

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: January 29-30, 2026

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c.(3) Action

Prepared By: Cherry Zamora
Associate Deputy Director

Published Date: January 16, 2026

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Addendum for the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District Healdsburg Extension Project, Resolution E-26-08A

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the *Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District Healdsburg Extension Project Modifications Environmental Impact Report Addendum* (Addendum) for the Healdsburg Extension Project (Project) in Sonoma County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

Issue:

The Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the Project. The Project is a component project of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) Project. The Project is located between milepost 62.94 in the Town of Windsor and milepost 72 north of the City of Healdsburg in Sonoma County. The Project would extend passenger rail along this approximately 9-mile portion of the SMART corridor. The Project modifications include reconstruction of the Russian River Railroad Bridge, four new bicycle/pedestrian pathway bridges, bicycle and pedestrian pathway relocations, and refinements to utility relocations, culverts, construction schedule, and trackwork.

For all projects that are seeking funding through a program under the purview of the Commission, full compliance with 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 July 19, 2006, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District adopted and certified an Environmental Impact Report for the SMART Project. On July 16, 2008, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Commission adopted and certified a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report. The Commission approved Future Consideration of Funding for the SMART Project and adopted Resolution E-09-56 on August 12, 2009.

On December 17, 2025, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District adopted the Addendum to address modifications and refinements to the project design for the Healdsburg Extension Project, a component of the SMART Project. The Addendum clarifies that the Project would replace the existing Russian River Bridge and that current assessments indicate the bridge is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Addendum also addresses additional bicycle/pedestrian bridges at the Norton Creek Tributary, the Russian River, Sargent Road Crossing, and the Old Redwood Highway; shifting the bicycle/pedestrian pathway to the east of the track; trackwork refinements; culvert replacements; and potential utility relocation. The Addendum concluded that the project modifications did not result in a new significant impact or substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact and none of the changes required the preparation of a subsequent Environmental Impact Report under Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines. On December 30, 2025, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District confirmed that the addendum remains valid, there are no newly identified impacts or substantial increase in the severity of an impact requiring mitigation, and the environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

As summarized in the 2025 Addendum, the 2006 Environmental Impact Report and 2008 Supplemental Environmental Impact Report determined that the SMART Project would have significant and unavoidable impacts on transportation (service levels on local streets), and noise (exterior and cumulative noise levels). The 2008 Supplemental Environmental Impact Report also indicated significant and unavoidable impacts on geology, soils, seismicity, and hydrology. Impacts that require mitigation in order to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to geology, soils, and seismicity; water resources; hazards and hazardous materials; transportation and circulation; noise and vibration; biological resources; visual quality; historic resources; and archaeological resources. Mitigation measures applicable to the modified Project include implementing erosion control Best Management Practices and measures; implementing proper restraint and shoring to avoid unstable excavations, preparing site-specific geotechnical investigations; evaluating fault rupture hazards during subsurface geotechnical investigations; subsurface investigations in areas with liquefaction potential; minimizing slope disturbance and conducting evaluations for slope stability; addressing expansive soils with fill, treatment or appropriate foundations; addressing corrosive soils; complying with water permits; designing the project so as not to raise flood levels or if necessary, restoring flood capacity; obtaining soil and groundwater samples to determine proper handling of hazardous materials; restriping of roadways and implementing traffic control improvements; restricting construction noise; limiting use of train horns and other audible warning devices; implementing energy conservations, such as use of solar panels; demarcating sensitive natural communities during construction; biological monitoring; limiting in-stream construction; returning temporarily disturbed natural areas to original contours;

avoiding nesting periods during tree-trimming activities or conducting a pre-construction survey; preventing spread of invasive plants; restoring or replacing habitat; implementing an oak woodland restoration plan; conducting botanical surveys; applying fencing around sensitive habitat; consulting with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries and California Department of Fish and Wildlife for work in stream zones that harbor federal- or state-listed salmonid fish; limiting in-stream work; conducting preconstruction surveys for Northwestern Pond Turtles and bats; monitoring for wildlife collision impacts; installing temporary fencing adjacent to residences; consulting with local jurisdictions regarding lighting; use of different materials or landscaping to minimize visual impacts; using fencing to prohibit impacts to structures; designing street furniture, train platforms, or shelters sympathetic to the local historic character; report preparation by a professional architectural historian accompanied with large format camera Historic American Landscape Survey Level II and Historic American Engineering Record Level II black-and-white 8-by-10 inch archival quality prints; designing safety structures similar to surrounding historical landscape; conducting an Extended Phase I archaeological study; archaeological and Native American monitoring; work-stoppage measures if cultural materials are found; and avoiding ground disturbance that would impact cultural sites.

The Project is estimated to cost \$268,749,000 and is fully funded through the construction phase with Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (\$115,809,000); Solutions for Congested Corridors (\$56,000,000), Local Partnership Program – Competitive (\$25,000,000), Local Regional Measure 3 Bridge Tolls (\$40,000,000), Local Sales Tax Measure M (\$2,000,000), Federal Transit Administration (\$1,800,000), and Federal Railroad Administration funds (\$28,140,000).

Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2026-27.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-26-08A
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C: Project Location Map

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

**4 – Sonoma County
Resolution E-26-08A**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District has completed the *Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District Healdsburg Extension Project Modifications Environmental Impact Report Addendum* (Addendum) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Healdsburg Extension Project (Project), a component of the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) Project, in the Town of Windsor, City of Healdsburg, and Sonoma County; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the Project is located between milepost 62.94 in the Town of Windsor and milepost 72 north of the City of Healdsburg in Sonoma County; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Project would extend passenger rail along this approximately 9-mile portion of the SMART corridor. The Project modifications include reconstruction of the Russian River Railroad Bridge, four new bicycle/pedestrian pathway bridges, bicycle and pedestrian pathway relocations, and refinements to utility relocations, culverts, construction schedule, and trackwork; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Addendum; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, impacts that require mitigation measures in order to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to geology, soils, and seismicity; water resources; hazards and hazardous materials; transportation and circulation; noise and vibration; biological resources; visual quality; historic resources; and archaeological resources, and certain measures were adopted to address these impacts; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on July 19, 2006, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District adopted and certified an Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, on July 16, 2008, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District adopted and certified a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, the Commission approved Future Consideration of Funding for the SMART Project and adopted Resolution E-0-56 on August 12, 2009, considering the original Environmental Impact Report from 2006 and Supplemental Environmental Impact Report from 2008; and

- 1.9 WHEREAS, on December 17, 2025, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District adopted the Addendum to address modifications and refinements to the Project. The Addendum concluded that the Project modifications did not result in a new significant impact or substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact and none of the changes required the preparation of a subsequent Environmental Impact Report under Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.10 WHEREAS, on December 30, 2025, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District confirmed that the Addendum remains valid, there are no newly identified impacts or substantial increase in the severity of an impact requiring mitigation, and the environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission; and
- 1.11 WHEREAS, the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Addendum.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby accept the Addendum 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: Cherry Zamora
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-4245

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

Project Title: Healdsburg Extension Project (a component of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit Project)

2002112033

Bill Gamlen

(707) 794-3049

State Clearinghouse Number

Lead Agency Contact Person

Area Code/Telephone

Project Location (include county): The Project is located between milepost 62.94 in the Town of Windsor and milepost 72 north of the City of Healdsburg in Sonoma County.

Project Description: The Project would extend passenger rail along this approximately 9-mile portion of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) corridor. The Project modifications include reconstruction of the Russian River Railroad Bridge, four new bicycle/pedestrian pathway bridges, bicycle and pedestrian pathway relocations, and refinements to utility relocations, culverts, construction schedule, and trackwork.

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above-described
(Lead Agency / Responsible Agency)

project on January 29-30, 2026, 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. A Final Environmental Impact Report, Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, and an Addendum were 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: SMART District Office, 5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200, Petaluma, CA 94954.

TANISHA TAYLOR

Signature (Public Agency)

Date

Executive Director
California Transportation Commission

Title

Date received for filing at OPR:

Project Location Map

Healdsburg Extension Project, City of Windsor, City of Healdsburg, Sonoma County



**Healdsburg
Extension
Project**



Note:
1. Coordinate System - NAD 83 StatePlane California FIPS 5002 Feet
2. Source Layer(s) include the following: Map, Sonoma, CA, Topo, County, and NOAA, USGS, © 2014 Esri/Mapbox/Airbnb, and © 2014 United States
USGS, NCEM, and USGS
USGS, NCEM, and USGS

 Healdsburg Extension Project Area
 SMART Right-of-Way

0 5 10 Miles

1:50,000 (Original Resolution: 1:250,000)



Project Location
Healdsburg, CA
Prepared by: JG on 08-28-11-08
Reviewed by: JG on 08-28-11-08

CD#P1831

SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Project Location

Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County

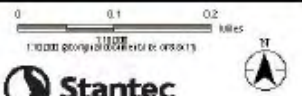


Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



- Modified Project Area
- Mile Post



Project Location: Healdsburg, CA
 Prepared by: RCI on 2025-11-05
 Project Worked by: CR on 2025-11-05

Client/Project: SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Title: Modified Project Area

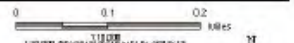
Notes:
 1. Candidate System: IAD 1003 State Plane California ITPS GMS Feet
 2. Units: Linear Coordinate in Feet
 World Topographic Map Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, FAO, IGN, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User community
 World Map Data: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye

Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



Modified Project Area
 Mile Post



Prepared by: Sonoma County, CA
 Prepared by: 02/23/2026
 Drawn by: 02/23/2026

Project:
 SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Modified Project Area

Notes:
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 83 StatePlane California 17 F55 D432 Feet
 2. Data Source: Sonoma County GIS
 3. Map Date: 02/23/2026
 4. Map Scale: 1:10,000
 5. Map Author: Sonoma County GIS

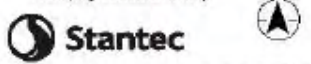
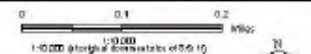
Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



Notes:
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 83 UTM Zone 18N
 2. Elevation: Mean Sea Level
 3. North Arrow: True North
 4. Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet
 5. Data Source: Aerial Imagery, 2024
 6. Map Date: 01/29/2026

- Modified Project Area
- Mile Post



Project Location: Healdsburg, CA
 Prepared by: R001 01/29/2026
 Reviewed by: R001 01/29/2026

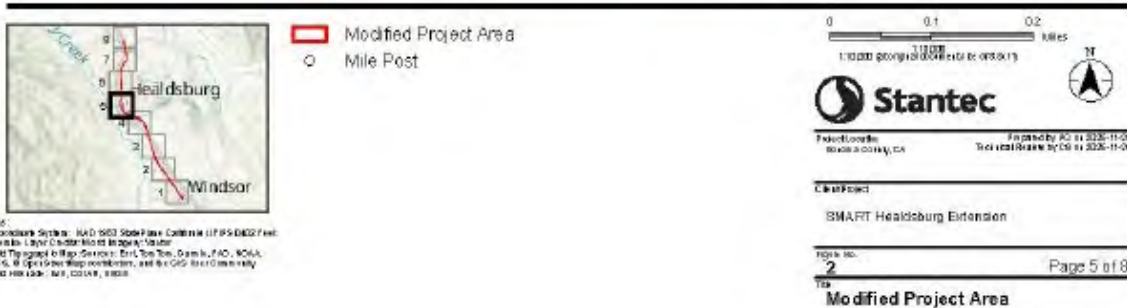
Project Name: SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Title: Modified Project Area

Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



NOTE:
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 83
 2. Units: Feet
 3. Data Source: Esri
 4. Map Date: 11/06/25
 5. Map Scale: 1:10000
 6. Map Projection: UTM
 7. Map Datum: NAD 83
 8. Map Spheroid: GRS 1980
 9. Map Datum Shift: 1117.000
 10. Map Scale Factor: 0.9996012315067723
 11. Map False Easting: 500000.0000000000
 12. Map False Northing: 0.0000000000000000

Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



Scale:
 1. COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 83 UTM 18Q UTM
 2. DATUM: NAD 83
 3. ELEVATION: Mean Sea Level
 4. PROJECTION: UTM
 5. UNIT: Meter
 6. SOURCE: Esri, DeLorme, Garmin, IGN, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
 7. DATE: 01/29/2026

- Modified Project Area
- Mile Post

0 0.1 0.2 Miles
 1:10,000 (original dimensions of 5.610)

Project Location: Sonoma County, CA
 Project No: 2024-01-01
 Date: 01/29/2026

Client: SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Title: Modified Project Area

Project Location Map (continued)

Healdsburg Extension Project, Sonoma County



Notes:
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 83 UTM Zone 18N
 2. Units: Feet
 3. Vertical Datum: NAVD83
 4. Horizontal Datum: NAD 83
 5. Map Scale: 1:10,000
 6. Map Date: 11/20/25

Modified Project Area

Mile Post

0 0.1 0.2 Miles

1:10,000 (Graphic Scale)

Project Location: Sonoma County, CA
 Prepared by: 10/2025-11/2025
 This map is for informational purposes only.

Client:
 SMART Healdsburg Extension

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Modified Project Area