

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
Bimla G. Rhinehart
From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Date: July 22, 2010

File: Book Item 2.2c (2)
Action

Ref: Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Carmel Valley Class I Bicycle Trail Project (Resolution E-10-68)

ISSUE: Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Carmel Valley Class I Bicycle Trail 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 County of Monterey (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located in Carmel Valley in Monterey County. The project is part of the Carmel Valley/Valley Greens Drive Class I/III Bicycle Project that will provide a four-mile bicycle facility from Carmel Valley Road to State Highway 1. The project would construct a Class I bicycle trail that is one segment of a multi-segment bicycle trail system. This is the third phase of the trail and consists of construction of a Class I trail that begins where the phase one roadway/Class III trail ends and proceeds westbound approximately 1.1 miles, where it will connect to the fourth phase.

The County Planning Commission adopted the MND in August 2008. The MND found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures. Impacts requiring mitigation relate to aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology, water quality and recreation.

Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, preparing a pre-construction survey; confining ground disturbing activities to an established "work window"; placing protective fencing to minimize the disturbance or removal of vegetation; avoiding potential jurisdictional waters of the U.S. if feasible; obtaining and incorporating a final geotechnical report and recommendations in the final design and construction of the project; implementing erosion control and slope stabilization measures; and consulting with a qualified archaeologist if necessary.

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The County filed the Notice of Determination on July 7, 2010. The total project cost is \$2,164,511 and is programmed for funding with STIP (\$334,000), Federal (\$12,000), Local (\$203,161), and State (\$1,242,400) funds. Funds totaling \$372,950 are not yet secured. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2011.

Attachments

- Resolution E-10-68
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding
05 – Monterey County
Resolution E-10-68**

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Monterey (County) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Carmel Valley Class I Bicycle Trail
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County 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 construct a Class I bicycle trail (approx. 1.1 miles, 5,808 linear feet) in Carmel Valley, CA.; 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 County found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the County approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 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.

Carmel Valley Bicycle Path

