

COMMENT SHEET #5

Comment Sheet

Route 101 Widening
Public Hearing
Santa Rosa Jr. High School
Wednesday, November 18, 1998

Name: Donna Hopkins Organization: _____
Address: 624 Spencer Ave, SRosa Zip Code 95404
Phone/Fax/E-mail: dooddaaa@earthlink.net

Please print.

Comments

Project

1. I disagree with spending this kind of money to move a bottleneck from one place to another.

A

Walls

2. Did the residents specifically ask for these walls or is Caltrans just used to putting them in when a highway is modified??
3. Being from Southern California originally, the walls along the freeway are constantly barraged with graffiti which is ugly and very costly to remove and maintain. As soon as a wall is cleaned up, it gets tagged again. Part of our highway's and area's appeal is that it doesn't look "big city".
4. I also understand that in order to put in these walls, 80-100 redwoods will be cut down, 400 trees in all. This highway is called "The Redwood Highway" for a reason. To replace these beautiful trees with ugly, tagged walls will detract from the beauty of this area.
5. I do understand that replacement oak trees will be planted in a mediation area, but that doesn't replace the beauty that will be lost along our highway.

B

C

D

E

**Sonoma 101 Widening & Soundwall Construction (Wilfred to Route 12)
Final Negative Declaration/Final Environmental Assessment**

**Response #5 – Comment Sheet
Donna Hopkins**

| Comment Number | Response |
|----------------|---|
| 5-A | Based on the analysis of forecasted traffic for years 2000, 2015 and 2020, the addition of the HOV 2+ lane would provide HOV traffic a reduced travel time between Route 12 and Wilfred Avenue. This is because traffic would be able to bypass mixed-flow traffic queues. Please note that these operational studies are based on a "Stand Alone" freeway widening of Route 101 between Wilfred Avenue and Route 12. Funding has been secured for similar highway improvements from Route 12 north to Steele Lane. In the future, travel times are anticipated to improve. |
| 5-B | If noise abatement on a project is necessary, soundwalls are Caltrans' remedy per the rules and regulations prescribed by the State of California and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Noise Impact Report prepared by Caltrans has identified areas within the project limits along Route 101 which require noise abatement. During the design phase however, if the majority of the impacted property owners elect not to have this soundwall constructed, it can be eliminated from the project. Impacts to affected residents are considered prior to the implementation of soundwalls. |
| 5-C | Vines are proposed on the soundwalls to help deter graffiti. Also, for problem areas, a clear anti-graffiti coating can be applied to the wall surface. Space permitting, new trees will be planted in front of the walls as well. During the final design phase, Caltrans will present the proposed soundwalls to affected property owners for review and comment. The aesthetics of the soundwalls will be determined at that time. |
| 5-D | Where we are able, replacement planting of redwood trees will be placed in landscapable areas, between the soundwalls and the traveled way. Trees will be replaced at a 3:1 ratio. See Aesthetics (Section 5.I) for specific replacement descriptions |
| 5-E | Oak trees will be placed in a separate mitigation area north of the project. As stated above, redwood trees will be planted in the affected corridor. Please note that the original redwood trees were planted in the corridor by Caltrans as landscape trees during the 1950's |