

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: November 7-8, 2007

Reference No.: 2.2b.(4)
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

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Environmental Analysis

Subject: **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, STATE ROUTE 29 IN LAKE COUNTY – ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR KELSEYVILLE**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) review and comment at the November 2007 Commission meeting on the following Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR):

- 01-Lak-101, PM 23.6/31.6, Roadway improvements near Kelseyville in Lake County.

PROGRAMMING:

This project in Lake County would construct roadway improvements that include widening the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane highway along a portion of State Route 29 near Kelseyville. The project is not fully funded. The project is programmed in the 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program for project development and right-of-way for \$17,778,000. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$198,553,000, capital and support. This project should be ready for construction in Fiscal Year 2009-10, depending on the availability of funds.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

Alternatives considered for the proposed project include:

- Alternative 1: No Build.
- Alternative 2: This alternative would maintain the existing centerline and widen an eight mile portion of the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane highway.
- Alternative 3: Includes all elements of Alternative 2, but would shift the proposed centerline 30 feet to the north.
- Alternative 4: Includes all elements of Alternative 2, but would shift the proposed centerline 30 feet to the south.

- Alternative 5: Includes all elements of Alternative 2, but would run both north and south of the existing centerline. This alternative was designed to avoid sensitive environmental resources.

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

- Community impacts in the form of residential and business relocations.
- Biological impacts in the form of construction activities in wetlands and the habitat of several endangered plant species.
- Temporary water quality degradation.
- Visual impacts due to the removal of mature trees and other vegetation.

Because of the potentially significant environmental impacts listed above, and public controversy, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared.

PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:

- Provide relocation payments and assistance in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Acquisition Policies Act.
- Creation of a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan.
- Enhance, restore, and create wetlands.
- Employ Best Management Practices (BMPs) for drainage and erosion control during construction.
- Preparation of a Revegetation and Restoration Plan.

Attachment

PROJECT VICINITY MAP FOR LAKE 29 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NOT TO SCALE)

01-2981U

