

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: October 24, 2005

From: Diane C. Eidam
Executive Director

File No: Ref. Agenda 2.2c.(3)
ACTION

Ref: APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING – CONSTRUCTION OF A BUS RAPID TRANSIT STATION AT DEL LAGO BOULEVARD IN ESCONDIDO. (TCRP #83.1.) (FINAL ND) RESOLUTION E-05-22

Issue: Should the Commission approve the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) Final Negative Declaration for constructing a bus rapid transit station at Del Lago Boulevard in Escondido in San Diego County?

Recommendation: Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-05-22. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this Resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

This bus rapid transit (BRT) station (TCRP #83.1) is part of an overall larger project that is comprised of a freeway component and a bus rapid transit component. The Route 15 freeway component is to construct four managed lanes with a movable barrier in the median between Route 163 and Route 78 in San Diego.

The Bus Rapid Transit system of routes will connect residential and employment areas, with preferential access provided to buses and carpools via direct access ramps from transit centers constructed adjacent to the Route 15 freeway. The proposed project would convert an existing 3.5-acre, 214-space park and ride lot into a BRT station consisting of 6 bus bays with transit furnishings and 248 parking spaces. The BRT station at Del Lago is estimated to cost about \$4.2 million and will be funded from Traffic Congestion Relief Program funding. If TCR funds are not available, SANDAG will fund the project by borrowing against future TRANSNET revenues. (This final Negative Declaration for the Del Lago Bus Rapid Transit Station is the last of three environmental documents relating to bus rapid transit component of TCRP 83.1 to be considered by the Commission.)

Background: This resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Final Negative Declaration has been completed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

- San Diego Association of Governments – construction of a 3.5-acre bus rapid transit station with 6 bus bays and 248 parking spaces at Del Lago Boulevard in the City of Escondido in San Diego County.

The Final Negative Declaration has been transmitted to Commission staff. The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Approval of Project for Consideration of Future Funding For construction of a bus rapid transit station at Del Lago Boulevard in Escondido In San Diego County

Resolution E-05-22

- 1.1 WHEREAS**, the San Diego Association of Governments has completed a Final Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project:
- Construct a 3.5-acre Bus Rapid Transit station at Del Lago Boulevard in Escondido consisting of 6 bus bays with transit furnishings and 248 parking spaces
- 1.2 WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Negative Declaration; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS**, the San Diego Association of Governments has considered the record taken as a whole and found that the project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse impact on wildlife resources or habitat.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission, as a responsible agency, finds that the:
- 3.5-acre Bus Rapid Transit station at Del Lago Boulevard in Escondido consisting of 6 bus bays with transit furnishings and 248 parking spaces is approved for future consideration of funding.