

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: December 17, 2008

From: JOHN F. BARNA, JR.

File: Book Item 2.2b(1)
Action

Ref: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the White Rock Road General Plan Amendment and Widening, Improvement and Safety Project (Phases A, B & C)

ISSUE: Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, provide comments in response to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the White Rock Road General Plan Amendment and Widening, Improvement and Safety Project?

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Commission make no comments regarding the environmental issues to be addressed in the DEIR. Staff recommends that a letter be sent to the County of Sacramento (County) recommending that the funding necessary to complete Phases A and C of the project be secured. In addition, since Phase B is programmed in the CMIA, the following comments should also be included in the letter:

- At the time the final environmental document is provided to the Commission, confirmation is required in writing whether the scope of work of the project as identified through the environmental process is or is not consistent with the project programmed in the CMIA. In the event the project has been revised, the revised scope may require a request to the Commission for a program/project amendment.
- In the event the project has been revised and will result in an estimated cost above the current programmed amount, the County is responsible for securing necessary supplemental funds and identifying the source where supplemental funds will be obtained to ensure the project continues to be fully funded and that the project can be successfully implemented. If the County recommends supplemental funding from sources that are within the purview of the Commission (Bond, STIP, TCRP, etc.), Commission approval for programming or allocation of these funds will be required. Conversely, if the County will utilize local (or local-federal) funds, the County shall provide a local board action or resolution committing the supplemental funding levels to the Commission.

BACKGROUND: The County is the Lead Agency for the preparation of the DEIR in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The General Plan Amendment project is generally located along the existing alignment of White Rock Road from Sunrise Boulevard to the Sacramento-El Dorado County Line. The widening, improvement and safety project is located between the Rancho Cordova east city limits and the Sacramento/El Dorado County Line.

Chair and Commissioners
December 17, 2008
Book Item 2.2b(1)
Page 2 of 2

The DEIR considers four build alternatives in addition to the no build alternative. Alternative 2, “Avoid White Rock Road Landfill and California State Park Land” with mitigation is identified as the environmentally superior alternative since it meets the project objectives and is feasible. There were no other alternatives analyzed that met the project objectives and eliminated the significant impacts. The DEIR identifies no significant and unavoidable impacts. The DEIR identifies project related impacts associated with transportation, climate change, drainage, air quality, hazardous materials and cultural resources as potentially significant, which could be reduced to a less than significant level through inclusion of recommended mitigation measures.

Attachments:

1. Project Description
2. Project Location

Project Description

White Rock Road General Plan Amendment and Widening, Improvement and Safety Project (Phases A, B & C)

On February 13, 2007, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors met in regular session relative to the White Rock Road preliminary project development and directed staff to initiate an amendment to the 1993 General Plan to designate the segment of White Rock Road from Sunrise Boulevard to Rancho Cordova city boundary as a pre-2010 thoroughfare (6-lane) roadway and designate the segment from the Rancho Cordova city boundary to the Sacramento-El Dorado County line as a pre-2010 arterial (4-lane) roadway. Therefore, the White Rock Road General Plan Amendment work includes specific amendments to various segments of White Rock Road on the County General Plan Transportation Diagram. Most of the General Plan Amendment project limits can be considered an upgrade to the existing County Transportation Plan designations. These upgrades either include changing the timing of the road development from post-2010 to pre-2010 or changes the road designation from Urban and Rural Collector to a pre-2010 arterial road width and timing.

The project also proposes to widen White Rock Road from two lanes to four lanes with paved shoulders between Sunrise Blvd and the El Dorado-Sacramento County line in three phases. The city of Rancho Cordova is responsible for the White Rock Road work between Sunrise and their City boundary to the east. The County project, Phase A, begins at the County/City boundary limit. The following provides a description of each phase:

- Phase A is the westerly most component of the roadway improvements on White Rock Road and is composed of a 4,600 foot roadway segment beginning at the Rancho Cordova City line and extending to the east along the existing White Rock Road alignment, ending approximately 3,100 feet west of the Grant Line Road intersection. In Phase A, White Rock Road will be widened to four lanes, two vehicle lanes in each direction separated by a raised center median. Class II bike lanes and roadside ditches will also be constructed. Although the County wishes to have an environmental document prepared for this segment of the project, design and construction funding has not yet been secured. Construction of this segment will be contingent on securing the necessary funding.
- Phase B begins at the terminus of Phase A, approximately 3,100 feet west of the Grant Line Road intersection, extending to the east mostly along a new roadway alignment, ending approximately 1,000 feet east of the Prairie City Road intersection. The intersections of Grant Line Road and Prairie City Road with White Rock Road will be widened to accommodate turning lanes, and the resulting intersection controlled with a traffic signal. Ultimately, Phase B will be four lanes wide. Phase B is programmed in the CMIA program of projects. Per the baseline CMIA project

agreement, the project, estimated to cost \$26.6 million is programmed with CMIA (\$22 million) and Local (\$4.6 million) funds. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin May 2011 and be completed November 2012.

- Phase C is the easterly most component of the project beginning at the terminus of Phase B extending to the east along the existing White Rock Road alignment and ending at the Sacramento/El Dorado County line. Phase C will continue the improvements installed in phases A & B, widening to four lanes, two vehicle lanes in each direction separated by a raised center median. Class II bike lanes and roadside ditches will also be constructed. The intersections of Scott Road south and Scott Road north will be widened to accommodate turning lanes. Phase C is currently not funded.

2 - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Plate PD -2, White Rock Road Location and Sacramento County Zoning

