

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: December 14-15, 2011

Reference No.: 2.3b  
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Terry L. Abbott  
Chief  
Division of Design

Subject: **NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION, 03-SUT-20 PM 13.1**  
**RESOLUTION S-750**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution S-750 and map authorizing a new public road connection at Western Parkway to State Route (SR) 20 in the city of Yuba City.

## **ISSUE:**

The City of Yuba City has requested approval of a new public road connection to SR 20. Pursuant to Section 100.2 of the Streets and Highways Code, no local road shall be connected with any freeway until the Commission adopts a resolution consenting thereto. It is recommended that the Commission approve the resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the Acting Chief Engineer. The resolution grants approval of a new public road connection on the north side of SR 20 to Western Parkway connection in the county of Sutter, in the city of Yuba City, at Post Mile 13.1.

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT PIEPLOW  
Acting Chief Engineer

**BACKGROUND:**

Due to projected growth and congestion in the northwest area of Yuba City (City), the City is proposing to construct a new connection to State Route (SR 20) at Western Parkway. This proposed connection would be located approximately midway between two existing signalized intersections at Township Road and George Washington Boulevard. Local access to SR 20 is needed in order to relieve local traffic congestion and support present and planned development and growth in the area. This new public road connection is a condition the city of Yuba City placed upon the developer of the adjacent housing tract north of SR 20.

SR 20 in this vicinity is part of the California Freeway and Expressway System. It runs west to east traversing Mendocino, Lake, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba and Nevada Counties. SR 20 begins in Mendocino County at Route 1 near Fort Bragg traversing to Route 101 at Willits and resumes further south from Route 101 ending at Route 80 near Emigrant Gap in Nevada County. SR 20 is part of the Interregional Road System and a designated Surface Transportation Assistance Act Terminal Access Route. SR 20 has been identified as a Focus Route in the Department's Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan.

On July 19, 1955, the California Highway Commission adopted the portion of SR 20 from Acacia Avenue to SR 99 as a freeway. On June 3, 1986, this segment of SR 20 was denominated to a controlled access highway. A superseding Controlled Access Highway Agreement (CAHA), including the project location, was approved for signatures by the Yuba City Council on October 18, 2011.

In the project area SR 20 is a four-lane expressway with 8-foot outside shoulders and is functionally classified as a principal arterial. At the project location SR 20 has an unpaved median. Within the limits of Yuba City there are a number of intersections along SR 20.

Western Parkway is functionally classified as an urban arterial. The existing parkway consists of a four-lane road with left turn channelization at intersections. It is identified as a General Plan Street in the Yuba City's 2004 General Plan. Land uses in the vicinity of the proposed new connection include a mixture of residential and commercial uses.

Traffic studies performed in 2007 and updated in 2011 for the project vicinity predict increased congestion as land development and growth continue. The proposed connection will improve surface streets and SR 20 mainline operations. The study also predicted that the intersection of SR 20 and George Washington Boulevard east of the new connection will operate at levels of service E or F by 2032.

The proposed project would extend the existing Western Parkway to the south from Libby Lane to form a T-intersection with SR 20. Ultimately, the intersection would consist of 4- legs. The southerly leg would be constructed as development occurs to the south of SR 20. Along SR 20 the project proposes to construct an east bound left turn lane by paving the existing median area and a west bound left turn lane by widening to the north of the existing pavement.

The City's General Plan was approved on April 8, 2004 and includes a circulation element which proposed the construction of an at grade intersection at SR 20 and Western Parkway. It envisions Western Parkway eventually providing connectivity from Bogue Road at the City's southern fringe to Pease Road at the northerly City boundary.

The estimated construction cost for this project is \$2,500,000. Some additional right of way will be required for the new connection. Right of way cost is \$20,000. The project is funded entirely by local funds.

An Advisory Design Exception to address a non-standard profile grade along SR 20 near the proposed new connection was approved on November 20, 2008.

A public hearing was held on March 15, 2011. The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was approved by the Yuba City City Council on June 7, 2011. The Department approved the Project Report on July 22, 2011. Concurrent with this agenda item the Mitigated Negative Declaration Report is being considered under Item 2.2c.(1).

A revised CAHA was approved for signatures by the Yuba City City Council on October 18, 2011, and will be executed by the Department after Commission approval of the new connection.

#### Attachments

Resolution S-750  
Vicinity Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
Resolution Authorizing a New Public Road Connection  
3-Sut-20 PM 13.1**

**Resolution S-750**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Yuba City has requested approval of a new public road connection on State Route 20 for Western Parkway; and

**WHEREAS**, the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was approved on June 7, 2011, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the project will have impacts on the environment that will be mitigated.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the California Transportation Commission that pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, this Commission does hereby authorize one new public road connection on State Route 20 at Western Parkway, PM 13.1, in the city of Yuba City.

