

Spring 2016

# THE I-515 ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT STUDY

Nevada Department of Transportation

## ABOUT THE STUDY



The I-515 Alternatives Development Study was initiated by NDOT in October 2016. The purpose of the I-515 study is to improve traffic flow and safety on I-515 between I-15 (the Spaghetti Bowl) and Charleston Boulevard, by implementing near-term and cost-effective transportation improvements that are compatible with other future improvements.

## Goals

The goals for this study include the following:

- Improve mobility
- Improve safety
- Do not preclude long-term improvements
- Minimize property acquisition
- Minimize environmental impacts
- Improve access to Downtown Las Vegas
- Have independent utility and logical termini
- Improve mobility during special events
- Maintain or improve multimodal connections, and
- Be compatible with adopted plans

## FAQ



### Why is NDOT conducting this study?

Traffic jams repeatedly occur during peak travel periods as a result of traffic, bottlenecks, and higher than average crash rates. NDOT initiated this study to identify near-term and cost-effective concepts to improve traffic between I-15 and Charleston on I-515.

### What will this study accomplish, and when?

During 2016, NDOT will review and evaluate potential improvements, advancing the best improvements. The best improvements will then be grouped into projects. NDOT will select at least one project to proceed through the environmental review process, and be ready for construction in Federal Fiscal Year 2018.

## Get involved in the I-515 Study:



Submit your questions and comments to our court reporter or directly to the project team



Fill out our comment form to provide input on the study and our preliminary concepts



Visit us online to learn more about the I-515 study and to download materials: [NevadaDOT.com](http://NevadaDOT.com)



Contact us! Call or email Project Manager Dwayne Wilkinson: (702) 671-8879 [dwilkinson@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:dwilkinson@dot.state.nv.us)

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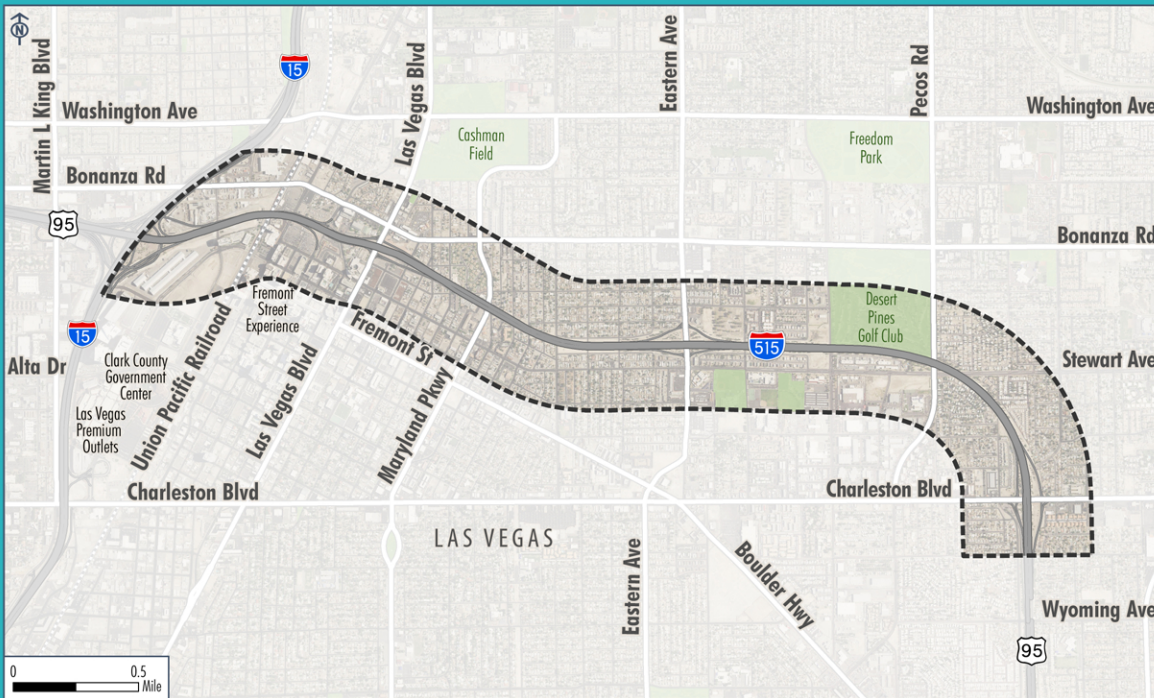
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## Current activities

Following an analysis of the study area, the team has identified several potential operational and safety improvements, and is currently analyzing and evaluating these identified improvements.

For each of the potential improvements, the project team will also develop a cost estimate to further refine and rank the top projects.



## The team

NDOT will serve as the project lead, with assistance from Jacobs, Atkins and Louis Berger.

Most recently, a two-day screening workshop was held in February 2016, in which stakeholders from partner agencies reviewed and evaluated the potential improvements identified to date.



## What's next?

The project team will take into account your feedback and refine the improvements through screening and analysis.

Once the top three projects are identified and ranked, a Value Engineering Analysis and Benefit Cost Analysis will be performed.

The team will use a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) approach to shorten the time required to take projects from planning to implementation. Therefore, decisions made during this study could be used in future NDOT environmental studies to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. More information on this process can be found at FHWA's PEL website:

[www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/integ/index.asp](http://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/integ/index.asp)

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD PROJECT?

Below are some of the criteria by which potential projects are being analyzed:

Potential improvements should:

- Improve operations of the freeway without negatively impacting interchanges
- Improve safety and be able to be completed without major property acquisition
- Have no conflicts with other planned improvements in the area
- Be able to be implemented in the near-term (be constructed before 2025)