OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON A SECTION 4(F) DE MINIMIS FINDING FOR IMPACTS TO THE SANTA ROSA CREEK OPEN SPACE AT STATE ROUTE 12 AND FARMERS LANE

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces their intent to adopt a U.S. Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f), De Minimis Finding for the SR 12 Roadway Safety Improvement Project. The project site is located in Sonoma County within the City of Santa Rosa on SR 12 (4th Street/Sonoma Highway), between post mile 17.7, at the intersection of Farmers Lane and 4th Street, and post mile 18.2, near Brush Creek Road. This project would construct a concrete barrier and paved median, replacing the existing Double Metal Beam Barrier (DMBB) and landscaped median. The project would also replace and extend guard rail along the eastbound direction and would place a Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) overlay on the roadway. The project would improve safety within the project area by increasing protection against cross-median and roadway departure collisions, and by reducing exposure of maintenance crews to traffic during the repeated needed repairs of the existing DMBB. The project will also upgrade a deficient storm drain pipe (culvert) that crosses SR 12 approximately 60 feet east of Farmers Lane. The outfall of this corrugated metal pipe (CMP) is located outside of the SR 12 right-of-way in the Santa Rosa Creek Open Space. The project will require a temporary construction easement (TCE) from the City of Santa Rosa. The project will require the acquisition of permanent drainage easements from the City of Santa Rosa for ongoing maintenance activities.

WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

The proposed project is an action that is subject to the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Section 4(f) of this legislation seeks to protect publicly owned parks and recreation areas, waterfowl and wildlife refuges, and historic sites considered to have national, state or local significance. The Act includes a special provision to carry out this effort in 23 CFR 774.17, Section 4(f). In recent years, the Federal Highway Administration has assigned the responsibility for Section 4(f) findings to Caltrans under Section 6009 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005. SAFETEA-LU established a de minimis finding process, in which determinations are made regarding 4(f) resources when no adverse effects would occur. De minimis impacts are defined as those that do not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes for which the property qualifies as a 4(f) resource.

WHERE YOU COME IN

Caltrans is soliciting input from the public. Public comments on the 4(f) de minimis finding would be accepted for 30 days beginning May 5, 2016 and ending June 5, 2016. The De Minimis Finding for the SR 12 Roadway Improvement Project will be posted on the Caltrans website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/d4/envdocs.htm. Send all email comments to: Eric.DeNardo@dot.ca.gov. Send all regular mail comments to: Eric DeNardo, Branch Chief, Marin County and Sonoma County Division of Environmental Planning and Engineering, California Department of Transportation, District-4, 111 Grand Ave., MS8B, Oakland, Ca., 94612.

CONTACT

For more information about the proposed project, please contact Eric DeNardo at 510-286-5645. Special Accommodations: Individuals who require translated documents or documents in alternative formats are requested to contact the District 4 Public Affairs Office at 510-286-5576. Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929, or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.