

# Memorandum

**To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

**Date:** November 18, 2009

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

**File:** Book Item 2.2c (11)  
Action

**Ref:** Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Stockton Railroad Grade Separations and Bridge Replacement Project (Resolution E-09-100)

**ISSUE:** Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the North Stockton Railroad Grade Separations and Bridge Replacement Project (project) in the City of Stockton 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:** The City of Stockton (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project will construct three grade separations: Eight Mile Road over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks between Davis Road and Lower Sacramento Road; Eight Mile Road over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks (former Southern Pacific Railroad) between Leach Road and Holman Road, and Lower Sacramento Road under the Union Pacific Railroad tracks between Armor Drive and Marlette Road. The roadway will have wide sidewalks on each side of the road that will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists and will have a railing separating vehicular and pedestrian / bicycle traffic. The roadway will also have a raised landscaped median and standard street lighting. The Eight Mile Road grade separations will accommodate four lanes of traffic in each direction. The Lower Sacramento Road grade separation will accommodate three lanes of traffic in each direction

On November 6, 2007, the City Council approved the MND for the project finding that there were no environmental issues that were significantly impacted after mitigation as a result of the project. The City Council also adopted Findings and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project as mitigation measures were made a condition of approval of the project. These mitigation measures were necessary to address impacts related to aesthetics; short term air quality impacts during construction; biological resources; cultural resources; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; and noise.

Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, working with a design team and the public to incorporate aesthetic treatments during the final design phase; implementation of air quality control measures during construction; compliance with the City of Stockton Heritage Tree Ordinance and adherence to the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and

Open Space Plan; consultation with a qualified archaeologist; preparation of a spill prevention and countermeasure plan prior to the commencement of construction activities; compliance with the City water control ordinances; and installation of sound barriers.

The project scope of work covers three projects that are programmed in the Proposition 1B Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) program as follows:

Eight Mile Road/UPRR (East) Grade Separation Project (HRCSA Project No. 41)

The project is located in the City of Stockton on Eight Mile Road between Leach Road and Holman Road. The project will separate Eight Mile Road from the former Southern Pacific Railroad tracks by constructing a roadway overpass. The project also includes constructing curbs, gutters, sidewalks and landscaped raised center medians and street lighting. The project is estimated to cost \$31,000,000 and is funded with HRCSA (\$8,500,000) and Local (\$22,500,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin July 2010.

Eight Mile Road/UPRR (West) Grade Separation Project (HRCSA Project No. 42)

The project is located in the City of Stockton on Eight Mile Road between Davis Road and Lower Sacramento Road. The project will separate Eight Mile Road from the UPRR tracks by constructing a roadway overpass. The project also includes constructing curbs, gutters, sidewalks and landscaped raised center medians and street lighting. The project is estimated to cost \$25,000,000 and is funded with HRCSA (\$8,500,000) and Local (\$16,500,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin July 2010.

Lower Sacramento Road/UPRR Grade Separation Project (HRCSA Project No. 43)

The project is located in the City of Stockton on Lower Sacramento Road between Armor Drive and Marlette Road. The project will separate Lower Sacramento Road from the UPRR tracks by constructing the roadway underneath the UPRR tracks. The project also includes constructing curbs, gutters, sidewalks, landscaped raised center medians and street lighting. The project is estimated to cost \$34,000,000 and is funded with HRCSA (\$10,000,000), Local (\$20,600,000) and UPRR (\$3,400,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin July 2010.

On October 15, 2009 the City provided confirmation that the scope of the project, as approved by the City Council, is consistent with the projects programmed in the Proposition 1B HRCSA program.

Attachments

- Resolution E-09-100
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 10-San Joaquin County Resolution E-09-100

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Stockton (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - North Stockton Railroad Grade Separations and Bridge Replacements
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City 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 separate Eight Mile Road from the Union Pacific Railroad tracks by constructing a roadway overpass between Davis Road and Lower Sacramento Road, separate Eight Mile Road from the Union Pacific Railroad tracks (former Southern Pacific Railroad) by constructing a roadway overpass between Leach Road and Holman Road, separate Lower Sacramento Road from the Union Pacific Railroad tracks by constructing the roadway underneath the Union Pacific Railroad between Armor Drive and Marlette Road, and provide other improvements; 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 City 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 City adopted Findings and a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program for the project; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the City approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 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.

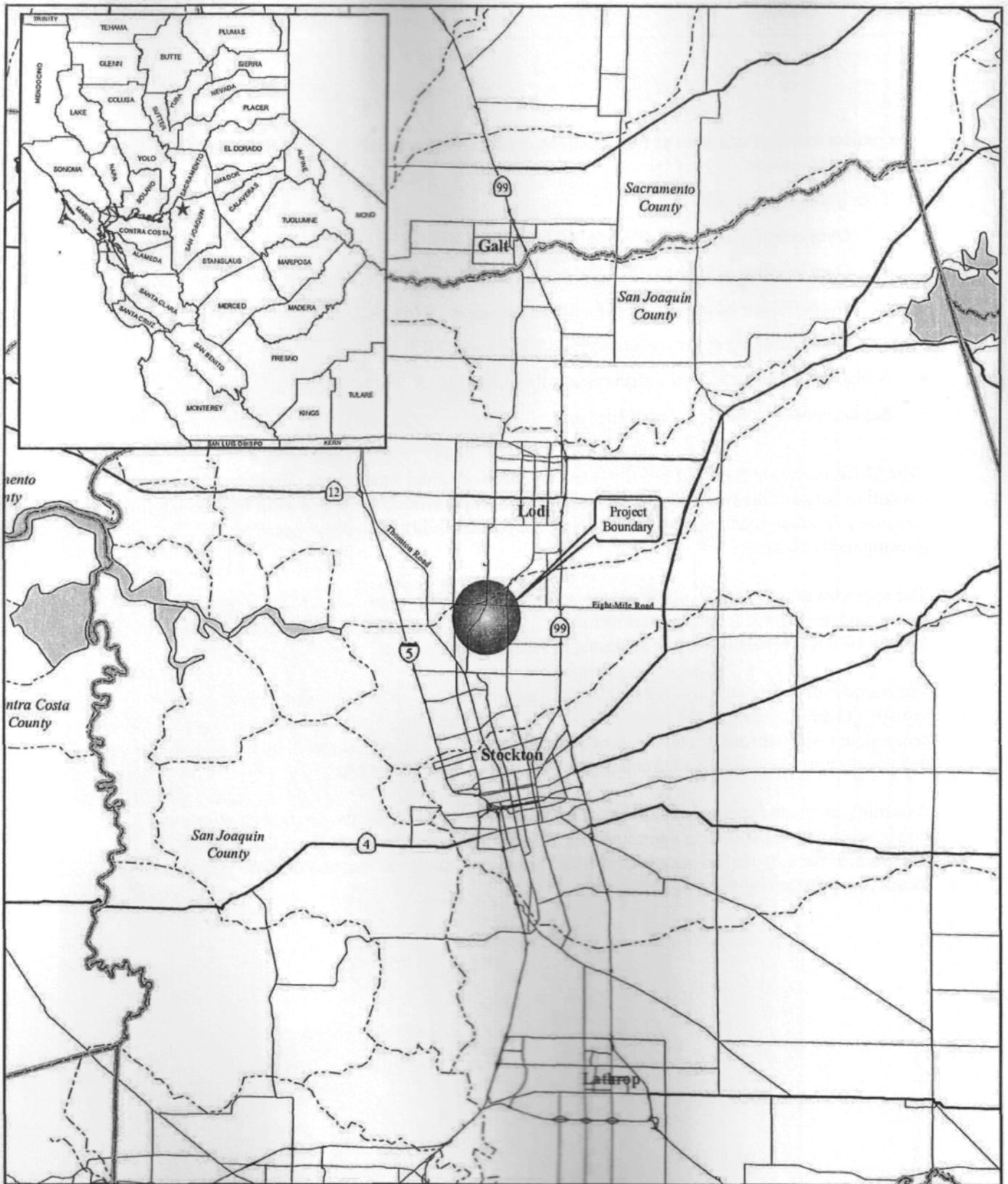
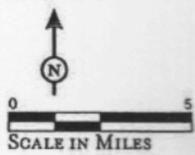


FIGURE 1

LSA



North Stockton Railroad Grade Separation  
and Bridge Replacement Project  
Project Location

SOURCE: LSA Associates  
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