

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: December 14-15, 2011

Reference No.: 2.2c. (1)  
Action

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART  
Executive Director

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE BERKELEY TRAIL EXTENSION TO  
THE BERKELEY MARINA PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-11-88)**

## **ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Berkeley Bay Trail Extension Project (project) in Alameda 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 City of Berkeley (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. On January 27, 2004 the City adopted the MND and found that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

The project is located in the City of Berkeley in Alameda County. The project will construct a Class One multi-use trail between the main loop of the SF Bay Trail and the Berkeley Marina, Eastshore State Park and the bay shoreline. The project will also construct a small bicycle/pedestrian bridge over a drainage outfall.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, public services, recreation, and transportation/traffic. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, use of Best Management Practices to reduce windblown dust; establishing a 10-foot wide buffer around each wetland to protect it from construction; having a qualified archaeologist/paleontologist evaluate any archaeological or paleontological resources uncovered during construction; submitting a grading plan to the City for review

prior to ground disturbance; and post warning signs along public access routes during pile driving activities.

On October 6, 2011 the City confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$2.283 million and is programmed with State (\$1.928 million) funds and Local (\$355,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2011/12.

Attachment

- Resolution E-11-88
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 04 – Alameda County Resolution E-11-88

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - Bay Trail Extension to the Berkeley Marina Project
- 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 will construct a Class One multi-use trail and small bicycle/pedestrian bridge in the City of Berkeley, Alameda 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 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 the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, the City 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 1: Project Location and Land Uses in the Vicinity of the Berkeley Bay Trail Extension

