

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 27-28, 2004

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

From: CINDY MCKIM
Acting Chief Financial Officer

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Environmental Analysis

Ref: **SUMMARY – NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT,
ROUTE 101 IN MONTEREY COUNTY – SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS
IN PRUNEDALE**

ISSUE:

The California Transportation Commission is being asked to review and comment at the October 2004 Commission meeting on the following Notice of Preparation (NOP):

- 05-Mon-101, KP 146.8/161.6 (PM 91.2/100.4). Safety and operational improvements in Prunedale in Monterey County.

PROGRAMMING:

This project is fully funded in the 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program for construction in FY 2008-09. The total estimated project cost is \$224,566,000, with \$50,530,000 in Interregional Improvement funds (IIP), \$103,927,000 in Grandfathered IIP funds, \$66,012,000 in Regional Improvement Funds, and \$4,097,000 in Federal Demonstration funds.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

- Build: provide safety and operational improvements along nine miles of Route 101, including:
 - Construct four-lane access-controlled freeway on new alignment
 - Construct undercrossings and elevated freeway segments
 - Construct new interchanges, construct/extend local connector and access roads, and construct cul de sacs
 - Modify off-ramps
 - Construct median barriers and retaining walls
- No-Build

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

- Habitats within project limits:
 - Wetland: 1.024 acres
 - Central Maritime Chaparral: 7.3 acres
 - Coast Live Oak Woodland: 9.5 acres
 - California red-legged frog: 0.28 acres
 - Monterey spineflower: 0.006 acres
- Visual: removal of mature trees and construction of new structures.

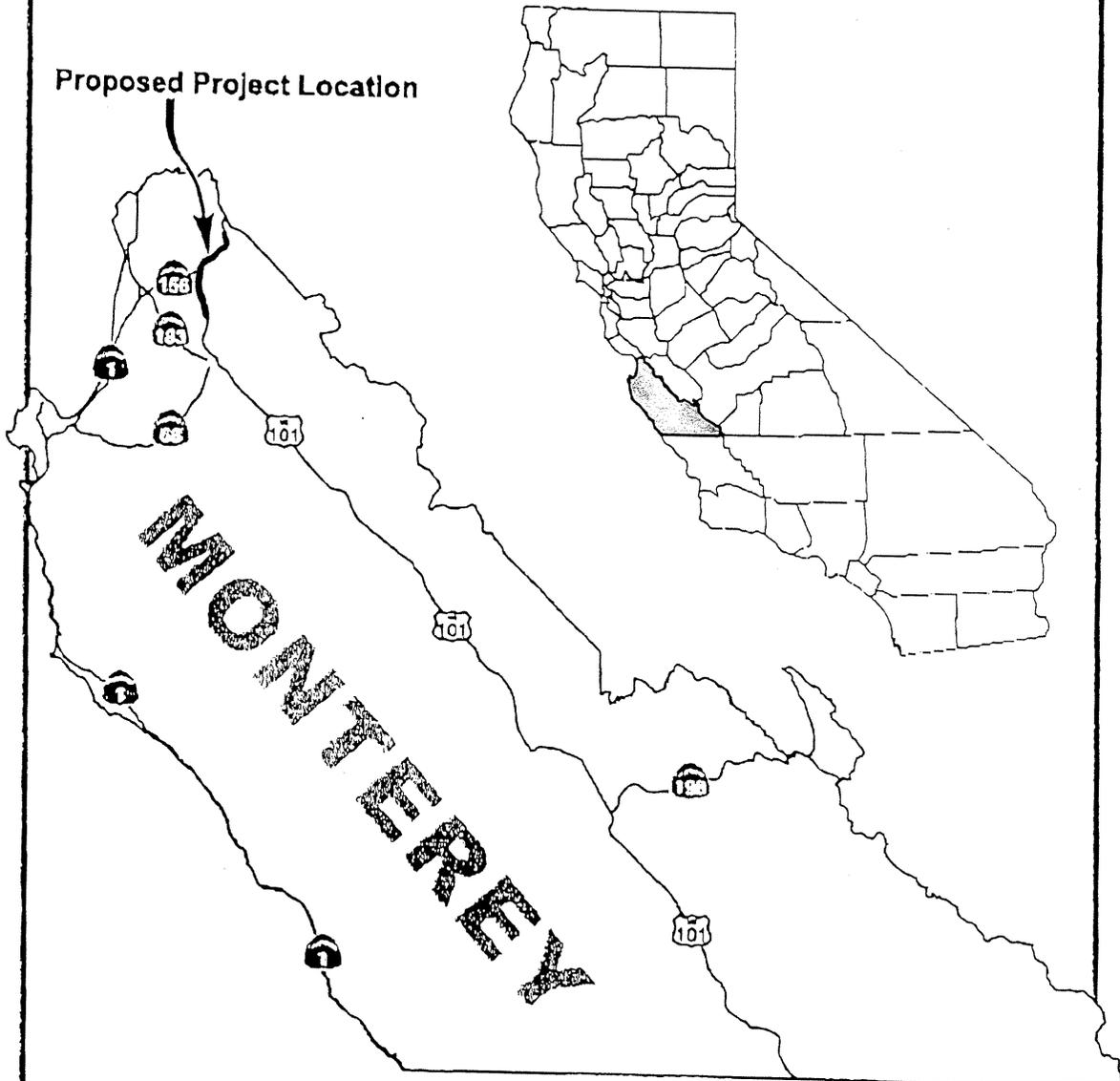
PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:

- Habitats - where feasible, incorporate the following measures into the project:
 - Limit construction access and establish Environmentally Sensitive Areas.
 - Cut off vegetation rather than clearing and grubbing to reduce soil disturbance.
 - Salvage and relocate plants to designated sites within the project limits. Collect and store topsoil to provide a seed bank for re-seeding disturbed areas.
 - Construct retaining walls to minimize impacts to Coast Live Oak Woodlands and Central Maritime Chaparral on realigned Echo Valley Road and on the Blackie Road/Reese Circle overcrossing.
 - Locate mitigation site(s) for permanent impacts within the project limits, either within Department of Transportation (Department) right-of-way or on other nearby Department property.
- Visual - Grade for a natural appearance. Minimize structure profiles. Select structure materials and treatments to enhance built environment. Tree planting.

Attachment

Project Vicinity Map

Route 101
Prunedale Improvement Project
EA 05-0181E0
KP 146.8/161.6 (PM 91.2/100.4)



NOT TO SCALE