

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 11-12, 2011

Reference No.: 2.2c. (6)
Action

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LEWISTON BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN
TRAIL PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-11-29)**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Lewiston Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Project (project) in Trinity County 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 County of Trinity (County) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On March 10, 2011 the County approved the MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation. On March 11, 2011 the County confirmed that there are no new environmental impacts that require mitigation and the scope of work set forth in the MND is consistent with the scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project will reconstruct an existing 0.3 mile long segment of a Class I bikeway that connects the Lewiston Elementary School to the Lewiston Community Park and extend it by adding a new Class I or Class II bikeway along an additional 0.4 miles to the shopping/Post Office complex at the intersection with Trinity Dam Boulevard.

The County found that with implementation of mitigation measures to address impacts related to cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology/water quality, there is no substantive evidence that the project will have a significant environmental impact. A mitigation monitoring program was prepared to identify the measures to mitigate or avoid potential significant impacts and to ensure mitigation compliance during project implementation.

Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, maintaining construction vehicles in good running condition, assigning a Native American Monitor to the project during construction, consulting an Environmental Compliance Specialist if any previously unidentified cultural or paleontological resources are encountered, storing fuel offsite, and constructing the project during the non-rainy season.

The project, as a Class II bicycle path, is estimated to cost \$437,000 and is fully funded with STIP-TE funds. If additional funds become available by the 2014/15 construction year, a Class I bicycle path would be the preferred alternative. Construction is estimated to begin in 2014.

Attachment

- Resolution E-11-29
- Project Location

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 02 – Trinity County Resolution E-11-29

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the County of Trinity (County) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Lewiston Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail 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 will reconstruct a segment of Class I bikeway that connects Lewiston Elementary School to the Lewiston Community Park, and extend it by adding a new Class I or Class II bikeway for an additional 0.4 miles in the Community of Lewiston, Trinity County; 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 approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the County adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program 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.

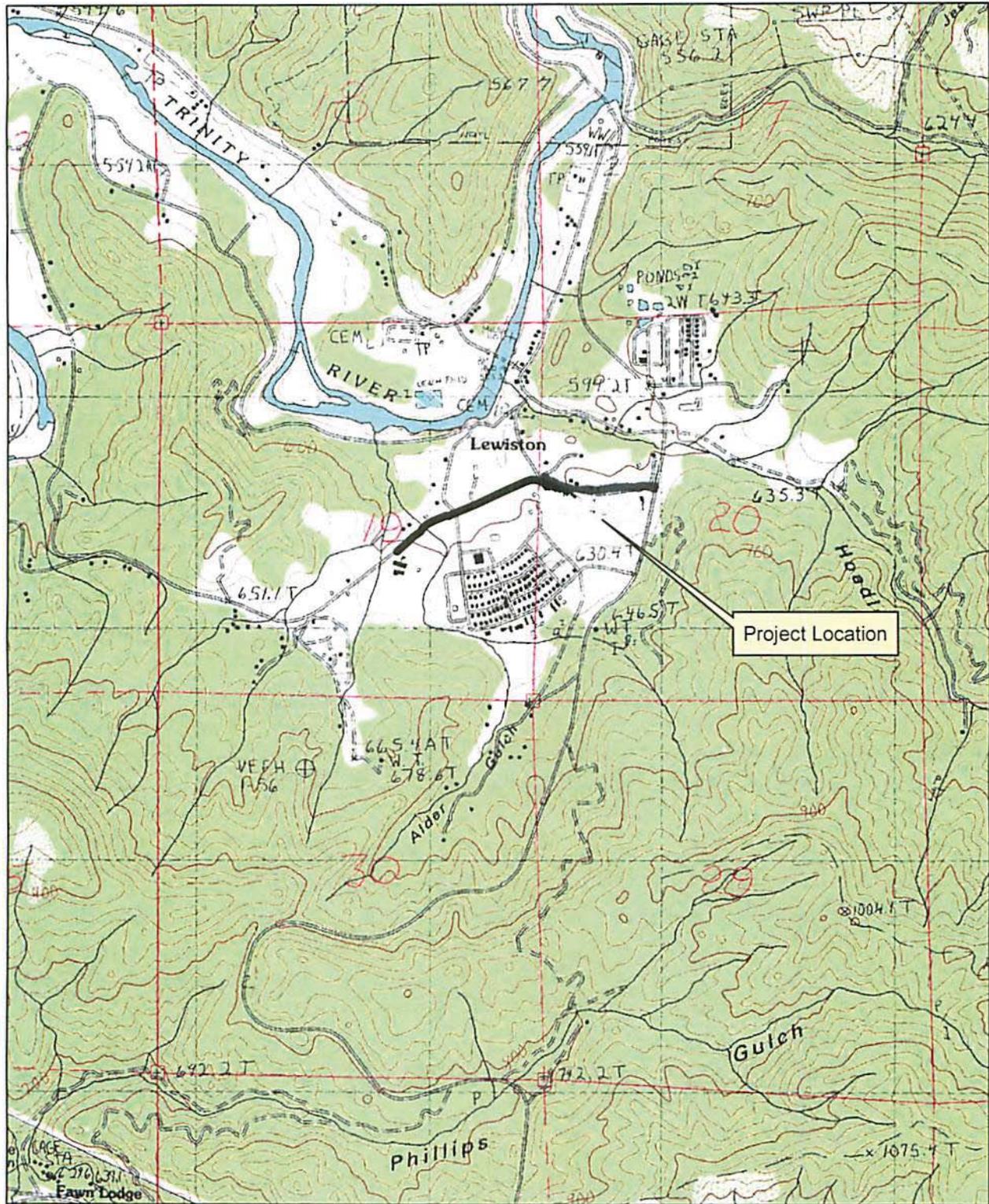


Figure 2 Lewiston Bike and Pedestrian Path Project Location Map
 USGS Lewiston, CA (1982) Topographic Quadrangle

