

# Memorandum

**To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

**Date:** May 22, 2009

**From:** BIMLA G. RHINEHART  
Executive Director

**File:** Book Item 2.2c (5)  
Action

**Ref:** Mitigated Negative Declaration – Wagon Creek Arm Bridge Project  
(Resolution E-09-35)

**ISSUE:** Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Wagon Creek Arm Bridge Project (project) and approve the project to be considered for funding?

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project to allow for consideration of funding.

**BACKGROUND:** The project is located in southern Siskiyou County, southwest of the City of Mt. Shasta and approximately 1.0 mile west of the I-5/SR 89 interchange. The project would provide a critical and final link in the Lake Siskiyou Trail system. The project includes construction of a suspension bridge over the Wagon Creek Arm of Lake Siskiyou and will connect two currently disconnected segments of the existing trail on the east and west sides of the Wagon Creek Arm.

Siskiyou County (County), the lead agency for CEQA compliance for the project, approved a MND for the Lake Siskiyou Trail Improvement and Shoreline Restoration Project in August 1999. This MND assessed the environmental impacts of the project along with impacts associated with the larger Lake Siskiyou Trail Improvement and Shoreline Restoration Project. On May 13, 2009 the County processed a CEQA revalidation conclusion that the original MND remains valid and that no further documentation was necessary.

The MND identified certain impacts that required mitigation to be reduced to a less than significant level. These impacts related to land use and planning; geology, water; air quality during construction; transportation and circulation; biological resources due to potential increase in human and dog presence; energy and mineral resources due to potential trail hazards; public services; and cultural resources. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, coordination with applicable state and federal agencies to ensure plans and policies for the project conform with the North Shore Wildlife Mitigation Area requirements to protect wildlife; seeding prior to storms with native seed mix and covered straw; storage of heavy equipment fuel at least 50 feet away from surface water and seasonal drainage channels; dust control measures to be implemented during construction; project design to address bicycle and pedestrian safety needs;

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County Sheriff to enforce existing County ordinances pertaining to hunting and leash laws; periodic patrolling of the trail; increased enforcement by police; and employment of a qualified archaeologist if necessary during construction.

The construction cost of the project is estimated to total \$2,545,000 and is programmed with STIP (\$745,000), and Local (\$600,000) funds. An additional \$1,200,000 in supplemental funds is needed to complete the project funding plan. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2008/09.

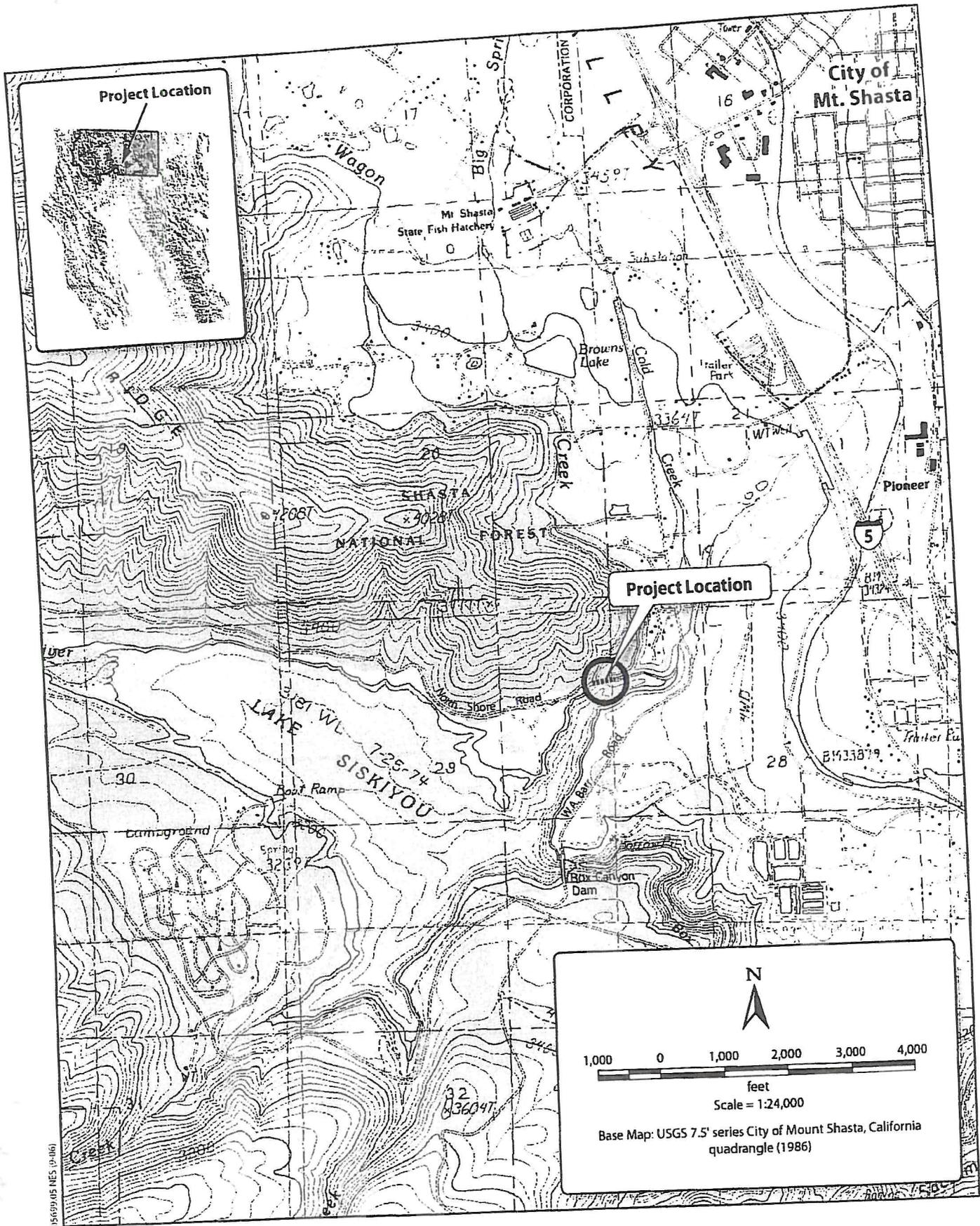
Attachments

- Resolution No. 09-35
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Consideration of Funding 02-Siskiyou Resolution E-09-35

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the County of Siskiyou has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Wagon Creek Pedestrian Bridge
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the County of Siskiyou has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3** **WHEREAS**, the project would provide a critical and final link in the Lake Siskiyou Trail system; and
- 1.4** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5** **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 to allow for consideration of funding.



**Project Location**

N

1,000   0   1,000   2,000   3,000   4,000

feet

Scale = 1:24,000

Base Map: USGS 7.5' series City of Mount Shasta, California quadrangle (1986)

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