

Memorandum

Tab 34

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: January 22, 2015

Reference No.: 2.2c (2)
Action

From: SUSAN BRANSEN
Interim Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE EUREKA WATERFRONT TRAIL
PHASE A PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-15-03)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Eureka Waterfront Trail Phase A Project (project) in Humboldt 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 Eureka (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located in northwestern Eureka paralleling the coast of Humboldt Bay from Del Norte Street to Truesdale Street. The project will construct an approximately 1.2 mile long segment of Class 1 multi-use trail from Del Norte Street south to Truesdale Street. The project would extend a trail to follow the Humboldt Bay coastline along the Eureka waterfront.

On October 21, 2014 the City Council of the City of Eureka adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, utility and service systems. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: the use of low-level and low-glare lighting at nighttime where trail intersects with roadways and railroad tracks; implement a dust control program to limit dust and vehicle emissions; implement measures to reduce potential impacts on vegetation and aquatic resources in the project area as a result of an accidental spill of pollutants or in the event that hazardous chemicals are encountered; implement measures to avoid or minimize

impacts on special-status plants, northern red-legged frogs, raptors migratory birds, and eel grass; implement erosion control measures during construction; manage visitor use to avoid disturbance of wildlife; implement measures to prevent the spread of invasive species; implement measures to ensure that disturbed areas are restored to pre-project conditions; consult with a qualified archeologist in the event undiscovered cultural resources are encountered for appropriate mitigation measures; contact the Humboldt County Coroner in the event human skeletal remains are discovered for appropriate mitigation measures; implement measures to inform the public in case of a tsunami or any seismic activity; ensure the use of safe equipment to minimize potential of wildfire; obtain appropriate land use permits; and measures to reduce potential impacts associated with construction noise.

On November 14, 2014 the City confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$2,390,000 and is fully funded through construction with Eureka Non-Freeway Project Alternative Funds. Plans Specifications & Estimates is expected to begin in fiscal year 2014/15 and Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2015/16.

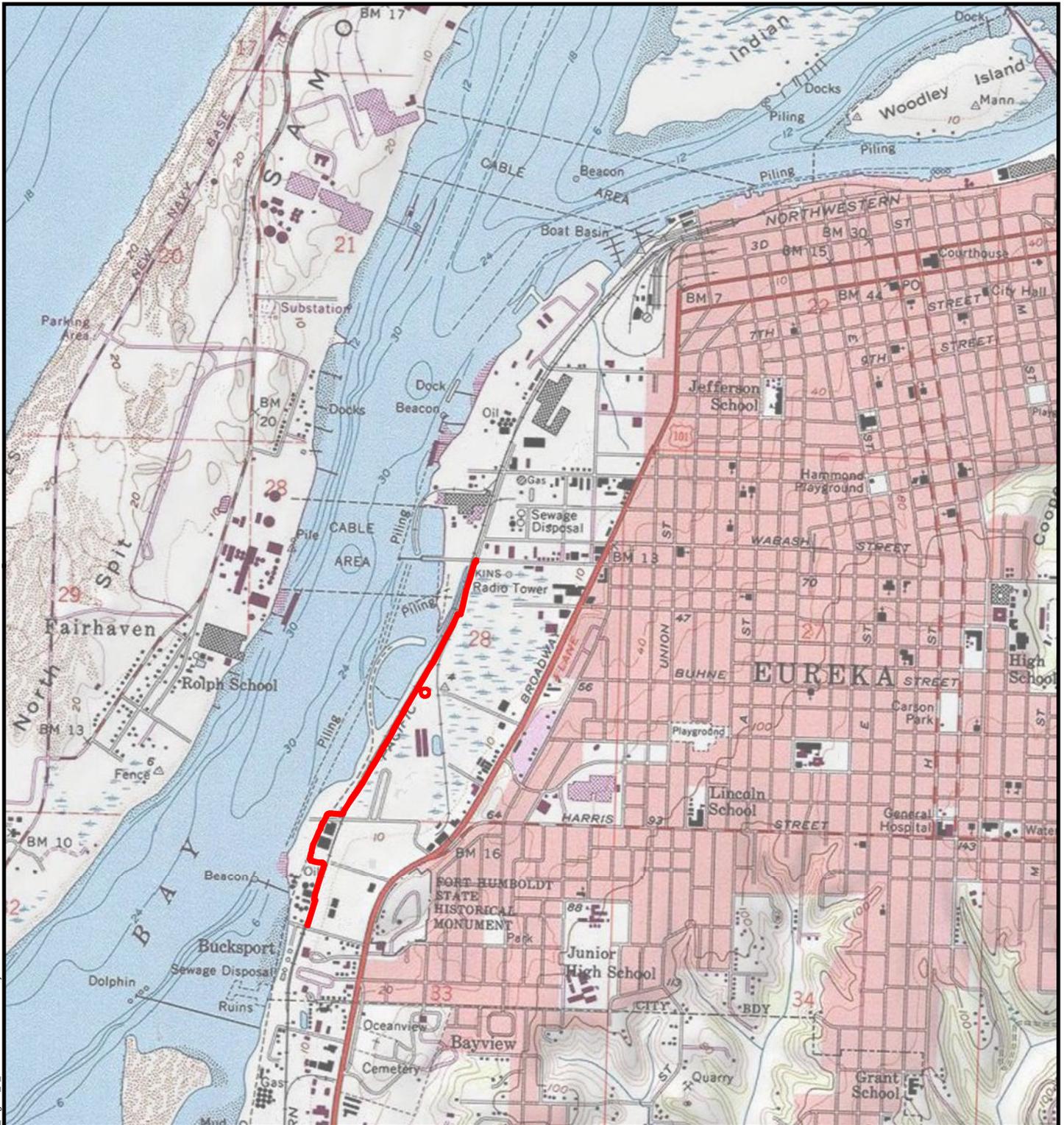
Attachments

- Resolution E-15-03
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 01 – Humboldt County Resolution E-15-03

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, City of Eureka has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Eureka Waterfront Trail Phase A Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, City of Eureka 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 approximately 1.2 mile long segment of Class 1 multi-use trail from Del Norte Street south to Truesdale Street; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, City of Eureka found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, City of Eureka approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.



 Proposed Project Area

Public Land Survey:
T05N, R01W, Sec.28, 33

USGS 7.5 Quad:
Eureka 1972



1:24,000

Study Area Location



Humboldt County, California

Figure 1
Project Location and Vicinity