

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

Date: August 17, 2009

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

File: Book Item 2.2c (8)
Action

Ref: Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Eastside Potter Valley Road Improvement Project (Resolution E-09-72)

ISSUE: Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Eastside Potter Valley Road Improvement Project (project) and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

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

BACKGROUND: Eastside Potter Valley Road is one of two collector roads through an unincorporated area of Mendocino County known as Potter Valley. Eastside Potter Valley Road is heavily used by the Potter Valley area residents and is the primary route to Lake Pillsbury Recreation Area in the Mendocino National Forest. The current road structure is severely deteriorated and is in need of reconstruction. The project will remove, reconstruct and widen approximately four miles of Eastside Potter Valley Road. The project will provide wider lanes and a greatly enhanced shoulder. This will provide increased safety for bicycle and pedestrian users and will improve vehicular travel times.

The County of Mendocino (County) was the CEQA lead agency for the environmental document prepared for the project. The County completed the MND on June 4, 2008. Mitigation measures were required to minimize impacts to water quality, biological resources, and cultural resources. A Mitigation Monitoring Plan will be followed to ensure that best management practices and mitigation measures are carried out during the project implementation. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, timing construction to occur during the dry season; implementation of construction measures to avoid debris from falling into the stream channel or canal; compensation through the Redwood Valley Outdoor Education Program; coordination with Pacific Gas and Electric relative to utility relocation permitting activities; and project design changes to ensure that cultural resource sites are avoided during construction.

The project is estimated to cost \$8,290,000. The project is programmed for funding with STIP (\$7,300,000) and Local (\$990,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2011/12.

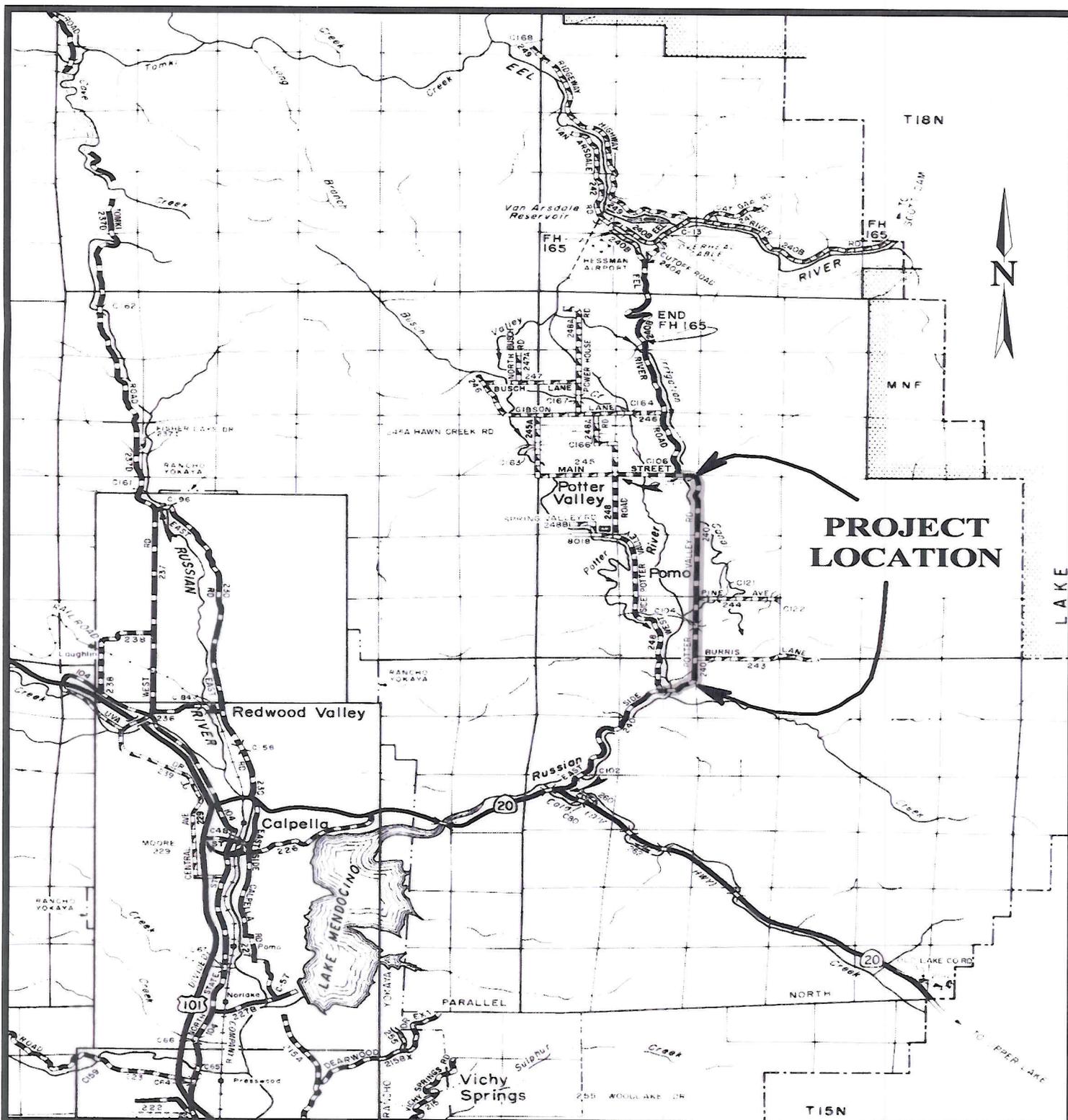
Attachments

- Resolution E-09-72
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 01-Mendocino Resolution E-09-72

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Mendocino (County) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Eastside Potter Valley Road Improvement Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the County 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 remove, reconstruct and widen a portion of Eastside Potter Valley Road; 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 County found that all significant or potentially significant impacts can be reduced by mitigation measures to a less than significant level; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the County developed a Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for the project.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.



EAST SIDE POTTER VALLEY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION MAP

EAST SIDE POTTER VALLEY ROAD
CR 240
M.P. 2.40 TO M.P. 6.42