

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: December 11-12, 2002

Reference No.: 2.2c.(1)  
Action Item

From: ROBERT L. GARCIA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Gary R. Winters  
Chief  
Division of Environmental Analysis

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING, TO IMPROVE AN INTERSECTION NEAR THE TOWN OF KELSEYVILLE, RESOLUTION NUMBER E-02-56.**

## **ISSUE:**

The attached resolution proposes to approve for consideration of funding the following project for which a Negative Declaration has been completed:

- Route 29 in Lake County – Improve an intersection near the town of Kelseyville.

This project is fully funded in the 2002 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP), for a total of \$2,000,000. Construction is scheduled for late Fiscal Year (FY) 2002/2003.

The Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study have been transmitted to California Transportation Commission staff.

The Department of Transportation has approved the project for construction. This approval and the resulting filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department recommends that the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-02-56.

Attachment

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding  
01-Lak-29, KP R61.6/62.6 (PM R38.3/38.9)**

**Resolution E-02-56**

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed a Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project:
- Route 29 in Lake County – Improve intersection near town of Kelseyville.
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Negative Declaration; and
- 1.3** **WHEREAS**, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- 2.1** **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above referenced project.

Lake County, California  
State Route 29/Highlands Spring Road Intersection  
Near Lakeport  
KP R61.6/62.6 (PM R38.3/38.9)

**DRAFT  
INITIAL STUDY**

Submitted Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Department of Transportation

9/09/02  
Date of Approval

*for* Karen McWilliams  
John D. Webb  
Office Chief  
North Region Environmental Services  
California Department of Transportation

## Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

### **Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to improve a 0.96 km (0.60 mi) section of State Route (SR) 29 approximately 3.2 km (2.0 mi) south of the town of Lakeport in Lake County, California. This section of SR 29 will be widened to four lanes from KP R61.6 to 62.6 (PM R38.28/38.90) at the Highland Springs Road intersection. The proposed project will install a traffic signal and provide a left turn lane pocket at the intersection. The box culverts for Thompson Creek and overflow from the creek will be extended. Two additional culverts will also be extended.

### **Determination**

Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study, and determines from this study that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

- The project will have no effect on educational facilities, wetlands, recreation, parkland, open space scenic resources, heritage resources, community growth, housing, neighborhoods, air quality, agriculture, and timber resources.
- The project will have no significant effect on use of natural resources, land use, floodplain, noise, water quality, fish and wildlife, endangered species and habitat, vegetation, energy, traffic patterns, topography, and biological resources.
- Potential impacts to Valley Oaks and riparian vegetation will be mitigated on site. A mitigation and monitoring plan will be developed to restore and monitor the impacted areas. With mitigation, vegetation impacts will be reduced to a non-significant level.
- Potential impacts to the Valley Elderberry and the VELB will be mitigated through compliance with the mitigation measures listed in the attached Initial Study, and a letter of concurrence from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

  
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John D. Webb

Office Chief, North Region Environmental Services  
California Department of Transportation

10-18-02  
Date



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## PROJECT STUDY REPORT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR STATE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON ROUTE 29 IN LAKE COUNTY NEAR KELSEYVILLE

### WHAT IS PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to improve a section of State Route 29 at Highland Springs Road by widening the intersection to provide a left turn lane in both directions and traffic signals. The proposed project includes a left turn lane pocket and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Highland Springs Rd. The box culverts for Thompson Creek and the Thompson Creek overflow will be extended, along with two additional culverts.

### WHY THIS NOTICE?

The project may have short-term minimal effects upon biological resources, soils, scenic resources and water quality. However, project impacts to these resources will be mitigated to a level of insignificance.

### WHAT IS AVAILABLE?

The environmental document for this project is called an Initial Study and can be mailed upon request. It is also available at the Lake County Library, 1425 N. High St. in the City of Lakeport; and at the Redbud Library, 14785 Burns Valley Rd. in Clearlake. It is also available for review and copying on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Caltrans Office of Environmental Management, 2389 Gateway Oaks Dr., Sacramento, CA 95833.

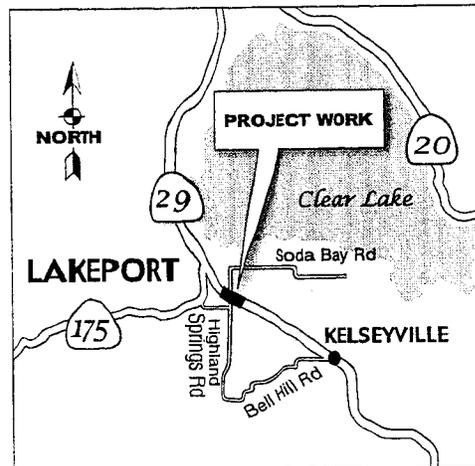
### COMMENTS

**Note: Revised Comment Deadline.**

All comments must be received by **October 11, 2002**. For more information about this project, please call Marilyn Schmucki, Design Engineer, at (916) 274-6082 or Georgette Neale, Office of Environmental Management, at (916) 274-0623.

### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, large print, audiocassette or computer disk. To obtain a copy of these alternate formats, please call or write: Karen McWilliams, Environmental Management, 2389 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833; (916) 274-0631 Voicemail, or use the California Relay Service TTY number, (530) 741-4509.



Jody E. Lonergan, District 3 Director  
California Department of Transportation  
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