

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Public Works *msd*

BOARD AGENDA # *C-3

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE May 22, 2012

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval of the Findings of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study and to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Claribel Road Widening Project

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the Findings of the Initial Study and Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Claribel Road Widening Project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), by finding that on the basis of the whole record, including the Initial Study and any comments received, that there is no substantial evidence the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects Stanislaus County's independent judgment and analysis.
2. Order the filing of a Notice of Determination with the Stanislaus County Clerk-Recorder's Office pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21125 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15075.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fees associated with the Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project include a filing fee in the amount of \$2,101.50 for the Department of Fish and Game, for the posting of the Notice of Determination with the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. These costs will be funded with Regional Transportation Impact Fees and are available in the current year's Road Project budget.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2012-256

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor Chiesa
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman O'Brien

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) x Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Approval of the Findings of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study and to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Claribel Road Widening Project

DISCUSSION:

The Claribel Road Widening Project (Project) proposes to widen Claribel Road from Oakdale Road to McHenry Avenue to improve safety and operational conditions. The Proposed Build Alternative considers widening the Claribel Road corridor from two lanes to four lanes with bike lanes and intersection improvements at the Claribel Road/Coffee Road and Claribel Road/Oakdale Road intersections. Major features of the Proposed Build Alternative include the following:

- Addition of one travel lane in each direction;
- Improvements to be skewed to the north to avoid impacts to the Modesto Irrigation District (MID), Claribel Station (electrical sub-station), and the Morningside Mobile Park;
- Construction of Class I bike lanes on both the north and south sides of Claribel Road;
- Construction of roadside swales along the north and south sides of Claribel Road;
- Replacement of the existing Claribel Road Bridge over the Modesto Irrigation District (MID) lateral with a culvert/siphon/bridge;
- Construction of an unpaved center median; and
- Signalization of the Claribel Road/Coffee Road Intersection.

Stanislaus County staff is preparing the Project's plans and specifications. Construction of the proposed Project is planned to commence in the fall/winter of 2012.

On April 19, 2011, the Board of Supervisors approved the award of a consulting contract to Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc. for environmental services for the Claribel Road Widening for the preparation of environmental documents required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and CEQA. The attached document serves as a joint NEPA and CEQA environmental document. The California Department of Transportation is the lead agency for NEPA, and Stanislaus County is the lead agency for CEQA.

The finding of the Initial Study determined that the proposed project would have no significant effect on the environment with the incorporation of environmental protection measures.

On October 19, 2011, a community meeting was held in the City of Riverbank. County staff gave a presentation of the proposed project and answered questions. There were thirty-two members of the public in attendance. The overall feedback from attendees was positive and County staff was able to address many comments in the design of the project.

On April 13, 2012, pursuant to CEQA, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Claribel Road Widening Project was circulated to all interested parties and responsible agencies, including the State Clearinghouse, and made available to the public for review and comment. The public comment period closed on May 14, 2012. Department staff received no comments for the Project.

Approval of the Findings of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study and to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Claribel Road Widening Project

POLICY ISSUES:

The recommended actions are consistent with the Board's priorities of providing A Safe Community, A Healthy Community, and A Well Planned Infrastructure System by improving traffic safety and flow in this area of Stanislaus County.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact associated with this item.

CONTACT PERSON:

Matt Machado, Public Works Director. Telephone: (209) 525-4130.

AV/sn

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ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE
FROM YOUR CLERK