

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: January 8, 2003

From: Diane C. Eidam

File No:
Reference Number 2.2c.(4)
Action

Ref: **Operational Improvements Project near California State University, Fresno (Fresno County) – Future Consideration of Funding for Intersection Improvements Near California State University, Fresno (Notice of Determination) (TCRP #97.2) Resolution E-03-04**

Issue:

Should the Commission adopt the attached resolution to approve future consideration of funding for intersection improvements near California State University, Fresno in Fresno County by the City of Fresno?

Recommendation:

Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-03-04. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this Resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

Background:

This resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Mitigated Negative Declaration under the California Environmental Quality Act has been completed:

- City of Fresno Intersection Improvements Project near California State University, Fresno at Shaw/Woodrow, Shaw/Chestnut, Cedar/Barstow, Cedar/Bullard, Herndon/Chestnut and Willow/Barstow in Fresno County

The project is to improve existing traffic circulation and level of service pursuant to the City's General Plan Circulation Element. The improvements consist primarily of constructing additional left and right turn lanes to improve traffic operations at each intersection by reducing delays and traffic congestion. The project includes the widening of one or two of the approaches at each intersection in order to improve traffic operations at each location. Other improvements to be made by the project that relate to the widening of the various intersection approaches include: installation of curbs with wheelchair ramps; reconstruction of curbs, gutters and sidewalks to provide additional roadway width; relocation and/or modification of existing traffic signals, utility poles, and streetlights; restriping in accordance with the modified geometrics; piping and backfilling an existing Fresno Irrigation District canal; and relocation of existing storm drain inlets. Partial right-of-way acquisition along these modified intersection approaches will be necessary prior to construction of the proposed project.

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The current estimate for the project is \$6,050,000 and is to be fully funded by Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) Program funds, Project #97.2. The Commission approved the original project application at its June 6, 2001 meeting, and a minor amendment was approved January 16, 2002.

The City of Fresno has approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration and has filed a Notice of Determination for this project. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study has been transmitted to Commission staff.

The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the attached Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Approval of Project for Consideration of Funding Operational Improvements Project near California State University, Fresno (Fresno County)

Resolution E-03-04

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the City of Fresno has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project

 - City of Fresno Intersection Improvements Project near California State University, Fresno at Shaw/Woodrow, Shaw/Chestnut, Cedar/Barstow, Cedar/Bullard, Herndon/Chestnut and Willow/Barstow in Fresno County
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated 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 for future consideration of funding.