

Memorandum

Tab 44

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: December 10, 2014

Reference No.: 2.2c (6)
Action

From: ANDRE BOUTROS
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE BUTTE REGIONAL TRANSIT
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-14-65)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Butte Regional Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility Project (project) in Sacramento 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 Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located at the southwest corner of Huss Lane and Aztec Lane in the City of Chico in Butte County. The project will expand the BCAG regional transit (B-Line) Operations and Maintenance Facility. The project includes remodeling of the existing facility, construction of new transit maintenance facilities, bus equipment and storage yard, an associated operations building, and BCAG administrative office space. The project will also construct parking, drainage and utility improvements, as well as street and intersection improvements including an extension of Aztec Road.

On February 28, 2013 BCAG adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation. On April 16, 2013 the Federal Transit Administration determined that this project is categorically excluded from NEPA pursuant to 23 CFR 771.118 (a) and (d).

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology & Soils, and Hydrology & Water Quality. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: best management practices to minimize

construction and operational air quality impacts; avoidance and other measures to minimize impacts to the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle, migratory birds and raptors, the Swainson's Hawk, the Western Burrowing Owl, the Giant Garter Snake, the Western Red Bat and measures to minimize the spread of invasive plant species; monitoring efforts for archaeological and paleontological artifacts during construction including measures to address the inadvertent discovery of cultural or paleontological resources; and implementation of erosion control and stormwater pollution prevention measures.

On November 3, 2014 BCAG 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 approximately \$30,670,581 and is fully funded through construction with STIP (\$2,000,000), other State (\$8,670,581), Federal (\$19,800,000), and Local (\$200,000) funding. The project scheduled to be completed during fiscal year 2015/16.

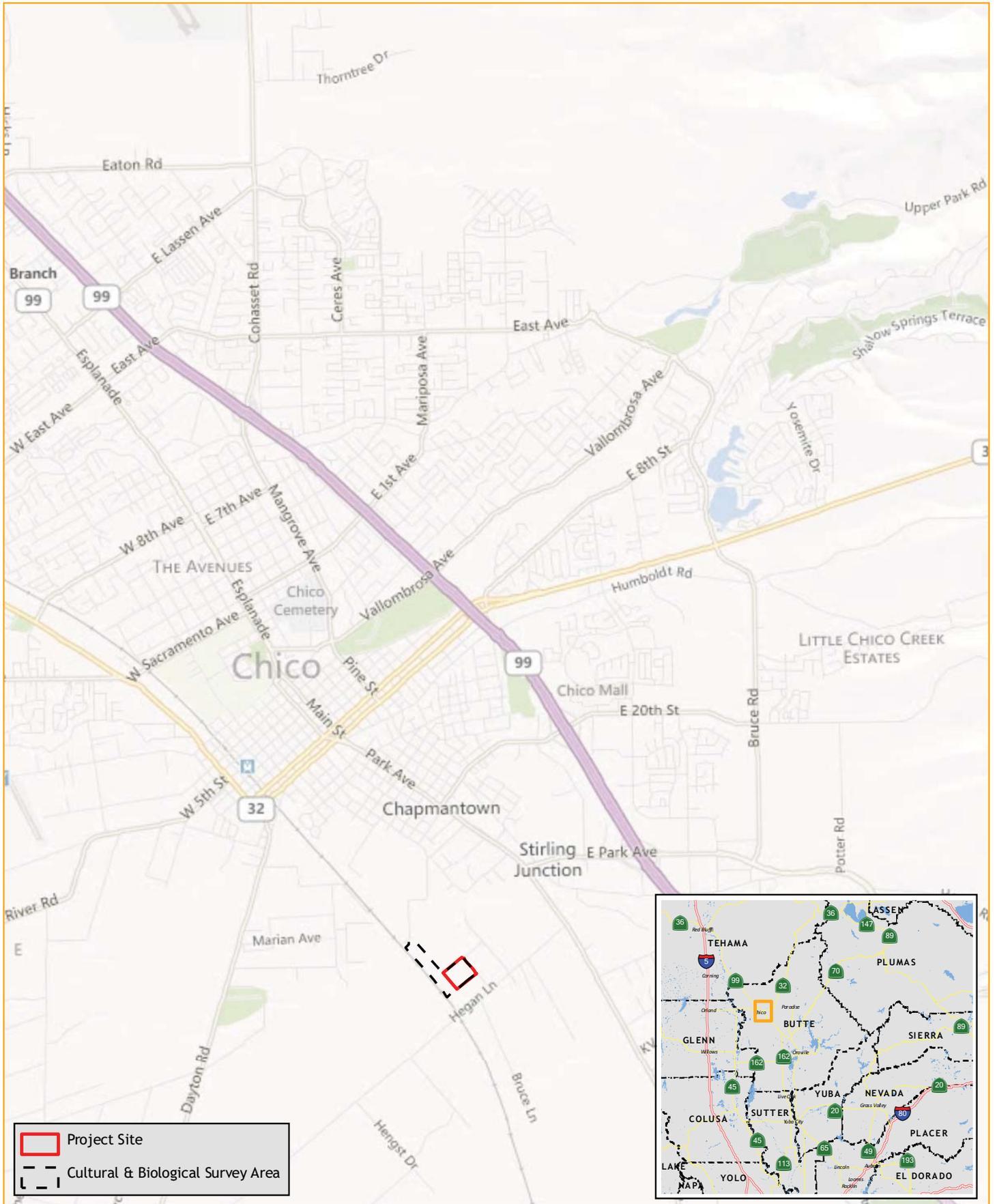
Attachments

- Resolution E-14-65
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 03 – Butte County Resolution E-14-65

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Butte Regional Transit Operations and Maintenance Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, BCAG 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 expand the BCAG regional transit (B-Line) Operations and Maintenance Facility. The project includes remodeling of the existing facility, construction of new transit maintenance facilities, bus equipment and storage yard, an associated operations building, and BCAG administrative office space. The project will also construct parking, drainage and utility improvements, as well as street and intersection improvements including an extension of Aztec Road; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, BCAG found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, BCAG approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.



-  Project Site
-  Cultural & Biological Survey Area

 Within Section 1 of T21N, R1E Butte County, CA. Chico USGS 7.5' Quad. Map Date: 10/17/2011

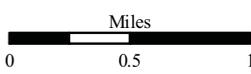


Figure 1