

M e m o r a n d u m

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 16-17, 2016

Reference No.: 2.2c (3)
Action

From: WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CASTROVILLE
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATH AND RAILROAD CROSSING PROJECT
(RESOLUTION E-16-14)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Castroville Bicycle/Pedestrian Path and Railroad Crossing Project (Project) in Monterey County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

RECOMMENDATION:

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

BACKGROUND:

The County of Monterey (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project will construct a Class 1 bicycle trail on Salinas Street from McDougall Street to the intersection of Axtell Street and Benson Road. Departing from this intersection, the trail will cross over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks with an overcrossing structure to Collins Road and continue as a Class 1 bicycle trail on Collins Road to Castroville Boulevard. The total length of the project is approximately 3,885 feet (0.74 mile).

On February 4, 2014, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to aesthetics, agriculture and forestry, air quality, biological, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality and noise. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: require contractor to prepare a detailed exterior lighting plan; swap impacted farmland for equivalent agricultural land at 2:1 ratio; halt construction activities if buried cultural materials are discovered; and place appropriate sound muffling devices on construction equipment.

On January 19, 2016 the County confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work and programming by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$9,643,010 and is fully funded through construction with State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funds (\$1,500,000), Active Transportation Program (ATP) Funds (\$913,000), Transportation Enhancement (\$5,137,000), Earmark Grade Crossing (\$965,818), Transportation Development Act (\$953,192) and Local Road Funds (\$174,000). Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2016/17.

Attachments

- Resolution E-16-14
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 05 – Monterey County Resolution E-16-14

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Monterey has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Castroville Bicycle/Pedestrian Path and Railroad Crossing Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County of Monterey has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will construct a Class 1 bicycle trail on Salinas Street from McDougall Street to the intersection of Axtell Street and Benson Road; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the project is located in North Monterey County, in the community of Castroville (Salinas Street from McDougall Street to the intersection of Axtell Street and Benson Road); and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approves the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

COUNTY OF MONTEREY
RMA - PUBLIC WORKS
CASTROVILLE RAILROAD CROSSING BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATH

LOCATION MAP

