

4.14.3.3 As part of the preliminary design of the selected alternative within the HCLE Corridor study area, a visual resource screening plan will be prepared in accordance with County of Riverside General Plan polices (as defined earlier), standards, and regulations. The visual resource screening plan will identify location, size, and type of screening material that may be used to effectively screen the preferred project from sensitive viewer groups within the HCLE Corridor study area. Potential screening methods may include, but are not limited to: earthen berms, heavy landscaping with mature and/or fast growing vegetation, walls (either block or chain link with vegetation growing within), depressed profiles, and/or elevated profiles. This plan shall be incorporated into the preliminary engineering and design of the preferred alternative and evaluated in subsequent Tier 2 environmental studies.

4.14.3.4 As part of the preliminary design of the selected alternative within the HCLE Corridor study area, a lighting plan will be prepared in accordance with County of Riverside General Plan polices (as defined earlier), standards, and regulations. The lighting plan will address, at a minimum: limitation of overall height of light fixtures for interchange and intersection areas, use of shields to minimize upward and off-site light deflection, restrictions on flashing lights, and use of low-pressure sodium lighting in all locations. In addition, the plan shall incorporate measures to minimize glare from structural and pavement surfaces, such as use of non-reflective surface materials, orientation of glass, and use of films or screens to reduce reflected light. This plan shall be incorporated into the preliminary engineering and design of the preferred alternative and evaluated in subsequent Tier 2 environmental studies.

Additional potential mitigation measures related to biological resources, revegetation, and the Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan would also apply to the potential impacts identified above.

4.14.4 Tier 2 Studies

This Tier 1 analysis does not allow for identification of specific visual resource impacts for a particular alternative within the HCLE Corridor study area. Once a preferred alternative has been selected within the study area, and after the alternative has been designed to a sufficient level of detail to evaluate visual impacts such as cut and fill slopes within steep topographic areas, alignment plan and profile, design elements, etc., then a Tier 2 environmental study can be completed and used to evaluate the specific potential visual resource impacts of the preferred alternative within the HCLE Corridor study area. The Tier 2 Visual Impact Assessment will follow the FHWA Visual Impact Assessment Guidelines (FHWA, 1990).