

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 24, 2020

From: MITCH WEISS, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c. (3), Action

Prepared By: Jose Oseguera  
Assistant Deputy Director

Published Date: June 12, 2020

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Oakhurst Midtown Connector Project, Resolution E-20-57

## **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Oakhurst Midtown Connector Project (Project) in Madera County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

## **Issue:**

Madera County (County) is the California Environmental Quality Act lead agency for the Project. The Project will construct a two-lane road to connect State Route 41 with Indian Springs Road/High School Road, including a bridge over Nelder Creek, bike lanes, sidewalks, and shoulder improvements. The project is located in Eastern Madera County, connecting State Route 41 from Teddy Bear Lane to the intersection of Indian Springs Road/High School Road.

For all projects that are anticipated to be funded through a program under the purview of the Commission, full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is required. The Commission will not allocate funds to projects for design, right-of-way or construction until the environmental document is complete, and the Commission has approved the environmentally cleared project for future funding consideration.

## **Background:**

On November 4, 2019, the Madera County Planning Director adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project and found that the Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Biological and cultural resources impacts require mitigation measures to be reduced to less than significant levels under the California Environmental Quality Act. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, conduct a preconstruction survey for identification of the Yellow-Legged Frog, contract with a qualified archaeologist to monitor initial ground disturbances, and

complete floristic surveys to determine impacts on the Madera Orange Lupine, the Yosemite Evening Primrose, and the Madera Leptosiphon.

On May 26, 2020, the County 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.

The Project is estimated to cost \$23,002,000 and is fully funded through construction with Local Partnership Program Funds (\$5,000,000), Local Measure T Funds (\$15,719,000), and Private Public Utility Funds (\$2,283,000).

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

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-20-57
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C. Project Location Map

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

**6 – Madera County  
Resolution E-20-57**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, Madera County (County) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Oakhurst Midtown Connector Project (Project) in Madera County; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the County 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 in Eastern Madera County, connecting State Route 41 from Teddy Bear Lane to the intersection of Indian Springs Road/High School Road; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Project will construct a two-lane road to connect State Route 41 with Indian Springs Road/High School Road, including a bridge over Nelder Creek, bike lanes, sidewalks, and shoulder improvements; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, on November 4, 2019, the Madera County Planning Director found that the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation and adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on April 28, 2020, the County 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
- 1.7 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

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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:** Oakhurst Midtown Connector Project

2017101004	Haden Hinkle	(559) 675-7811
<b>State Clearinghouse Number</b>	<b>Lead Agency Contact Person</b>	<b>Area Code/Telephone</b>

**Project Location** (include county): The project is located in Eastern Madera County, connecting State Route 41 from Teddy Bear Lane to the intersection of Indian Springs Road/High School Road.

**Project Description:** The project will construct a two-lane road to connect State Route 41 with Indian Springs Road/High School Road, including a bridge over Nelder Creek, bike lanes, sidewalks, and shoulder improvements.

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

(  Lead Agency/  Responsible Agency)

June 24, 2020, 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 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: 200 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Madera, CA 93637

MITCH WEISS

*Signature (Public Agency)*

*Date*

Executive Director

California Transportation Commission

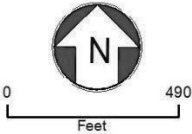
*Title*

Date received for filing at OPR:

Oakhurst Midtown Connector Project



 Project Site



QK Sources: ESRI Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap



Figure 2-2  
Project Area