



PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ACT SECTION 4(F) DE MINIMIS FINDING FOR IMPACTS TO THE MARSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

What is Being Planned ?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Contra Costa Transportation Authority propose to widen State Route 4 from four to eight lanes while leaving a wide median for future transit (by others). The additional widening may require acquisition of a strip of land from the grass area of the Marsh Elementary School property fronting SR 4 (see attached figure). Acquiring this strip would facilitate construction of retaining and sound walls between the freeway and the school. Measures to minimize harm to the school property include the use of the retaining wall and constructing a new sound wall that will improve the educational and recreational environment on the property.

Why This Public Notice ?

The proposed project is an action that is subject to the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49. U.S.C 303) and 23 U.S.C. 138 [PL 110-17], [PL 97-449], [PL 86-670]. Section 4(f) of this legislation seeks to protect publicly owned public parklands, recreation areas, waterfowl and wildlife refuges, and significant historic sites from impacts—the “use” of these resources—by U. S. Department of Transportation actions. After an evaluation of the impacts of an action upon Section 4(f) resources, a finding must be made. The responsibility for Section 4(f) findings has been assigned by the U. S. Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for User (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005. Section 6009 of SAFETEA-LU allows determinations that certain uses of 4(f) land will have no adverse effect—de minimis—on the protected resource. Section 6009(a) requires that a public notice and opportunity for review and comment be provided for projects that are determined to have de minimis impact.

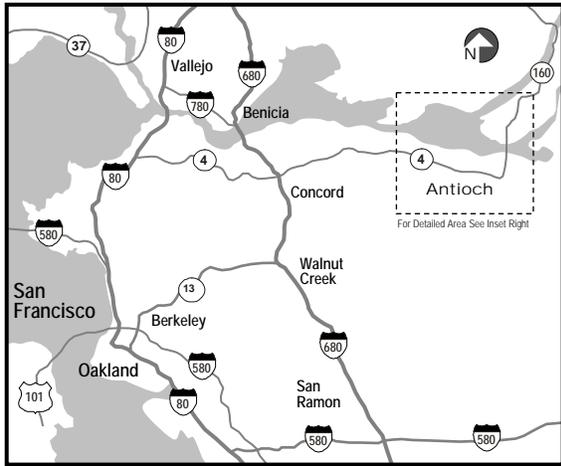
What's Available for Review ?

Copies of the Antioch Unified School District's letter of concurrence that the proposed project will have only a minor impact on the play area of Marsh Elementary School and can be accomplished to the betterment of the school environment are available for review at the following website and location: www.ccta.net, and

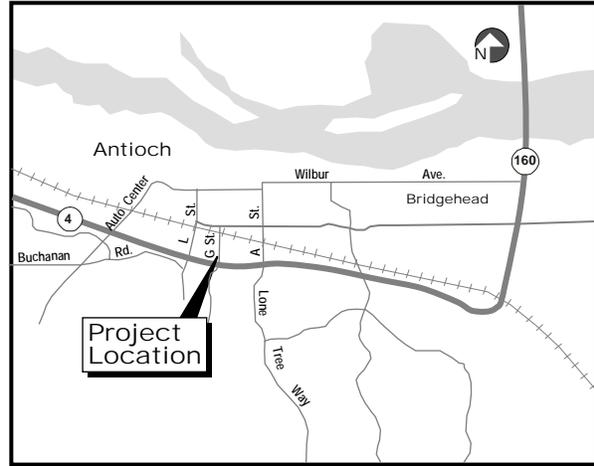
Caltrans District 4 - Office of Environmental Analysis, 111 Grand Avenue, 14th Fl., Oakland, CA

Public comments on the 4(f) de minimis finding will be accepted until Monday, August 18th 2008. Responses or replies to the public comments may not be required, depending on the substantive nature of the comments; however, all comments and responses will be considered and documented in the administrative record for the proposed project.

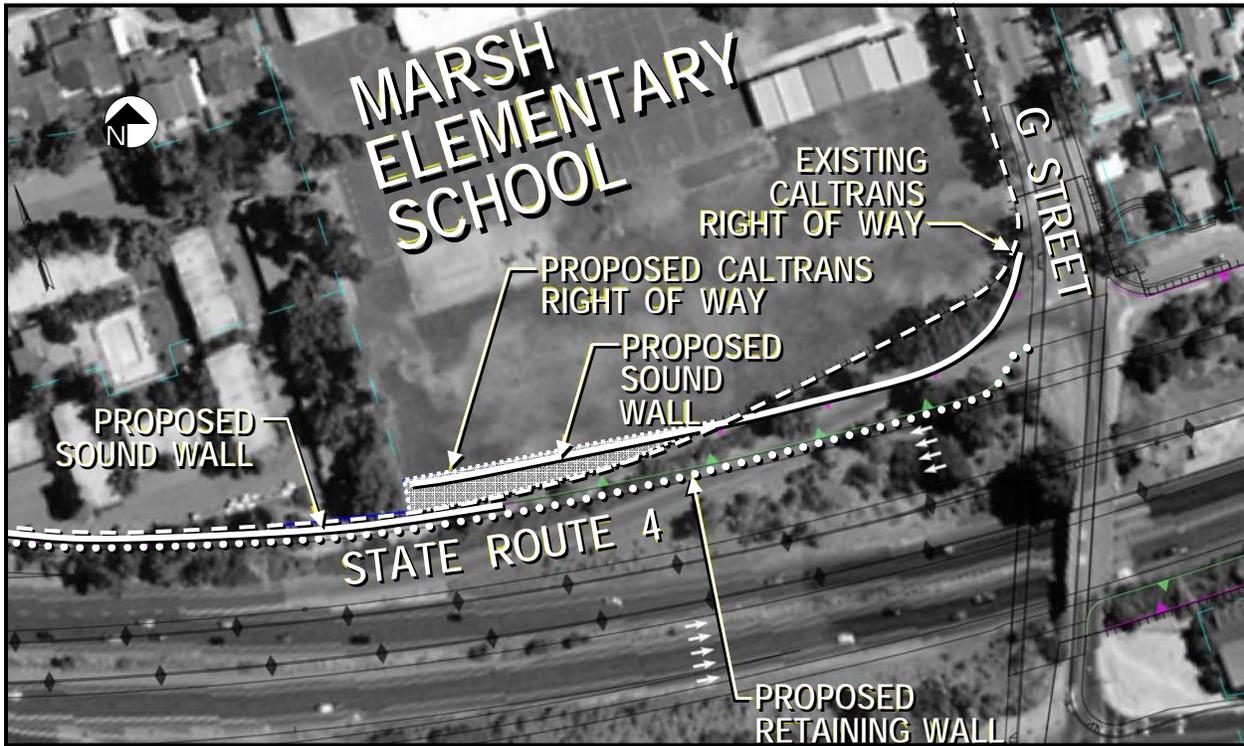
For more information about the project, please contact **Joseph Douglas at (510) 622-8799**. Individuals who require documents in alternative formats or translated are asked to contact **Caltrans District 4 at (510) 286-5623**. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 711.



Vicinity Map

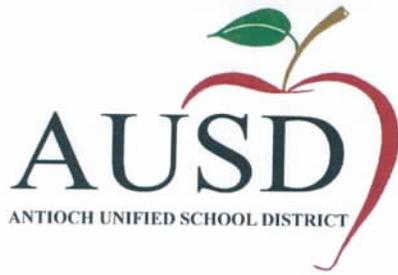


Location Map



Site Plan

Figure 1 Vicinity Map, Location Map, and Site Plan



Office of the Superintendent
Deborah Sims, Ed.D.

excellence • equity • accountability

June 25, 2008

Mr. Paul Maxwell
Chief Deputy Executive Director, Projects
Contra Costa Transportation Authority
3478 Buskirk Avenue; Suite 100
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Subject: State Route 4 East Widening Project - Somersville to State Route 160:
Environmental Re-Validation & Impact at Marsh Elementary School

Dear Mr. Maxwell, Chief Deputy Executive Director, Projects:

This letter is in reference to the request made by Contra Costa Transportation Authority concerning Marsh Elementary School dated June 10, 2008.

The Board of Education of Antioch Unified School District is in general concurrence with the information presented by Susan Miller with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and believes the acquisition of the small portion of the recreation area (field) at Marsh Elementary School will have a minimal impact to the school. We further believe that the future planned Highway 4 expansion can be accomplished to the betterment of the educational environment at the school site.

Sincerely,

Dr. Deborah Sims, Ed.D.
Superintendent