

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**FROM:** California Department of Transportation  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject:**  
Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code

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**Project Title**

Willits Bypass Project

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State Clearinghouse Number	Lead Agency Contact Person	Area Code/Telephone
1990030006	Jeremy Ketchum	916-274-0621

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**Project Location** (include County)

The project, which involves bypassing a segment of existing U.S. 101, is located in the vicinity of the City of Willits, Mendocino County, California.

**Project Description:**

The California Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to construct a new segment of U.S. 101 that would bypass the City of Willits in Mendocino County. The proposed bypass would be a four-lane freeway with full access control and grade separation. The existing U.S. 101 facility within the project study limits is a two-lane conventional highway, which currently serves as the Main Street through the town of Willits. The purpose of the project is to reduce delays, improve safety, and achieve a minimum level of service (LOS) of at least 'C' for interregional traffic on U.S. 101 within the vicinity of Willits through the 20-year design period (i.e., 2028). One no-build alternative and four build alternatives (E3, C1T, J1T, and LT) were considered in the Draft EIS/EIR. Since public circulation of the Draft EIS/EIR, revisions were made to one of the build alternatives, which resulted in the *Modified Alternative J1T*. The Modified Alternative J1T has been selected as the preferred alternative because it would have the least overall impact to the environment. The proposed new U.S. 101 bypass would diverge from the existing facility approximately 0.8 mi south of the Haehl Overhead (Post Mile R43.1). The alignment would then traverse the valley east of Willits and converge back with the existing facility 2.9 km south of Reynolds Highway (Post Mile R49.0). The overall length of the bypass would be approximately 5.8 miles.

This is to advise that the California Department of Transportation has approved the above-described project on (date) 12/15/06 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project [ will  will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2.  An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [ were  were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
5. Findings [ were  were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The  certified EIR or  adopted ND with comments and responses and record of the project approval is available to the general public at:

Willits Public Library – 390 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA

Ukiah Public Library – 105 North Main Street, Ukiah, CA

Fort Bragg Public Library – 499 East Laurel Street, Fort Bragg, CA

Caltrans District 1 Office – 1656 Union Street, Eureka, CA

Caltrans Website – <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1projects/willits/reports.feir.htm>

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	12/15/06	Environmental Manager
Signature (California Department of Transportation)	Date	Title

Date received for filing at OPR:

