

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

Date: June 10, 2010

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

File: Book Item 2.2c (3)
Action

Ref: Mitigated Negative Declaration for the State Route 275 (Tower Bridge Gateway) Modification Project (Resolution E-10-44)

ISSUE: Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the State Route 275 (Tower Bridge Gateway) Modification Project (project) and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

BACKGROUND: The City of West Sacramento (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located in the City of West Sacramento in Yolo County. The project would convert the Tower Bridge Gateway (formerly State Route 275) from a freeway to a city street from the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Underpass to the Tower Bridge, a length of 1,700 feet. The project will remove the Third Street Undercrossing and will provide new, at-grade, signalized intersections at Fifth Street and Third Street.

The City of West Sacramento adopted the MND in July 2001. The MND analyzed the potential impacts of conversion of SR 275 from a freeway to a City arterial street. The west phase of the project is complete. The MND incorporated by reference previous environmental documents. Impacts and mitigation measures related to areas of earth, air quality, water resources, plant life, animal life, noise, light and glare, land use, hazards, circulation, public services, energy, utilities, human health, and aesthetics. Identified mitigation measures were implemented by the City.

Subsequent to preparation of the MND, an addendum was prepared in response to proposed project modifications. The City found that the project modifications did not necessitate further environmental review. Upon finalization of the addendum, on February 4, 2009, the City filed an updated Notice of Determination and approved the project finding that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The project is estimated to cost \$8,789,000 and is programmed with SLPP (\$1,000,000) and Local (\$7,789,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2009/10. On June 10, 2010, the City confirmed that the project scope in the MND as modified by the addendum is consistent with the project scope programmed by the Commission.

Attachments

- Resolution E-10-44
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 03 – Yolo County Resolution E-10-44

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of West Sacramento (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - State Route 275 (Tower Bridge Gateway) Modification Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will convert the Tower Bridge Gateway (formerly State Route 275) from a freeway to a city street from the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Underpass to the Tower Bridge, a length of 1,700 feet and provide other improvements; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the City found that all significant or potentially significant impacts can be reduced by mitigation measures to a less than significant level; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the City approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the City subsequently approved an addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines; and
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

