

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 10-11, 2009

Reference No.: 2.2a.(3)  
Action Item

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Subject: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
ROUTE 152 IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

## **ISSUE:**

The California Transportation Commission (Commission) is being asked to review and comment at its June 10-11, 2009 Commission meeting on the following Notice of Preparation:

- 04-SCI-152, PM 0.0/5.20 - Route 152 in Santa Clara County. Widen lanes and shoulders, add a left-turn lane from Route 152 to Watsonville Road, construct retaining walls, improve drainage, and roadway improvements near the city of Gilroy. (PPNO 0483J)

## **PROGRAMMING:**

The project will widen lanes and shoulders, add a left-turn lane from Route 152 to Watsonville Road, construct retaining walls, and improve drainage near the city of Gilroy. The project is fully funded in the 2008 State Highway Operation and Protection Program. The total estimated project cost is \$27,174,000, capital and support. Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2010-11.

## **ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:**

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will evaluate the following alternatives:

### **No Build Alternative:**

The No-Build Alternative proposes to maintain the existing conditions without any alterations.

### **Build Alternative:**

This alternative proposes roadway improvements that include widened lanes and shoulders, add a left-turn lane from Route 152 to Watsonville Road, construct retaining walls, and improve drainage.

**POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:**

- Biological Impacts – Federal and state listed bird species.
- Visual Impacts – Retaining walls in scenic area.

An EIR will be prepared for the project because of potentially significant impacts to the above resources.

**PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:**

Proposed measures to minimize harm include minimization of disturbance in sensitive habitats, minimization or avoidance of tree/vegetation removal, revegetation of native tree/shrubs where feasible, incorporate aesthetic wall treatments, and species-specific mitigation measures.

Attachment - Map

State Route 152  
Hecker Pass Safety Improvement Project

In Santa Clara County, from the Santa Cruz  
County Line to approximately 0.17 miles east  
of Watsonville Road

