

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 28, 2015

Reference No.: 2.2c (2)  
Action

From: WILL KEMPTON  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CIVIC CENTER DRIVE  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-15-18)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Civic Center Drive Improvement Project (project) in Marin 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 County of Marin (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located in the Marin Civic Center campus between Merrydale Road and Armory Drive/Judge Haley Drive in the City of San Rafael. The project will make various improvements along Civic Center Drive, including new driving surfaces, sidewalks, buffered bike lanes, bus stops, a two-way bicycle path, and a roundabout.

On February 10, 2015, the Marin 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 a less than significant level relate to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, and greenhouse gas emissions. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: utilize specialized equipment that limits emissions to below BAAQMD NO<sub>x</sub> during construction; conduct work outside the nesting season or conduct preconstruction surveys for nesting native birds; install environmentally sensitive areas fencing to protect biologically sensitive areas adjacent to the project area; conduct environmental awareness training for construction crews; retain a biologist or monitor during construction in and adjacent to all environmentally sensitive areas; implement a storm water pollution prevention plan; conduct

botanical survey for Showy Indian Clover between April and June 2015; halt work if a listed species is observed in the work area; limit construction activities within 50 feet of tidal salt marsh habitat and within 2 hours before and after a high tide event of 6.5 feet or greater; limit construction activities to only daylight hours within 700 feet of tidal salt marsh; implement lighting specifications to minimize potential light pollution effects on animals; phase construction activities to avoid disturbances to breeding California clapper rail and California black rail; implement measures to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive plants; conduct preconstruction surveys for roosting bats; implement appropriate measures in the event cultural resources and/or human remains are encountered; and implement best management practices to minimize greenhouse gas emissions.

On April 17, 2015, the County 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 \$3,927,427 and is fully funded through construction with State Transportation Improvement Program Funds (\$407,000), Surface Transportation Program Funds (\$243,000), Transportation Fund for Clean Air (\$214,000), Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds (\$376,276) and Local Funds (\$2,687,151). Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2015/16.

#### Attachments

- Resolution E-15-18
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 04 – Marin County Resolution E-15-18

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Marin has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - Civic Center Drive Improvement Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County of Marin 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 make various improvements along Civic Center Drive, including new driving surfaces, sidewalks, buffered bike lanes, bus stops, a two-way bicycle path, and a roundabout; 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**, the County of Marin found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the County of Marin 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 approves the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.