State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

California State Transportation Agency

Tab 44

M e m o r a n d u m

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 26, 2015

Reference No.: 2.2a.(2)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Katrina C. Pierce, Chief
Division of
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a responsible agency, review and comment at the March 2015 Commission meeting on the following Notice of Preparation (NOP):

ISSUE:

- 07-LA-710, PM Various. State Route 710 (SR 710) in Los Angeles County. Sale of surplus parcels on SR 710 in and near the cities of Pasadena, South Pasadena, Alhambra, and La Canada Flintridge. (EA 0R000)

PROJECT INFORMATION:

This project is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The proceeds from the sale will be allocated to the SR 710 Rehabilitation Account. When the balance of this account reaches $500,000, additional proceeds will go to the State Highway Account, for allocation by the Commission, to be used for projects located in Pasadena, South Pasadena, Alhambra, La Canada Flintridge, and the 90032 zip code of East Los Angeles (El Sereno).

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

Alternatives for the project include:

Alternative 1 – This alternative would immediately sell all parcels.

Alternative 2 – This alternative would sell all parcels over a 5 year period.

No-Action Alternative

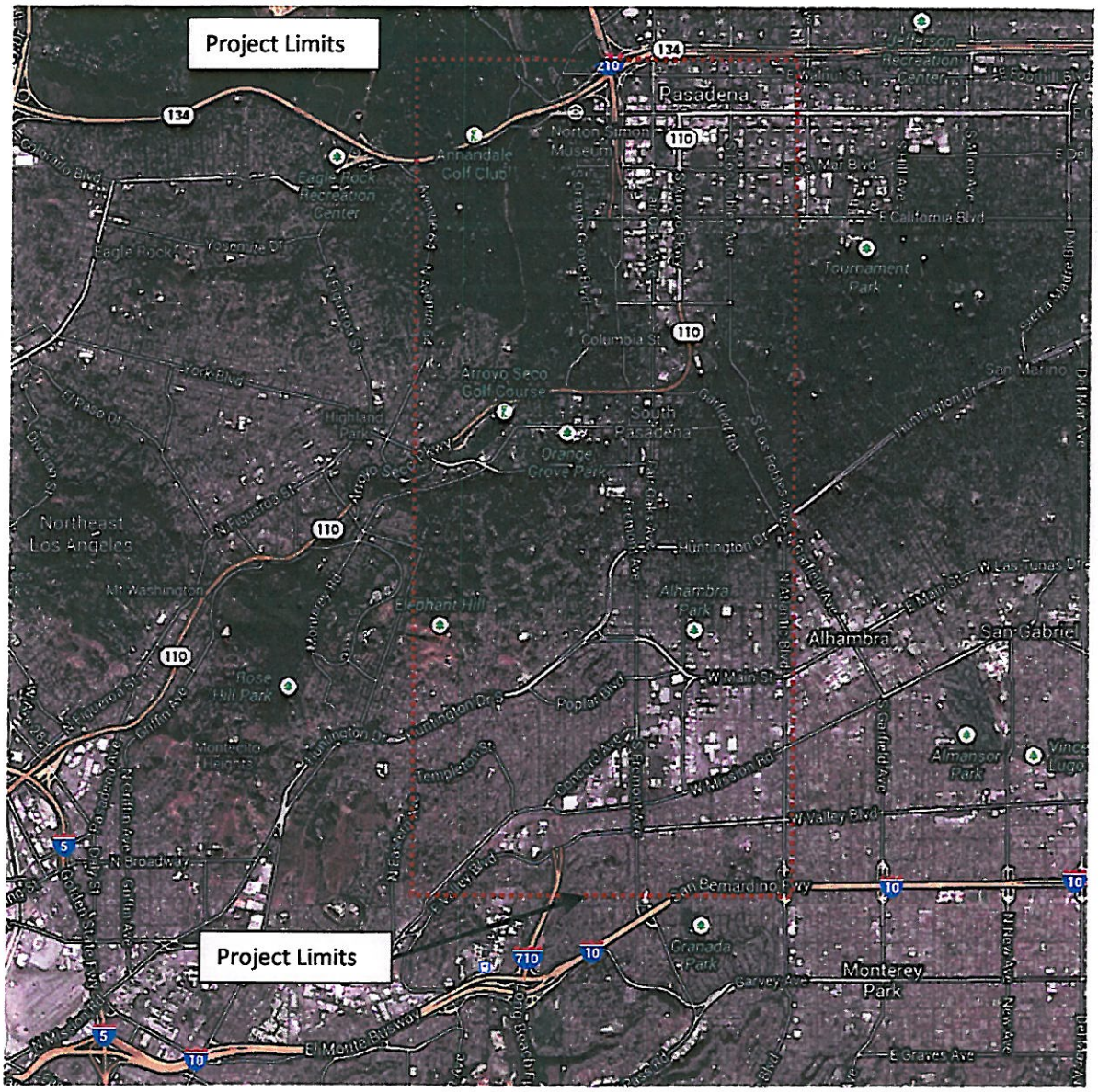
POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

- Hazardous Waste
- Community Impacts
- Cultural

Based on the potential for significant impacts to the areas listed above, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared for the project.

Attachment

Project Area Map



SCH NO. _____

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Responsible, Trustee, and Federal Agencies

From: California Dept. of Transportation
100 S Main Street MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report**
Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Project Title: SR-710 Surplus Property Sale

Project Location: In the Cities of Pasadena, Southern Pasadena and Los Angeles

Project Description: Caltrans proposes to sell surplus properties originally acquired for a surface freeway project on State Route 710 in the cities of Los Angeles, Pasadena and South Pasadena in Los Angeles County. Some of the properties are listed on/or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historic Resources and/or designated locally significant.

This is to inform you that the California Department of Transportation will be the lead agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project described above. Your participation as a responsible agency is requested in the preparation and review of this document.

We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Expected environmental issues are anticipated to be Archaeological, Historical and/or Community based and shall be further examined in the technical reports. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

A project area map is attached.

A copy of the Initial Study (___is) (X is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please direct your response to Dawn Kukla Telephone (213) 897-3643 at the address shown above. Please supply us with the name for a contact person in your agency.

Date 6.27.2014

Signature Ronald Kosinski
Title DDD for DIST. PLANNING

M e m o r a n d u m

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 26, 2015

Reference No.: 2.2a (2)
Action

From: WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

Subject: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR SR-710 SURPLUS PROPERTY SALE**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, provide comments in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the SR-710 Surplus Property Sale?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission issue a letter to Caltrans that it has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied, and the evaluation methods used. However, Caltrans should ensure that community impacts and environmental mitigation within the meaning of Article XIX of the California Constitution are evaluated.

BACKGROUND:

Caltrans is the designated CEQA Lead Agency responsible for the environmental review of this project. For project summary information, please see Caltrans transmittal memo and Notice of Preparation.

Attachments

- Draft letter to Caltrans
- Memorandum
- Notice of Preparation
- Project Location

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Will Kempton, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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DRAFT

March 26, 2015

Ms. Dawn Kukla
Californa Department of Transportation
100 S Main Street MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report: SR-710 Surplus Property Sale

Dear Ms. Kukla,

On February 18, 2015, a Notice of Preparation dated June 27, 2014 that a Draft Environmental Impact Report will be prepared for the SR-710 surplus property sale was received by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

The CTC's statutory responsibities in connection with the sale of surplus highway property are vested in Streets and Highways Code (S&HC) Section 118. S&HC Section 118(a) allows Caltrans to sell real property or interest therein in the manner and upon terms, standards, and conditions established by the CTC. S&HC Section 118(b) requires that any conveyance of highway property shall be approved by the CTC. Further, Government Code Section 54235 – 54238.7 (Roberti Law) allows for sale of SR-710 surplus properties at less than fair market value to persons and families of low or moderate income to mitigate the environmental effects, within the meaning of Article XIX, of the California Constitution, caused by highway activities.

The CTC has no comments with respect to the project's purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied, and the evaluation methods used. As to the impacts to be evaluated, the CTC recommends that community impacts and environmental mitigation within the meaning of Article XIX of the California Constitution should be evaluated. If actions under the purview of the CTC are anticipated, notification should be provided to the CTC as a Responsible Agency. Consideration of the environmental impacts of a project are required prior to the CTC's

allocation of funds for design, right of way or construction activities as well as for new public road connections, route adoptions and surplus highway property conveyances.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Maller at (916) 653-2070.

Sincerely,

WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

c: Katrina Pierce, Chief, Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis

DRAFT

State of California — State Transportation Agency

Memorandum

To: Peter Bond, Senior Environmental Planner
CTC Environmental Liaison

Date: February 12, 2015

File No.: 07-LA-710
EA/Proj. ID:
0R000/0700000063
SR-710 Surplus Property Sale

From: **Allison Morrow, Senior Environmental Planner**
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
District 7, Division of Environmental Planning

Subject: **CTC Submittal, Notice of Preparation (NOP)**

Enclosed please find three (3) copies of the NOP for the SR-710 Surplus Property Sale.

This project is estimated to begin in FY 2015/2016. The proceeds from the sale will be allocated to the SR-710 Rehabilitation Account. When the balance of this account reaches $500,000, additional proceeds go to the State Highway Account, for allocation by the CTC to be used exclusively for projects located in Pasadena, South Pasadena, Alhambra, La Cañada Flintridge, and the 90032 Zip Code area of East Los Angeles (El Sereno).

Excess land disposal activities are considered projects under CEQA, but are generally categorically exempt under CEQA. This exemption cannot be used, however, where: (1) there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant impact on the environment due to unusual circumstances (CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 (c)); or (2) the project may cause a substantial adverse change to the significance of a historical resource (CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 (f)). In addition, pursuant to PRC§5024(f) and PRC§5024.5, that the disposal of the vast majority of those properties, even with protective covenants, could constitute a potential adverse effect to historic resource which results in a significant impact for the environment (CCR Title 14, Division 6 § 15064.5).

The Alternatives studied in this Environmental Impact Report are listed below:

- No Action Alternative
- Immediate sale of all parcels
- Selling of parcels over a 5 year period in stages

Potential significant environmental effects include:

- Hazardous Waste
- Community Impacts
- Cultural Resources

If you have any questions or comments concerning this submittal, please contact Lourdes Ortega at (213)897-9572. Thank you.

Enclosure:
3 copies of Notice of Preparation

SCH NO. _____

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

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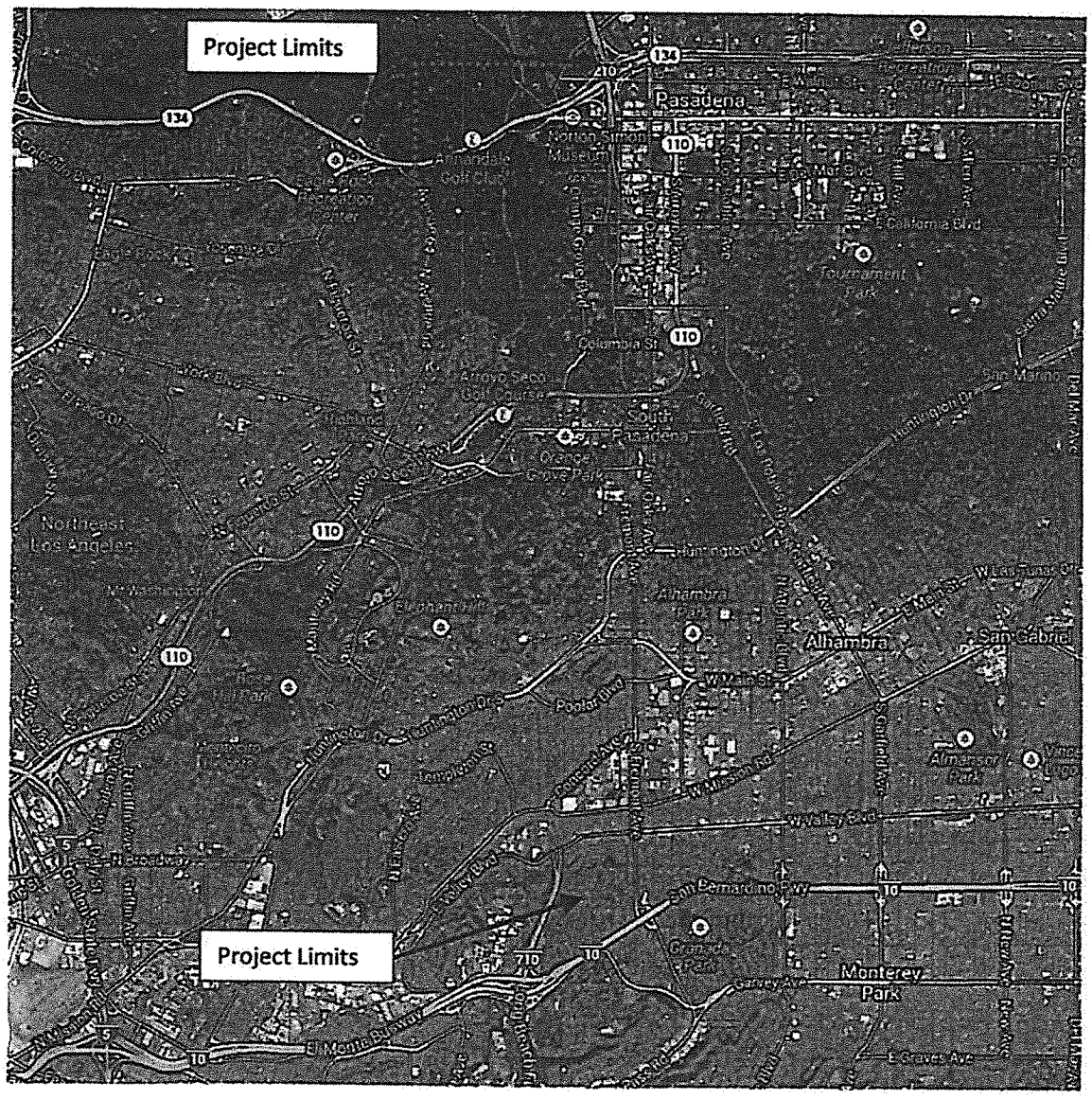
Date 6-27-2014

Signature Ronald Kosinski
Title DDD for DIST. PLANNING

Project Area Map