

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 8, 2014

Reference No.: 2.2c (2)  
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION AND FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING - MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE STATE ROUTE 20 CONNECTION PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-14-49)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Addendum for the State Route (SR) 20 Connection Project (project) in Colusa County and approve the project for a new public road connection and future consideration of funding?

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and Addendum and approve the project for a new public road connection and future consideration of funding.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Williams (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located approximately 2,000 feet east of the Interstate 5 (I-5)/SR 20 interchange in the City of Williams in Colusa County. The project will create a new public road connection between the I-5 northbound off-ramp and Husted Road, construct improvements on SR 20 for turning movements, extend Margurite Street 3,200 feet from Ella Street to SR 20, and install a concrete culvert and drainage for the new segment of Margurite Street. As a result of this project the designation of SR 20 between I-5 and Husted Road will change from "freeway" to "controlled access expressway".

On April 7, 2014 the City adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation. In July 2014, at the request of Caltrans District 3, the City commissioned a higher-resolution hydraulic study of the project site and surrounding area for future build-out conditions to verify that the project would not support incompatible flood plain development. The City subsequently prepared and approved an Addendum to the adopted MND on October 3, 2014 to incorporate the additional hydraulic modeling information. The City certified that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment with the mitigation identified and that no new mitigation measures are required.

On April 10, 2014 Caltrans determined that this project is categorically excluded from NEPA pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(d)(7). On October 3, 2014, Caltrans revalidated the project's categorical exclusion determination.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Transportation & Traffic, Cultural Resources, Paleontology, Air Quality, Noise, Biological Resources and Climate Change. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: preparation and implementation of a traffic management plan, monitoring efforts for archaeological and paleontological artifacts during construction including measures to address the inadvertent discovery of cultural or paleontological resources, development and implementation of a lead compliance plan, measures to reduce noise, dust and emissions from construction equipment and operations, implementation of erosion control and stormwater pollution prevention measures, preconstruction surveys and establishment of buffer zones and other avoidance and compensatory measures to minimize impacts to nesting birds, the Swainson's Hawk, the Burrowing Owl, and the Giant Garter Snake, and measures to minimize the spread of invasive plant species.

On May 23, 2014 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 \$6,860,000 and is fully funded through construction with STIP (\$3,500,000) and Local (\$3,360,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2014/15.

Attachments

- Resolution E-14-49
- Project Location

## CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

### Resolution for New Public Road Connection and Future Consideration of Funding 03 – Colusa County Resolution E-14-49

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Williams has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - State Route (SR) 20 Connection Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City of Williams has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum were completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will create a new public road connection between the I-5 northbound off-ramp and Husted Road, construct improvements on SR 20 for turning movements, extend Margurite Street 3,200 feet from Ella Street to SR 20, and install a concrete culvert and drainage for the new segment of Margurite Street; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the City of Williams found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the City of Williams approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum and approve the above referenced project to allow for a new public road connection and future consideration of funding.

# State Route 20 Connection Project Project Vicinity Map

