

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 9, 2019

From: SUSAN BRANSEN, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c.(3), Action

Prepared By: Jose Oseguera
Assistant Deputy Director

Published Date: September 27, 2019

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Railroad Safety Trail Project (Resolution E-19-88)

Issue:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Railroad Safety Trail Project (Project) in San Luis Obispo County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding?

Recommendation:

Commission Staff recommends the Commission accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

Background:

The City of San Luis Obispo (City) is the California Environmental Quality Act lead agency for the Project. The Project will construct a new Class I and Class IV trail path for pedestrians and bicyclists, including a bridge structure over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, retaining walls, removal of trees, and the restriping of vehicle travel lanes. The project is located between Taft and Pepper Streets in the City of San Luis Obispo.

On May 15, 2017, the City's Architectural Review Commission adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration 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 less than significant levels relate to air quality, biological and cultural resources, hazardous materials, and traffic. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: restrict levels of fugitive dust during construction by using water trucks to spray exposed areas, prepare a Storm Water

Pollution Prevention Plan, conduct tree surveys to determine presence of roosting Monarch butterflies, notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours if human remains are discovered, prepare Contaminated Materials Management Plan prior to construction, and complete a Traffic Management Plan for identification of alternate routing.

On August 21, 2019, 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 \$5,643,000 and is fully funded through construction with Active Transportation Program Funds (\$3,244,000) and Local Funds (\$2,399,000).

Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2020-21.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-19-88
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C: Project Location Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding**

**5 – San Luis Obispo County
Resolution E-19-88**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the City of San Luis Obispo (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Railroad Safety Trail Project (Project) in San Luis Obispo County; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the City has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Project is located between Taft and Pepper Streets in the City of San Luis Obispo; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Project will construct a new Class I and Class IV trail path for pedestrians and bicyclists, including a bridge structure over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, retaining walls, removal of trees, and the restriping of vehicle travel lanes; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, on May 15, 2017, the City's Architectural Review Commission found that the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on May 15, 2017, the City's Architectural Review Commission adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, on August 21, 2019, 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 California Transportation Commission (Commission); and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approves the above-referenced Project for future consideration of funding.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Transportation Commission
Attn: Jose Oseguera
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-2094

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Railroad Safety Trail Project

2017031074	Bryan Wheeler	(805) 781-7178
State Clearinghouse Number	Lead Agency Contact Person	Area Code/Telephone

Project Location (include county): The project is located between Taft and Pepper Streets in the City of San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo County.

Project Description: The project will construct a new Class I and Class IV trail path for pedestrians and bicyclists, including a bridge structure over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, retaining walls, removal of trees, and the restriping of vehicle travel lanes.*

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above described project on

(Lead Agency/ Responsible Agency)

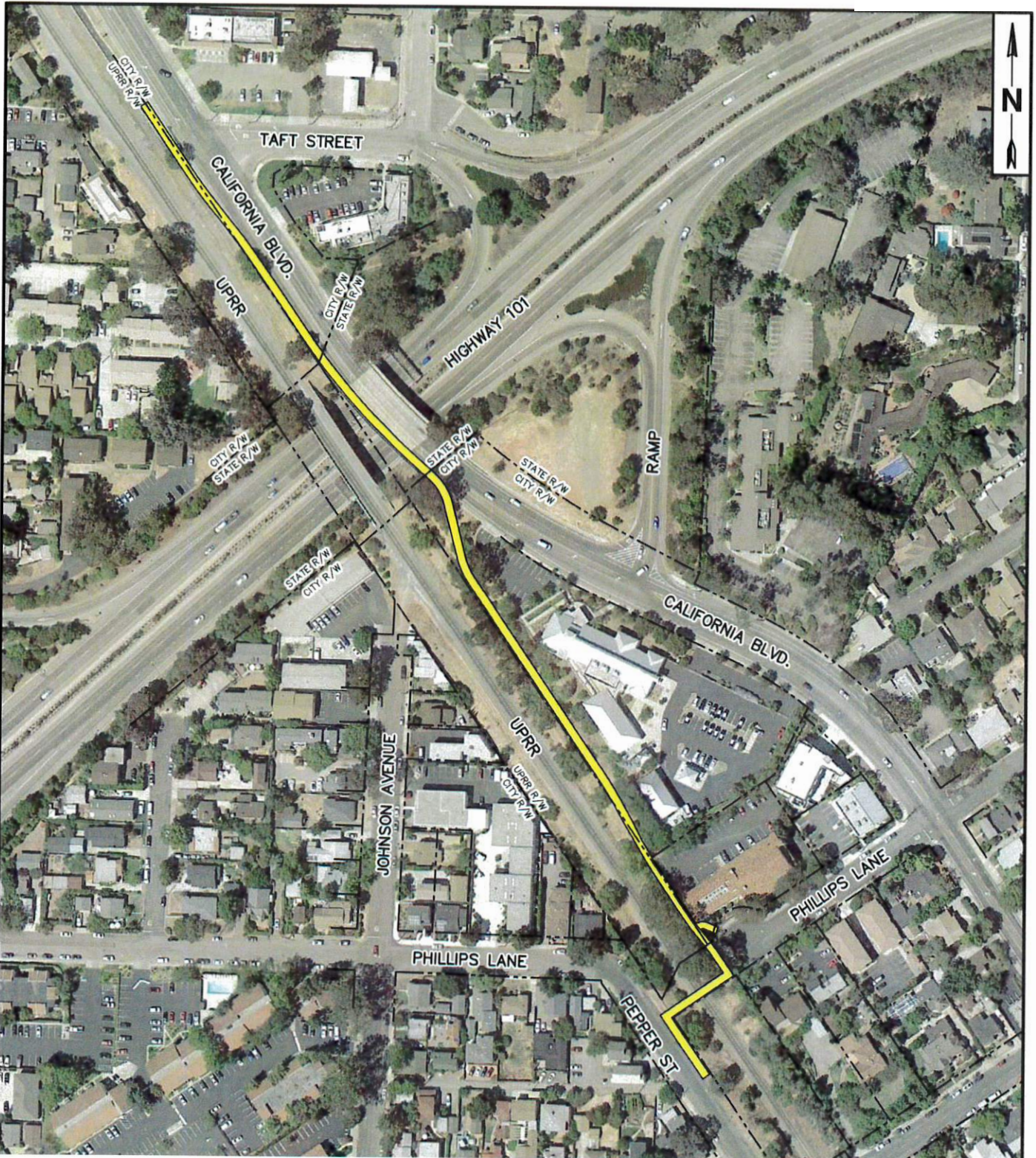
October 9, 2019, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project (will/ will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (were/ were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan (was / was not) adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations (was / was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings (were/ were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: 919 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

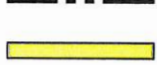
SUSAN BRANSEN		Executive Director California Transportation Commission
<i>Signature (Public Agency)</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>

Date received for filing at OPR:

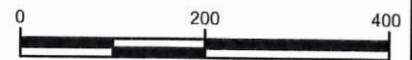


LEGEND

Railroad Safety Trail Project



BASEMAP SOURCE: GOOGLE EARTH PRO; IMAGE DATE: 8-23-2013



SCALE IN FEET

padre
 associates, inc.
 ENGINEERS, GEOLOGISTS &
 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS

PROJECT NAME:
 Railroad Safety Trail
 City of San Luis Obispo
 San Luis Obispo County, CA

PROJECT NUMBER: 1502-2213 DATE: October 2016

SITE PLAN

FIGURE
2

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