

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 23-24, 2012

Reference No.: 2.2c. (3)  
Action

  
From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LA PAZ ROAD AND BRIDGE  
WIDENING PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-12-28)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the La Paz Road and Bridge Widening Project (project) in Orange County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Mission Viejo (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On June 27, 2005 the City adopted the MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The project is located in the City of Mission Viejo in Orange County. The project will widen La Paz Road from four lanes to six lanes, between Muirlands Boulevard and Chrisanta Drive, including the widening of the existing bridge structures over the Southern California Railroad Authority railroad tracks.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to aesthetics, air quality, cultural resources, hydrology/water quality, and noise. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, removing trees in accordance with the guidelines set by the City of Mission Viejo; implementing a Traffic Management Plan and prior notification to emergency service providers; and perform construction activities in accordance with the City's established noise standards.

On April 17, 2012 the City confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$7,323,000 and is programmed with State (\$1,275,000) funds, Federal (\$4,320,000) funds, and Local (\$1,728,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2011/12.

Attachment

- Resolution E-12-28
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 12 – Orange County Resolution E-12-28

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Mission Viejo (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - La Paz Road and Bridge Widening Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will widen La Paz Road bridge from four lanes to six lanes, between Muirlands Boulevard and Chrisanta Drive, including the widening of the existing bridge structures over the Southern California Railroad Authority railroad tracks, in the City of Mission Viejo, Orange County; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the City found that all significant or potentially significant impacts can be reduced by mitigation measures to a less than significant level; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the City adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the City adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program for the project.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

**LA PAZ BRIDGE AND ROAD WIDENING: MUIRLANDS TO CHRISANTA  
PROJECT LOCATION**

