

**M e m o r a n d u m**

**To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**CTC Meeting:** October 8, 2014

**Reference No.:** 2.3b.  
Action Item

**From:** NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

**Prepared by:** Timothy Craggs, Chief  
Division of Design

**Subject:** NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION, 03-COL-20 PM R22.5  
RESOLUTION S-759

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution S-759 and map authorizing a new public road connection at Marguerite Street to State Route (SR) 20 in the city of Williams.

**ISSUE:**

The City of Williams 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 Chief Engineer. The resolution grants approval of a new public road connection on the south side of SR 20 between I-5 and Husted Road, at Marguerite Street, Post Mile R22.5.

Recommended by: KARLA SUTLIFF  
Chief Engineer

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Williams (City) proposes to construct a new public road connection to State Route 20 (SR 20) at Marguerite Street between the Interstate 5 (I-5) northbound off ramp and Husted Road. The City's General Plan Update (GPU), adopted in June 2012, identifies this new local road intersection with SR 20. Under the adopted GPU, the subsequent zoning changes allow for commercial and industrial development within the zoned business park along Marguerite Street. The new connection would improve traffic circulation and facilitate economic development opportunities for the commercial and business park development in the northeast section of the City. It would also allow for expedient emergency vehicle response to the business park.

SR 20 is part of the California Freeway and Expressway System and 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. The proposed project is included in a section of SR 20 adopted as a freeway by the California Highway Commission on October 17, 1962. SR 20 was adopted as a freeway from Salt Creek to 0.8 mile east of Freshwater Road in the county of Colusa. There was a subsequent freeway agreement with the County of Colusa on October 4, 1967, and a supplemental freeway agreement dated April 1, 1969.

This section of SR 20 is a two-lane urban route within the city's limits and continues as a rural route to the east and west of the City. Historically, there has been little development within the city; however, after the 2012 adopted GPU, commercial development has been approved for construction in the 2015 fiscal year and more is expected to occur in the near term east of I-5 near the proposed new connection. The Department's 2013 SR 20 Transportation Concept Report calls for a four-lane expressway as the ultimate facility type for this segment of SR 20 east of I-5.

In Colusa County, conversion of SR 20 east of I-5 to a freeway is not anticipated to occur within the next 20 years. Accordingly, District 3, per letter dated May 8, 2014, requested the Denomination of SR 20 from freeway to controlled access highway. The Denomination was approved on May 13, 2014.

During the City's GPU preparation in 2011, District 3 reviewed the City's traffic studies associated with the extension of Marguerite Street and its proposed connection to SR 20. District 3 did not find any evidence that their request with full build out of the land use would negatively affect traffic operations along SR 20 or I-5. According to the approved traffic studies, the SR 20 proposed T intersection at Marguerite Street would only require stop traffic signs at this time. A traffic signal will be installed if warranted in future years.

Under the “No Build” alternative, the I-5/ E street interchange (immediately to the south of SR 20 interchange), and the intersections of E Street/Marguerite Street and SR 20/Husted Road would operate at unacceptable levels of service.

The extension of Marguerite Street north to SR 20 is identified in the 2012 City of Williams’ General Plan Circulation Element. Marguerite Street between E Street and SR 20 is classified as a “collector”. Marguerite Street currently extends from E Street on the south, to Ella Street. It is a two lane facility with stop sign control. The road has a 35 mph speed limit.

The estimated construction cost for this project is \$3,500,000. No additional right-of-way will be required for the new connection. The project’s construction capital will be funded by local State Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Improvement Program funds.

An Advisory Design Exception for a break in access occurring less than 0.5 mile from the I-5 interchange was approved on November 26, 2013. The proposed intersection is 0.25 mile from the I-5/SR 20 interchange.

A public meeting was held in conjunction with the City of Williams’ City Council meeting on October 17, 2012. A Project Study Report was approved in December 2013. The District approved the Project Report on May 2, 2014.

The City of Williams City Council adopted the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on February 27, 2014. The Department approved the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exemption on April 10, 2014. In June, the environmental document was found to be technically inaccurate regarding the floodplain section. Additional floodplain studies will be completed so that CEQA and NEPA approvals will be revalidated by the end of September 2014. Concurrent with this agenda item the IS/MND is being considered under Item 2.2c.(2).

There are currently no access points to SR 20 between I-5 and Husted Road. Future land uses identified in the City’s 2012 GPU will require improvements to the roadway circulation within the city of Williams. Without a new roadway extension, access to the future land uses would be circuitous. The extension of Marguerite Street to SR 20 will improve circulation and provide a logical access point.

A revised controlled access highway agreement was signed by the City on May 22, 2014, and will be executed by the Department after Commission approval of the new connection.

Attachments

Resolution S-759  
Vicinity Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
Resolution Authorizing a New Public Road Connection**

**3-Col-20 PM R22.5**

**Resolution S-759**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation and City of Williams jointly request approval of new public road connection on State Route 20 for Marguerite Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was approved on February 27, 2014, and the Categorical Exemption in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was approved on April 10, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the IS/MND CEQA and NEPA approvals are expected to be revalidated by the end of September 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the project report to construct a new connection to State Route 20 was approved by the California Department of Transportation on May 2, 2014; 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 a new public road connection on State Route 20 at Marguerite Street at PM R22.5, in the city of Williams, in Colusa County.

# Vicinity Map 03-COL-20 PM R22.5 New Connection at Margurite Street

