

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: January 19-20, 2011

Reference No.: 2.2c.(12)
Action



From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Subject: **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ENCINITAS GRADE-SEPARATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-11-12)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Encinitas Grade-Separated Pedestrian Crossing Project (project) in San Diego County 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 Encinitas (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On April 22, 2009 the City approved the MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The proposed crossings are located within the North County Transit District (NCTD) railroad right-of-way near El Portal Street, Santa Fe Drive, and Montgomery Avenue, in Encinitas, San Diego County. The project will construct three grade-separated pedestrian crossings under the North County Transit District (NCTD) railroad tracks. The project will improve pedestrian access across the railroad corridor and improve safety conditions by eliminating train and pedestrian interaction through grade-separation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to biological resources; cultural; and hazardous materials. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, prior to issuance of grading permits, the impacts to disturbed Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub shall be mitigated by purchase of mitigation credits; contractor will have a qualified paleontologist on-site during construction; and soil sampling will be completed at each underpass location to determine the presence or absence of contaminants in the subsurface soils.

The project is estimated to cost \$6.4 million and is funded with PTA (\$1.2 million), TCRP (\$1.2 million) and Local (\$4 million) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2010/11.

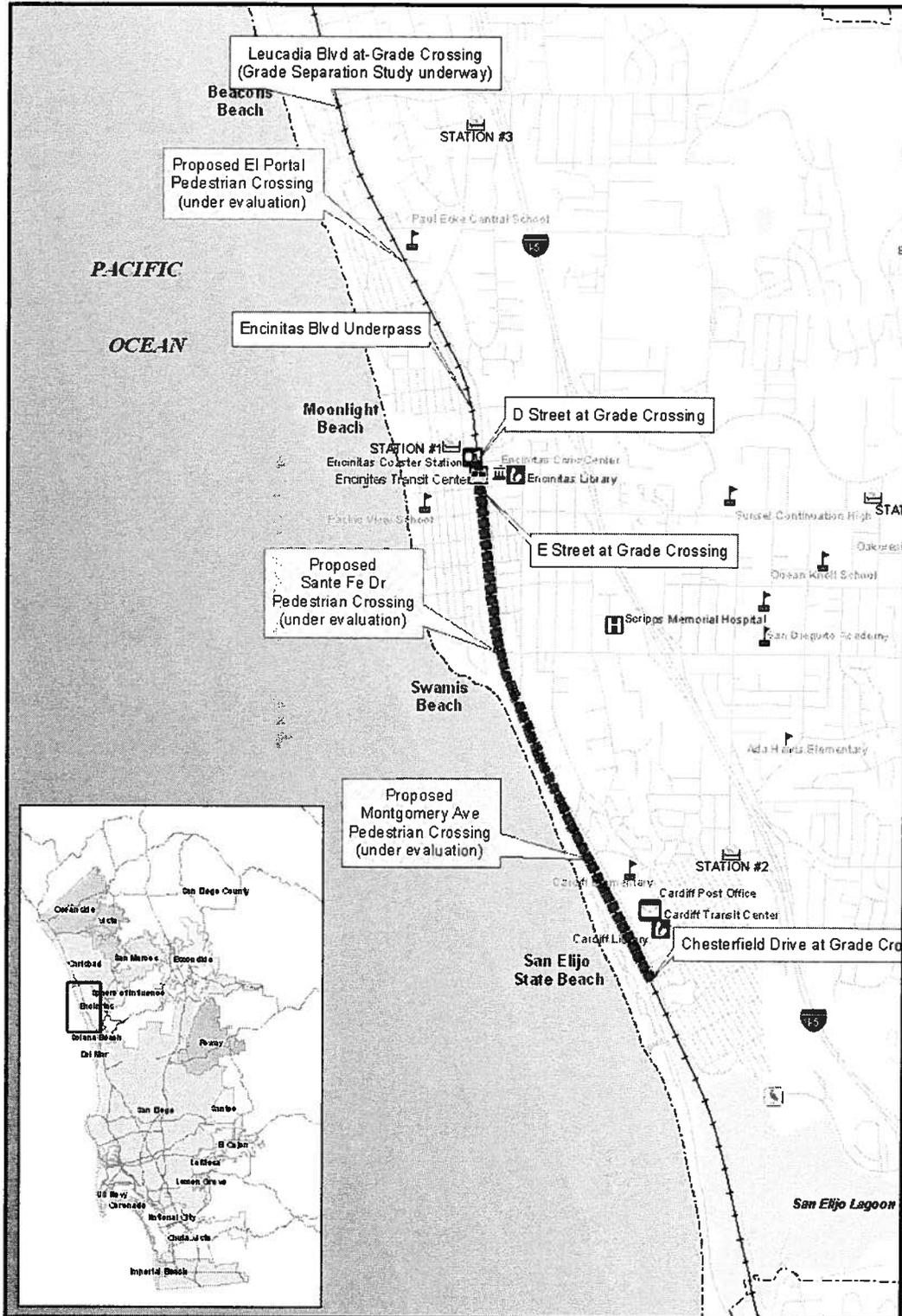
Attachment

- Resolution E-11-12
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 11 – San Diego County Resolution E-11-12

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Encinitas (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Encinitas Grade-Separated Pedestrian Crossing 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 construct three grade-separated crossings under the North County Transit District (NCTD) railroad tracks in the City of Encinitas, San Diego County; 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 Council 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.



Local Vicinity Map
Encinitas Grade-Separated Crossings