

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 28-29, 2012

Reference No.: 2.2c.(4)
Action



From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF A NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION AND FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING**
FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SILVA VALLEY PARKWAY INTERCHANGE PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-12-13)

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR), Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Silva Valley Parkway Interchange Project in El Dorado County and approve the project for future consideration of a new public road connection and future consideration of funding?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the FSEIR, Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and approve the Silva Valley Parkway Interchange Project for future consideration of a new public road connection and future consideration of funding.

BACKGROUND:

El Dorado County Department of Transportation (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project will construct a new interchange connection to U.S. Route 50 that will include a six lane overcrossing, new signalized diagonal off-ramps, diagonal on-ramps, and loop on-ramps. The mainline will be improved to include east and west auxiliary lanes between El Dorado Hills Boulevard and the new interchange.

The project for which the FSEIR covers will result in significant unavoidable impacts to transportation/circulation and noise. Specifically, the project would result in a lower level of service on the eastbound slip on-ramp resulting in congestion impacting the ability for on-ramp traffic to merge into thru traffic; possible temporary vibration-induced annoyance to residents during hard rock blasting during construction; and temporary construction related noise in proximity to existing residential land north and south of the project site. Mitigation measures and/or alternatives to the

proposed project that would substantially reduce or avoid these significant unavoidable impacts are infeasible.

The County adopted the FSEIR, Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations for the project on June 28, 2011. The County found that there were several benefits that outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects of the project. These benefits include, but are not limited to, providing transportation facilities to accommodate planned growth as noted in the 2004 County General Plan and the El Dorado Hills Specific Plan; improve traffic circulation to Silva Valley Parkway, El Dorado Hills Boulevard Interchange, Bass Lake Road Interchange, US Highway 50, Serrano Parkway, Latrobe Road, and White Rock Road; improve the El Dorado County sustainable transportation system by augmenting the US Highway 50 HOV and ramp metering facilities; and improve safe pedestrian mobility by providing a significant north-south pedestrian facility crossing of US Highway 50. The County established a Mitigation Monitoring Program to ensure that the mitigation measures specified for the project are implemented.

On February 22, 2012 the County provided written confirmation that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the Silva Valley Parkway Interchange Project programmed by the Commission in the SLPP program. The County also provided written confirmation of its commitment to all of the mitigation measures stipulated in the FSEIR and Mitigation Monitoring Program.

The project is estimated to cost \$60 million and will be constructed in two phases. The project is funded with SLPP (\$1 million) funds and Local (\$59 million) funds. Construction of phase one is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2012/13.

Attachment

- Resolution E-12-13
- Findings of Fact & Statement of Overriding Considerations
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of a New Public Road Connection and Future Consideration of Funding 03 – El Dorado County Resolution E-12-13

- 1.1.1 **WHEREAS**, the El Dorado County Department of Transportation (County) has completed a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Silva Valley Parkway Interchange Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County has certified that the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS** the project will construct a new interchange connection to U.S. Route 50 that will include a six lane overcrossing, new signalized off-ramps, and diagonal/ loop on-ramps in El Dorado County; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, Findings of Fact made pursuant to CEQA guidelines indicate that specific unavoidable significant impacts related to adverse effects upon transportation/circulation and noise make it infeasible to avoid or fully mitigate to a less than significant level the effects associated with the project; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the County adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations for the project; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the County adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Program for the project; and
- 1.8 **WHEREAS**, the above significant effects are acceptable when balanced against the facts as set forth in the Statement of Overriding Considerations.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of a new public road connection and future consideration of funding.