

## M e m o r a n d u m

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 28, 2015

Reference No.: 2.2c (4)  
Action

From: WILL KEMPTON  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE GREAT MEADOW BIKE PATH  
SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-15-25)**

**ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Great Meadow Bike Path Safety Improvement Project (project) in Santa Cruz 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 University of California (University) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located at the campus in the City of Santa Cruz. The project will realign a section of the Class I Bike Path, make grading changes, realign the Village Road intersection with the bike path, and realign the merge of the two-way bike path.

On April 23, 2015, the Vice Chancellor of Business and Administrative Services of the Santa Cruz campus approved 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 aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, hydrology/water quality, and noise. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: the use of directional, shielded lighting to minimize light pollution; conduct pre-construction surveys and other construction-phase measures to avoid impacts to California red-legged frog; conduct pre-construction surveys and avoidance measures or construction buffers for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests, American badgers and nesting birds; conduct work outside the nesting season or conduct preconstruction surveys for nesting native birds; implement

erosion and sediment control measures during construction; and develop and implement a construction noise mitigation plan.

On April 17, 2015, the University 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 \$457,000 and is fully funded through construction with Local Funds (\$74,000) and ATP Funds (\$383,000). Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2015/16.

Attachments

- Resolution E-15-25
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 04 – Santa Cruz County Resolution E-15-25

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the Regents of the University of California, Santa Cruz has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Great Meadow Bike Path
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the Regents of the University of California, Santa Cruz 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 realign a section of the Class I Bike Path, make grading changes, realign the Village Road intersection with the bike path, and realign the merge of the two-way bike path; 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 Regents of the University of California, Santa Cruz found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the Regents of the University of California, Santa Cruz 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.