board meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only one public hearing could be held within the 90-day period at the Coachella City Council Meeting on March 25, 2020. Since this Meeting met the public hearing requirement, holding a second public hearing is no longer applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact.