

State of California  
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency  
Department of Transportation

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
Notice of Preparation of an Environmental  
Impact Report  
04-NAP/SOL-12 PM 0.0/3.3;0.0/R2.6  
Action Item

Prepared by:  
Gary R. Winters  
Chief  
Division of Environmental Analysis  
(916) 653-7136

CTC Meeting: January 23-24, 2002

Agenda Item: 2.2.a.(2)

Original signed by  
ROBERT L. GARCIA  
Chief Financial Officer  
January 2, 2002

**SUMMARY- NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**ROUTE 12 IN NAPA AND SOLANO COUNTIES**

**04-NAP/SOL-12**

Intersection of Route 12 with Route 29 South of the City of Napa to the connector ramp with Interstate 80 West of the City of Fairfield.

**Proposed Action**

Conversion of the existing two-lane highway known as Jameson Canyon Road into a four-lane divided expressway.

**Programming:**

The project is programmed to complete environmental studies and begin design with \$7.0 million from the Governor's Transportation Congestion Relief Program (TCRP). Napa County and the Interregional Improvement Program have each nominated \$2.0 million for programming in the 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to complete design. The current total project estimate is \$103.2 million and the remainder of the funding will be programmed in future STIP cycles.

**Alternatives Being considered:**

- No-build
- Use existing roadway as the two eastbound lanes; construct two westbound lanes north of the existing roadway
- Use existing roadway as the two westbound lanes; construct two eastbound lanes south of the existing roadway
- Construct an alignment that closely follows the existing alignment, with additional roadway constructed to the north in some sections and to the south in other sections

**Potential Significant Environmental Effects:**

- Visual impacts, impacts to wetlands, impacts to special-status plants and animals, impacts to oak trees, impacts to land use

**Proposed Measures to Minimize Harm:**

- Develop the alignment to minimize effects; habitat replacement for wetland, creeks, and oak trees

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

P.O. BOX 23660  
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660  
(510) 286-4444  
TDD (510) 286-4454



REC'D BY CTC

OCT 23 2001

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**NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

**TO:** California Transportation Commission  
(CTC)  
1120 N Street, Room 2221 (MS-52)  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Attn: Environmental Review

**FROM:** Caltrans District 4  
Mail Station 8-B  
P.O. Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

October 22, 2001

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report [Reference Division 13, Public Resources Code, Section 21080.4 ]

This is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation in cooperation with the FHWA will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an EIR/EIS for the project described below. Your participation as a responsible/cooperating agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

We need to know the applicable permit and environmental review requirements of your agency and the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR/EIS prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to convert a two-lane conventional highway into a four-lane divided expressway from the intersection with State Route 29 south of the City of Napa (Napa County) to a point 0.3 kilometer (0.2 mile) west of Interstate 80 in the City of Fairfield (Solano County), California. The area is known as Jameson Canyon. The existing highway, State Route 12, is a major east-west link in the interregional road system of the northern Bay Area. The section of highway under consideration is 9.5 kilometers (5.9 miles) long.

Alternatives currently under consideration are: 1) take no action; 2) construct a parallel alignment north of the existing roadway to be used for west bound traffic and correct the existing roadway alignment and use it for eastbound traffic 3) construct a parallel alignment south of the existing roadway to be used for eastbound traffic and correct the existing alignment and use it for westbound traffic; and 4) construct an an alignment that closely follows the existing alignment, with the additional roadway constructed to the north in some sections and to the south in some

sections, depending on the terrain and environmental considerations. Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives will be variations of grade and alignment. Specific alternatives and design options will be developed during the scoping process, which will include two public scoping meetings:

Thursday, Nov. 8, 2001  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Cordelia Fire District – Station 1  
2155 Cordelia Road  
Suisun, California

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2001  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Napa Valley College Cafeteria  
2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway  
Napa, California

Focused environmental studies for this proposal have not yet begun. Environmental effects preliminarily identified as potentially of concern include: visual impacts, impacts to oak trees, impacts to wetlands, impacts to sensitive species of plants and animals, and impacts to land use. Cumulative effects will also be evaluated.

In the months after the public scoping process, agencies involved in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be invited to participate in a process to coordinate Section 404 compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Caltrans will then prepare a draft EIS/EIR for review by agencies and the public.

When your agency responds to this notice, we would appreciate any specific details regarding how, in terms of scope and content, the environmental document should treat environmental information pertinent to your agency's responsibilities. Please identify the significant environmental issues and reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures that your agency will need to see explored in the document. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response and direct any comments or questions regarding this project to Susan Simpson at the address shown above (telephone (510) 286-5619). Please include the name of a contact person in your agency.

Date: 10/22/01

Susan A. Simpson

Susan A. Simpson, Chief

Environmental Planning, North

Caltrans District 4

## Project Description

Caltrans, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose to convert an existing two-lane conventional highway into a four-lane divided expressway from the intersection with State Route 29 south of the City of Napa (Napa County) to a point 0.3 kilometer (0.2 mile) west of Interstate 80 in the City of Fairfield (Solano County). The area is known as Jameson Canyon. The existing highway, State Route 12, is a major east-west link in the interregional road system of the northern Bay Area. The section of highway under consideration is 9.5 kilometers (5.9 miles) long. See the attached map of the project location; the USGS Quads are Cutting's Wharf and Cordelia.

Caltrans and FHWA consider it necessary to increase the capacity of this highway to provide for existing and projected traffic demand. The existing facility currently operates at full capacity during commute hours and other high-demand hours. By the year 2025, peak period traffic volume is expected to double. The California Transportation Commission, which makes funding decisions for state highway construction projects, has proposed increasing capacity in Jameson Canyon by converting the highway to a four-lane divided expressway. Specific alternatives and design options will be developed during the scoping process, which will include two public scoping meetings:

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2155 Cordelia Road  
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5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Napa Valley College Cafeteria  
2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway  
Napa, California

When scoping is complete, a draft EIR/EIS will be prepared, and a public hearing will be held.

## Potential Environmental Issues

Visual impacts.  
Impacts to oak trees.  
Impacts to wetlands.  
Impacts to plant and animal species.  
Impacts to land use.

Please direct any comments or questions regarding this project to the address on the previous pages for the Caltrans Oakland office.

Notice of Preparation  
Jamieson Canyon Project  
Project Location Map

