

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 22-23, 2011

Reference No.: 2.2c. (6)  
Action

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SKYLINE ROAD EXTENSION  
PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-11-40)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Skyline Road Extension Project (project) in Lassen County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the FEIR and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Lassen County Public Works Department (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On December 11, 2001 the County approved the FEIR and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation. On May 3, 2003 the County certified the Environmental Reevaluation of the FEIR. On May 5, 2011 the County confirmed that there are no new environmental impacts that require mitigation and that the scope of work set forth in the FEIR is consistent with the scope of work programmed by the Commission in the STIP.

The project will construct a new two-lane undivided road and Class I bicycle path from Johnstonville Road to SR 36. The project will construct four-way traffic signals at the Johnstonville Road and SR 36 intersections and a bridge across the Susan River. The project will relieve traffic congestion, reduce traffic volumes, and redirect traffic traveling on SR 139 to SR 36. The project will connect SR 36 to the Skyline East project.

The County found that with implementation of mitigation measures to address impacts related to hydrology and water quality, air quality, geology, and biological resources, that there is substantive evidence that the project will not have a significant environmental impact. A mitigation monitoring program was prepared to identify the measures to mitigate or avoid the potential significant impacts and ensure mitigation compliance during project implementation.

Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, constructing 5.72 acres of wetlands to replace disturbed wetlands; locating staging areas away from residential areas; limiting construction activity to normal working hours; constructing a deer fence along the right of way boundary; implementing City and County General Plan water quality policies; and incorporating Best Management Practices for erosion and sediment control.

The project is estimated to cost \$4,658,000 and is funded with Local (\$33,000) and State (\$540,000 ) funds and Federal (\$4,085,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2012/13.

Attachment

- Resolution E-11-40
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 02 – Lassen County Resolution E-11-40

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the Lassen County Public Works Department (County) has completed a Final Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - Skyline Extension Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County has certified that the Final Environmental Impact Report has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will construct a new two-lane undivided road and new paved eight-foot wide Class I bike path; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the County 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 County adopted the Final Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the County adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Program for the project; and
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Environmental Impact Report and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

